ENTIRE TRAVEL GROUP

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FRANCE

WESTERN FRONT AUSTRALIAN GUIDED TOUR (TOUR CODE: 14987)

STARTS AND ENDS	TRAVEL PERIODS	EXPERIENCE	TRAVEL STYLE
in Paris	until December 2027	Escorted Battlefields	Independent Holiday Packages

Join a journey tracing Australia's story on the Western Front. Visit key battlefields, memorials and cemeteries, and gain a deeper understanding of the courage, loss and legacy that shaped a generation.

Highlights

- Pay Tribute at the **Thiepval Memorial** to the Missing
- Visit the **Australian National Memorial & Sir John Monash Centre**
- Witness the **Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate**

Entire Bonus

This holiday package is carefully designed by our team to give you complete Peace of Mind, with access to trusted local partners and expert support at your destination.

INCLUSIONS

- 2-night in Amiens at holiday Inn Amiens 3-star hotel
- 1 night in Arras at Holiday Inn Express
- Return Train Ticket to Paris - 2nd Class
- Daily Breakfast
- Museum Entrance fees included
- 3 days escorted tours with English speaking driver -guide

ITINERARY

Day 1 Paris Amiens Thiepval, Pozieres & Thiepval Amiens

Visit the Interpretative Centre at **Thiepval** to set the scene for the tour and the Memorial to the British missing which contains just under 73,000 names of soldiers never identified. Hawthorn Ridge mine crater which was famously filmed during the Great War. The Newfoundland Memorial and it's original preserved battlefield with trenches on both the Allied and German side.

Lunch on your own (not included).

Visit the 1st Australian Division Memorial at **Pozieres** and the site of the Gibraltar pillbox fortification. Then we will pay our respects to the many Australian soldiers who are buried in Pozieres military cemetery from the fight for Pozieres, their first major engagement since arriving in France. Close by is the Windmill site, the highest part of the Somme battlefield, where a memorial stands honouring the 23,000 fallen Australians. In the locality is the grave of Private Russ Bosisto from Adelaide who was found 80 years after the battle. Here too is the Tank Memorial closely positioned to where the tanks went into battle for the first time in world history.

On our way down the Pozieres heights we will visit the site of Moo Cow farm which saw fierce fighting in August and September 1916. Delville Wood and the beautiful memorial and museum to the South African Brigade.

Fricourt German cemetery where the famous Red Baron was buried for a period before being moved to Germany.

Overnight stay in Amiens at **Holiday Inn Amiens** or similar.


AMIENS

Day 2 Amiens Villers Bretonneux, Hamel & Vignacourt Amiens

Enroute to **Villers Bretonneux** we will pause by the 3rd Australian Division Memorial and the Red Baron crash site. We will visit the National Australian Memorial and cemetery on Hill 104 and the Sir John Monash Centre. Close by is Adelaide Cemetery, from where the unknown Australian Warrior was taken in 1993 and now rests in Canberra.

We will then travel to the Victoria school and museum in Villers Bretonneux and see the famous playground sign 'Never forget Australia'.

Stop for lunch in Le Hamel (lunch not included).

View the battlefield of **Hamel** where there is the Australian Corps Memorial Park with its original trenches.

Travel onto **Vignacourt** where we will see where many photographs were taken behind Allied lines and where many are on display. Remember me: the lost diggers of Vignacourt tells the story of how one enterprising photographer took the opportunity of this passing traffic to establish a business taking portrait photographs. Captured on glass, printed into postcards and posted home, the photographs made by the Thuillier family enabled Australian soldiers to maintain a fragile link with loved ones in Australia.

Overnight stay in Amiens at **Holiday Inn Amiens** or similar.

Breakfast



VILLERS-BRETONNEUX CEMETERY| CREDIT: LISA-MICHELE-BURNS_

Day 3 Amiens Fromelles, Ypres, Passchendaele Ridge Arras

Following breakfast we will head to the **Fromelles** battlefield. We will visit the first new Commonwealth war graves cemetery created since the Second World War due to the recent discovery of a mass grave with over 250 Australian and British soldiers.

We will then head down the Aubers Ridge to the battlefield at Fromelles to visit the impressive ‘Cobber memorial’ and nearby cemetery at VC corner with the walls to the missing from this battle. Here the newly arrived 5th Australian Division suffered 5533 casualties in just 27 hours of incessant fighting.

Close by is the outstandingly beautiful military cemetery, Le Trou Post which was near where Brigadier-General ‘Pompey’ Elliott had his HQ.

Head over into Belgium to visit the famous **Flanders fields**. Visit the Messines Ridge where the Australians were involved in the successful capture in June 1917. We will travel onto and discover the city of **Ypres** or ‘Wipers’, the defense of which cost the lives of 250,000 men of the British Empire between 1914-1918.

Lunch in Ypres (not included).

As part of the Messines Ridge attack we will also visit the site of Hill 60 of which a film was made called ‘Beneath Hill 60’. We

will then start to head up towards the Passchendaele Ridge visiting firstly the Fifth Australian Division Memorial in Buttes cemetery which is located looking down on 564 graves of Australian men who fought around Polygon Wood during the Battle of Passchendaele.

Then onto the **Passchendaele Ridge** where we will visit the largest Commonwealth Military Cemetery in the world, Tyne Cot, with over 12,000 graves and 35,000 names of Missing allied soldiers from around the Ypres Salient.

Then we will head back into Ypres, where you'll have some time for a light dinner (not included) before the **8pm Last Post ceremony beneath the Menin Gate**. The Menin Gate bears the names of more than 54,000 missing soldiers, including over 5,000 Australians who lost their lives in Belgium.

Following the ceremony we will then head back to the hotel, arriving back around 9.45pm.

Overnight stay in Arras at **Holiday Inn Express** or similar.

Breakfast



LAST POST | CREDIT: MILO-PROFI

Day **4** Arras

After breakfast, check out of your hotel.

Make your way to the train station to board your train to Paris.

Breakfast

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE	LOCAL CURRENCY
French	EUR

FROM price reflects the lowest available price within the advertised travel period (e.g. April to October). Pricing varies depending on travel dates, availability and demand, and may not be available on all departures. Higher pricing applies during peak and shoulder periods. Final pricing is confirmed at the time of enquiry or booking. Please refer to **Pricing & Price Conditions** for full details, including inclusions, exclusions and other conditions.