



BATTLE  
HONOURS

CONTACT

## HERTS AT WAR 2017 – YPRES CENTENARY

**Tour Dates: 29th July - 1st August 2017**

**Accommodation:** Hotel De Vrede, Dixsmuide, Belgium

**Price includes:** Travel, Accommodation (Bed & Breakfast), Tolls, Museum entry, Guides

**Cost:** £540 per person (£90 Single Supplement)

### Tour Itinerary

#### Herts at War 1917 Tour Itinerary

##### Day 1: 29th July 2017:

Leaving Hertfordshire early in the morning we make our way south to the port of Dover, collecting our guests en-route before crossing the channel and arriving in Calais to begin our tour.

Our first stop of the day will be at the site of 'Hill Top Sector' of trenches where the Herts found themselves on both sides of a series of bitter trench raids in January 1917 following their recent return from the fighting on the Somme. From here we visit the ever powerful Essex Farm cemetery, site of John McRae's famous Poem 'In Flanders Fields' and also the final resting place of Captain E B Smallwood of the Hertfordshire Regiment, killed nearby in January 1917. Onwards to our accommodation, a 3-star hotel in the nearby town of Dixsmuide.

##### Day 2: 30th July 2017:

After breakfast we head back out to the areas just behind the front lines where we pay our respects at the graves of men of the Regiment who fell in action in early 1917 and who today are buried in Vlamertinghe New British Cemetery and Brandhoek Military Cemetery with a special visit to the grave of Noel Chavasse VC & Bar MC, the most decorated soldier in British military history.

Moving towards the frontline, we next make a visit to the excellent Passchendaele Museum in the village of Zonnebeke, complete with huge collections of artefacts, underground dugout system and recreated trenches before heading into the famous city of Ypres for leisure time and lunch.

After lunch we travel to the southern side of the Ypres Salient to follow in the footsteps on the Hertfordshire Regiment as they were actively involved in holding the frontlines throughout 1917 before once more following the Battalion back to training and rest areas where preparations for the upcoming summer offensive.

We finish Day 2 with dinner and head to the nearby town of Dixsmuide for evening meal and time at Leisure.

##### Day 3: (31st July 2017)

Being in Belgium on 31st July 2017 offers an incredibly opportunity to be on the very spot that the Hertfordshire Regiment occupied 100 years to the very moment that they went forward into their most famous attack. Starting on the

banks of the Steenbeek River at 10.10am with the official unveiling of the Hertfordshire Regiment Memorial, we embark on a full-day battlefield tour with the help of 6 expert battlefield guides, stationed at key points around the battlefield. Throughout the 31st July, our group will learn the true story of a battle which resulted in a staggering 75% casualties in around two hours. Here we will re-tell stories minute-by-minute as the action unfolded, visiting a local private museum along the way, complete with artefacts picked up from the very same battlefields.

Lunch today is taken on site with a barbecue in the evening with the local residents of St Julien. After a full day of commemoratives events and battlefield touring we return to Ypres for the incredible Last Post Ceremony at the world-famous Menin Gate.

##### Day 4: 1st August 2017

After breakfast we leave our hotel and venture for the last time into the Ypres Salient where we visit New Irish Farm Cemetery, the final resting place of so many of the fallen Herts Guards with a final visit to the iconic Tyne cot cemetery before we pick the road westwards with a final stop at the camp to which the Hertfords retired following St Julien. Here the remnants of the Battalion were filmed in the field, the only known footage of the Battalion in existence.

Return to the UK via Calais-Dover Ferry for an evening arrival in Hertfordshire.

##### Booking

If you would like to book your place on this tour please download and complete the booking form and send to us with your deposit.

You can either send a cheque made payable to "Battle Honours Ltd", pay by BACS transfer (IBAN if overseas) both account details on bottom of booking form.

We also accept payment by Debit Card or Credit Card, please call 01438 880725 for further details.

Booking form & more information via:

<http://www.battle-honours.eu/Herts-at-War-2017>

##### Award Winning Guides

Battle Honours are the proud holders of the coveted 2013 Nathaniel Wade award from the Guild of Battlefield Guides for our services to guiding.