



PARK HIGH SCHOOL HISTORY DEPARTMENT

YEAR 11 STUDY TOUR TO THE FIRST WORLD WAR BATTLEFIELDS

28TH SEPTEMBER – 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

STUDENT AND PARENT INFORMATION



First World War Battlefields visit (Thursday 28th September – Saturday 30th September 2023)
Student and Parent Information

The following guide should hopefully answer any questions or queries that you may have regarding the trip. Please read this in advance of the visit carefully. I am planning on holding a parents evening shortly before the visit (**Wednesday 13th September from 6:00 – 6:45pm in the school hall**) when you can meet the members of staff attending the trip and ask any questions that you still have; alternatively, you can contact me at any time on lcramp5.310@parkhighstanmore.org.uk.

Staff attending the trip:

Mrs L Cramp
Mrs I Daler-Finch
Mr N Darby
Mr M Kenward
Ms H Wakeman
Mr J Frankcom
Ms F Sharif

Travel Details:

We will be traveling to and from School by coach to Folkestone and then using the Eurotunnel shuttle to Calais. It is important that students are on time and that they remember their **Passports and EHIC/GHIC cards**. Passports will be collected in and kept by a member of staff for safekeeping for the duration of the trip. Please note the timings below:

Thursday 28th September 2023

06:00 Meet by the zebra crossing near to the corner of Burnell Gardens and Crowshott Avenue, luggage to be loaded onto the coach. Please be on time as we will not be able to wait for late comers and be please aware that we are meeting early in the morning in a residential area so noise will need to be kept to a minimum.

06.30 Depart School, proceed to Folkestone.

08.50 Check-In

10.20 Shuttle departs.

11.55 Arrival in Calais, group to proceed to Ypres.

Saturday 30th September 2023

14.50 Proceed to Calais

16.20 Check-in at Eurotunnel terminal Calais

17.50 Shuttle departs.

17.25 Arrival in UK, onward travel

20.00 Approximate arrival back to School – students will be notified when we are 15 minutes away so that they can contact home and arrange to be picked up if necessary.

Please ensure that you are waiting to collect your son/daughter at School promptly as both staff and students will be very tired after a long day of traveling.

Accommodation:

We will be staying at the following hotel:

Salient Hotel

Dhontstraat 27
8900 Ieper
Belgium

Tel: 00 32 57 21 20 01

Detailed Itinerary:

Thursday 28th September 2023

06.00 Meet at School, luggage to be loaded onto the coach.
06.30 Depart School, proceed to Folkestone.
08.50 Check-In
10.20 Shuttle departs.
11.55 Arrival in Calais, group to proceed to Ypres (**students will need a packed lunch or some money to purchase lunch in Folkestone**).
13.30 Short stop in Ypres for lunch.
14.45 Visit to In Flanders Field Museum.
16.15 Arrive at the Salient Hotel. Check in for 2-nights full board accommodation.
17:30 Evening meal arranged by the hotelier.
16.30 Group to proceed to the Last Post Ceremony to secure a good position / viewing place.
20.00 Group to attend the Last Post Ceremony which takes place every evening at the Menin Gate
PM Return to hotel.

Friday 29th September 2023

AM Breakfast at the hotel. Packed lunches provided.
09.00 Meet guides and proceed to the Wellington Quarry and Somme area.
10:30 Confirmed visit Wellington Tunnels. **Students will need sturdy waterproof footwear and warm/waterproof clothing.**
12:30 Return to the coach and proceed to the Somme region. The group will have time for lunch (provided)
15:00 Visit Sanctuary Wood Museum (Hill 62). **Students will need sturdy waterproof footwear and warm/waterproof clothing.**
17:00 Return to Ypres.
18:00 Evening meal arranged by the hotelier.

Saturday 29th September 2023

AM Breakfast at the hotel. Packed lunches provided. Check out of the hotel after breakfast and load the luggage onto the coach.
09:00 Guided tour to include the medical evacuation route. **Students will need sturdy waterproof footwear and warm/waterproof clothing).**
13:00 Return to Ypres for lunch/sightseeing.
14:50 Proceed to Calais

16:20 Check-in at Eurotunnel terminal Calais

17:50 Shuttle departs.

17:25 Arrival in UK, onward travel

20:00 Approximate arrival back to School – students will be notified when we are 15 minutes away.

Supervision:

Students will be under constant supervision however they will have the opportunity for independent socialising when in the hotel and during their free time.

Mobile phones:

The Headteacher has given permission for the students to bring their mobiles phones and earphones on the trip. In the event that a student uses their phone inappropriately or at a time when they have been asked not to by a teacher, then the school's mobile phone policy will be followed and the mobile phone may be confiscated.

Emergencies:

The students will be briefed on what to do should they lose themselves from the group. They will also be issued details of the hotel to contact in an emergency. Most Mobile Phones will work in Ypres. On the morning of departure and at all other times during the trip, our emergency contact number will be **07438 808402**.

WST School Travel:

We are travelling with the group 'WST' who have been providing educational travel for more than 30 years. Their team have arranged thousands of successful tours for students from schools and colleges across the UK and the itinerary has been especially designed to enhance the study of WWI and conditions in the trenches, for more details, please visit WST's website at www.wsttravel.com

Student Check-list

Before we go, please make sure you have done/packed the following:

- **Have your passport and EHIC/GHIC card packed**
- Know who you're sharing a room with
- Have told Mrs Cramp whether you have any dietary requirements (including if you eat Halal food).
- Have told Mrs Cramp whether you have any serious medical concerns
- Have packed your own 'First Aid' kit: paracetamol, plasters etc.
- Have packed any medicines, asthma inhalers or EPIPENS that you need
- Have got some spending money
- Have got your parent's and the school's mobile numbers written down somewhere safe
- Have packed a mobile phone charger

What to pack:

Students should bring one piece of luggage and one day bag/backpack. The weather is likely to be quite mild, but it may be wet and we will be spending a lot of time outside, we would therefore suggest that all members of the group dress bring layered and waterproof clothing and check the weather report before packing. Casual clothes can be worn but you should be mindful that we will be visiting some memorial sites. Therefore, please be careful about logos and phrases on items of clothing; your clothing should be discrete. The following is a guide to the basics that you will need to pack:

- **PASSPORT & EHIC/GHIC Card**
- **Towel**

- A warm and waterproof coat & trousers
- A pair of jeans or trousers
- A warm jumper/fleece
- T shirts
- Underwear
- Waterproof shoes/boots suitable for wearing in muddy conditions
- Further pair of shoes for travel/indoor use
- Socks
- Pyjamas
- Toiletries
- Lightweight day bag
- Adaptor plug (2 pin European)
- Camera & charger/batteries
- Mobile phone/chargers
- Entertainment and snacks for the coach journeys
- A pen/pencil
- Umbrella
- Necessary medication - students must bring sufficient quantities of necessary prescribed medication for the whole trip. Anyone with asthma should bring at least two inhalers on the trip.

Currency/Spending money:

The unit of currency in Ypres is the Euro (EUR)

As of 05/09/23, £1 is €1.17

Please exchange your money to Euro's **BEFORE** the trip.

Spending money is at your discretion, but I should imagine that students will need no more than €40 (£35) to cover lunch on day 1 and any other items that they should wish to buy. There will be opportunities for students to shop for souvenirs/chocolate.

Electricity/voltage:

Electronic current in Ypres is mostly 220V, with European-style round two-pin sockets.

Security:

Like most major cities there are reported cases of pick pocketing and thefts, especially from popular tourist attractions where large crowds are gathered. It is therefore important that the students stay together in groups and remain vigilant to distraction-type thefts or be aware that thieves can inadvertently involve individuals in scams, resulting in thefts.

Time Zone:

Belgium is 1 hour ahead of GMT.

Code of conduct for students:

In the interest of enjoyment and safety, and in the hope that we gain the most from our visit we expect students to adhere to the following standards of behaviour. Any breach of this code may result in a student being collected by their parent/carers at your expense:

(a) Prior to the visit:

1. You should familiarise yourself with the programme itinerary.
2. If you have a particular allergy or medical condition about which we should be aware, this should be notified to us as early as possible.
3. Ensure that you have all the correct clothing.

(b) At your accommodation:

1. Familiarise yourself with the hotel surroundings and the most direct route to be taken in the event of fire.
2. Do not indulge in smoking or the consumption of alcoholic beverages within the accommodation or its grounds (or at any other time/place on the trip).
3. Do not leave the hotel without a member of staff.
4. Remember that this is also the home of your hosts and that the usual home courtesies are expected.

(c) In the city and historical sites:

General Safety: Remember that you have a responsibility (a) to yourself, (b) to those around you, and (c) if called upon, to those who might be called in to help you. Please respect the advice of the guides and your leaders however petty some instructions may seem.

Crossing Roads: The Belgians drive on the right hand side of the road. Caution must therefore be taken when crossing the road, especially in Ypres town centre.

Getting Lost: At no time should any group split up or any individual select to go off without first asking a member of staff. The only place where groups will be more independent is in Ypres old town square, which is a very safe, and the instructions to you will be very specific. You will also have an I.D. card with the details of our emergency contact number and hotel details. You must keep this with you at all times.

Unforeseen hazards: Considerate and safe conduct must be enforced at all times.

First Aid: While we carry a First Aid kit on the coach, it is your responsibility to carry your own basic kit of plasters etc. for blisters, cuts etc. as there will be a lot of walking.

Clothing: It is absolutely essential that you are prepared for potentially cold and/or wet weather.

Mobile Phones/EarPods etc.: It is your responsibility to look after your own valuables. Please keep them inside the coach or accommodation (there will be a safe at the hotel).

Sleep: The days will be long and demanding. You should be in your bed by 22:00 and sufficiently quiet so that those around you may sleep.

Food: The days can be long and demanding. Do not skimp on your food.

In addition to this, you must always follow the advice and guidance given by your group leaders and guides.

Final Note:

I am personally very excited by this opportunity; I think it is a fantastic opportunity not only for students, but also for the history department. With support from the parents, students and the many staff that have been involved in its preparation I am sure it will be a great success.

Should you have any further questions, as ever please feel free to contact me at the school.

L Cramp
Assistant Headteacher