

HAVE A “*CHIC PICNIC*” IN THE PARK THIS SUMMER WITH SOFITEL HOTELS

Paris, 11 May 2009 – Are you passing through Cairo to visit the Pyramids? Spending a weekend with friends in London? Going on a romantic jaunt in Rome? Or stopping off in New York with the family this summer? Throughout the summer, Sofitel Luxury Hotels are offering guests a ‘Chic Picnic’ package, providing a chance to explore their chosen city and take in the sights, before settling down to enjoy a sumptuous picnic of local delicacies prepared by the hotel Chef.

Sofitel hotels are located in some of the world’s most charming and picturesque cities, each with plenty to explore. From Santa Monica beach (Los Angeles), Central Park (New York), the Tuileries gardens (Paris), and the famous canals of Amsterdam, Sofitel hotels are located near some of the world’s most idyllic picnic spots (some good ideas in the following pages).

True to Sofitel’s reputation for great hospitality, the picnic baskets will be personalised to each city and can be tailored accordingly to guest’s specific tastes and needs. In addition, the basket will contain many tempting gastronomic delights that are traditionally found in French kitchens.

For a three-night minimum stay, the Chic Picnic Package, available from 1 June to 31 August 2009, includes:

- the accommodation
- the late check-out guaranteed
- a delicious picnic basket to enjoy during the stay

For all bookings made before 5 July 2009, Sofitel will offer a free night’s accommodation for all 4-night breaks, or 2 free nights’ accommodation for all 8-night stays.

For more information: www.sofitel-chicpicnic.com



At each hotel the staff are on hand to recommend the perfect spots for guests to enjoy their picnics. For example:

Sofitel Paris Le Faubourg

Guests can relax among the biggest and oldest formal gardens in Paris at the famous Jardin des Tuileries; immerse themselves in the atmosphere of a Parisian hotspot along the banks of the Seine; or take in the beautiful monuments and museums at the Esplanade des Invalides, and enjoy their picnic on the lawns.

Sofitel Paris Le Scribe

In the surrounding neighbourhood of Sofitel Paris le Scribe, guests can take their picnics onto the banks of the Ile Saint-Louis and take in the wonderful views over the city; unwind on the lawns of Champs de Mars at the foot of the Eiffel Tower; or engross themselves in the lively atmosphere of the Esplanade du Trocadéro.

Sofitel London St James

In the heart of the city, set amongst some of London's greatest attractions Sofitel St James provides the perfect location from which to explore London. Guests can enjoy their picnic in any one of the nearby Royal parks: Green Park, St James Park, Kensington Gardens or Hyde Park.

Sofitel New York

With the famous Central Park at the heart of Manhattan; Bryant Park just one block from Times Square and the very relaxing Riverside Park with spectacular views over the Hudson River, Sofitel New York offers a variety of venues for guests to enjoy their picnic.

Sofitel Chicago Water Tower

In Chicago, guests can venture to one of the most visited places in the country, the Glencoe botanical gardens with an incredible variety of plants; the 12-hectare Millennium Park with the Pritzker Pavilion in its centre, or Grant Park near the famous Michigan Avenue, on the edge of Lake Michigan.

Sofitel Los Angeles

Los Angeles is home to Griffith Park, the biggest urban park in North America, with over 1,600 hectares of beautiful gardens for guests to explore; guests could also enjoy their picnics on the famous Santa Monica beach to the west of the city; or at the huge Hollywood Bowl, the ideal spot to spend an open-air evening while enjoying a concert (jazz, pop, rock, etc.).

Sofitel Cairo El Gezira

For guests at the Sofitel Cairo El Gezira, picnic baskets can be taken along to any number of the main attractions, including the Pyramids or the Citadel; Azhar park in the city centre with its many relaxing fountains; or for golf fans, Katameya Heights has a unique course.



Sofitel Lisbon Liberdade

The elegant formal park Eduardo VII, extending from the Avenue da Liberdade, offers an excellent panoramic view of the city; or to the west of the city, Parc das Nações, features a vast river area with a shopping centre and leisure complex. Alternatively guests can take their picnic baskets to Belém gardens, adjoining the famous bridge of the same name.

Sofitel Roma Villa Borghese

Villa Ada Park, one of the city's biggest parks or the Villa Borghese Gardens, planted with roses, yuccas, irises and anemones both provide a charming setting for a Sofitel chic picnic; or guests can take in the fantastic views across the capital from the Gianicolo, a green balcony looking over the city.

Sofitel Munich Bayerpost

Guests at Sofitel Munich Bayerpost can visit the most beautiful castle in the region, Nymphenburger Schlosspark, with its park and botanical garden for the perfect picnic spot. The very central 373-hectare Englischer Garten and the famous Starnberger See, a lake just 20km south-west of Munich, also provide ideal spots for guests to enjoy the sights of Munich whilst sampling their very own selection of local German foods.

Sofitel Berlin Gendarmenmarkt

In Berlin, the most popular spots for guests to enjoy their picnic include: Tiergarten Park at the heart of the city with areas devoted to different animals; Sanssouci Castle, surrounded by a huge park which is located in the small town of Potsdam to the south-west of Berlin; and Grober Wannsee, a big lake to the west of the city.

Sofitel Brussels Le Louise

Parc Royal, just 20 minutes from the hotel, is also ideal for discovering some of Brussels' tourist highlights, such as Petit Salon, Rue Royale and Palais Royal; Bois de Cambre is a peaceful, 122-hectare wood perfect for couples looking to retreat from the crowds of the city; or the Grand Place, known all over the world for its ornateness and listed on the UNESCO world heritage list.

Sofitel Amsterdam The Grand

Located at the heart of the city, guests of Sofitel Amsterdam The Grand are just minutes away from the highly popular *Vondelpark* with an open-air theatre or the *Centrum de Roos*, a rose garden containing 70 different varieties of rose; or guests can visit *Durgerdam*, a small, picturesque village just 7 km to the east of the city. For a more unusual setting, guests can hire a private boat for a picnic on the canals.

This offer is valid from 1 June to 31 August 2009

Information, Conditions & Bookings: www.sofitel-chicpicnic.com



Photo caption: example of a basket as part of the Sofitel Chic Picnic offer (non-binding)

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Images on request

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