



THE D-DAY STORY
PORTSMOUTH

D-Day 75

Portsmouth, where much of the landing force sailed from in 1944, will be the focal point of national commemorations for D-Day 75, with an array of events from 5–9 June.

Wednesday 5 June

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE EVENT

Portsmouth will host the national commemoration event on Southsea seafront, organised by the Ministry of Defence on behalf of HM Government, and in association with The Royal British Legion.

Morning: Major national commemorative event will take place on Southsea Common for veterans and invited guests, including heads of state. Although security around the event will be high, the public will be able to watch televised coverage from the BBC on big screens, and an RAF flypast will include a Spitfire.

Afternoon/evening: Red Arrows display, and the departure of MV Boudicca, a ship chartered by The Royal British Legion, which will carry 300 D-Day veterans to Normandy, escorted by a Royal Navy vessel, representing the famous crossing 75 years before.

Thursday 6 June

PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL EVENT

Early morning: “We knew something was happening” event, Southsea streets

All day: Coverage of D-Day 75 from Normandy, big screen, Southsea Common

10:45am: D-Day 75 Remembrance Service, D-Day Stone, opposite South Parade Pier

10:30am: Portsmouth Music Hub performing a special composition, main stage, Southsea Common

5pm: Military Band Concert, main stage, Southsea Common

6pm: Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and a specially formed young person's choir performing a composition by James Olsen, inspired by reminiscences of D-Day veterans and the D-Day Story, main stage, Southsea Common

7pm: Open air cinema screening of a family film, big screen, Southsea Common

Saturday 8 June

All day: The Portsmouth Revival Festival. A weekend of entertainment and activities for all the family featuring music and dancing from the 1940s, arena displays, military and vintage vehicles, vintage fairground rides, a 1940s vintage market, and archive and war film screenings.

Afternoon: Red Arrows flypast

7:30pm: Sunset Concert for Heroes, a free unticketed 1940s themed concert featuring the Portsmouth Military Wives Choir, the D-Day Darlings, and the Royal Marines Association Concert Band, main stage, Southsea Common

10pm: Fireworks display, Southsea Common, supported by Gunwharf Quays

Sunday 9 June

All day: The Portsmouth Revival Festival. A weekend of entertainment and activities for all the family featuring music and dancing from the 1940s, arena displays, military and vintage vehicles, vintage fairground rides, a 1940s vintage market, and archive and war film screenings.

Throughout the week

The D-Day Story will be open every day.

The Last of the Tide Exhibition opens at Portsmouth Museum on 5 June, featuring portraits of D-Day veterans commissioned by HRH the Prince of Wales, on loan from the Royal Collections Trust.

These details were correct at the time of going to print but may be subject to change.

An up-to-date event guide can be found at

www.visitportsmouth.co.uk/d-day-75

Information for local residents and businesses can be found at www.portsmouth.gov.uk/d-day75

