



The Society's Honorary Secretary: Noel Rands  
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Monday, 27 October 2008

## Society Weekend Visit to Paris - 5th to 8th December 2008

For the fourth year in a row, BES has organised a long weekend in Paris to take place early in December. As in previous years, the event will be a combination of culture and cuisine, with time off for shopping. We will be leaving by Eurostar from St. Pancras on the Friday morning, this time at a slightly later hour to accommodate those who have to travel across London. We have researched many hotels for competitive rates and so we will be staying in Montparnasse at the ever-popular and popularly priced *Concorde Montparnasse*.

The highlight of this year's visit will be a special tour of the exhibition *Bonaparte et l'Egypte* on Monday morning, at a time when the Institute du Monde Arabe is normally closed to visitors. Our guide will be none other than the curator of this extremely important exhibition, Dr. Jean-Marcel Humbert. Dr. Humbert will also be giving a slide lecture for BES on the same subject at the English Speaking Union in October. Both events are not to be missed.

Chris Boïcos will show us the Cité de l'Architecture, Paris's newest museum, on Saturday morning. The ground floor of the museum houses cathedral-scale galleries that display life-size casts of masterpieces of early French architecture. Diffused with natural light from the iron and glass ceiling, the galleries provide a magnificent setting for their architectural treasures. Chris Boïcos, a graduate of the Courtauld Institute, has a DEA from the Sorbonne and over 20 years experience lecturing for European and American universities in Paris. In 2007 he founded **Paris Art Studies**, an institute of adult education for the Parisian English-speaking community, at Galerie Beckel Odille Boïcos.

On Sunday morning Cathie Bryan will take us on a walking tour of *Napoleon and Egypt in Paris*, which complements the exhibition we will see on Monday. The two hour walk starts at La Fontaine de la Victoire (Métro: Chatelet) and ends at the obelisk, Place de la Concorde. Cathie holds a degree in Egyptian Archaeology from the Institute of Archaeology, UCL, and a business masters from New York University. She writes and lectures on Egyptology and art history. She is a guide and lecturer for the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology, and a regular contributor to **Ancient Egypt** Magazine.



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The programme so far is:-

Friday 5th December      Depart St. Pancras International  
11.32 on Eurostar      Arrive Paris 14.47

Transfer to Hotel Concorde Montparnasse. The rest of the day and the evening is free.

Saturday 6th December      am.      Visit to the Cité de l'Architecture

In the evening we are happy to organise a group dinner at a French restaurant for those who wish to participate. The dinner is not included in the cost of the tour.

Sunday 7th December      am      Walking tour, Napoleon and Egypt in Paris

Monday 8th December

Am      Private visit to *Bonaparte et l'Egypte* at the Institut du Monde Arabe, guided by the exhibition's curator, Dr. Jean-Marcel Humbert,

Pm      Depart Paris, Gare du Nord      19.13 by Eurostar  
Arrive St. Pancras International      20.28

We have done our best to keep the costs down and the increase on last year's trip is very small. The cost of the weekend, to include travel, a three star hotel including full breakfast, Métro travel, entrance to the exhibitions and payment to the guides will be approximately:-

Twin/Double	Single
GBP560      (£280 each)	£390.

We have obtained these prices by paying for the rooms in advance (with the £/Euro rate sinking fast we thought this would be best) and we have based our costs on a party of 18. If we achieve less than that there is an outside chance that I might have to add an additional £15 per person. We have never had to do this in the past and so this is just a warning.

I shall be most grateful for your comments. If you would like to confirm a booking on the trip, I should be grateful for a non-refundable 10% deposit



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(£56 per couple or £39 per single person) by cheque made payable to *The British Egyptian Society*. The balance would need to be paid at the end of September and I will send a reminder.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Warmest wishes,

Noel Rands, Secretary

17<sup>th</sup> July 2008

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Please detach and send to 5, Brownlow Road, Croydon, Surrey, CR0 5JT e.mail noelrands@compuserve.com

I /we would like to visit Paris with the Society on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2008. I/We will require.....

Twin/double rooms or..... Single rooms. My cheque for £.....for the 10% deposit is enclosed (*Please note that if you do not hold a UK/EC passport you may need a visa*)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel/Fax/Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature:

Date: