

# THE BELGIAN *rapide* TOUR

(THREE DAY, WEEKEND TOUR, IN THE SMALL EURO-COACH/BUS)

Friday 29th to Sunday 31st January 2010



**ALL INCLUSIVE FARE - £179.10**

**Hotel Single Room Supplement - £28(Optional)**

**Order to Qualify for Members' Loyalty Discount on this Tour –  
You must book, with the full fare, by 4th January**

The Belgian *Rapide* has been, for many years, the 'opener' of our annual International programme, and the one that awakens many of our members from the relative inactivity of winter. It's the chance to get back into the swing of things with a Tour packed full of interest (and locos). It never ceases to amaze just how popular this tour is, and in many years past re-runs have been required to satisfy demand (last year was such a year). Over the last 10 years the delivery of new-builds to SNCB has continued unabated. Classes 13, 41, and 77 have been recently followed by Classes 28 and 18. In addition the delivery of new Double Deck stock, including the DVTs (65xxx) and the continued refurbishment of the AM73/74/78/79 EMUs into 'City Line' livery which has resulted in renumbering of the sets into the high 900's. Whilst this year's itinerary looks familiar, we are now including two new locations of interest which both appear on the final day. They are **Dampoort Yard**, where you will see two or three more Class 77 locos and stabled locos awaiting freight duties, and **Kust**, a new stabling point between Zwankendamme and Zeebrugge where a further handful of Class 28s can be captured. (Please note **this will be the only tour this year to visit the Charleroi area**). So, start the New Year well with an enjoyable weekend in the company of other like-minded people. Don't leave booking too late otherwise you may end up disappointed.

## TIMINGS

Out and return timings are set out at Timings Band 'A' – see page 8 of this brochure

## ITINERARY

### Days One & Two - Friday 29th / Saturday 30th January

It really is a day of intensive activity starting early in the morning with visits to **Kortrijk Depot, Tournai Station, Saint Ghislain Station, Mons Station & SP, Monceau, Charleroi Sud SP, Charleroi Sud Station, Charleroi Sud Infra, Charleroi Sud Quai Depot, Chatelet, the Schaerbeek Depots, Haren** and ending with the big one - **Antwerpen Nord**. The overnight stay is in Antwerpen (our hotel is just 50 metres from the station) and with an arrival time in the City of mid-afternoon, free time is available to do as you please.

### Day Three - Sunday 31st January

Another day with plenty of sightings and the order is **Merelbeke Depot**, a view of the **Wagon Works, Dampoort Yard, Gent Sint Pieters Station and SP, Brugge Station & SP, Zwankendamme SP, Kust SP, Zeebrugge SP, Oostende Depot, CS and Station**, and finally **De Panne**.