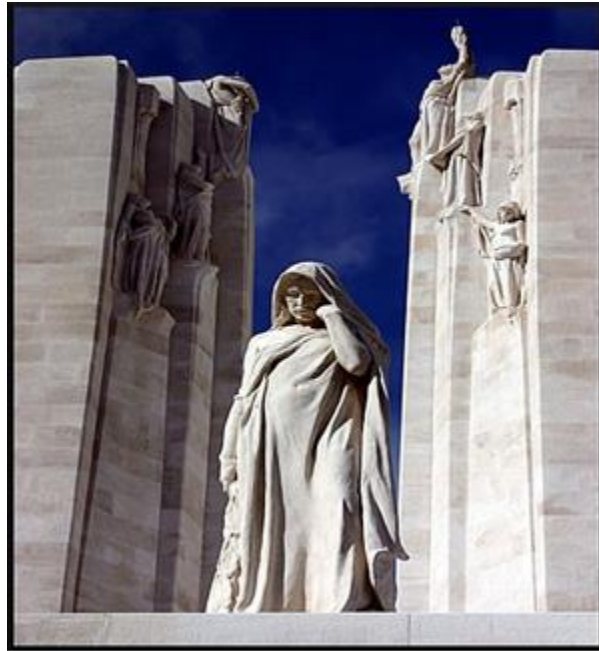


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Detail of the Vimy Memorial

(All photos by J. Pauwels or free of copyright c/o Wikimedia Commons)

1918-2018
“GREAT WAR CENTENARY TOUR”

A COMPREHENSIVE TOUR OF THE BATTLEFIELDS OF WORLD WARS I (AND II), FEATURING
FLANDERS FIELDS, VIMY, THE SOMME, MONS, THE NORMANDY BEACHES, ETC.

15 days, Friday, November 2 to Friday, November 16, 2018

An extensive exploration of the battlefields of France and Belgium, focusing on the Canadian contribution at Vimy Ridge, the Somme, Mons, Normandy, and of course Flanders' Fields, where the Remembrance Day commemoration on November 11 in Ypres will constitute one of the tour's highlights! Excellent hotels, meals, and history lectures by your tour escort, Jacques Pauwels, author of a number of books on both World Wars, including a study of the role of the Canadian Army in the liberation of Belgium, a recent book on WW I, 'The Great Class War 1914-1918,' and an international best-seller on WW II, 'The Myth of the Good War.'

Tour price: based on “land only” and double occupancy: \$3,845.00 CDN.
Single room supplement: \$825.00

PROPOSED ITINERARY

Day 1 – Friday, November 2:

Evening departure from Toronto to Brussels via Montreal with Air Canada. Dinner and a light breakfast will be served on board.

Day 2 - Saturday, November 3: (D)

Morning arrival in Brussels. Panoramic tour of the Belgian capital, focusing on the Cinquantenaire Complex, a Belgian version of the Arc de Triomphe and the Tuileries Gardens in Paris, where we visit one of Europe's finest war museums, including countless weapons and other mementoes of armed conflicts from the Middle Ages to both World Wars (www.klm-mra.be/D7t). After our lunch break, we check into the first-class NH hotel, centrally located on charming Sablon Square (www.nh-collection.com/hotel/nh-collection-brussels-grand-sablon?campid=8435708&ct=287135536&gclid=CjwKCAiA693RBRAwEiwALCc3u_vSYcEUyb_zhwX1rxmkcZfwf2JOoJYPuLs-KSa8eNjlifL7TxzrahoCs10QAvD_BwE&dclid=CNrr6u2PINgCFRKPqodkg4Bsw). Free time to settle in, and dinner in the fine restaurant of our hotel.

Day 3 - Sunday, November 4:

After breakfast, leisurely walking tour of the historical city centre, with sights such as the magnificent Grand' Place, the popular statue of Manneken Pis, the Galerie de la Reine, a 19th-century shopping mall with luxury boutiques, chocolate shops, and fine cafés and restaurants, and the antique market on Sablon Square. The afternoon is at leisure, but you will receive a ticket for a visit to the world-class Royal Museums of Fine Arts, conveniently located next-door to our hotel, to admire masterpieces by artists such as Bruegel, Rubens, and Magritte (<https://www.fine-arts-museum.be/en>). No group dinner.

Day 4 - Monday, November 5: (D)

Departure from Brussels after breakfast. Heading south, we soon reach the world-famous **Battlefield of Waterloo**, where we view the Lion Monument and the historic inns that served as headquarters to Wellington and Napoleon during that world-famous battle, fought in June 1815. On to **Mons**, the Belgian town that witnessed the first battle fought by the British in the Great War and was captured by Canadian troops during the very last hours of the war, on November 11, 1918. Lunch break followed by a visit to the unique **St. Symphorien Cemetery**, with the graves of soldiers of the three nations – Canada, Britain, and Germany - that were involved in these battles, including the tomb of the Great War's first British and last Canadian soldier to die, the latter only minutes before the cease-fire went into effect. We then cross into France and briefly explore the **Chemin des Dames**, a ridge where a disastrous 1917 French offensive triggered mutinies within the French Army. Late-afternoon arrival in the elegant historical city of **Reims**, and visit to the modest schoolhouse that served as HQ to General Eisenhower and witnessed the German surrender on May 7, 1945. Dinner and overnight in the centrally-located first-class Hotel de la Paix (www.bestwestern-lapaix-reims.com/en).

< Grave of G. L. Price, last Canadian killed in the Great War (Photo J. Pauwels)

For more pictures of the 2014 Pauwels Travel battlefield tour, see <https://plus.google.com/photos/112007961211927448869/albums/6081916973145443425?banner=pwa>



Day 5 - Tuesday, November 6:

Excursion to **Verdun**, the quintessential “killing field” of World War I as far as the French are concerned. Our sightseeing program includes the Fort of Douaumont, the massive Douaumont Ossuary, the “Trench of the Bayonets,” the old town of Verdun itself, and the *Voie Sacrée*, (“Sacred Way”), the only road through which supplies could reach the besieged city during the terrible battle that was fought there in 1916 (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Verdun). Return to Reims in the afternoon, No group dinner this evening.



Panoramic view of Douaumont Ossuary near Verdun

Day 6 - Wednesday, November 7: (L)

Departing from Reims after breakfast, we soon reach **Vimy**, for a comprehensive stunning walking tour of the Canadian Memorial, the newly opened Interpretation Centre and Battlefield Park with its trenches, tunnels and shell craters, commemorating the famous battle fought in April 1917. After a group lunch in the attractive town of Arras, we visit the massive French Memorial and Cemetery of **Notre Dame de Lorette** as well as the Franco-British and German cemeteries in **La Targette**. Accommodation in the first-class Parkhotel in the town of **Kortrijk** (Courtrai), located just across the Belgian border (<http://www.parkhotel.be/index-nl.aspx>). No group dinner.

Day 7 - Thursday, November 8: (D)

Today we tour **Flanders' Fields**, the World War I battlefields zone in Belgium, stretching from the French border to the North Sea. We begin at **Tyne Cot**, the world's largest Commonwealth War Cemetery, followed by the Canadian Memorial at **Passchendaele**, site of the Canadian troops epic 1917 battle. Then on to the Brooding Soldier Monument, stark testament to the first gas attack in 1915. On to the German War Cemetery of **Vladslo**, with its poignant Käthe Kollwitz sculpture "The Mourning Parents" before arrival at the little seaport of **Nieuwpoort**, at the mouth of the Yser River. In 1914-1918, the frontline ended here with barbed wire stretched across the beach into the salty North Sea waters. Returning inland we visit Essex Farm Cemetery, where, between surgeries, John McRae composed his famous poem. On to Ieper (Ypres) with its Menin Gate, the foremost British WW I Memorial in Belgium. After dinner we attend the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate - a daily tradition since the early 1920s! (www.greatwar.co.uk/events/menin-gate-last-post-ceremony.htm). Late return to our hotel in Kortrijk.

The Brooding Soldier >

Day 8 - Friday, November 9: (L)

A stop at the Caribou Memorial, commemorating the Newfoundland Regiment's role in the fighting here in Kortrijk at the end of WW I. Then we motor to the area where the Canadian Army fought the "Battle of the Scheldt" in the fall of 1944. Visit to the sites of the battles of Moerbrugge and Moerkerke and intimate Remembrance Service at the Canadian War Cemetery in Adegem. After lunch a tour of the local Canadian War Museum and socialize with members of the Belgian-Canadian Association. We briefly enter Holland at the border crossing that witnessed Queen Wilhelmina's return to her homeland after the war - and years of exile in Canada! Late-afternoon arrival in **Bruges**, arguably the best preserved medieval town in all of Europe. In 1944, Bruges was liberated by a Canadian Army unit from Manitoba, entering the town, as we do, via the bridge now known as the Manitoba Dragoons Bridge. We check into the centrally located Hotel t'Zand (www.hotelzand.be). No group dinner.



Day 9 - Saturday, November 10: (D)

Guided morning walking tour of Bruges. Highlights; 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 to shop or explore Bruges individually. But this evening, a group dinner in our hotel.

Day 10 - Sunday, November 11: (L)

[REMEMBRANCE DAY]

This morning we return to the town of **Ieper (Ypres)**, hub of “Flanders’ Fields,” to attend the moving Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Menin Gate, the principal British War Memorial in the area. After a group lunch in a typical restaurant, a visit to the excellent inter-active War Museum, located in the upper floor of the famous Cloth Hall, a wonderful medieval building that was destroyed during WW I but carefully rebuilt afterwards (www.inflandersfields.be). Time also to visit the Chapel of St. George with its remembrance memorials and plaques. Return to Bruges in late afternoon and evening at leisure. No group dinner.

Day 11 - Monday, November 12: (D)

Morning departure from Bruges. We cross back into France and motor to the **Somme Battlefield**, scene of General Haig’s “Big Push”, i.e. the great British offensive launched on July 1, 1916. Our tour will include the Newfoundland Caribou Monument (and adjoining information centre) at **Beaumont-Hamel**, the Ulster Memorial Tower, the massive British Memorial of Thiepval, and the Canadian Monument of **Courselette** (www.ww1battlefields.co.uk/somme.html). Entering the province of Normandy, we head for the port of **Dieppe**, scene of Operation Jubilee, a 1942 Allied raid against the German Atlantic Wall which cost a lot of Canadian lives. Visit to the landing beach, the Canadian Memorial, and the Canadian War Cemetery. On for dinner and overnight to another Normandy seaport, picturesque and historic **Honfleur**, whence Samuel de Champlain sailed for Canada in 1608 to found the city of Quebec and the colony of New France. Accommodation in the first-class Hotel Mercure (<http://www.mercure.com/gb/hotel-0986-mercure-honfleur-hotel/index.shtml>). Group dinner in a typical restaurant.

Day 12 - Tuesday, November 13, and Day 13 - Wednesday, November 14:

Two days of sightseeing in the area of the **Normandy Beaches** where Allied forces landed on D-Day, June 6, 1944. We focus on the Canadian sector, **Juno Beach**, where we visit the towns of Bernières and Courseulles, the Juno Beach Centre, and Bény-sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery. Other sights included will be Ardenne Abbey, with its memorial to Canadian POWs executed there by SS troops; Bretteville Canadian War Cemetery, in the area where the battle of the Falaise Gap was fought; remains of the artificial Mulberry Harbour in Arromanches; the famous Pegasus Bridge; the huge American Memorial at Omaha Beach; and the town of Bayeux, where we will view the famous Tapestry, depicting William the Conqueror’s 1066 conquest of England. No group dinners scheduled for days 13 and 14.



Canadian troops disembarking at Bernières, Juno Beach

Day 14 - Thursday, November 15: (L)

Departure from Honfleur after breakfast. We motor to **Rethondes**, a hamlet in the Forest of Compiègne where the Armistice was signed on November 11, 1918 in the railway carriage that served as HQ of Allied Commander in Chief, Marshal Foch; it is also here that the French capitulated on June 22, 1940 (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armistice_with_Germany_%28Compi%C3%A8gne%29). Afterwards we enjoy a gourmet *Au Revoir* lunch in a traditional country restaurant. Then we cross back into Belgium for our overnight in the Holiday Inn hotel near Brussels Airport.



November 11, 1918: The Armistice is signed in Rethondes

Day 15 - Friday, November 16:

After breakfast, short transfer (by hotel shuttle service) to Brussels Airport in time for the departure of our return flight to Toronto via Montreal with Air Canada. Lunch and a light snack will be served before the late afternoon arrival in Toronto.

Tour price, based on “land only” and double occupancy: \$3,845.00 CDN.

Single room supplement: \$825.00

***Optional group (minimum 10 persons) on Air Canada Toronto (via Montreal) to Brussels return flight is available at \$931.00 CDN including all airport taxes, security fees and fuel surcharges.**

Included in the tour price are:

- Accommodation in first-class/4-star hotels, based on double occupancy.
- Meals: breakfast (usually buffet-style) daily and a total of *nine full-course* dinners or sometimes full lunches.
- Overland transportation via private coach.
- Sightseeing, visits, and excursions as indicated in the itinerary, including admission.
- Hotel taxes and gratuities.
- Pauwels tour escort.

Not included are:

- All expenses of a personal nature.
- Meals other than those mentioned above.
- Beverages with meals.
- Coach driver’s gratuity, estimated at \$30.
- Travel insurance is available, please call for rates.

“Canada in World War I,” a documentary available on Youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fip194wdlaE>

APPLICATION FORM

Please book _____ seat(s) on the "Great War Centenary Tour" departing November 2 – 16, 2018.

Enclosed is my/our deposit of _____ (\$750.00 person, *plus* insurance premium if taken.)

Please indicate with an X if you intend to travel on Optional Group flights _____ or Land only _____.

Deposit and insurance premium, if taken, are due with registration. You will be for the balance due 45 days prior to departure.

WE REQUIRE A COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT (INFORMATION PAGES ONLY) VALID 3 MONTHS AFTER TOUR DATE TO BE SENT WITH YOUR APPLICATION FORM.

Name as on Passport. Indicate the appropriate title before each name (Mr., Mrs., Miss, Dr., Ms.)

NAME(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: _____ PHONE: _____ (Email) _____

If traveling alone, is a single room required: YES _____ NO _____.

If sharing, what is your bed preference: twin _____ double _____.

SPECIAL REQUESTS: (Dietary, special physical needs, frequent flyer number, etc.) Please list here so we can do our best to assist you. Please be advised that due to airline policies, individual seat selection cannot be guaranteed.

Insurance - Please call the office for premiums then record on application form and add amount 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 _____

Decline Insurance _____ (Please sign here if you decline the insurance).

PAYMENT:

Cheque payable to Pauwels Travel Visa Mastercard American Express

Amount Paid: _____ Card Number: _____

Expiry: _____ Security Code: _____ Signature: _____

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

Signature(s) _____ Date: _____

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

PAUWELS TRAVEL BUREAU LTD.

95 Dalhousie Street, Brantford, Ontario N3T 2J1

Tel: 519-753-2695 / 519-756-4900 Fax: 519-753-6376

Email: tours@pauwelstravel.com

Terms & Conditions

RESERVATIONS AND DEPOSITS:

Reservations should be made as early as possible to ensure the departure of your choice. A deposit of \$750.00 required at the time of registration. Your reservation is confirmed upon receipt of your deposit and registration form. No reservations will be accepted without a signed application form.

REFUND OF UNUSED ARRANGEMENTS:

Because the rates of Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. are based on group participation, no refund can be made for any tour accommodation or tour service or tour feature not taken. If cancellation occurs while the tour is in progress, no refund can be made for the tour portion not taken. We strongly suggest that to allow for any unexpected contingencies, you purchase the all-inclusive insurance.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

Refund of deposit is made if cancellation is received in writing by Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. more than 90 days prior of the departure date of the tour less a \$500.00 non-refundable administrative fee per person. For cancellation received in writing 90 days prior or less the following cancellation charges apply:

90 days to 61 days before departure: 25% of tour cost
60 to 31 days before departure: 50% of tour cost
Within 30 days prior to departure: 100% of tour cost

RESPONSIBILITY:

The acceptance of the initial service to be provided under the tour shall be considered an acceptance by the tour member of those conditions. We also reserve the right to decline, to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour. We reserve the right without notice, to withdraw any part or all of the tour. Factors such as airline schedule changes, hotel overbookings, inclement weather, travel warnings by the Canadian Government etc. may necessitate changes in the itinerary. There may also be other circumstances in which changes become necessary or advisable.

By commencing the tour, I agree to the release and agreement as included below.

RELEASE & AGREEMENT:

By placing my deposit and commencing the tour I understand and agree to the following:

1. That all tours are delivered in conjunction with other service providers, including but not limited to travel agent and booking services, airlines, hotel and accommodation providers, transportation providers including but not limited to coach, train and ferry services, restaurant providers, and local guides. We shall not be held responsible for the failure by any person or company to render any transportation, lodging or other travel service to be provided on the tour. All hotel, transportation and other travel services are provided subject to all the terms and conditions under which they are offered to the public generally.
2. I know that tour programs include walking, and may including hiking and fitness programs that have potential hazardous activities associated with them. I should not participate prior to approval by my physician. I assume any and all other risks associated with these events included but not limited to falls, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather including high heat and/or humidity.
3. To release, indemnify and hold harmless Pauwels Travel Bureau and their affiliates (which term shall include parents, subsidiaries, officers, directors, shareholders, agents and employees of Pauwels Travel Bureau as well as Pauwels Travel themselves) (the "Released Parties") from, and agree not to sue the Released Parties for, any claims that I may have arising from, or in connection with, any personal injury, bodily injury, mental anguish, emotional distress, physical, property or other damage that I may suffer from any cause whatsoever related in any way to my participation in this tour. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, I release, indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from, and agree not to sue them for any personal injury, bodily injury, mental anguish, emotional distress, physical, property or other damage that I may suffer from the Released Parties'

negligence other than from intentional or reckless acts by such parties. I further agree to release, indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from any and all acts of God, war (whether declared or undeclared), terrorist activities, incidents of politically motivated violence, illness or quarantine, strikes or government restrictions or the acts or omissions of any other agents over which the Released Parties have no direct or indirect control, including, without limitation, airlines, railways, bus companies, hotels, shipping companies, guides and sub-contracted agents or tour operators. This release also includes activities not offered that may be considered risky. I further release any Tour Directors, bus drivers or other individuals involved in my tour.

4. That the air carrier's liability for loss of or damage to baggage or property, or for death or injury to person, is limited by their tariffs, or the Warsaw Convention, or both.
5. That Pauwels Travel Bureau shall have no liability or responsibility for me when I am absent from activities, such as visits to friends or relatives or during stay-ahead/stay-behind option periods if the stay-ahead/stay-behind period does not include the services of a Tour Director.
6. To abide by directions of my Tour Director or other leadership personnel during my tour. Failure to do so may result in my termination from tour immediately. I understand that to disobey such rules or directions is to waive the right to any refund, and that I may be sent home at my own expense. The participant and family undertake full financial responsibility for any damage caused by the participant and agree to pay his/her return home on the first available flight, should his/her behavior be deemed detrimental to the welfare of the group.
7. To abide by all local laws when in Canada and abroad, including those concerning drugs and alcohol. (Minors must have parents' permission to use alcohol even if the local law would otherwise permit them to.) I understand that if I abuse or disobey such laws, even unintentionally, I waive my right to a refund, and Pauwels Travel may send me home at my own expense. I also understand that should local authorities be involved, I will be subject to the laws of the country I am visiting.
8. That if I become ill or incapacitated, Pauwels Travel and its employees, or a designated chaperone may take any action they deem necessary for my safety and well-being, including securing medical treatment (at my own expense) and transporting me home. Pauwels Travel retains the right, in its sole discretion, to contact the traveller's parent(s) and/or guardian or emergency contact with regard to health issues or any matters whatsoever that relates to the traveller's tour. These rights transcend any and all privacy regulations that may apply. In the event of a medical emergency, Pauwels Travel will attempt to cause appropriate treatment to be administered, and the traveller authorizes Pauwels Travel to do so. Pauwels Travel, however, makes no warranty that it will be able to cause effective (or any) emergency treatment to be administered.
9. That Pauwels Travel may use any film likenesses taken of me and any of my comments while on a tour for future publication and also use my contact information for future Pauwels Travel communications.

A WORD ABOUT GROUP AIR:

Please note that when booking one of our air inclusive tours, Pauwels Travel has negotiated reduced rates with the airline that we are able to confirm and lock in up to 359 days before travel. While it is wonderful to share the savings and flexibility this provides with you our valued guests, the privilege does come with some restrictions. In some cases it may not be possible to collect frequent flyer miles, in some cases you may not be able to check in online 24 hours before travel or you may need to try checking in with your ticket number rather than your booking reference and, in **almost ALL cases we are not able to offer advanced seat selection.**

It is the airline that makes the live reservation and has control over the booking so it is their policy not ours that prevents us from assigning you specific seats. I assure you if a request is made it is followed up on by our staff when they submit the names to the airline 30- 60 days prior to departure. Calling us several days before you leave will not change this fact nor will getting upset with our staff.

If the ideal seat is an absolute must for you we suggest you book our tour land only and make your own air arrangements so you can better control the individual booking. Pauwels would be happy to assist you with that reservation at absolutely no additional charge. We will offer you the best fare we can find but note this can only be done once a tour is a guaranteed departure and the rules and booking conditions of the applicable airfare will apply.

We thank you in advance for your kind understanding of the above.