

# Knee Deep Into History Battlefield Tours

***Military history tours that get YOU into the field!***



*Above: Vauquois Hill 1918. Below: Exploring Montfaucon. Both photos by Georg Snatzke.*

Hello. My name is Randy Gaulke and I've been studying military history for decades as a wargamer, reenactor and battlefield visitor. Since 1986 I have been visiting the WW1 and WW2 battlefields of Western Europe almost annually. In 2017-18 I left my corporate job and worked in France for eight months as a freelance guide during the Centennial of WW1. In total, I have lived in Europe for more than two years and I speak fluent English and German and intermediate French. As a result, I not only understand the historical context of events, but I also have the cultural and local knowledge and network base essential to creating a great tour experience. Most importantly, I love to share this skill set with others who are seeking such an experience. **I invite you to get Knee Deep Into History with me in 2022!**



## **Tour Philosophy**

As a result of my many battlefield tours and spending two years of my life in Western Europe, my tour philosophy includes:

- 1) Getting clients into the field as much as possible; in contrast to a "museum and memorials" tour.
- 2) Guiding small-group tours to ensure greater interaction with the guides.
- 3) Attempting to present a balanced view of both sides of the story.
- 4) Designing a tour for those seriously interested in history.
- 5) Introducing clients to local, not American culture.

## **Partner Markus Klauer**

I work with German tour guide and friend of almost 30 years, Markus Klauer. Markus is a retired Bundeswehr officer whose military career included five years in an armored battalion and work with American and French units. Like me, Markus has been studying military history and visiting the battlefields for decades. He has published five books in German covering WW1 and he maintains a website <https://gb.weltkriegsbuch.de>. Markus lives in Lille, France and he speaks German, English and French fluently. (Continued on back page.)

## Tour Schedule

Our 2022 tour schedule is shown below. Please see our website, <https://kneedeepintohistory.com> and our individual tour brochures for a fuller description of each tour. The (+2) refers to a travel day on each end.

### Spring 2022

18—22 May	Private tour availability
24—30 May	Normandy 5-Day (+2)
1—5 June	Meuse-Argonne / St. Mihiel 3-Day (+2)
5—8 June	Verdun 1916 2-Day (+2)
10—14 June	Ardennes 3-Day (+2)
16—22 June	Private tour availability

### Fall 2022

3—7 Sept.	Private tour availability
8—12 Sept.	Normandy 3-Day (+2)
15—21 Sept.	Ardennes 5-Day (+3)
23—29 Sept.	Meuse-Argonne / St. Mihiel 5-Day (+2)
30 Sept.—3 Oct.	Verdun 1916 2-Day (+2)
5—10 Oct.	Flanders Field and Somme 4-Day (+2)
12—16 Oct.	Private tour availability



*Studying a German anti-tank gun in Clervaux, Luxembourg.*

## Testimonials from 2021 Tour Participants

“Markus and Randy, thanks for the “all-in” experience throughout this week. I appreciate your attention to detail and kindness as you’ve led us through history, mud, rain, sun and time. History has come alive in new ways as we journeyed above and below ground...” *Carl Priest*

“This was a wonderful educational experience for me as I came with very limited background on WW1. Markus and Randy found a balance in giving me the rich overview of the battlefield without going into depth that would have left me confused. A highlight of the trip for me was the leadership of Markus and Randy. They work so well together and it was evident that they enjoy working together. Their interaction and humor added so much to the trip and made this a wonderful and educational experience for me...” *Lyle Thorpe*

“Markus and Randy, thank you for a great tour! I enjoyed seeing all of the sites and the knowledge and passion that you have for history. The tour was important to me as I was able to understand the larger picture of a battle that my great uncle fought in...” *Colin McAllister*

Additional testimonials from 2021 and earlier years are posted on the website.

***Please see <https://kneedeepintohistory.com> for more information and join us in the field!***