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Dieppe Canadian War Cemetery

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“FROM NORMANDY TO FLANDERS FIELDS”

A TOUR OF THE CANADIAN BATTLEFIELDS OF WORLD WARS I AND II

Friday, November 4 to Monday, November 14, 2022

An 11-day thorough exploration of the battlefields of France and Belgium, focusing on the Canadian contributions in Flanders' Fields, at Vimy, the Somme, and of course Normandy. A Remembrance Day commemoration at Ypres' Menin Gate Monument will be a highlight to remember! Excellent hotels, meals and presentations by your tour escort, Jacques Pauwels or Michael Quinn.

PROPOSED ITINERARY LAND ONLY

(Meals included in addition to daily breakfast: L- lunch; D- dinner)

Day 1 - Friday, November 4:

Evening departure from Toronto to Paris. Dinner and a light breakfast will be served during the flight.

Day 2 - Saturday, November 5: (D)

Morning arrival at Paris CDG Airport. Transfer by private coach to the charming Normandy seaport of Honfleur, situated on the Seine Estuary, associated with Samuel de Champlain who sailed from here in 1608 to found the city of Quebec and the colony of New France! Check-in to our centrally located hotel before an exploratory walk and dinner in a harbour area restaurant.,

Days 3 & 4 – Sunday-Monday, November 6 & 7:

Two full days of sightseeing in Normandy. Among the highlights will be Pegasus Bridge; Juno Beach (the Canadian sector of the Landing Beaches) with the excellent Juno Beach Centre in Courseulles-sur-Mer; the Canadian War Cemetery of Bénvy-sur-Mer; Arromanches with the remains of the great artificial ‘Mulberry’ harbour; and Ardenne Abbey, where Canadian POWs were executed by SS troops. Also, Bretteville Canadian War Cemetery in the area of the Falaise Gap; Caen, the city of William the Conqueror, carefully rebuilt after being destroyed during the fighting in 1944; and the picturesque town of Bayeux, with its famous “Tapestry,” a medieval embroidered “comic strip” showing the conquest of England by William, Duke of Normandy. Late afternoon return to Honfleur and free evening.



Canadian troops disembarking at Bernières - Juno Beach.

Day 5 - Tuesday, November 8: (D)

After breakfast, departure for Dieppe, where Canadian troops landed in August 1942. Visits to both the Canadian Memorial (at the infamous beach) and nearby War Cemetery. On for a drive along the English Channel coast, with wonderful views of the “White Cliffs of Dover” (if weather permits) and a stop in Wimereux, just outside Boulogne, to visit the grave of John McRae, author of “In Flanders’ Fields.” We also view several installations of the German Atlantic Wall, including a “big gun” emplacement. Continuing via Calais and the entrance to the “Chunnel”, we reach Dunkirk, where we walk on the beach that witnessed the evacuation of British troops in 1940. Crossing the Belgian border, we pause near the little seaport of Nieuwpoort and the mouth of the Yser River, where in 1914-1918, the frontline ended with barbed wire stretched across the beach into the North Sea. On to Bruges, arguably the best-preserved medieval town in all of Europe. In 1944, the city was liberated by a Canadian Army unit from Manitoba, entering the town, as we will, by what today is called the Canada Bridge. Time to relax in our charming 4-star hotel before dinner in a typical restaurant.

Day 6 - Wednesday, November 9:

This morning we enjoy a leisurely walking tour of old Bruges. Highlights include the Belfry, symbol of the city; the Church of Our Lady; the Gothic Town Hall; Medieval St. John’s Hospital; the scenic canals that crisscross the town; the Lake of Love and the romantic Beguinage. Remainder of the day at leisure. This evening, an *optional* dinner of Flemish

culinary specialties during which we will be entertained by musicians specializing in medieval music but who will also treat us to songs of WW I.

Day 7 - Thursday, November 10: (L)

Today we explore the area along the nearby Belgian-Dutch border where the Canadian Army fought the crucial "Battle of the Scheldt" in the Fall of 1944. After short visits to memorials at Moerbrugge and Moerkerke, we stop at the Canadian War Cemetery in the village of Adegem to conduct a personalized memorial service together with members of the local Belgian-Canadian Association who will also join us for lunch and a tour of the nearby Canadian War Museum. Afternoon return to Bruges and remainder of day at leisure.

Day 8 - Friday, November 11: (L)

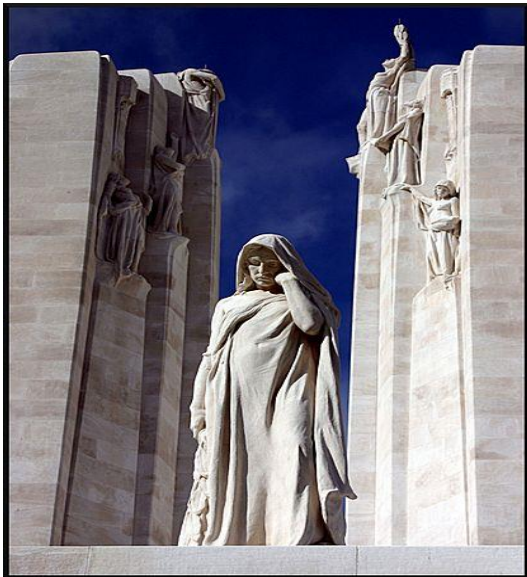
REMEMBRANCE DAY!

This morning we travel by local train to the town of Ieper (French: Ypres), hub of "Flanders Fields," to attend the moving Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Menin Gate, the principal British War Memorial of the area. After a group lunch in a typical restaurant, visit to the excellent Flanders Fields War Museum, located in the famous Cloth Hall, a wonderful medieval building destroyed during WW I but carefully reconstructed in following decades (www.inflandersfields.be). A visit to St. George Memorial Chapel with its remembrance memorials and plaques to the fallen before we return to Bruges.

Day 9 - Saturday, November 12:

Early departure from Bruges to Vimy for a comprehensive tour of the impressive Canadian Memorial, Battlefield Park and Interpretation Centre. On to the Somme Battlefield, scene of General Haig's "Big Push", i.e., the great British offensive launched on July 1, 1916. Sites enroute will include the Newfoundland Caribou Monument and small museum at Beaumont-Hamel; the Ulster Memorial Tower; the massive British Memorial of Thiepval; the Canadian Monument of Courcelette. Late afternoon arrival at our hotel in Roissy, located near our Paris departure airport of Charles de Gaulle. Dinner at leisure.

(www.w1battlefields.co.uk/somme.html).



Detail of the Vimy Memorial

Day 10 - Sunday, November 13: (L)

Full day excursion in the area. We begin at Reims with its "War Room", the venue where General Eisenhower accepted one of the several German surrenders that took place at the end of the Second World War, on May 7, 1945. Following a gourmet *Au Revoir* lunch in an elegant country restaurant, we continue on to the "Glade of the Armistice" in the Compiègne Forest. It features the reconstructed railway car that served as Marshal Foch's HQ, in which the Germans surrendered on November 11, 1918. Evening free to pack your suitcase! (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glade_of_the_Armistice).

Day 11 - Monday, November 14:

After breakfast, a short transfer (by hotel shuttle service) to Charles de Gaulle Airport in time for the return flight to Toronto. Lunch and snack served before the afternoon Pearson arrival.

Tour Price - Land Only
\$3,695.00 CAD from Toronto, based on double occupancy:
Single room supplement: \$495 .00 CAD

Included in the tour price are:

- Accommodation in first class (4 star) hotels, based on double occupancy; the single room supplement is \$495.00 CAD;
- Land tour transportation via private coach;
- Meals: full buffet breakfast daily and a total of *five* full-course dinners or lunches;
- Sightseeing, visits, and excursions as indicated in the itinerary, including admissions;
- Hotel taxes and gratuities;
- Airport lounge pass for air-inclusive booking made more than 90 days prior to departure.

Not included are:

- Meals other than those mentioned above;
- Beverages with dinners;
- Coach driver's gratuity, estimated at \$45.00 CAD;
- All expenses of a personal nature;
- Travel Insurance: available on an individual basis, please call for rates.

APPLICATION FORM

Please book ____ seat (s) for "From Normandy to Flanders Fields" November 4-14, 2022.

Enclosed is my/our deposit of _____ (\$750 per person, *plus* insurance premium if taken.)

I will be travelling "Land Only" and will be securing my own airfare_____.

Deposit and insurance premium, if taken, are due with registration. You will be invoiced for an interim payment of \$1,000.00 followed by the balance invoice due 45 days prior to departure.

WE REQUIRE A COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT (INFORMATION PAGE ONLY) VALID 3 MONTHS AFTER TOUR COMPLETION DATE, TO BE SENT WITH YOUR APPLICATION FORM AT TIME OF REGISTRATION.

PASSPORT NAME(S): Please indicate the appropriate title (Mr., Mrs., Miss, Dr., Ms.)

Surname:_____First:_____Middle(s)_____

Surname:_____First:_____Middle(s)_____

If applicable, give your commonly used first name as you would like it to appear on your name tag: (e.g., "Liz" for "Mary Elizabeth") _____

ADDRESS:

Postal Code:_____

Telephone:_____ Email:_____

If traveling alone, is a single room required? Yes____ No____

If sharing, please indicate bed preference -

Twin _____: Double_____

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: We find the earlier a request is made, the more success we have in its fulfillment. We cannot ensure requests made 30 days or less prior to departure be possible.

Please list any dietary requests, special needs, allergies, wheelchair assistance, frequent flyer numbers etc. here. twin beds, etc.).

Insurance, Please call the office for premiums then record it on the application and add premium to deposit.

I / we would like to purchase (please check and record your rate):

Name: _____ Date of Birth:_____

Name: _____ Date of Birth:_____

All-inclusive Package: _____ \$ _____ Non-medical Package: _____ \$ _____
Other: _____ \$ _____ OR Decline Insurance _____

PAYMENT:

☐ Cheque payable to Pauwels Travel: ☐ Visa ☐ American Express ☐ MasterCard

Amount Paid: _____

Card Number: _____ Expiry: _____ Security Code: _____

Signature: _____

"I / we agree to the terms and conditions attached to the programme, have indicated our insurance choice, special requests and included payment".

Date: _____ Signatures(s): _____

Please forward this completed form, copy of passport and payment to:
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