

Presents

THE YPRES SALIENT + GHENT

WHAT'S INCLUDED

5 days / 4 nights' duration
Tuesday 29th April—Saturday 3rd May 2025
 Return Executive Coach Travel
 Return Eurotunnel crossings to Calais
 4 nights B&B
3* Novotel Ieper Centrum Flanders Fields
 + 1 x group dinner at a restaurant in Ypres
 Excursion package as detailed overleaf



Ghent

PRICES & SUPPLEMENTS

Price **25+** passengers **£899pp** two share
 Single supplement **£119 (4 nights)** - max. 14 rooms
Pre-bookable excursions to:
 Ghent Boat Cruise + Ghent Altarpiece **£ TBC**
 Deposit **£150pp** (non-refundable/non-transferable)
 Balance due in full by the **08.03.25**
 Optional Travel Insurance **£50pp**
 No upper age limit (conditions apply)
Includes Insurance Premium Tax (IPT) @ 20%.



Altarpiece

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Battle of Britain Memorial Kent**
- **In Flanders Fields Museum Ypres**
- **Battlefields Tour + Tyne Cot**
- **Ghent (+ optional cruise/altarpiece)**
- **Hooge Crater Museum Guided Tour + Lunch**
- **Passchendaele Memorial Museum**
- **Talbot House**



Menin Gate

HOW TO BOOK

Complete the attached booking form and return with your non-refundable deposit + Insurance premium if required to:

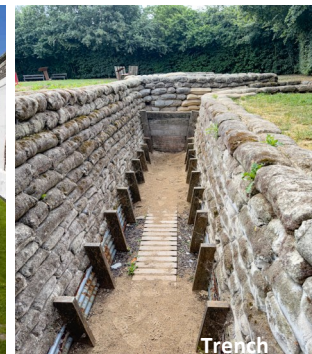
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Any queries contact **Jenny Baldrey:**
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Tyne Cot



Trench



SIMPLY GROUPS
Simply the best!



The Specialist Group Tour Operator



Sample Itinerary

*This holiday includes walking varying distances often on uneven or cobbled streets. Participants must be capable of a certain amount of **unassisted walking** to enable all travellers to fully enjoy this experience.*

Tuesday Day 1 – Departing your last pick-up point by 9am, we journey south making a visit to the **Battle of Britain Memorial** in Kent, an eye-catching building designed in the shape of a Spitfire wing, complete with its famous uplift. The central focal point is a statue of a seated airman looking out to sea, which is striking in its simplicity yet so moving in its context. There is also the **Christopher Foxley-Norris Memorial Wall** with the names of all those aircrew known to have flown at least one sortie with an accredited squadron or unit of the Royal Air Force during the Battle of Britain in 1940. A first floor ‘cockpit’ area with an open balcony offers superb views across the Channel to France, from where the Luftwaffe would have appeared in 1940. Here you will find the **Cockpit Café** where lunch can be purchased. Included is the high-tech interactive **Scramble Experience**, a fantastic way to learn more about the Battle of Britain. At its heart is a unique + moving film created especially for the Trust which helps show just what life was like for the ‘few’ in the summer of 1940. Continuing on to the Eurotunnel terminal for an afternoon crossing to France and onwards to Ypres, dinner is included at a local restaurant.

Wednesday Day 2 – Breakfast included. *Ypres was the most important British battlefield of WWI, with more than 250,000 British and Commonwealth falling in defence of Flanders Fields. It was here the legend of the Flanders Poppy was born; poppies grew on the disturbed ground of the battlefields and were seen everywhere after the fighting, with the blood red colour symbolising the fallen. From the magnificent Cloth Hall to its historic marketplace, this small town is packed with historical buildings and curios which tell its millennia-long history.*

Included visit to the **‘In Flanders Fields Museum’** located in the rebuilt Ypres Cloth Hall. This depicts the consequences of the Great War and how old and young were faced with life and death in the Ypres front region. The exhibition has videos, unique soundbites and the most up-to-date multimedia displays, immersing visitors in life on the front line. With the aid of a poppy bracelet, you will be able to access personal stories of 'Joe Public' in the Great War. Following free time for lunch, you will join your **local guide** at the **Menin Gate** for an **introduction** before departing by coach for an included **battlefields tour** of the **Ypres Salient** + other interesting sites. This will include **Tyne Cot**, the largest British military cemetery in the world, where Commonwealth, French, Belgian and German forces fought almost continuously throughout WWI. Returning to Ypres, this evening is at your leisure.

Thursday Day 3 – Breakfast included. Today is dedicated to one of Belgium’s oldest cities - **Ghent**, known as the ‘flower capital of Belgium’ and one of the country’s best kept secrets. It boasts an opera house, many museums, ancient churches and dozens of bridges. During your free day, there will be the opportunity of a **pre-bookable leisurely boat cruise**, a perfect introduction to the historic centre filled with charm & beauty around every corner. There is also a **pre-bookable optional** visit to the **Altarpiece** in the Crypt Hall of **St -Baafs Cathedral**. It is also known as ‘The Adoration of the Mystic Lamb’ by the Van Eyck brothers, completed in 1432, and today is recognised worldwide as a great work of art and one of the most influential paintings. There are a total of 18 panels with evocative scenes from the Bible, as well as a portrait of the church warden, Joos Vijd, who commissioned the altarpiece. You may choose to buy an early dinner in Ghent or in Ypres today.

Friday Day 4 – Breakfast included. Included visit with **guided tour** of the **Hooge Crater Museum**, Belgium’s best private WWI museum. This fascinating museum has an extensive collection of weapons, equipment and photographs. Life during WWI is also depicted as true to life as possible with the help of life-size battle scenes, ranging from life in German bunkers and British trenches, to life-size horses ridden by cavalry troops. A **light lunch** is included before continuing on to the **Passchendaele Memorial Museum** (*audio-guided visit*) & their reconstructed trench system. Dinner is at your leisure in Ypres tonight.

Saturday Day 5 – Checking out of the hotel after breakfast, the final included visit is to **Talbot House** where you will breathe in the atmosphere of wartime years. Throughout the house, notices, artefacts and paintings, all tell its history. Your discovery tour will lead you to the attic and some of the most sacred ground in Flanders Fields, the chapel. Here 1000’s would have had their 1st and many their last communion. In its own ‘Concert Hall’, experience the Happy Hoppers Concert Party of 1917, a show which would have been a highlight for the 1000’s of soldiers who saw it. You conclude in the Oast House + Tubby’s post-war dining room, where a documentary on his later life and work is shown. Lunch can be purchased in the town before the short journey to Calais & returning to your original departure point(s).

Simply Groups reserves the right to make minor adjustments to this itinerary due to circumstances beyond our control.