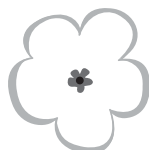
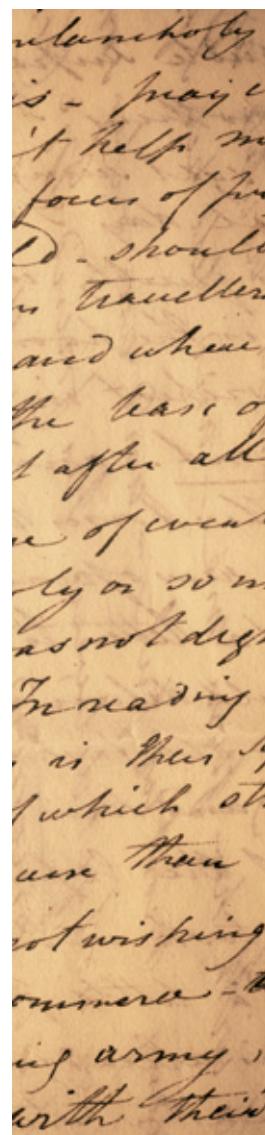


PRESS KIT
REMEMBRANCE
TOURISM
SITES 14-18



WHEN THEIR
STORY
BECOMES
Our
History



WESTERN FRONT 14-18

INTRODUCTION

CONTENTS

| | |
|--|----|
| Introduction | 3 |
| Map of the Western Front 14-18 | 4 |
| Overview of the main remembrance tourism in France | 6 |
| Major events in 2016 | 9 |
| Newly opened and renovated sites | 13 |
| Annexes | 15 |

In 2014, centenary commemorations for the First World War will begin. Taking place over four years, these events will involve all of French society. They will also be an opportunity to highlight the strong connections between the rest of the world and memories of the Great War.

From August 1914 to November 1918, France was the stage for the most violent and deadly war that history has ever known. For 5 years, from the North Sea to the Swiss border, with a front line of almost 1,000 kilometres, millions of men from France, Britain, Germany, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, America, Russia, India and Senegal, and right across the five continents, armed with the most modern and powerful weapons of the day, fought one another on almost a daily basis. Their battles and their deaths stained French soil and seared the memory of the world but have also inspired contemporary hopes of international peace.

One hundred years on, the First World War Centenary Mission has organised a series of cultural events to commemorate the war of 14-18, including exhibitions, audiovisual productions,

publications and educational activities. Around 2,000 events throughout France have been awarded the “Centenary” label, forming the country’s official Centenary programme.

As the battlefield of Europe and the world, France is responsible for welcoming the descendants of foreigners who were called up to fight or work on French soil during the First World War. The Great War left a lasting mark on the areas where the most violent battles took place. The north-east of France was deeply affected, with a frontline running down from the North Sea to the Swiss border.

Nord-Pas de Calais, the Picardy region, and in particular the departments of the Somme and Aisne, the Champagne-Ardenne region, the Lorraine region, with its Meuse and Vosges departments, and the Alsace region, all suffered greatly. For the commemorations of the centenary of the Great War, these historical destinations are getting together to welcome visitors from around the world.

Find more events and news about the Centenary: us.rdvf.com/greatwarcent
Find the complete list of events: centenaire.org/en



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WESTERN FRONT 14-18
when their story becomes our History

“WESTERN FRONT 14-18: WHEN THEIR STORY BECOMES OUR HISTORY”

This logo identifies all the regions on the Western Front that were affected by battles during the First World War. It conveys a message of peace that is focused on the future, inviting countries around the world to discover and share France’s shared history. The flowers of remembrance symbolize the heavy losses suffered by all the nations that took part in the conflict: the blue cornflower for France, the white forget-me-not for Germany and the poppy for the Commonwealth. The combination of these flowers reinforces the logo’s message of peace.

LONDON

BRUSSELS

MAP OF THE WESTERN FRONT 14-18

FRANKFURT

LUXEMBOURG

PARIS

WESTERN FRONT

MAIN REMEMBRANCE TOURISM SITES

MAIN BATTLES

- 01 Artois
- 02 Somme
- 03 Chemin des Dames
- 04 Argonne
- 05 Verdun
- 06 Les Éperges
- 07 Saint Mihiel Salient
- 08 Champagne
- 09 Marne

REMEMBRANCE TOURISM SITES OF USA

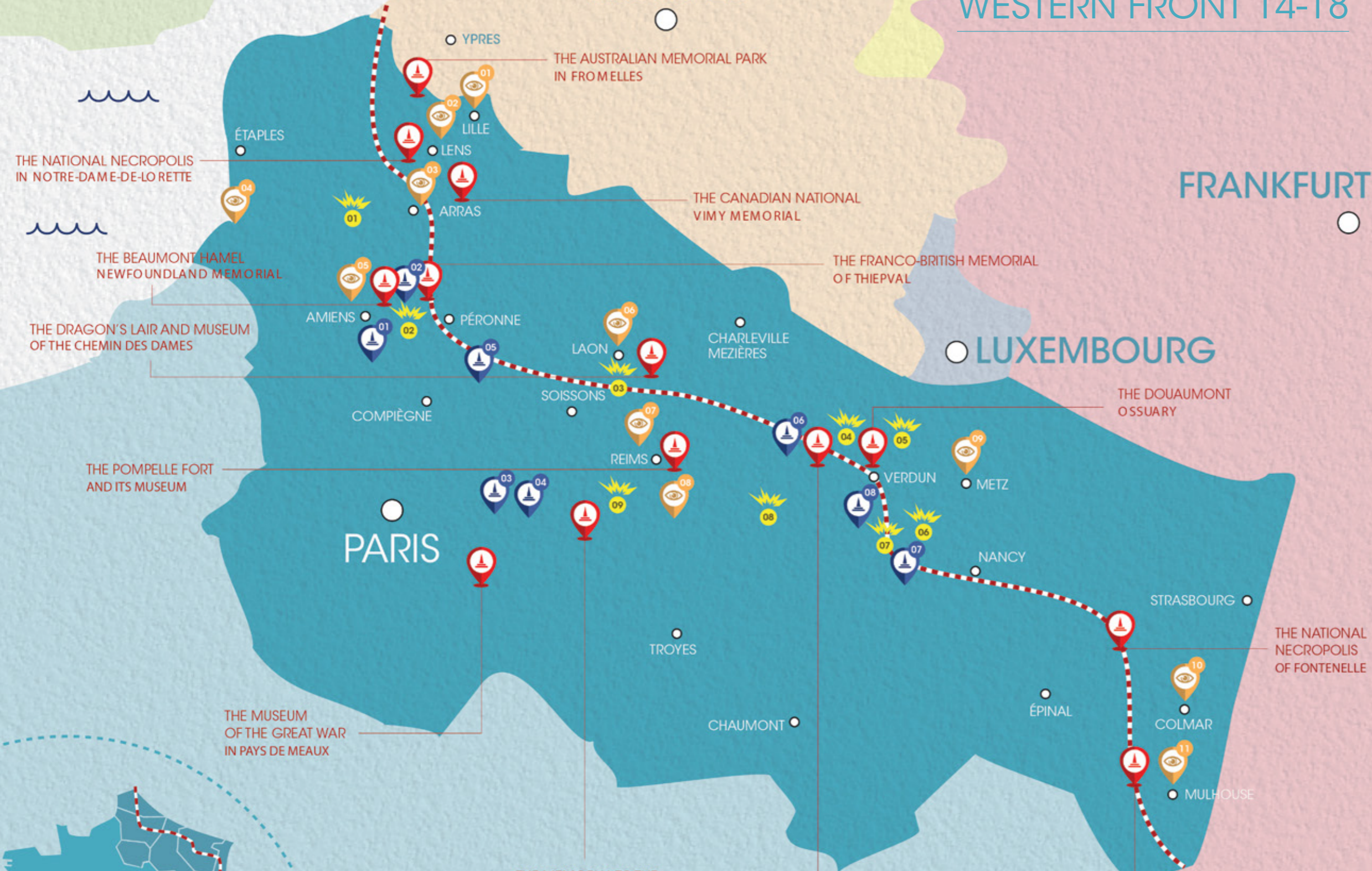
- 01 Cantigny American Memorial
- 02 Le Hamel Memorial
- 03 Belleau Wood and the Aisne-Marne Graves at Belleau
- 04 Cote 204 Monument at Château Thierry
- 05 The Château of Blérancourt
- 06 American Monument at Montfaucon d'Argonne and American Cemetery at Romagne-Sous-Montfaucon
- 07 Montsec Memorial
- 08 Fort de Troyon - Saint Mihiel Salient

MUST-SEES

- 01 Lille
- 02 Louvre Lens
- 03 Arras
- 04 Bay of the Somme
- 05 Amiens Cathedral
- 06 Medieval City of Laon
- 07 Reims
- 08 Epernay (The Champagne tourist route)
- 09 Metz (Pompidou Centre)
- 10 Colmar
- 11 Mulhouse

| | PARIS | LILLE | BRUSSELS |
|--|-------|-------|----------|
| | | 1h | 35 min |
| | | 2h30 | 1h20 |

| | PARIS | LILLE | LONDON |
|--|-------|-------|--------|
| | | 1h | 1h20 |
| | | 2h30 | 35 min |
| | | | 1h30 |



OVERVIEW OF THE MAIN REMEMBRANCE TOURISM SITES

PARIS, GATEWAY INTO FRANCE



Great War Museum

Find out more:
www.museedelagrandeguerre.eu

Museum of the Great War, Pays de Meaux

At the entrance to the Battlefields of the Marne, the Museum of the Great War, Pays de Meaux houses the rarest collection in Europe, offering new insight into WWI.

- 🕒 Opening times: year round, except on Tuesdays, from 10am to 5:30pm. Annual closing from January 4 to 22.
- € Admission fee

NORTHERN FRANCE (NORD-PAS DE CALAIS REGION)

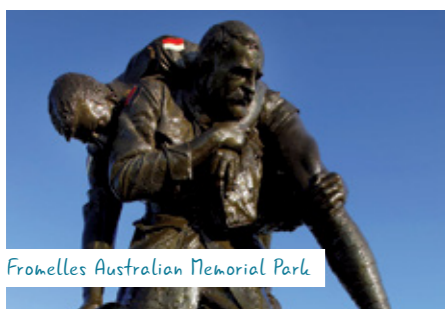


Vimy Ridge National Historic Site of Canada

Vimy Ridge National Historic Site of Canada

The attack began on April 9, 1917. In the north, the Canadians succeeded in taking Vimy Ridge, a major chapter in the history of their nation. One of the most stunning commemorative memorials of the Great War stands on the top of this ridge: Vimy Ridge National Historic Site of Canada.

- 🕒 Open all year round
- € No admission fee



Fromelles Australian Memorial Park

Fromelles Australian Memorial Park and Fromelles Museum

The monument is symbolic of the heroism and the sense of camaraderie shown by the soldiers of the Australian Imperial Force in their baptism of fire on European soil. A replica of this statue by sculptor Peter Corlett, who also designed the Digger of Bullecourt, can be seen on Melbourne's Shrine of Remembrance.

- 🕒 Open all year round, except on Tuesdays
- € Admission fee at the museum



French National War Cemetery at Notre-Dame-de-Lorette

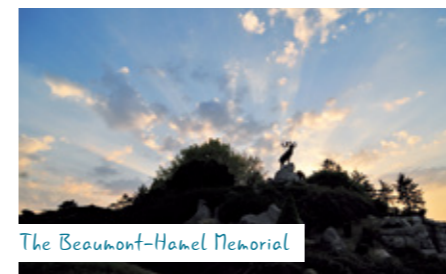
Find out more:
www.remembrance-trails-northernfrance.com

French National War Cemetery at Notre-Dame-de-Lorette - Ablain-Saint-Nazaire

Between Lens and Arras, the Artois Hills are home to numerous memorial sites created to pay homage to the men of the French army who fell in the region, particularly in the offensives of May and September 1915. Notre-Dame-de-Lorette National Necropolis in Ablain-Saint-Nazaire, with 20,000 graves, and another 22,000 bodies of other soldiers in ossuaries, remains the largest military cemetery in France.

- 🕒 Open all year round
- € No admission fee

SOMME



The Beaumont-Hamel Memorial

The Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Memorial and Visitor Center

Thanks to its extremely well-preserved battlefield and trench lines, this commemorative site provides a moving, realistic point of view of the battles in which men from the Newfoundland Regiment were involved.

- 🕒 Opening times: Monday from 11am to 5pm, and Tuesday to Sunday from 9am to 5pm - Annual closing around Christmas and New Year.
- € No admission fee. Free guided visits in English.



The Thiepval Franco-British Memorial

Find out more:
www.somme-battlefields.com

The Thiepval Franco-British Memorial and Visitor Centre

In 1932, the British government decided to erect the Memorial to the Missing at Thiepval, an imposing 45-metre tall brick and stone monument, designed by the architect Sir Edwin Lutyens. It is the largest British war memorial in the world. It commemorates the 72,205 men of the British and South African armies who died or were reported as missing in action between July 1915 and March 1918.

- 🕒 Opening times: every day from 9:30am to 6pm between March 1 and October 31, and from 9:30am to 5pm the rest of the year. Annual closing around Christmas and New Year
- € No admission fee

AISNE

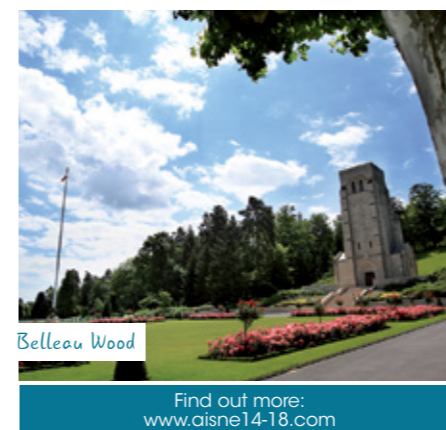


Dragon's Cave

Dragon's Cave, Chemin des Dames Museum

The Caverne du Dragon, Chemin des Dames Museum, is an old limestone quarry lying 14 metres underground, converted into an underground barracks during the conflict. This site is not to be missed, as it gives a poignant presentation of how soldiers lived.

- 🕒 Opening times: every day except Tuesday mornings up to mid-December
- € Admission fee
- @ www.caverne-du-dragon.fr



Belleau Wood

Find out more:
www.aisne14-18.com

Belleau Wood and Cemetery

In June 1918, the wood at Belleau was the scene of terrible fighting. The Marines halted the German advance and gained mastery of the battlefield of Belleau Wood. Belleau Wood still has the remains of trenches, shell holes and ruins. A huge chapel with a neo-Romanesque bell tower, erected on the site of the trenches, dominates the American cemetery, where nearly 2,300 soldiers rest in peace. At the centre of Belleau village stands the Remembrance Museum of Belleau 1914-1918, dedicated to the memory of the many American soldiers who came to fight on French soil.

- 🕒 Open every day till 5pm
- € No admission fee

CHAMPAGNE ARDENNE



The Pompelle Fortress

The Pompelle Fortress

The Fort de la Pompelle was built between 1880 and 1883 as part of Reims' defences and was a strategic target during the First Battle of the Marne. The fort was recaptured by the French and became a bastion of the defence of Reims. Now converted into a museum evoking the conflict, exhibits include the unique Friese collection of 565 items of headgear that belonged to the German Imperial Army.

- 🕒 Opening times: from 10am to 6pm between April 1 and September 30, and from 10am to 5pm the rest of the year. Closed on Mondays, May 1, July 14, as well as from mid-December to mid-January
- € Admission fee from 3 to 4€. If a guide is required, please contact the Reims Tourist Office (page 22).



The Memorial of Dormans

Find out more:
www.lamarne14-18.com
www.champagne-ardenne-tourism.co.uk

The Memorial of Dormans

The memory of the battles has not been forgotten. In Dormans, the Battles of the Marne Memorial is a chapel, crypt and ossuary that holds the remains of 1,500 soldiers of different nationalities.

- 🕒 Opening times: every day from April 1 to November 1. From 2pm to 6pm April-May and September-October, and from 10:30am to 6:30pm June-August. Open all year round for groups (from 20 pax) on reservation only.
- € No admission fee for individuals (a free info leaflet in English is available). Rates for a French-language guided group visit (from 10 pax): 2 €

MEUSE



The Vauquois Hill

The Vauquois Hill

As the world capital of the Great War, Verdun is the symbol of violent battles that raged in Lorraine throughout the entire conflict. In Argonne, prominent for the use of mines, the Vauquois Hill is the best example of underground "living" quarters. The well-exhibited and well-kept site makes it a major site in Lorraine.

- 🕒 Open all year round (booking is required)
- € Guided tours of the underground living quarters are possible in exchange for a small fee for the association



Douaumont Ossuary on the battlefield of Verdun

Douaumont Ossuary on the battlefield of Verdun

The remains of 130,000 unidentified French and German soldiers lie in the Douaumont Ossuary, preserving their memory. Besides this symbolic place, there are various sites in Meuse, Lorraine, that give a better comprehension of the conflict: a Memorial Museum that will open in February 2016, remains of trenches, rear front camps, etc.

- 🕒 Open daily from February to December
- € Admission fee. Guided tour in English for groups up to 15 persons: 4€ / person

Find out more:
www.tourisme-lorraine.fr/en
en.verdun-tourisme.com

THE VOSGES FRONT

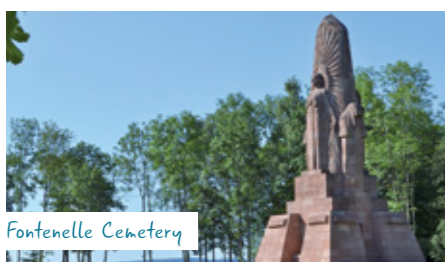


Hartmannswillerkopf Memorial

Hartmannswillerkopf Memorial

The Vosges mountains are overlooked by a mighty rocky spur that overlooks the plain of Alsace, the Hartmannswillerkopf. The French and Germans fought hard over this observation post. In 1915 alone, the peak changed hands four times. A memorial crypt holding the remains of 12,000 unknown soldiers now honours them.

- 🕒 Opening times: April to October.
- € No admission fee



Fontenelle Cemetery

Fontenelle Cemetery

In the Hure Valley, attrition warfare was used in a fight to gain control of the Fontenelle hills and quickly transitioned into a war of mines. A monument was inaugurated in 1925 near the cemetery where 2,348 French soldiers have been laid to rest.

- 🕒 Open all year round
- € No admission fee

Find out more:
www.front-vosges-14-18.eu

MAJOR EVENTS IN 2016

From 2014 to 2018, the commemoration of the centenary of the First World War is an international occasion. In France, due to a very rich cultural programme and the opening of new sites, visitors have the opportunity to relive the war that shook the whole world. For more information on all the events, go to: www.centenaire.org/en

All year

"The Road to Reconstruction" at the Centre Historique sur le Monde du Travail in Vassogne

A look back at the years of reconstruction along the Chemin des Dames in the aftermath of World War I. "The Road to Reconstruction 1919-1939" is divided into two parts. The first showcases the work of the many tradesmen who contributed to the physical reconstruction of towns and villages including stone masons, carpenters and joiners, plasterers and roofers, while the second is devoted to the process of social reconstruction. Open Saturdays and Sundays and during the week by appointment.

@ Information: +33 (0)3 23 25 97 02
www.outilsvassogne.fr

2014 & 2015 - Alsace

Wartime Lives Either Side of the Rhine

This travelling exhibition in French and German, supported by the Centenary Partnership Program and the Alsace Region, tells the story of 32 people who experienced the horrors of the Great War in Alsace and Baden-Württemberg.

@ www.front-vosges-14-18.eu/english

From 2014 to 2018 - Péronne

Historial de la Grande Guerre

Each year of the centenary, the collections and exhibitions at the Historial

de la Grande Guerre will be updated and refreshed in order to line up with the latest historical research, opening the chronological and geographical scope broader than the current presentation.

@ www.historial.org

Since May 2014 - Epinal

Life goes on

Musée de la lutherie de Mirecourt, Musée de l'Image d'Epinal, Musées de Remiremont, Musée Pierre Noël de Saint-Dié, Musée départemental d'art ancien et contemporain d'Epinal. 5 museums in Vosges address the same theme: the home front. Five exhibitions, five characters: musician, child, painter, woman and bystander.

@ www.museedelimage.fr

14 June 2014 to December 2018 - World Peace Centre, Verdun (Meuse)

What Remains of the Great War?



This exhibition, which is spread over 600m², aims to explain the impact of the Great War on the 20th century in Europe and the rest of the world to visitors both young and old.

@ Cmpaix.eu

2015 - Péronne

Historial of the Great War

In 2015, the Historial will host an exhibition on The Trauma of War, which includes a section on disfigurements that has been organised by Professor Bernard Devauchelle, and an expanded Otto Dix room (part of the permanent collection). Cultural activities and talks will also discuss these issues.

@ en.historial.org

9 April to November 2015

- Casino, Arras (Pas-de-Calais)

The Archaeology of the Great War

This exhibition shows how new archaeological discoveries are increasing our knowledge of the history of the First World War.

@ www.explorearas.com

August to 11 November 2015 - Museum of Belleau

World War I Remembrance: Temporary exhibition on Poets during the Great War

Early October 2015

- Châlons-en-Champagne

War on Screen - International Festival of War Cinema

For the second edition of the International Festival of War Cinema, War on Screen, part of the programme will focus on the First World War.

@ www.waronscreen.com

February - September 2016 at the World Peace Centre in Verdun

An exhibition entitled "The Life of the People of Verdun in 1916"

February - March 2016

Verdun - Champs Elysées - 1916-2016: A Century for Peace (planning stages)

To launch the centenary year of the Battle of Verdun, an exhibition of large format photographs will be posted along the Champs Elysées in Paris.

21 February 2016

Illumination of Verdun Cathedral

To open the festivities being organised around the centenary of the Battle of Verdun in Meuse, the interior and exterior of the Cathedral of Our Lady in Verdun will be illuminated to commemorate this symbol of the history of Verdun and its famous battle.

7 Place Mgr Ginisty, 55100 Verdun
Tel: +33 (0)3 29 86 07 68

March - June 2016

"Devant Verdun", an exhibition by photographer Jacques Grison

Chapelle Buvignier, Verdun

April - November 2016, Péronne

"Writers in the Great War", an exhibition at the Museum of the Great War

Even before the outbreak of war and the first days of fighting, writers were taking up their pens to describe their worlds, their feelings and experiences, whether to recount, witness, understand, exercise or justify. This exhibition invites the public to find out more about these writers through

a series of theatrical productions and artistic performances and also to try their hand at writing themselves as a way of getting closer to the writers of the Great War.

@ www.historial.org

16 April 2016

A Day of Commemoration on the Chemin des Dames

A series of lectures, guided visits and walks, exhibitions and concerts.

@ Information: +33 (0)3 23 25 14 18
www.chemindesdames.com

25 April 2016, Villers-Bretonneux

Commemoration of the 101st anniversary of ANZAC DAY

Always a time of intense emotion, the Anzac Day Dawn Service, held at 5.30am on 25 April at the Australian National Memorial, pays tribute to the soldiers who fought and died in World War I and in particular at the Battle of Amiens in 1918.

@ www.anzac-france.com



Verdun Cathedral



5 - 8 May 2016

- La Neuville-Lès-Bray

Centenary of the Railway Line and 45th Anniversary of the Little Train of the Haute Somme

An exceptional programme of events over four days featuring guest locomotives, historical freight and military runs, model making, model steam engines, etc.

The P'tit Train and its team of volunteers will be celebrating both the 100th anniversary of the line itself, constructed in 1916 for the Battle of the Somme, and the 45th anniversary of its restoration.

@ www.appeva.org

29 May 2016, Verdun

Memorial ceremony attended by French President François Hollande and other heads of state.

Last Sunday in May 2016

Memorial Day in the department's three US war cemeteries (Belleau, Seringes-et-Nesles and Bony)

A day of celebration in memory of US soldiers attended by US and French troops and their bands

@ Information: +33 (0)3 23 70 70 90
www.abmc.gov

June 2016, Verdun

The Meuse Great War Half Marathon

Mission Histoire: Tel: +33 (0)3 29 83 77 68

Part of the "Four Days in Verdun" celebrations. First organised in 2014 when it attracted almost 600 runners, this event became a qualifying event for the French half-marathon championships in 2015 and will continue to grow in stature in 2016, bringing together several thousand athletes of all levels including experienced sportsmen and women, military personnel and occasional joggers.

A celebratory event organised around an elite sporting event in keeping with the spirit of commemoration in a region ravaged by the fighting of World War I.

@ Information and registration:
www.s2m2g.fr

5 June 2016

Le Grand Trail, Mémoire de la Grande Guerre

At the fourth annual walking event you can choose from three routes with varying degrees of difficulty: Le Trail du Poilu - 8km; Le Trail de la Soif - 14km; and Le Trail du Saillant - 30km. Nordic walking: 8km. From the motocross park in Gobesart to Saint-Mihiel (La Meuse).

@ www.coeurdolorraine-tourisme.fr
Registration: zentao-events.fr

17 June - 23 July 2016 (Friday and Saturday evenings), Haudainville Quarry, Verdun

"From the Flames... to the Light" son et lumière

Every summer, Connaissance de la Meuse organises Europe's largest son et lumière on the theme of World War I. Entitled "Des Flammes à la Lumière", it offers a spectacular enactment of the Battle of Verdun at Haudainville Quarry.

@ www.spectacle-verdun.com

26 - 30 June 2016, Albert to Ypres (Belgium) to Albert

A remarkable four-day walk following in the footsteps of World War I.

@ www.centenaire-somme.com

30th June, 1st and 2nd July 2016 - Albert

"3 days of gatherings" (free entrance)

100 pipers, Lighting of the "Lumières du Souvenir" (Lights of Remembrance), theatrical concerts, multi-faith celebration. Place Emile Leturcq (Albert).

Theatrical show with the 9 Heroes of the Albert Musée Somme 1916 telling their stories, Jardin Public.

Multi-faith celebration and concert - free entrance.

@ www.centenaire-somme.com

1 July 2016, La Boisselle, Rancourt, Thiepval, Beaumont-Hamel and Fricourt

Commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme

A number of different commemorative events remembering the Fallen of WW1 will be held on 1 July 2016 at the Trou de Mine de La Boisselle, the Souvenir Français Chapel in Rancourt, the Franco-British Memorial and the Ulster Tower in Thiepval, the Newfoundland Memorial in Beaumont-Hamel and the German Cemetery in Fricourt.

9 pm: Barbara Hendricks in concert in Albert.

@ www.centenaire-somme.com
www.somme14-18.com
www.somme-battlefields.com

2nd and 3rd July 2016

United Pipers for Peace

Hundreds of pipers and drummers will gather in Amiens to mark the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme: concert open to the public and parade.

@ unitedpipersforpeace-fr.blogspot.fr/

10 July 2016, Longueval

Commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Delville Wood

The Battle of the Somme marked the first major engagement of South African troops on the Western Front. On 15 July 1916, the South African Brigade comprising 121 officers and 3,032 men saw

intensive fighting. When they were relieved on 20 July, they had suffered losses of more than 2,500 injured, dead or missing in action.

@ www.delvillewood.com

First or second weekend in July 2016

Bivouac in Belleau: historical reconstruction by Les Poilus de la Marne

Two days of events and activities.

@ Information: +33(0)3 23 83 51 14
www.musee-memoire-souvenir-belleau.com

July 2016

Anne Morgan Independence Day

An afternoon of festivities celebrating Anne Morgan in Blérancourt on the afternoon of 4 July (2pm to 10pm) to mark American Independence Day. A series of events and activities held around the streets of the town will showcase the life and works of philanthropist Anne Morgan, pioneer of humanitarian aid in France and more particularly the Aisne department. Events include a picnic, theatre, jazz, country dancing and outdoor film screenings.

@ Information: +33(0)3 23 39 72 17
www.museefrancoamericain.fr



Constellation de la Douleur - Chemin des Dames



The Ring of Remembrance

15 - 17 July and 22 - 24 July, Pozières

"In the Shade and the Light" son et lumière

Through twenty or so tableaux, each as impressive and life-like as the last, Pozières's son et lumière show brings to life some of the key moments of the Battle of the Somme, including the decisive events which took place around the village of Pozières. The theatre of some of the hardest fighting of World War I involving Australian, British, Canadian and German troops, the Battle of Pozières proved one of the most costly of the war for the Australian army which lost 23,000 men in six weeks during the summer of 1916.

@ www.digger-pozieres.org/

23 July 2016, Pozières

Commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Pozières

The Australians experienced their first major battle of the Western Front at Pozières. They arrived in the area on 23 July 1916, and after capturing the village and suffering incessant artillery counter-attacks, they were relieved on 5 September by the Canadians at Mouquet Farm. Three of their divisions

had participated in the fight for Pozières and losses amounted to over a third of the men involved. As to the village, it had completely disappeared.

@ www.somme14-18.com
www.somme-battlefields.com

15 September 2016 - Longueval Commemoration of the 100th anniversary of New Zealand's engagement at the Somme

The New Zealanders fought their first major campaign on the Western Front in the Somme, alongside British divisions. The New Zealand Division was particularly involved in the fighting which began on 15 September near Longueval, taking their objective of the village of Flers with the support of tanks. After three weeks of violent fighting, the division was relieved on 4 October. The New Zealand Division lost 7,500 men on the Somme.

@ www.somme14-18.com
www.somme-battlefields.com

30 October - 1 November 2016 Transfer of the Sacred Flame from Paris to Verdun

Leaving from the Arc de Triomphe, the Flame and its cortege will cross Paris and

make their way towards Meuse where the Flame will follow the route of the Sacred Way (Voie Sacrée), arriving in Verdun on 1 November. After an official ceremony at the war memorial, the Flame will then be taken to the crypt at the Victory Monument, then on to Douaumont Ossuary for the Armistice Day commemorations.

@ www.voie-sacree.com

November 2016 Verdun History Book Fair

Over two days, the 13th Verdun History Book Fair (Salon du Livre d'Histoire) will feature new works on the Great War in French and English as well a series of lectures and film screenings designed to encourage dialogue between writers and the public.

The Verdun History Book Prize will be awarded to the best work on the theme of the Great War published between September 2015 and September 2016.

@ World Peace Centre
 Tel: +33 (0)3 29 86 00 70
 Email: 1418meuse@wanadoo.fr

NEWLY OPENED AND RENOVATED SITES

OPENINGS



The Ring of Remembrance

November 2014 - Ablain-Saint-Nazaire (Nord-Pas de Calais)

The International Memorial to Fallen Soldiers in Nord-Pas de Calais during WWI

This new memorial, one of the largest in the world, is resolutely modern, unifying and inspiring, with its elliptical shape designed by architect Philippe Prost. It pays homage to the 590,000 soldiers who lost their lives on the battlefields of Nord-Pas de Calais between 1914 and 1918.

June 2015

Le Ravin du Génie

An open-air museum, the Ravin du Génie or Sapper's Ravine - also known as "Seven Springs Ravine" and "Kitchen Ravine" by French troops - was used to store sappers' equipment (caves for munitions, powder and explosives, materials, cement, sand, etc.) and provide living quarters (kitchens, dormitories, etc.). The unique feature of this site was its systems for collecting, filtering and storing water for distribution to the combat zones.

Open access all year round, Argonne (Meuse)



The Alpine Ambulance Museum

July 11th 2015

The Alpine Ambulance Museum in Mittlach and history trails in the Munster valley

The "Alpine Ambulance" was established in July 1915 in Mittlach's Mairie and school building. From being designed as a reception centre for injured troops, the role of the ambulance changed and began to treat both soldiers and the local civilians.

@ www.cc-vallee-munster.fr/Culture-Sports-Loisirs/Patrimoine-memoire.html



Verdun Memorial

February 2016 - Verdun

The renaissance of Verdun Memorial. A museum built on the battlefield site

This museum allows visitors to experience the Battle of Verdun first hand from the French and German points of view. The extensive collection, which incorporates large-scale archive images, audio recordings, videos, weapons, aircraft models, a Berliet truck, items made in the trenches and other objects donated by ex-servicemen, is housed in 1,600 m² of permanent exhibition space, helping visitors to understand the battle and the hellish conditions endured by soldiers. With its large windows opening out onto the surrounding landscape, the museum has exceptional views of the historical battlefield.

@ www.memorialdeverdun.fr

ANNEXES



Thiepval

June 2016

A new museum at Thiepval

Thiepval Visitor Centre, part of the Museum of the Great War in Péronne, is being expanded and redeveloped with two new exhibition spaces to mark the 100th anniversary of WW1. In the 450m² of new exhibition space, visitors can view an animated map of the battles of the Somme between 1914 and 1918 before entering the main room, devoted to the Battle of the Somme. On the wall, a fresco by Joe Sacco depicting the first day of fighting at the Somme is explained by a series of multi-media devices. Beneath their feet, remains of an archaeological dig visible through the glass floor show various objects found during the construction of the museum. The third space is devoted to the Germans at the Somme, concentrating on how they saw the Great War and the fighting that went on at the Somme.

This is followed by a room dedicated to the missing of the Great War where the accounts of 90 soldiers, told in various languages, are displayed using an innovative multimedia system. Before moving on to the last space, which tells the story of the skyfighters of WW1, visitors pass through a display dedicated to the French at the Somme. Designed to complement the collection housed at Péronne, the museum aims to provide additional information highlighting various key moments of the fighting at the Somme. Combination tickets with the Museum of the Great War in Péronne available.

@ www.historial.org



Educational centre - Vimy

April 2017 - Vimy

New educational centre in Vimy

The mission of the Vimy Foundation, established in 2006, is to preserve and promote Canada's First World War legacy. At the Vimy Canadian Memorial site in France, the Foundation is building an education centre that will open on 9 April 2017, one hundred years to the day after the famous battle. This extremely modern education centre aims to attract Canadians visiting France and visitors from around the world who wish to learn more about this episode which marked Canadian history.

REFURBISHMENTS

25 April 2016

Refurbishment of the Franco-Australian Museum, Villers-Bretonneux

The refurbishment of the Franco-Australian Museum in Villers-Bretonneux is part of the Australian Remembrance Trail project. The works will include the conceptual reworking of the museum, the replacement of the current roof with a mansard structure to create more exhibition space and a complete redesign and reorganisation of both the permanent and temporary exhibitions displaying the museum's 600-strong collection.

@ www.museeausstralien.com/



ATOUT FRANCE, L'AGENCE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT TOURISTIQUE DE LA FRANCE

Atout France, the French tourism development agency, works to ensure France remains competitive as a tourist destination. It uses its expertise in different fields to help tourism professionals develop activities and promote French tourism products on the international market.

By monitoring, engineering and supporting the development, promotion and marketing of products, Atout France works for 1,100 public and private professional partners with the aim of strengthening the tourism industry, France's largest economic sector.

Find out more:
www.atout-france.fr
www.rendezvousenfrance.com



LA MISSION DU CENTENAIRE

The French government has assigned the First World War Centenary Mission the task of preparing and supporting implementation of the Centenary commemoration programme. Its job will be to organise the most important events in the commemorative calendar, to support and coordinate the initiatives taken throughout France, and finally to define a public communication strategy to raise awareness about the Centenary preparations and programme.

More than 1,000 projects in France and abroad have been awarded official Centenary accreditation. The Mission's Internet portal, www.centenaire.org, is designed to be a veritable digital resource centre, and provides the general public with real-time information, in three languages, about Centenary preparations.

Find out more:
<http://centenaire.org/en>

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