

Travelrite International invite you to join the

**BATTLEFIELD TOUR OF**  
**Western Front**  
**and Normandy**

**Dr Will Davies**

4 to 16 May 2025



**TRAVELRITE**  
INTERNATIONAL

**Paris, the Somme, Ypres and Normandy**

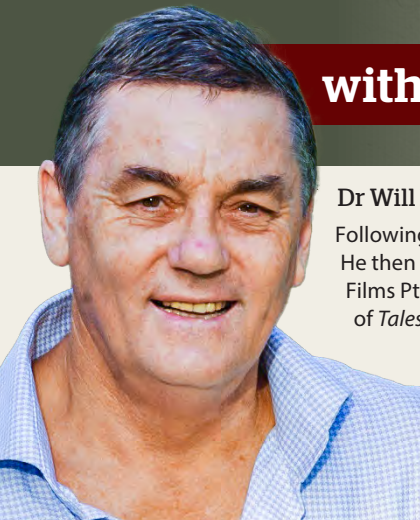
**Plus Gallipoli Extension Tour**

**18 to 24 May 2025**



# BATTLEFIELD TOUR OF Western Front and Normandy

with Dr Will Davies



**Dr Will Davies BA PhD (ANU)**

Following his graduation from the ANU in 1971, he began his career as a production assistant at the Commonwealth Film Unit. He then spent the next 37 years as a senior independent producer of documentaries for the ABC and SBS with his company Look Films Pty Ltd. His films included the four-hour series *When the War Came to Australia* (ABC Television) and fifty half hour episodes of *Tales from a Suitcase* for SBS. He also produced *Our Century*; 25 half hour episodes with Ray Martin for Channel Nine.

He began writing books in the early 2000s and to date has had twelve books published (mainly by Penguin Random House) including *Somme Mud*, *Beneath Hill 60*, *The Boy Colonel*, *The Last 100 Days* and *Secret and Special*. In 2010 he began leading battlefield tours of the Western Front and Normandy and after 2015, tours of Gallipoli. He was on the NSW Centenary of Anzac Advisory Council and is currently working on a project at Tuggeranong Homestead and a memorial project for the fallen tunnellers in Charters Towers.

**DAY 1** Sunday 4 May 2025

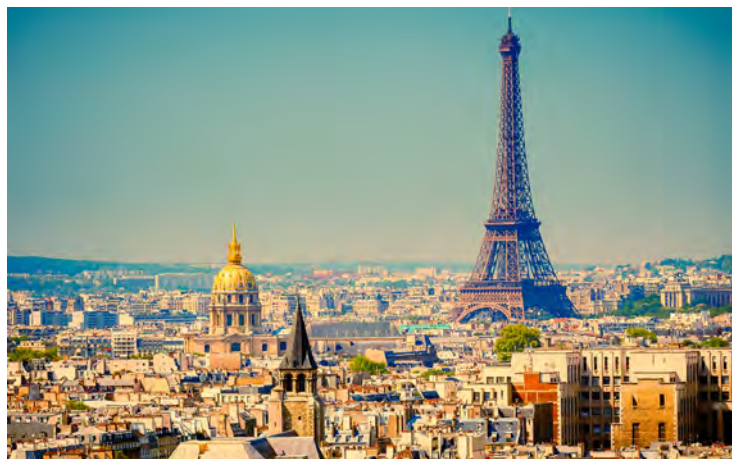
**Paris, France**

Meet at Paris airport and we will be transferred to our hotel.

**DAY 2** Monday 5 May 2025

**Paris**

On arrival into Paris we have an orientation tour of the city. We see the Eiffel Tower, Arc de Triumph, Louvre, Champs Elysées and more. We then have an included lunch before checking in to our hotel.



**DAY 3** Tuesday 6 May 2025

**Ypres, Belgium**

We depart Paris early this morning for the Western Front. On arrival into Ypres, we'll enjoy a walk through the ramparts and visit St. George's Church. Enjoy an early dinner before Will takes us to attend the Menin Gate ceremony which honours the soldiers who died on the Ypres Salient and who have no known grave. The ceremony involves the sounding of the Last Post by buglers beneath the Menin Gate Memorial, followed by a period of silence and wreath-laying.

**DAY 4** Wednesday 7 May 2025

**Ypres**

Today Will takes us on a tour of Ypres Salient. Begin with a visit to Messines and Hill 60, where the scars of war are etched into the earth through craters, reminders of the fierce battles fought. Traverse through Hellfire Corner, Menin Road, and Hooge Crater, where original trenches bear witness to the bravery and sacrifice of soldiers. Immerse yourself in the stories of the past at the Passchendaele Museum in Zonnebeke. Then, wander through Polygon Wood, with free time for lunch at the Diggers Rest. Continue the journey to sites like Tyne Cot, Broodseinde, Passchendaele, Langemarck, Brooding Soldier, and Essex Farm.

**DAY 5** Thursday 8 May 2025

**Ypres**

We have a day off from WWI and enjoy a day tour to discover medieval city of Bruges, Belgium. Explore cobbled streets, marvel at picturesque canals, and visit iconic landmarks like the Belfry Tower and the Basilica of the Holy Blood. Immerse yourself in history, culture, and culinary delights. We return to the hotel late afternoon.

**DAY 6** Friday 9 May 2025

**Somme, France**

Today Will takes us to the Somme, stopping along the way to explore several World War I sites. Visit Bois Grenier and the "Red House," then pay respects at Fromelles, VC Corner Cemetery, and Pheasant Wood. Experience the solemnity of the Canadian Memorial at Vimy Ridge before discovering Bullecourt and its surrounding outpost villages.

**DAY 7** Saturday 10 May 2025

**Somme**

Today Will will guide us on a moving journey through the 1916 Battle of the Somme. Explore significant sites like Thiepval, Beaumont-Hamel, and the Lochnagar crater. Pay tribute at Pozieres and Mouquet Farm before enjoying a hearty lunch at Tommy's Café. Then, journey on to Le Sars, Flers, Gueudecourt, and the Butte de Warlencourt including a leaf burning ceremony.

**DAY 8** Sunday 11 May 2025

**Somme**

One of the highlights of the tour! The Australian National Memorial in Villers-Bretonneux. We tour the new Sir John Monash museum, visit the Victoria School and Adelaide Cemetery before reflecting on history at Le Hamel and the Australian Corps Memorial. Pay respects at the Red Baron crash site and the 3rd Division Memorial in Dernancourt. An unforgettable day of remembrance awaits.



**DAY 9** Monday 12 May 2025

**Paris, France**

Today we travel to Paris. On arrival, we take in the spectacular sites of Paris. Ordered to be destroyed by Hitler, the local commander refused and this decision allows us to enjoy this picturesque city in all its beauty.

**DAY 10** Tuesday 13 May 2025

**Normandy, France**

We depart early this morning and travel to Normandy, to meet a local historian. Our tour today will focus on the US Airborne and Utah Beach sector. Walk the storied shores of Utah Beach, visit Azeville/Crisbecq Battery, and discover St-Mere-Eglise Church's connection to D-Day paratroopers. Explore St-Marie-du-Mont and poignant sites like Dead Man's Corner. Conclude at Brecourt Manor, witnessing the resilience of those who fought. We check into our hotel late afternoon.





**DAY 11** Wednesday 14 May 2025

**Normandy, France**

Today we focus on the US Omaha Beach and British Gold Beach sectors. Embark on a journey through history along Omaha Beach, visiting key points of interest. Explore the historic town of Carentan and witness the bravery

at Pointe-du-Hoc. Pay respects at the solemn US Cemetery in St-Laurent/Collville before discovering the remnants of the Maissy Battery.

**DAY 12** Thursday 15 May 2025

**Normandy**

Immerse yourself in the history of British Sword Beach and the 6th Airborne sector. Explore key points along Sword Beach, then visit the iconic Pegasus Bridge and Museum. Discover the formidable Merville Battery and the precise airborne landing areas. Conclude with a visit to the historic Mulberry Harbour in Arromanches. Experience the legacy of D-Day firsthand.

**DAY 13** Friday 16 May 2025

**Normandy**

Our last day in Normandy see's us delve into the Canadian Juno Beach and Caen battles with the SS. Explore key points along Juno Beach and pay homage at the Canadian CWGC Cemetery in Beny-sur-Mer. Witness the remnants of the German radar station at Douvres-la-Delivrande. Follow the advance on Caen, pausing at Buron Memorials and Hell's Corner, and reflecting on the SS counter-attack's tragic legacy. We return to Paris, where we stay the next two nights.

**DAY 14** Saturday 17 May 2025

**Paris, France**

Today is a free day for you to explore Paris.

**DAY 15** Sunday 18 May 2025

**Departure**

This morning there will be a transfer to the airport for onward connections. The tour concludes.

## Gallipoli and Istanbul Tour



**DAY 1** Sunday 18 May 2025

**Istanbul, Türkiye**

Today we fly to Istanbul. On arrival, we are transferred by private coach to our hotel.

**DAY 2** Monday 19 May 2025

**Istanbul**

Today we will have a wonderful sightseeing tour of Istanbul, the capital of the Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman Empires for nearly 1,000 years. Covering the hills on both sides of the Bosphorus, it was the halfway point between the cultures of Europe and the Orient. We will visit the Aya Sofya, a masterpiece of Byzantine architecture. At one time it was a cathedral, a mosque and now a magnificent museum. As we enter, we see the 9th-century bronze covered doors, you can feel the vibrant atmosphere of the city alive with movement and bustle. We visit the Blue Mosque, known for its beautiful blue tiles and the Hippodrome, where Roman chariot races were held. Other sites include the Topkapi Palace. The original palace was built by Mehmet the Conqueror

between 1459 and 1465 and was the home of the Ottoman Emperors until 1853. It had its own mosques, schools, libraries, Turkish baths and residences for many people working in these facilities. We then finish our sightseeing tour with a visit to the Grand Bazaar. This evening enjoy a dinner cruise on the Bosphorus.

**DAY 3** Tuesday 20 May 2025

**Canakkale, Türkiye**

This morning we travel to the town of Canakkale where we stay for the next three nights. On arrival mid afternoon we check into our hotel.

**DAY 4** Wednesday 21 May 2025

**Gallipoli**

Today Will will take us on a comprehensive tour of the WW1 battlefields of Gallipoli. Our tour of the area will cover ANZAC Cove, Lone Pine Australian War Memorial and cemetery, Chunuk Bair, New Zealand War Memorial and cemetery, the Nek, Johnston's Jolly, Brighton Beach, Beach cemetery, Ari Burnu Cemetery and the many fortified trenches still clearly visible amongst the scrub after all these years. A moving, and very memorable day.



**DAY 5** Thursday 22 May 2025

**Gallipoli**

Will today will take us to the British area of Helles and the landing beaches of V and W. We also explore Gully Ravine, Kritihia and the nearby hill of Achi Baba.

**DAY 6** Friday 23 May 2025

**Istanbul**

This morning Will will guide us to visit the Sulva Bay landing sites, including Scimitar Hill and the Hill 60 Cemetery. Before returning to Istanbul, we visit the ancient city of Troy, home of the famed Trojan Horse. So far ten cities have been discovered, one built on the top of the other, dating back to 3500BC. You will see and hear about the Trojan Horse, Helen of Troy, the Trojan Wars, the battle between Achilles and Paris, the remains of Troy IX, the Alters and the Houses of Troy I, dating back to 2500BC.

**DAY 7** Saturday 24 May 2025

**Departure**

This morning we are transferred to the airport for flights back to Australia or other destinations. The tour concludes.





# BATTLEFIELD TOUR OF Western Front and Normandy

with Dr Will Davies

4 to 16 May 2025

## Western Front and Normandy Tour

Price per person twin-share \$ 6,000  
Single supplement \$ 1,450

## Gallipoli and Istanbul Tour

Price per person twin-share \$ 3,750  
Single supplement \$ 675



### Included in the tour price:

- Accommodation in first-class and moderate first-class hotels, taxes and service charges.
- Daily breakfast and lunches on touring days
- Welcome Dinner in Paris
- Dinner in Ypres and the Somme
- Dinner Cruises in Paris and Istanbul for Gallipoli Extension
- Travel in a private charter coach
- Sightseeing tours as listed in the itinerary.
- Leadership by esteemed Military historian, Dr Will Davies, including Military History commentary.
- Entrances to attractions as detailed in itinerary.

### Not included in the tour price:

- Airfares.
- Passport, visa fees & vaccinations.
- Travel insurance.
- Meals unless specified in the itinerary.
- Sightseeing and general expenses unless specified in the itinerary.
- Additional travel arrangements not in the detailed itinerary. These will be quoted for separately.

## General information and booking conditions

International touring can involve a considerable amount of walking and stair climbing in the places visited and it is important that all tour participants have a level of physical fitness that allows them to take part in this activity without the need of assistance from others.

**TOUR OPERATOR:** Travelrite International Pty Ltd. (ABN 64 005 817 078) (Travelrite) is the tour operator.

**TOUR COSTS:** The tour costs are based on airfare, general transport, accommodation costs and foreign exchange rate at 1 May 2024. Travelrite reserves the right to alter the costs if any of these factors change, giving any passenger that has booked the right to withdraw with full refund of monies paid or modify arrangements. No alterations to price will be made within 60 days of departure from Australia.

**DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS:** A non-refundable deposit of \$500 per passenger is required at the time of booking. Full payment will be required 60 days before departure for the tour.

**CANCELLATION CONDITIONS:**\* Cancellations within 60 days of departure will result in the loss of all monies paid. Cancellation outside 60 days from departure will result in a cancellation fee of \$500 per person. Travel insurance is recommended to cover the costs of cancellation fees due to illness, death in family, etc.

**MINIMUM TOUR NUMBERS AND CONDITIONS:** The tour has been priced on the basis of paying by cheque or cash, a 1.5% administration fee will be charged on credit card payments. The tour will proceed if a minimum of 15 passengers have booked 60 days prior to departure.

**TOUR ORGANISATION:** Travelrite reserves the right to change advertised entrances if necessary for the smooth operation of the tour.

**REFUNDS:** The tour is based on arrangements which do not allow for any refunds in respect to sightseeing, accommodation, meals, airfare or other services not utilised after the tour has commenced.

**TRAVEL DOCUMENTS:** All passengers will require a valid passport. Visas for countries visited are not required for

Australian passport holders. If you hold another passport please check with Travelrite.

**BAGGAGE:** All passengers qualify for the 23kg free baggage allowance.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** Travelrite International Pty Ltd. is the tour organiser. Travelrite acts only as agents for passengers in the making of arrangements with carriers, hoteliers and others for the tour. As a result we cannot accept liability for any act or omission whatsoever, whether negligent or otherwise of those carriers, hoteliers or other persons providing services in connection with the tour over whom we have no direct or exclusive control. We do not accept responsibility for any injury, damage, loss, delay, change of schedule or any other events which are beyond our direct control, such as, but not limited to, war, flood, fire, civil disturbance, terrorism, acts of god, acts of Government, or any other authorities, accidents to or failure of machinery or equipment, or industrial action. The passage contract in use by the carriers concerned, shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation companies or firms and the purchasers of these tours and the passengers. Baggage is at own risk throughout the tour. The contract shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Victoria, Australia and any legal action must be undertaken in the State of Victoria.

**DELAYS AND UNFORESEEN EVENTS:** You engage Travelrite International to book this tour on your behalf and you acknowledge that Travelrite International acts as your agent for the purpose of making contracts between you and the various providers of accommodation, transportation and other services that comprise the tour. Travelrite International may without reference to you provide or make available to you, or may as your agent engage any third party to provide or make available to you, any good or service which Travelrite International reasonably believes

is necessary for your benefit to maintain the tour itinerary, repatriate you or otherwise accommodate, transport or sustain you in circumstances in which the tour itinerary fails wholly or partly for any reason. You appoint Travelrite International your attorney for this purpose. You agree to pay Travelrite International any cost thereof and you indemnify Travelrite International in respect of any cost it incurs in this regard. Travelrite International advises you to obtain travel insurance generally including in respect of the risk that any such good or service may become required.

**HOW TO BOOK:** Bookings can be made by completing a booking form and sending it with a non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person to:

**Travelrite International Pty Ltd**  
423 Whitehorse Road  
Balwyn, Victoria 3103  
Telephone: (03) 9836 2522

Further information can be obtained by telephoning

**Toll Free: 1800 630 343**  
**Email: sales@travelrite.com.au**  
**www.travelrite.com.au**

**ABOUT TRAVELRITE INTERNATIONAL:** Travelrite International Pty Ltd (ABN 64 005 817 078) is a well-established travel company which has been marketing throughout Australia for over 40 years. It has a fully ATAS accredited (No. A10538) office at Balwyn. As such it directly represents the major airlines of the world and all major domestic and international hotel, tour and transport operators. Travelrite International Pty Ltd is a full member of the Australian Federation of Travel Agents – AFTA.

