

SEJOUR FRANCE DEUX MILLE SEPT (2007)

NEWSLETTER 2.

Mai 2007

Bonjour All

Welcome to this the second newsletter for the group travelling to France in September.

Firstly everything is now starting to fall into place and as it is just over 18 weeks till we assemble in Rochefort. There have been quite a few changes in the travel party and hence communication is now vital as we get into the final stages of planning. I want to ensure everyone going to France understands the need to plan and to keep in contact with you all. The Libeau family travel committee has laid the foundations and it is now up to us all to build on this platform.

We are still accepting registrations and the current confirmed travel party is as follows:

- Bruce and Leone Fuller
- Patricia and Carl Stoneman
- Dr Niel and Judith Wright
- Merv and Phyllis Smith
- Geoffrey and Jillian Smith
- Wayne and Carolyn Smith
- Norman and Elaine Clark
- Bruce and Diana Clark
- Suzanne McNabb and Pauleen Gray(Australia)
- Gary Nicholls & Carl Harpeng
- Kevin Clark and partner
- Julie and Ken Hurst
- Bethel Clark and Danny Bracks
- Linda and Michael Sutherland
- John Breitmeyer
- Mike and Bev Wilson
- Stephan & Alison Le Lievre
- Rosalie Hapi & Vicki Bell
- Wendy Poste and Emilie (friend from Belgium)
- Jocelyn, Ian and Olivia Benefield
- Vaughan, Leigh, Leighton and Cameron McEwen
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Total Travel Party Confimed = 44 persons (R)

Any other family members that are not on this list that need to be especially if accommodation is required please register prior to 30 May as following this date we

cannot ensure accommodation with the group. Also any family members arriving in France from anywhere else in the world then please can they contact me as soon as possible as we need to understand the size of the group attending functions in France.

News In from Grant Wright

Here is a list of a few Hotels I promised you & that I can recommend (there are hundreds of others, of course!) Most are on the Left Bank but a couple on the Right Bank. Never stayed in any of them but friends have, etc. The prices quoted are for a double or twin room with bath/shower & WC. Breakfast is extra. Prices may vary a little according to season, situation in the hotel etc. but I'll put the lower & the higher figure (where there is one). They could also increase a little. Rooms in all the hotels in these price ranges tend to be rather small by NZ standards. But all neat & tidy & clean!!

Hotel Le Brun

33 rue Le Brun, 75013 PARIS Ph: 0147079702 Fax: 0143362345

55 Euros. Small modest family hotel.(very good value!) 2/3 stops on Metro from Seine. Good Bus service. Quiet

Hotel St Pierre

4 rue de l'Ecole de Médecine, 75006 PARIS Ph: 0146347880 Fax: 0140510517

85 Euros bkfst 6e Family hotel in heart of Latin Quarter, 10 minute walk from Seine. Rooms on front can be noisy.

Hotel St Jacques,

35 rue des Ecoles 75005 PARIS Ph: 0144074545 Fax: 0143256550

E-mail: hotelsaintjacques@wanadoo.fr

95 / 124 Euros bkfst 8.50 E. A little more "swept up" ; nice décor. Heather & Robb stayed here! Close to La Sorbonne also 10 mins from Seine on foot.

Hotel Familia,

11 rue des Ecoles, 75005 PARIS Ph: 0143545527 Fax: 0143296177 familia.hotel@libertysurf.fr

85 / 115 Euros, Bkfst 6E. Along the road from the St Jacques. and next door to the Minerve.

Hotel Minerve,

13 rue des Ecoles, 75005 PARIS Ph: 0143262604 Fax: 0144070196

E-mail: minerve@hotellerie.net

100/132 Euros. Bkfst 8E Next to the Familia! Both well situated.

Hotel du Lys,

23 rue Serpente 75006 Paris Ph: 0143269757 Fax: 0144073490

110 / 150 Euros. Two minutes on foot from Seine, & St Michel St Germain areas. Really "cute" hotel; steep stairs (no lift) rooms at top are the cheaper ones. Beautifully situated for walking all around the centre.

Hotel de Varenne,

44 rue Bourgogne, 75005 PARIS

Ph: 0145514555 Fax: 0145518663 info@hoteldevarenne.com

150/170 Euros . Bkfst 10E. More up market. Really nice décor. Breakfast on private court yard (weather permitting) In the "posh"

7th arrondissement. Near the Musée d'Orsay; across the Seine from the Louvre. Not so well served by Metro.

Now for a couple of Hotels on the Right Bank:

Hotel Chopin,

10 Boulevard Montmartre / 46 passage Jouffroy 75009 PARIS Ph: 0147705810

76/86 Euros Bkfst 7E VERY quiet. Near the Opera House & the Gare du Nord station.

Well served by metro & buses.

Timhotel,

11 rue Ravignan 75018 PARIS Ph: 0142557479 Fax: 0142557101

E-mail: montmartre@timhotel.fr

130 / 160 Euros. Bkfst 8.50 E If you must be in Montmartre!! Rooms on 5th & 6th floors have views over the whole of Paris.

TimHotel is part of a chain of hotels, there are several scattered around. All about this price range. This one is further away from the "centre" but well served by metro & bus.

P.S. When phoning & faxing from abroad omit the 0 in the local number. From NZ then 00 33 1 + number

French Barge Trip

<http://www.ukandeuropetravel.com/cbfpp.shtml#fr>

Touring in France these are great sites with much detail

<http://www.franceguide.com>

http://www.ambafrance-nz.org/sommaire.php3?id_rubrique=127

Pre -Tour Assembly and North Island AGM

This will take place on Saturday 9th of June at 1.30 pm at the Alliance Francaise Wellington Headquarters, 3rd Floor, 78 Victoria Street, Wellington. This weekend is also scheduled to fit in with the French Rugby Test in the capital so accommodation is under pressure.

Accommodation is available at Capital House (<http://www.capitalhouse.co.nz/>) in Newtown at a very reasonable rate of \$40 per person per night including breakfast. I would suggest you phone (Ph04 3899011) or e-mail them and make a booking for those

wanting accommodation. Saturday evening we plan to go out and have a meal at a French restaurant possibly and Wellington members are looking into this for us presently. Also invited is the Language Attache from the French Embassy

I would sincerely hope that everyone can attend as it is very important everyone meets one another before arriving in France. We plan to hold the North Island part of the AGM (1.5 hours) and then start planning musical items, a Maori haka as well as electing a tour leader. Also discussing what everyone is planning in the 5 days between the weekends. I will bring brochures and travel information for the trip.

In conclusion I want to say merci beaucoup for your commitment to the French trip and assure you it will be something special and our French famille are very excited and await our presence with much *joir de vivre*.

We have booked everyone's accommodation at the hotel for 3 nights each weekend with the exception of the Comte de Paris members.

Any problems or changes please contact me by e-mail at vaughanm@ihug.co.nz or ring me in the evenings at home 03 3525272.

In the meantime keep learning French and I will be interested at the competency level on the 9th June. Yes we will have a period of speaking French only. Perhaps at the evening meal and please do not be afraid of this challenge as it should be fun and positive and is not designed to embarrass anyone!

For those who have not completed the questionnaire I attach again. Thank you for those who have responded.

On behalf of the travel committee we look forward to meeting you all in Wellington.
Amities.

A Bientot!
Au Revoir

Vaughan McEwen

Name/s: _____

I /we require Accommodation on the following nights in Rochefort

September 2007 nights of

14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

(Please circle the nights required)

Other Events your indication please circle your intentions

Weekend One

1. Guided Tour in English through La Corderie Royale Yes / No
2. Friday 14 Sept Visiting a Brassiere of Rochefort to taste local cuisine.
(French family to confirm)
Approximate cost 30 Euro per person. Yes / No
3. Saturday 15 September Mayoral Reception Yes / No
4. Saturday 15 September Brassiere Evening Dinner venue TBA
Cost 30 Euro per person. (To be confirmed) Yes / No
5. Sunday 16 September Boat Trip Cost Approx 38E per person Yes /No
6. Conversionne and Evening meal at Rochefort restaurant Yes /No

Preferred Choices 17-21 September

- Option 1: Barge trip 3-5 days to Cognac Yes /No
- Option 2: Return to Paris and visit the Louvre,
Eiffel Tower, quai Branly. Yes /No
- Option 3: Visit Bordeaux Yes /No
- Option 4: Visit Poitiers, Nantes and / or Futuroscope Yes /No
- Option 5: Visit the Loire Valley and view at least
3 Chateaux's Yes /No

Weekend 2

1. Friday 21 September - Buffet meal at Hotel Les Remparts Yes /No
2. Saturday 22 September - Day Trip to La Rochelle Bus trip and guided tour Yes /No
3. Sunday 23 September Family day Bus Travel Yes /No

PLEASE RETURN TO VAUGHAN BY 30 May 2007. vaughanm@ihug.co.nz