

WWI Alfa & Omega Tour

19 – 21 October

On this tour we visit the site of the first & last shots of the war for the British Army near Mons and the location of the signing of the final armistice at Compiègne. We shall also visit some of the less well visited sites of the Western Front.



£368.00 PER PERSON

Single Room Supp: £62.00

What's Included

- ✓ A total of 2 nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast
- ✓ All bedrooms are en-suite with TV, telephone & hospitality tray.

Visiting:

- ✓ Indian Memorial & Portuguese National Cemetery, Neuve Chapelle
- ✓ British Cemetery, Aubers Ridge
- ✓ Fromelles (Pheasant Wood) Military Cemetery
- ✓ Museum of the Battle of Fromelles
- ✓ St Mary's ADS Cemetery, Dud Corner Cemetery, the Loos Memorial & Loos British Cemetery
- ✓ St Symphorien Military Cemetery
- ✓ Le Cateau Military Cemetery
- ✓ Armistice Memorial at Compiègne
- ✓ Entry to Fromelles Museum
- ✓ Entry to Mons Military Museum
- ✓ Entry to Wellington Tunnels in Arras
- ✓ Tour around the Mons area

BEST WESTERN CASTEAU RESORT

Mons

This hotel is located in secluded woodland surroundings just outside the village of Cateau

MERCURE COMPIÈGNE SUD

Close to the Compiègne forest, the hotel is set away from the hustle and bustle of the town

Friday 19 October

Departing Oxted early morning we drive to Dover for the ferry to Calais, and continue on to Neuve Chapelle. Here we shall see the Indian Memorial, and, just a short distance away, the Portuguese National Cemetery, the sole place of remembrance for the Portuguese soldiers of the Great War. From here we make our way to the British Cemetery at Aubers Ridge and on to the Fromelles (Pheasant Wood) Military Cemetery. Completed in July 2010, it is the first new war cemetery to be built by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission in fifty years and contains 250 Australian and British soldiers, whose remains were recovered in 2009 from a number of mass graves located behind nearby Pheasant Wood, where they



had been buried by the Germans following the disastrous battle of Fromelles on 19 and 20 July 1916. We shall also visit the Museum of the Battle of Fromelles, which explains/tells a new chapter of a story that began a hundred years ago. Follow the battle, the archaeological research and the history of fallen soldiers through the permanent exhibition. Discover a story that keeps on being written. Following our museum visit we make short stops at St Mary's ADS Cemetery, where "My Boy Jack", the son of Rudyard Kipling is buried, Dud Corner Cemetery and the Loos Memorial and the Loos British Cemetery. From here we make our way to our hotel in Mons.

Saturday 20 October

We start the day with a short tour around the Mons area, visiting the location of the first and last shots fired by British and Commonwealth forces, visit the Mons Memorial Museum and St. Symphorien Military

Cemetery, the final resting place of the first and last casualties of the war. We follow the route of the retreat from Mons via Le Cateau Military Cemetery and the stand of the 2nd Corps. We continue on to the Armistice Memorial at Compiègne, which was built at the location where, in 1918, the Germans signed the armistice that ended World War I. From here we make the short journey to our hotel. Depending on time, we may visit Compiègne on Sunday morning

Sunday 21 October

Departing after breakfast, we make our way to the Wellington Tunnels in Arras. Here, 20 metres below the pavements of Arras, we explore a network of underground barracks large enough to accommodate up to 24,000 soldiers. Early afternoon we continue our homeward journey, arriving back in Oxted mid evening.