Taking the RER from Paris Gare du Nord to Paris Gare de Lyon

The London to Paris Eurostar train arrives at Gare du Nord, and it is a very busy station. It is possible to get from the Gare du Nord to the Gare de Lyon by Metro/RER in less than 50 minutes (the usual transfer time that you will get if you have booked your rail tickets over the internet), but you don't have any time to spare - so no messing about.

If using the Metro the best way to get to Gare du Lyon is via the RER line (these are extra fast, limited stop trains, and they run separately from the normal Metro).

At the Gare du Nord leave the train and walk to the end of the platform to the station concourse. Turn left and follow signs to the escalator for the RER, it is quite a long walk, and at times confusing. If you have not bought a "carnet" at St Pancras (see below), tickets can be purchased at any of the ticket booths - ask for "un billet aller a Gare du Lyon" (a single ticket to the Gare de Lyon), or from the ticket machines.

You need to follow the signs for Ligne D.

The RER you need comes from Orry-la-Ville Coye, and goes to Melun, or Malesherbes.

The RER signs (as are the Metro signs) to the correct train/platform are always labelled with the final destination station of the train.

So you need to look for either of the signs "Ligne D Direction Melun" (this might also be labelled as "Ligne D2"), or "Ligne D Direction Malesherbes" (this might also be labelled as "Ligne D4"). This should be on platform 44.

To enter the RER station you have to go through electronic gates that work when you insert the ticket. Keep your ticket, it will be needed to get through the barrier at the Gare de Lyon.

The RER is quite a large train with two storeys, and they run every 3-6 mins. All of the trains indicated as going to Melun, Malesherbes or Corbeil-Essonnes will stop at the Gare de Lyon.

[If you see a sign for "Ligne D Direction Orry-la-Ville" (this might also be labelled as "Ligne D1"), this is NOT THE ONE YOU WANT (it will be going on the opposite direction), but it will be the one you will use on your return journey from the Gare de Lyon to the Gare du Nord].

The first stop is Chatelet Les Halles, and Gare de Lyon is the second stop. The journey should take about 6-7 mins.

From the RER station at the Gare de Lyon you need to follow the signs for "SORTIE" and "SNCF Grande Lignes" or they might be signposted for the "TGV". Again, quite a long walk.

Note that ......

You can get more information from the Information Desk inside the Departure Lounge of the Eurostar terminal in London St Pancras. At this Information Desk you can also buy a "carnet" of 10 tickets for the Paris Metro/RER. Buying a "carnet" at St Pancras will save time in trying to buy Metro/RER tickets from a machine or one of the ticket booths at the Gare du Nord.