



Australian War Memorial

Western Front Battlefield Tour 2010 27 April – 14 May

'GREEN' group escorted by: Dr Peter Pedersen

- Day 1. Tuesday 27 April**
Depart home ports via Singapore Airlines.
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- Day 2. Wednesday 28 April**
Arrive Paris, met by luxury coach and your tour manager and historian/guide; settle in at our central city hotel. In the evening attend a spectacular 'welcome' dinner river cruise on the Seine to see Paris by night.
Overnight: PARIS
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- Day 3. Thursday 29 April**
Breakfast at hotel. In the morning we are met by our coach for a city tour of the highlights of the beautiful city of Paris. The afternoon is free for shopping, or visiting galleries and museums (perhaps Napoleon's tomb and the Army Museum!). Lunch & dinner own arrangements.
Overnight: PARIS
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- Day 4. Friday 30 April**
After breakfast depart Paris to visit the massive German V-weapons sites at La Coupole near Wizernes and Le Blockhaus at Eperlecques and then settle into our hotel, Chateau Tilques, at St Omer. Lunch own arrangements, dinner at hotel
Overnight: ST OMER
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- Day 5. Saturday 01 May**
A day spent touring significant World War 2 sites in the scenic Pas de Calais area, including the formidable Batterie Todt, the V-3 base at Mimoyecques, Cap Gris Nez and if time permits, the Etaples Military Cemetery. Lunch enroute with dinner at hotel.
Overnight: ST OMER
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- Day 6. Sunday 02 May**
Depart for the Somme, stopping at Doullens, scene of a historic conference in 1918, and Bertangles, location of the Australian Corps Headquarters. In the afternoon, explore the sites of the start of the 1916 Somme offensive, such as la Boisselle, Thiepval and Beaumont-Hamel. Then on to Amiens, with its historic cathedral. Lunch own arrangements en-route with dinner also own arrangements.
Overnight: AMIENS

- Day 7. Monday 03 May**
Visit the Australian Somme battlefields of 1916 – Pozieres and Mouquet Farm, including the 1st Australian Division’s memorial and the ‘Windmill’ site, as well as Flers/Gueudecourt and the Somme winter for forty years. Lunch at Albert, followed by a visit to the 1916 museum in the tunnels under the town. Dinner own arrangements.
Overnight: AMIENS
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- Day 8. Tuesday 04 May**
See the Butte de Warlencourt and Bapaume before following the 1917 advance through the outpost villages to the Hindenburg Line. Enjoy lunch with the locals at Bullecourt, visit its museum and then explore the Bullecourt battlefield. Dinner own arrangements.
Overnight: AMIENS
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- Day 9. Wednesday 05 May**
Visit the Australian Somme battlefields of early 1918 such as Dernancourt, Morlancourt and Sailly-Laurette, and the Australian rear areas, including the village of Heilly, which is virtually unchanged. See Richthofen crash site and the 3rd Australian Division Memorial. Lunch at Bonnay, dinner own arrangements.
Overnight: AMIENS
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- Day 10. Thursday 06 May**
Explore the 1918 battlefields of Villers-Bretonneux (with a special visit to the Australian National Memorial and the AIF museum in Villers-Bretonneux primary school), also Hamel and 8 August offensive. Lunch and Dinner own arrangements.
Overnight: AMIENS
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- Day 11. Friday 07 May**
Travel to Fromelles for a reception and lunch with locals. Visit the war museum, ‘Cobbers’ memorial, VC Corner Cemetery and the 1916 battlefield. Then on to Ypres, via Armentieres, Ploegsteert and the 1917 Messines battlefield. Dinner own arrangements.
Overnight: YPRES
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- Day 12. Saturday 08 May**
Tour the Ypres Salient battlefields, including Hill 60 and the Australian Tunnellers’ memorial, Menin Road, Polygon Wood, Broodseinde, and Passchendaele. Visit the Passchendaele Memorial museum at Zonnebeke, Tyne Cot Cemetery and see the 5th Australian Division memorial. In the afternoon, there is an opportunity to visit the famous ‘In Flanders Fields’ Museum and Ypres rear areas including Essex Farm. In the evening, participate in the wreath-laying at the ‘Last Post’ ceremony at the Menin Gate. Lunch and dinner own arrangements.
Overnight: YPRES

- Day 13. Sunday 09 May**
Free morning to tour the picturesque town of Brugges for sight-seeing and shopping and lunch (own arrangements). Afternoon is free for visits to 'special request' cemeteries and memorials. Dinner at hotel.
Overnight: YPRES
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- Day 14. Monday 10 May**
Travel to 1918 Hindenburg line; visit the St Quentin tunnel, Bony, the 4th Australian Division memorial and the sites of the AIF's final battles. Then to Bellicourt for lunch at a local restaurant, followed by a visit to the Historial de la Grande Guerre. See Mont St Quentin and the 2nd Australian Division memorial, then check in to hotel. Dinner own arrangements.
Overnight: YPRES
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- Day 15. Tuesday 11 May**
Breakfast at hotel. Travel to Lille to join the Eurostar to London. Upon arrival enjoy a city sightseeing tour before checking into our central London hotel with the remainder of day at leisure. Meals own arrangements.
Overnight: LONDON
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- Day 16. Wednesday 12 May**
Visit the site of the AIF Headquarters on Horseferry Road (destroyed during the Second World War) and the Imperial War Museum. Free afternoon at the museum or London sightseeing before attending our stunning evening 'farewell' dinner Thames river cruise.
Overnight: LONDON
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- Day 17. Thursday 13 May**
Breakfast at hotel. Tour ends with a transfer to London Heathrow Airport.
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- Day 18. Friday 14 May**
Arrive Australia early evening.