



WWI Royal Guernsey Light Infantry Battlefield tour

The Guernsey Society in conjunction with Battle Honours Limited

2nd- 6th September 2013

This tour offers Society members the chance to visit the Western Front of the Great War 1914-18, with like-minded individuals, on a fully guided and escorted 5 day trip. The tour is being designed exclusively with members of the society in mind and will be flexible throughout to the wishes of those aboard.

The focus is of course on the brave men of the Royal Guernsey Light Infantry and their actions of 1917-1918 with the 29th Division, but will also deliver the Great War in context, taking in important well-known memorials and sites as well as lesser known and rarely seen corners and cemeteries too. Members are encouraged to research and prepare for visits to cemeteries and memorials where relatives may be buried or are commemorated. Don't miss the opportunity to visit and commemorate the fallen of Guernsey ahead of the 100th anniversary of the Great War.



RGLI at Cambrai 1917

Battle Honours are a leading specialist battlefield tour company who are in their 8th year of trading and the founders have over 30 years of guiding experience between them. They have experience of catering for groups of 1-100 people, and they have guided for the British Army (Scots Guards, Yorkshire Regiment and Gurkhas). They are the chosen tour partner for the Western Front Association, and they have recently had the honour of guiding both HRH Prince Michael of Kent and author and historian Max Hastings across the "old front lines".

Outline of the Tour

Day 1 Monday 2 nd Sept	Group meets in GB and travels to France in 16 seat Luxury Mini coach with driver, via Ferry. Those travelling from Guernsey direct will be met at an agreed spot (to be confirmed). Visit Vimy Ridge and the preserved trenches en route to the Hotel, guide gives introduction to the Western Front and orientation talk.
Day 2	A full day battlefield tour including 1917 RGLI actions at Cambrai, and the Louverval memorial to the missing from Battle of Cambrai. Time for requested visits and an opportunity to perhaps visit the only real Tank on the Western Front that was excavated by archaeologists, and hear the remarkable tale of "D51 Deborah" and how she came to now rest in a farmyard barn.
Day 3	Full day's battlefield tour of the 1918 Lys actions with focus on the demise of the RGLI at Le Doulieu. This area is seldom visited even by frequent battlefield tourists yet is hugely important in the story of not only the Guernsey troops but also the British Army and the Allied cause. This 1918 action was where we were not "backs to the wall", but were without a wall! The fate of the Allies rested on these few miles so gallantly defended, which if lost could have meant German victory, collapse of the western front and capture of the Channel Ports.
Day 4	Full day tour of the immortal Ypres Salient and Messines Ridge. Over 250,000 British troops were killed defending Ypres. See where the parent unit (29 th Division) fought at Passchendale and visit the largest Commonwealth War Graves cemetery, Tyne Cot, and later attend the Menin Gate memorial for the 8pm Last Post ceremony where the Society can lay a wreath in memory of the men from Guernsey who fell in the Great War. Opportunity for group meals can be arranged to mark the end of the tour.
Day 5 Friday 6 th Sept	Return to GB with short stop on route at Lijssenhoek Cemetery (10,000 burials from Ypres Salient) and its new visitors information centre.

The tour price includes:

- Travel from the UK to France on a 16 Seat Coach.
- Battlefield Tour Guide (member of the Guild of Battlefield Guides)
- 4 Nights Bed and Breakfast in 3* Hotels.

Other meals/drinks, museums not included. Travel from Guernsey not included.

Price £695 per person.
Single Supplement £100

TO BOOK: Spaces are limited to just 14 so to secure your place visit www.battle-honours.co.uk and download their generic booking form and send the completed form and a cheque for £100 direct to Battle Honours. Or alternatively pay via BACS, details on their website.

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