



IWTO Congress in Lille May 2025

Optional Tours & Excursions for Partners/Delegates

20-23 May 2025



Tuesday, May 20th

Weaving Workshop & Old Lille - Partners

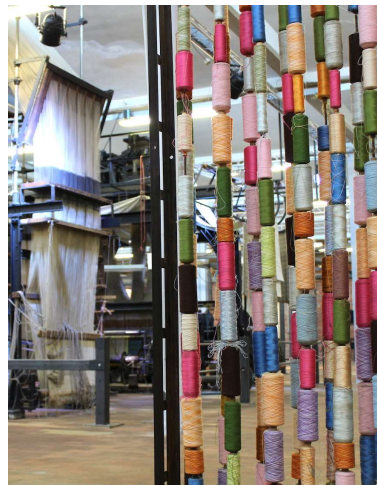
- 08.45 hrs : Meeting point centre Lille (to be defined nearer the time) for departure by coach
- 17.45 hrs : Finish time in centre of Lille
- Cost per person: €150 +10% VAT (including transport, entrance ticket, workshop, lunch, guide & private Belfry visit)

You will travel by coach to nearby Roubaix to join a textile workshop (tapestry or embroidery) and have the opportunity to visit the [Manufacture](#) museum, to hear about the story of textiles involving the people whose work set the foundation for the rise of an entire industry. La Manufacture invites you to discover these stories in order to better understand the history of textiles in Roubaix as well as the greater Lille metropolitan area.

You will then travel back to Lille for lunch in a bistrot, followed by a walking tour of old Lille which will end with a private visit to the town hall belfry (*100 steps to climb*).

Note: Places on all tours are limited so we suggest you book early. Some walking involved. We strongly suggest you wear comfortable shoes. Umbrella recommended.

Tours can be subject to slight changes as deemed necessary



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Wednesday, May 21st

Discover Bruges - Partners

- 08.15 hrs : Meeting point centre Lille (to be defined nearer the time) for departure by coach
- 18.00 hrs : Return to Lille

Cost per person : €170 + 10% VAT (including transport, guide, lunch, workshop & boat ride)

You will have the opportunity to discover the beautiful medieval city of Bruges, Belgium*. The historic centre is a prominent UNESCO World Heritage Site. You will be taken on a guided walk through the cobblestone streets, followed by a view of the city from the water on a private boat. Lunch will be served in a local restaurant. After lunch you will have the opportunity to learn more about the authentic tapestry and lace trade of Flanders.

Note: Places on all tours are limited so we suggest you book early. We strongly suggest you wear comfortable shoes as a fair amount of walking involved which is the ultimate way to discover Bruges. Umbrella recommended.

*Once inside the (EU) Schengen area, you may travel from one country to another without being subject to border checks, although it is always recommended to have your passport/ID with you.

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Thursday, May 22nd

Knitting Café & Villa Cavrois - Partners

- 08.15 hrs : Meeting point centre Lille (to be defined nearer the time) for departure by coach
- 12.30 hrs : Arrive back in Lille
- Cost per person: €80 +10% VAT (including transport, breakfast, entrance ticket & guide)

The day begins with breakfast at a knitting café where you will discover small-scale knitting machines, including a sock machine that produces personalised embroidered merino or cotton socks.

From there we will visit the [Villa Cavrois](#), family home to the owner of Cavrois-Mahieu, which was one of the largest fabric-producing companies in the region. This modernist villa, designed by Robert Mallet-Stevens, stands in stark contrast to its neo-regionalist neighbours. After 13 years of renovation, the villa and grounds have been restored to their previous 1930s glory as one of the finest examples of the modernist style.

Note: Places on all tours are limited so we suggest you book early. Some walking involved. We strongly suggest you wear comfortable shoes. Umbrella recommended.

Tours can be subject to slight changes as deemed necessary



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Thursday, May 22nd

Commonwealth War Graves Commission & Military Cemetery Visit Delegates & Partners

- 14.00 hrs : Meeting point centre Lille (to be defined nearer the time) for departure by coach
- 19.30 hrs : Arrive back in Lille
- Cost per person: €95 +10% VAT (including transport, entrance ticket and guide)

You will travel by coach to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) Visitor Centre in Beaurains for a behind the scenes visit to one of the world's foremost commemoration organisations. Through the unparalleled skills of the CWGC crafters, carpenters, stonemasons, mechanics and blacksmiths, Commonwealth War Graves around the world are kept to high standards with beautiful aesthetics.

This will be followed by a visit to Arras Military Cemetery and Monument where many nationalities are represented in a very beautiful setting.

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Tours can be subject to slight changes as deemed necessary



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Thursday, May 22nd

Industry Visit to CETI (Centre for Applied Research and Textile Innovation) - Delegates & Partners

- 14.00 hrs : Meeting point centre Lille (to be defined nearer the time) for departure by coach
- 17.00 hrs : Arrive back in Lille
- Cost per person: €30 +10% VAT

You will travel by coach to CETI in Tourcoing for a visit to this private research centre dedicated to transforming products, processes, business models, and corporate cultures to create a more sustainable and innovative textile industry.

CETI's expertise includes, among other areas, developing solutions for upcycling wool into insulating materials for the construction and transportation sectors, as well as into padding for the fashion and sportswear industries. Additionally, CETI's latest research projects explore the valorisation of biomass for textile applications, particularly focusing on the extraction of keratin from wool waste to produce yarn through wet spinning.

Note: Places on all tours are limited so we suggest you book early.

Tours can be subject to slight changes as deemed necessary



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Friday, May 23rd

Wool River Cruise in Paris coordinated by Woolmark Delegates & Partners

- 08.45 hrs : Meeting point centre Lille (to be defined nearer the time) for departure by coach
- 16.00 hrs : Cruise returns to dock and participants can collect luggage and continue their onward journey - IWTO does not arrange return transport to Lille
- Cost per person: €200+10% VAT (including transport, boat cruise, lunch & luggage storage)

Join us on a wool industry cruise on the river Seine. We look forward to discovering new innovations in wool and listening to retail brand talks with the designers who make it possible, with the kind support of Woolmark.

A light lunch and refreshments will be served whilst we cruise the Seine and admire the renowned landmarks of the French capital.

Notes: Places on all tours are limited so we suggest you book early. Some walking involved. We strongly suggest you wear comfortable shoes. Umbrella recommended.

Coach transfer from Lille to Paris will be arranged by IWTO but not return transport to Lille. Luggage may be left on the coach during the cruise and collected afterwards. You then need to make your own arrangements for your onward travel or hotel accommodation in Paris.

Tours can be subject to slight changes as deemed necessary