



1918: THE LAST YEAR OF THE GREAT WAR
One hundred years later, an opportunity to visit the sites of the events immortalised by John Buchan which affected both himself and his family so profoundly

**JOHN BUCHAN SOCIETY TRAVEL:
FIVE DAY WORLD WAR I
BATTLEFIELDS TOUR
OCTOBER 25-29, 2018**

An exciting opportunity to visit the battlefields of the First World War, as described in John Buchan's monumental 'History of the Great War', in company with experts and fellow enthusiasts.

This 5-day coach tour will transport you from named points in the UK via Folkestone and the Eurotunnel to the city of Lille, which will be the centre for a series of day trips.

Departures on Thursday, Oct. 25, will be from 3 pickup points: Birmingham International Station, Oxford Thornhills Car Park and Kings Cross Station, returning to the same points on Monday, Oct. 29.

Cost: £460.00 per person (double/share)
Single room supplement: £170.00

TO BOOK:

- Deposits of £100 must be made by Tuesday, May 10, 2018
- Final Payment 8 weeks before date of travel

Included in the cost:

- 4 nights bed and breakfast accommodation in the 4*Novotel Grand Central Palace Hotel, Lille
- Executive style coach transport throughout with toilet, video facilities, etc.
- Services of a Battlefields Tours Specialist Guide throughout
- Fully guided bespoke John Buchan related tour, with background packs provided
- Eurotunnel return crossings
- Entrance to two museums: The In Flanders Field Museum, Ypres; Talbot House Museum
- Last Post ceremony at the Menin Gate

Not included:

- Travel Insurance
- Meals other than breakfast

BOOKINGS/ENQUIRIES TO:

Mike Edwards, Freemans Cottage,
Piccadilly, Guiting Power,
Cheltenham, Glos. GL54 5UU
Tel: 07786 483114
Email: rlkguiting@gmail.com

PROGRAMME

Day 1

Pickup from Birmingham International Station, Oxford Thornhills Car Park or Kings Cross Station
Drive to Folkestone and take the Eurotunnel crossing to Calais
Arrive at hotel in Lille

Day 2

Depart hotel at 8.30 am
Visit **Beaumont Hamel** and the **Hawthorne Ridge**:
The village was attacked on July 1, 1916, and is the site of some of the most iconic images of the Battle of the Somme
Newfoundland Park: trenches preserved from 1916; memorial to the Newfoundland Regiment
Thiepval: memorial to the missing of the Somme, bearing the names of 73,000 men who have no known grave
-LUNCH-
La Boiselle: the Lochnagar mine crater, the largest mine exploded on July 1, 1916
Mametz: the village captured on July 1, 1916, and the story of the Devonshire Regiment
Guillemont: the grave of Lieutenant Raymond Asquith
Ecoust-St. Mein: the grave of Captain Auberon Herbert
Return to hotel in Lille

Day 3

Depart hotel 8.30 am
Visit **St-Laurent-Blangy**: Lieutenant Alastair Buchan was killed near here on the first day of the Battle of Arras. The village is now the site of three British cemeteries and one large German cemetery
Duisans British Cemetery: the burial place of Lieutenant Alastair Buchan
The Arras Memorial: Captain Thomas Nelson is buried here and Lieutenant John Stuart-Worsley is commemorated on the memorial to the missing
-LUNCH-
Free time in Lille

Day 4

Depart hotel at 8.30 am
Visit **Dikkebus**: the grave of Brigadier General Cecil Rawling
Hooge: The scene of bitter fighting and one of the most feared places on the Western Front. Cecil Rawling was killed near here
Polygon Wood: captured by the Australians in September 1917
-LUNCH-
The In Flanders Field Museum: the museum in the restored Medieval Cloth Hall in Ypres
-DINNER IN YPRES-
The Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate:
Lieutenant Basil Blackwood is commemorated on the Menin gate

Day 5

Depart hotel at 8.30 am
Visit **Talbot House**: the restored place of rest and recreation for British servicemen in World War 1
Drive to Calais
Eurotunnel crossing to Folkestone
Drop off at Kings Cross Station, Oxford Thornhills Car Park and Birmingham International Station

NOTE: Sites visited or the order in which they are visited may change due to circumstances that arise and are beyond our control.

Wherever possible, sites will be compared with the account given by Buchan in his Nelson's History of the War.