

# Ypres Trip '22



Harold's Cross  
ETSS

# Principal's Welcome



**Harold's Cross**  
ETSS



# Contents

- Itinerary
- Links to the Curriculum
- Accommodation
- Costs Involved
- Risk Assessment
- Communication with Guardians
- FAQs
- Any Questions?

# Overview of Itinerary



# Day 1: Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022

- Assemble at school for coach transfer to Dublin Airport
- Depart Dublin **06.30** am
- Arrive Brussels **09.20** am - meet with tour guide at arrival hall



# Mons area

Drive to **Mons area** to hear about the German advance through Belgium and the first stand of the British Expeditionary Force (B.E.F) at Mons.





## Mons area

Visit the **Symphorien Military Cemetery** where both British and German soldiers were buried during the beginning of the war.

Mons, Belgium

Ypres, Belgium

Add destination

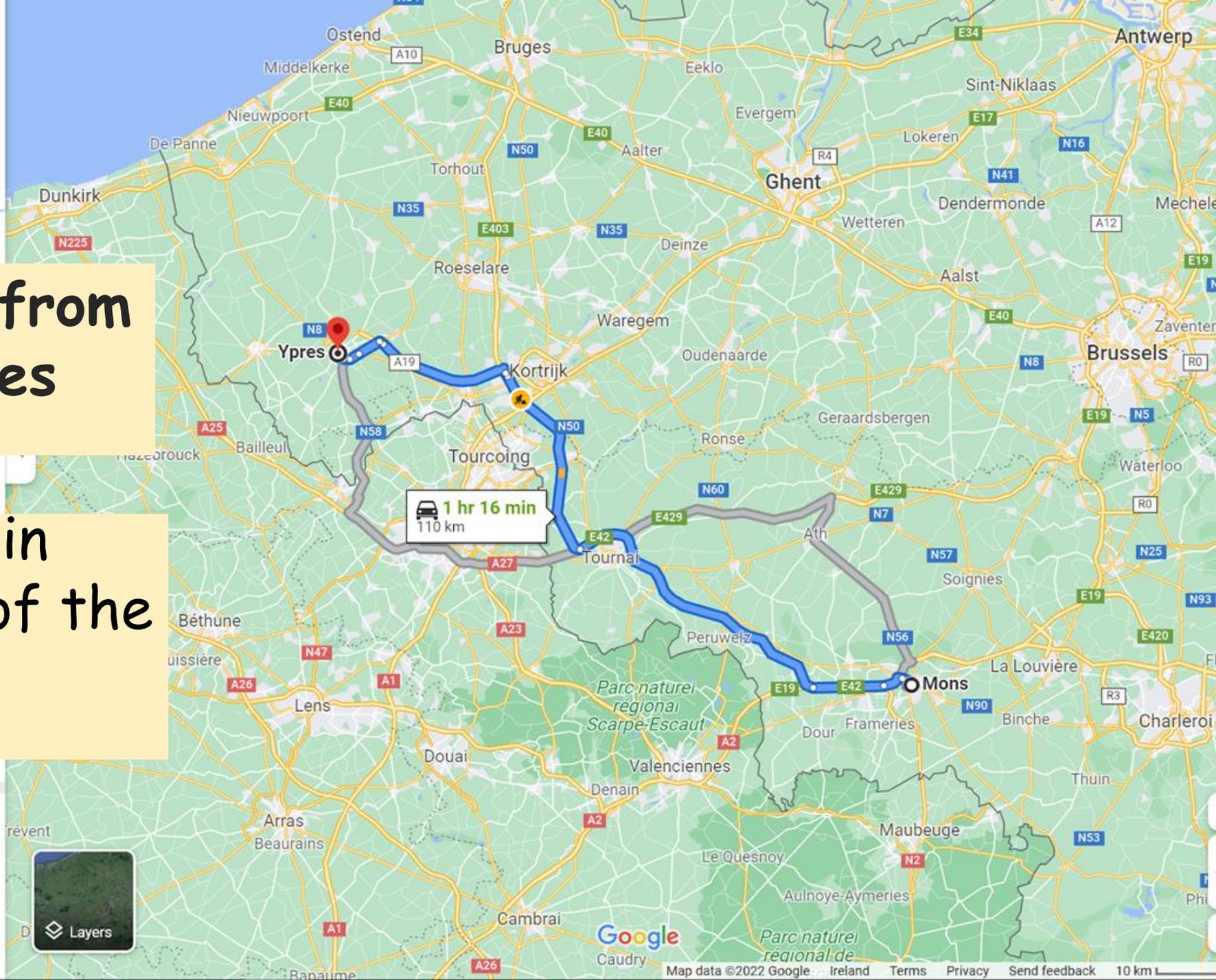
Leave now

Options

Drive onwards from  
Mons to Ypres

Lunch at leisure in  
the city centre of the  
historic town.

1 hr 16 min  
110 km





## Day 1: Afternoon

Following lunch, visit the In Flanders Fields Museum.

# In Flanders Fields Museum

"The museum tells the tale of the war through the eyes of those people who lived through it: soldiers, civilians, medical personnel... The personal stories always impress the visitor, but also provide an excellent introduction to the battlefields of the Ypres Salient."



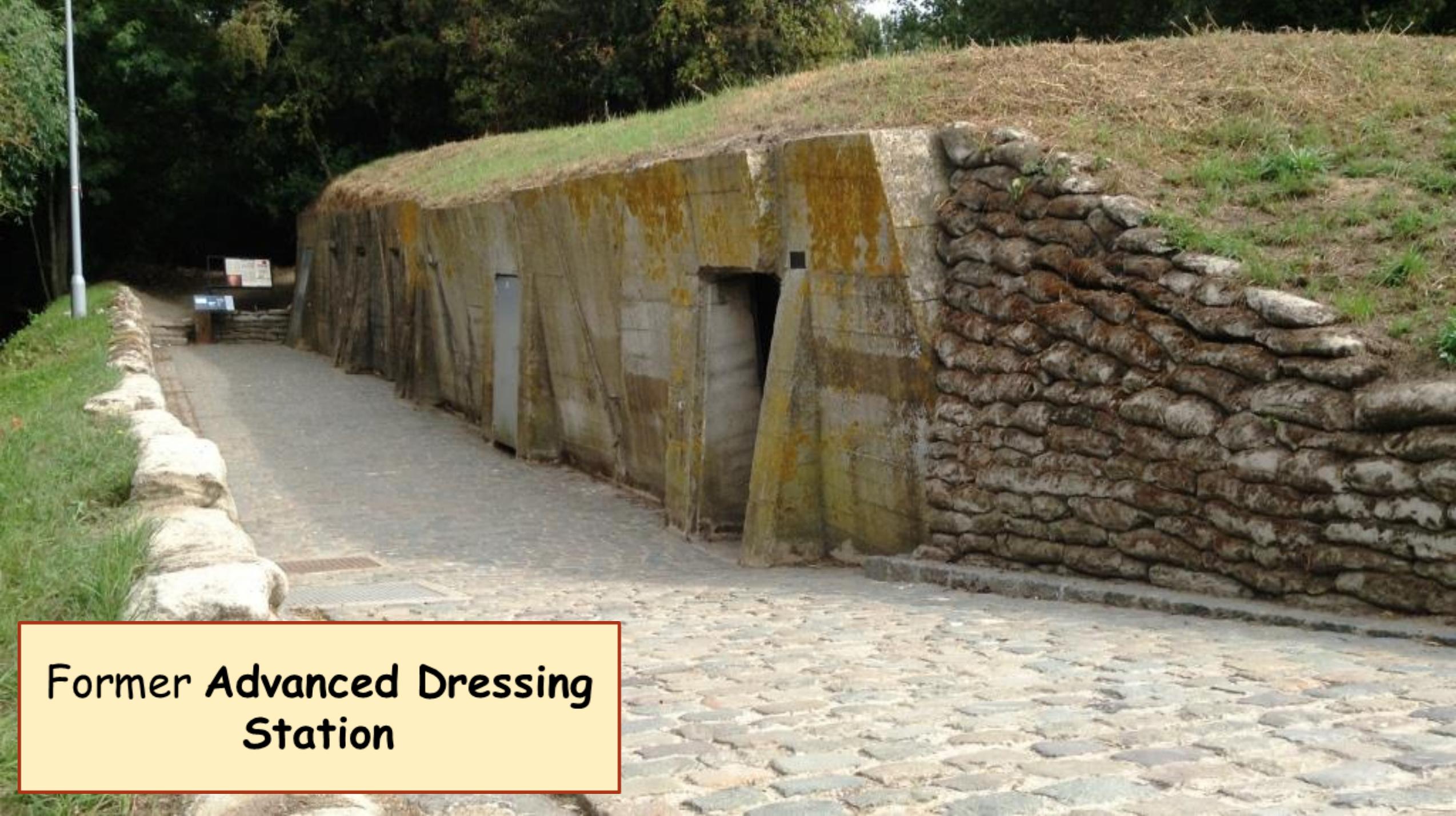


Following the museum, visit a number of historic WWI sites, all within a few minutes drive of Ypres...



# Essex Farm Cemetery

Get the story of the Canadians in the 2nd Battle of Ypres, infamous for the first use of poison gas on the Western front.



**Former Advanced Dressing  
Station**



## National Welsh Memorial

  
Ff cof i'w hysbys a thras Gwmeig  
a gwaredd i'w yn y Rhedri Rhyd Cynod  
In remembrance of all those of Welsh descent



**The German Military  
Cemetery**

A tall, slender stone monument stands in a park. The monument is made of light-colored stone blocks and has a statue of a soldier in a helmet at the top. The word "CANADA" is carved into the stone near the base. The background features a blue sky with white and grey clouds, and green trees. In the foreground, there is a stone wall and two small Canadian flags.

## Canadian Memorial Park



# Continue to accommodation for check-in and evening meal.

- 1 night B&B in historic town of Ypres.
- Option to attend the famous 'Last Post Ceremony' which takes place every night at 8 p.m at the **Menin Gate Memorial**. The ceremony is dedicated to the British and Commonwealth soldiers who were killed in the Ypres Salient of World War I and whose graves are unknown.

Last Post Ceremony, - Menin Gate - Ypres,  
9.Oct.2021. - YouTube





## Day 2: Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2022

- Breakfast at accommodation and check out
- First stop: Christmas Truce Memorial, Messines



TOERISTISCH  
INFOPUNT  
MESEN  
MESSINES

TOURIST INFORMATION POINT MESSINES

BEHEDENVERDIEPING | GROUND LEVEL

08:30 - 17:30

Elke dag behalve kerstdag en 1 januari  
Every day except Christmas and 1st January

THEMAKAMERS | THEME ROOMS  
EERSTE VERDIEPING | FIRST FLOOR

Enkel na reservatie en met gids  
Only by reservation and with guide

reservatie / reservation  
0032(0)57 22 17 14 - info@mesen.be





**New Zealand Memorial  
Park**

**Island of Ireland Peace  
Park**



# Caterpillar Mine Crater



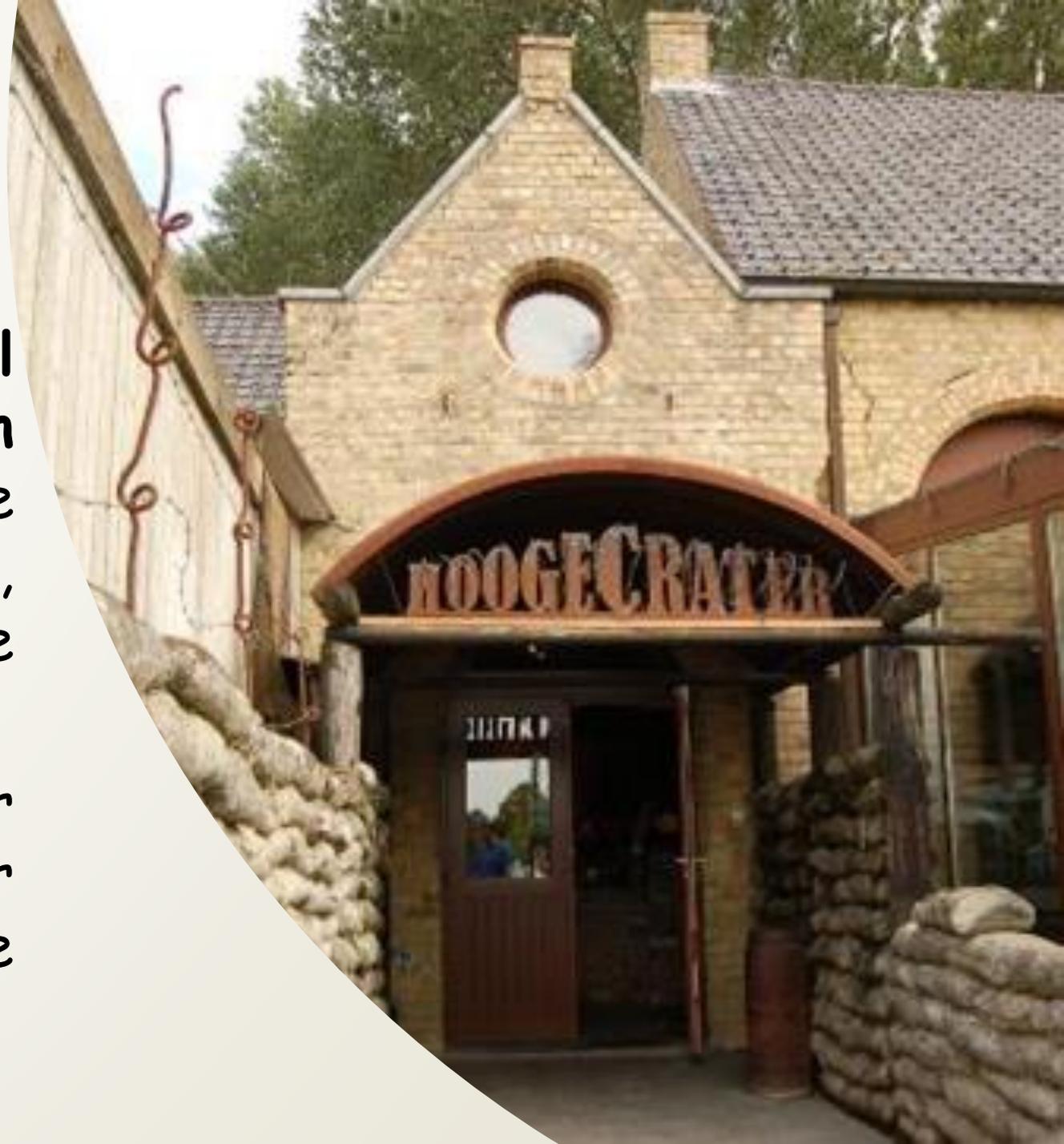
The Caterpillar Mine Crater is the best-preserved crater from the Mine Battle of Messines Ridge



**Lunch and  
free time  
in Ypres**

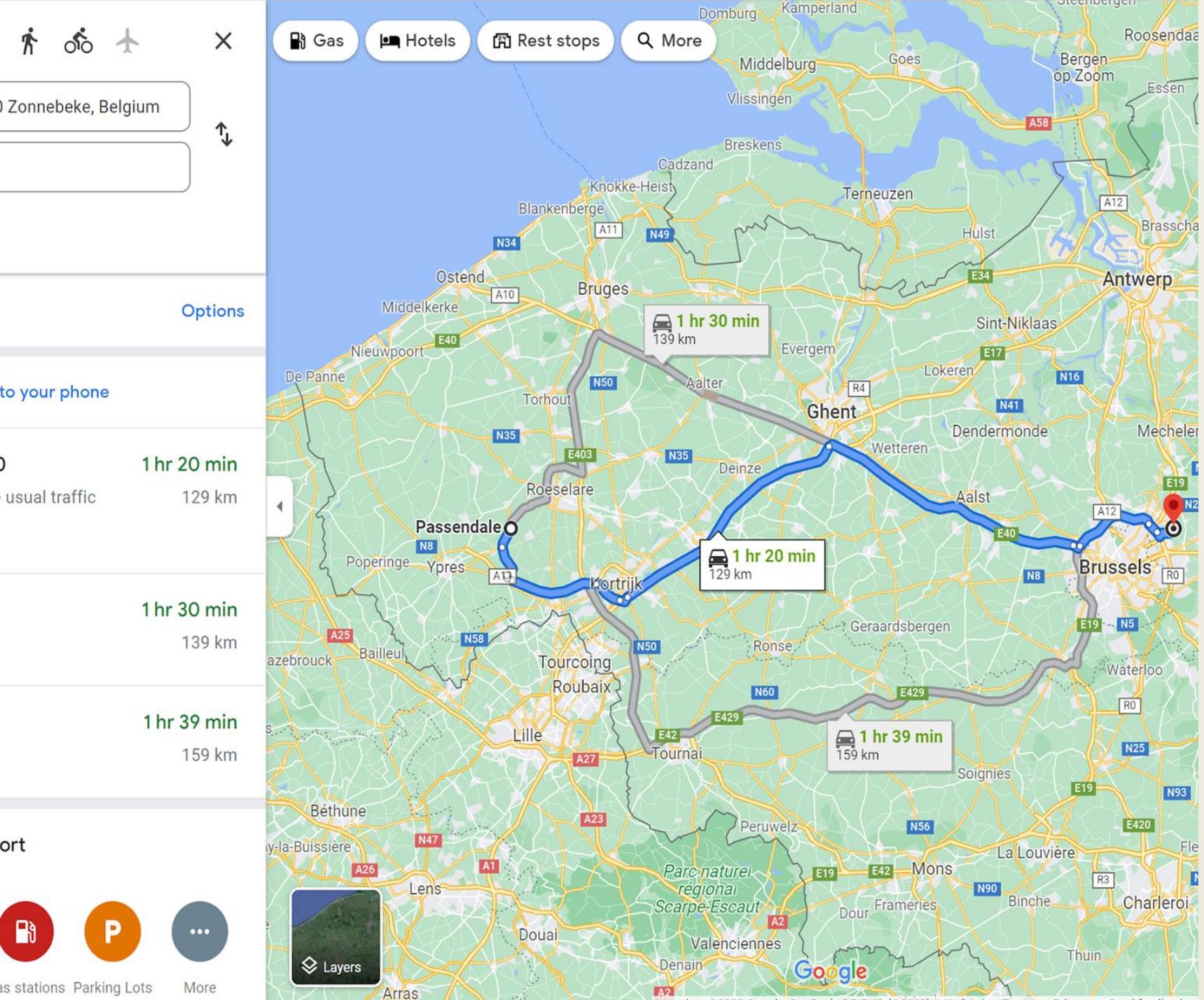
## Day 2 Afternoon

- After lunch, drive along Hell Fire Corner and the Menin Road where you can see the remains of German bunkers, British trenches and mine craters.
- Opposite Hooze Crater Cemetery is Hooze Crater Museum, the best private museum on WWI.





- Via Polygon Wood onwards to **Tyne Cot Cemetery**, the largest Commonwealth cemetery of the Great War.
- From Tyne Cot, drive to Passchendaele and the Canadian Crest Farm Memorial. The ruins of Passchendaele were the scene of bitter fighting in October and November 1917. The final stage of the 3rd Battle of Ypres resulted in high casualty numbers.



# Transfer from Passchendaele to Brussels Airport

- Depart Brussels **18.40 am**
- Arrive Dublin **19:15 am**

# Links to the Junior Cycle History Specification

- Learning Outcome 3.4 discuss the general causes and course of **World War One** or World War Two and the immediate and long-term impact of the war on people and nations.
- Learning Outcome 1.3 appreciate their cultural inheritance through **recognising historically significant places and buildings** and discussing why historical personalities, events and issues are commemorated.
- Learning Outcome 1.8 **investigate a repository of historical evidence such as a museum**, library, heritage centre, digital or other archive or exhibition

---

**Junior Cycle  
History**

---

---

---



# Accommodation

- 1 Night bed and breakfast in Ypres
- Minimum of 20 students required
- Joined by 4 school staff



# Accommodation

- Flanders Lodge ★★ ★
- 7 Min Drive to Ypres Centre
- 1,200+ Reviews: Very Good 8.0 Booking.com

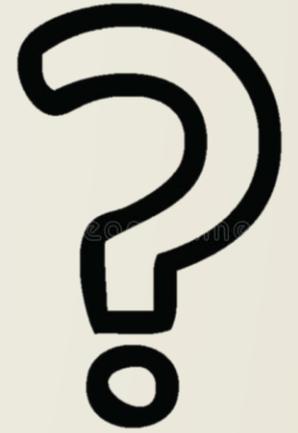








# Costs Involved



Total Cost: €399 per student:

- 1 Night B&B
- Return Flights to Belgium
- Transfer to and from Dublin Airport
- Tours, transport & insurance abroad
- Lunch & Dinner during the day



# Risk Assessment: Belgium

- All entrants to Belgium require a passenger locator form
- Ireland is classified as an EU 'red region' by Belgium
- Passengers from the age of 12 arriving from an EU red region, and holding an EU Digital Covid Certificate (EU-DCC), are exempted from testing and quarantine requirements [PCR Negative Test or Full Vaccine Status]

# Risk Assessment



- COVID: Maintain the school's COVID policy throughout the trip. To mitigate any risk of infection, the pod of 24 (provisional) will be subject to social distancing (as feasible), mask wearing, & frequent hand sanitizing.

# Risk Assessment



- First Aid: Identical to our first aid kits that are provided in the school, we will bring our own equipment for the duration of the trip. Our staff are first aid trained.
- Medical Needs: The needs of students (dietary, medical, allergy, etc.) will be identified once interest has been expressed. Any further concerns by guardians can be forwarded to organising team at any time.



# Communication

- **Email**

Contact will be made via email to provide ample information regarding payment, documents required and timelines.

- **Payment**

The tour company has an online portal which will handle all finances for the trip. The school will not handle any money throughout the deposit process.



# What happens now?

If you are interested, please

- email Alex at [office@hcetss.ie](mailto:office@hcetss.ie) by 9am Friday 11th Feb
- Any follow up concerns/queries

Following this:

- First deposit of €150 will be due by Thursday 17th Feb
- Second deposit of €100 due 3rd March
- Final deposit of €150 due 14th March
- Trip 23rd-24th May

# Frequently Asked Questions

- Is there anyone else considering such a trip?

Several other schools in this area are organising similar overseas trips.

- Do the students need to be vaccinated?

Our Board of Management have decided that students must provide proof of:

- Vaccination
- Recovery from Covid within last 6 months
- Negative PCR test taken on Sunday 22nd May (this will cover any student for duration of the trip and removes need for a second PCR test in Belgium).

# Frequently Asked Questions

- **What is the situation in Belgium like now?**

Belgium currently has Ireland on the red list. This is subject to change but as it stands makes no difference to EU residents with COVID certificates.

- **What happens if Belgium is still restricted?**

If the tour is deemed not viable, the tour company will provide a full refund minus a €100 fee to cover cancellation costs. This is due to insurance policies.

- **A student has caught COVID and cannot travel?**

Full cancellation will be covered by the insurance company within 14 days of departure.

# Frequently Asked Questions

- **A guardian decides the risk is too great and pulls their child from the trip despite easing of restrictions?**

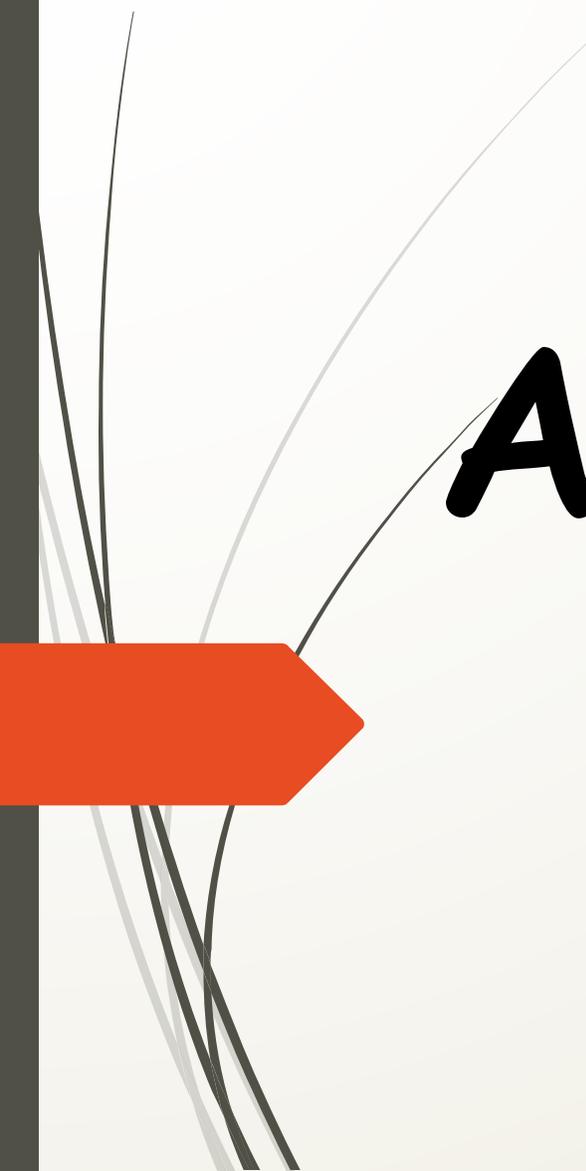
If the trip is viable, under the insurance policy, their refund will depend on notice but student will lose their initial deposit.

- **Will students need spending money?**

As students will have free time at certain points during their schedule, this is up to guardians. Staff will not be holding onto money for students.

- **Will students be allowed their phones?**

Students will be allowed their phones but strict guidelines will be in place during sensitive visits as to when they may use them.



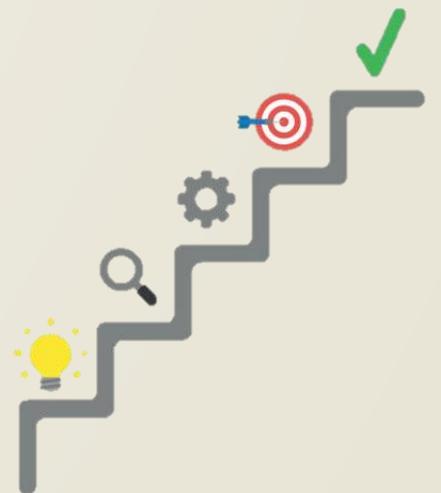
**Any questions?**

# Next Steps

If you are interested, please

- email Alex at [office@hcetss.ie](mailto:office@hcetss.ie) by 9am Friday 11th Feb

**\*Minimum of 20 students required**



**Thank You!**

