





# Press release

# Tootbus and Eurostar launch a joint "City Break" offer

Paris, March 16th, 2022 - Tootbus, RATP Dev's subsidiary that operates sightseeing bus tours, has partnered with Eurostar to offer tourists the chance to explore Brussels (Belgium), London (England), and Paris (France). By offering a 20% discount on Tootbus tours for passengers who traveled on a Eurostar train, the two companies are demonstrating their shared desire to be more than just transporters of passengers, but rather full-fledged players in the discovery and promotion of cities.

While Tootbus and Eurostar are aligned geographically—they both operate in Brussels, London, and Paris—they are united by much more than that. The have a shared vision that has paved the way for this partnership: to make transport and tourism operators the new gateways to the city. As a result of this deal, Eurostar customers can now go to a dedicated website to take advantage of a 20% discount on Tootbus city tours. With spring break fast approaching, visitors can take advantage of this offer right now.

"With "City Break", our goal is to provide an offer that makes sense for people who are visiting the city for pleasure, an offer that meets their needs and gives them a convenient way to visit and see the sights. Making things simple and straightforward is a way for us to help our customers make the most of their trip and leave plenty of room for the surprises and discoveries of these beloved capital cities," explained Arnaud Masson, executive director of sightseeing at RATP Dev.

## Committed to the environment

This "City Break" offer is based on our heartfelt conviction that post-pandemic tourism must be founded on respect for the environment, while offering tourists a meaningful and convenient experience.

Tootbus Brussels is the first sightseeing bus tour operator in the world to operate a 100% electric network, and all Tootbus Paris vehicles are electric or run on bio-NGV fuel. Eurostar offers one of the most environmentally friendly transportation options for short-distance European travel. Each Eurostar journey reduces carbon emissions per passenger by up to 80%

<sup>\*</sup> For a journey between London and Amsterdam - Calculations made for Eurostar by Paul Watkiss Associates in 2017, based on DEFRA methodology. For more information, please contact: press.office@eurostar.com

compared to an equivalent flight\*. With its train+hotel packages, Eurostar also offers its customers access to a range of hotels carefully selected for their ecological commitment.

#### In the heart of cities

This partnership also provides an incredible opening to the city for visitors. "With routes that go from the center of one city directly to the center of another, we offer our passengers an incomparable level of traveling convenience. By enhancing our service offer as we have through this partnership with Tootbus, we have found a way to offer up the city on a platter", **explained Henry Ledden, Head of Digital, at Eurostar**.

Tootbus reinforces the notion of comfort and convenience for visitors, with offers tailored to each customer segment. It is the only operator to offer audio guides specially made for children, narrated by a child from the host country. Adults can also enjoy a culturally immersive and tailor-made experience, as the audio guides offer the chance to visit the city while listening to the story of an expatriate in their language: Paris as seen by an English-speaking expatriate, London as seen by a French-speaking expatriate, etc.

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#### About Eurostar

Eurostar is the high-speed passenger train service linking London St. Pancras International Station with city center stations in continental Europe via the Channel Tunnel. Eurostar was established in 1994 as a partnership between three railway companies: SNCF, SNCB, and LCR (London and Continental Railways). On September 1, 2010, Eurostar became a single, unified corporate entity, jointly owned by three stakeholders: SNCF, SNCB, and LCR. LCR's stake was transferred to the UK Treasury in 2014 and sold by the British government to a consortium including Caisse de Dépôt et Placement du Québec (CDPQ) and Hermes Infrastructure in May 2015.

### About RATP Dev

Founded in 2002, RATP Dev operates and maintains urban transportation systems in 14 countries on four continents (United Kingdom, France, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, Algeria, Morocco, Egypt, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, China, the Philippines, and the United States of America). RATP Dev demonstrates every day its extensive and renowned expertise in a wide range of mobility services, ranging from rail, regional express rail, tramway, to bus, cable car and sightseeing activities. RATP Dev leverages in France, outside of Paris, and across international markets the technical expertise and experience of the RATP Group, the leader in driverless and tramway operations and operator of the Paris network, one of the largest public transportation networks in the world.

In France, RATP Dev operates networks in forty-some départements, cities, and towns, including Bourges, Boulogne-sur-Mer, Vierzon, Charleville-Mézières, and Annemasse.