



# BIG BATTLEFIELD BIKE RIDE

UK, FRANCE • CYCLE • YELLOW 2

## ABOUT THE CHALLENGE

For over a decade, our Big Battlefield Bike Ride has used sheer pedal-power to raise funds in support of wounded, injured and sick Veterans, Service Personnel and their families.

Commemorating 80 years since the Dunkirk evacuation in 2020, this challenge of a lifetime will allow you to pay your respects to the Heroes of yesterday, whilst cycling alongside our Heroes of today.

Your cycling route will take you to several historic battle sites – from the place of the failed evacuation at Dieppe to Ypres, which was a backdrop for some of the biggest battles during World War I. Retracing the steps of the brave souls who fought to keep us safe, you will learn about their poignant history, with stories told by some of the UK's finest historians.

Cycling around 70 miles a day alongside fellow fundraisers, you'll experience a true sense of camaraderie whilst immersing yourself in history that has been re-told in many a classic war film.

What better way to honour the incredible commitment, dedication and bravery of our Armed Forces, both past and present, than by joining Veterans from our own Band of Brothers on this iconic bike ride.

## BIG BATTLEFIELD BIKE RIDE 2020 • 7 DAYS

Big Battlefield Bike Ride (BBBR) is an iconic cycling challenge that combines military history, camaraderie and pedal power in an event like no other! In 2020 we will be retracing the path of the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) and its retreat to Dunkirk. Join us and pay your respects to the Heroes of the past whilst supporting our Heroes of today.

### Day 1: Portsmouth to Caen

Meet your fellow fundraisers at Portsmouth for a welcome dinner before boarding the ferry for an overnight journey to Caen.

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### Day 2: Caen – Étretat – Dieppe

We arrive in port early morning where we will hop on the coach to Étretat where your ride of a lifetime will begin! Led by our team of Veterans, the challenge will commence as you cycle to Dieppe, via St Valery to remember the failed evacuations and surrender.

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### Day 3: Dieppe – Le Touquet

Explore the mind boggling logistics of the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) and experience a glimpse of the cost of war as you stop at Etaples cemetery, the final resting place for 11,500 soldiers from World Wars I and II.

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### Day 4: Le Touquet - B  thune

Today you'll pedal inland through deepest rural France and back in time to World War I with a visit to Montreuil. Here, Field Marshal Haig commanded the BEF from 1916 until the end of the war.

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### Day 5: B  thune - Ypres

Cycle across the Ypres Salient, the scene of many of the biggest battles in World War I, with a Last Post ceremony at Menin Gate and a visit to the Commonwealth War Cemetery at Tyne Cot.

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### Day 6: Ypres to Dunkirk

The final leg will be down the corridor, held open with such bravery, which allowed the BEF to withdraw to the coast for operation DYNAMO. You will finish beachside, before enjoying a well-earned meal to mark the end of the ride.

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### Day 7: Calais to London

Travel back by Eurostar to London, and wave farewell (for now) to new found friends.

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## WHAT'S INCLUDED

- All transport from Portsmouth, right back to London (by ferry and Eurostar)
- All meals except where specified and accommodation on a twin share basis
- Discover Adventure leaders, mechanics and drivers
- Full vehicle support throughout the trip
- Maps and route information

## WHAT'S EXCLUDED

- Any meals specified 'not included' in the itinerary
- Travel insurance
- Bicycle
- Cycle helmet (compulsory) and water bottles
- Optional Discover Adventure bike courier return service
- Personal spending money, souvenirs and drinks
- Any applicable surcharges as per Terms and Conditions

## GRADE | YELLOW

Trips are graded Yellow, Orange or Red, in increasing level of challenge. This trip lies within the **YELLOW** range.



The grade is determined by factors such as terrain, distance, climate, altitude, etc. Each colour grade has a **spectrum** which reflects the difficulty of these factors; trip duration, accommodation and living conditions (see icon) are also taken into account.

[Trip grading explained](#)



Discover Adventure reserves the right to change the route or itinerary for safety reasons should local conditions dictate.

Please note: This document was downloaded on 16 Jul 2019, and the challenge is subject to change.