

## British and Canadian Landing Beaches – D-Day

LANDING BEACH	BEACH SUB-SECTOR	COLOUR-CODED SUB-DIVISION	APPROX. LOCATION	ASSAULT FORCES	IMMEDIATE FOLLOW-UP UNITS	OFFSHORE NAVAL SUPPORT	
<b>GOLD (British)</b>	How	-	Longues-sur-Mer to Arromanches-les-Bains	No assault landing	No follow-up landing	<b>Bombarding Force K</b> <i>Cruisers:</i> HMS Orion, Ajax, Argonaut, Emerald; <i>Gunboat:</i> HNMS Flores (Dutch); <i>Destroyers:</i> 13 (incl. 1 Polish)	
	Item	Green	Arromanches-les-Bains	No assault landing	No assault landing		
	Jig	Red	le Hamel				
		Green	East of le Hamel	<b>Armoured assault teams, RE</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Hampshire (231 Bde, 50 <sup>th</sup> Div)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Devons (231 Bde, 50 <sup>th</sup> Div) 90 Field Regt, RA (231 Bde, 50 <sup>th</sup> Div) 47 (RM) Commandos		
	King	Red	Due north of Crépon	<b>Armoured assault teams, RE</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Dorsets (231 Bde, 50 <sup>th</sup> Div)	<b>Notts Yeomanry (8 Arm. Bde)</b> 147 Field Regt, RA (8 Arm. Bde) 2 <sup>nd</sup> South Wales Borderers (56 Bde, 49 <sup>th</sup> Div) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Gloucesters (56 Bde, 49 <sup>th</sup> Div) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Essex (56 Bde, 49 <sup>th</sup> Div)		
		Green	Due north of Ver-sur-Mer	<b>B Sqd, 4/7<sup>th</sup> Royal Dragoon Guards (8 Arm. Bde)</b> <b>Armoured assault teams, RE</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> Green Howards (69 Bde, 50 <sup>th</sup> Div)	<b>A Sqd, 4/7<sup>th</sup> Royal Dragoon Guards (8 Arm. Bde)</b> 7 <sup>th</sup> Green Howards (69 Bde, 50 <sup>th</sup> Div) 86 Field Regt, RA (69 Bde, 50 <sup>th</sup> Div)		
	Red	West of La Rivière	<b>C Sqd, 4/7<sup>th</sup> Royal Dragoon Guards (8 Arm. Bde)</b> <b>Armoured assault teams, RE</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> East Yorks (69 Bde, 50 <sup>th</sup> Div)	6 <sup>th</sup> Durham Light Inf (151 Bde, 50 <sup>th</sup> Div) 8 <sup>th</sup> Durham Light Inf (151 Bde, 50 <sup>th</sup> Div) 9 <sup>th</sup> Durham Light Inf (151 Bde, 50 <sup>th</sup> Div) 24 <sup>th</sup> Lancers (8 Arm. Bde)			
<b>JUNO (Canadian)</b>	Love	-	La Rivière	No assault landing	No follow-up landing	<b>Bombarding Force E</b> <i>Cruisers:</i> HMS Belfast, Diadem; <i>Destroyers:</i> 11 (incl. 2 Canadian and 1 French)	
	Mike	Green	East of La Rivière	<b>Part A Sqd, 1<sup>st</sup> Hussars (7 Cdn Bde, 3<sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div)</b> <b>C Coy, 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Scottish (7 Cdn Bde, 3<sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div)</b> <b>Armoured assault teams, RE</b>	Remainder 1 <sup>st</sup> Canadian Scottish (7 Cdn Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div) C Coy, 1 <sup>st</sup> Hussars (7 Cdn Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div) 12 Cdn Field Regt, RCA (7 Cdn Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div)		
		Red	West of the harbour entrance, Courseulles-sur-Mer	<b>Part A Sqd, 1<sup>st</sup> Hussars (7 Cdn Bde, 3<sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div)</b> <b>Royal Winnipeg Rifles (7 Cdn Bde, 3<sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div)</b> <b>Armoured assault teams, RE</b>	13 Cdn Field Regt, RCA (7 Cdn Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div)		
	Nan	Green	East of the harbour entrance, Courseulles-sur-Mer	<b>B Sqd, 1<sup>st</sup> Hussars (7 Cdn Bde, 3<sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div)</b> <b>Regina Rifles (7 Cdn Bde, 3<sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div)</b> <b>Armoured assault teams, RE</b>			
		White	Bernières-sur-Mer	<b>Armoured assault teams, RE</b> <b>Part Fort Garry Horse (8 Cdn Bde, 3<sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div)</b> <b>Queen's Own Rifles of Canada (8 Cdn Bde, 3<sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div)</b>	La Regiment de la Chaudière (8 Cdn Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div) 48 (RM) Commandos 14 Cdn Field Regt, RCA (8 Cdn Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div)		
		Red	West of St Aubin-sur-Mer	<b>Armoured assault teams, RE</b> <b>Part Fort Garry Horse (8 Cdn Bde, 3<sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div)</b> <b>North Shore Regiment (8 Cdn Bde, 3<sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div)</b>	19 Cdn Field Regt, RCA (8 Cdn Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div) Highland Light Infantry of Canada (9 Cdn Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div) Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry Highlanders (9 Cdn Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div) North Nova Scotia Highlanders (9 Cdn Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div) Sherbrook Fusiliers Regt (9 Cdn Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cdn Div)		
<b>SWORD (British)</b>	Oboe	-	Langrune-sur-Mer/ Luc-sur-Mer	No assault landing	No follow-up landing	<b>Bombarding Force D</b> <i>Battleships:</i> HMS Warspite, Ramillies; <i>Monitor:</i> HMS Roberts; <i>Cruisers:</i> HMS Mauritius, Arethusa, Frobisher, Danae, ORP Dragon (Polish); <i>Destroyers:</i> 13 (incl. 1 Polish and 1 Norwegian)	
	Peter	White	South-east of Luc-sur-Mer	No assault landing	No follow-up landing		
	Queen	Red	North-west of Lion-sur-Mer				
		Green	Lion-sur-Mer	No assault landing	No follow-up landing		
		White	Between Lion-sur-Mer and La Breche	<b>Part 13<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> Hussars (27 Arm. Bde)</b> <b>Armoured assault teams, RE</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> South Lancs (8 Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Div)	41 (RM) Commando (4 SS Bde) Staffordshire Yeomanry (27 Arm. Bde) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Warwicks (185 Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Div) 1 <sup>st</sup> Norfolks (185 Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Div) 2 <sup>nd</sup> King's Shropshire Light Infantry (185 Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Div) 33 Field Regt, RA (185 Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Div) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lincolns (9 Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Div) 1 <sup>st</sup> Kings Own Scottish Borderers (9 Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Div) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Royal Ulster Rifles (9 Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Div) 7 Field Regt (9 Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Div) East Ridings Yeomanry (27 Arm. Bde)		
		Red	La Breche	<b>Part 13<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> Hussars (27 Arm. Bde)</b> <b>Armoured assault teams, RE</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> East Yorks (8 Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Div)	1 <sup>st</sup> Suffolks (8 Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Div) Part 13 <sup>th</sup> /18 <sup>th</sup> Hussars (27 Arm. Bde) No 4 Commando (1 SS Bde) No 10 Inter-Allied Commando (1 SS Bde) No 6 Commando (1 SS Bde) No 3 Commando (1 SS Bde) 45 (RM) Commando (1 SS Bde) 76 Field Regt, RA (8 Bde, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Div)		
Roger	Green	La Breche to Riva Bella	No assault landing	No follow-up landing			
	White	Riva Bella to Ouistreham					
	Red	Ouistreham					

**KEY:**

**Colour Coding** – **Armoured assault engineers** including Sherman flail tanks to destroy mines, Armoured Vehicles Royal Engineers to deal with bunkers and Churchill Crocodile tanks with flame-throwers. Also includes Royal Marine close support armour (Centaur) on some beaches; **Tank formations** - mostly Shermans including Duplex-Drive (DD) amphibious Shermans with the assault forces; **Infantry formations** - of battalion size unless otherwise stated; **Artillery Regiments** - self-propelled and towed artillery. Higher echelon command formations are provided in brackets ( ). Follow-up units less than battalion size, for reasons of space, have not been included – these would include various divisional troops such as signals squadrons, anti-tank and anti-aircraft batteries, beach control units, Royal Engineer field companies etc. For a full explanation of how armies were organised in the Second World War, see the entry in the Warwalker site glossary (<http://www.warwalker.co.uk/glossary.shtml#armvorg>)

**Abbreviations** – Arm = Armoured; Bde = Brigade; Cdn = Canadian; Coy = Company; Div = Division; RA = Royal Artillery; RE = Royal Engineers; RCA = Royal Canadian Artillery; Regt = Regiment; RM = Royal Marines; Sqd = Squadron; SS = Special Service

**SOURCES:**

Overlord by Max Hastings (1984), *Sword Beach* by Ken Ford (2004), *Sword Beach* by Tim Kilvert-Jones (2001), *Juno Beach* by Tim Saunders (2004), *Gold Beach* by Christopher Dunphie & Garry Johnson (1999), *Gold Beach – Jig* by Tim Saunders (2002), *Normandy Landing Beaches* by Major & Mrs Holt (1999)