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FRANCE

WESTERN FRONT THREE DAY AUSTRALIAN GUIDED TOUR

(TOUR CODE: 14987)

STARTS AND ENDS	TRAVEL PERIODS	EXPERIENCE	TRAVEL STYLE
in Paris	01 Jan 26 - 19 Dec 26	Escorted Battlefields	Independent Holiday Packages

Join a three-day 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 Cooling-Off Period
- ✓ ENTIRE Change of Mind
- ✓ ENTIRE On Ground Support
- ✓ ENTIRE AUD Prices
- ✓ ENTIRE Industry Accredited
- ✓ ENTIRE Australian Owned

INCLUSIONS

- 3-night in Amiens at holiday Inn Amiens 3-star hotel
- Return Train Ticket to Paris - 2nd Class
- Daily Breakfast
- Meals as per itinerary
- 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 at the Ulster Tower Memorial.

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.

Lunch



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'. Weather permitting we will have a picnic lunch at Le Hamel.

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, Lunch



Day 3

Amiens Fromelles, Ypres, Passchendaele Ridge

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.

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 for a **light dinner before the 8pm Last Post** ceremony underneath the Menin Gate. The Menin Gate is where over 54,000 names of the Missing are recorded including over 5,000 Australians who were lost in Belgium.

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

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



LAST POST | CREDIT: MILO-PROFI

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

French

LOCAL CURRENCY

EUR

Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fees
- Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.),
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package