

Tour
Information



More Magnificent Men

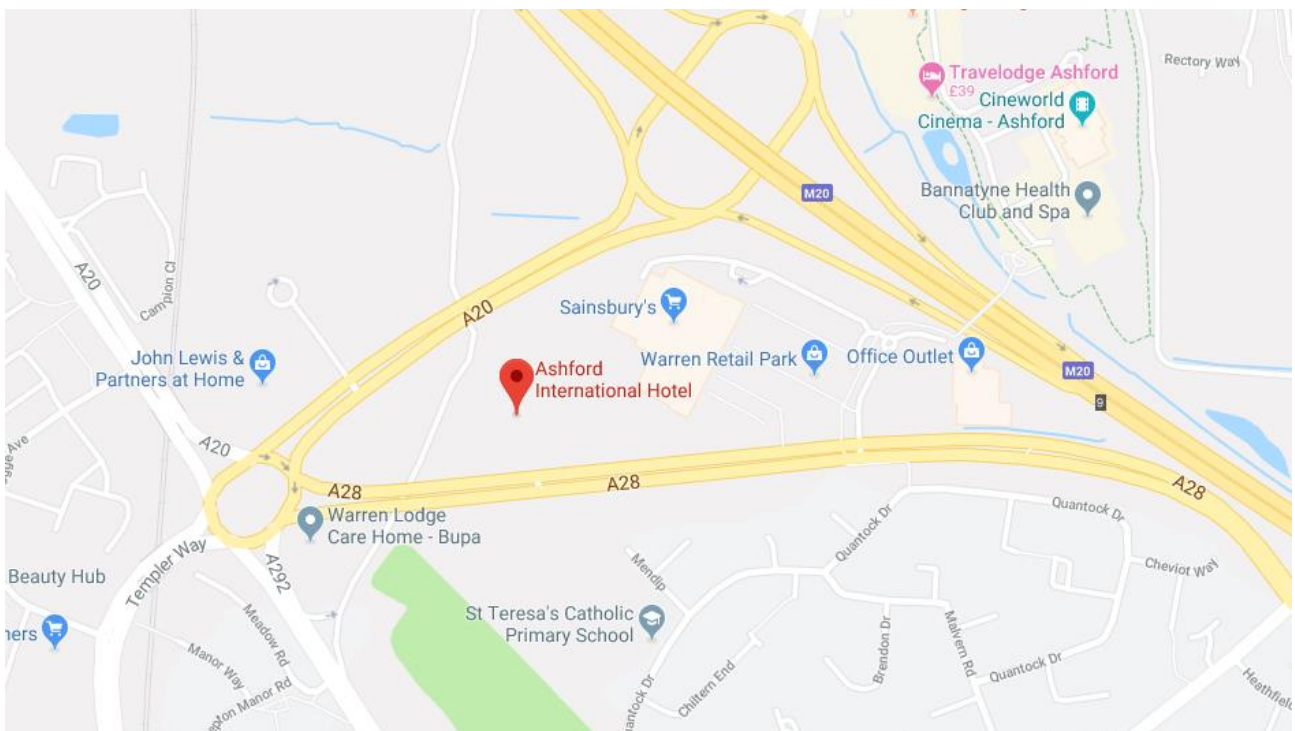




The tour starts and finishes at **Ashford International Hotel**.

SIMONE WEIL AVENUE,
ASHFORD,
TN24 8UX
United Kingdom
Tel: +44-1233 219988

Please note that transport to the hotel is not included in the price of the tour.



Transport

Travelling by car:

From the M20 - At junction 9, take the A251/A20 exit to Ashford/Faversham, at the roundabout, take the 3rd exit onto Fougères Way/A20. Then at Drivers Roundabout, take the 1st exit onto Simone Weil Ave/A28, after 200 yards turn left and after 30 yards turn right, then take the next left into the hotel.

Road Works taking place:

There are major roadworks along the M20 in order to upgrade to a smart motorway, with a 50 MPH speed restriction. This means that delays can occur, so please allow sufficient for this. *These roadworks are scheduled to last until 2020.*

Travelling by rail: The nearest station is Ashford International Station, which is 5.7 miles from the Hotel.



Accommodation

Ashford International Hotel

Ashford International is a four-star purpose-built hotel that has everything you need for a relaxing stay. Unwind in our spa and health club, offering a range of facilities including an indoor pool, sauna, jacuzzi, steam room and fully equipped gym. Each of the contemporary rooms include complimentary use of the Health Club and have en-suite facilities with complimentary toiletries, tea and coffee making facilities, Wi-fi and TV.

For more information, additional details can be found on the website:

<https://www.ashfordhotel.co.uk>

Check-in and departure from the hotel

On the day of arrival, you will be able to check-in at the hotel from 15.00, and the tour manager will meet you in the evening at the welcome reception.

On the last day of the tour, the tour will not finish until approximately 17.30 so you should check with your tour manager, or the hotel reception, where luggage may be stored until your departure.

Extra nights

If you have booked to stay an extra night at the hotel, this is on a bed and breakfast basis and check out from the hotel is at 11:00.

Special requests

If you haven't already done so, please notify Travel Editions of any special requests as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to make the necessary arrangements.

Dining

On the first night of your stay, a private dinner with wine is provided. During the second evening of the tour, dinner is provided at the hotel restaurant. Breakfast on each day of your stay is included in the price. All other meals other than these stated are not included.



Places Visited

Headcorn Aerodrome and Lashenden Air Warfare Museum

The Lashenden Air Warfare Museum, at Headcorn Aerodrome is one of the longest established aviation museums in the country, having been formed in 1970. The museum collection was started by members of the Maidstone branch of Royal Air Forces Association in the late 1960's. The museum itself came into being when the airfield owner, Mr Freeman, offered the Maidstone branch of the Royal Air Forces Association a building for use as a museum in early 1970. The museum opened to the public Easter 1970 taking on the name of Lashenden Air Warfare Museum (Lashenden being the wartime name of the airfield). The museum's first aircraft arrived just before Easter 1970, this being the very rare Fieseler Fi 103R-4 Reichenberg piloted V1 flying bomb.

Throughout the day small groups will be taken for the exclusive flight on the De Havilland Devon which will take you up and over the aerodrome for approximately 20 minutes.

<https://www.lashendenairwarfaremuseum.co.uk/2.html>

Romney Marsh Wartime Collection

The Romney Marsh Wartime Collection, incorporating Brenzett Aeronautical Museum Trust, at Brenzett, is a unique collection of wartime equipment, remains recovered from aircraft crash sites and memorabilia collected and donated to the Museum since its formation in 1972. The Museum has a Bomb Disposal equipment display and a Barnes Wallis Dambuster Bomb on display outside.

<https://theromneymarsh.net/wartimecollection>

Hawkinge Battle of Britain Museum

In 1980 the Museum acquired part of one of the last sites of Britain's epic struggle for survival in 1940, in what was to be the greatest air battle in history. RAF Hawkinge was the nearest Royal Air Force station to enemy-occupied France, with the Luftwaffe fighters, based in the Pas-de-Calais, being a mere 6 minutes flying time away. Naturally it and the surrounding district was also the target of the Luftwaffe's bombers and, in addition, was subjected to long-range cross-channel shelling from the German shore batteries stationed along the French coast. Not for nothing was the Dover and Folkestone area known as "Hellfire Corner". Despite the passing years, today's visitor can still savour the atmosphere of the airfield's past with the landmarks, and the buildings that remain, acting as reminders of those perilous days. Indeed, prior to the development of the airfield in 1993, one could still see the English Channel and the French coast from this historic spot.

http://www.kbobm.org/raf_hawkinge.html

National Memorial to the Few

The National Memorial to the Few is a peaceful space, ideal for quiet reflection, atop the famous White Cliffs and offering superb views across the Channel to France. The central statue of a lone pilot is complemented by the Christopher Foxley-Norris Memorial Wall, two replica aircraft and other items of interest. The Wing, open to the public since 2015, an eye-catching building was designed in the shape of a Spitfire wing, complete with its famous uplift, houses The Scramble Experience, a hands-on attraction that uses audio-visual effects, a video wall and other special techniques to show something of what it was like for the Few in the summer and early autumn of 1940.

<https://www.battleofbritainmemorial.org>

Spitfire and Hurricane Museum

The iconic RAF fighter planes of the Second World War, the Supermarine Spitfire Mk XVI and the Hawker Hurricane IIC, housed under one museum roof at the historic Battle of Britain airfield in Manston, Kent. Our Spitfire has four crosses painted on the side, denoting four German aircraft shot down in combat. What is unusual is these four combat 'kills' were by four different pilots. Denoted the 'scratch' (Z) aircraft of the squadron, this Spitfire was used as the spare for any pilot needing an aircraft.

<https://www.spitfiremuseum.org.uk>

RAF Manston History Museum

Manston started its Aviation days as a Royal Naval Station in 1916, with a base at Westgate Bay for seaplanes. The early airfield was on the area now occupied by the passenger terminal. By 1917 Manston airfield had grown to include four underground hangars, its own railway line to Birchington, a power station to generate electricity, barracks for 3,000 men and even an indoor swimming pool. After WW1, training of airmen in airframe maintenance and engine repairs was taught in the School of Technical Training. 1940 and WW2 brought the Battle of Britain. Barnes Wallis arrived in 1943 to test his bouncing bomb at nearby Reculver, before the Dam busters carried out their famous raid.

<http://www.rafmanston.co.uk/>

Your Guide

Your guide, **David W Lee**. following a career with Rolls-Royce David joined the Imperial War Museum at Duxford and became the Deputy Director. During his tenure, there were many exciting developments on site including the impressive AirSpace. Acknowledged as an expert in his field, David is a Past Chairman of the Transport Trust and served on the National Executive of the British Aircraft Preservation Council. He continues to undertake work for IWM Duxford despite his formal retirement. His most recent published work is *'Action Stations Revisited: Airfields of the South East'*.

David will give the talk: "Wartime Aviation Wall Art"

Practical Information






Tour manager - Your tour manager will be on hand throughout the tour to ensure that everything operates according to plan. If you have any problems or questions please see him or her immediately – it is often possible to resolve complaints or problems very quickly on the spot, and do everything to help you enjoy your holiday.

Tipping – To keep our tours affordable, we do not increase the tour price by adding in tips. However, in the tourism industry, there is a certain level of expectation that when receiving a good service, one does award with a tip. Tour Managers, Representatives, Guides and Drivers appreciate a tip at the end of their involvement with the tour, but this is entirely at your discretion. We believe in allowing you to tip according to your level of satisfaction with their services, but for your guidance about £2-3 per person per day for the tour manager is the norm. We would like to reiterate that tipping is an entirely optional payment and this information is given purely to answer any questions you may have about it.

Walking Content – This tour has been graded a 3 out of 5 for walking difficulty.

Walking difficulty: 

Please see the key below for an explanation of the footprint symbols:

Very little walking involved	
Relaxed easy pace, mainly walking from coach to site	
Some walking between sites, good, flat walking surfaces	
Walking between sites, lots of standing for viewings	
On your feet all day, uneven terrain (cobblestones etc)	

Insurance

Although this is a UK holiday please note that, should you cancel your holiday, the amount paid is non-refundable. For this reason you may wish to take out insurance just in case an unforeseen event caused you to have to cancel the tour. As well as covering cancellations, your travel insurance will also cover your baggage and personal belongings in case they are lost or stolen.

Emergencies

Should an emergency arise, please call our offices on:

020 7251 0045

Outside office hours (Mon-Fri 0900-1700), telephone our emergency staff on:

07841 023807 or

020 7987 5910 or

07831 133079

PLEASE USE THESE NUMBERS ONLY IN THE EVENT OF A GENUINE EMERGENCY.

Travel Editions

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