

ANZAC DAY ON THE SOMME

5 DAYS / 4 NIGHTS – 23 APRIL TO 27 APRIL 2011 – ESCORTED GROUP TOUR

Our shorter, simpler ANZAC Day on the Somme tour ideally suits those of you with restraints on time. This tried and tested programme is led by a specialist Battlefield Tour Manager and focuses specifically on the Commemorative sites of the Somme battlefields. Staying three nights in the very heart of Amiens, close to Villers-Bretonneux allows for comprehensive sightseeing, quality touring and easy access to the moving ANZAC Day Dawn service. We are pleased to be able to offer you a choice of programmes staying in either Tourist Class hotels (2 star) or Superior Tourist Class hotels (3 star). Please note the sightseeing and other inclusions remain exactly the same regardless of which hotel category you select.



DAY 1 - 23 APRIL PARIS

Your tour commences in your Paris hotel this evening. We have included a welcome drink and dinner in your hotel. This is an ideal chance to meet and get to know your Tour Manager and fellow travellers. (D)

Superior Tourist Class hotel (3 star tour) - Mercure Paris Montmartre

Tourist Class hotel (2 star tour) - Ibis La Defense.

DAY 2 - 24 APRIL AMIENS

We depart Paris and our first stop is at the 2nd Australian Division memorial at Mont St Quentin, on the outskirts of the historical town of Péronne. Driving across the uplands of the Somme, our next visit is to the Australian Corps Memorial at Le Hamel. Also visited today is the Franco Australian Museum at the Victoria School in the village. In the afternoon we spend time at the Australian National Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux. It was here on April 25, 1918, exactly 3 years after the Gallipoli landings,



Australian Memorial – Villers-Bretonneux

that Australian courage and determination provided a stunning victory that ended the German advance in this area. It is a place to think about how Australia's story on the Western Front between 1916 and 1918 has been commemorated. Our last stop, before arriving in Amiens, is a visit to the Adelaide Cemetery (site of the exhumation of Australia's Unknown Soldier in November 1993). In 1918 Australian soldiers played a prominent part in the defence of the city of Amiens. Both hotels offered for the next 3 nights are in superb locations in the very heart of Amiens within easy walking distance of all the major sights. Make sure you visit one of the gems of French medieval architecture - Amiens Cathedral, where the Australian and New Zealand soldiers have been honoured. A packed lunch has been included today. (B, L)

*Your Amiens hotel: Superior Tourist Class hotel (3 star tour) - All Seasons Amiens
Tourist Class hotel (2 star tour) - Ibis Amiens Centre Cathedrale.*

DAY 3 - 25 APRIL AMIENS – ANZAC DAY

This morning we attend the Dawn Service at the Australian National Memorial near Villers Bretonneux. At the conclusion of the Dawn Service we return to our hotel for breakfast. Later, we experience the tragedy of the 1916 Somme battlefield including the Australian memorials at Pozières, which recall the loss of 23,000 men in six weeks. Also visited today are the vast and tragic Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme, and the Newfoundland Memorial Park. A packed lunch has been included today. (B, L)



Australian 2nd Division Memorial

Albatross gives you more...

Highlights

- Experience the moving ANZAC Day dawn service at Villers-Bretonneux
- Stay 3 nights in the centre of Amiens
- Enjoy the expertise of our specialist Battlefield Tour Manager
- See the 2nd Australian Division memorial at Mont St Quentin and the Australian Corps Memorial at Le Hamel
- Visit the Franco Australian Museum at the Victoria School in Villers-Bretonneux
- Be professionally guided throughout the Somme Commemorative sites including Australian National Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux, Fromelles Memorials, the Canadian National Memorial on Vimy Ridge, Bullecourt 'Digger' Memorial, Adelaide Cemetery, Australian Memorials at Pozières, the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme and the Newfoundland Memorial Park

Inclusions

- All excursions, scenic drives and sightseeing as described in the itinerary
- 4 nights accommodation as described
- Breakfast daily, 2 packed lunches, 2 dinners including farewell dinner in Amiens
- Welcome drink Paris
- Services of a specialist Battlefield Tour Manager
- End of tour tips to your Tour Manager and Driver
- All entrance fees as per the itinerary
- Extensive touring of the Somme Battlefields
- Travel by first class air-conditioned coaches

Tour Price (land only prices)

Superior Tourist Class hotel (3 star tour) -

\$1,489 pp twin share Single supplement \$459

Tourist Class hotel (2 star tour) -

\$1,329 pp twin share Single supplement \$299

DAY 4 - 26 APRIL AMIENS

Today we view the moving statue of an Australian soldier at the Bullecourt 'Digger' Memorial. From there we travel across the old Bullecourt battlefield and visit the most spectacular British Commonwealth memorial in France – the Canadian National Memorial on Vimy Ridge. Later we also visit VC Corner (Australian Cemetery), Fromelles (Pheasant Wood) Military Cemetery and the Australian Memorial Park at Fromelles, scene of Australia's first major battle on the Western Front. Return to Amiens where this evening you enjoy a farewell dinner in a local restaurant. (B, D)

DAY 5 - 27 APRIL TO PARIS

Sadly your Western Front Tour ends this morning after breakfast as you are transferred to Paris to arrive around midday. Drop off points will be Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport and Paris Gare du Nord station. We recommend that you do not book flights or trains that depart Paris before 2pm today. Post tour accommodation can be arranged in Paris. (B)

Compare the Albatross Difference



Less time on coaches, average 144 kms travelled each day



Maximum 42 passengers



Over \$400 value of extras already included - no hidden costs



Guaranteed to depart with 7 or more passengers

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