



☰ 'The small print'...

Even a privately organised trip like this one has to comply with 'rules and regulations', health & safety, etc., as well as having 'terms and conditions', booking forms and the like; the organiser wishes to thank everyone for their understanding.

General

The trip is arranged / organised in good faith by Steve Williams as a "Private Excursion" for leisure / recreational purposes, using Rossendale Travel Ltd as the supplier of, or agents for the advertised services (e.g. coach travel, ferry, hotels, etc.). They acknowledge that the providers of facilities / services (including themselves) and sites to be visited have a duty of care to ensure that they meet the necessary health and safety standards, and should / will have carried out any necessary risk assessment(s), as appropriate. However, neither Steve Williams nor his suppliers or agent(s) can be held responsible or liable for any situation beyond or outside his or their control, howsoever caused.

Passengers acknowledge that the trip is at their own risk, having assessed all financial, health, security and related risks, and duly indemnify the organiser from any loss, claim or action that may arise from taking part in the trip / activity.

Prices are based on costings quoted to the organiser by Rossendale Travel Ltd. in May 2010. The trip price may be subject to a surcharge or increase if, for example, there is a substantial increase in fuel and / or other suppliers costs, an increase in VAT and / or other taxes levied, or any Government or similar action which is beyond and / or outside their and the organiser's control, now or before the trip is paid for in full by the 1st April 2011. All timings are for guide purposes and the organiser reserves the right to change the advertised itinerary (without compensation) should circumstances dictate.

Meals and refreshment breaks (except breakfast at the hotel) are not included in the price. Entry to all CWGC cemeteries, memorials and visitor centres on the WW1 battlefields is free, whilst museums and other 'attractions' are not.

The coach driver and / or the trip organiser reserve the right to refuse travel, at any time, to a passenger who is under the influence of alcohol, drugs or other substances, or whose behaviour is deemed by them to be inappropriate. In such circumstances, no refund will be given and any subsequent costs incurred by the said passenger will be his / her responsibility.

Payment

The contract / trip and payment are protected by Rossendale Travel Ltd. Trust Account and all cheques should be made payable to "Rossendale Travel No. 2 Account" where the money will be held in trust until the contract (trip / tour) has been fully performed. A deposit of £50 must accompany a completed booking form and places on the trip will be confirmed in writing once a cheque has cleared. Payment of the balance must be paid, via the organiser, no later than 8 (eight) weeks before travel, or cancel, otherwise you could be liable for cancellation charges up to 100% of the value of the final invoice / cost.

Financial protection

All monies paid / the total cost of this trip will be held in trust until the trip is completed / finished. In the case of insolvency during any stage of the trip, Rossendale Travel Ltd undertakes to repatriate all passengers to their point of origination by providing a ferry crossing and a replacement coach if necessary.

This trip / "private excursion" is operated in conjunction with Rossendale Travel Ltd., 89 Hud Rake, Haslingden, Lancs. BB4 5AF and the organiser confirms that all passenger monies paid to Rossendale Travel Ltd. is deposited in a trust account which has been established by their solicitors and which is operated by HSBC plc. This trust account conforms to / with the requirements of the Package Travel, Package Holiday and Package Tour Regulations 1992. This is the protection required by law for all passengers money. Once passengers have paid a deposit and balance of the trip, the money is deposited in the trust account where it is held until completion of the advertised trip for which he / she / they have booked.

Booking cancellation / transfer

The trip is based on a minimum number of places to make the trip viable (30 passengers at 23rd May 2010). The organiser reserves the right in any circumstances to cancel your booking (without compensation) up to 8 weeks before travel, giving a full refund of all monies paid.

If a passenger cancels his or her booking(s), this incurs administration costs for the organiser and supplier(s) and therefore deposits will be retained to cover any costs incurred. In addition, the following cancellation charges will apply if passengers cancel after paying for the trip - 55 to 28 days 30%, 14 to 27 days 45%, 7 to 13 days 60% and 6 days or less prior to departure 100%. If a customer cannot travel for any reason, he / she may transfer the booking to another person at a cost of £50, providing that a minimum of one week's notice is given.

Travel requirements (Passport, Visa, Health & Insurance)

U.K. passport holders need only a passport for visiting EC countries. Responsibility for visa and other entry / travel requirements by non-EU passport holders is down to the passenger.

All passengers must have personal / individual travel insurance in force for the duration of the trip (such travel insurance shall cover every eventuality, including repatriation back to the U.K.). In addition, passengers must have (and carry with them) a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), which is an agreement with EC countries enabling passengers to obtain emergency medical treatment as or when available.

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Brochure and itinerary produced in good faith from information supplied and available on 8.6.2010 © Steve Williams 2010



THE SOMME

A 4 day  trip from  Lancashire visiting major sites and memorials on the battlefield

27th to 30th May 2011

Trip devised, organised and led by **Steve Williams**,
WW1 Historian & Author and Secretary &
Co-Founder of the Chorley Pals Memorial

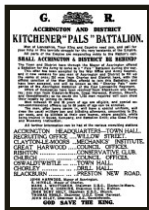


www.stevewilliamstalks.co.uk

THE SOMME

Mention the First World War and the battle that is still deeply implanted in the folk-memory of the British people is the Battle of the Somme. Back in 1916 the Somme was the first battle to involve the bulk of Britain's first-ever mass citizen army, being uniquely composed of volunteers from all levels of society. The character was symbolised by its 'Pals' battalions, like those from East Lancashire, and the Accrington and Chorley area in particular - made up of friends, neighbours and workmates who invariably joined up together, in response to Kitchener's appeal.

The Battle of the Somme lasted 142 days but the first day, on the 1st July 1916, was to become the bloodiest twenty-four hours in the history of the British Army. The modest gains on that day, across a 19 mile front stretching from Serre in the north to Montauban in the south, cost the British 19,240 men killed and 35,493 wounded. Whole 'Pals' battalions were virtually wiped out in minutes. Its impact in across the country was devastating, and in Accrington it was said there was not a street or family that did not know someone who was a casualty.



The 1st July 1916 saw thousands of untried troops going 'over the top' to attack the heavily entrenched German positions. For virtually everyone it was their first action... for many it was to be their last. Whilst the focal point of the trip may well be the 'Accrington Pals' memorial and adjacent plaque to the Chorley Pals in the trenches at Serre, the aim is to show other aspects of the Somme battlefield.



Day 1 (Friday, 27th May) - Lunchtime pick-up in Lancashire, travelling to Hull for the overnight ferry to Zeebrugge (en-suite cabin included, meals extra).

Day 2 (Saturday, 28th May) - After breakfast *, travel direct to the Somme battlefield and to the Thiepval with its impressive memorial and visitor centre. We move to Pozieres to view the battlefield from the German observation post the British called 'Gibraltar'. A short journey takes us to La Boiselle and the Lochnager Crater. After a lunch break in Albert, we visit the grave of a Lancashire VC winner and then on to Devonshire Trench, a cemetery on the British front line. The last major stop of the day is at Delville Wood before viewing some monuments and bunkers on the battlefield, on the way back to our hotel in Arras.

Day 3 (Sunday, 29th May) - after breakfast (included in tour price), check-out of the hotel and head for the Accrington and Chorley Pals trenches at Serre for an extended stay. Next stop is the Sunken Lane front line trench before a guided tour around the trenches and No Man's Land in Newfoundland Park at Beaumont Hamel. A lunch break is taken at the Ulster Tower near-by before viewing the Tank memorial at Pozieres and the Butte-de-Warlencourt - the furthest point the British troops reached on the Somme battlefield after four months of heavy fighting. We leave the Somme mid-afternoon, heading back to Zeebrugge and the overnight ferry.



Day 4 (Monday, 30th May [Bank Holiday in UK]) - After breakfast *, travel from Hull back to Lancashire, arriving around lunchtime. [* Breakfast extra on the ferry].



The Cost of the trip is £219 per person sharing a twin / double cabin and room. The cost includes all coach travel in an air-conditioned coach, travel and cabin on the ferry from Hull to Zeebrugge and an en-suite room in the 3 ★ Holiday Inn Express in the French market town of Arras (breakfast included). Meals, drinks and refreshment on the ferry and at other times are not included. The trip will be fully escorted throughout, with an experienced guide (Steve Williams - WW1 Historian & Author and Secretary of the Chorley Pals Memorial).

[Please note: Due to time constraints, it will not be possible to include visits to sites, cemeteries or memorials not on the itinerary].

THE SOMME 2011

🚐 Booking Form 📄

I / we wish to go on the above coach trip in late May 2011 and book the following at a cost of £219 per person in a double / twin room & cabin (£279 single)...

..... seat(s) and room(s) [..... double twin single]

All rooms ☹ Non-Smoking unless you tick here ☐

Tick here ☐ if you would like information on 'meal deals' on the ferry *

Passenger name(s):

..... Age(s):

Name & address (for correspondence):

.....

.....

..... Post Code

Telephone:..... Mobile:

E-mail:

I / we enclose payment of £50 per person as deposit for the trip, and agree to pay the balance in full within 8 weeks of the date of departure.

I / we will take out suitable and sufficient travel insurance to cover any eventuality on or relating to the trip.

I / we undertake this trip at my / our own risk, having read and accepted the terms and conditions (overleaf) appertaining to this booking / trip.

Signed (one signature per party / booking form):

.....

Amount enclosed: £.....

IMPORTANT: Cheques should be made payable to "Rossendale Travel No. 2 A/c"

Detach this page and send it, duly completed, with your remittance(s) to...
Steve Williams, 42 Smithy Close, Brindle, Chorley, Lancs. PR6 8NW

* Meals (breakfast & dinners for the outward & inward ferry journeys) cost £47.40 per person in 2010 - a saving of 5% on the pre-bookable price advertised on the P&O website; they can be pre-booked when sending final remittance in 2011.