

SMALL GROUP BATTLEFIELD TOURS  
& PILGRIMAGES FULLY ESCORTED  
BY MILITARY HISTORIANS

# 2025

**Gallipoli**

**Western Front**

**Thailand**



**BELMORE**  
— TRAVEL —

**BELMORE TRAVEL has been operating tours for over 30 years and all of the following tours are operated in conjunction with our trusted local suppliers.**

Our groups take a maximum 14 passengers and are fully escorted by a highly respected and well researched group of professional historians we work with. Knowledgeable and friendly they endeavour to make your tour the most memorable of times through the insights gained and friendships made travelling with a like minded group. We ask all travellers to provide us with details of family history or special requests to ensure you can gain as much as you can from the tour as our historians delight in your questions and challenges.

## Thailand ANZAC Day

Our traditional Anzac Day tour includes the Dawn Service at Hellfire Pass and the morning service at Kanchanaburi War Cemetery. This tour can be combined with a visit to Myanmar, to travel to Thanbyuzayat War Cemetery. Enjoy a train ride on the original railway and a excursion to the border & Three Pagoda Pass along with some time in the bustling city of Bangkok.

### **SUN 20 APR AUSTRALIA/BANGKOK**

On arrival at Suvarnabhumi Airport you are met & transferred to the hotel.

**Accommodation: Ibis Style Silom.**

### **MON 21 APR BANGKOK (B)**

Morning Bangkok Sightseeing Tour (Visit Grand Palace and Reclining Buddha of Wat Pho). Rest of the day free.

### **TUE 22 APR BANGKOK/KANCHANABURI (B,L,D)**

Depart for Kanchanaburi War Cemetery, where 1,362 Australians are buried.

Experience a 1 hour train ride to Wang Po, our epic train ride will cross the famous "Bridge on the River Kwai", pass through Chungkai Cutting and traverse the incredible Wampo Viaduct, all constructed in WW2.

**Accommodation: River Kwai Village Hotel.**

### **WED 23 APR KANCHANABURI (B,L,D)**

Full day excursion to Three Pagoda Pass on the border of Thailand and Myanmar.

Explore the cutting at Takanoon before entering the "F" Force area, visiting Shimo Sonkuria POW Camp site and Cholera Hill. Stop at Kami Sonkurai before a chance to see the line still present in Myanmar.

### **THU 24 APR KANCHANABURI (B,L,D)**

Today the 3.5 km walk along the Memorial Walking Trail, from the Japanese Kinsaiyoku Station passing an awesome 25m high rock embankment and large 3 tier timber bridge site before a visit to the Australian Museum. Lunch at local restaurant and a unique chance to visit the Weary Dunlop Museum and the Jack Chalker Gallery.

### **FRI 25 APR ANZAC DAY (B,L,D)**

Early rise (4 am) for the Dawn Service at Hellfire Pass, return to the hotel.

Departure to the Kanchanaburi War Cemetery for the morning memorial service. Following lunch a visit to Chongkai War Cemetery and the Thai Burma Railway Centre Museum.

### **SAT 26 APR KANCHANABURI (B,L,D)**

Travel to the Sai Yok Noi Waterfall near the original site of Tarsao Station and climb over a genuine locomotive used on the line. After lunch at Wangpo Station, time to wander along the railway and watch the train make its way across the viaduct. We return via long tail speed boat along the river back to the hotel.

### **SUN 27 APR KANCHANABURI/BANGKOK (B,D)**

Return to Bangkok with the afternoon at leisure. This evening farewell dinner on Chao Phraya Cruise

**Accommodation Ibis Style Silom.**

### **MON 28 APR BANGKOK/AUSTRALIA (B)**

Early departure to Airport for our flight home.

**You can add pre or post accommodation in Bangkok for further sightseeing**



# Gallipoli Ramble

The Ramble will spend a few days in Istanbul to view the highlights and spend our time walking and exploring the battlefields in depth. This will provide the participant with a greater understanding of the overall campaign and terrain.

## SAT 02 AUG

### AUSTRALIA/ISTANBUL

Depart today for our flight to Istanbul. You are about to embark on an experience which is unique in the field of battlefield exploration. If you are a student of history, or simply wish to experience the topography which gave birth to the ANZAC legend, then you cannot see Gallipoli solely from the confines of a tour bus. On this tour, you will truly walk in the footsteps of our diggers.

## SUN 03 AUG

### ARRIVE ISTANBUL (D)

Arrive this morning before an afternoon walking tour of the old city which includes the Blue Mosque, Hippodrome & Topkapi Palace.

**Accommodation: Yasmak Sultan or similar.**

## MON 04 AUG

### ISTANBUL/GALLIPOLI (B,D)

Today we travel via Troy to the Gallipoli Peninsula. We shall make a few short stops at certain places along the way to discuss the allied submarine campaign which played a vital, yet often overlooked part, in this campaign. The amazing sights of Troy will captivate you and reinforce the fact that the allies of the Great War were not the first invaders of this ancient land.

**Accommodation: Crowded House or similar.**

## TUE 05 AUG

### BATTLEFIELDS (B,L,D)

Early start as we push offshore, so that we are out on the water as the dawn breaks over the "first ridge". Here, we shall see a perfect silhouette of "The Sphinx" which would become a major land mark throughout the campaign. Whilst the first men of the 3rd Infantry Brigade touched shore at 4.30am, we shall await full light to view the ANZAC skyline - cruising the Anzac positions as far north as 'Fisherman's Hut' and as far south as Gaba Tepe. Once our cruise is complete, we will come ashore at Anzac Cove and explore Beach Cemetery. The rest of the day will be spent on a tour of the Gallipoli Peninsula by vehicle. This will encompass all of the main positions of Anzac which are accessible by vehicle; before we head down to Cape Helles where the British and French forces landed.

## WED 06 AUG

### BATTLEFIELDS (B,L,D)

This is a full day trek which will see us commence from Anzac Cove. Referred to as the 'Loutit Incursion', we will cross the southern shoulder of Plugge's Plateau and trek down through Shrapnel Valley. We will then clamber up the steep slope which forms the northern end of the 400 Plateau (which formed part of the Second Ridge, taking in the 4th Battalion Cemetery amongst others. Traversing down the northern side of Owen's Gully, our goal on this day will be Scrubby Knoll on the Third Ridge.

## THU 07 AUG

### BATTLEFIELDS (B,L,D)

Today will entail a bit of a climb, taking in the area just north of Ari Burnu through Russells Top ... up to Baby 700 and Battleship Hill. During this climb we will discuss the exploits of some of our New Zealand allies and walk on hallowed ground, as we explore the positions manned by the Australian Light Horse during the August Offensive of 1915.

## FRI 08 AUG

### BATTLEFIELDS (B,L,D)

On this day, we will explore the site which was previously fortified by the Turks the promontory of Gaba Tepe. Our exploration today will take us over those southern spurs and valleys that formed the right flank of the Australian line. The valleys and spurs to the south of Lone Pine are rarely walked or explored; encompassing many of the names which you have no doubt seen on a map, but possibly never contemplated. This is the ground once dominated by snipers on both sides, especially one Queenslander dubbed 'the Gallipoli Assassin'. From Bolton's Ridge to the area that was once known as 'The Wheatfield'. There are Rylie's Post, Tasmania Post, Holly Ridge and Leane's Trench, Allah's Gully and Silt Spur, Cooe Gully and the 'Knife Edge' of Snipers Ridge through to Pine Ridge... just to name a few.

## SAT 09 AUG

### BATTLEFIELDS (B,L,D)

Having passed through Shrapnel Valley earlier, today we will take our time to explore Shrapnel Valley and the surrounding area. This will include a visit to the cemeteries in the valley. We will explore Monash Valley and surrounding areas as well as Anzac Cove and the gullies below the sphinx. Today you



walk in the footsteps of the 'men with the donkeys', whose small contribution to the campaign has become legendary.

## SUN 10 AUG

### BATTLEFIELDS (B,L,D)

Today we will visit Hill 60, known to the Turks as Kijik Aghala. We will then travel onto Suvla Bay whilst there will be plenty of opportunity to explore the ground on foot, much of today will be spent travelling by vehicle and a good chance to rest your legs. Very few visit this northern flank which is an essential part of the overall story.

## MON 11 AUG

### BATTLEFIELDS (B,L,D)

Apart from Anzac Cove, Lone Pine is perhaps the most well known of all positions on the Gallipoli Peninsula. Taking in both lobes of the 400 Plateau, including 'The Cup' - we shall thoroughly explore this area. A short walk along the road will reveal a tunnel, which was excavated by Australian Engineers during the campaign.

## TUE 12 AUG

### GALLIPOLI/ISTANBUL (B,L,D)

Today we travel back to Istanbul where we enjoy a farewell dinner.

**Accommodation: Yasmak Sultan or similar.**

## WED 13 AUG

### ISTANBUL/AUSTRALIA

Fly home or continue to Brussels to join the Western Front Group.

## THU 14 AUG

### ARRIVE AUSTRALIA

# Western Front

Starting in Brussels we begin our comprehensive tour with time in Ypres for the Last Post Ceremony, before heading to our base in Arras where we have plenty of time to delve into the history via the many well known locations and museums scattered throughout. We finish in Paris where you can return home or extend your adventure.

## **TUE 12 AUG** **AUSTRALIA/BRUSSELS**

Depart today for Europe and our Western Front exploration.

## **WED 13 AUG** **ARRIVE BRUSSELS**

On arrival you are met & transferred to your hotel with some free time to explore Brussels before dinner

**Accommodation: Crowne Plaza or similar.**

## **THU 14 AUG** **BRUSSELS/YPRES (B)**

Today we visit Waterloo, Mons (the site of the first and last shots of WW1) and St Symphorien Cemetery. Then it is on to Polygon Wood with a walk through the battlefield area captured by the Australians in October 1917, Tyne Cot Cemetery and Passchendaele and the Canadian Memorials.

**Accommodation: Regina Hotel or similar.**

## **FRI 15 AUG** **YPRES (B,L,D)**

Tour the Battlefields in the Ypres Salient including Hill 60 and the museum and trenches at Sanctuary Wood then on to Brandhoek Cemetery, Poperinghe and Lijssenhoek Cemetery. Enjoy dinner at our hotel that evening.

Tonight the "Last Post" ceremony at Menin Gate. Held at the Menin Gate Memorial on the east side of Ypres, originally the location of the old city gate leading to the Ypres Salient battlefields through which so many passed on their way to the front line. For a few moments the noise of traffic ceases and stillness descends over the memorial. At exactly 8pm up to six members of the regular buglers from the local volunteer Fire Brigade step into the roadway under the memorial arch. They play Last Post, followed by a short silence and then play Reveille.

## **SAT 16 AUG** **YPRES (B,L,D)**

Today we visit Messines Ridge, the site of the 3rd Divisions first battle, then travel to Fromelles the scene of the disastrous Australian battle undertaken by McCay's 5th Division in July 1916, visiting the new Fromelles Museum, Pheasant Wood Cemetery, the Australian Memorial Park and VC Corner Cemetery.

We return to our hotel via Ploegsteert Wood, Messines and Mt Kemmel among other sites.

## **SUN 17 AUG** **YPRES/ARRAS (B,D)**

This morning visit the Mont St Quentin and the excellent historical museum in Peronne tracking the history of the First World War.

**Accommodation: Mercure or similar.**

## **MON 18 AUG** **SOMME (B,L,D)**

Tour through Doullens, Albert. Pozieres, Theipval before lunch at Ulster Tower. Further battlefield exploration before we return to Arras.

## **TUE 19 AUG** **SOMME (B,D)**

Today visit Le Hamel and Villers Bretonneux where we visit the Victoria School Museum, the Australian National Memorial and Adelaide Cemetery.

## **WED 20 AUG** **SOMME (B,L,D)**

Highlights today include Vimy Ridge then on to the Hindenburg Line with a walk over the battlefield of April/May 1917 at the village of Bullecourt with lunch at nearby Hendecourt.

## **THU 21 AUG** **ARRAS/PARIS (B)**

Today we leave for Paris with an afternoon orientation tour of Paris including the Opera, Notre Dame, The Louvre and Eiffel Tower.

**Accommodation: Novotel or similar.**

## **FRI 22 AUG** **PARIS (B)**

Tour ends transfer to airport.

## **SAT 23 AUG** **ARRIVE AUSTRALIA**



# Thailand (Burma) Railway

On this tour we explore the railway in a little more depth with a stay in Sangkhlaburi. We endeavour to walk to old camp sites and areas rarely visited by the majority, whilst still taking plenty of time at the major sites Hellfire Pass and Kanchanaburi.

## WED 05 NOV

### AUSTRALIA/BANGKOK

Upon arrival we will be met and transferred to our hotel.

**Accommodation:** Ibis Style Silom.

## THU 06 NOV

### BANGKOK/RIVER KWAI (B,L,D)

An early start with a "trip briefing" before our departure for Nong Pladuk station and start of the line. Then onto visit the Kanchanaburi War Cemetery and Bridge over the River Kwai before heading to the River Kwai Village Hotel.

**Accommodation:** River Kwai Village Hotel.

## FRI 07 NOV

### RIVER KWAI – D FORCE AREA (B,L,D)

Travel to Tham Grasae to explore the famous Wampo Timber Trestle Bridge. Return to the hotel to experience an exciting longtail boat ride, passing the 100 foot high sheer cliffs, which forced the construction of the terrible Konyu/Hintok section. After a picnic lunch, walk the new 3 km "Memorial Walking Track" from the Japanese Kinsaiyoku Station to the Dutch 200m

long Cutting, passing an awesome 25m high rock embankment and large 3 Tier timber bridge site.

## SAT 08 NOV

### D FORCE/F FORCE -SANGKHLABURI (B,L,D)

Picturesque Sangkhlaburi on the shore of Khao Laem Lake is our destination. Along the way we visit the site of Tonchan Station, explore a bridge site over a deep ravine in a Buddhist Temple and climb the saddle at Hintok Mountain camp. After lunch at Thong Pha Phoom, we will explore the embankment and cutting at Takanoon. We then trek a rugged section in the Shimo Neike area, before a short rest stop at Neike. At Shimo Sonkurai we hold a short service at Cholera Hill before walking the camp site. Continue to the hotel before a chance to cross the impressive timber bridge to visit the Burmese village.

**Accommodation:** Pornphalin Riverside Resort.

## SUN 09 NOV

### SANGKHLABURI (B,L,D)

After visiting the large Mon Temple and market, we head to Kami Sonkurai to trek this campsite as well as along the original Japanese road, which split the camp. Explore a nearby air raid bunker dug by Aussie POWs into the hill. Travel to Three Pagoda Pass for a quick look at Payathonzu (over the border) before returning to Ban Sangkhalia for lunch. We then investigate Sonkurai (British F Force) Camp with its three bridges across Kwae Noi River. Return to the hotel, for free time to explore this "Wild West" Frontier Town and its hidden mysteries.

## MON 10 NOV

### F FORCE (SANGKHLABURI)/RIVER KWAI (B,L,D)

After a leisurely start, we travel to Ban Onte to visit the site of the WW2 road bridge, crossed by F & H Forces on their march up the line. Then onto Ban Pran Grassi to explore the station and camp site, Hin Dat to view the Hot Springs built by POWs and used as a health solarium by the Japanese, search for the Station area.

**Accommodation:** River Kwai Village Hotel.

## TUE 11 NOV

### HELLFIRE PASS TREK & SERVICE (B,L,D)

Travel to Hintok River Camp for the climb to Compressor Cutting and our trek along the 4 km Memorial Walking Track to Hellfire Pass. A short rest before experiencing the 11.00 am Remembrance Day Service. After the service, we have time to explore the museum. Lunch will be at Home Phu Toey Resort and a unique chance to visit the Weary Dunlop Memorial Park, which includes some of the haunting work of British POW artist Jack Chalker before returning to the hotel.

## WED 12 NOV

### D FORCE TRAIN RIDE/BANGKOK (B,L,D)

This morning we travel to Thasao market, where POWs bought eggs and vegetables, to experience Thai rural living and buy souvenirs. We then trek from Namtok Station along the new extension, across a trestle bridge, visit the site of Tarso Station before reaching Saiyoke Noi Waterfalls. Visit an elephant camp nearby to observe and ride these incredible animals. Lunch is at a restaurant next to Namtok Station, before you now get to ride the train back to Kanchanaburi Station, like the POWs, passing majestic scenery along the river. We then return to Bangkok for last minute shopping and a farewell party that night.

**Accommodation:** Ibis Style Silom.

## THU 13 NOV

### BANGKOK/MELBOURNE (B)

Early morning departure for our flight home.



You can add pre or post accommodation in Bangkok for further sightseeing

# Tour Costs & Inclusions

## Tour Costs per person twin share

<b>Thailand</b>	<b>\$3660</b>
Single Supplement	\$745
<b>Gallipoli Ramble</b>	<b>\$4240</b>
Single Supplement	\$870
<b>Western Front</b>	<b>\$6770</b>
Single Supplement	\$1680
<b>Thai (Burma) Railway</b>	<b>\$3990</b>
Single Supplement	\$825

## Tour Cost Includes

- Accommodation based on twin share
- Sightseeing as per the itinerary
- Meals as per the itinerary  
B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, PL = Picnic Lunch, D = Dinner
- Transfers throughout
- Porterage of one suitcase per person
- Travel by air conditioned coach / van
- Services of local English speaking guides
- Australian Military Historian
- Escorted by experienced Australian Military Historian/Tour Leader
- Tips to driver and guides
- Entrance fees to selected attractions
- **Tour costs are land only and we can provide airfare options to match your requirements**

## Deposits

All tours \$500 per person. Booking Form must accompany the deposit. Travel Insurance is strongly recommended and should be taken out at the time of deposit as cancellation fees do apply, refer to the booking form for conditions.

## Not Included

- Items of a personal nature ie. laundry, bar accounts etc.
- Meals not specified
- Visas
- Travel Insurance
- Passport
- Airfares & related air taxes



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