



**Educational
Tours**



Canada's Battlefields

Mike Cameron

Canada's Battlefields

A private tour designed by Mike Cameron, in conjunction with EF Customized Tours

Requested departure date: Saturday, April 23, 2016

(Dates below are subject to change. Required date flexibility of 2 days on either side of requested departure date)

Day 1

Saturday, April 23, 2016

Board your flight to Paris!

Day 2

Sunday, April 24, 2016

Arrive in Paris and transfer to Vimy

Overnight in Vimy Region

Day 3

Monday, April 25, 2016

Visit Essex Farm

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.

St. Julien Memorial

Make a stop at this impressive memorial, which is located at the site where Canadian troops withstood the first German gas attacks in April of 1915. The memorial measures almost 11 meters in height and is topped by a granite carving of a brooding Canadian soldier.

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.

Walking Tour of Ypres

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.

Attend the "Last Post Ceremony" at 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 defence of their town.

Overnight in Vimy Region

Visit to Vimy Ridge Historic Site incl. visit to tunnels & trenches

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.”

Beaumont Hamel War Memorial

This morning 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.

Transfer to Normandy

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 as well as the majesty of its two major towns-Caen and Rouen.

Overnight in Normandy Region

Visit to Juno Beach Centre

Visit 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.

Beny-sur-Mer Canadian Cemetery

Honour our fallen soldiers and airmen at Beny-sur-Mer Cemetery, which houses the graves of over 2,000 Canadians.

Arromanches

Visit the seaside town of Arromanches, whose coastline hosted some of the D-Day landings in 1944. As part of the designated 'Gold Beach' area, British troops landed here. Arromanches was also important in WWII as one of the chosen sites for the Mulberry Harbours built by the British forces to aid in the allied invasion of Normandy. The massive concrete blocks can still be seen today.

Free time at the Normandy Beaches

Overnight in Normandy Region

Transfer to Paris

Welcome to Paris, cosmopolitan City of Light. Over the centuries, Paris has grown to become the undisputed center of France, and one of the world's most important cities both culturally and politically. Equally famed for its high fashion, awe-inspiring museums and elegant cuisine, Paris has also been a center of theater, literature and philosophy throughout the ages.

Walking Tour of Paris

Your walking tour of Paris centers around the Île de la Cité, considered the birthplace of Paris. This island surrounded entirely by the Seine has been inhabited since the 3rd century B.C. and was the political and religious center of France for centuries. Île de la Cité houses three of Paris' most important buildings: Notre Dame Cathedral; the Conciergerie, Paris' first prison; and St. Chapelle, the Gothic Catholic church.

Visit 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. Step inside to admire the stained-glass rose window and seemingly weightless vaulted ceilings.

Overnight in Paris

Guided Sightseeing of Paris

Discover the city on the Seine during your bus tour. Learn about Paris' origins as a Roman settlement as you pass through the Île de la Cité, where you will also see Notre Dame Cathedral. Pass by the imposing Arc de Triomphe, commemorating Napoleon's Grande Armée, and the École Militaire, where he graduated to Lieutenant. Continue down the elegant Champs-Élysées to the Place de la Concorde, dedicated to King Louis XV and the site where Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette were executed during the French Revolution. Then, head through the Quartier Latin where you will see the world-renowned Sorbonne University, and drive along the Seine for wonderful views of the Musée D'Orsay, the Louvre and the Pont de Neuf, or 'new bridge', which is ironically Paris' oldest. Finally, make a photo stop at the iconic Eiffel Tower, built for the 1889 World's Fair. Learn why this impressive, yet controversial, symbol of Paris was spared the wrecking ball in 1909.

Optional Excursion: Versailles Palace & Gardens (\$99 pre-tour only)

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.

Overnight in Paris

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.

Itinerary is subject to change

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions at www.eftours.ca/bc.



Tour Highlights and Details

Overnight stays:

Vimy Region	(2)
Normandy Region	(2)
Paris	(2)

Sightseeing tours led by an expert, licensed local guide of the following:

Guided Sightseeing of Paris

Entrances included to the following sites:

Memorial Museum Passchendaele
In Flanders Fields Museum
“Last Post Ceremony” at Menin Gate
Vimy Ridge Historic Site incl. tunnels & trenches
Beaumont Hamel War Memorial
Juno Beach Centre
Notre Dame Cathedral

Optional Excursions:

Versailles (pre-book only) \$ 99

Optional excursion prices are based on 20 paying participants and may be purchased until 50 days prior to departure or on tour at an increased price. The prices of optional excursions are subject to change.

Included in the Program Price:

- Round-trip flights, including fuel surcharges, airport improvement fees, security charges, transfer, arrival, and departure taxes
- 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 Price:

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



EF Customized Tour Agreement

Please find below important information regarding your Customized Tour. In signing this agreement your itinerary will become available online.

Please complete the following information regarding your Customized Tour:

Chosen Tour Name: _____
(Limit 30 Characters)

Tour Version: _____
(As indicated in the bottom left of your day by day itinerary, ie: LPRCv2)

Number of expected Full Paying Participants per bus (please check one):

35 or more full paying participants per bus

30-34 full paying participants per bus

25-29 full paying participants per bus

Approaching 129 days prior to departure your group size will be reviewed and the following may occur:

Your group size is greater than indicated:

EF will update the private group fee on each participant's account to reflect the correct number of participants currently enrolled based on a maximum of 35 full paying participants per bus.

Your group size is lower than indicated:

If you are unable to recruit the number of travellers you indicated on your Agreement, you may choose one of the following three options:

Increase your Private Group Fee *

Modify your itinerary to bring the cost down**

Transfer to a consolidated EF Educational Tour**

Please check the boxes below:

- I understand that any changes that I make to the itinerary hereafter can affect the price of my group's Program Fee as well as additional fees***, as indicated on my quote, and will not be accepted less than 129 days prior to departure.
- I am aware that additional fees***, as indicated on my quote, are not included in the Program Fee and are subject to change.
- I have read and am familiar with the *EF Booking Conditions* and *Release and Agreement* (www.eftours.ca/bc) in particular the section titled *Private Groups*.

By signing this agreement, I agree that I have completed, read and understand the information above.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

* Please refer to your detailed price quote

**The deadline for this option is 129 days prior to departure and is subject to Tour, Land and Flight availability.

*** Additional Fees include: Private Group Fee, Departure Fees, Weekend Supplements, Adult Supplements, Optional Fees and Coverage Plans as per your Customized Itinerary and Quote.