



HISTORICAL JOURNEY

WORLD WAR I: THE DOUGHBOYS



JUNE 19 - 29, 2025



WORLD AFFAIRS
COUNCIL OF
PHILADELPHIA
& PARTNERS

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JOIN US



Our new WWI: The Doughboys Tour honors General John Pershing's American Expeditionary Forces—Marines, Soldiers, and Airmen—who helped secure victory on the Western Front in World War I.

Explore the battlefields of France where legendary figures like George Patton, Douglas MacArthur, and Alvin York fought their first battles. Visit iconic sites like Belleau Wood and lesser-known locations, tracing the stories of Medal of Honor recipients and pivotal moments in America's military history.

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Cantigny & Belleau Wood** - Discover the first American attack of WWI at Cantigny and tour Belleau Wood, site of a legendary U.S. Marine assault with a stunning memorial and cemetery.
- **Soissons & Blanc Mont Ridge** - Explore battlefields where Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. fought at Soissons and witness the dramatic Marine and National Guard victory at Blanc Mont Ridge.
- **Meuse-Argonne & Cemetery** - Trace America's largest and bloodiest battle and honor over 14,000 fallen soldiers at the breathtaking Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery.
- **Verdun & Compiègne** - Visit Verdun's forts and memorials to brave American volunteers, and see where the Great War ended at Compiègne's Armistice site.

HISTORY

**Travel Day**

Fly independently to Paris Charles De Gaulle Airport (CDG), arriving the following day.

Day 1 – Paris to Soissons:

Meet your group at CDG and transfer to Soissons, stopping at WWI memorials along the way. Enjoy a welcome reception and dinner with your historian.

Day 2 – Soissons:

Explore the Battle of Cantigny, the first major U.S. attack in WWI, and visit the Cantigny Monument and Soissons Cathedral, restored after WWI damage.

Day 3 – Soissons:

Tour the Belleau Wood battlefield, where U.S. Marines fought their first major battle, and visit the Aisne-Marne American Cemetery.

Day 4 – Soissons to Vienne-le-Chateau:

Study the Battle of Soissons, including Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.'s role. Visit Croix Rouge Farm and Fismette before arriving at a country hotel near Vienne-le-Chateau.

EXPLORE

**Day 5 – Vienne-le-Chateau:**

Begin your tour of the Meuse-Argonne Offensive, visiting Blanc Mont Ridge, the Lost Battalion site, and Alvin York's Medal of Honor location.

Day 6 – Vienne-le-Chateau:

Trace key actions in the central Meuse-Argonne, including Montfaucon, Côte Dame Marie, and the heroism of Douglas MacArthur, Father Duffy, and others.

Day 7 – Vienne-le-Chateau:

Explore the Meuse-Argonne's eastern sector, following the 29th Division's attack through the "Valley of Death" and visiting the site of Harry Gunther's last stand.

Day 8 – Verdun and St. Mihiel:

Tour Verdun's forts, memorials, and the Lafayette Escadrille story. Conclude at St. Mihiel with a visit to its American Monument and Cemetery.

Day 9 – Meuse-Argonne Cemetery and Paris:

Pay tribute at the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, visit the Armistice site at Compiègne, and return to Paris for a farewell dinner.

Day 10 – Flight Home:

Transfer to CDG for your flight home.

AMENITIES

HOTELS

- Three and four-star hotels
- Nine (9) hotel nights
- Standard rooms

MEALS

- Breakfast - Daily at tour hotels
- Some lunches and dinners
- Receptions - Two (Welcome and Farewell)

INCLUDED

- Professional historian lecturing and answering questions from the Welcome Dinner to the Farewell Dinner
- Tour manager to handle guest needs and on-the-ground logistics
- Entrance fees to all museums, sites, and parks
- Private motor coach
- Hotel taxes and service charges
- Educational road book of maps and historical information

ACTIVITY LEVEL

This tour requires walking on uneven terrain. In general, guests walk about three miles over the course of each day.

NOT INCLUDED

- There are some meals on your own
- Flights
- Gratuities for historian, tour manager, and bus driver
- Travel Insurance - always highly recommended
 - To get a quote on travel insurance, click [USI Travel Insurance](#) or call 1-800-937-1387.