



Transport for London

London Underground The Tube

Your Tube profile:

email: [> sign up](#)p/word: [> log in](#)

forgotten your password? | text only



## The Tube homepage

## Tube magazine

[Winter/Spring 2004](#)  
[Winter 2003](#)  
[Summer 2003](#)  
[Spring 2003](#)



## Paris or Poland?

## FRANCE

Tube: South Kensington

Around 150,000 Frenchmen and women call London home, and with the French Consulate and the Lycée Français Charles de Gaulle both in Cromwell Road, South Kensington has acted as a magnet for all things Gallic.

The French Institute in Queensberry Place (020 7075 1350) is a major cultural meeting point for French and British alike - offering language courses, talks and even wine tastings, to help you tell a Château Lynch-Bages from Le Piat d'Or.

The Ciné Lumière at the Institute (020 7073 1350) showcases the best contemporary films from the Continent - helpfully, all have English subtitles - and you can pop to the French Bookshop in Bute Street for the latest Parisian bestseller, though kids' favourite Titeuf, the cult cartoon by Zep, might prove more tempting.

The area is stuffed with opportunities to taste fine French cuisine, including deli La Grande Bouchée (31 Bute Street, 020 7589 8346) and patisserie-boulangeries like Fileric in Old Brompton Road (020 7584 2967). To blend in with the Paris expats, take a copy of 'London Macadam' to read with your espresso. However, as a Gallic Londoner advises: "If you want good service, it helps if you speak French."



## POLAND

Tube: Hammersmith

Poles have been coming to the UK for centuries, usually in the aftermath of revolution or war, but since the Polish Social and Cultural Association (POSK) opened in Hammersmith in 1974, W6 has become the focal point for the country's scattered communities.

The POSK centre (238-246 King Street, 020 8741 1940) offers almost everything Polish you can think of. The Polish Library founded in 1942, has over 100,000 books, tens of thousands of photographs and maps and hundreds of historical documents. There is also a theatre where you can catch cabaret direct from Warsaw, an art gallery, café, restaurant and bar, as well as Polish language lessons. On Friday evenings the Tatry Dance Group will teach you traditional folk dancing.

The nearby Polanka (258 King Street, 020 8741 8268), a restaurant and deli, is the place to go for traditional Polish smoked and cured meats.

Page 1 2 3 4

[More: eat your way round the world...>](#)

## Search the site

[Go](#)

## Live travel news

[View long term](#)

## Quick links

- [> Works delays](#)
- [> Maps](#)
- [> Thank yous](#)
- [> Oyster card](#)
- [> ETA](#)
- [> Platform for art](#)
- [> Customer refunds](#)
- [> Tube magazine](#)

[TOP](#)
[customer info](#)  
[terms](#)
[filming](#)  
[tourists](#)
[first and last trains](#)[lost property](#)[links](#)[museum](#)[poems](#)[newsletters](#)

MAYOR OF LONDON

Getting London Moving

© Transport for London