

DR. MONIQUE Y. WELLS – ABBREVIATED VERSION BIO

Monique Y. Wells is a native of Houston, Texas and a long time resident of Paris, France. She is co-owner of Discover Paris! (www.discoverparis.net) – a travel-planning service that specializes in customized, self-guided travel itineraries for Anglophone travelers, and has provided services tailored for a niche market of African-American travelers since 1999. Over the years, Dr. Wells has created Afro-centric itineraries, self-guided African-American history walking tours, a comprehensive Black Paris bus tour, and African-American-hosted culinary activities for those wanting an in-depth travel experience in the City of Light. A two-time book author, freelance journalist and editor, and avowed Francophile, she has written for the International Herald Tribune, San Francisco Chronicle, Los Angeles Times, France Today, and Upscale Magazine. She is the author of *Food for the Soul—A Texas Expatriate Nurtures Her Culinary Roots in Paris* (Elton-Wolf, 2000); and co-author of *Paris Reflections: Walks through African-American Paris* (McDonald & Woodward, 2002; Christiann Anderson, co-author). One of her essays, “Paris Noir,” was published in a women’s anthology entitled *France, A Love Story*, edited by Camille Cusumano (Seal Press, 2004). Dr. Wells serves as an advisor to the Travel Professionals of Color (TPOC) Heritage Tourism Specialist Certification Program Committee. Her blog, Entrée to Black Paris™ (<http://entreetoblackparis.blogspot.com>), features the history, culture and contemporary life of African/Diaspora Paris.