

If you want to explore further...

Canadian cemetery > situated in Leubringhen, this cemetery contains the tombs of Canadians who lost their lives during operations to win back Calais and Boulogne-sur-Mer from enemy occupation.

The Mengin plaque > Commander Roger Mengin, who played a significant role in the liberation of Calais, was mortally wounded by a Canadian bombshell on 30 September 1944. A commemorative plaque has been placed on the main road out of town going to Saint-Omer (RN43).

Dover Patrol > Situated at the top of Cap Blanc Nez in Sangatte, the Dover Patrol pays tribute to French and British soldiers who defended the Dover Straits during WW1. Destroyed by the Germans during WW2, the monument was rebuilt in 1962.

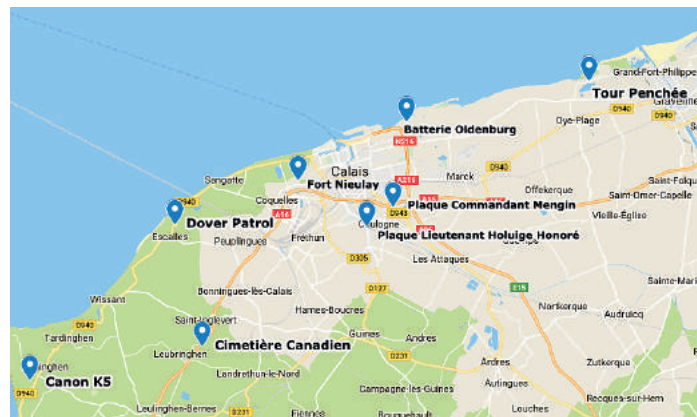
Plaque Lieutenant Holuigue Honoré > By the Pont à Deux-Trous («two-hole bridge») in Coulogne, a headstone pays tribute to Lieutenant Holuigue Honoré, at the spot where he was killed during WW2.

Canon K5 Audinghen > Exhibited at the Todt Battery Museum in Audinghen, the canon K5 was constructed in 1940 to fire missiles on Dover via the Dover Straits. The canon weighs 218 tons and could fire up to a distance of 62 km.

Fort Nieulay > Fort Nieulay was in the thick of battle in 1940. French and British troops withdrew there in an attempt to hold out as long as possible before surrendering. The Germans subsequently occupied the Fort and set up machine-gun posts and anti-aircraft artillery.

Tour Penchée Oye Plage > The leaning tower on the Route des Dunes at Oye Plage. On 5 September 1944, the day before the liberation of Oye Plage, the Germans decided to blow up their blockhouses to prevent them being used by Allied forces. Their explosives were not very effective: the tower leaned over but did not fall.

Batterie Oldenburg > An artillery site, which was part of the Atlantic Wall. The Oldenburg Battery had two canons pointing towards Great Britain. At present, the site is equipped with a look-out point on the roof of the bunker, which offers a magnificent view over surrounding countryside



Remembrance trail

Approx. 1 hour 40 mins



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> *The trail starts after the **Memorial Museum** visit.* The bunker housing the Museum, built in 1941, was used as a command post for the German navy until September 1944. Converted into a Memorial Museum in 1962, it recounts the history of the «City of the Six Burghers» and its inhabitants during the war period.

> *Leave the park and turn left after the railway station. Follow the road round to the right towards **the Citadel**.* At the entrance to the Citadel you will see a plaque commemorating those who defended Calais in May 1940. Another plaque, near the Stade du Souvenir (Remembrance Stadium), pays tribute to local members of the resistance shot by the Germans in 1944.

> *Come out of the Citadel and turn right along Avenue Courbertin. Go straight across the first roundabout, then turn right at the second one.* You will see **the Bunker K5**, built in 1940 to house the K5 canon, which had a firing range of up to 62 km. The building originally measured 10m (height) x 80m (length) x 20m (width). The walls were 1½m thick on the sides and 2m on the roof.

> *Continue straight on until you reach the Gaston Berthe digue (seafront). Turn right along the seafront until you reach the port, where the **Green Jackets' Memorial** is situated.* The Green Jackets regiment distinguished itself during the battle of Calais from 23 to 26 May 1940, leading up to Operation Dynamo.

> *Leave the beach and follow the path towards the left. Before reaching the bridge, you will see **Fort Risban**, a strategic point in Calais' defence system. It was used as an air-raid shelter for the local population during WW2. The Fort was listed as an Historical Monument in 1990.*

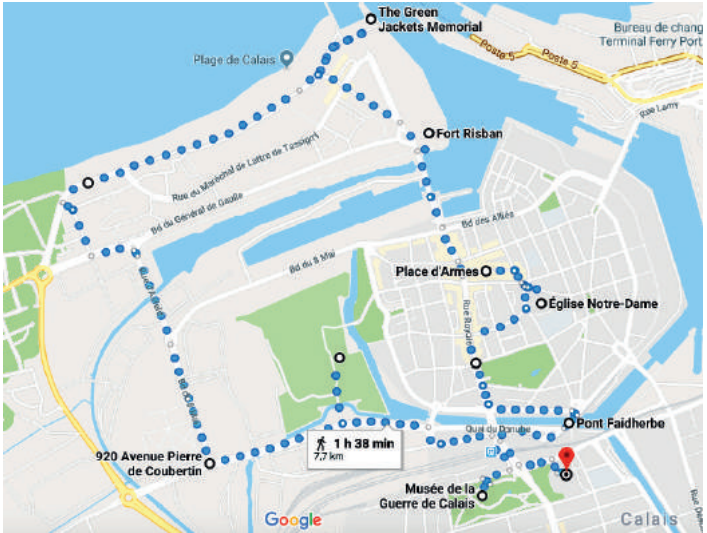
> *Cross the bridge and continue straight on to the Place d'Armes, where you will see **the statue of De Gaulle and Yvonne Vendroux**, which was unveiled to mark the 45th anniversary of Charles de Gaulle's death. Sculpted by Elisabeth Cibot, it is the first representation in sculpture of a presidential couple.*

> *Walk to the far end of the square, then turn right towards **Notre Dame church**.* It was in this church, on 7 April 1921, that General de Gaulle's marriage to Yvonne Vendroux took place. The church was virtually destroyed during WW2 ; its reconstruction took almost 50 years.

> *Continue straight on past the church until you reach Richelieu Park. Turn right into the park and you will see **the statue of De Gaulle and Churchill**.* Sculpted by Patrick Berthaud, the work gives a global view of the reconstruction of war-damaged France and portrays Franco-British friendship.

> *Come out of the park into the Place du Maréchal Foch, where **the War Memorial** is situated.* Hit by bombing in 1940 and destroyed in 1950, the monument was rebuilt in 1962. It pays tribute to the fallen in both World Wars.

> *Continue straight on down to the Town Hall roundabout. Turn left and walk towards the bridge to see **a remaining fragment of the wall** built by the Germans to separate Calais Nord from the rest of the town.*



> *Retrace your steps back to **the Town Hall**.* A tribute to Jean Quéhen is inscribed on one of the pillars of the indoor patio on the ground floor. In the lobby at the main entrance you can see a reference to members of Council staff, victims of the 1939-45 war. The Croix de Guerre (war medal awarded for acts of heroism) and the Croix de la Légion d'Honneur (highest French order of merit for military and civil conduct), awarded to the town of Calais after the 1914-18 and the 1939-45 wars, are also on display.

