

# Remembrance Day on the Western Front

10 days, departs Paris 3 November 2018



Australian Corp Memorial Park,  
Le Hamel, courtesy of Brian Flanigan

'Touring the Western Front with Albatross Tours has been a magnificent experience and one which will remain most memorable.' Donna

## Discover more with Albatross...

- Absorb the full reality and tragedy of the trench warfare and gain a deeper insight into the life of the diggers, with commentary by our specialist Battlefield Tour Manager
- All hotels located to access all the major Commemorative sights
- Experience the Remembrance Day Commemoration service at the Australian National Memorial near Villers-Bretonneux
- Be moved by the Last Post at the Menin Gate and visit 'In Flanders Fields' Museum
- Visit the Flanders Commemorative sites including Messines, Hill 60, Polygon Wood, Essex Farm Cemetery, Tyne Cot, Toronto Avenue Cemetery, Island of Ireland Peace Park and explore Hooze Crater Cemetery and Museum
- Visit the Somme Commemorative sites including the Australian National Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux, Fromelles Memorials & Museum, Vimy Ridge, Bullecourt 'Digger' Memorial, Adelaide Cemetery, Australian Memorials at Pozzières, the Ulster Tower Memorial, Newfoundland Memorial Park, Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme, 2nd Australian Division memorial at Mont St Quentin and Australian Corps Memorial at Le Hamel
- Visit Franco-Australian Museum at Victoria Primary School in Villers-Bretonneux & Thiepval Interpretation Centre



Our specialist Battlefield Tour Manager will add so much depth to this tour and ensure you have a tremendously fulfilling experience.

*Come join us on the Western Front at Villers-Bretonneux as we commemorate the sacrifice and valour of a generation who long ago fought and died so far from home.*

*Over the past 17 years we have handled numerous commemorative tours to the Somme and Flanders battlefields. Your specialist Battlefield Tour Manager has been specially selected as he is an expert in these regions and well versed in the path our 'Diggers' trod nearly a century ago. He will separate fact from fiction and bring to life the whole tragic Western Front campaign. Specially designed to visit the main battlefields, cemeteries, memorials and museums, this tour offers you a unique and personal experience.*

### DAY 1 - 3 NOVEMBER PARIS

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

Your Paris hotel: *Mercurie Paris Montmartre*.

### DAY 2 - 4 NOVEMBER YPRES

We travel to Ypres where we stay the next three nights.

This afternoon enjoy a walking tour through the centre of town and see the magnificent Cloth Hall, St Georges Chapel, Ypres Ramparts Cemetery and the Menin Gate Memorial, the British Empire's tribute to the missing from the battles around Ypres. Highlight of your day will be a visit to 'In Flanders Fields' Museum – a remarkable interactive experience of World War I, located in the Cloth Hall. Between 1916 and 1918 thousands of Australian and New Zealand soldiers came to Ypres where some of the heaviest fighting in World War I took place. Completely destroyed in the war, the town was lovingly rebuilt, carefully restoring the grand old buildings and picturesque square. Tonight, after dinner, you can attend the sounding of the Last Post at the Menin Gate, a moving ceremony repeated every night since 1928. (B, D)

Your Ypres hotel: *Novotel Ieper Centrum*. Located by the main square in the heart of the old town and only 200 metres from the Menin Gate. This contemporary style hotel offers air-conditioned guest rooms with ensuite facilities. See <http://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-3172-novotel-ieper-centrum-flanders-fields/index.shtml>

### DAY 3 - 5 NOVEMBER YPRES

A fascinating day focusing on the 'Flanders Offensive' of June to November 1917. In the morning we visit the site of the Battle of Messines, the beautiful Toronto Avenue Cemetery and the Island of Ireland Peace Park.

Later we follow the famous Menin Road to visit Hooge Crater Cemetery, Hill 60, the 5th Australian Division Memorial in Polygon Wood and the British Commonwealth's largest war cemetery at Tyne Cot. What happened in this area east of Ypres in 1917 was eventually summed up in one terrible word – Passchendaele! (B)

### DAY 4 - 6 NOVEMBER YPRES

We have included a delightful excursion today to the charming city of Bruges. Recognised as one of Europe's best preserved medieval cities, Bruges is riddled with canals, bridges and quiet back streets. On arrival we are joined by a local guide for a walking tour around the quaint and picturesque cobbled streets. Later, take time to relax in one of the pavement cafés on the glorious old market square. This afternoon we also visit the Essex Farm Cemetery, a site forever associated with the composition of the poem 'In Flanders Fields'. (B)

### DAY 5 - 7 NOVEMBER AMIENS

Today we journey through the old Western Front battlefields from Ypres in Belgium to Amiens in France. After crossing the border, we will stop at Fromelles, scene of Australia's first major battle on the Western Front, to visit VC Corner (Australian Cemetery), Fromelles (Pheasant Wood) Military Cemetery and the Australian Memorial Park at Fromelles. We also visit the Museum of the Battle of Fromelles. From there we visit the most spectacular British Commonwealth memorial in France – the Canadian National Memorial on Vimy Ridge. Before heading into Amiens, we will travel across the old Bullecourt battlefield and view the moving statue of an Australian soldier at the Bullecourt 'Digger' Memorial. A packed lunch and dinner has been included today. You will be staying the next four nights in Amiens. (B, L, D)

Your Amiens hotel: *Novotel Amiens Pole Jules Verne*. Located a few minutes drive from the centre of Amiens, this hotels offers spacious, contemporary rooms, and provides the ideal base to explore the nearby Somme battlefields from. See <http://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-0396-novotel-amiens-pole-jules-verne/index.shtml>

### DAY 6 - 8 NOVEMBER AMIENS

Today we experience the tragedy of the 1916 Somme Battlefields. We visit the Australian memorials at Pozieres which recall the loss of 23,000 men in six weeks. The memorial at the windmill simply reads, "This spot was the centre of the struggle in this area and was captured by Australian troops who fell more thickly on this ridge than on any other". Later we visit the vast and tragic Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme, including entrance to the Thiepval Interpretation Centre which details the battles of the Somme between 1914 and 1918, the Ulster Tower Memorial to the 36th Ulster Division and the Newfoundland Memorial Park. A snack lunch is included today. Returning to Amiens your evening is free. (B, L)

### DAY 7 - 9 NOVEMBER AMIENS

Begin your day with a visit to one of the gems of French medieval architecture – Amiens Cathedral, where the Australian and New Zealand soldiers have been honoured. Over the next 2 days we explore the 1918 Somme Battlefields including the Adelaide Cemetery (site of the exhumation of Australia's Unknown Soldier in November 1993) and the Australian National Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux. We have included a visit to the fascinating Franco-Australian Museum at the Victoria Primary School in the village of Villers-Bretonneux. Dinner tonight is included in a local restaurant. (B, D)

### DAY 8 - 10 NOVEMBER AMIENS

Today we visit the Australian Corps Memorial at Le Hamel and the 2nd Australian Division Memorial at Mont St Quentin. Lunchtime is at leisure in the historical town of Péronne, where we have also included entrance to the Historial de la Grande Guerre (Museum of the Great War). Dinner tonight is included at your hotel. (B, D)

### DAY 9 - 11 NOVEMBER PARIS - REMEMBRANCE DAY

Today we attend the Remembrance Day Commemoration service at the Australian National Memorial at Villers Bretonneux\*. At the conclusion of the commemoration service we travel back to Paris. Tonight before a farewell dinner in a local restaurant, we attend the lighting of the flame ceremony at the Arc de Triomphe. (B, D)

\*Details regarding the time of the Remembrance Day Commemoration service are to be confirmed by the Department of Veteran Affairs.

Your Paris hotel: *Mercurie Paris Montmartre*

### DAY 10 - 12 NOVEMBER PARIS

Your tour ends this morning after breakfast. (B)



An unknown soldier in world war 1 - Flanders, Belgium - istock



Over \$900 value of extras  
already included

## Discover the Albatross difference

- Expert commentary by our experienced battlefield guide
- Genuinely inclusive, with NO additional on tour costs
- Stay in centrally located hotels
- Maximum tour group size of 40
- Guaranteed to depart with 10 or more people
- 17 years experience operating Western Front tours

## Incredible Value Inclusions

- Fully escorted by our highly experienced specialist Battlefield Guide Tour Manager
- Travel in a first class air-conditioned touring coach
- 9 nights specially selected hotel accommodation
- Breakfast daily (B)
- 2 lunch packs (L)
- 6 dinners including welcome dinner & farewell dinners in Paris (D)
- Welcome drink in Paris
- All excursions, scenic drives, sightseeing and entrances as described
- Extensive touring of the WWI Battlefields
- Local guide for Bruges walking tour
- Personal audio system whilst on tour
- Free WiFi available on most coaches and at hotels
- End of tour tips to Tour Manager and driver, tips for local guide

## 2018 Prices

10 days only \$3,739 pp twin share

Single supplement \$839 (land only prices in Australian Dollars)



### SPECIAL NOTE:

An Attendance Pass will be required to attend the Remembrance Day Commemoration Service at Villers-Bretonneux on 11 November 2018. Albatross Tours will apply for the Attendance Pass on behalf of our passengers, once we receive a signed Booking Form, providing us with the necessary permission & personal information we require to complete the application process. Confirmation advising that the Attendance Pass application has been successful will be sent directly to you by email from Ticketek. The Attendance Passes will be delivered directly to you from the Department of Veteran Affairs/Ticketek approximately one month prior to the Commemoration Service date.



*Albatross travellers on the Western Front, courtesy of Dr Richard Reid*

## Experience Remembrance Day with the Commemorative Tour Experts

### Tours designed for you

Albatross tours have been specifically designed for you - the Australian and New Zealand traveller. Our longer stays in each destination provide you with far more time for sightseeing, and a more fulfilling overall touring experience. That is also why we make sure each tour is genuinely inclusive, with NO additional 'on tour' costs. We know Australians and New Zealanders can be uneasy with tipping, so we have even included all 'on tour' gratuities and end of tour tips.

### Expert Commentary

Our team on the Western Front includes noted guides who are members of the Guild of Battlefield Guides and experienced specialist Battlefield Tour Managers who have worked with Albatross Tours for many years. Your specialist Battlefield Tour Manager will separate fact from fiction (and the truth is often stranger than fiction!) and they ensure the perfect planning and implementation of your Western Front 'campaign'.

### Centrally located hotels

In the Somme region we stay in the town of Amiens for 3 or 4 nights. With its glorious gothic cathedral, Amiens is centrally located with the majority of key commemorative sites such as Villers-Bretonneux, Pozières, Le Hamel and Thiepval all close by. In the Flanders region we always stay in the very centre of Ypres old town near the famous Menin Gate where the Last Post is sounded each evening. All key commemorative sights are close by and the hotel is located close to the Cloth Hall in the huge gothic central square.

### Experience you can trust

All our tours are tried, tested and proven. Over the past decade thousands of Australians and New Zealanders have travelled with us to the Western Front. Together we have retraced the steps of the 'Diggers' from the staggering devastation of the trench warfare of the Somme battlefields to the moving Last Post under the Menin Gate in Ypres.

*Visit [www.albatrosstours.com](http://www.albatrosstours.com) to discover more about the Albatross style of touring.*

# Exclusive offers

## Take advantage of some great deals with Albatross Tours

### Club Albatross Members

#### Save \$100 per person

Have you travelled with Albatross Tours before? If so, we look forward to welcoming you back and would like to offer you an exclusive Club Albatross Discount of \$100 per person off the price of our 2018 Remembrance Day tour.

### Club Albatross Sapphire Members

#### Save \$200 per person

Have you travelled on more than 3 tours with Albatross Tours? If so, we welcome you to Club Albatross Sapphire. We would like to offer you our Club Albatross Sapphire Discount of \$200 per person off the price of any of our 2018 Remembrance Day tour.

### Small Group Discount

#### Save \$100 per person\*

If you are travelling in a small group of 6-9 people on one of our ANZAC Day tours, and the tours are booked at the same time, you and your group members are eligible to receive a \$100 per person discount. Group sizes of 10 or more attract a larger discount.

### Triple Room Discount

#### 10% Discount

When 3 adults are sharing a room, the third guest will receive a 10% triple share discount. Children aged 11 years or under at the date of tour departure will receive a 30% discount when sharing a room with 2 adults.

### Twin Share Match

#### Guarantee

Individual travellers can request to be matched in a twin room with another individual of the same gender. Should a match not be available, travellers will stay in a single room and the single supplement cost will not be charged if a twin room is available.

### Currency

#### Guarantee

Once you have booked and deposited your tour, you can rest easy as we guarantee that if the value of the Australian dollar drops, your tour price will not go up. That's the Albatross guarantee to you!

\*Conditions: Small group discounts cannot be claimed in addition to any 'Club Albatross' discount offers. All discount offers apply to our ANZAC Day tours and are not applicable to any additional pre or post tour hotel accommodation booked. Albatross Tours reserve the right to at any time to withdraw or amend any or all of the discounts and special offers featured on this page.



### Book with confidence with our guaranteed group departures

If you book and deposit on any of our tours, as long as there are ten or more people travelling on your designated departure date, we guarantee it will travel. This is Albatross Tours' commitment to you. How valuable is this commitment? Please do ask your travel agent – they will be able to explain the importance of guaranteed group departures.

*Looking for further information or to book today?  
Please call our European Tour Experts on  
1300 135 015, or visit [www.albatrosstours.com](http://www.albatrosstours.com)  
or ask your travel agent to contact us.*



Come share our love of Europe