



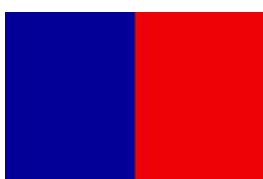
This time the trip went to Paris.

Paris is an European metropolis and the capital of France. The city lies at the river Seine north in France, in the heart of the region Île-de-France («Région parisienne»). The estimated population number inside the city limits is 2 153 600, while the Paris metropolitan area has a population of about 9,93 million. If all suburbs and small cities surrounding Paris are included, it is a metropolis of about 12 million inhabitants and is the biggest in Europe.

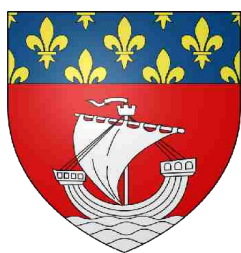
Paris is mentioned in the Roman times as Lutetia Parisiorum. It was then the main seat for a Celtic tribe called the Parisii. Paris was already then based on trade. It was positioned on Île de la Cité with bridges across the Seine. When the Romans later conquered the city they made Lutetia to the provincial capital. The Romans left the city at the end of 200 AD, when they were driven away by Germanic invasions.

In the 800s the ravaging vikings were pillaging, raping and putting the city on fire. When the vikings ended the plundering, a time of recovery started. Monks, craftsmen and merchants settle down in the city and it developed to be the most important harbor in the Seine area. From the around 1100 AD the king had his permanent residence on the west side of Île de la Cité, and the south side of the river developed to a learning center with convents, churches and universities.

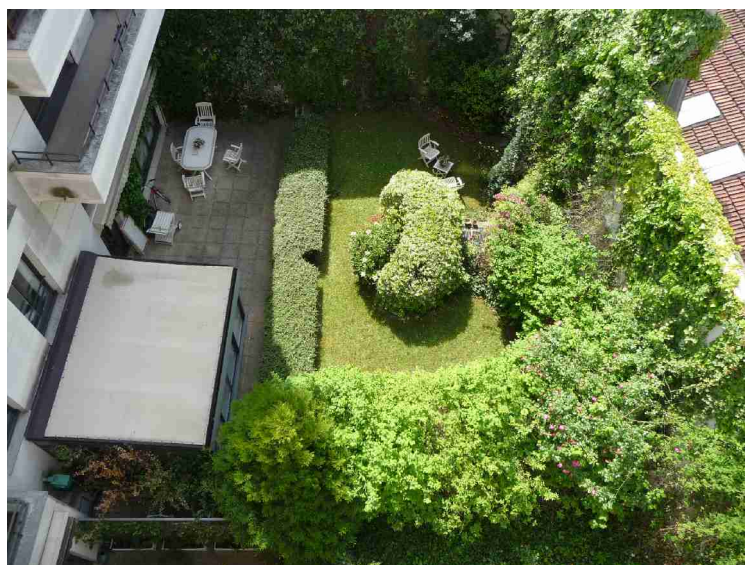
In 1789 the revolution broke out. Under motto *Liberté, égalité, fraternité* (Freedom, Equality and Brotherhood) the Bastille was stormed. It was then established a constitutional monarchy which very soon was replaced by the first republic. In the 1800s Napoleon became an emperor. In the 1800s Paris had a strong growth in population, the industrialization accelerated and the communication was developed. In the same time Paris grew as a cultural centre for artists, poets and philosophers.



Flagget til Paris



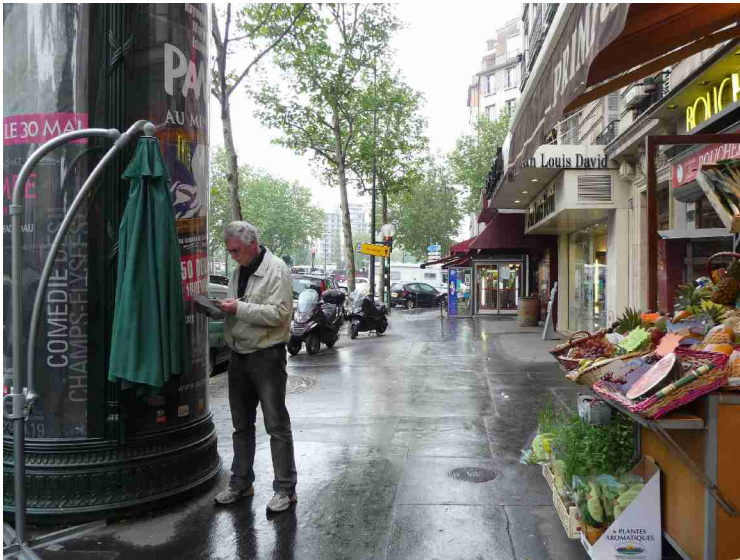
Byvåpenet til Paris



We rented an apartment 6,4 km from the center of Paris. Here is the view from the terrace. It is situated in an area which is called Levallois-Perret. It is a community in the northwestern suburbs of Paris. It has status of a city and with a population number of about 60 000 in only 2,4 km² it is one of the cities in Europe with the highest population densities.

Day 1

Today it rained a bit, but we all the same decided to walk into Paris. It is quite a long walk.



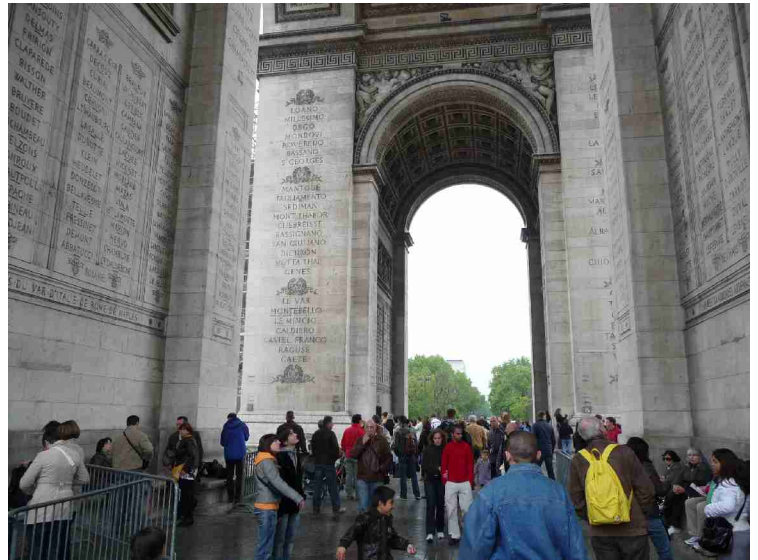
Kjell is orienting on the map.



Just before arriving to The Triumph Arch we needed a beer.



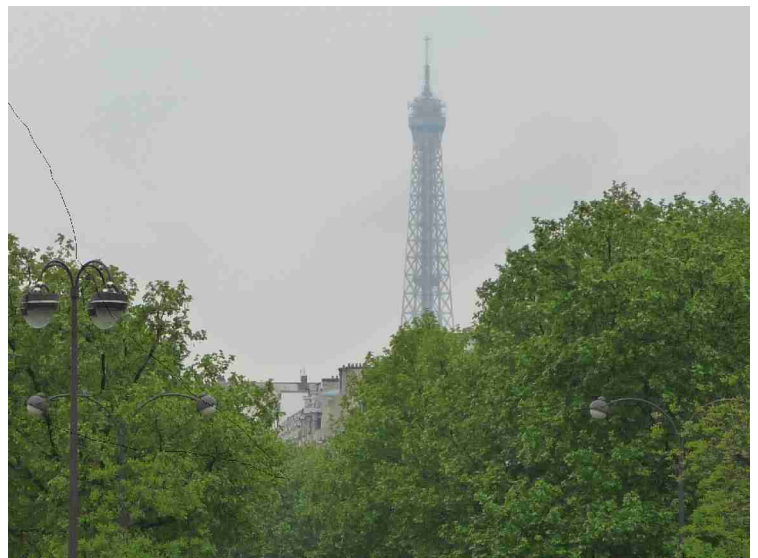
The Triumph Arch was commenced in 1806. It is 50m high. Many of the reliefs is depicting the triumphs of Napoleon.



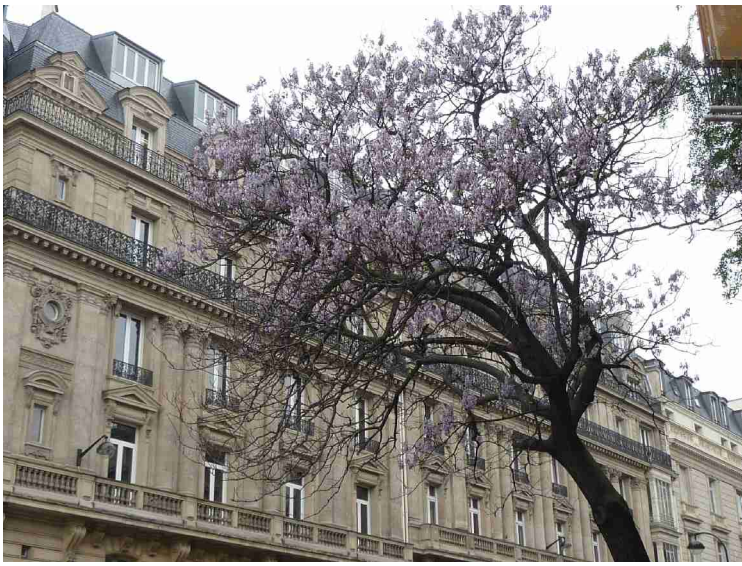
Here we are under one of the side arches.



This is the burial grave of a unknown french soldier from the First World War.



From the Triumph Arch we are looking towards the Eiffel tower.



Now we are on our way the the Trocadero park. A lot of flowers on the trees.



Here we have just entered the park.



Ducklings in a dam.



Mother duck is looking after.



Still in the park Jardin du Trocadero. There was a lot of maintenance work going on.



Dams and sculptures.



Palais du Chaillot was finished to the world exhibition in 1937 and hold among others 4 museums.



This is sculptures, which are maintained.



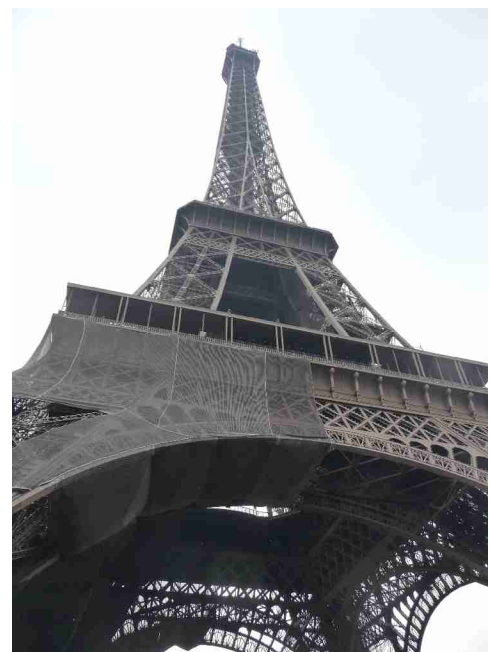
Normally these sculptures are placed around a big fontana, which was empty and with fences around.



Walking over the Seine where there are sightseeing boats and a restaurant boat.



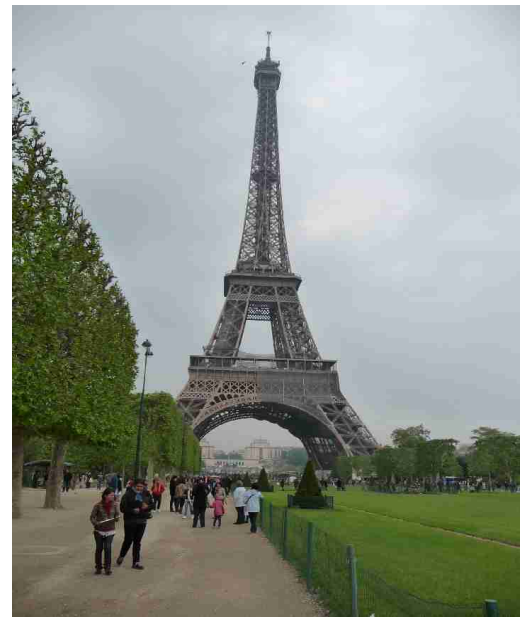
The Eiffel tower before walking over the Seine.



Almost right under.



A lot of Steel.



Her we have passed the tower and are in Parc de Champ de Mars.

The Eiffel tower was built for the world exhibition in 1889 and was with its 320m the worlds highest building until it was surpassed by the Empire State Building in 1931. It is weighing 10 100 tons and is kept together by 2,5 million rivets and 18000 metal parts. Every fourth year it is painted with 40 tons of paint.



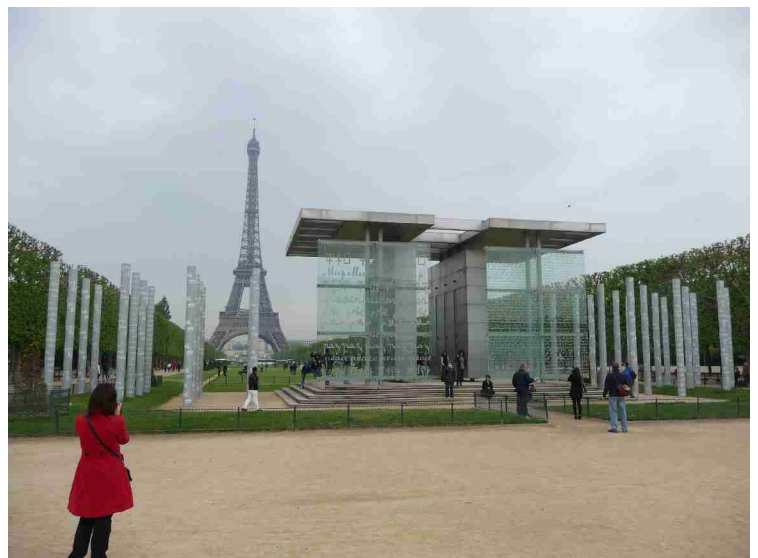
Horses in the park.



There are a lot of flowers.



In the end of the park lies Ecole Militaire (The Royal Military Academy from 1751.



In front of Ecole Militaire lies this peace monument.



A bit further away lies Les Invalides. It is a vast area with museums and monuments. Louis XIV started the building in the area in 1670 with a home and hospital for ageing and unwell soldiers. This is the chapel.



Vi had lunch at this Asian restaurant.



We could choose from what was on display in the counter.



There was very good food.



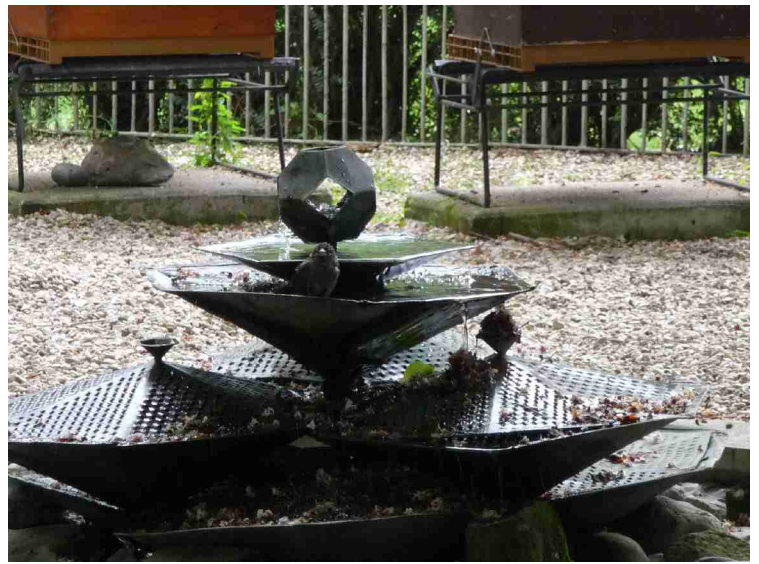
Further on we walk past a small park, Jardin du Babylon.



We also pass by Tour Montparnasse, which in 1973 was the tallest office building in Europe. It is 209m high.



This is beehives in Jardin du Luxembourg.



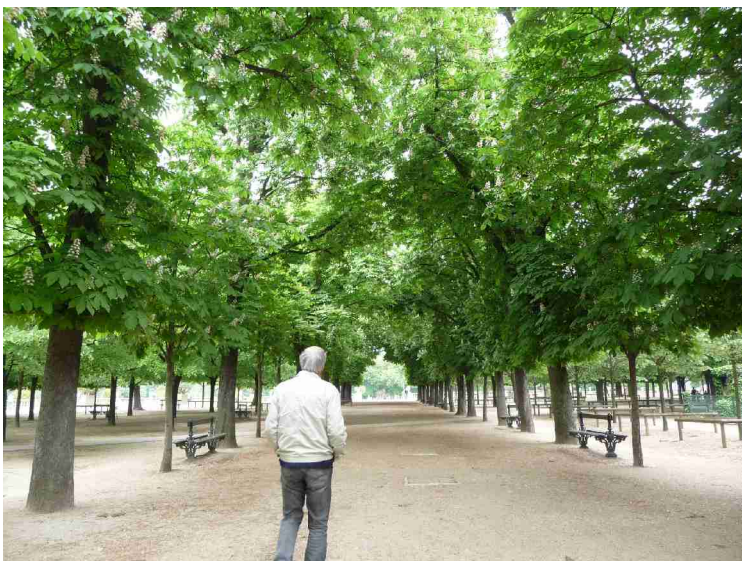
A small fountain (birds bath)



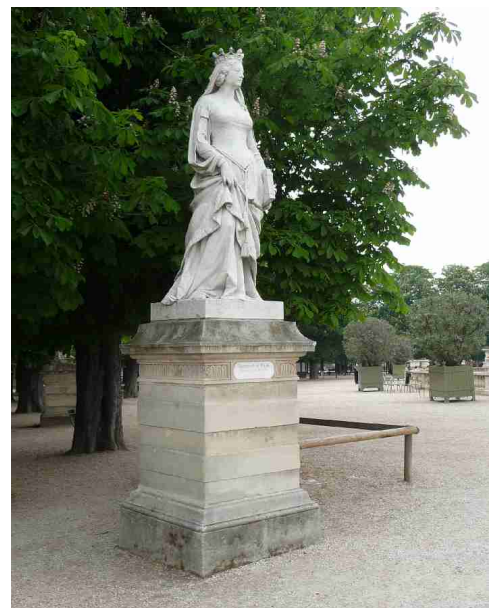
There was much activity in the park.



Here the play boules.



A lot of trees in the park



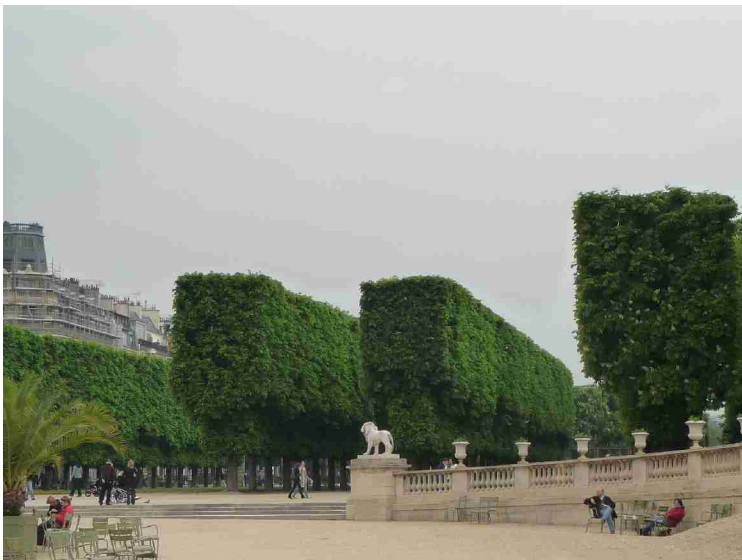
A lot of statues. This is Valentine de Milan.



Palais de Luxembourg is also here. Today the senatet is here, but the palace was originally built for Queen Maria of Medici.



Popular park.



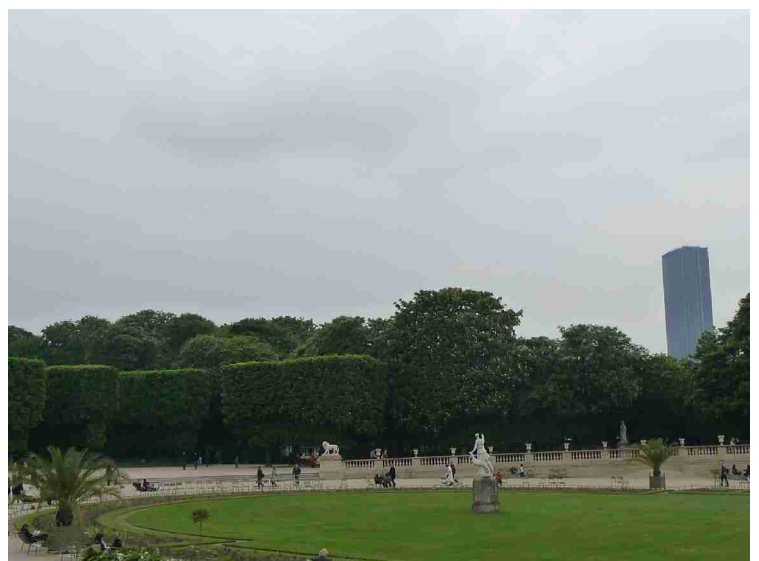
A lot of cut trees in rows.



Flowers



There are also dams and fountains.



More lawns.



A close up.

Statues. Here Le Marchand de Masque (The Mask trader)

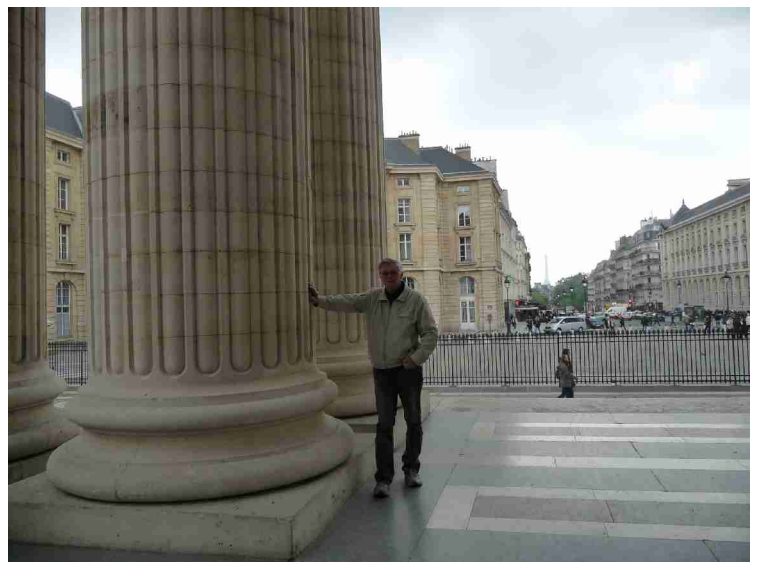


Just beyond lies the church Panthéon. After the revolution a long list of France's most famous personalities have been buried in the crypt.

The front is inspired by the Pantheon in Rome.



The entrance.



There are large dimensions on the columns.



From the place outside Panthéon we are looking down the street towards the Eiffel tower.



Right beside Panthéon lies the church St-Etienne-du-Mont.



This is the remnants of an old roman wall.



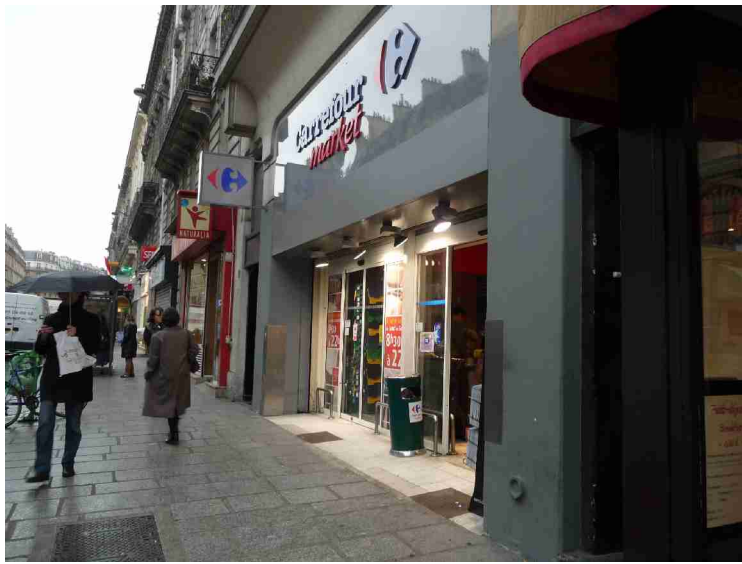
There are built houses close to it.



A Roman arena, Arène du Lutèce



It looked to be very popular for playing football.



We bought groceries in this shop.



We decided to take a taxi back to the apartment. Kjell went into this cafe to ask if they could call for a taxi. Then it turned out that a taxi driver was sitting there, drinking a cup of coffee. We got a ride right away.

Day 2

Today we took a taxi into the town, nearly to where we finished the day before.



Here on Rue Muffetard, which is a market street.



This is a small square in the very end of the street.



Many people in the street.



Vegetable market.



Fruit market



The fruit market from another angle



We find funny signs along our way



Flowers directly on the trunk



Here we are in a well known park, Jardin des Plantes. The park is from 1626. This is the main gallery.



Flowers and paths.



The pigeon is eating buds.



Flowers



Flowers



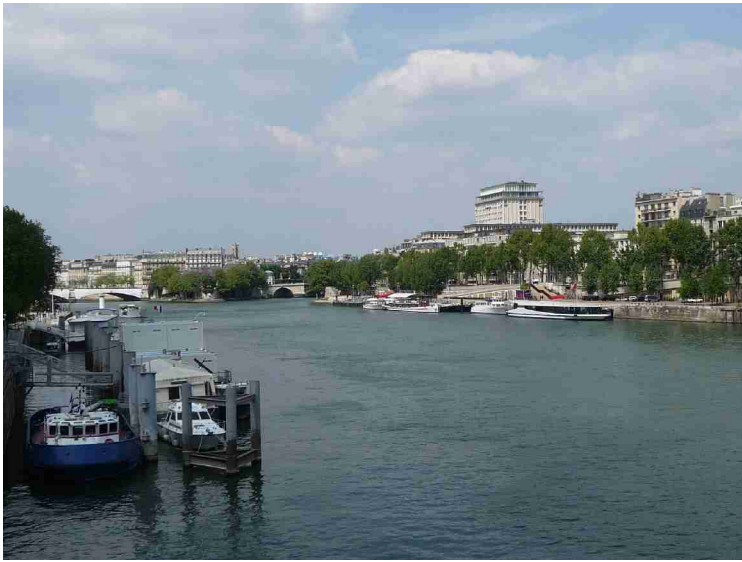
Flowers



Flowers



Here at the end of the park, seeing back towards the main gallery.



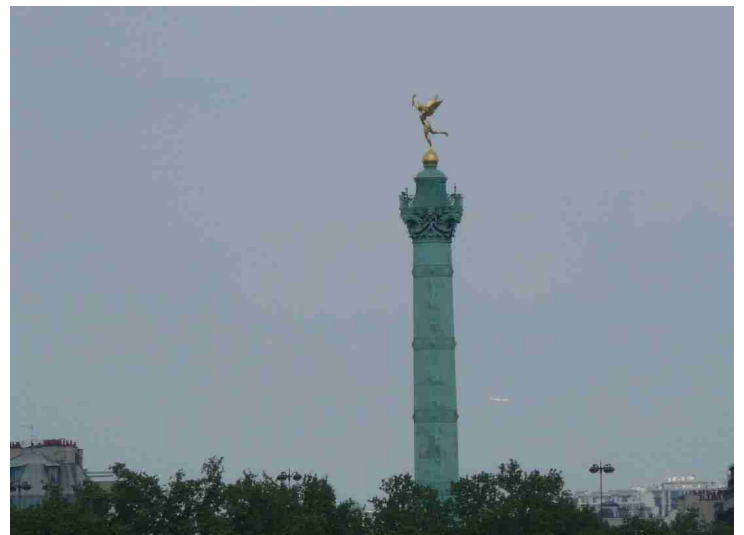
Right beyond Jardin des Plantes, on the other side of the Seine, is a canal from the Seine and up to Canal de Ourcq, 4,5 km further up.



Here is a view of the lower part of the canal. The canal was ordered to be built in 1802 by Napoleon to get adequate supply of fresh water and to bring goods into the city. After 1960 the need decreased so much that the whole canal almost was filled in to be made motorway of. It is partly built over and to get to the upper part the boats has to go through a tunnel.



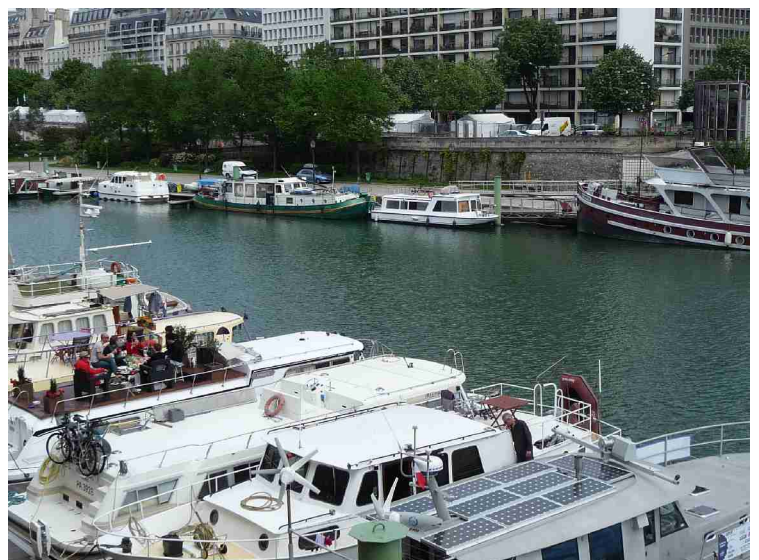
There are many boats lying here.



Here we see Colonne de Juillet at a long distance



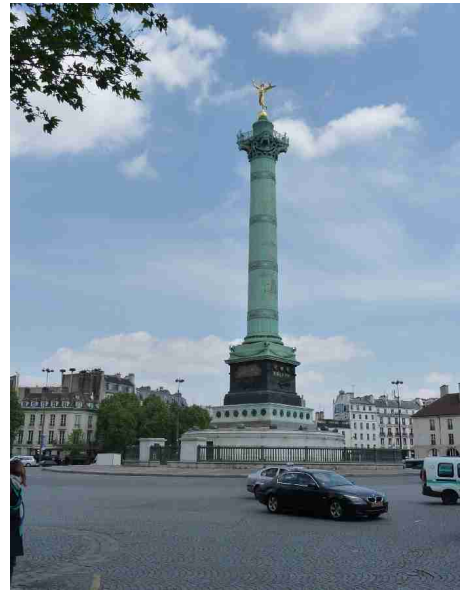
Parking for the pigeons along the canal



More boats.



The lower part of the canal seen from another angle



Here is Colonne de Juillet at close range. It is 51,5 m high. It is a memorial for all those fell in the street fights in July 1830 that ended in that the king was removed.



This is Place des Vosges. There are houses around the whole square. There are only a few gates into it.



Seen from another angle. The poet Victor Hugo has lived here.



Here we having lunch right outside Place des Vosges.



We had duck and it was very good.



This is a fountain at the square outside Hotel de Ville.



Hotel de Ville is the city hall and the residence for the mayor of Paris.



The city hall seen from another angle.



A drummer who try to earn some money.



Here we are on the bridge over to an island in the Seine, Ile de la Cite, where Notre Dame is lying.



Here are the towers of the church.



Others who want to earn some money. They are singing.

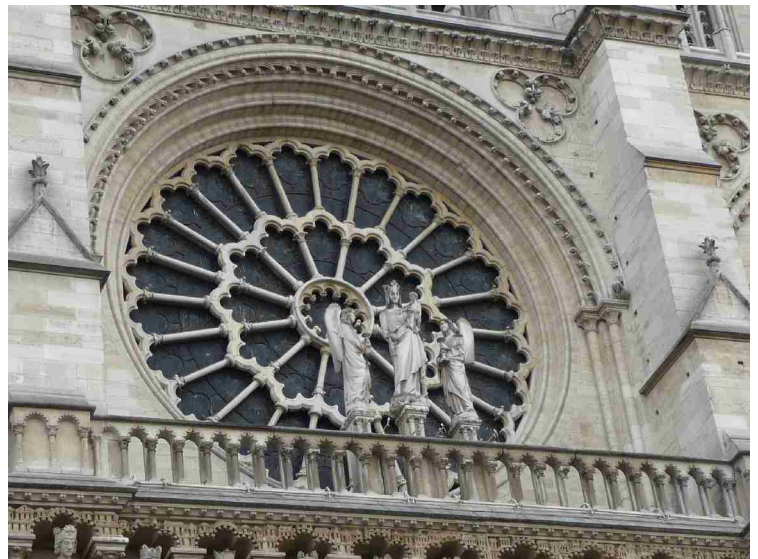


Another way of earning money.

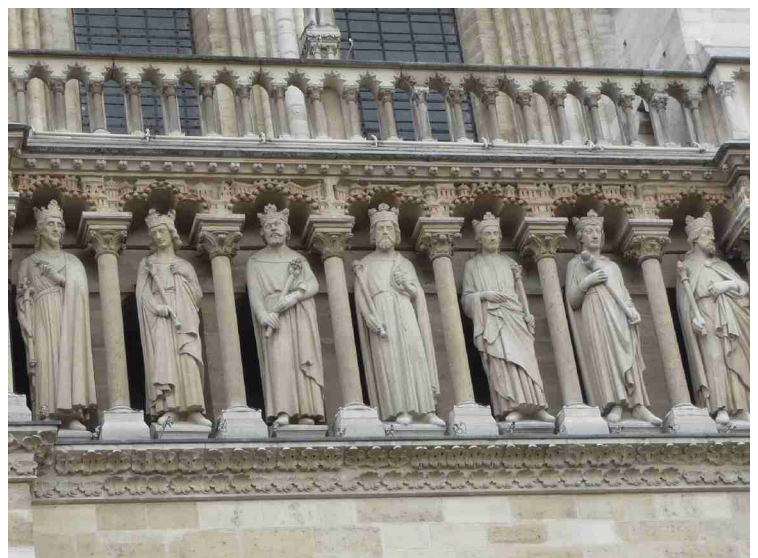


The front of Notre-Dame. Pave Alexander III or bishop Maurice de Sully (there is not agreement about this) laid down the bed stone in 1163, and the work with the church went on for 170 years. It is 130m long and the steeple is 90m high. France's largest organ is in the church.

Napoleon Bonaparte was crowned as emperor here the 2nd of December 1804.



Rosevinduet har en statue av jomfru Maria.



These 28 figures of french kings are in the front.



There were a lot of sightseeing boats on the river.



Notre-Dame seen from the south.



There were lots of artists along the river.



There were sales of drawings and pictures a long stretch along the river.



Another picture of Notre-Dame.



Pont Neuf, the oldest bridge in Paris. The bed stone was laid in 1578 by Henri 3. It is 275m long.



Pont Neuf at a distance.



Here we see the whole bridge. In the middle it is passing over Ile de la Cite.



Here we are standing on Pont des Arts taking a picture of Institut de France.



This is Louvre



Now we have reached a restaurant boat and we found out that we needed something to drink here.



Here we are sitting on the boat.