

Includes  
breakfast, taxes  
and tips ... No  
hidden costs!

GUADALCANAL 83RD ANNIVERSARY  
29 JULY TO 9 AUGUST 2025

# GUADALCANAL CAMPAIGN

7 AUG 1942 – 9 FEB 1943

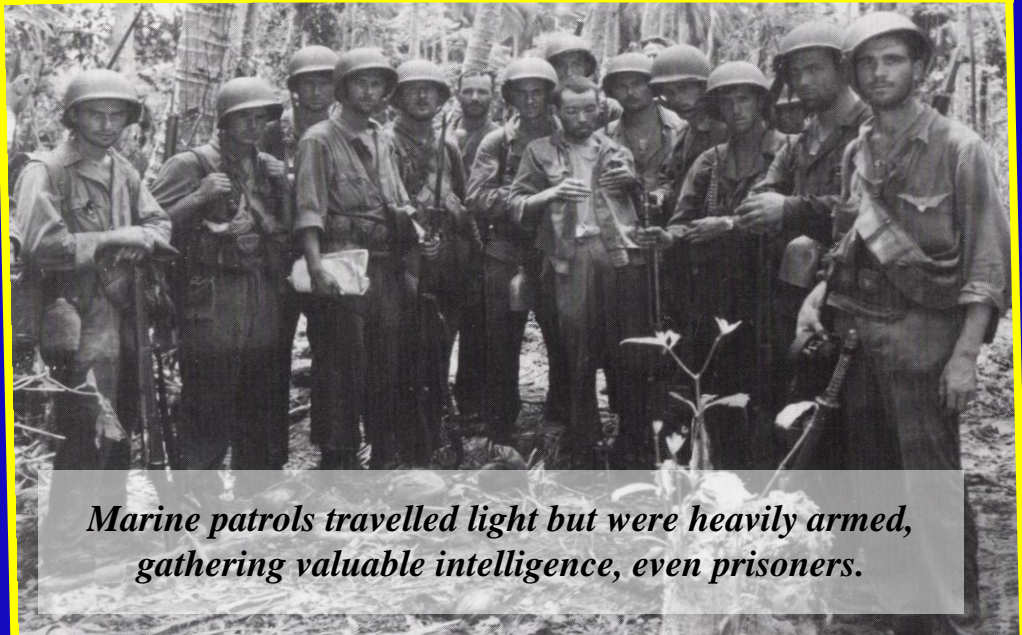
## “TURNING THE TIDE”

ASK ABOUT PRE & POST TOURS WHICH VARY BY YEAR

*“The Allied victory that destroyed  
the myth of Japanese invincibility!”*



*John Basilone Medal of Honor  
Position – Aug '23*



*Marine patrols travelled light but were heavily armed,  
gathering valuable intelligence, even prisoners.*

**MILITARY™**  
HISTORICAL TOURS, INC



13198 Centerpointe Way Ste. 202  
Woodbridge, VA 22193-5285  
703-590-1295 \*  
notify@miltours.com \*  
www.miltours.com



**“And when he gets to heaven to Saint Peter he will tell; another Marine reporting Sir, I've served my time in hell”. Written on a lonely grave in the cemetery at Lunga Point, Guadalcanal**

## **MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS**

### **GUADALCANAL BATTLEFIELD TOUR SUPPLEMENT**

**DATES: 2 AUGUST TO 13 AUGUST 2024**  
(Final dates depend on your departure/return dates to FIJI)

**TOUR GUIDE(S):** Your tour guide(s) are some of the most knowledgeable subject matter experts (SME) on the Guadalcanal Campaign and have years of experience in the Solomon Islands. They have been walking the battlefield and doing extensive research and conducted interviews with veterans of the campaign. Their knowledge is not limited to history and

**THEIR PRIMARY CONCERN IS TOUR SAFETY!**

**PRE & POST TOURS:** To be announced and covered in a separate brochure. Pre and Post-Tours vary from year to year and might include one or more of the following TARAWA, MUNDA, VANUATU and NOUMEA (dependent on number of participants).

**MAIN TOUR:** This tour (GUADALCANAL) is set up as an immersion battlefield study and focuses on group participation. There is walking and hiking involved, but as previously stated SAFETY IS PARAMOUNT. Those who elect not to participate in all activities will be able to remain with the vehicle in a safe area with local security.

**TOPICS COVERED:**

|                         |                                   |                     |                |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Pre-war Solomon Islands | Coastwatchers                     | Japanese conquest   | Japanese plans |
| US plans                | US invasion                       | Land battles        | Sea Battles    |
| Air battles             | Base development/<br>Significance | Base closure (1949) |                |

**SCHEDULE AND DAILY EVENTS**

The exact schedule depends on the participant's selection of air travel, and daily events can be modified at the tour leader's discretion due to weather conditions or safety constraints.

**DUE TO FLIGHT/ SCHEDULING CHANGES CONSULT TOUR GUIDE  
BEFORE FINALIZING ALL FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS**





American War Memorial on Hill 73

**Day 1-3:** Depart LAX and lose a day crossing the international date line. Arrive and overnight in Fiji. Visit Momi Battery. Depart Fiji.

**Day 4:** Arrival on Guadalcanal. Clear customs. The tour begins with initial orientation at Henderson Field. After orientation, proceed to the hotel (TBD) and check-in. Group meeting to discuss next-day events. Dinner.

**Day 5:** Breakfast. Depart for American Memorial at Skyline Ride. Orientation to the Western Battlefield Sites. Depart for Mount Austen. Orientation to the Eastern Battlefield Sites. Depart for Red Beach. Orientation on amphibious assault operations. Return to hotel. Meeting to discuss today and tomorrow's events. Dinner. (Short walks will be included in this program)

**Day 6:** Breakfast. Depart for Alligator Creek (Tenaru River). Orientation to the Battle of the Tenaru. To include Al Schmidt position and his Navy Cross Award. Visit to Hell's Point Museum and Old Army and Navy Fleet Hospitals. Depart for Henderson Field. Orientation to airfield facilities to include Fighter 1 and Fighter 2 airstrips, Pagoda Hill, 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division Command Post, communications center and Col Fox position. Return to hotel. Discuss today and tomorrow's events. Dinner. (Moderate walks will be included in this program).

**Day 7:** Breakfast. Depart for Edson's Ridge (Bloody Ridge). Orientation to the Ridge Battles in September and October (Brigg's Outpost). We will discuss Merrit Edson and Kenneth Baily's Medals of Honor Awards and hike to John Basilone's position and the events leading to his Medal of Honor Award. Return to hotel. Discuss today and tomorrow's events. Dinner. (Extensive walking in uneven terrain will be included in this all-day event).

**Day 8:** Breakfast. Depart for Skyline Ridge. Orientation to the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Battles of the Matanikau River. This portion of the tour will cover events in John Hershey's book INTO THE VALLEY, as well as Mitch Paige's position and the events leading to his Medal of Honor Award. Also, we will go to the site of the Goettge Patrol, Point Cruz Line, Douglas Monroe Memorial, Coast Watcher Memorial, Casemento Medal of Honor site, and other sites west of Matanikau battle sites. Return to hotel. Discuss today and tomorrow's events. Dinner. (Moderate walks will be included in this program).

**Day 9:** Breakfast. Depart for Mount Austen. Orientation to the U S Army battlefield sites critical to the U S offensive operations south and west of Henderson Field. Depart to Western Battle sites to include Kokumbona and Vilu War Museum. Return to hotel. Discuss today and tomorrow's events. Dinner. (Extensive walking in uneven terrain will be included in this program).

**Day 10-11:** Breakfast. Tour departs for Tulagi via water taxi. Orientation of significant islands occurs on the way to Tulagi. Arrive at the hotel. Discuss today and tomorrow's events. Dinner.

**Day 12:** Breakfast. Tour of Honiara and Solomon Islands Cultural Museum and private war museum. Discuss today and tomorrow's events. Dinner.

**Day 13:** Breakfast. Check out of hotel, gas and turn in rental vehicle, depart for Henderson Field (airport). Overnight in Fiji.

**Day 14:** Breakfast. Depart Fiji for LAX. TOUR ENDS.



Savo Island

### **COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS:**

1: A small group tour like this is designed around a “staff ride” concept, and as such is designed to insure maximum interaction of tour participants and the tour guide(s).

2: The tour is set up for 12 participants. It can expand up to 24, but that entails coordination for another tour guide, another vehicle and another boat plus an additional hotel. So it's 12 or less or 24 or less depending on actual number of participants. This tour is not a traditional battlefield tour. Having said that, there is no substitute for walking the terrain. Therefore there will be at a minimum moderate walking on the tour. Those unable to walk will remain with the safety vehicle and local security.

3: Participants should expect to be “in the field” for eight hours a day. Lunch is “on the run” to conserve time.

4: Breakfast is generally included in the cost of the lodging.

**PRICING AND PAYMENTS:** All tour costs and payments are handled through Military Historical Tours (MHT), 13198 Centerpointe Way, Suite 202, Woodbridge, VA 22193-5285 (703) 590-1295. They provide the breakdown for all tour aspects.

**TOUR GUIDE DOES NOT ENGAGE IN FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS OR AIR SCHEDULING.**

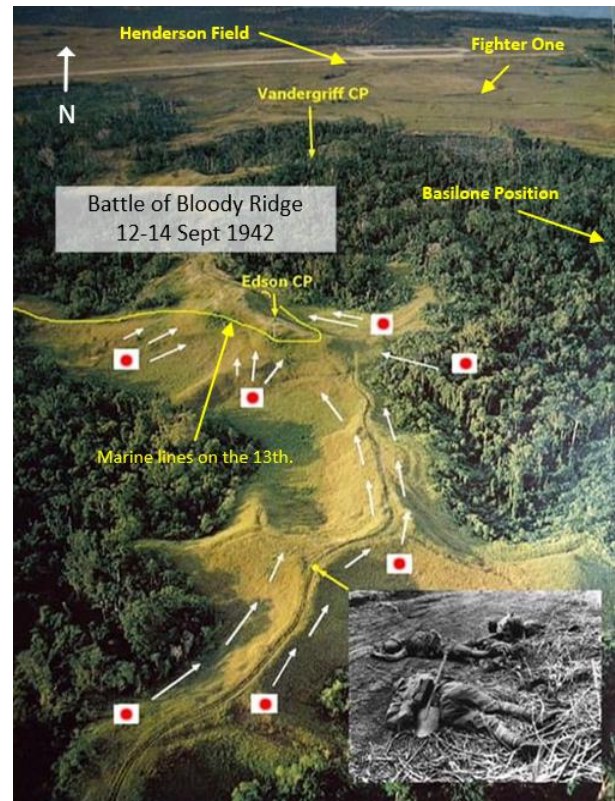
**LODGING:** Hotel(s) will be selected long before departure and will be selected based on price and comfort.

**MEDICAL:** Obtain a clean bill of health from your doctor before embarkation day. Guadalcanal is not the place you want a medical emergency. The tour guides can only stop the bleeding and start the breathing, treat for shock and get you to the local hospital.

**INSURANCE, REFUNDS AND CANCELLATIONS:** Check with MHT.

**FORMAT:** The tour is one tour designed for twelve participants, not twelve tours designed for one participant. Remember, you can always find a cheaper tour, but you can't find a better one, even if you pay three times the price.

**POINT OF CONTACT (POC):** Tour Guide, Joe Mueller (818) 815-8331; [jnm21213@yahoo.com](mailto:jnm21213@yahoo.com).



**GUADALCANAL: an emotion, not a name**





**GUADALCANAL! An emotion, not a name.** Up until the 1970's, when many of the veterans who fought there were still alive, **The CANAL** would conjure up a national image of savagery in a jungle land battle fought at the farthest ends of America and Japan's logistical pipelines. The savagery displayed there is impossible for both cultures to imagine today. Yet it occurred. After the debacle of Pearl Harbor, the loss of the Philippines and Wake Island, America was shaken to it's core.

The battles of the Coral Sea and Midway although proclaimed as victories were naval air battles and neither lost or gained territory. **GUADALCANAL** stood out as the turning point battle of the Pacific War. It was the battle that seasawed for six months and was covered daily in the world press. The final outcome was a defeat for Japan and that nation's plan of Pacific conquest was unable to advance again after this crucial defeat.

You are cordially invited by **MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS** to participate in a battlefield analysis tour that will cover the significant battle sites of the **GUADALCANAL CAMPAIGN**. Your tour will encompass: Red Beach (the initial landing site); Henderson Field (named after Major Lofton Henderson-a Marine pilot killed at Midway); Alligator Creek (Tenaru River); Edson's Ridge (Bloody Ridge); Skyline Ridge (American Monument); and the Matanikau River battlefield; plus many other land battle sites including Tulagi.

All of these things, along with the most experienced staff of Tour Leaders and Battlefield Guides will combine to make your trip the most enjoyable, relaxing, entertaining and educational experience possible.



Your Tour Leader **COL Joe Mueller, USMC (Ret.)** is one of the most knowledgeable subject matter expert on the Guadalcanal Campaign and has years of experience in the Solomon Islands. For 20+ years, he has been walking the battlefield, doing extensive research, and conducting interviews with campaign veterans of the campaign. His knowledge is not limited to history.

**His PRIMARY CONCERN IS YOUR SAFETY!**

Joe Mueller (818) 815-8331; jnm21213@yahoo.com.

### TOPICS COVERED

- \* Pre-war Solomons
- \* Japanese Conquest
- \* Land Battles
- \* Base development
- \* Coastwatchers
- \* US Plans
- \* Sea Battles
- \* Base closure (1949)
- \* Japanese Plans
- \* US Invasion
- \* Air Battles

**Guadalcanal Tour Price: \$2,895**

Based on Double Occupancy (BoDO)

**Single Room Supplement: POR**

**Post-Tour Munda Tour Price: POR**

**Post-Tour Single Supplement: POR**

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### Tour Price Includes:

- \* All breakfasts, taxes, & tips are included (No hidden costs!)
- \* 3-Star (Pacific Island) Hotel Accommodations
  - \* Air-conditioned motorcoach
- \* Trip Kit: tour ball cap, bag tags & name badge
- \* MHT "Field Book" information map packet
- \* All Admission fees to all sites, museums, and special attractions listed
- \* Services of experienced MHT Tour Leaders & English-speaking local guides



Vilu War Museum



**AIR NOT INCLUDED OPTIONAL DISCOUNT AIRFARE AVAILABLE: MHT can book a round trip from your home city to Guadalcanal via MHT's Airline Partners and save you domestic baggage fees! MHT's discount airfare is available upon request. A Business Class upgrade is also available upon request.**