

## How to book for the V8 Pas de Calais Tour 2013

The 2013 V8 Register Autumn Tour will be centred on Montreuil sur Mer in the Pas de Calais region of northern France and will take place over the extended long weekend of Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September to Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October. Due to overwhelming numbers of potential participants the originally mooted five day tour of the Loire will now become a seven day tour to take place in 2014.

Montreuil sur Mer is an attractive medieval walled town just 40 miles from the channel ports – see <http://www.informationfrance.com/montreuil-sur-mer.php>.



We will be staying at the much recommended Hotel Hermitage in Place Gambetta, Cedex 62170 (Cedex is the French Post Code) see <http://www.hermitage-montreuil.com/accueiluk.htm> and for a location map <http://hermitage-montreuil.com/accesuk.htm>.

The hotel is not unlike the Metropole where we stayed last year and like that hotel is well used to hosting car club tours. Planned arrival time is the afternoon of Friday 27<sup>th</sup> of September and we leave after breakfast on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October. The town and area have many attractions, including a large Saturday market, and we will be planning a series of visits to nearby places of interest. The hotel charge for 4 nights B&B and 2 dinners (on Friday and Monday nights) is €540 per couple. Both dinners will include an aperitif, wine, water and coffee. At today's exchange rate this equates to £465. For Saturday and Sunday there are numerous restaurants and brasseries within easy walking distance in this historic walled town.

We have reserved 32 rooms at the Hotel Hermitage. In order to avoid complications with overseas VAT (which could add 20% to the cost) we have decided that participants should make individual reservations with the hotel. The hotel is happy with this arrangement and will extend the agreed discount rate to individual V8 Register Tour bookings.

In addition to hotel costs the participants will need to pay the Tour costs which include Rally Plaques and route details.

So booking consists of two parts:

- i) booking directly with the hotel and paying a deposit and
- ii) booking with the V8 Tour organiser, Robert Crowson, and paying the Tour fee.

### **Booking the Hermitage Hotel**

To reserve your hotel room you will need to contact the hotel by telephone. To dial from UK the number is **00 33 3 21 06 74 74**.

*Explanatory note on calling France (with apologies to those familiar with it):*

*00 is for overseas dialling and 33 is the country code for France, 3 is the area code and 21 06 74 74 is the phone number of the hotel. In France telephone numbers are normally stated in figure groups of 2 digits. The ringing tone in France sounds much like the UK engaged tone - so don't hang up!*

The Hermitage receptionists all speak English although of course you will initially get a brisk "Hotel Hermitage Bonjour" when they pick up the call.

Tell the receptionist that you wish to reserve a room for the MG V8 Register event taking place at the end of September. The date is important as there is a French MG tour taking place earlier in the year! Confirm you will arrive on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September and depart after breakfast on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October. You will be asked to pay a €100 euro deposit (the cost of the first night's Bed & Breakfast per room) so have your credit card handy. At the end of your stay you will need to pay the outstanding balance which, for a double room, will be €440.00 covering 3 nights B&B and dinners on the first and last night, plus of course the cost of any individual extras and bar bills. This should be a straightforward transaction though it is possible that your bank may contact you to confirm you are making an overseas purchase.

*NOTE that the prices detailed above are per room not per person. This is normal for France, so it will probably mean that any making single bookings may feel a little hard done by, but at least they will only pay €35.00 per dinner giving a total bill, after payment of the deposit, of €370.00.*

### **Booking with the Tour Organiser**

The tour fee is £30 per car with two people or £20 per car with driver only. Please pay by cheque if possible. Make your cheque payable to **Robert Crowson** and send it, along with your contact and car details, to:

Robert Crowson  
Badgers Holt  
Risplith  
Ripon  
North Yorkshire HG4 3EP  
UK

You can contact Robert by email on [robert@badgersholt.plus.com](mailto:robert@badgersholt.plus.com).

If you wish to pay by other means please contact Bob or Carolyn Owen (tour coordinators) at [bobdownen@aol.com](mailto:bobdownen@aol.com) or by phone on 0118 933 2533.

### **Getting to and from France**

The tour starts and finishes at The Hermitage Hotel at Montreuil sur Mer so it is up to individual participants to organise how they get to and from Montreuil. However, for those who wish to go by ferry Dover-Calais or Dover-Dunkirk, please contact Carolyn Owen at [cojackdaw@aol.com](mailto:cojackdaw@aol.com) or by phone on 0118 933 2533 for details of flexible return crossings (at times to suit you) for around £40 per car.

### **When to book**

Please make your bookings as soon as possible. Existing expressions of interest have reserved 20 of the available 32 rooms. Bookings will close in May.

Bob Owen, Tour Coordinator V8 Register      28-02-2013.