

Day zero

Monday, May 11, 2015



This was arrival day for most with the first activity an initial rehearsal scheduled for 5:00 pm.

The weather is perfect. Sunny skies with temperatures in the mid 20s – for the next three days anyway. It is early summer with everything in full leaf and the roses in full bloom. Cahors is a lovely old town with a population of 20,000 nestled in turn of the River Lot, the shape approximating, not inappropriately, a wine skin. For much wine is inexpensive – quelle probleme for a beer drinker!

Maybe 25% of the choir were in Cahors a day early while many others broke the journey with a night or more in London, Paris or Toulouse. So when well over half the choir arrived this afternoon by train from Toulouse, the local taxi service (of one it would appear) was somewhat overwhelmed. While it is a 20 minute walk from the station to the hotel, it is not to be attempted towing a suitcase!

As a consequence, the scheduled two hour “ugly” rehearsal/briefing was delayed until 6:30 pm and finished by 7:15 pm for dinner. Few were upset!

So day zero is complete. No people photos today – a long journey by air, bus, train and taxi, a nine hour time difference and little sleep does not a pretty face make and this editor does not want enemies on Day One!