

# Ride



# Horsa

5 – 8 September 2024

Honouring Heroes - Supporting Veterans - Following History

[www.veteranscharity.org.uk/horsa](http://www.veteranscharity.org.uk/horsa)

Be a part of an incredible tribute to the heroes of D-Day and cycle a very poignant route from Dorset to Normandy over 3 days, raising funds The Veterans Charity.



The immediate needs charity for Veterans facing hardship and distress

[www.veteranscharity.org.uk](http://www.veteranscharity.org.uk)







Registered Charity No.1123149

The Veterans Charity is registered in England and Wales as a charitable company no. 6484880. Registered charity number 1123149



Tarrant Rushton



Jurassic Coast



Milton Abbas



Ste Mere Eglise



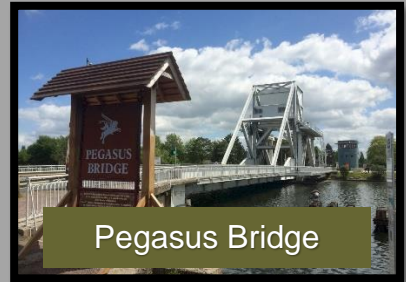
US Cemetery



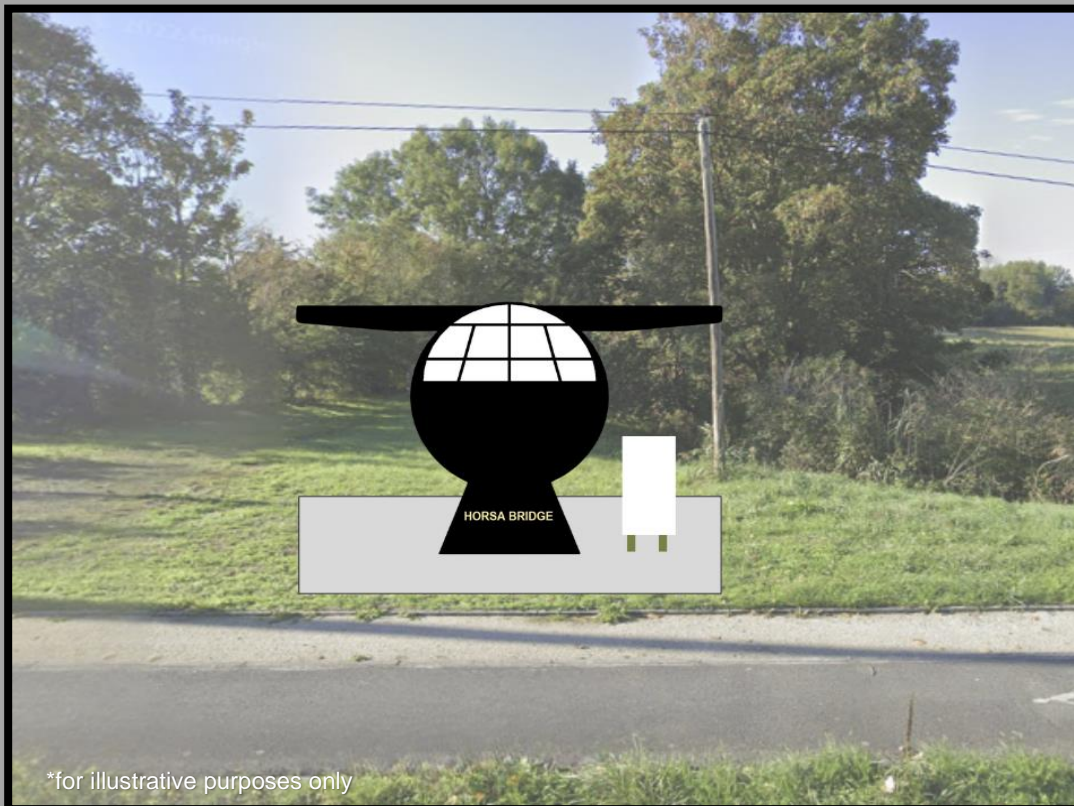
Arromanches



British Normandy Memorial



Pegasus Bridge



\*for illustrative purposes only

## **ENTRY INTO RIDE TO HORSA INCLUDES:**

- Entry into all 3 days of the event
- Professional Ride Director
- Ride Leaders for each group
- Daily safety and route briefing
- Mechanical support on route
- Breakfasts (days 2 and 3)
- Evening meals (days 1, 2 and 3)
- Stocked and manned feed stations (days 1 and 3)
- Baggage transfers between campsites
- Dry cycle storage and racking at each camp location
- Professional medical support along the route and on site
- Commemorative cycling jersey and medal
- Safety, logistics and uplift vehicles and motorcycle marshalls
- Camping facilities with access to showers and toilets
- Fundraising support, kit and guidance
- Attendance at the unveiling of the new Horsa Bridge Memorial on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September

**All for  
just £80!**

## **FUNDRAISING (Target now reduced to just £500 per participant!)**

Ride To Horsa is a unique and challenging adventure which is hosted by and in aid of The Veterans Charity. Every pound raised by the participants will enable us to improve the quality of life for Veterans who find themselves in hardship as well as create a very special memorial at Horsa Bridge, one of the key objectives for D-Day.

ALL funds raised as a result of participation in Ride To Horsa must be for The Veterans Charity, there are a number of ways that you can fundraise, and full support will be given to help you maximise your efforts.

Step 1:

Create your own fundraising page for RIDE TO HORSA using JustGiving.

This will ensure that all donations given to your page are sent to The Veterans Charity and credited to your fundraising efforts. Make your page inspiring. Tell your story of why you are setting yourself the challenge and what the funds raised will do for those who deserve and need our help. Regular training updates and photos will help to keep your page fresh and informative.



## Step 2:

Send an email to all your family, friends and contacts telling them about your participation in the ride and how the money you raise will directly help Veterans who are facing hardship and distress. Then ask them to donate by visiting your page.

## Step 3:

Post your page address on your social media account pages (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram etc) and ask people to donate to help you reach your target. Remember to add the page link to your email signature as well! Please use the hashtag #ridetohorsa

## Step 4:

Ask your colleagues at work and family/friends to sponsor you. Sponsorship forms can be downloaded from [www.veteranscharity.org.uk/horsa](http://www.veteranscharity.org.uk/horsa)  
You can even ask a local pub or shop to display a sponsorship form for you.

## Step 5:

Create your own fundraising event like a cake sale, fitness challenge or gala evening. Many participants in our events have had great success with their own events in the past and many thousands of pounds have been raised. You can also take part in other events to raise funds so keep an eye out for opportunities – great training too!



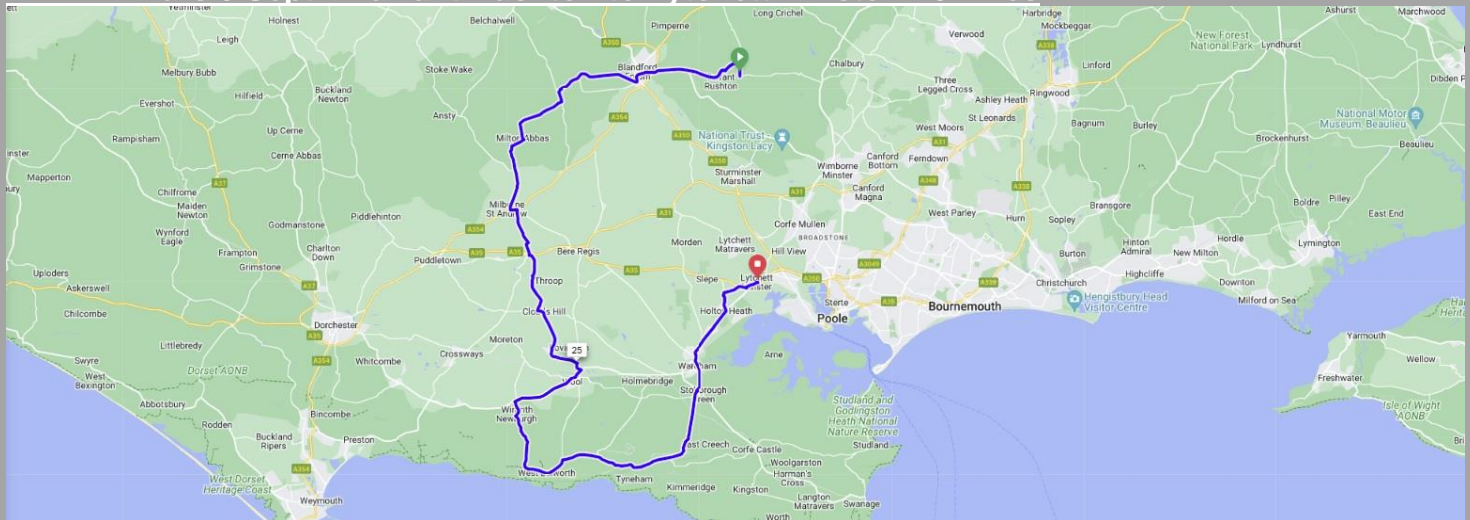
## THE ROUTE

The route of Ride To Horsa has been designed to be both challenging and beautiful. There are steep climbs and drops on some sections of the route whilst others are very flat and open.

The all-road route passes through some of Dorset's most spectacular and beautiful scenery and many of the most famous and historic sites in Normandy.

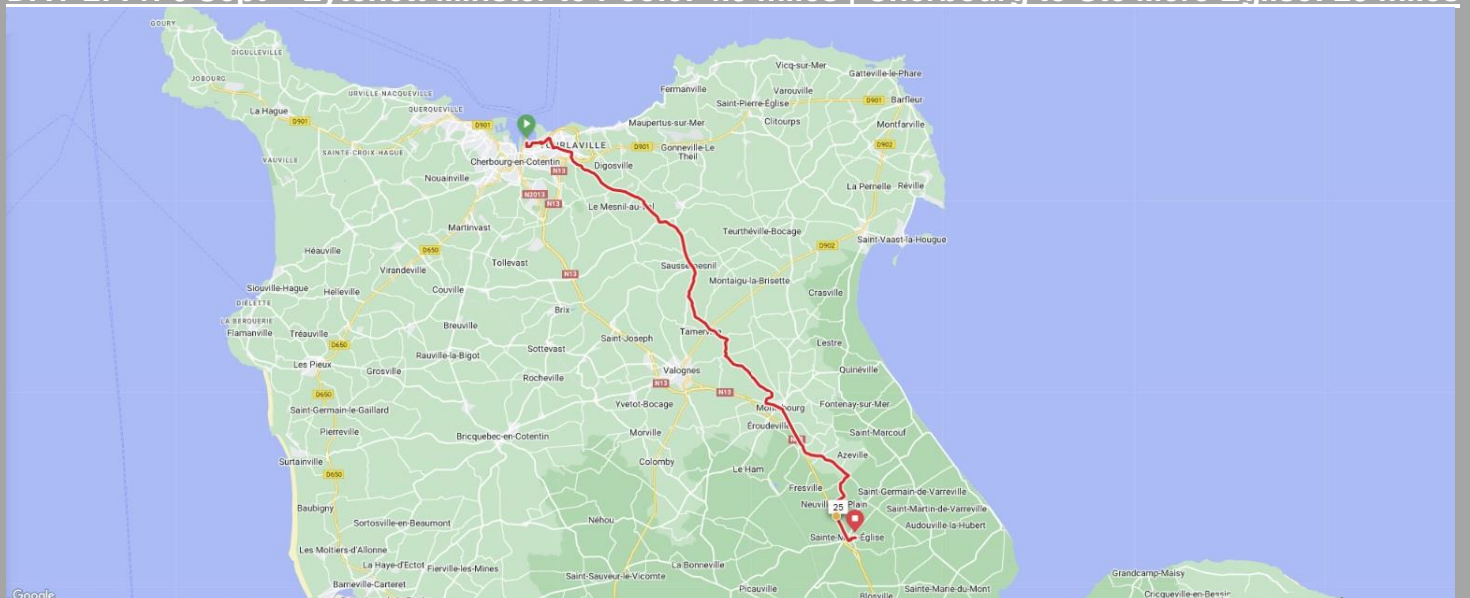
The start time each day varies according to the schedule. Day 2 is an early start time in order to arrive at Poole in plenty of time to check-in for the ferry to Cherbourg.

### DAY 1: Thurs 5 Sept – Tarrant Rushton to Lytchett Minster: 48 miles



FEED STATION: Bovington Tank Museum

### DAY 2: Fri 6 Sept – Lytchett Minster to Poole: 4.5 miles | Cherbourg to Ste Mere Eglise: 25 miles



FEED STATIONS: please ensure you eat well on the ferry!

## DAY 3: Sat 7 Sept – Ste Mere Eglise to Ranville: 72 miles



**FEED STATIONS: Isigny-sur-Mer, Port-en-Bessin, Ver-sur-Mer**

**\*\*Please note that for safety reasons, the route may be subject to change**

## TRAVEL & TRANSPORT

Each participant is required to arrange their own transport to and from the start and finish points as well as making their own ferry booking. Once you have registered for your place on the Ride To Horsa, we will send you a welcome email which will include a special link to make your booking with a discount that we have negotiated for our participants!

All participants **MUST** be booked to travel on the 0830 crossing on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September from Poole to Cherbourg with Brittany Ferries. Your return sailing is entirely your choice but please ensure you will be able to attend the memorial unveiling on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September which should be completed by 1400. The first available sailing back to the UK will be the 1630 from Caen to Portsmouth. A link to book your ferries (including a special discount for our event) will be emailed to you after you have registered for the event.

Once the memorial has been unveiled, you are welcome to stay a further night at our camping location in Ranville however, the site must be cleared on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September.

Unfortunately, due to the nature of the location, vehicles cannot be left at the start point at Tarrant Rushton as it is a working farm. We request that you arrange for someone to drop you off at the start and collect you from your chosen return ferry port.

In some circumstances, we may be able to provide transport from train stations local to the start point but this will be limited due to our resources. Please get in touch if you are struggling to make arrangements to get to the start point.

## EQUIPMENT LIST

As a minimum, you will need:

- A good quality, very well-maintained bicycle (with rear LED light)
- Spares and tools (including pump, 2 x inner tubes, tyre levers)
- A tent and good quality, warm sleeping bag/pillow
- Clothing and footwear (including a cycling helmet!)
- Wet/cold weather clothing
- Specialist medical supplies (if personal required)
- Water bottles/pack (water will be provided at feedstations)
- Clearly labelled and suitable rucksack/holdall
- Valid passport (with a minimum of 6 months unexpired)!
- A booked return ferry (outbound MUST be 0830 on Fri 6 Sept from Poole to Cherbourg)
- Personal Insurance (highly recommended)

### ENTRY CONDITIONS

**REGISTRATION FEE: £295-00 now just £80 per person!**

All participants are required to be at the assembly area at Tarrant Rushton Airfield by no later than 08:00 on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September to check -in. Transportation to and from the start and finish is the responsibility of the participants.

\*The event group will be travelling to France on the 0830 ferry from Poole to Cherbourg on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September. It is essential for ALL participants to book onto this ferry to travel with your bicycle. Your return date and time must not be before 1400 on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September in order to be part of the unveiling ceremony of the new memorial at Horsa Bridge. Brittany Ferries are creating a specific link for participants to make their ferry bookings. This link will be sent to you by email after you have registered for the event. The cost of ferry travel is not included in the entry fee.

You will be required to supply your own bicycle, tent, bedding, clothing, footwear and additional safety and maintenance equipment such as cycling helmet, lights, inner tubes, tyre levers. The safety of these belongings is entirely the responsibility of the participants. We cannot accept liability for any damage or loss to any personal belongings.

**Participant's baggage and tents will be transported to the next campsite each day by our logistics team.**

Participants must be fit and healthy at the time of the event and capable of completing the distances within the required time each day. Any pre-existing medical condition MUST be disclosed upon registration. You will also be required to provide your own cycle for the event which must be in excellent working order. We strongly recommend a full, professional service before the event to ensure your cycle is in the best condition for the event.

This is a particularly challenging event with a demanding all-road route which undulates in many parts and also features a few long and steep climbs, especially day 1. Careful consideration should be given before entries are made. The Veterans Charity or our contractors/partners cannot be held responsible for any injury or death as a result of participation in this event. If you have any concerns, please contact our Medical Lead, Andy Cottrell of Face2Face Medical Ltd, via [andrew@face2facemedical.net](mailto:andrew@face2facemedical.net) prior to registering.

All participants **MUST** follow the precise route set out by the organisers and as directed by the Ride Leaders. Any deviation from the route will result in disqualification from the event. In the event of disqualification or withdrawal, entry fees and donations will not be refunded.

Each participant is required to raise sponsorship as part of their entry into the event. ALL funds raised as part of participation in Ride To Horsa **MUST** be for The Veterans Charity.

The minimum fundraising target has been reduced and is now just £500 per person. There is an option to pay the full amount on entry, avoiding the need to fundraise.

Sponsorship can be raised online via JustGiving as well as using the manual sponsorship form which is available to download from the event website at [www.veteranscharity.org.uk/horsa](http://www.veteranscharity.org.uk/horsa). You will be required to create a fundraising page for The Veterans Charity after registration.

The deadline for fundraising is 31st October 2024. Participants are asked to ensure that they have reached their target and have all monies paid to the charity no later than this date.



# Ride Horsa

5-8 September 2024

[www.veteranscharity.org.uk/horsa](http://www.veteranscharity.org.uk/horsa)



## CONTACT US

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Ride Director:

Matt Porter



Ride To Horsa has received official status by the French Government as part of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary year commemorations of D-Day!