



V8 Pas de Calais Tour 2013

Programme for the Autumn Tour, 27th Sept - 1st Oct 2013

NOTE: If you're coming from the UK you may wish to use a cross channel ferry. If you contact Carolyn Owen before 30th April she can arrange a flexible return crossing Dover-Calais or Dover-Boulogne for £38 – tel 0118 933 2533 or [email](#).

Friday 27th September: Bonjour



Arrive and check in at the Hotel Hermitage, Montreuil sur Mer, during the afternoon. The hotel is in Place Gambetta, Cedex 62170 (Cedex is the French Post Code):

see <http://www.hermitage-montreuil.com/accueiluk.htm>

and for a location map <http://www.hermitage-montreuil.com/accesuk.htm>.

The hotel has a secure car park where you can leave your car after you've unpacked your luggage.

One of the tour organisers will greet you and give you your goody-bag which will include your Route Book for the two tour days and your Rally Plaque.

The evening meal will be in a dining room in the hotel dedicated to the V8 tour and will be a three course meal complete with aperitif, wine and closing coffee. This is included in your V8 tour hotel charge. There will be a briefing and tour introduction during the evening.

Saturday 28th September: Explore

Saturday is a free day for you to do as you wish – within Montreuil itself or in the country around – or both.



Montreuil sur Mer has a traditional French market which is a delight to explore.

The town is surrounded by medieval ramparts which you can walk round and which include a 16th century citadel (4€ entry fee).

You may be surprised to see a statue of general Haig in the main square, Place Charles de Gaulle. This is because Montreuil was the British Army HQ during the first World War.



One of several nearby places of interest is La Coupole, the French name for what was a huge German WW2 V2 storage and launch silo. It is now an excellent museum covering the V2 and many other aspects of WW2, including historic film, all with English commentary on your personal audio guide – see

<http://www.lacoupole-france.co.uk/>.

There will be further tourist information in your goody bag but please look through your Route Books before you travel to avoid duplication of tour routes or venues.

Your Saturday evening meal is not included in the tour price. Montreuil has many fine restaurants and brasseries – your goody bag will include some suggestions. The Hotel Hermitage itself has fine dining but the prices are commensurate with the haute cuisine it offers.

NOTE on coffee, lunch and entrance costs:

The MGCC is VAT registered and so must charge VAT on goods and services sold. In the UK these can normally be recovered but this is not the case in France so your coffee, lunch and entrance fees are not included in the tour fee (the 20% surcharge would negate any quantity discounts!).

NOTE on your Route Book:

The Route Book uses Tulip Diagrams and mileage tables (not those French kilometre things!) to guide you. These are straightforward and an explanation is given in each book. This is not a race – set off when you want and go at your own pace. The route book will include snippets of information about the towns and villages that you'll be passing through but please stop and explore anything that catches your fancy. There's no problem deviating from the route but take note of any mileages and correct accordingly.

**Sunday 29th September:
The Seven Valleys**

Sunday is a Tour Day. We will be taking a leisurely 75 mile drive to the east and north of Montreuil through a scenic area known as The Seven Valleys or the Ternois. You follow the "Seven Valleys" section of your Route Book through some picturesque villages and small towns such as Senlis (below).



There are recommended coffee stops and a lunch stop at Azincourt (English "Agincourt"), site of the famous English (and Welsh!) victory in the 100 Years' War. There you can look round the excellent museum with an English Audio guide for a fee of €7.50.

Return to the hotel at any time as there is no tour meal provided on Sunday night. Dine where you did on Saturday or explore somewhere new.

Monday 30th September:

Sea, sand and.....sorbet.

Monday is the second tour day. This time we'll be taking an 85 mile tour to the west and south of Montreuil and reaching the sea at the Cote d'Opale. This has cliffs, dunes and beaches, including one of the most significant seal colonies of France. Follow the "Sea, Sand and...Sorbet" section of your Route Book.



There are also several historic villages on the route, including Crecy en Ponthieu, site of the Battle of Crecy, yet another great English (and Welsh!) victory over the French.

For our final night of the tour, return to the hotel for a three course meal in the V8 tour dining room with aperitifs, wine and closing coffee. This is included in your V8 tour hotel charge.

Tuesday 1st October:

Au Revoir

Sadly, this is the end of the V8 Register Tour of the Pas de Calais. After breakfast pack your things, pay your bills, say your goodbyes and set off for the return home or for further exploration of France.

Bon Voyage!

----- RDO April 2013 -----