



*Above the vineyard valley southeast of Pamplona that some French used to escape from their defeat at Vitoria in 1813*



*Nick, Eddie, David & Chris at Salamanca. Four friends who toured Waterloo in 2015*



*Above the Coa where Craufurd defied Wellington's wishes*



*They walked the Coa with the canine friendship of Joey*



*The Chelsea Cain - Salamanca*



*Coa walks always spot many birds of Prey*



*With Maria in her village bar in Poco Vehlo*



*Salamanca Plaza Mayor by night – an unforgettable experience*



*The Aquaduct in Segovia – Roman engineering again*



*Special invitation to arguably the finest Artillery museum*



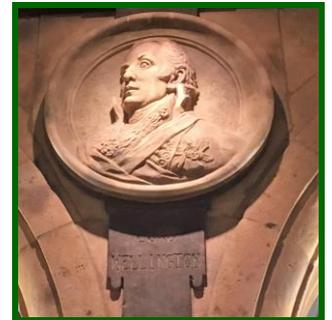
*On the Pico de Miranda where the Essex captured the French Eagle*



*Fort Concepcion – Destroyed by Wellington before the French could take it*



*With the younger generation - Salamanca*



*Wellington's Plaque in Salamanca's Plaza Mayor*

### ***'Vineyards with some Victories'***

*After raving about Spanish wines for years, we've decided to do something about it. "Cellar Notes" Al Spoler hosted an exciting tour of Spain's most celebrated wine regions. We feasted on the savoury cuisine of Spain while enjoying some its most celebrated wines. We wandered through charming, historic cities, and soaked up the vibrant culture that is 21st century Spain. We also viewed some battlefields.*



*Madrid*



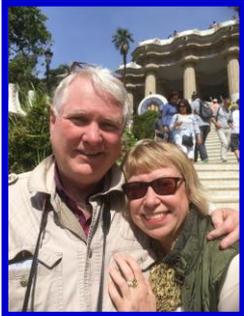
*Visit Rioja, Ribera del Duero, Priorat, Montsant and Somontano, with stops in Madrid, Barcelona, and Logroño.*



Only in Madrid!



Tapas bars in Madrid



Al Spoler & Vickie



Lyn, Richard, Rufus and Al with Madrid locals



The lower southern Pyrenees – battlefields of the Spanish Civil War



The Roman bridge across the Douro at Tordesillas where the French feint deceived Wellington in 1812



Locals say that this is where Wellington slept on his advance to the Pyrenees in 1813



Vineyards amidst Spanish Civil War battlefields



Flamenco during lunch



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Sagrada Família basilica



Ed & Dee



Where is Messi?



Inside Parc Guell



Margaret & Alan



Parc Guell exhibit



Lyn & Richard



Right in the heart of wine country.  
Al Spoler with the staff of the Los Nietos Restaurant in Briones



Jessica & Rufus



We saw so many!



Lyn, Robert & Ron





David, Andy & Peter before the Arapiles, Salamanca



Bedford Rugby friends above Fuentes



At Ciudad Rodrigo's main breach



Never far away from good Spanish wine



Salamanca – The Monte de Azan is distant



The Chelsea Cairn. Growing every year, this memorial laid by the Pensioners of the Royal Hospital in 2007 - Google Maps



French Arapiles, Salamanca



Chris & Andy re-enacting



Andy, Chris & David at the Fuentes Memorial



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With Maria in her bar in Poco Vehlo, the village where Wellington's 7<sup>th</sup> Div were attacked at dawn 5 May 1811

**'Waterloo Company'**  
Royal Military Academy Sandhurst  
INTAKE 39 - 50<sup>TH</sup> Reunion



*Way back when!*



*Hougoumont Farm*



*The way we were!*



## 'Redcoats in the Pyrenees'

This 8-day tour visited the 1813-14 Peninsular War battlefields of the Pyrenees and followed the footsteps and actions of an army that had been built and nurtured by a great leader over the five preceding years. We walked the battlefield of **Vitoria** where Wellington achieved one of his greatest victories. We strolled the Passes at **Maya** and **Roncesvalles** and walked the land bridge at **Sorauren** to look at Foy's demise. We toured the **Tarbes**, **Nive**, **Orthez**, **St Pierre**, **Vera**, **San Marcial** and **Nivelle** battlefields. We took in the **San Sebastian** siege and assault, the **Sortie** from **Bayonne** and the **Crossings of the Bidassoa**. The **Guggenheim Museum** is where we started.



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Atop the Maya Pass with the Rhune in the distance



Alison ponders the Vitoria battlefield from the Arinez Hill



Vitoria's evocative war memorial



Simon leads the walk to the Arinez Hill.  
The Pueblo Heights are distant



Jane, Charles & Robin  
descending the Arinez



Brook delivers a lesson in Napoleonic drill. Compare the  
roof top Skyline with the painting below. We are  
standing right where the artist depicts the action of  
Graham's 5<sup>th</sup> Division



Villodas bridge where the Light Div crossed



The fight for Gamarra





*Dave contemplates the action at Maya*



*Griffon Vultures above the battlefield*



*Walking the southern side of Cole's Ridge on the Sorrauren battlefield*



*We were so privileged to have with us curtesy of Charles Dent the Telescope Wellington used on the day*



*Julie using her re-enacting experience talks through lifestyles of the era*



*By chance we met Carlo (yellow shirt) who briefed us about Wellington's stay in Othez*



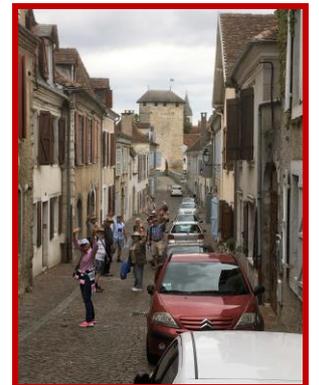
*The house where Wellington stayed. Carlos gave us a most memorable tour*



*We viewed the Atlantic Ocean from the train as we reached the summit of the Rhune.*



*In front of the Chateau the Lt Div used to fend off the French Artillery attack at Arcangues*



*Down to the bridge at Orthez*



*The Guards Cemetery at Bayonne*



*The Great War & WW2 French cemetery at Cambo-les-Bains*



*Sans Sebastian - one of the most visited towns in Spain*



Jane at St Pierre. Her ancestor Charles Synge fought here at the age of 24 years



Charles Synge's Peninsular Medals



St Pierre with the Rhune distant



The Urenea river across which the 5<sup>th</sup> Division assaulted at low tide during the Siege of San Sebastian



Julie in Sans Sebastian

### 'Napoleon's Austerlitz'

This 6-day tour visited the battlefields of Napoleon's greatest victory, his first defeat and the battle that ended the 1809 campaign. We walked the battlefield of **Austerlitz** in the Moravian hills where the Emperor achieved his greatest victory. We took in the sights of **Vienna**, including its famous **Arsenal** and the beauty and fascination of the world renowned **Schönbrunn Palace** where Napoleon stayed in the May of 1809. We strolled the **Lobau Island** on the Danube at **Aspern-Essling** and the frontage of the largest Napoleonic battle up to that time involving over 280,000 troops at **Wagram**.



To allow the French infantry columns to advance Vandamme's pioneers, on the hill behind, had to hack their way through the vines diagonally being cut to ribbons in the process



Joe on the summit of the Staré Vinohrady where the Russian Imperial Garde cavalry charged through the vineyards at the climax of the battle. Napoleon conducted the battle from the Zuran, over the distant valley, until he moved his headquarters to where Joe is standing.



Austerlitz Castle. The balcony from where Napoleon gave his victory speech



Before the biggest cannon at Austerlitz



*Farewell Dinner - Vienna*



*Aspern Church where the fighting at the battle of Aspern-Essling lasted for two days*



*Inside the Church's Chapel which is now its museum*



*The famous Granary at Essling*



*Inside the Granary is the model of the battle*



*Inside the tower at Markgrafneusiedl on the Austrian left flank of the Wagram battlefield*



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*Graeme & Ali*

## *Cooper's Last Tour*

*1<sup>st</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> September 2018*

Following 17 years of enjoyable and memorable moments touring Europe's battlefields with some great people 'Cooper's last' scheduled battlefield tour will take in the **Normandy D-Day beaches, Vimy Ridge, Crecy, Agincourt, The Somme, Messines, Ypres** and a 'Farewell Walk and Dinner' at **Waterloo**

Cooper's Waterloo Tours - Tel: 01277 890470

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