

Remembrance
Travel for Cadets

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION



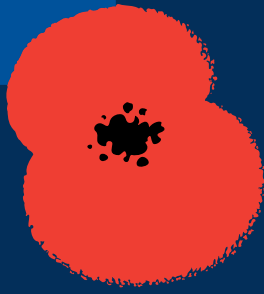
WORLD WAR ONE WESTERN FRONT TOURS

2016, 2017 & 2018

Walk in the footsteps of heroes



Call: 020 8335 9768 Email: team@remembrancetravelcadets.org.uk



Within the British Army, regiments and corps are like a family with a very long history – amalgamations and disbandments may have seen the creation and disappearance of some familiar cap badges, and it is for this reason that celebrating our military history and heritage is so important. The past 100 years and two World Wars have shaped the Army and given it traditions and new battle honours.

OP REFLECT provides the strongest recommendation that cadets should take the opportunity to visit and experience the battlefields of the First World War, so that they might commemorate the sacrifices of their forefathers, learn enduring lessons and educate themselves and others.

Remembrance Travel, created by the Royal British Legion, has a wealth of experience of taking soldiers of all ages and ranks to the sites of these actions. Ypres Salient and the Somme are key sites among the range of tours, which are all tailor-made to the requirements of each cadet unit and formation – the new inheritors of these great traditions.

THE WESTERN FRONT

Ypres Salient & The Somme

2 Days from £149 per cadet

3 Days from £229 per cadet

4 Days from £305 per cadet

The soldiers who fought on the Western Front between 1914 and 1918 were drawn from the Regular Army, the Territorials and later the New Army - the volunteers who had joined in their thousands in 1914. Among them were Sidney Lewis and George Maher who gave their ages as 18 but who were in reality 12 and 13. Both survived the war. The youngest soldier to die was John Condon killed in a gas attack at Ypres, aged 14.

There were many others who went to recruiting offices and lied about their age and went on to serve in conditions in France and Flanders that would have tested even the strongest fully grown man. Their courage is humbling.

The opportunity to visit Ypres Salient, the Somme and the sites of other battles where they fought is very special. It will be a journey that you will never forget.

YPRES

The Last Post at The Menin Gate

Day Trip from £75 per cadet

2 Days from £149 per cadet

If a bugle call can echo for a hundred years, then the Last Post sounded at the Menin Gate, Ypres, at 8.00pm every evening in memory of the 54,393 casualties listed on the gate who have no known grave, then without question it is that bugle call.

The fighting in the Ypres Salient was probably the grimmest in World War I. It saw the first use of gas as a weapon and the ancient town of Ypres reduced to rubble by sustained German artillery fire. It is also the site of the Essex Farm cemetery where Rifleman V.J. Strudwick is buried - Valentine Joe Strudwick lied about his age when enlisted in January 1915 - he was 14. He was killed in action at Boezinge, on 14 January 1916, and became one of the youngest casualties of the war.

Nearby are the concrete bunkers that were the dressing station where John McCrae, a Canadian doctor and soldier, wrote the haunting and powerful poem "In Flanders Fields" the poem that has given us the Poppy as a symbol of remembrance.

THE SOMME

The Bloodiest of Battles

2 Days from £149 per cadet

3 Days from £229 per cadet

For many, the battles on the Somme seem synonymous with the sacrifice of the Pals battalions of Kitchener's New Armies – the young men who volunteered in their thousands in 1914 and 1915. However it is also a Commonwealth battle – men from Australia, Canada, New Zealand and India fought there too.

July 1, 1916 – the first day of the Somme saw 58,000 casualties. Gains were minimal, and in some cases the surviving troops returned to the trenches from which they had launched their attack.

If you walk across the rolling fields and look at the shallow valleys it can be hard to realise now that this was a massive killing ground – but one in which by their own admission the cream of the old German Imperial Army was ground down and destroyed.

It is only when you see the massive Thiepval Memorial towering over the valleys and ridges, and know that it bears the names of 72,195 men who have no known grave, that you can comprehend something of the sacrifice and loss.

Though it is now over a 100 years since the battle of the Somme, the photographs, film and artefacts at the information centre at Thiepval make the names on the memorial come alive, as young soldiers, some with cap badges we recognise today, come alive as people who were very like us.





ROYAL BRITISH LEGION TOUR GUIDES

As part of the Royal British Legion, Remembrance Travel has a team of highly experienced and knowledgeable guides, who know the battles intimately and who will help bring your tour to life. Men and women with service backgrounds who can take you to the ridge line or dead ground that visitors would overlook, but which you with your knowledge will understand could play a significant part in the tough close range fighting in the trenches. Their intimate knowledge of the campaigns and events is second to none and this will help to provide the context in which so many made the ultimate sacrifice.

Your guide will prepare your itinerary personally with you prior to the tour and then accompany you throughout your time away. They can also, on prior request, research antecedents of regimental cap badges or individual family members who may have fallen and provide a personalised version of events. The guide will provide cadets with the opportunity to hold an Act of Remembrance during the tour.

Our team of expert guides includes:



BOB DARBY

Bob has been guiding groups around the battlefields of the world for almost 20 years. He served in both the British Army and later with the Sultan of Oman's Land Forces retiring in the rank of Major. His operational experience with the Parachute Regiment took him to both Northern Ireland and the Falklands.

Recent tours have taken him as far afield as the Falklands, Singapore and Sicily, as well as to Berlin, the Western Front and Second World War sites in Normandy, Holland and Germany.



SIMON HOPKIN

Simon has been leading tours to the battlefields and Remembrance sites of Western Europe for over 12 years. Following a Regular Army career spanning 36 years with the Royal Artillery during which time he served in Canada, France and the Falkland Islands he then completed a further 9 years with the Army Cadet Force. He has travelled widely and his guiding experience includes leading tours for cadet forces, veterans, serving military and the general public.

HIGHLIGHTS

- ♦ Wreath laying and Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate, Ypres
- ♦ Original trenches and bunkers on the Somme at Newfoundland Park and the Yorkshire Trench at Ypres
- ♦ Weapons, equipment and uniforms in the Passchendaele Museum, In Flanders Fields, and Hooge Crater Museum
- ♦ Mine craters including Hill 60, Caterpillar Crater, the Pool of Peace and Lochnagar Crater
- ♦ Thiepval Memorial to the Missing and Visitors Centre
- ♦ Ulster Tower and Museum on the Somme
- ♦ The tank memorial at Flers-Courcelette – the site of the first tank attack in September 1916
- ♦ The "Brooding Soldier" memorial to the Canadian soldiers who bore the brunt of the first chemical attack at Ypres in April 1915
- ♦ Serre Wood and the sacrifice and comradeship of the Pals Battalions on the Somme
- ♦ Regimental and national memorials, and Commonwealth War Graves cemeteries and work of the Commission
- ♦ The grave of Noel Chavasse VC and bar – one of only three men to win the VC twice



SAMPLE ITINERARIES

YPRES – Day Trip

Depart from unit. Channel crossing to Calais. Visit Hooge Crater Museum & Trenches. Visit Essex Farm CWGC Cemetery & Advanced Dressing Station. Visit Tyne Cot CWGC Cemetery. Cadets to hold Act of Remembrance. Visit Langemark German Cemetery. Dinner in Ypres. Attend Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate. Cadets to lay wreath. Channel crossing. Return to unit.

THE WESTERN FRONT – 3 Days

Day One

Depart from unit. Channel crossing to Calais. Visit Lijssenthoek Commonwealth War Graves Commission Cemetery. Visit Passchendaele Museum. Visit Ypres. Dinner in Ypres. Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate. Cadets to lay wreath. Overnight at accommodation. (D)

Day Two

Travel to the Somme. Visit Sheffield Memorial Park. Visit Delville Wood. Visit Lochnagar Crater. Visit Thiepval Memorial and Interpretation Centre. Dinner in Albert. Overnight at accommodation. (B,L,D)

Day Three

Visit Vancouver Corner. Visit Langemark German Cemetery. Visit Tyne Cot CWGC Cemetery & Visitor Centre. Cadets to hold Act of Remembrance. Channel crossing. Return to unit. (B,L)

Meals included: B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

YOUR UNIT LOCATION

Naturally the length of journey from your unit to Calais will impact on the amount of time that you have in France and Belgium. Therefore when you discuss your plans with our Tours Specialist, they will explain in detail the tour duration and itinerary options to ensure that we deliver the best possible tour experience for your unit.

REMEMBRANCE TRAVEL FOR CADETS

TOURS 2016, 2017 & 2018

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HOW TO BOOK

TOUR DEPARTURE DATES, PRICES & WHAT'S INCLUDED

Our prices are based on a minimum group size of 40 cadets. Tour quotations for groups of between 20 and 40 cadets will include a coach under-occupancy charge.

ALL TOURS INCLUDE:

- ♦ Exclusive coach hire throughout your tour including pick-up and drop-off at your unit
- ♦ Return Channel crossings to Calais
- ♦ Services of an expert Royal British Legion Tour Guide throughout your trip
- ♦ Individually tailored itinerary prepared directly with you by your Royal British Legion Tour Guide
- ♦ Educational Visits Guide
- ♦ One museum entry per full day
- ♦ Act of Remembrance
- ♦ Royal British Legion Wreath & Remembrance Tokens
- ♦ 8 free staff places for every 40 cadets
- ♦ All Government Taxes, Service Charges & VAT
- ♦ 24 hour emergency cover and support

2, 3 & 4 DAYS – ALSO INCLUDE:

- ♦ 1, 2 or 3 nights' accommodation
- ♦ Continental breakfasts, packed lunches and dinners

For units based in the north of England and Scotland, we are also able to offer the opportunity to travel via overnight ferry crossing from Hull to Zeebrugge to reduce their travel time in the UK.

YOUR CHOICE OF TRAVEL DATES

Our Remembrance Travel tours are available throughout the year, so you are able to select travel dates that suit you and your cadets.

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

As the national custodian of Remembrance, The Royal British Legion believes that Remembrance should be used as a means of educating people about the realities of conflict, those affected by war and the importance of peace.

During your tour, your Royal British Legion Tour Guide will provide your group with the opportunity to hold an Act of Remembrance. It can consist of a short poem and/or prayer, followed by the names read out of those to be commemorated as appropriate, and a brief period for silent reflection; it also provides the opportunity to lay a wreath or other tokens of remembrance. What is included can be discussed prior to the event to tailor it to your group's specific needs.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION LEARNING PACK

Once you have made your booking, we will send you The Royal British Legion Learning Pack. The 32-page pack is produced with accompanying DVD disks as a learning resource, and can be used in both formal and informal learning environments.

1) Contact Remembrance Travel to register your interest. One of our Tours Specialists will then discuss your choice of date, destination, itinerary and accommodation.

2) Following this discussion, you will receive your personalised quotation, including Booking Form.

3) To book your cadets' places, complete and return the Booking Form to us with your deposit payment by the agreed date.

4) On receipt of your Booking Form and deposit payment, our Customer Service Delivery Team will confirm your tour booking. Your Royal British Legion Tour Guide will then contact you to prepare your group's personalised itinerary.

5) Once your final balance payment has been made, we will then prepare your final travel documentation and send it to you, so that you are fully organised and prepared well in advance of the tour departure date.

TESTIMONIALS

Feedback from the experiences of past Remembrance Travel groups

"It was a fantastic tour which was incredibly rewarding for staff and students alike. I know that I learned a great deal which will aid my teaching of the Great War in lessons."

THE CITY ACADEMY

"Thank you for the efforts you made that went to make our tour to Ypres so successful. We all found the trip educational and thoroughly enjoyable."

BOW SCHOOL

"The tour was thoroughly planned, pacy, exciting and engaging. It was a pleasure to work alongside such a dedicated guide on our tour. This was not our first tour with Remembrance Travel and certainly won't be our last."

DEARNE HIGH HUMANITIES COLLEGE

SAFETY MANAGEMENT

At Remembrance Travel, the safety and security of you and your cadets is our absolute priority. We operate a detailed Safety Management System, with all suppliers chosen for the quality of their services, compliance with our safety management standards and experience in working with youth groups. Furthermore, 24-hour office support is also provided throughout the duration of your time away with us.



Remembrance Travel has been awarded The Learning Outside the Classroom

Quality Badge.

The Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge provides, for the first time, a national accreditation combining the essential elements of provision - learning and safety - into one easily recognisable and trusted Quality Badge for all types of Learning Outside the Classroom providers.



Remembrance Travel is an Assured Member of the School Travel Forum, a group of leading school tour operators who promote good practice and safety in school travel.

All Assured Members of the STF adhere to a rigorous Code of Practice and their Safety Management Standards are externally verified each year by Argent Health & Safety, the UK's leading Health and Safety Consultancy specialising in Travel.

Call: 020 8335 9768

Visit: www.remembrancetravelcadets.org.uk

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