

ARRAS AT THE CROSSROADS OF CULTURES



Preview programme



ARRAS



LE CENTENAIRE



The Battle of Arras - 100 Years :

The cultures of the world honoured

80% of the martyred town of Arras was destroyed during the First World War. The high point of this, the 4th season of commemorations marking the 14-18 Centenary is the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Arras. In the spring of 1916, after seeing the French Army and the Foreign Legion pass through, Arras became a crossroads where numerous British and Commonwealth nationalities converged to defend the city and the hills of Artois. In 1917, the whole world came together on the Arras front.



EVENTS IN 2017

Faces of the Battle of Arras

18 March to 16 May

A photographic exhibition featuring portraits of soldiers serving during the Battle of Arras is an opportunity for visitors to come face to face with those men who came from all over the world, and be drawn into their life stories.

> Town trail

Witnesses

18 March to 11 June

An exhibition on loan from the Canadian War Museum, showing works by soldiers of the conflict serving in Artois in 1917.

> Museum of Fine Arts

(Re)trenches

18 March to 11 June

A trench reconstruction. An excellent way to prepare for a visit to the Canadian exhibition « witnesses »

> Main courtyard of the Museum of Fine Arts

1917: Saint-Vaast Abbey

18 March to 11 June

An Open-air exhibition of photographs and eye-witness accounts, to discover or remember the story of the Abbey (Palace and Cathedral) during the Great War and the Battle of Arras.

> Gates of Saint-Vaast Abbey

Poppy of peace - Victory Medal

2 to 12 April

A « Participative work around the creation by sculptor Helen Pollock, honouring the New Zealand forebears who fought in the First World War ».

> Place des Héros

Inter-religious Ceremony

8 April

Ceremony commemorating the men of all faiths who fell during the First World War.

> Saint-Vaast Cathedral

Flower in the gun barrel

8 April

A theatre work based on authentic eye-witness accounts, and chronicles from the front, dealing implicitly and sensitively with post-traumatic stress disorder.

> Casino

Dawn ceremony

9 April at 6.30am

A Memorial ceremony paying tribute to the British and the Commonwealth soldiers who fought in the Battle of Arras. « The Earth Remembers », the imposing sculpture designed by Marian Fountain in memory of the New Zealand Tunnelling Company, will be inaugurated on this occasion.

> The Wellington Tunnels, Memorial to the Battle of Arras

MORE INFORMATION AT
ARRAS1418.COM