



E-NEWS – FROMELLES AND POZIERES COMMEMORATIVE SERVICES IN FRANCE

Issue 2 - May 2016

Welcome to the transportation edition of E-news – a newsletter to keep you informed about critical dates and provide helpful advice about how to prepare and what to expect while attending Centenary commemorations in 2016.

Security Overview

All visitors to the 2016 Commemorations will go through attendance pass scanning points and security screening as part of the entry process.

The Australian government works closely with the French authorities to provide appropriate security arrangements. You should allow sufficient time to travel to commemorative sites and to pass through the various security checkpoints.

Security and crowd management measures include screening of all visitors at the entry points to all commemorative service sites, bag searches and crowd control barriers. The barriers are used as a means of directing public access and protecting the surrounding environment. Please follow the instructions issued by French security personnel at all times.

Security measures may be in place several days in advance of the services. Certain areas of the commemorative sites may not be accessible to the public.

Fromelles

Key points:

- Road closures from 8:00AM to 8:00PM
- Parking for private vehicles at Lille – shuttle ticket must be purchased
- Drop off for tour groups only – at Fromelles Mairie (Town Hall)
- Security screening at the Fromelles (Pheasant Wood) Military Cemetery.

Arrivals

All visitors in Fromelles must go through the check point entrance gate. At this point, visitors will then have their attendance pass validated, progress through security scanning and receive a wristband that will permit entry to the commemorative site. Visitors will also be provided their information pack and a lanyard to hold their attendance pass. By showing the wristband, visitors will be permitted to proceed through the commemorative site at their leisure.

If you are planning to travel to the commemoration by private vehicle, you must be aware that you need to park your vehicle in the town of Lille and obtain a shuttle to the town of Fromelles. Road closures will be in place in Fromelles and there is no parking available on the narrow roads around the town.

You can obtain your shuttle ticket from <http://en.lilletourism.com/shuttle-fromelles.html>.

Road closures will be in place throughout the town of Fromelles from 8:00AM to 8:00PM. Parking within restricted areas will mean you may not be able to move your vehicle within this time or local authorities may tow your vehicle.

Visitors arriving in private vehicles and taxis should note that it is their responsibility to get to Lille to board the shuttle. Visitors are also responsible for their departure from the town of Fromelles and ensuring they board a shuttle back to Lille at the conclusion of the commemorations.

Tour Operator coaches and buses will be permitted access to the town of Fromelles to drop their passengers off and collect them at the conclusion of the commemorations. They will be registered as they drop off in the town of Fromelles and given an identification number. Visitors will be given a matching card to help them identify their coach/bus number after the services have concluded.

Departures

Visitors will start to depart from the town of Fromelles after the conclusion of the VC Corner commemorative service. There will be limited opportunity for attendees to depart the town of Fromelles prior to this service. You will however be able to exit and re-enter the cemetery between services.

Information screens will display -and a PA system will announce- the coach or bus number which is ready for loading, which you can check against the card you receive on arrival. The large number of coaches and buses that must depart from Fromelles means that you should be prepared for some delay in the town centre.

It is important you do not wander away from Fromelles during the coach loading period. If you are not present when your coach or bus is loaded, it cannot wait for you. All tour operators will be informed of the correct departure arrangements. If you are given different instructions you should question your tour operator as no alternative arrangements will be available.

Pozières

Key points:

- Road closures from 11:00AM to 7:00PM
- Parking at Albert Airport – free event shuttle to Pozières town
- Security screening at Albert airport
- Limited security screening at 1st Australian Division Memorial

Arrivals

Visitors attending the Pozières commemorations must go through the check point and security verification at the Albert Airport (approximately 10km from Pozières). At this point, visitors will have their attendance pass validated, progress through security screening and receive a wristband that will permit them to board an Australian Government shuttle to the commemorative site.

Please note that private vehicles and taxis will not be permitted access to the town of Pozières after local authorities have established road closures. All visitors arriving in private vehicles and taxis will be directed to the Albert Airport to park their vehicle and board the event shuttle.

Visitors arriving in private vehicles and taxis should note that it is their responsibility to get to the Albert Airport to board the shuttle. Visitors are also responsible for their departure from the town of Pozierès in ensuring they board a shuttle back to the Albert Airport at the conclusion of the commemorations.

Road closures will be in place throughout the town of Pozières from approximately 11:00AM to 7:00PM on 23 July 2016. Parking within restricted areas will mean you may not be able to move your vehicle within this time or local authorities may tow your vehicle.

If you will be in the town of Pozières before the road closures are in place, or throughout the morning of the 23rd July, there will be an opportunity for you to be security screened in the town of Pozières without returning to the Albert Airport.

This is for individuals who are staying in Pozières or who are attending other non-Australian Government functions within the town. Please note that this screening is limited and delays may be encountered.

Departures

Visitors will board event shuttle busses which will return them to the Albert Airport to be connected with other coaches or private vehicles. These shuttles will run in a constant loop at the conclusion of the commemorative service and it does not matter which shuttle you board. Shuttles will run till approximately 7:00PM and vehicles cannot be left at Albert Airport after the conclusion of the shuttle service.

Staying in Amiens?

Somme Tourisme is organising a bus service from Amiens (Place Longueville, next to Amiens Circus) on 23 July 2016 at 12.00pm. The bus will take you to the Albert Airport where the Australian Government will provide free event shuttles to Pozières for the ceremony. After the ceremony the event shuttle service will bring you back to the airport, where you will be able to pick up your bus for the return trip to Amiens. The Somme Tourisme bus service plans to be back in Amiens (Place Longueville) between 7.00pm and 9.00pm. These bookings are non-refundable and non-exchangeable. - See more at: <http://www.somme-battlefields.com/event/commemorations-100th-anniversary-battle-pozieres>