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The first leaflet map of the 'London Underground'

METROPOLITAN RAILWAY. London Electric Railways.

London, 1908. Colour lithograph. Sheet 285 x 370mm.

£850

This is the first leaflet map showing what was to become 'London Underground' as a unified system. It was published for the Metropolitan Railway, who ran what is now the Metropolitan and Hammersmith & City lines. Later in 1908 the company joined a marketing scheme to promote the various London railways under the banner of 'Underground', after which this map was reissued under that title. Besides showing the defunct stations such as Down Street and Brompton Road, this map is interesting for marking the 'Franco-British Exhibition' of 1908 at White City: the area got its name from the exhibition buildings that were all white-washed. The reverse of the map is filled with timetables and lists of possible attractions for the rail traveller.

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