



# Canada's Battlefields

10 DAYS

## Included in the program fee:

- Round trip airfare
- Transfers to and from the airport and hotel and between destination cities (as per program itinerary)
- Overnight in hotels with private bathrooms
- Continental breakfast daily
- Dinner daily
- Full-time services of an EF Tour Director

## Not included in the program fee:

- Customary gratuities for your tour director, local guide and driver
- Porterage
- Personal Insurance
- Beverages and lunches
- Public transportation to free time activities

**Overnight stays:** Paris (2); Normandy regopm (2); Vimy region (2); Amsterdam (2).

**Sightseeing tours led by an expert:** Paris.

**Entrances included:** Notre-Dame Cathedral; Les Invalides; Juno Beach Centre; Vimy Ridge Historic Site; Beaumont-Hamel War Memorial; Memorial Museum Passchendaele; Essex Farm Cemetery; In Flanders Fields Museum; Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate; Bergen Op Zoom Canadian War Cemetery; Deportation Centre; Portuguese Synagogue; Immersion Challenge; Canal Cruise; Anne Frank's House; Jewish Historical Museum.

*Please note that the following is a sample timed itinerary for this EF tour with approximate addresses, activity durations, and transfer times. Exact timing may vary based on available flights, hotel location, scheduled activity bookings, traffic, etc. Your EF Tour Director is available to the group 24/7 while on tour. EF works with Group Leaders to ensure that travellers have a safe and memorable experience while on tour.*

## **Day 1: Fly overnight to Paris**

### **Day 2: Paris**

#### **Morning: Arrive in Paris and meet your Tour Director at the airport**

Welcome to Paris, the cosmopolitan City of Light. While visiting, learn why Paris has grown to become the undisputed center of France, and one of the world's most important cities both culturally and politically.

#### **12:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups**

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

#### **2:00pm: Walking tour of Paris**

Join your Tour Director on a walking tour that will introduce you to Paris. Together, you might see the chic, boutique-filled Opéra district, city's largest square at the Place de la Concorde, and the geometric Tuileries gardens.

#### **3:00pm: See Notre-Dame Cathedral**

Built between 1163 and 1361 over the remains of an ancient Roman temple, it was here that Napoleon crowned himself emperor in 1804. Victor Hugo once described the sculptured façade of Notre Dame as "a vast symphony in stone." However, had it not been for the creation of his famous hunchback, Quasimodo, the cathedral might never have returned to its former glory. Hugo's novel *The Hunchback of Notre-Dame* helped inspire a 23-year restoration of the cathedral that began in 1841.

#### **5:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Paris**

#### **7:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in Paris**

#### **9:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out**

### **Day 3: Paris**

#### **6:00am: Wake-up call**

#### **7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel**

#### **8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to central Paris**

#### **10:00am: Guided sightseeing of Paris**

Discover the city on the Seine during your panoramic bus tour. An expert local guide will accompany you as you drive through Paris' lively Latin Quarter. Nearby, see Notre-Dame Cathedral, standing tall at the center of the city. You will also drive down the elegant, tree-lined Champs-Élysées. Finally, be sure to snap a photo at the magnificent Eiffel Tower, an unmistakable and controversial symbol of Paris since its appearance at the 1889 World's Fair.

## **2:00pm: Guided Excursion to Versailles**

Step back into le grand siècle as you experience the opulence of Versailles, the elaborate palace of Louis XIV. Built to be the envy of all Europe, France's most extravagant château continually threatened to bankrupt the national treasury. Here the Sun King held court in the most lavish style imaginable. At one point, 1,000 nobles were attended by 4,000 servants inside the palace, while 15,000 soldiers and servants inhabited the annexes. You'll also tour the State Apartments of the King himself and walk through the historic Hall of Mirrors, where France, Spain and England officially recognized the independence of the United States in 1783, and where the Treaty of Versailles, which ended WWI, was signed. You'll also witness the ornate decor of the Queen's State Apartments, furnished for Marie Antoinette. After your visit inside the palace, be sure to take some time to stroll through the elaborate gardens, designed by André Le Nôtre. *Because of the extreme popularity of Versailles, guided visits of the interior cannot be guaranteed during peak seasons. In this case, your group will hear a presentation from your guide before entering the palace.*

#### **6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Paris**

#### **8:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in Paris**

#### **10:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out**

### **Day 4: Paris | Normandy region**

#### **6:00am: Wake-up call**

#### **7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel**

#### **8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to central Paris**

#### **10:00am: Visit Les Invalides**

The Hotel des Invalides was founded by Louis XIV in 1671 as a home for disabled soldiers and remains in use to this day. The most impressive feature is the Dome des Invalides, a gold cupola visible from many parts of Paris. Here in the cold isolation of this impressive mausoleum, Napoleon Bonaparte lies buried.

#### **12:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups**

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

#### **2:00pm: Travel to the Normandy region**

Transfer to Normandy, location of many of the battles that turned the course of World War II. Despite its connection with major military events, Normandy is also a region of scenic beauty with elegant landscapes and patchwork fields.

#### **5:00pm: Arrive at the hotel in the Normandy region**

#### **6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in the Normandy region**

#### **9:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out**

## **Day 5: Normandy region**

**6:00am: Wake-up call**

**7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel**

**8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to the Juno Beach Centre**

**10:00am: Visit the Juno Beach Centre**

Visit the Juno Beach Centre, the first memorial of its kind for Canadian veterans of WWII. The Centre was conceptualized by Canadian veterans who fought in the June 6, 1944 D-Day invasion of Normandy and stands at Courseulles-sur-Mer, the site of the invasion. The Centre is an educational facility designed to teach Canadians more about Canada's role in the war, whether on land, sea or air.

**12:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups**

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

**2:30pm: Visit a Canadian WWII Cemetery**

You will visit one of the two Canadian cemeteries. Beny-sur-Mer near Courseulles contains 2,048 graves and Cinthaux between Caen and Falaise contains 2,959 graves.

**6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in the Normandy region**

**9:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out**

## **Day 6: Normandy region | Vimy region**

**6:00am: Wake-up call**

**7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel**

**8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to the Vimy region**

**11:00am: Visit the Vimy Ridge Historic Site**

Walk along Vimy Ridge, where in 1917, Canadian troops came together to accomplish what larger British and French forces had failed to do, and what would become a defining moment in the first World War. See where these brave soldiers charged over the ridge, marching under continuous, heavy fire and cleverly isolating the German troops in their dugouts. A towering, white marble monument now marks Hill 145, the place where the capture of Vimy Ridge ended in a bayonet charge against machine-gun nests. Learn more about this stunning victory that Brigadier-General A.E. Ross called "the birth of a nation."

**1:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups**

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

**3:00pm: Visit the Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Memorial**

This afternoon you will have a guided visit of the Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Memorial, built to commemorate and honour all of the soldiers from Newfoundland and Labrador who were killed during the First World War. Opened in 1925, the memorial features a 15m bronze caribou overlooking the battlefield and remaining trenches. The site also includes an excellent visitors' centre which details the story of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment. As the largest memorial site of the six memorials erected by the Government of Newfoundland following the First World War, it is an immersive, contemplative, humbling and emotional experience for all who visit.

**6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in the Vimy region**

**8:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in the Vimy region**

**10:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out**

## **Day 7: Vimy region**

**6:00am: Wake-up call**

**7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel**

**8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to the Memorial Museum in Passchendaele**

**10:00am: Visit the Memorial Museum Passchendaele**

Formerly the "Streekmuseum," this re-opened in 2004 as the "Memorial Museum Passchendaele." It is housed in the old Zonnebeke chateau in the heart of the 1917 Passchendaele battlefield and tells the story of the fighting in this area during the four years of the war. You will see many photos, uniforms and artifacts on display, and a reconstructed trench and WWI dugout.

**11:30am: Visit the Essex Farm Cemetery**

This small and sometimes overlooked place remains a moving and important First World War site for Canadians. Essex Farm is the location where Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae penned the famous and haunting war poem "In Flanders Fields". The advanced dressing station where McCrae was stationed remains remarkably intact and shares the site with a small Commonwealth cemetery.

**1:30pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups**

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

**3:30pm: Visit the In Flanders Fields Museum**

This award-winning museum is located in the eastern end of the beautiful and grand Cloth Hall in Ypres. Focusing on the horrors of war, this interactive museum invites participants to engage emotionally in the presentation of the past.

**5:00pm: Cash float handout for dinner in Ypres**

**8:00pm: Attend the “Last Post Ceremony” at the Menin Gate**

Experience a unique and moving nightly ceremony to honour the dead of WWI. At exactly 8 pm up to six members of the regular buglers from the local volunteer Fire Brigade step into the roadway under the memorial arch and play the Last Post, followed by a short silence and Reveille. The Last Post Ceremony has become part of daily life in Ieper (Ypres) and the local people are proud of this simple but touching tribute to the courage and self-sacrifice of those who fell in defense of their town.

**9:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in the Vimy region**

**11:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out**

**Day 8: Vimy region | Amsterdam**

**6:00am: Wake-up call**

**7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel**

**8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to Amsterdam via the Bergen Op Zoom Canadian War Cemetery**

**10:00am: Visit the Bergen Op Zoom Canadian War Cemetery**

**12:00pm: Tour Director-led Sightseeing of Scheldt**

**1:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups**

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

**4:00pm: Arrive in Amsterdam**

Welcome to Amsterdam, capital of the Netherlands. Known both as a center of entertainment and as a city of classic design and architecture, Amsterdam is a city of astonishing contrast.

**3:00pm: Immersion Challenge**

Explore the city during a self-guided immersive scavenger hunt designed exclusively for EF.

**4:00pm: Visit the Deportation Centre**

**5:00pm: Visit the Portuguese Synagogue**

**6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Amsterdam**

**8:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in Amsterdam**

**9:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out**

**Day 9: Amsterdam**

**6:00am: Wake-up call**

**7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel**

**8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to central Amsterdam**

**9:00am: Visit the Anne Frank House**

Enter through the secret staircase up to where the young girl hid with her family from 1942 to 1944-and where she penned the poignant diary that has been translated into dozens of languages worldwide. (Pending availability due to entrance capacities and limited group reservations)

**11:00am: Canal Cruise**

Cruise the canals on board a glass-topped boat, the perfect way to become acquainted with the city. You will pass some of Amsterdam’s most enchanting bridges, including those depicted in some of van Gogh’s paintings.

**1:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups**

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

**3:00pm: Visit the Jewish Historical Museum**

This museum is housed in four monumental synagogue buildings in the middle of the Jewish Cultural Quarter. Get a chance to see a unique picture of past and present Dutch Jewish life through paintings and films to 3D presentations.

**6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Amsterdam**

**8:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in Amsterdam**

**10:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out**

**Day 10: Depart for Home**

**4:30am: Wake-Up Call**

**5:30am: Breakfast at Hotel**

**6:30am: Transfer to the airport for your return flight**

Your tour director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you will check in for your return flight home.

*The itinerary is subject to change.*

*For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions at [www.eftours.ca/bc](http://www.eftours.ca/bc).*



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