IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE DIGGERS

As patriotic Aussies we have all grown up hearing about our valiant soldiers courageous efforts in Gallipoli but until recently, we have never heard much about their other outstanding battle efforts on the Western Front. By the end of the “war to end all wars” the diggers earned their reputation as one of the best fighting forces through courage and sacrifice. Only now that some of our unknown soldier’s remains have been found in Fromelle is the true story being revealed of their heroic deeds. The esteem in which this entirely volunteer force is still held is testament to their inspiring bravery and indelible reputation.

It is with great excitement that we announce our 17 day tour “In The Footsteps of The Diggers” this tailor made tour is a once in a lifetime opportunity to pay your respects to Australia’s World War 1 Diggers. We are most fortunate to have Rhonda & Doug Grande escorting this tour for us. Rhonda has recently been recognized for her untiring work in making sure the history of our great fighting soldiers is not forgotten and has been made a “Fellow of the Military Historical Society of Australia” and Doug has a very good knowledge of weaponry used in these battles. This tour of the major battlefields where Australians took part in Turkey, France and Belgium departs Monday 09 September 2013 and includes moving visits to Gallipoli, Amiens, Ypres and other historical sites.

INCLUSIONS:

- 16 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION IN 4* HOTELS inclusive of breakfast daily
- ALL TRANSFERS IN AIR CONDITIONED COACH
- ENGLISH SPEAKING PROFESSIONAL GUIDES THROUGHOUT
- DINNER IN TURKEY (4)
- 2 DAY HOP ON HOP OFF COACH & MUSEUM PASS
- DINNER IN PARIS, YPRES & AMIENS (4) LUNCH (1)
- PORTERAGE IN ALL HOTELS
- AIRFARES TAXES & SERVICE CHARGES
Mon 09 Sep
Depart Perth Emirates Flight 425 0600 arrive Dubai 1300
Depart Dubai Emirates Flight 121 1425 arrive Istanbul 1755

Meet and assist with English speaking guide
Private coach transfer to hotel
Overnight at Istanbul Antik Hotel or similar

Tue 10 Sep
Istanbul B, D
Morning at leisure
Half day city tour to include Topkapi Palace, Blue Mosque and St Sophia Museum
Dinner and show at Galata Tower
Overnight at Istanbul Antik Hotel or similar

Wed 11 Sep
Istanbul / Eceabat B, D
Depart for drive to the Gallipoli Peninsula
Dinner at hotel or local restaurant
Overnight at Grand Eceabat Hotel or similar

Thu 12 Sep
Istanbul / Eceabat B, D
Coach and driver at groups’ disposal for full day touring on the peninsula
Dinner at hotel or local restaurant
Overnight at Grand Eceabat Hotel or similar

Fri 13 Sep
Eceabat B, D
Coach and driver at groups’ disposal for full day touring on the peninsula
Morning visit to Helles
Dinner at hotel or local restaurant
Overnight at Grand Eceabat Hotel or similar

Sat 14 Sep
Eceabat / Istanbul B
Depart for return to Istanbul
On arrival in Istanbul tour of Grand Bazaar
Overnight at Istanbul Antik Hotel or similar

Sun 15 Sep
Depart Istanbul B
Private coach transfer from hotel to Istanbul Airport

Depart Istanbul on Turkish Airlines Flight 1827 1420 arrive Paris 1710
**Sun 15 Sep** Arrive Paris
Arrive Paris CDG Airport
Meet and assist with English speaking guide
Private coach transfer from airport to hotel
Overnight at Best Western Ronceray Opera or similar

**Mon 16 Sep** Paris
Day at leisure for own arrangements
Dinner at local restaurant
Overnight at Best Western Ronceray Opera or similar

**Tue 17 Sep** Paris
Issue of 2 day Hop-on Hop-off bus tickets
Issue of 2 day Paris Museum Pass (including entrance to Louvre)
Full day in Paris on own to use two day Hop-On Hop-Off Bus and two day Museum Pass (both included)
Overnight at Best Western Ronceray Opera or similar

**Wed 18 Sep** Paris
Full day in Paris on own to use two day Hop-On Hop-Off Bus and two day Museum Pass (both included) Overnight at Best Western Ronceray Opera or similar

**Thu 19 Sep** Paris / Ypres
Depart Paris for one hour stop at Villers Bretenoux (150kms; 2.15 hrs)
Continue on to Le Hamil for a one hour stop for lunch (lunch at own arrangements and cost)
Visit 3rd division memorial at Sailly le Sec, crash site of Baron Von Richthofen
Drive to Ypres (144kms; 2.15 hrs)
Attend last post ceremony at Menin Gate
Overnight at Novotel Leper Centrum Hotel

**Fri 20 Sep** Ypres
Self-guided walking tour of Ypres
Long distance coach to remain with the group for the day, view main sights of the city
Entrance to In Flanders Field Museum
Own arrangements for lunch
Afternoon touring in the area: visit Hill 60 site, Polygon Wood site, Butts Cemetery, Tyne Cot Cemetery. Tour bunkers, 5th Division Memorial & New Zealand Memorial
Entrance to Memorial Passchendael Museum
Stop at Digger's Rest Cafe/Pub for afternoon tea (own arrangements)
On return to Ypres see Hellfire Corner.
1800 three course dinner at hotel
Attend last post ceremony at Menin Gate
Overnight at Novotel Leper Centrum Hotel
Sat 21 Sep  Ypres / Amiens B, L, D
Long distance coach to remain with the group for the day
Depart Ypres for drive to Fromelles for tour of VC Corner, Cobbler's Memorial, Pheasant Wood
Military Cemetery, Hitler's Bunker, Ploegsteert Wood & Messines Mine Site
Proceed to Pozieres for lunch at Tommies Café
Tour the Pozieres area before continuing to Amiens
Three course dinner and overnight at Grand Hotel de L'Univers or similar

Sun 22 Sep  Amiens B
Full day touring in the area with long distance coach to remain with the group for the day
Visit Bullecourt Memorial, Mouquet Farm, Thiepval Cemetery, Newfoundlands Memorial,
Beaumont-Hamel, Ulster Tower and Lochnagar Crater
Lunch at own arrangements
Overnight at Grand Hotel de L'Univers or similar

Mon 23 Sep  Amiens / Paris B, D
Long distance coach to remain with the group for the day
Entrance to Musée de la Somme
Continue to Peronne for visit to Historical de la Grande Guerre
Lunch at own arrangements
Drive to Mont St Quentin for a visit to the memorial
Return to Paris
Remainder of afternoon at leisure
Walk from hotel to farewell dinner at local restaurant
Overnight at Best Western Ronceray Opera or similar

Tue 24 Sep  Depart Paris B
After breakfast private coach transfer to CDG Airport

Depart Paris on Emirates Flight 74  1535  arrive Dubai   0020 next day

Wed 25 Sep  Depart Dubai on Emirates Flight 420  0255  arrive Perth  17255

COST TWIN SHARE $7,999.00  SINGLE $8,999.00