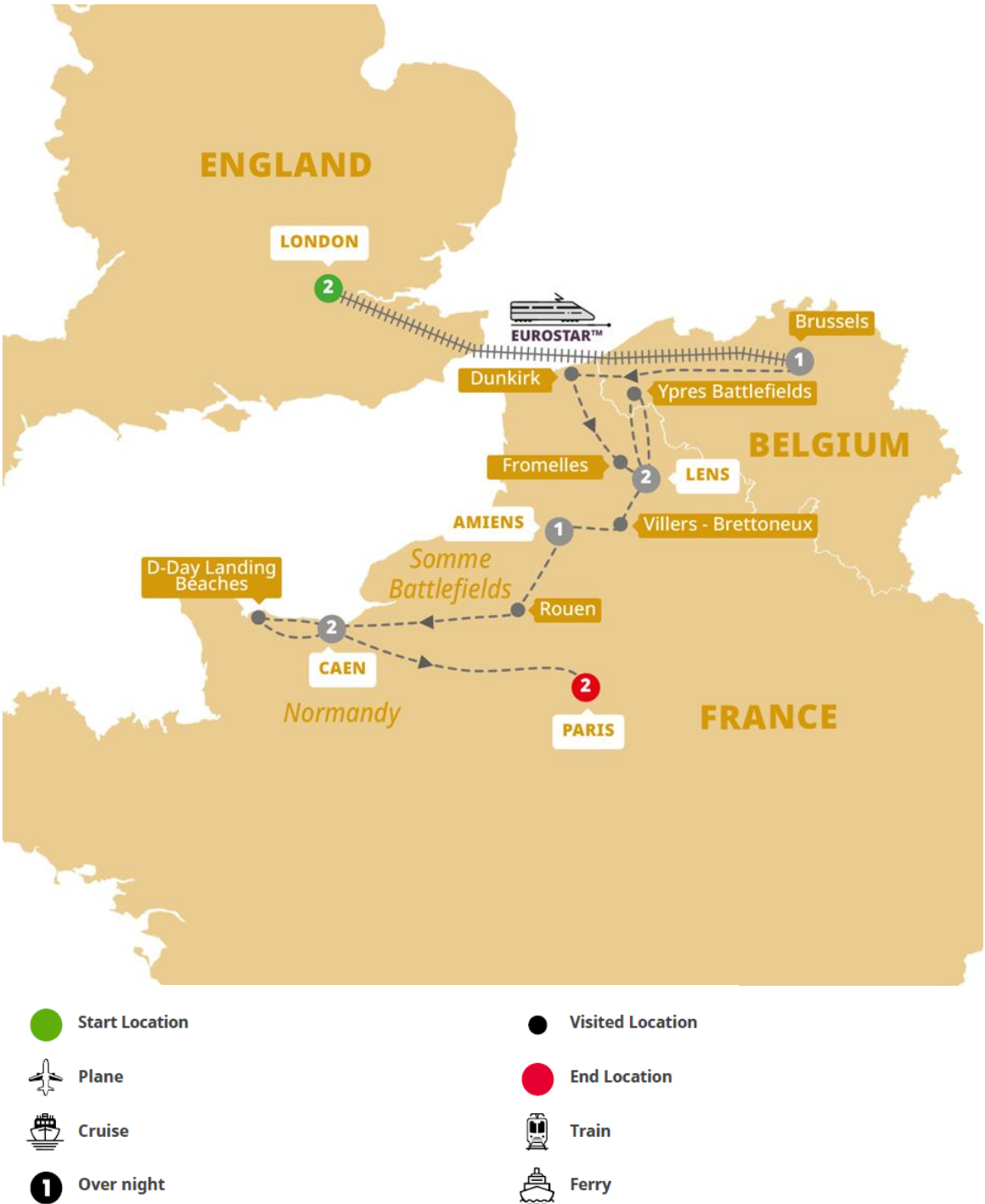


WWI and WWII Battlefields



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Day 1 | Welcome to London



From tragic battles to tales of triumph, this special-interest exploration of two World Wars kicks off in the vibrant British capital of London. Meet your Travel Director and fellow companions this evening for a traditional English pub Welcome Reception.

Meals: Dinner

Hotel: Crowne Plaza Kings Cross

Day 2 | See the Sights of London



Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey feature on this half-day introductory sightseeing tour with a Local Specialist, which includes views of Buckingham Palace. This afternoon, we visit the Imperial War Museum, which tells the story of those whose lives were shaped by war from World War I to today. See extensive archives and recordings, as well as a Spitfire that saw action in the Battle of Britain. Maybe enjoy London after dark, spending your evening at leisure meandering along the Thames, riding the London Eye or visiting a traditional English pub.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Crowne Plaza Kings Cross

Day 3 | Cross the English Channel by Eurostar to Brussels



We journey by Eurostar to Brussels today. Your Travel Director will show you the city's highlights. See the Atomium, designed for the 1958 Brussels World's Fair, Mannekin Pis and the exquisite Grand Place with its opulent and ornate guildhalls. T

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Sofitel Europe

Day 4 | Venture to Dunkirk, Fromelles, Vimy Ridge and Lens



Today we journey to Dunkirk, where Operation Dynamo miraculously saw over 330,000 Allied troops evacuated to Britain. We stop in Fromelles, where there was a combined operation between British troops and the Australian Imperial Force, described as the "worst 24 hours in Australia's military history". After we visit the memorial at Vimy Ridge dedicated to the Canadian soldiers, who fought a battle here in 1917. This horrific battle, and the bravery of the men who fought in it, came to symbolise Canada's coming of age as a nation.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Hotel Louvre Lens.

Day 5 | Off to the Ypres Battlefields and Menin Gate



Some of the biggest battles of World War I are explored at Ypres Salient in Belgium, where we will see such sites as Tyne Cot, Langemark and Vancouver Corner. Stop in Zonnebeke for an included visit to the Memorial Museum Passchendaele 1917, where you can see a replica trench. See Essex Farm Cemetery where over 1,200 brave servicemen are buried and where Lt. Col. John McCrae wrote his immortal poem, 'In Flanders Fields'. Spend the rest of the afternoon on your own, before making your way to Menin Gate to witness the moving Last Post Ceremony to pay tribute to over 100,000 soldiers who laid down their lives more than a century ago.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Hotel Louvre Lens.

Day 6 | Discover the Somme



The bloody battlefields of the Somme take centre stage today. Stop at the Villers-Bretonneux memorial to the Australian soldiers who lost their lives in WWI. Carry on to Thiepval to see the poignant memorial which honours the 72,337 missing British and South African men who died with no known graves. We journey to Amiens for an evening at leisure.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Mercure Cathedrale

Day 7 | Cross Normandy to Caen



Travel South through Normandy today, stop in the City of Rouen for a tour of this City which was captured by the French in 1204 from English possession. Next stop is Caen where you will stay for two nights.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Novotel Côte de Nacre

Day 8 | Explore the D-Day Normandy Beaches



Take yourself back to June 6, 1944. Imagine the terror and bravery of thousands of soldiers who landed on the beaches of Normandy to free Europe from the Nazis. This morning, we visit the Memorial de Caen to learn about the significance of Normandy and the day that changed World War II. Then journey to the historic D-Day Normandy Landing Beaches, including Juno Beach, Pointe du Hoc and Omaha Beach. Visit the American Cemetery and Memorial to learn about the Canadian, American, and Commonwealth involvement in this unbelievable battle for supremacy.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Novotel Côte de Nacre

Day 9 | Journey to Elegant Paris



Journey inland through Normandy today, bound for the grand boulevards of Paris. Perhaps join us for an optional visit to the glittering Palace of Versailles before arriving in the French capital.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Mercure Vaugirard Porte de Versailles

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Versailles Palace and Gardens - Built for the Sun King, Louis XIV, the Palace of Versailles was the envy of every European ruler, but loathed by the French commoners, which lead to the French Revolution. Step inside the opulent world of Versailles and our Local Specialist will take you through the palace's Hall of Mirrors and State apartments. Then, enjoy free time to wander the symmetrical, tree-lined gardens.**

Adult: 78.00 EUR

**This optional involves reservation and entrance pre-payments. Cancellation within 24 hours will incur a 50% cancellation fee.*

***This optional is subject to availability.*

You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

Seine Cruise and Paris Illuminations - To truly see Paris in all its glory, you need to see it from the Seine. Enjoy a cruise along this famous river and take in unmatched views of the Notre Dame Cathedral and the Eiffel Tower. Afterwards, we'll drive through the City of Lights to see some of the fascinating sights this beautiful city has to offer.
Adult: 47.00 EUR

Moulin Rouge Cabaret and Dinner - It's world famous for a reason, and this is your chance to see the real-life inspiration behind the award-winning movie. This Parisian institution features 60 dancers and entertainers with over 1,000 costumes to create a dazzling spectacle. You'll enjoy wine, dinner and Champagne during this unforgettable soirée at the original Parisian Cabaret!
Adult: 192.00 EUR

Day 10 | Discover the Delights of Paris



Join your Local Specialist to visit the remarkable church of Saint-Sulpice, then delve into the lives of Parisians, wandering through the enchanting hidden squares and secret passages of one of Paris's oldest neighbourhoods. Our walking tour concludes in one of the city's loveliest squares which is a real favourite among the locals. Spend the rest of the day on your own to see the sights. On our last evening together in Paris, we join our travel companions and Travel Director for a Farewell Dinner in the city.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Mercure Vaugirard Porte de Versailles

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Montparnasse and Napoleon's Tomb - Take the fastest elevator in Europe to the Panoramic Observation Deck for unbeatable views of the Eiffel Tower and all of the city's iconic monuments. We'll also visit the Dôme des Invalides with our Local Specialist to see Napoleon's final resting place.
Adult: 57.00 EUR

Day 11 | Au Revoir Paris



After breakfast, we bid our newfound friends a fond farewell as our memorable holiday comes to a close.

Meals: Breakfast