



Dresden, Germany

Military and Medical History in Western Europe France – Belgium – Germany

1 – 13 July 2019

3 nights Arras • 2 nights Ypres • 2 nights Nuremburg
• 3 nights Dresden • 2 nights Berlin

With Normandy Extension
29 June – 13 July 2019



Jon Baines
tours



Place de Heros, Arras, France

In the first four decades of the twentieth century, the mass violence of war defined Europe, and by extension Australia. It was epochal in character and, like most epochal forces in history, its causes were both short and long term. The wars of the early twentieth century were defined by ideology and psychology. The ideological component exploited existing social and political cultures - racial theories of 'inferiority', the blending of popular sovereignty with nationalist ideology, colonial imperialism - and the use of propaganda methods to influence the support of a population.

This tour examines the period from 1913 - 1945 and continues to the Cold War, providing a deeper insight into this tumultuous period of history, including the often-accelerated advances in medicine during the war years. Travel through key sites along the Western Front in France and Belgium and continue to Germany in the company of tour leader Paul Luckin, who will provide talks that give context to the visits. There is also an optional pre tour extension to Normandy.

Arrive in the elegant French town of Arras and check into the hotel before taking a guided walk through the historic centre of the town.

Next morning transfer to Amiens, the starting point of the last 100 days of WWI, but also a beautiful city that is a cultural centre in its own right. Visit Notre Dame Cathedral – a UNESCO World Heritage site – before continuing to Villers-Bretonneux. Explore the Australian Remembrance Trail before visiting the Lochnagar Crater and Delville Wood, site of the South African National



Amiens Cathedral



Tyne Cot cemetery, Belgium (top); Nuremberg Castle (above)

Memorial. Continue to Peronne, where Australian troops were sent in to capture the famous Mont-Saint-Quentin in 1918. Visit the excellent Museum of the Great War, set within a medieval castle, and Avenue des Australians.

Next day transfer to Bullecourt and visit the Digger Memorial. Drive to Pozières and visit the Pozières Tank Memorial and Australian Memorial before continuing to Thiepval to visit the Anglo-French memorial to the missing soldiers. Drive on to Beaumont-Hamel to visit the Newfoundland Memorial Park. After lunch return to Arras and visit the superb Wellington Quarry - an underground museum created in a section of the many kilometres of tunnels dug by British and Commonwealth troops in WWI. Drive to Vimy and visit the National Canadian Memorial and Grange Tunnel.

The following morning drive to Alblain St Nazaire to visit Philippe Prost's International Memorial of Notre Dame de Lorette – a sculpture that is

as beautiful as it is moving, a vast elliptical ring, partly suspended above the ground, with the names of 580,000 men and women who died in Northern France during WWI. Continue to Fromelles to visit Pheasant Wood Cemetery and the museum and onto to Poperinge to visit Talbot House, the Every Man's Club for all soldiers.

Drive onto Ypres and stop at Brandhoek New Military Centre to visit the grave of Noël Chavasse – a British medical doctor and Olympian athlete, who was one of only 3 people to have been awarded 2 VC's for his bravery on the field.

The Belgian town of Ypres and the surrounding area was, of course, the site of some of the fiercest fighting on the Western Front. There are many moving sites here and you will visit many of these, including the vast cemetery of Tyne Cot. Finish the day by walking to Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing, engraved with the names of more than 54,000 soldiers who have no known grave. Hear the haunting Last Post Ceremony at this poignant site.

The following day depart the violent theatres of WWI and make a psychological shift to the rise of Nazism and World War II as you drive to Nuremberg and check into your hotel.

Next morning take a specialist walking tour of the Nazi rally grounds in Nuremberg. The grounds highlight the megalomania behind the Nazis' theatrical architecture and provide insight into how the rallies functioned as



Zwinger Palace Art Gallery, Dresden



mass-propaganda shows and the legacy of Nazi political control - the Führer cult, racial fanaticism and the preparation for war.

In the afternoon take a guided walk of the lovely city of Nuremberg, whose gilded history dates back centuries to the days when it was the preferred residence of most German kings. Explore the old city and the Nuremberg Trials Memorial, where leaders of the Nazi regime had to answer for their crimes before an International Military Tribunal.

Next day drive to the historic cultural city of Weimar, where the constitution of the Weimar Republic was drafted after WWI. Tour some of the city's major historical sites and continue to Colditz Castle, a former castle and hospital but today best known as a prisoner-of-war camp during World War II for escaped Allied officers from other camps. Learn about some of these escapes (both successful and attempted) before continuing to Dresden.

The old city of Dresden is a rare reconstruction of a Baroque city. On a walking tour see the extravagant palaces where the Saxon royal family spent its fortune. Visit the recently reconstructed "Church of Our Lady" and learn of the bombing of Dresden during World War II. In the afternoon visit the fascinating Museum of Hygiene, which examines the human body in its social, cultural, historical and scientific contexts – including the myth of German racial superiority - and is one of the oldest medical history museums in the world.

Next morning's visits include the Green Vault (Treasury) and the Armoury, before an afternoon at leisure with optional activities.

Drive to Berlin, a vibrant city that encompasses the full arc of culture from high to cutting edge, while keeping its past very much visible. Take a historical tour of Berlin, including the Book Burning Monument, the Holocaust Memorial, Brandenburg Gate, the Teirgarten and Unter den Linden and the Berlin Air Raid underground shelter and hospital.

Next morning explore Cold War and post war Berlin, including the Berlin Wall and Memorial and Check Point Charlie, before continuing to Potsdam. This last visit on your itinerary is fittingly, the site of one of the final stages of WWII - the Potsdam Conference. Take a guided tour of Cecilienhof Palace – where Churchill, Stalin and Roosevelt met in 1945 - and Sans Souci Palace and its gardens. In the evening enjoy a farewell dinner before departing for the airport the following day.



Brandenburg Gate, Berlin (top); Cecilienhof, Potsdam (above)

Itinerary 1 – 13 July 2019

B = Breakfast **L** = Lunch **D** = Dinner

3 nights Arras – 2 nights Ypres – 2 nights Nuremburg – 3 nights Dresden – 2 nights Berlin

1 Jul (Mon) Pm	Arras B D Arrive in Arras and check into hotel. Short guided walk through the historic centre of Arras.	6 Jul (Sat) Am Pm	Ypres / Nuremburg B D Full day's drive to Nuremburg Arrive and check into the hotel
2 Jul (Tue) Am	Arras B D Transfer to Amiens and visit Notre Dame Cathedral. Continue to Villers-Bretonneux and visit the National Franco Australian Museum and Sir John Monash Centre. Stop in Corbie (where the Red Baron was shot down) before visiting Le Hamel and the Australian Corps Memorial	7 Jul (Sun) Am Pm	Nuremburg B L Specialist walking tour of the Nazi rally Grounds in Nuremburg Guided walk visiting Albrecht Dürer's house; the main market square; St Lorenz Church with its world-famous works of art; Adam Kraft's tabernacle; the 1322 Hospital of the Holy Spirit and walk around the castle area. Visit the Nuremberg Trials Memorial
3 Jul (Wed) Am	Arras B L Transfer to Bullecourt and visit Digger Memorial. Drive to Pozières and visit Pozières Tank Memorial and The Windmill (Australian Memorial). To Thiepval (Authuille) to visit the Anglo-French monument to the missing soldiers. To Beaumont-Hamel to visit the Newfoundland Memorial Park	8 Jul (Mon) Am Pm	Nuremburg / Dresden B D Drive to Weimar. Visit the major political sites of 1930's Visit Colditz Castle, a former castle, hospital and prisoner-of-war camp during World War II. Continue to Dresden
4 Jul (Thur) Am	Arras / Ypres B Drive to Ablain St Nazaire and visit the cemetery and the Ring Remembrance. At Fromelles visit Pheasant Wood Cemetery and museum. To Poperinge and visit Talbot House	9 Jul (Tue) Am Pm	Dresden B D Take a walking tour of Dresden Visit the Museum of Hygiene
5 Jul (Fri) Am	Ypres B D Visit Mesen's statue of the NZ Soldier; Bois du Gheer/Ploegsteert Wood; Toronto Avenue Cemetery; Ireland Peace Park; Messines Ridge and CWGC Cemetery. See the Memorial 1st Australian Tunnelling Core; Hill 60 & Caterpillar Crater	10 Jul (Wed) Am Pm	Dresden B L Visit City Palace, including the Green Vault (Treasury) and the Armoury At leisure. Options to visit many museums or Meissen
6 Jul (Fri) Pm	Visit Polygon Wood and the 5th Div. Memorial and Tyne Cot. Drive to Ypres and Essex Farm, the advanced dressing station of Dr. John McCrae (where he wrote 'In Flanders Fields'). At Poperinge visit Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery	11 Jul (Thur) Am Pm	Dresden / Berlin B D Drive to Berlin Tour Berlin's historical sites, including the Book Burning Monument, the Holocaust Memorial, the site of the bunker, Brandenburg Gate and Berlin Air Raid underground shelter and hospital
7 Jul (Fri) Eve	Walk to Menin Gate for the Last Post	12 Jul (Fri) Am Pm Eve	Berlin B D Guided tour of Cold War and post war Berlin Visit Potsdam for guided tour of Cecilienhof Palace and Sanssouci Palace Farewell dinner
		13 Jul (Sat) Am	Berlin B Depart for the airport

NB: All itineraries are subject to change according to local conditions. A level of fitness is required for walking (although many of the Western Front visits are very close and some are short stops).



Mulberry Harbour in Arromanches

Pre-Tour Extension

Normandy has always played a major role in Europe's theatres of war, from the Norman invasion of England in 1066 to the D-Day landings of 1944. This extension brings this rich, often brutal past vividly to life with visits to the incomparable Bayeux Tapestry and the sobering cemeteries and memorials along the D-Day beaches in a beautiful part of France known for its Camembert, apples, cider, fresh seafood and cream-rich cuisine.

29 Jun (Sat)	Caen, Normandy	D
Pm	Arrive Caen	
Eve	Check into Mercure Caen Côte de Nacre Hotel and welcome dinner	
30 Jun (Sun)	Caen, Normandy	B D
Am	Visit Omaha Beach and Colleville-sur-Mer (ABMC cemetery). Drive to Longues sur Mer and visit the intact German battery that covered Gold Beach and Omaha Beach, where a surgical clearing station was established. Transfer to Arromanches to visit the artificial ports Mulberry A & B	
Pm	Visit Sword Beach, Pegasus Bridge Museum & Caen Memorial Museum	
1 Jul (Mon)	Caen, Normandy / Arras	B D
Am	Visit the Bayeux Tapestry	
Pm	Drive to Ardouval and visit the V1 base of Val Ygot. Transfer to Arras, check into hotel and join the main tour	

Hotels

Mercure Arras Centre Gare (Arras)

A comfortable mid range hotel with a bar and restaurant, with an excellent location in downtown Arras near the historic centre.

Novotel Ieper Centrum Flanders Fields (Ypres)

A comfortable and friendly hotel in the heart of Ypres and just a few minutes walk to Menin Gate.

NH Collection Nürnberg City (Nuremburg)

Renovated in 2016, this hotel provides spacious rooms and a clean, contemporary décor.

Situated in the heart of Nuremburg near the old town, this is a comfortable and quiet hotel with a fitness centre and sauna and a good restaurant serving regional food.

NH Collection Dresden Altstadt (Dresden)

An elegant, contemporary hotel built with traditional Dresden sandstone, this comfortable and stylish hotel has an excellent location on Dresden's historic market square in the heart of the old town. Facilities include a restaurant, bar, wellness area and sun terrace.

Crowne Plaza Berlin City Centre (Berlin)

An elegant and very comfortable business hotel in the city centre just off the famous Kurfürstendamm shopping street, this hotel provides excellent facilities including an indoor pool, sauna, massage services and an air-conditioned gym, as well as a very good bar and restaurant.



Omaha Beach Les Braves memorial



Colditz Castle

Tour Leader

Dr Paul Luckin AM MB.BCh.(Rand.), D.A.(S.A.), F.F.A.(S.A.), M.MED.ANAESTHESIA (Natal), FANZCA is an anaesthetist in Brisbane. He trained in rescue as an ambulance paramedic in Tasmania before studying medicine in South Africa. Paul served on the Tasmanian Ambulance Service Medical Advisory Council, was Director of the Advanced Airway Management Training Program and was President of Royal Life Saving Society Tasmania Branch.

As a Captain in the Royal Australian Naval Reserve, Paul has served in Bougainville, East Timor, the Solomon Islands, in the Resuscitation and Retrieval Team for the victims of the Bali bombs, in the first medical team into Banda Aceh following the tsunami, and in Afghanistan. He is Medical Director, Medical Services Branch, St John Ambulance Queensland, and has been invested as a Commander of the Order of St John (CStJ).

For his work in SAR, in 2006 Paul received the Australian National Search & Rescue Award, and in 2015 he was made a Member of the Order of Australia, AM, for significant service to the community through emergency medicine, and as an authority on survivability in search and rescue operations. Paul has led successful tours to South Africa, Vietnam and Cambodia.

The ground only cost of the tour is USD \$4,889

The cost includes:

- 12 nights' accommodation in twin-bedded rooms with private facilities in medium grade hotels

Single room supplement: USD \$834

- Breakfast and lunch or dinner throughout
- A full programme of visits as per the itinerary
- Experienced Australian tour leader (Dr Paul Luckin)
- Comprehensive briefing notes
- Admission fees where applicable
- One English speaking national guide throughout Belgium and France and one English speaking national guide in Germany*
- Local guides where applicable
- All transport services in France, Belgium and Germany
- Tips

The cost of the extension is available on request and includes:

- 2 nights' accommodation in twin-bedded rooms with private facilities in medium grade hotels (single supplement applies)
- Breakfast and lunch or dinner throughout
- A full programme of visits as per the itinerary
- English speaking local guide throughout

The cost for the tour and extension excludes:

- International flights and transfers, all personal extras such as portage, laundry, inoculation fees and drinks not with meals
- All optional excursions, tours and visits
- Visas if required

* The French guide departs in Ypres on the morning of 6 July and the German guide arrives in Nuremburg on the morning of 7 July.

“Paul Luckin – excellent. So knowledgable, so humble, so kind, so empathetic – exceptional human being. Most professional.”

Medical and Military History in South Africa tour participant, Jan 2018

About Us

To travel with us is to dig below the surface, revealing the deeper destination. Of course, you will visit the great historical sites; marvel at the wonders of architecture and engineering; be moved by the riches of culture and art; and experience the most spectacular landscapes in the world. What we also do is make sure that you see the country as it is today, giving you privileged access that independent travel and other tour companies rarely get close to. We give you a variety of experiences, from the sublime to the humble, in the company of intelligent, curious, like-minded people. And while we can be worthy, we also make sure that you have a lot of fun.

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Menin Gate, Ypres (top); Weimar, Germany; Zeppelin Field in Nuremberg; Sanssouci Palace, Potsdam (above)



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