

Ypres Salient

These tours provide a superb opportunity to learn something of the battles around Ypres which formed a pivotal point in the events of the First World War.

In 1914, as part of the Schlieffen Plan, the German army intended to sweep through Belgium, occupy the Channel ports, and encircle Paris. The town of Ypres lay just in front of the German line of advance in Belgium, and was the key to the Channel ports. Had Ypres fallen to the Germans they would have been able to sweep through to the coast.

Included in these tours

- Full board from dinner on Day 1 to packed lunch on final day
- Coach travel
- Short sea channel crossing
- Pre-booked sightseeing to requirements (excluding entrance fees)
- Comprehensive travel insurance
- Study notes for all group members
- Guide books and information pack for group leader



2 Day Ypres Salient Tour

Day 1

Travel from school to the Channel coast for your crossing to Calais. Visits* can be included en route to your accommodation in the Ypres area.

Day 2

We depart our accommodation centre after breakfast with time for further visits* in the Ypres area, before returning to Calais, and journey back to school.

*The time available for visits en route is dependant upon the school's distance from the Channel port.



FROM ONLY
£95
2 Day Ypres Salient

Price shown based upon a minimum of 40 paying members travelling low season staying at Hotel Munchenhof, Langemark

FROM ONLY
£156
3 Day Ypres Salient

Price shown based upon a minimum of 40 paying members travelling low season staying at De Peerdevisser, Oostduinkerke



3 Day Ypres Salient Tour

Day 1

Travel from school to the Channel coast for your crossing to Calais, and on to your accommodation in the Ypres area. Time for a brief visit* en route.

Day 2

A full day including visits to some of the major places on the Ypres Salient (see opposite).

Day 3

We depart our accommodation centre after breakfast with time for further visits* in the Ypres area, or further afield, before your return to Calais, and journey back to school.

*The time available for visits en route is dependant upon the school's distance from the Channel port.

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Optional visits

The Cloth Hall.

Built in 1304, the Cloth Hall is one of Ypres' grandest buildings. The spires being visible from all around it was an easy target for German bombardment throughout World War I, and the hall was completely destroyed. The Hall and belfry were rebuilt in their original form between 1928 and 1967.

'In Flanders Fields' Museum.

This impressive modern museum is found in the old Cloth Hall in Ypres town centre. Through its interactive and hands on aspect, the museum provides an unforgettable experience. The museum uses advanced techniques, computers, video projections and interactive models, together with displays of historical objects. A dramatic 'No Man's Land Experience' portrays the horror of the Battle of Passchendaele.

St. Martin's Cathedral.

The original cathedral was started in 1221, was completely destroyed during the war and has been completely rebuilt to the original plans.

St. George's Memorial Church.

Built between 1928-29. Everything inside the church, including the furniture, has been donated over the years in order to commemorate units or individuals who fought in Ypres during World War I.

Bayernwald German Trenches (Croonart Wood).

This unique site at Croonart Ward is a restored German trench system with 300 metres of trenches, four concrete bunkers and a 100 feet deep mineshaft.

Tyne Cot.

The World's largest Commonwealth war cemetery containing the graves of 11,871 men. The rear wall of the cemetery contains the names of almost 35,000 soldiers who have no known grave. The new visitor centre will compliment your visit to Tyne Cot.



Hill 62 and Sanctuary Wood Museum.

Hill 62 is so called because it is 62 metres above sea level. A small part of the original wood was preserved as it was found at the end of the war, with original trenches. This small museum offers a collection of authentic relics and some graphic 3D pictures. There is also a book and souvenir stall and café.

Hill 60.

Hill 60 is at the northern end of the Messines Ridge. Although just 60 metres above sea level, it was a crucial, strategic vantage point from where the Germans could look down onto Ypres. It was captured and recaptured many times by the opposing sides. As you ascend the hill you will be aware of certain remnants of the war such as the pillbox, mines and machine gun posts providing the group with the opportunity to explore.



Langemarck German Cemetery.

This is the only German Cemetery in the Salient with the remains of over 44,000 soldiers, including a mass grave of 25,000 men. Over 3000 cadets and student volunteers are also buried at this cemetery. A dark and foreboding place, this is a complete contrast to Tyne Cot.

The Menin Gate.

The famous British war memorial with engraved names of almost 55,000 missing British and Commonwealth soldiers who lost their lives on the Ypres Salient.

Hooge Crater Museum.

A superb private collection of World War I artefacts, weapons and uniforms housed in the old chapel at Hooge. A modern café is attached to the museum with toilets. Please note that if groups wish to use the cafeteria to eat their packed lunches, a supplement is charged and each member of the group will be provided with a soft drink. The cafeteria cannot be used without entry to museum.



The Memorial Museum – Zonnebeke.

This fascinating museum is situated in the grounds of Zonnebeke chateau. The visitor has an overview of the Battle of Ypres, with a focus on Passchendaele 1917, by means of authentic photographic material, a collection of historical artefacts and several life-like dioramas. You have the opportunity to walk through a German trench and descend into a unique 20 feet deep British dugout with communication and dressing posts, headquarters and accommodation.

Talbot House Poperinge (TOC H).

Poperinge (Pops) remained one of the few unoccupied towns in Flanders. In 1915 the senior Army Chaplains Philip Clayton – universally known as 'Tubby' – and Neville Talbot opened an 'Every Mans Club' where all tommies, regardless of their rank, were welcome. You will have the opportunity to visit to the 'Life Behind the Front' Exhibition in the Concert Hall, the tranquil garden and the audiovisual presentation in the Slessorium, together with the House itself, including the chapel on the top floor.

Essex Farm.

This cemetery contains the notable graves of 15-year old Pte. Joe Strudwick and VC. Pte. Thomas Barratt. Outside the cemetery is the Albertina Memorial to the poet John McCrae. He is reputed to have written what is perhaps the war's best known poem, 'In Flanders Fields' in a Bunker Dressing Station at Essex Farm.

Last Post Ceremony.

No visit to Ypres is complete without attending the deeply moving Ceremony of the sounding of the Last Post, under the Menin Gate. Every evening at 20.00hrs, the traffic is halted and buglers from the local Fire Brigade, play the haunting notes of the Last Post.