

Place de la République, Paris - France



Place de la République is now the largest pedestrian square in Paris

IT USED TO BE A GIGANTIC ROUNDABOUT
Place de la République, or “La République” as Parisians call it, is today one of the largest European public squares (it measures 280m x 120m: the Eiffel tower could be lying there). Due to its exceptional size, its location in the city and its symbolic connotation, charged with Parisian’s memories of important social and political events, it has always occupied a special place in the Parisian global metropolitan hub. Throughout the 19th century, nothing special was made for “La République”. Occasionally occupied by public and political demonstrations, it was most of the time functioning as a gigantic car roundabout people would pass through without stopping. Prior to its renovation, 2/3 of the square was occupied by car traffic, 1/3 being left for pedestrian space. (...)

