For further details contact:
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OR
Winnie Orr on +44 (0)28 9089 1004 Email worr@cooperationireland.org
1916 was a hugely significant year in Irish history with the Easter Rising in Dublin and tens of thousands from the island of Ireland fighting and dying at the Battle of the Somme. In the Dublin Rising in April 1916 approximately 485 died with the majority being Civilians. A few months later on 1st July over 2,000 Soldiers, from all parts of Ireland North and South, were killed in the first few hours of the Battle of the Somme. The 36th Ulster Division lost 5,500 killed, wounded or missing over the first 2 days. In total during the First World War upwards of 50,000 Irishmen were killed.

100 years later join us to commemorate all those that died and to retrace the steps of our ancestors by taking on the Entwined Histories Challenge in support of Co-operation Ireland and the IRFU Charitable Trust. Our walking in the footsteps of history will help to understand our shared history in a spirit of respect and friendship.

WALKING ITINERARY - PART 1 DUBLIN RISING

Mon 23 May – The Dublin Walk Day 1 (approx. 15km)

- National Museum – Collins Barracks (formerly the Royal Barracks of Dublin Fusiliers) – Introduction and briefing for the days walk.

- North King Street – Scene of major conflict Rising 1916 between South Staffordshire Regiment and Volunteers

- Four Courts – One of the main locations of Volunteer Occupation

- Dublin Castle – Scene of first shots of the rising and centre of British Intelligence.

- City Hall – One of the main locations of Volunteer Occupation.

- Trinity College Dublin – Visit to WW1 memorial and explanation of role in The Rising.

- St Stephens Green and Shelbourne Hotel – Their role in the rising.

- Mount Street Bridge / 25 Northumberland Road – Location of one the main battle scenes of The Rising.

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• Lansdowne Road Aviva Stadium – Recruiting location for Dublin Fusiliers - Visit 4 The Pals (IRFU members ) enlisting in Lansdowne Road 1914

Stadium Tour.

• Meet Cyclists and Evening Social Event - TBC

**Tue 24 May** – Dublin Walk Day 2 (approx. 20km)

• National Museum –Collins Barracks (formerly the Royal Barracks of Dublin Fusiliers) – Introduction and briefing for the days walk.

• Tour of Collins Barracks Museum 1916 and WW1 Somme exhibits

• Arbour Hill Military Cemetery – 1916 Volunteer Burial Plot and memorial

• Kilmainham Gaol – location of 1916 leader executions – Guided Tour.

• Kilmainham Hospital / Dr Steevens Hospital – Their role in caring for injured and dying of 1916 visit to British and Volunteers Grave visit.

• Islandbridge Memorial Gardens – laying of wreath at Memorial Cross and viewing of casualty Rolls.

• Grangegorman Cemetery – British Army dead from Rising and grave visits.

• Glasnevin Cemetery – Conduct general briefing for 1916 WWI Memorial, Cross of Sacrifice, & Neilan family Plot, Chaplains Fr Francis Gleeson Royal

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Munster Fusiliers, Fr Francis Browne Irish Guards.
Michael Collins Grave.

- Evening Reception – details TBC

WALKING TINERARY : PART 2 – THE SOMME

**Wed 25 May** - Travel Day - Depart for the Somme.
Today is a travel day where we retrace the footsteps of the Irish Regiments on their journey to France – We depart North Wall 08:05 by Ferry to Holyhead then train to London arrive approx. 16:00. Reception and overnight in London. This part of the challenge will be a terrific opportunity for group to bond and appreciate the sort of journey and what the soldiers expectations would have been 100 years ago.

![9 Soldiers Leaving North Wall Dublin for France](https://example.com)

**Thur 26 May**
Today we take advantage of the Eurotunnel departing at 08:55 and deviate just a little bit from the original journey! Eurostar from St Pancreas to Lille then on to Arras our base in the Somme Region. Arrival time 14:00. Delays permitting we will visit the Wellington Underground Caves which were extensively used in Arras during WW1
Welcome dinner in Arras
Overnight Hotel Mercure or Holiday Inn Express, Arras

![10 Albert Museum Exhibit](https://example.com)

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Fri 27 May (approx. 20km)
- After Breakfast Briefing on day 1 Somme Walk Programme.
- Depart Arras by coach via Baupaume to Albert.
- Visit Albert Museum
- Depart by Coach for Thiepval area to begin Somme Walking Tour Day 1.
- Hawthorne Crater & Malins viewpoint (historic footage of mine explosion 1 July 1916)
- Beaumont Hamel & “Y” Ravine positions.
- Newfoundland Memorial Park
- Visit to Ulster Tower and brief on the Ulster 36th Division. Visit to trenches in Thiepval Wood
- Lunch stop Ulster Tower
- Thiepval Memorial – Memorial to Soldiers with no known grave.
- Return to Arras Hotel by coach en route visit and Pozieres area memorials.
- Overnight Hotel Mercure or Holiday Inn Express, Arras

Sat 28 May (approx. 20km)
- After Breakfast Briefing on day 2 Somme Walk Programme
- Depart for Pozieres Area to begin Walk Day 2
- Lochnagar Mine Crator – 1st July 1916
- Fricourt German cemetery – brief on German casualties
- Brief on Battle of Guillemont – Trones Wood stand 16th Division and also Ginchy - brief on Irish Guards involvement
- Delville Wood Museum Visit followed by Lunch
- Conduct visits of Guillemont / Guinchy battlefields

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• Evening – Final night Dinner
• Overnight at Hotel Mercure or Holiday Inn Express, Arras

Sun 29 May
After Breakfast Check out Hotel

• Depart by coach to Thiepval Memorial for Memorial Service
• After memorial service timer specific cemetary visits for walk participant relatives (all requests for visit must be received prior to end of April)
• Alternative excursion to Vimy Ridge and Circle of Remembrance
• Onwards by Coach to Beauvais Airport for 22:25 departure Flight to Dublin

END OF ENTWINED HISTORIES CHALLENGE