

North of France

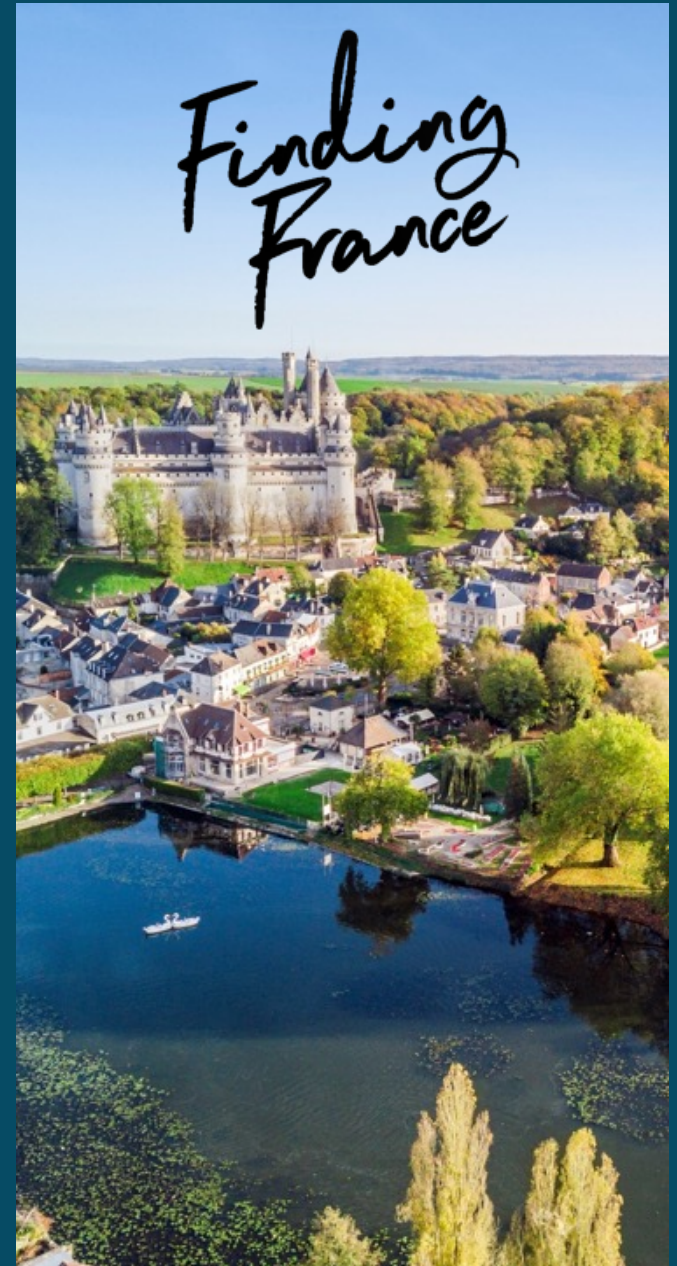
Bloody battles raged in North Of France during both World Wars. To this day, the scarred region bears witness to the furies of War. Do you feel the need to reach back to those roots? Feel a call to go honor the fallen in those desperate times? Interested in learning more about that world-shaping moment that took place 100 years ago?

Perhaps you'd also like to rejoice in the resilience and warmth of the welcoming inhabitants of the North Of France. Not to mention the hearty, binding culinary heritage that endures to this day!

With Finding France, you'll travel as a small, intimate group to experience the region. Moreover, tailor-made events and opportunities will make the 1 to 8-day stay a unique and memorable lifetime experience.

Here's our recommended itinerary for a 3-day and 2-night tour:

- DAY 1: Cathedral of Amiens and Vimy Memorial
- DAY 2: Ypres – Passchendaele WWI Battlefields / Lille
- DAY 3: Pierrefonds Castle – WWI Memorial - Compiègne





Cathedral of Amiens and Vimy Memorial

DAY 1

MORNING

- Enter a local market and meet local producers (cheesemakers, vegetable growers, livestock breeders...)
- In Amiens, visit the largest cathedral of France – twice as large as the famed Notre-Dame in Paris.

AFTERNOON

- In Vimy, honor the Canadian soldiers who fell in battle in France during World War I. Join in on a guided tour of the memorial and bunker down in the trenches.
- Meet a local cow cheese maker and visit both farm and processing facilities. He'll explain how milk is turned into creamy cheese and butter.

AVAILABLE OPTIONS*

Instead of the suggested activities in the main itinerary

- Ride a small skiff in the “hortillonnages” in Amiens. These are a patchwork of bayous where owners have been tending fully organic vegetable patches since the Middle Ages.
- Learn to craft your very own chocolates with Luc, chef in a local chocolate Delicatessen shop. Nibble a few of the original Amiens macaroons, made popular by Catherine de Médicis in the XVIth century.
- Tour a snail farm.

*Please contact us for options rates



Ypres - Passchendaele WWI Battlefields - Lille

DAY 2

MORNING

- Discover historical downtown Ypres, in Belgium, with its cathedral, historical cloth warehouses, and its XIVth century belfry.
- Honor the deceased heroes of World War I battlefields, many of them Canadian, including Essex farm cemetery, St Julian Memorial, Tyne Cot cemetery.

AFTERNOON

- Experience the life of Canadian WWI soldiers in the Passchendaele museum. Discover the trenches, and connect to your past (genealogical lookup available).
- Meet a brewer and tour his charming brewery. Taste his latest creations.

AVAILABLE OPTIONS*

Instead of the suggested activities in the main itinerary

- Bicycle outing along the battlefield lines..
- Attend a ceremony to honor war heroes in Ypres.
- Visit a cheese-maturing cellar, where the famous "Mimolette" cheese is aged.

*Please contact us for options rates



Pierrefonds Castle - WWI Memorial - Compiègne

DAY 3

MORNING

- Enter a local market and meet local producers at the Pierrefonds market (vegetable growers, cheesemakers, butchers, fishmongers...)
- Visit the medieval-style Pierrefonds castle renovated by Eugène Viollet-le-Duc, the architect who saved Notre Dame in Paris from oblivion.

AFTERNOON

- Enter the clearing in Rethondes, where, on November 11th, 1918, the armistice was signed, officially ending World War I.
- Visit the Compiègne Castle, a palace renovated during the XVIIIth century. In this castle, Marie-Antoinette and Louis the XVIth were regular guests.

AVAILABLE OPTIONS*

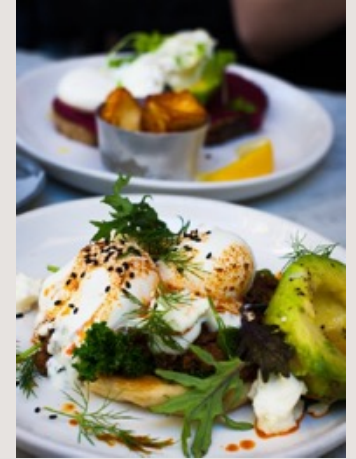
Instead of the suggested activities in the main itinerary

- With the local produce from the market, join in on a cooking workshop with Alix, a woman Chef who will welcome you in her Compiègne forest home for lunch.
- Get to taste the fresh goat cheese production of a local producer on his farm.
- Meet a mushroom grower and visit the stone quarry where he grows them.

*Please contact us for options rates

Lunching and Dining

At Finding France, we strive to provide you with exceptional dining experiences suited to your particular tastes. If you choose to include meals in your tour*, we will plan out together the types and standing of restaurants that you would like to try so that your experience is unforgettable!



Example of restaurants and experiences. Non-contractual photos.

*Breakfast is included in the price of all packages; lunch and dinner are optional.

Experience the French "art de vivre"

At Finding France, we offer you a unique selection of elegant boutique hotels.



Example of accommodation. Non-contractual photo.

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Travel in intimate, private groups, starting from 2 persons.

Discover the France of your dreams – from the destinations we offer, you decide which to visit and how long your stay at each should last.

Booking your travel experience through Finding France ensures authentic relationships with local artisans and directly supports the local economy.

A WORD FROM THE FOUNDER...

CLÉMENT DECRÉ

Finding France arose from an intuition that visiting France in a more authentic and friendly manner was possible. Time is precious, and taking the time is the true meaning of leisure.

Whether you travel as a couple, as a family, or with friends, my endeavor to serve comes from the heart.

My goal is for you to create lasting memories – all in your own time.



Finding France



Contact us:



TELEPHONE

+33 6 50 02 31 21

E-MAIL

clement@findingfrance.fr

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.finding-france.com



Travelling with Finding France
helps support local French
craftspeople and producers!

STAY SAFE WITH FINDING FRANCE

The health and safety of our guests is of utmost importance to us.

Our private tours are designed to preserve your social bubble against Covid-19.

We implement stringent safety measures to protect you against Covid-19.

Daily disinfection of the vehicle with a virucidal agent, face masks and hydro-alcoholic gel provided everyday, whenever requested. Once you are in France, we pick you up at your doorstep and drop you off after the tour at the location of your choice.

Physical contact is limited to the strict minimum.

Given the constant evolution of the epidemic, we recommend that all guests review their own country's local travel guidance and health advisories, as issued by health authorities, related to this outbreak.

Please click the link below leading to the France Diplomacy website. It details all entrance requirements for foreign travellers:

<https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/coming-to-france/coronavirus-advice-for-foreign-nationals-in-france/>