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ABINGDON SCHOOL 3 DAY TOUR TO YPRES AND THE SOMME
WORKING ITINERARY FRIDAY 17 TO SUNDAY 19 APRIL 2015

Tour Summary

Itinerary Number: V4	Total Pax: 49 + 2 guides
Staff Nos: 4	Student Nos: 45
Outbound Date: 17.04.15	Inbound Date: 19.04.15
Depart Pickup Point: 0645	Return to Pickup Point: 1830 approx
Pickup Address: Faringdon Coach Park, Faringdon Road, Abingdon, Oxon	
Destination Address: See below	
Coach Size: 1 x 53	Coach Operator: NAT
Crossing Type: Shuttle	Reference: 88623715
Outbound Crossing Time: 1120	Inbound Crossing Time: 1520

Day 1 Friday 17 April – The Ypres Salient

0615 An executive coach with DVD arrives.
Pickup Address: **Faringdon Coach Park, Faringdon Road, Abingdon, Oxon**
Coach Company: NAT
Driver Details: TBC

0645 Depart School

0930 Collect Guides and depart **Maidstone Services, J8 M20**
Guides: Martin Featherstone and Robert Webb requested - TBC

1120 Outbound shuttle
Booking Reference: 88623715

1300 Arrive France (local time)

1400 Arrive Ypres area, to include:

Lijssenthoek

Causes of the Great War, 1914 battles, ethos of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission; Empire troops, the role of women in the Great War ;

1530 **Bayernwald – German trench system**

The development of Trench warfare; use of ground, trench construction, daily routine, technology, problems with trench fighting.

Vancouver Corner – drive by – time permitting

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The use of poison gas and its effects; Wilfred Owen's 'Dulce et Decorum Est'; A link to WMD today

Langemarck German Military Cemetery;

German cemetery ethos, Slaughter of the Innocents, The significance of Hitler's 1940 visit; Links to the causes of WW2.

1800 Evening meal in Ypres – restaurant TBC

The Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing
Briefing for the Last Post Ceremony

2000 Last Post Ceremony

2030 Depart for accommodation:

**Flanders Lodge
Best Western Hotel
A. Dehemlaan 19
8900 Ieper
Belgium**

Tel: + 32 57 21 70 00

Briefing for day 2

Day 2 Saturday 18 April – The Somme

0830 Depart accommodation

1030 Arrive Somme, to include:

Serre and Sheffield Memorial Park

The Somme 1916; Kitchener's Army and the Pals Battalions; Recruitment; The Plan; Going over the top 1st July 1916

Collect packed lunches from Ocean Villas Tea Rooms

Newfoundland Park

The Newfoundland Regiment on 1st July; Preserved trench system and an opportunity to walk across the battlefield

Ulster Tower

The Story of the 36th Ulster Division, background to the Troubles: the story of Billy McFadzean VC

Lochnagar Crater

The use of Mine warfare in the Great War;

Thiepval Memorial to the Missing

The Somme – a British victory? The impact of the battle; A chance for reflection;

1800 Evening meal at Ocean Villas Tea Rooms

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1900 Depart for accommodation

Briefing for day 3

Day 3 Sunday 19 April – Ypres Salient

0830 Depart Accommodation with packed lunches

0900 **Sanctuary Wood Trench System**

The development of Trench warfare; use of ground, trench construction, daily routine, technology, problems with trench fighting

1030 **Passchendaele Museum**

Museum, recreation of British bunker system.

Tyne Cot CWGC

1917 – 3rd Ypres ‘the Battle of Passchendaele’; Battlefield conditions; A chance to reflect.

Into Ypres for lunch and chocolate shopping, a chance for students to purchase food for return journey if they wish.

1300 Depart Salient

1520 Inbound Shuttle

1500 Arrive UK (local time)

1830 Arrive Faringdon Coach Park (approx. time only)

Your itinerary may be subject to change at short notice due to a variety of factors. Whilst every effort will be made by the guides to visit all the sites included in your itinerary, there may be times when this will not be possible.

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