



THE
GALLIPOLI
to the
SOMME

TOUR

JUNE 26 - JULY 6, 2026

12 Days / 11 Nights
With Option for Extension

Start: Istanbul, Turkey End: Paris, France

TURKEY - FRANCE - BELGIUM

You keep the history that comes with
this monumental journey alive.



The Battlefield Tours is Canada's first and official leading tour operator for Canadian battlefields and the country's longest-running, all-Canadian specialist in battlefield travel. For more than 30 years, we have proudly escorted Canadian veterans and their families, honouring their service, preserving their stories, and connecting generations to the places where history was made.

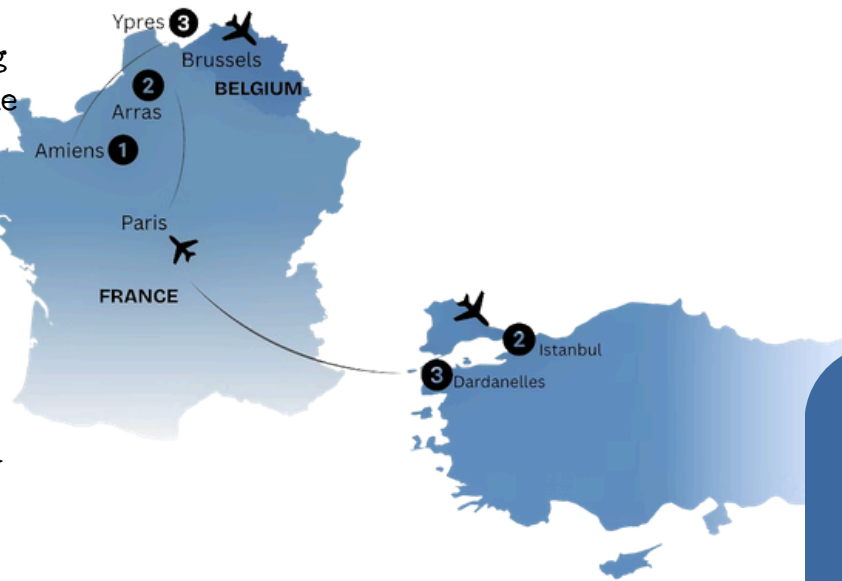
thebattlefieldtours.ca

1 - 833 - 828 - TOUR (8687)

info@thebattlefieldtours.com

Gallipoli to the Somme Tour 2027

Step back in time on this deeply moving battlefield tour tracing the remarkable journey of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment across three countries and two world wars. Begin in the legendary city of Istanbul before heading to the shores of Gallipoli, where the Newfoundland Regiment faced its earliest trials in the Great War. Stand at Suvla Bay, explore ancient Troy, and walk among the Caribou memorials that mark sacrifice and courage.



From Gallipoli, we travel to the heart of the Western Front. In northern France, we visit the preserved trenches of Beaumont-Hamel, the haunting Thiepval Memorial, and the majestic Vimy Ridge. Follow the Caribou Trail through pivotal battles at Monchy-le-Preux, Masnières, and Gueudecourt—sites of triumph and tragedy etched into Newfoundland’s story.

Our journey concludes in Belgium, at the evocative cemeteries and memorials of Flanders. From Essex Farm, where “In Flanders Fields” was penned, to the solemn Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres, we pay tribute to those who gave everything. Along the way, we trace the full arc of the Regiment’s wartime journey—culminating in remembrance, reflection, and a profound connection to history.

THIS TOUR SPANS:

Three Countries: Turkey, France, Belgium

Top Locations: Istanbul, Dardanelles, Arras, Amiens, Ypres

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore Istanbul’s historic sites, including the **Hagia Sophia** and **Blue Mosque**.
- **Cape Helles & Turkish Memorials:** Visit the **Çanakkale Martyrs’ Memorial**, Lancashire Landing Cemetery, and **B Beach**.
- Gallipoli Peninsula: Trace the tragic and heroic stories of the **ANZAC** and Newfoundland forces during the **Gallipoli Campaign**.
- Discover the ruins of ancient **Troy**.
- Walk the preserved trenches at **Beaumont-Hamel**.
- Pay tribute at **Vimy Ridge** and **Hill 70**.
- Follow the **Caribou Trail** through France and Belgium.
- Explore the **Ypres Salient**, **Tyne Cot**, and **Passchendaele**.
- Experience the **Last Post Ceremony** at **Menin Gate**.

Itinerary

Day 1: Thursday, June 24th

Arrival in Istanbul & City Orientation

Upon arrival at **Istanbul International Airport**, you will meet your battlefield guide at the Arrivals Meeting Point, before continuing into Istanbul. After dropping off your bags, enjoy a short walk with our guide to get oriented with the city. Take the rest of the afternoon to rest, or head to the **Hippodrome**, the scene of ancient chariot races. See the **Hagia Sophia Grand Mosque**, the greatest surviving example of Byzantine Architecture. For over 1,000 years this was the largest church in the world. Tonight, we reunite for a welcome reception and dinner to get to know each other.

Overnight: Istanbul

Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 2: Friday, June 25th

Journey to Gallipoli Peninsula

After breakfast this morning, we depart Istanbul, and take the long and leisurely drive to the **Gallipoli peninsula**, taking the time for lunch and picture stops along the Marmara Sea route and a visit to the **Gallipoli War Museum** and overview of the next few days. We arrive in **Eceabat** in the late afternoon for our hotel check-in, and dinner.

Overnight: Dardanelles

Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 3: Saturday, June 26th

Troy & Cape Helles

After breakfast, we cross the Straits by ferry and visit the **Ancient City of Troy**. We will gaze at 3,000 year old landmark ruins and monuments, such as the Temple of Athena, and the trench of **Schliemann**. We'll explore the death of Achilles near the **Scaean Gate**, and discover the site where the Trojan Horse was probably taken at the Gate of Troy VI. We then return to Gallipoli Peninsula to visit **Cape Helles**. While here, we will make stops at the **Canakkale Martyrs Memorial** and the **Lancashire Landing Cemetery**, before heading over to **B Beach** for further orientation. This evening, we return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Overnight: Dardanelles

Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner



Day 4: Sunday, June 27th

The Newfoundland Story in Gallipoli

Enjoy a full day exploring the Newfoundland story in Gallipoli. We explore **Suvla Bay**, with stops at **Kangaroo Beach**, **Hill 10 Cemetery**, **Green Hill**, and the **Essex Ravine**. We'll stop at the 6th and final **Caribou Monument**, finally erected to complete Newfoundland's Caribou Trail. Here, close to **Caribou Hill** we will pause for a small, but important ceremony. We will also explore the Australian story, with stops at **Little West Beach**, **Anzac Cove** and the **Azmat Cemetery**. This evening, we return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Overnight: Dardanelles

Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 5: Monday, June 28th

Return to Istanbul & Half-Day City Tour

This morning, we continue back to Istanbul for an afternoon tour of the city to see the sights of Istanbul on a half-day tour that takes in the city's famous historical landmarks and cultural sites. We will see **Hagia Sophia**, the **Hippodrome**, the **Blue Mosque**, and the **Grand Bazaar**. Enjoy dinner on your own this evening, at your own pace.

Overnight: Istanbul

Meals Included: Breakfast

Day 6: Tuesday, June 30th

Flight to Paris & The Somme Begins

After an early breakfast this morning, we check out and say our farewells to Istanbul. Together, we fly to **Paris**. Upon arrival, we will be greeted by our new driver, who will whisk us through Northern France, to the City of **Arras**, in the heart of the Somme. Of all the battles the Royal Newfoundland Regiment fought during World War I, none was so defining and devastating as the Battle of the Somme. En-route, we'll meet up with our friends at the **Somme Museum of 1916**, hidden deep in tunnels underneath **Albert's Basilica**. Upon arrival in Arras, we will check in for our dinner & overnight.

Overnight: Arras

Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner



Day 7: Wednesday, June 30th

Beaumont Hamel & Battle of the Somme

Today, we head out for a full exploration of the area. We will see **Lochnagar Crater**, remnants from one of the largest non-nuclear blasts on record, as well as the **Thiepval Memorial to the Missing**. We will also spend an extended amount of time to get to know **Beaumont Hamel** Newfoundland's Memorial Park today - this is one of the best preserved battlefield sites in the world - and it's home to the Newfoundlanders - this is where we will find our first Caribou along the trail in France. Enroute home we'll also make stops in **Poizieres**, and **Courcelette**. Tonight, we return to Amiens - enjoy a night on your own to explore the city's many different restaurants.

Overnight: Arras

Meals Included: Breakfast & Lunch

Day 8: Thursday, July 1st

Vimy Ridge & The Caribou Trail Continues

We start our day with a special trip to **Vimy Ridge Memorial Park**. It was here, at Hill 145, in April 1917, that Canada truly became a nation in the eyes of the world. Its troops combined and stormed Vimy Ridge after all other allied forces had failed to do so. We will explore the new tunnel expansions, trenches and memorial, as well as the new interpretation centre, which opened in Spring 2017 for the 100th Anniversary. When our explorations of the battlefields are through, we continue on to the Canadian Memorial at Hill 70 to commemorate the oftentimes dubbed, "Canada's Forgotten Battle". This afternoon, we continue along the Caribou Trail, making stops at **The Monchy-le-Preux Caribou Memorial** to hear the incredible story of a handful of Royal Newfoundlanders up against overwhelming odds. We continue further, to the Caribou in **Masnieres**. Here, during the First Battle of Cambrai in 1917 the Newfoundlanders helped break through the heavily fortified Hindenburg Line en route to the city of **Cambrai**, which is where we will stop for lunch. We finish the day with a visit to **Gueudecourt**. Here, at the **Gueudecourt Caribou Memorial**, overlooking **Hilt Trench** is where the regiment captured German positions and held them against waves of counter-attack. It was a success not seen anywhere else on the line that day.

Tonight we head back to **Amiens** where we will enjoy another night to explore the city's different restaurants at our own pace.

Overnight: Amiens

Meals Included: Breakfast

Day 9: Friday, July 2nd

Crossing into Belgium & The Final Caribou

This morning, we will continue north, to Belgium, stopping en-route to see the **Ring of Remembrance** and the **Albian-Saint Nazaire** 15th Century Church. Both hold powerful meaning for one to ponder in the destruction. We continue on to **Ypres** the City of Peace. At the Battle of Ypres, the Royal Newfoundland Regiment saw some of the greatest successes, taking large areas of enemy territory with the loss of a comparably small number of troops. A few weeks later they reached Kortrijk where they helped push back the Germans and capture the strategic Lys River railway crossing. This is our last **Newfoundland Caribou Memorial** to complete our Trail. After arriving in Ypres and checking into our hotel we will enjoy an early group meal together in the heart of the **Grote Markt**.

Overnight: Ypres

Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 10: Saturday, July 3rd

Exploring the Ypres Salient

Today will be spent exploring the Ypres Salient from 1914-1918. Flanders Fields was the location of prolonged and intense fighting for the entirety of the war. We first visit **Essex Farm Cemetery**, the exact site where Canadian John MacCrae wrote his now-famous poem "In Flanders Fields." Our next stop will be at the **Hill 62** battlefield site and monument. We continue to the German Cemetery of **Langemark**. Here, we'll discuss the differences between Commonwealth and German Cemeteries. We'll pay our respects at the **Tyne Cot Commonwealth Cemetery** - the largest Commonwealth Cemetery in the world with close to 12,000 burials. The next stop is the **Crest Farm Memorial** on the Battlefield of **Passchendaele**, the most horrific battle of WW1. Our day will also include a stop at the village of St. Julien. In late April of 1915, Canada's newly arrived Division experienced some of the worst in warfare; the first Chlorine gas attacks. We head back early to Ypres this afternoon to visit the **In Flanders Fields Museum**, before enjoying the rest of the day to explore Ypres at your own pace. Choose from a wide range of delicious local Belgian cuisine tonight on your own in the famous Grote Markt of Ypres.

Overnight: Ypres

Meals Included: Breakfast



Day 11: Sunday, July 4th

Poperinge, Talbot House & The Last Post

After breakfast this morning, we finish our tour with a trip to **Poperinge** for a picnic lunch and extended visit at the **Talbot House**. 106 years ago, this is where Allied soldiers went to find vital respite. Beforehand, we'll have time to visit the former field hospital along the Ypres Salient, **Lijssenthoek**. See the Centre, Memorial & Cemetery. This afternoon, we head back to Ypres to enjoy the rest of the day to explore Ypres on our own. Tonight, we reunite for an early farewell dinner. At 8:00 PM tonight we will attend one of the most moving ceremonies in the world, **The Last Post Ceremony**. Performed every day without exception, it can only be described as an incredibly moving and solemn tribute to those lost in Belgium in the Great War.

Overnight: Ypres

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 12: Monday, July 5th

Departure from Brussels (or Paris)

After breakfast this morning, we will transfer to **Brussels International Airport** (or take our optional transfer to Charles de Gaulle Paris International Airport) for our flights back to Canada. (Meals on Board)

Tour Pricing

INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS

Questions? We are here to help:

1 - 833 - 828 - TOUR (8687)

info@thebattlefieldtours.com

Toronto | Saskatoon

INCLUSIONS

- An expert **historian** and a professional Canadian **tour director** will accompany the group for the full duration of the tour.
- **Transportation throughout** the tour is provided by a premium, air-conditioned motor coach featuring spacious reclining seating, facilities, and complimentary mobile Wi-Fi for passenger convenience.
- **Accommodations** in Superior Tourist Class Hotels throughout (4-5*) 9 Nights.
- **All Entrances** as per your Itinerary
- **Meal Inclusions**
 - 12 Breakfasts
 - 2 Lunches
 - 7 Dinners
- A specially curated tour **resource package** is included, Custom Itinerary (PDF Printable), featuring detailed daily battlefield maps, period photographs, original archival audio recordings, and additional historical materials.
- **All service fees**, surcharges, fees, and departure taxes

EXCLUSIONS

- **International Airfare** from Canada
- **Lunches & extra meals** and drinks not specified on the itinerary
- **Gratuities** (may we suggest 5 EUR per person, per day). Gratuities for the coach driver and guides are not included in the tour cost and should not be assumed. We believe gratuities are a personal gesture, offered at the traveler's discretion and based on the level of service and experience received, rather than a fixed or automatic charge built into the program, as is often the case with other tour operators.

Not Included / Available Upon Request

- **Airfare:** We are happy to arrange flights from any Canadian gateway, customized to your preferred dates, routing, and class of service. Travellers may choose to depart earlier, extend their stay at the end of the tour, or continue onward to additional destinations-air arrangements can be tailored to suit your individual travel plans.
- **Pre- and Post-Tour Accommodation:** Optional hotel nights before or after the tour are available upon request.
- **Travel Insurance:** Comprehensive travel insurance is not included; no-obligation quotes are available through Manulife upon request.
- **Extra Meals:** Meals not specifically listed in the itinerary.
- **Optional Activities:** Any optional excursions or activities not explicitly outlined in the itinerary.
- **Personal Expenses:** Items of a personal nature, including laundry, beverages, and souvenirs.

PLEASE NOTE

- **Physical Activity Level:** As with all our tours, the focus is on experiencing the battlefields firsthand. While we do include select museum visits, much of our time is spent outdoors, often walking on sandy beaches, grassy fields, and cobblestone streets. Please be prepared for a moderate amount of walking throughout the tour.
- If you use a wheelchair or have mobility concerns, we kindly ask that you review our Wheelchair Policy in advance.
- Hotels have been pre-booked; however, should a change be required, accommodations will be of the same star rating or higher.
- A minimum of 8 passengers is required for the tour to operate.
- A non-refundable deposit of \$500 CAD per person is required at the time of booking.

2027 Pricing

\$ 6462 CAD

Land Only, per person, based on **Double Occupancy** (two people sharing a room Double or Twin bed configuration available)

\$ 7651 CAD

Land Only, **Solo Traveller**, the additional cost if traveling on your own (one person in the room)

\$500 Deposit (non-refundable)

per person upon booking
Payable by Credit Card, Interac e-Transfer, Cheque

All prices are in Canadian Dollars

Balance due 60 days prior to the
tour:
April 25th, 2027