

Paris Travel Guide

Discover the Magic of Paris

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Things to do in Paris

Landmarks & Monuments

Paris is home to some of the world's most **iconic landmarks** that define the city's skyline and cultural identity. From the iron lattice of the Eiffel Tower to the triumphal arches commemorating military victories, these monuments tell the story of French history and architectural excellence.



Must See Book Ahead

Eiffel Tower (Tour Eiffel)

2-3 hours Book Ahead



Map

The **iconic iron lattice tower** stands 330 meters tall and is the most visited paid monument in the world. Built by Gustave Eiffel for the 1889 World's Fair, it offers *breathtaking panoramic views* of Paris from three observation levels. The tower illuminates with golden lights every evening and sparkles for five minutes every hour after sunset. Visitors can dine at the refined **Jules Verne restaurant** on the second floor or enjoy champagne at the summit bar. Book tickets in advance to avoid long queues, especially during summer months.



Must See

Arc de Triomphe

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

This **monumental arch** honors those who fought for France, particularly during the Napoleonic Wars. Standing at the center of Place Charles de Gaulle, it offers spectacular views down the Champs-Élysées. The monument features intricate sculptures including the famous *La Marseillaise* by François Rude. Beneath the arch lies the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier with an eternal flame rekindled daily. Climb 284 steps to the rooftop terrace for **360-degree views** of Paris's grand avenues radiating outward.



Top Pick

Notre-Dame Cathedral

1 hour (exterior viewing) No Booking Needed



Map

This **masterpiece of Gothic architecture** dates back to the 12th century and remains one of the finest examples of French Gothic design. Following the 2019 fire, the cathedral is undergoing extensive restoration with plans to reopen in December 2024. Its famous features include magnificent rose windows, flying buttresses, and gargoyles. The cathedral inspired Victor Hugo's novel *The Hunchback of Notre-Dame*. Visitors can currently view the exterior and place, while the interior restoration continues.





Notable

Panthéon

1-1.5 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Originally built as a church, the Panthéon now serves as a **mausoleum containing the remains** of distinguished French citizens including Voltaire, Rousseau, Victor Hugo, and Marie Curie. The neoclassical architecture features a magnificent dome and Foucault's Pendulum demonstrating Earth's rotation. The interior showcases stunning murals depicting French history. Recent additions include celebrated figures like Josephine Baker. The building's *crypts and columned halls* create a solemn, impressive atmosphere honoring France's greatest minds.

Tips for Landmarks & Monuments

- **Book Eiffel Tower tickets** at least 2-3 weeks in advance online to guarantee entry
- Visit monuments early morning or late afternoon to avoid peak crowds
- Many monuments offer *free entry* on the first Sunday of each month
- Consider the Paris Museum Pass for skip-the-line access to multiple sites
- Sunset visits provide spectacular golden hour photography opportunities



Museums & Galleries

Paris boasts one of the world's richest concentrations of **museums and galleries**, housing masterpieces from ancient civilizations to contemporary art. From the vast Louvre to intimate artist studios, these institutions preserve and celebrate human creativity across millennia.



Must See Book Ahead

Musée du Louvre

3-4 hours minimum Book Ahead



Map

The world's **largest art museum** and a historic monument housing over 380,000 objects including the *Mona Lisa*, *Venus de Milo*, and *Winged Victory of Samothrace*. The former royal palace displays works spanning from ancient civilizations to the mid-19th century across eight departments. The iconic glass pyramid entrance leads to vast galleries requiring multiple visits to explore fully. Highlights include French paintings, Egyptian antiquities, and Renaissance masterpieces. Strategic planning and early arrival are essential to navigate this colossal museum effectively.



Must See Book Ahead

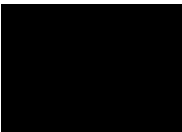
Musée d'Orsay

2-3 hours Book Ahead



Map

Housed in a stunning **Beaux-Arts railway station**, this museum contains the world's finest collection of *Impressionist and Post-Impressionist* masterpieces. Works by Monet, Renoir, Degas, Van Gogh, Cézanne, and Gauguin fill the elegant galleries. The building itself is an architectural gem with its grand clock and iron-and-glass vault. Upper floors offer magnificent views through the station's iconic clock face. The museum bridges the gap between the Louvre's classical collections and modern art at the Pompidou Center.



Top Pick

Centre Pompidou

2-3 hours No Booking Needed



Map

This **radical inside-out building** with exposed pipes and escalators houses Europe's largest collection of modern and contemporary art. The collection spans from 1905 to present day, featuring Picasso, Matisse, Kandinsky, and contemporary installations. The exterior escalator tubes provide *progressively impressive views* of Paris as you ascend. The rooftop terrace offers panoramic city views. The center also includes libraries, cinemas, and performance spaces, making it a comprehensive cultural hub for cutting-edge creativity.



Top Pick

Musée Rodin

1.5-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Set in an elegant 18th-century mansion with **beautiful sculpture gardens**, this museum showcases Auguste Rodin's most famous works including *The Thinker* and *The Gates of Hell*. The indoor galleries display marble sculptures, drawings, and personal collections in intimate rooms. The outdoor gardens provide a serene setting with sculptures placed among rose bushes and reflecting pools. Works by Rodin's student and lover, Camille Claudel, are also featured. This museum offers a peaceful respite from Paris's busier attractions.





Top Pick

Musée de l'Orangerie

1-1.5 hours No Booking Needed



Map

This intimate museum is renowned for Claude Monet's monumental **Water Lilies murals** displayed in two oval rooms designed according to the artist's specifications. The curved walls immerse visitors in Monet's impressionist vision of his Giverny garden. The lower gallery contains an excellent collection of works by Renoir, Cézanne, Matisse, Picasso, and other early 20th-century artists from the Walter-Guillaume collection. Located in the Tuileries Gardens, it provides a contemplative art experience in a perfectly scaled setting.

Tips for Museums & Galleries

- **Purchase tickets online** to skip long entry queues at popular museums
- Visit the Louvre on *Wednesday or Friday evenings* when it's open until 9:45 PM with fewer crowds
- Many museums offer free entry for visitors under 26 from EU countries
- Photography is allowed in most museums but no flash or selfie sticks
- The Paris Museum Pass covers over 50 museums and monuments with skip-the-line access
- Reserve time slots in advance for timed-entry museums like the Louvre and d'Orsay



Religious Sites

Paris's **religious architecture** spans centuries, from medieval Gothic cathedrals to ornate Baroque chapels. These sacred spaces showcase exceptional artistry while continuing to serve as active places of worship and quiet contemplation.



Must See Book Ahead

Sainte-Chapelle

1 hour Book Ahead



Map

This **Gothic masterpiece** features the most spectacular stained glass windows in Paris, with 15 massive panels depicting 1,113 biblical scenes in radiant colors. Built in the 13th century to house Christ's Crown of Thorns, the upper chapel creates an ethereal atmosphere when sunlight streams through the medieval glass. The jewel-box proportions and *soaring vertical lines* exemplify Rayonnant Gothic architecture. The lower chapel, though less ornate, served the palace staff. Visit on sunny days for the full luminous effect. Classical music concerts held here provide magical acoustics.



Top Pick

Basilica of Sacré-Cœur

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

This **white domed basilica** crowns Montmartre's highest point, offering panoramic views across Paris. The Romano-Byzantine architecture with its distinctive white travertine stone creates a striking landmark visible throughout the city. The interior features one of the world's largest mosaics, *Christ in Majesty*, covering the ceiling. The crypt and dome are accessible for additional exploration. The basilica's steps provide a popular gathering spot for watching sunsets. The surrounding Montmartre neighborhood adds artistic charm to any visit.



Notable

Church of Saint-Sulpice

45 minutes No Booking Needed



Map

One of Paris's largest churches featuring a **striking neoclassical façade** and impressive interior with Delacroix frescoes in the Chapel of Angels. The church gained modern fame from *The Da Vinci Code* novel. Its magnificent organ is one of the finest in France, with regular concerts showcasing its power. The gnomon, a brass meridian line used for astronomical calculations, crosses the transept floor. The harmonious proportions and art treasures make this a worthwhile visit beyond its literary connections.

Tips for Religious Sites

- Dress modestly when visiting churches (covered shoulders and knees)
- Many churches offer **free entry** but request donations
- Attend evening concerts in churches like Sainte-Chapelle for a special experience
- Visit during off-peak hours to appreciate the peaceful atmosphere



- Photography may be restricted during services



Squares & Streets

Paris's **grand boulevards and elegant squares** define the city's urban beauty. From the luxury of the Champs-Élysées to charming village-like streets, these public spaces embody Parisian life and architectural grandeur.



Top Pick

Avenue des Champs-Élysées

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

The world's most famous avenue stretches 1.9 kilometers from Place de la Concorde to the Arc de Triomphe, lined with **luxury boutiques, cafés, and theaters**. The upper portion features flagship stores for international brands, while the lower section offers tree-lined promenades and gardens. The avenue hosts major events including the *Bastille Day military parade* and the Tour de France finish. Historic cafés like Fouquet's provide people-watching opportunities. While touristy and expensive, its grand scale and iconic status make it quintessentially Parisian.



Top Pick

Place des Vosges

1 hour No Booking Needed



Map

Paris's **oldest planned square** (1612) features perfectly symmetrical red brick and stone pavilions surrounding a peaceful central garden with fountains. The covered arcades shelter art galleries, antique shops, and charming cafés. Victor Hugo lived at number 6, now a museum dedicated to the writer. The square offers a *tranquil retreat* in the heart of the Marais district. Its Renaissance architecture and intimate scale create a village-like atmosphere rare in Paris. Perfect for picnics or simply relaxing on the benches.



Notable

Place Vendôme

30 minutes No Booking Needed



Map

This **octagonal square** represents classical French architecture and luxury at its finest, surrounded by elegant arcaded façades designed by Jules Hardouin-Mansart. The central column, inspired by Trajan's Column, commemorates Napoleon's military victories. The square houses the world's most prestigious jewelers including Cartier, Boucheron, and Van Cleef & Arpels, plus the iconic Ritz Paris hotel. The harmonious proportions and refined details create one of Paris's most *sophisticated urban spaces*, perfect for appreciating haute joaillerie window displays.

Tips for Squares & Streets

- Walk the Champs-Élysées during **early morning** to avoid crowds
- Many squares have public benches perfect for picnics or people-watching
- Explore side streets off major boulevards for authentic local atmosphere
- Christmas illuminations on Champs-Élysées run from late November through early January



Neighborhoods & Districts

Each Parisian **arrondissement** and **quartier** possesses distinct character and charm. From artistic Montmartre to trendy Le Marais, exploring neighborhoods reveals the authentic soul of Paris beyond tourist landmarks.



Must See

Montmartre

3-4 hours No Booking Needed



Map

This historic hilltop village retains its **bohemian artistic spirit**, once home to Picasso, Van Gogh, and Toulouse-Lautrec. Cobblestone streets wind past artists' studios, intimate bistros, and the iconic Place du Tertre where painters sell their work. The Moulin Rouge cabaret anchors the seedier Pigalle area below. Vineyard terraces and hidden staircases create unexpected discoveries. The neighborhood offers *stunning panoramic views* from Sacré-Cœur and numerous viewing points. Despite tourism, authentic corners remain, especially in quieter morning hours.



Top Pick

Le Marais

3-4 hours No Booking Needed



Map

The fashionable Marais district combines **medieval architecture with contemporary culture** in Paris's 3rd and 4th arrondissements. Historic mansions house museums and galleries alongside trendy boutiques and concept stores. The Jewish quarter around Rue des Rosiers offers excellent falafel and traditional bakeries. The LGBTQ+ community centers around Rue des Archives. Elegant Place des Vosges anchors the southern section. Sunday afternoons bring *vibrant street life* as most shops remain open. The neighborhood successfully balances preservation with modernity.



Top Pick

Latin Quarter (Quartier Latin)

2-3 hours No Booking Needed



Map

The historic student quarter surrounding the Sorbonne University pulses with **intellectual energy and youthful vibrancy**. Named for the Latin once spoken by medieval scholars, the area features winding medieval streets, independent bookshops including the famous Shakespeare and Company, and lively cafés where existentialists once debated. The Panthéon dominates the skyline, while Rue Mouffetard offers a colorful market street. Affordable restaurants serve students and tourists alike. The neighborhood maintains its *bohemian academic atmosphere* despite gentrification.





Top Pick

Saint-Germain-des-Prés

2-3 hours No Booking Needed



Map

This **elegant Left Bank neighborhood** epitomizes Parisian intellectual and artistic life. Historic cafés like Les Deux Magots and Café de Flore hosted Sartre, de Beauvoir, and Hemingway. The area blends high-end fashion boutiques with art galleries and antique dealers. The Romanesque abbey church of Saint-Germain-des-Prés dates to the 6th century. The neighborhood maintains a *sophisticated, cultured atmosphere* with excellent restaurants and jazz clubs. Boulevard Saint-Germain offers prime shopping and people-watching from terrace cafés.

Tips for Neighborhoods & Districts

- Explore neighborhoods on **foot or by bicycle** to discover hidden gems
- Visit local markets like Marché d'Aligre or Marché Bastille for authentic experiences
- Many neighborhoods have distinct personalities at different times of day
- Le Marais shops stay open Sundays when most of Paris is closed
- Book walking tours to learn neighborhood history and secrets from local guides



Parks & Gardens

Paris's **magnificent green spaces** provide urban oases for relaxation and recreation. From formal French gardens to romantic English parks, these carefully designed landscapes offer respite from city bustle.



Must See

Luxembourg Gardens (Jardin du Luxembourg)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

These **quintessentially Parisian formal gardens** surrounding the Luxembourg Palace offer 23 hectares of manicured lawns, tree-lined promenades, and ornamental ponds. Parisians come to sail toy boats, play chess, watch puppet shows, or simply relax in the iconic green chairs. The gardens feature over 100 statues, the beautiful Medici Fountain, orchards with heritage apple varieties, and a beekeeping school. Children's playgrounds and pony rides make it family-friendly. The *perfect blend of formal design and leisure* activities embodies Parisian park culture.



Top Pick

Tuileries Garden (Jardin des Tuileries)

1 hour No Booking Needed



Map

Created by Catherine de Medici in the 16th century, these **formal French gardens** stretch between the Louvre and Place de la Concorde. The geometric layout features gravel paths, manicured lawns, fountains, and statues by Rodin and Maillol. Seasonal highlights include spring tulips and summer funfair. The octagonal pond provides a focal point for relaxation. Museums flank both sides - the Orangerie and Jeu de Paume. The gardens offer *classic Parisian perspectives* and serve as a thoroughfare between major attractions.



Notable

Parc des Buttes-Chaumont

1.5-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

This **romantic English-style park** built on a former quarry features dramatic topography with cliffs, waterfalls, and a temple-topped island. Created under Napoleon III, it offers wilder, more naturalistic landscaping than formal French gardens. A suspension bridge leads to the Temple de la Sibylle offering panoramic views. Caves, a grotto with stalactites, and a lake with swans create a *picturesque landscape*. Popular with local families, it's less touristy than central parks. Perfect for picnics, jogging, or escaping urban intensity.



Notable

Bois de Boulogne

2-4 hours No Booking Needed



Map

This vast **850-hectare park** on Paris's western edge offers extensive woodlands, lakes, gardens, and recreational facilities. Features include the Jardin d'Acclimatation amusement park, Louis Vuitton Foundation art museum, Bagatelle rose garden, and Auteuil greenhouses. Rowing boats, cycling paths, jogging trails, and horseback riding provide active pursuits. The park hosts the French Open tennis tournament at Roland Garros. While expansive and beautiful, some areas have *safety concerns after dark*, so visit during daylight hours.

Tips for Parks & Gardens

- Parks are perfect for **affordable picnics** - pick up supplies from local markets
- Most parks have free Wi-Fi zones
- Bring a book and embrace the Parisian tradition of reading in parks
- Rental chairs in Luxembourg Gardens require small fee from attendants
- Parks close at dusk - check posted hours seasonally



Fountains & Public Art

Paris's streets and squares showcase **magnificent fountains and sculptures** that blend art with urban design. From ornate baroque fountains to contemporary installations, these works animate public spaces throughout the city.



Notable

Stravinsky Fountain

15-30 minutes No Booking Needed



Map

This **whimsical kinetic fountain** next to the Centre Pompidou features 16 colorful mobile sculptures by Jean Tinguely and Niki de Saint Phalle. The playful mechanized creatures spray water while representing works from composer Igor Stravinsky's repertoire. Bright colors and *mechanical movements* create a joyful, interactive artwork. The fountain exemplifies the Pompidou area's commitment to accessible, fun contemporary art. Popular with children and photographers, it provides a refreshing break while exploring the Marais district.



Notable

Place de la Concorde Fountains

30 minutes No Booking Needed



Map

Two **monumental fountains** flank the Obelisk of Luxor in Paris's largest square. The Fontaine des Mers (Fountain of Seas) and Fontaine des Fleuves (Fountain of Rivers) feature elaborate bronze sculptures depicting maritime and river figures. Inspired by Rome's fountains, they represent French naval and river commerce. Illuminated at night, they create a *spectacular display*. The square itself witnessed major historical events including Louis XVI's execution during the French Revolution. The fountains add beauty to this significant urban space.



Optional

Wall of Love (Le Mur des Je t'aime)

15-20 minutes No Booking Needed



Map

This contemporary art installation in Square Jehan Rictus features **'I love you' written 311 times** in 250 languages on 612 enameled lava tiles. Created by calligraphist Frédéric Baron and mural artist Claire Kito, the 40 square meter wall has become a popular romantic landmark in Montmartre. Red fragments scattered across represent pieces of broken hearts that love brings back together. The *multilingual declaration* celebrates universal love. A sweet, Instagram-worthy stop perfect for couples or language enthusiasts.

Tips for Fountains & Public Art

- Many fountains are beautifully **illuminated at night** for romantic viewing
- Public art is free to enjoy and photograph
- Look up while walking - many building facades feature sculptures and relief art
- Street art tours in neighborhoods like Belleville showcase contemporary urban art



Transportation

Paris offers **comprehensive public transportation** including metro, buses, trains, and bikes. The efficient network makes navigating the city straightforward and affordable for visitors.



Essential

Paris Métro

N/A - Transportation No Booking Needed



Map

The world-famous **Paris Metro system** comprises 16 lines serving 308 stations, making it one of the densest transit networks globally. Opened in 1900, the Art Nouveau station entrances designed by Hector Guimard are iconic. Trains run frequently from 5:30 AM to 1:15 AM (2:15 AM weekends). The system connects seamlessly with RER commuter trains for wider regional access. A single ticket costs €2.10, while day passes and Navigo weekly cards offer *unlimited travel*. Some stations like Arts et Métiers feature unique themed decor worth exploring.



Recommended

Vélib' Bike Share

N/A - Transportation No Booking Needed



Map

Paris's **bike-sharing system** offers over 20,000 bicycles at 1,800+ stations throughout the city. Both mechanical and electric bikes are available for short-term or subscription rental. The system provides an eco-friendly way to explore Paris like a local, with dedicated bike lanes expanding across the city. Download the Vélib' app to locate bikes and stations. The first 30 minutes of mechanical bikes are free with day passes. *Perfect for covering more ground than walking while enjoying Parisian streets at a leisurely pace.*



Useful

Batobus River Shuttle

N/A - Transportation No Booking Needed



Map

These **hop-on hop-off river boats** serve 9 stops along the Seine including the Eiffel Tower, Louvre, Notre-Dame, and Jardin des Plantes. The glass-enclosed boats operate year-round with departures every 20-25 minutes. A day pass allows unlimited travel, combining transportation with sightseeing. The river route offers unique perspectives on Parisian monuments while avoiding traffic. Commentary provides historical context. Though pricier than metro, the *scenic Seine journey* adds memorable dimension to visiting waterfront attractions. Sunset cruises are particularly magical.

Tips for Transportation

- Buy a **carnet of 10 tickets** for better value than single tickets
- The Navigo Easy card is reusable and works for metro, bus, and RER
- Download the Citymapper or RATP apps for real-time navigation
- Keep tickets until exiting - inspectors conduct random checks with steep fines
- Avoid rush hours (8-9:30 AM, 5:30-7 PM) when possible
- RER trains connect to airports - Line B to CDG, Orlyval to Orly



Tours & Activities

Paris offers **diverse guided experiences** from classic sightseeing tours to unique cultural activities. These curated experiences provide expert insights and access to special aspects of Parisian life.



Top Pick

Book Ahead

Seine River Cruises

1-2.5 hours Book Ahead

Cruising the Seine offers **iconic views of Paris's monuments** from a unique waterside perspective. Companies like Bateaux Mouches and Bateaux Parisiens offer one-hour sightseeing cruises with multilingual commentary passing by the Eiffel Tower, Notre-Dame, and Musée d'Orsay. Evening dinner cruises provide romantic experiences with gourmet meals and live music. Shorter Vedettes de Paris boats offer budget options. The *illuminated monuments at night* create magical photo opportunities. Most cruises depart from Pont de l'Alma or near the Eiffel Tower.



Top Pick

Book Ahead

Paris Catacombs

1-1.5 hours Book Ahead

These underground **ossuaries hold the remains of over 6 million people** in tunnels stretching beneath Paris's 14th arrondissement. Created in the late 18th century to address overflowing cemeteries, the arranged bones create haunting artistic displays. The 1.5 km tour descends 20 meters underground through tunnels maintaining 14°C temperature year-round. Warning signs and poetic inscriptions add atmospheric ambiance. The experience is *macabre yet fascinating*, offering unique Parisian history. Book timed-entry tickets well in advance as daily visitor numbers are limited.



Notable

French Cooking Classes

2-4 hours Book Ahead

Learn to prepare **authentic French cuisine** with hands-on classes led by professional chefs. Popular venues include La Cuisine Paris and Cook'n With Class offering market tours followed by cooking sessions. Classes cover techniques for making croissants, macarons, coq au vin, or multi-course French dinners. Most include eating your creations with wine pairings. English-language instruction accommodates international visitors. Classes range from 2-4 hours and provide *delicious cultural immersion*. Perfect for food enthusiasts wanting to take home practical skills and recipes.



Notable

Moulin Rouge Cabaret

2 hours (show only), 4 hours (with dinner) Book Ahead

The world-famous **cabaret show** has dazzled audiences since 1889 with its iconic red windmill and spectacular performances. The current "Féerie" show features 100 performers including the Doriss Girls dancers, elaborate costumes with feathers and rhinestones, and stunning sets. Shows include champagne service and optional dinner packages. The Belle Époque venue oozes historic glamour with velvet and gold decor. While touristy and expensive, the *professional production quality* and Parisian tradition make it a memorable evening. Book well ahead for preferred seating.





Optional

Perfume Creation Workshop

1.5-2 hours Book Ahead

Paris's perfume heritage comes alive in **workshops where you create custom fragrances**. Venues like Fragonard, Galimard, and Molinard offer sessions led by perfume experts teaching scent composition. Participants smell dozens of essences, learn about top/middle/base notes, and blend their own 50-100ml perfume to take home. Classes last 1.5-2 hours and provide insight into French perfumery traditions. Some workshops include museum visits explaining perfume history. A *sensory and creative experience* perfect for those interested in olfactory arts and unique souvenirs.

Tips for Tours & Activities

- **Book popular tours and shows** several weeks in advance, especially during peak season
- Many museums offer guided tours in English included with admission
- Free walking tours operate on tips - budget €10-15 per person
- Food tours provide excellent introduction to French gastronomy and local markets
- Check cancellation policies before booking - weather can affect some activities



Day Trips & Excursions

The regions surrounding Paris offer **spectacular destinations** easily accessible for day trips. From royal palaces to artistic villages and medieval towns, these excursions complement a Paris visit with diverse experiences.



Must See Book Ahead

Palace of Versailles

Full day (6-8 hours) Book Ahead



Map

The **opulent royal château** epitomizes absolute monarchy and French grandeur under Louis XIV. The lavish State Apartments, stunning Hall of Mirrors, and royal bedchambers showcase extreme luxury. The vast gardens designed by André Le Nôtre feature geometric parterres, fountains, and the Grand Canal. Marie Antoinette's estate includes the Petit Trianon and picturesque hamlet. Musical fountain shows run April-October. The *overwhelming scale and decoration* require a full day. Located 20 km southwest, it's reachable by RER C train in 40 minutes. Book palace tickets online to skip lines.



Top Pick Book Ahead

Giverny & Monet's Garden

Half to full day (4-6 hours) Book Ahead



Map

Claude Monet's home and gardens inspired his famous **Water Lilies paintings**. The property includes the colorful flower garden (Clos Normand) and the Japanese-inspired water garden with its iconic green bridge and lily pond. The house preserves Monet's living quarters and collection of Japanese prints. Visit April-October when gardens bloom spectacularly, especially May-June for *peak floral displays*. The charming village attracted many Impressionist artists. Located 75 km northwest, accessible by train to Vernon then shuttle bus. Allow 4-5 hours for the complete experience.



Top Pick Book Ahead

Champagne Region (Reims/Épernay)

Full day (8-10 hours) Book Ahead



Map

Visit the birthplace of **champagne** with tours of prestigious houses like Moët & Chandon, Veuve Clicquot, and Taittinger. The region's chalk cellars store millions of bottles in perfect conditions. Tours explain the *méthode champenoise* and include tastings. Reims features a magnificent Gothic cathedral where French kings were crowned. Épernay's Avenue de Champagne showcases grand champagne houses. The *scenic vineyards* and cultural heritage combine for a sophisticated day trip. Located 145 km northeast, accessible by TGV train in 45 minutes. Book cellar tours in advance.





Notable

Château de Fontainebleau

Half day (4-5 hours) No Booking Needed



Map

This **royal residence spanning 800 years** served French monarchs from Louis VII to Napoleon III. Less crowded than Versailles, it offers intimate glimpses of royal life with beautifully preserved Renaissance and classical architecture. Highlights include the Gallery of Francis I, Napoleon's apartments, and the stunning ballroom. The surrounding forest provides hiking and climbing opportunities. The château witnessed major historical events including Napoleon's abdication. *Rich historical layers* and architectural diversity make it architecturally fascinating. Located 55 km southeast, reachable by train in 40 minutes from Gare de Lyon.

Tips for Day Trips & Excursions

- **Book train tickets in advance** for better prices, especially for TGV services
- Many day trip destinations get crowded midday - arrive early or late afternoon
- Guided tours handle transportation, tickets, and commentary but cost more than independent visits
- Pack snacks and water - tourist area restaurants can be overpriced
- Check attraction closing days - many châteaux close Mondays or Tuesdays
- Versailles gardens are free (except fountain show days) if you just want the outdoor experience



Christmas Market

Paris turns its grand boulevards and squares into a glittering winter stage every December, with illuminated avenues, festive markets, and open-air ice rinks drawing visitors from across Europe. The **Champs-Élysées** and **La Défense** host the region's largest holiday markets, while department stores compete with elaborate window displays and towering trees. Expect mulled wine, roasted chestnuts, and artisan gift stalls well into early January 2027.



Must See

Marché de Noël de La Défense

2-3 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Widely regarded as the **largest Christmas market in the Paris region**, this sprawling market fills the Esplanade de La Défense with roughly 350 wooden chalets selling handmade gifts, regional foods, and mulled wine. It typically runs from *mid-November through December 24, 2026*, drawing both locals doing holiday shopping and tourists after a festive atmosphere just a short RER A ride from central Paris. Highlights include a giant Ferris wheel, an ice rink, and food stalls representing Alsatian, Savoyard, and international holiday cuisine. Because of its scale, it rarely feels as crowded as the more central markets, making it a comfortable place to browse. Evenings are especially atmospheric once the lights come on and the modern skyscrapers of the business district glow against the market's warm chalet lighting. Bring cash for smaller vendors, as some do not accept cards.



Top Pick

Village de Noël des Champs-Élysées

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Running along the lower stretch of the **Avenue des Champs-Élysées** near Place de la Concorde, this classic market combines festive chalets with the avenue's famous winter light displays overhead. Expect it to operate from *mid-November 2026 through early January 2027*, with vendors selling ornaments, gourmet treats, and souvenirs alongside crêpe and vin chaud stands. The setting is unbeatable: strolling between stalls with views toward the Arc de Triomphe makes it one of the most photogenic winter walks in the city. It gets busy on weekends and evenings, so a weekday morning visit is more relaxed. Nearby, the Champs-Élysées' famous tree-light illuminations extend the festive mood well past the market stalls themselves. Pair a visit with window-shopping at the avenue's flagship stores, many of which install their own elaborate holiday decor.



Top Pick

Galeries Lafayette Christmas Tree and Windows

30-45 minutes No Booking Needed



Map

Each December, the flagship **Galeries Lafayette** department store on Boulevard Haussmann unveils an enormous decorated *Christmas tree* suspended beneath its Art Nouveau glass dome, alongside animated storefront windows that have delighted Parisians for over a century. The display typically goes up in late November 2026 and stays through early January 2027, free to view during store hours. It's a beloved stop for families, with children pressing against the windows to watch the moving holiday scenes. Inside, the store's own gift and gourmet floors lean fully into the season with themed displays and festive treats. The rooftop terrace, when open, offers a striking view over Paris's winter rooftops. Because the store sits close to Opéra Garnier, it pairs naturally with a walk through the surrounding shopping streets and their seasonal lighting.





Notable

Hôtel de Ville Ice Rink

1-1.5 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Each winter, the square in front of Paris's ornate city hall, the **Hôtel de Ville**, is transformed into a free-to-watch, low-cost outdoor *ice-skating rink* beneath festive lighting. It usually opens in mid-December 2026 and runs into the new year, with skate rental available on site for a modest fee. Skating here places you directly beneath the building's illuminated Renaissance facade, making it one of the most scenic rinks in the city. Sessions run in timed slots, and lines can form on weekends and school holidays, so arriving early or on a weekday evening is recommended. The surrounding Marais district adds its own seasonal charm with decorated shopfronts and nearby cafés serving hot chocolate and vin chaud. It's a relaxed, family-friendly way to experience Parisian winter traditions without the crowds of the larger markets.



Notable

Trocadéro Winter Views and Eiffel Tower Lights

45 minutes-1 hour No Booking Needed



Map

While not a formal market, the **Trocadéro** esplanade is one of the best places in Paris to soak up the winter season, offering an unobstructed view of the *Eiffel Tower* as it sparkles nightly on the hour after dark. Street vendors nearby sell roasted chestnuts and hot drinks, and the plaza often hosts small seasonal stalls and occasional light installations through December 2026 and into January 2027. It's a natural stop after visiting one of the larger markets, especially in the early evening when the tower's regular lighting and hourly sparkle create a magical backdrop. The gardens below, Trocadéro Fountains, are usually drained for winter but still make for an atmospheric walk. Dress warmly, as the open plaza can be windy, and consider timing your visit around sunset for the best light-to-dark transition photos.

Tips for Christmas Market

- Most markets run from mid-November 2026 through late December, with a few, like Champs-Élysées, extending into the first days of January 2027.
- Visit La Défense on a weekday for a calmer experience; weekends and the week before Christmas draw heavy crowds everywhere.
- Bring cash, as many smaller chalet vendors at outdoor markets don't accept cards.
- Layer up: markets and rinks are outdoors, and Paris winter evenings can be damp and windy.
- The Eiffel Tower's nightly sparkle (on the hour after sunset) pairs well with an evening market visit nearby.



Nightlife & Entertainment

When the sun sets, Paris trades museums for music, wine bars for craft cocktails, and quiet courtyards for late-night dancing. From speakeasy-style cocktail dens to legendary jazz cellars and rooftop terraces with skyline views, the city rewards those who stay out past dinner.



Must See

Le Caveau de la Huchette

2-4 hours No Booking Needed



Map

A Left Bank institution since the 1940s, **Le Caveau de la Huchette** is a subterranean jazz club housed in a medieval stone cellar in the Latin Quarter. Legends like Dizzy Gillespie and Count Basie once played its cramped, vaulted stage, and the tradition of live swing, bebop, and jazz continues nightly. What sets it apart is the dancing: couples swing and lindy-hop on the tiny floor well past midnight, creating an infectious, joyful energy rare among Paris nightspots. The narrow stone staircase down into the cave sets the mood before the music even starts. Arrive early on weekends, as the club fills quickly and lines form outside. It is an unpretentious, sweaty, thoroughly memorable night out, especially for anyone with even a casual interest in *jazz history* or social dancing.



Top Pick

Le Comptoir General

2-3 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Tucked behind an unmarked door along the Canal Saint-Martin, **Le Comptoir General** is a sprawling, jungle-themed concept bar spread across several eccentric rooms filled with vintage curiosities and colonial-era bric-a-brac. It functions as part bar, part cultural venue, hosting *DJ sets*, exhibitions, and themed parties that draw a young, creative crowd. The rum-heavy cocktail menu leans into tiki and Afro-Caribbean flavors, served in a candlelit, overgrown-greenhouse atmosphere that feels worlds away from central Paris. Weekend nights get lively with dancing, while early evenings suit a laid-back drink among the taxidermy and retro signage. It is a favorite for visitors wanting something more atmospheric than a standard bar crawl stop, and the canal-side neighborhood offers plenty of nearby spots to continue the night.



Top Pick

Book Ahead

Le Perchoir Marais

1-2 hours Book Ahead



Map

Perched atop a building in the Marais, **Le Perchoir Marais** is one of the city's most celebrated rooftop bars, offering sweeping views over Parisian rooftops toward the Centre Pompidou and beyond. The mismatched vintage furniture, string lights, and open-air terrace create a relaxed, sunset-drinks atmosphere that shifts into a livelier scene as the night progresses and DJs take over. Seasonal cocktails and small plates keep the crowd fed between rounds, and the mix of locals and travelers gives it a genuinely social buzz rather than a tourist-trap feel. Because there is no elevator and space is limited, arriving before peak evening hours or reserving ahead is wise, especially in warmer months when the terrace is the main draw. It pairs well with an early dinner in the Marais before heading up for the view.





Notable

Rex Club

3-5 hours Book Ahead



Map

A cornerstone of the Parisian electronic music scene since 1988, **Rex Club** sits beneath the Grand Rex cinema near the Grands Boulevards and remains one of Europe's most respected techno and house venues. Its powerful sound system and no-frills industrial interior put the focus squarely on the music, drawing both international headliners and underground DJs to its dark, pulsing dance floor. The crowd is serious about music rather than dressed to be seen, and nights often run until dawn. It is a favorite among Paris's electronic music devotees and a good entry point for visitors wanting an authentic club night rather than a mainstream tourist venue. Doors typically open late, and lines can form for popular lineups, so checking the schedule and arriving with tickets in hand is recommended for sold-out nights.



Notable

Harry's New York Bar

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Opened in 1911 near the Opera Garnier, **Harry's New York Bar** claims to be the birthplace of cocktails like the Bloody Mary and the Sidecar, and its wood-paneled, clubby interior has hosted everyone from Ernest Hemingway to visiting jazz musicians over the decades. The bar retains an old-world, unhurried charm, with bow-tied bartenders mixing classics rather than chasing trends. A small piano bar downstairs adds live music some evenings, giving the venue a layered, speakeasy feel beneath the street-level room. It suits travelers who want a taste of Paris's cocktail history alongside a well-made *Manhattan* or martini, away from flashier modern bars. The clientele mixes regulars, expats, and curious visitors drawn by its literary reputation, making for easy conversation at the bar.

Tips for Nightlife & Entertainment

- Many clubs and rooftop bars do not get busy until after 11pm, but jazz clubs and cocktail bars start filling by early evening
- Reserve rooftop terraces in advance during summer months, as good weather fills them fast
- Carry ID, as many venues strictly enforce age checks even for visibly older patrons
- The Metro stops running around 1am on weeknights (2am on weekends), so plan a taxi or rideshare for late departures



With Kids

Paris rewards young explorers with hands-on science museums, a real zoo, whimsical parks and puppet shows that turn sightseeing into play. These stops balance the city's grand monuments with spaces built for energy, curiosity and giggles.

cité

Must See Book Ahead

Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie

3-4 hours Book Ahead



Map

sciences et industrie

Europe's largest science museum sits inside Parc de la Villette and is built almost entirely around **touch, test, and discover** exhibits. The dedicated Cité des Enfants section splits activities by age group (2-7 and 5-12), letting toddlers build with giant blocks while older kids operate cranes, explore a mini water-canal system, or record their own weather report. A planetarium, submarine you can climb inside, and rotating exhibits on the body and robotics keep even reluctant museum-goers *engaged for hours*. The surrounding park has canals, lawns, and playgrounds for a picnic afterward. Strollers and diaper-changing facilities are widely available, and signage is bilingual French-English.



Must See

Ménagerie du Jardin des Plantes

1.5-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Founded in 1794, this compact zoo inside the botanical garden is one of the **oldest in the world** and perfectly scaled for small legs. Red pandas, orangutans, snow leopards, and a walk-through vivarium of reptiles and insects sit along shaded, easy-to-navigate paths rather than the sprawling grounds of a big-city safari park. A greenhouse of tropical butterflies and a farmyard corner with goats add variety, and the adjoining botanical garden has a small carousel and sandpit-style play area. Because it is more intimate than Vincennes Zoo, toddlers rarely tire out before parents do. It makes an easy pairing with a stroll through the Latin Quarter end of the garden. Expect narrow paths on busy weekends.



Top Pick

Parc de la Villette Playgrounds and Dragon Slide

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Beyond the science museum, this vast park on the northeastern edge of Paris is dotted with themed play areas connected by open lawns and a canal. The star attraction is the **giant red dragon slide**, a legendary Paris landmark among local families, alongside a bamboo garden, a mirror maze, and a music-themed playground with oversized instruments kids can bang and pluck. Wide gravel paths make it stroller-friendly, and there is enough open grass for older children to run off energy that a formal garden would not allow. In summer, a free open-air cinema series and food trucks turn evenings into a casual family outing. It pairs naturally with a Cité des Sciences visit for a full day north of central Paris.



Top Pick

Book Ahead

Jardin d'Acclimatation

2-3 hours Book Ahead



Map

Tucked into the edge of the Bois de Boulogne, this historic amusement park mixes gentle rides, animal enclosures, and a hedge maze aimed squarely at children under 12. Vintage attractions like a small train, carousel, and bumper boats sit alongside a farm area with goats and rabbits, plus a splash zone for hot afternoons. It is calmer and more manageable than a large theme park, making it a good half-day option for **younger children who tire quickly**. A puppet theater runs traditional Guignol shows on weekends, a French tradition many visiting families discover for the first time. Entry requires a ticket, and most individual rides need extra tokens on top of admission.





Notable

Guignol Puppet Shows in Paris Parks

30-45 minutes No Booking Needed



Map

Small wooden puppet theaters, or **theatres de guignol**, have entertained Parisian children since the 19th century and still run weekend performances in parks including Luxembourg Gardens, Champ de Mars, and Parc Montsouris. The slapstick stories, performed almost entirely through physical comedy and exaggerated voices, need no French fluency to enjoy, making them one of the most accessible cultural experiences for foreign toddlers and preschoolers. Shows typically last around 30 minutes and cost only a few euros, with bench seating that fills up fast on sunny weekends. It is a low-key, budget-friendly way to see a genuine local tradition rather than a tourist-oriented show. Check individual park schedules, as performances vary by season and are usually only on Wednesdays, weekends, and school holidays.

Tips for With Kids

- Combine Cite des Sciences with Parc de la Villette playgrounds for a full day that needs no other transport.
- The Menagerie is far less crowded than Vincennes Zoo and better suited to short attention spans.
- Book Jardin d'Acclimatation tickets online in advance during school holidays, as it sells out on sunny weekends.
- Guignol puppet shows are cash-only at most locations and fill up quickly, so arrive 15 minutes early.
- Many museums and parks offer free or reduced entry for children under 4, so carry ID with birthdates.



Events Calendar

Paris comes alive year-round with festivals, concerts, and seasonal celebrations that give visitors a reason to plan around the calendar, not just the map. From spring garden festivals to riverside summer nights and a glittering New Year on the Champs-Elysees, this calendar highlights the recurring happenings worth building a trip around in 2026.



Must See

Paris Plages Summer Beach Festival

Half day No Booking Needed



Map

Every summer the banks of the Seine and the Bassin de la Villette are transformed into an urban beach, complete with imported sand, deck chairs, palm trees, and free swimming pools. For **2026**, Paris Plages is expected to run from *July 18 to August 23*, filling the quays with beach volleyball, dance classes, live DJs, and evening concerts. Its entirely free and draws both tourists and locals who cannot escape the city in August. Food trucks and ice cream stands line the promenade, and misting stations help visitors cope with the summer heat. The event stretches along both the Right Bank near the Hotel de Ville and the eastern canal district, so plan a full afternoon to see both stretches properly.



Must See

Fete de la Musique (Music Festival)

Full evening No Booking Needed



Map

On the summer solstice, Paris turns into one enormous open-air concert as musicians of every genre take to street corners, courtyards, and squares completely free of charge. In **2026** the festival falls on *June 21*, running from late afternoon well past midnight across nearly every arrondissement. Expect everything from classical string quartets outside churches to techno DJs in the Marais and brass bands marching through the Latin Quarter. Bars and cafes spill their crowds onto the sidewalks, and the atmosphere is famously joyful and chaotic. There is no single venue, so wandering between neighborhoods is part of the experience. Wear comfortable shoes and expect the metro to run later than usual to accommodate the crowds.



Must See

Champs-Elysees New Year Illuminations

3-5 hours No Booking Needed



Map

To close out the year, the Champs-Elysees is strung with elaborate light displays and hosts one of Europe's largest public New Year's Eve gatherings. The illuminations typically switch on in mid-November and remain through early January, with the main celebration concentrated around *December 31, 2026, into January 1, 2027*, when crowds gather near the Arc de Triomphe for a video-mapping show projected onto the monument itself. Street vendors sell mulled wine and roasted chestnuts along the avenue, and department store windows nearby compete with dazzling holiday displays. Arrive early for a good viewing spot, as security checkpoints and heavy crowds are standard. It's a spectacular, free way to ring in the new year in one of the world's most famous avenues.





Top Pick

Paris Fete des Jardins (Garden Festival)

2-3 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Each spring, Paris parks and gardens open with special exhibits, plant markets, and guided walks celebrating the city's green spaces. In **2026**, the festival runs from *April 18 to May 3*, with the biggest gatherings centered on the Jardin des Plantes and Parc Floral de Paris. Expect rare plant vendors, botanical talks, children's workshops, and pop-up cafes tucked among the flowerbeds. It's a relaxed, family-friendly way to see a quieter side of the city just as the weather turns warm. Many neighborhood squares also host smaller satellite events, so it's worth checking local mairie listings once in Paris. Photographers flock here for tulip and blossom season, and the scent of fresh-cut grass and lilac fills the air throughout the run.



Top Pick

Fete des Vendanges de Montmartre (Harvest Festival)

3-4 hours No Booking Needed



Map

This quirky autumn tradition celebrates the grape harvest from Montmartre's tiny vineyard, Clos Montmartre, one of the last working vineyards inside Paris. Scheduled for **October 7-11, 2026**, the festival fills the hilltop streets with wine tastings, food stalls, parades in period costume, and live accordion music. Locals and small producers from across France set up stands selling cheese, charcuterie, and regional wines along Rue Lepic and around Place du Tertre. A costumed procession winds through the neighborhood on the opening weekend, drawing crowds who come as much for the spectacle as the wine. It's a wonderfully old-fashioned counterpoint to the more polished festivals elsewhere in the city, and it captures Montmartre's village character well.

Tips for Events Calendar

- Check official Paris tourism sites close to your travel dates, as exact festival dates can shift slightly year to year.
- Most of these events are free, but arrive early for prime spots at Fete de la Musique and the New Year illuminations.
- Public transport often runs extended hours during major festivals, but expect crowding on metro lines near event zones.
- Pack layers, outdoor events like Paris Plages and the Garden Festival are weather-dependent.



Hidden Gems

Beyond the marquee monuments, Paris rewards travelers who wander into its overlooked corners: glass-roofed 19th-century arcades, a disused railway reclaimed by wildflowers, and a market that has fed the neighborhood since Louis XIII. These spots see a fraction of the crowds but capture the city's texture just as vividly.



Top Pick

Covered Passages (Galerie Vivienne & Passage des Panoramas)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Long before shopping malls existed, Paris built glass-and-iron covered arcades to shelter strollers from mud and rain. **Galerie Vivienne**, with its mosaic floors and neoclassical reliefs, and the older **Passage des Panoramas** across the boulevard are the best-preserved survivors of a network that once numbered over a hundred. Inside you will find secondhand bookshops, stamp dealers, wine bars, and small ateliers that have operated for generations, largely unbothered by tourist foot traffic. The light filtering through the arched glass ceilings gives the passages a hushed, almost theatrical quality very different from the streets outside. Come on a weekday afternoon when shopkeepers are open but crowds are thin, and follow the connecting passages (Panoramas links to Jouffroy and Verdeau) for a longer indoor stroll that reveals how Parisians shopped in the 1800s.



Top Pick

Île aux Cygnes and the Statue of Liberty replica

30-45 minutes No Booking Needed



Map

Few visitors realize Paris has its own miniature **Statue of Liberty**, standing at the western tip of a slender artificial island in the Seine. The Île aux Cygnes is a tree-lined footpath barely wider than a sidewalk, running nearly a kilometer beneath the Bir-Hakeim bridge, with almost no commercial development and sweeping river views on both sides. Joggers, cyclists, and a handful of local families use it far more than tourists, making it an easy way to experience the Seine away from the crowds near the main quays. The statue itself, a quarter-scale copy gifted in 1889, faces west toward its larger cousin in New York. Walk the island end to end at golden hour for quiet views of passing river traffic and the Eiffel Tower rising just beyond the trees.



Top Pick

Marché des Enfants Rouges

1 hour No Booking Needed



Map

Established in 1615, this is the oldest covered food market still operating in Paris, and it remains a working neighborhood market rather than a staged attraction. Stalls sell fresh produce, cheese, and flowers alongside small counters serving Moroccan tagines, Japanese bento, Lebanese mezze, and Italian antipasti, with a handful of communal tables where locals eat lunch shoulder to shoulder with whoever else is around. The name refers to a former orphanage for children dressed in red that once stood on the site, a detail most visitors never learn since the market gets little mention in guidebooks. It is busiest around midday on weekends, so arrive slightly earlier for a seat, or come on a weekday morning to watch vendors set up and chat with regulars. Cash is still useful at several of the smaller stalls.





Notable

La Petite Ceinture

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Circling the city just inside the modern périphérique, this abandoned 19th-century rail line once shuttled goods and passengers around Paris; parts of it have been reopened as a wild, elevated walking path threading through cuttings and old stations. Sections in the 12th, 14th, 15th, and 20th arrondissements let visitors walk among self-seeded trees, ivy-covered platforms, and rusting rails that feel closer to an urban nature reserve than a capital city. It is a favorite of local joggers and photographers rather than sightseers, and each stretch has its own character, from graffiti-covered tunnels to quiet greenway. Because access points and opening hours vary by arrondissement, check the nearest entrance before setting out. Wear sturdy shoes, as the surface is uneven gravel and old ballast rather than a paved path.



Notable

Musée de la Chasse et de la Nature

1.5-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Tucked into a 17th-century mansion, this eccentric little museum pairs taxidermied animals and antique hunting weapons with surreal contemporary art installations, resulting in a space that feels equal parts natural history cabinet and dreamlike gallery. A room lined with owls stares down at visitors; a chandelier of antlers hangs above period furniture; a stuffed polar bear shares floor space with rotating exhibitions by working artists. It rewards curiosity rather than checklist sightseeing, and because it draws mostly design and art enthusiasts rather than tour groups, galleries are rarely crowded. The building itself, the Hôtel de Guénégaud, is worth lingering in for its carved wood paneling and quiet courtyard. Budget extra time if a temporary exhibition is running, as these often occupy an entire additional wing.

Tips for Hidden Gems

- Visit the covered passages on a weekday, as many shops close on Sundays.
- La Petite Ceinture sections have separate opening hours set by each arrondissement, so check locally before you go.
- Combine the Île aux Cygnes walk with a visit to the nearby Bir-Hakeim area for a quieter alternative to the main riverbanks.
- Arrive at Marché des Enfants Rouges by late morning on weekends to beat the lunch rush.



Food & Dining

Real, highly-rated Restaurants in Paris, sourced from Google Places (rating above 4★).



Must See

Magnolia★★★★★ 4.9 (576)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Magnolia is a highly-rated restaurant in Paris, rated 4.9★ from 576 reviews. Located at 5 Rue Henry Monnier, 75009 Paris, France.

Opening Hours

- Monday: Closed
- Tuesday: 7:00 – 10:00 PM
- Wednesday: 7:00 – 10:00 PM
- Thursday: 12:30 – 2:00 PM, 7:00 – 10:30 PM
- Friday: 7:00 – 10:30 PM
- Saturday: 7:00 – 10:30 PM
- Sunday: Closed



Must See

C'est Comme À La Maison - CCALM★★★★★ 4.9 (458)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

C'est Comme À La Maison - CCALM is a highly-rated restaurant in Paris, rated 4.9★ from 458 reviews. Located at 6 Rue Geoffroy l'Angevin, 75004 Paris, France.

Opening Hours

- Monday: Closed
- Tuesday: 12:00 – 2:00 PM, 6:30 – 10:00 PM
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 2:00 PM, 6:30 – 10:00 PM
- Thursday: Closed
- Friday: Closed
- Saturday: Closed
- Sunday: Closed





Must See

Maslow 1er★★★★★ 4.9 (19,441)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Maslow 1er is a highly-rated restaurant in Paris, rated 4.9★ from 19441 reviews. Located at 14 Quai de la Mégisserie, 75001 Paris, France.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Tuesday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Friday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Saturday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Sunday: 11:15 AM – 9:00 PM



Must See

Sphère★★★★★ 4.8 (14,196)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Sphère is a highly-rated restaurant in Paris, rated 4.8★ from 14196 reviews. Located at 18 Rue La Boétie, 75008 Paris, France.

Opening Hours

- Monday: Closed
- Tuesday: 12:00 – 2:30 PM, 7:00 – 10:30 PM
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 2:30 PM, 7:00 – 10:30 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 2:30 PM, 7:00 – 10:30 PM
- Friday: 12:00 – 2:30 PM, 7:00 – 10:30 PM
- Saturday: 12:00 – 2:30 PM, 7:00 – 11:00 PM
- Sunday: 12:00 – 2:30 PM, 7:00 – 10:30 PM



Must See

Au P'tit Curieux★★★★★ 4.8 (1,048)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Au P'tit Curieux is a highly-rated restaurant in Paris, rated 4.8★ from 1048 reviews. Located at 27 Rue de Sambre-et-Meuse, 75010 Paris, France.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 6:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Tuesday: 6:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Wednesday: 6:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Thursday: 6:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Friday: 6:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Saturday: 6:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Sunday: 12:00 – 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM – 12:00 AM





Must See

Bouillon République★★★★★ 4.7 (38,367)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Bouillon République is a highly-rated restaurant in Paris, rated 4.7★ from 38367 reviews. Located at 39 Bd du Temple, 75003 Paris, France.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 11:30 AM – 12:00 AM
- Tuesday: 11:30 AM – 12:00 AM
- Wednesday: 11:30 AM – 12:00 AM
- Thursday: 11:30 AM – 12:00 AM
- Friday: 11:30 AM – 12:00 AM
- Saturday: 11:30 AM – 12:00 AM
- Sunday: 11:30 AM – 12:00 AM



Must See

Pink Mamma★★★★★ 4.7 (50,678)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Pink Mamma is a highly-rated restaurant in Paris, rated 4.7★ from 50678 reviews. Located at 20bis Rue de Douai, 75009 Paris, France.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:00 – 2:15 PM, 6:00 – 10:45 PM
- Tuesday: 12:00 – 2:15 PM, 6:00 – 10:45 PM
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 2:15 PM, 6:00 – 10:45 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 2:15 PM, 6:00 – 11:00 PM
- Friday: 12:00 – 2:15 PM, 6:00 – 11:00 PM
- Saturday: 12:00 – 4:00 PM, 6:00 – 11:00 PM
- Sunday: 12:00 – 4:00 PM, 6:00 – 10:45 PM



Must See

La Scène★★★★★ 4.7 (1,047)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

La Scène is a highly-rated restaurant in Paris, rated 4.7★ from 1047 reviews. Located at 32 Av. Matignon, 75008 Paris, France.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:30 – 1:30 PM, 7:30 – 9:00 PM
- Tuesday: 12:30 – 1:30 PM, 7:30 – 9:00 PM
- Wednesday: 12:30 – 1:30 PM, 7:30 – 9:00 PM
- Thursday: 12:30 – 1:30 PM, 7:30 – 9:00 PM
- Friday: 12:30 – 1:30 PM, 7:30 – 9:00 PM
- Saturday: Closed
- Sunday: Closed





Must See

Le Colimaçon★★★★★ 4.7 (3,148)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Le Colimaçon is a highly-rated restaurant in Paris, rated 4.7★ from 3148 reviews. Located at 44 Rue Vieille du Temple, 75004 Paris, France.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 6:00 – 10:30 PM
- Tuesday: 6:00 – 10:30 PM
- Wednesday: 6:00 – 10:30 PM
- Thursday: 6:00 – 10:30 PM
- Friday: 6:00 – 10:30 PM
- Saturday: 6:00 – 10:30 PM
- Sunday: 12:30 – 2:30 PM, 6:00 – 10:30 PM



Must See

Restaurant Guy Savoy★★★★★ 4.7 (1,765)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Restaurant Guy Savoy is a highly-rated restaurant in Paris, rated 4.7★ from 1765 reviews. Located at 11 Quai de Conti, 75006 Paris, France.

Opening Hours

- Monday: Closed
- Tuesday: Closed
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 1:30 PM, 7:00 – 10:00 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 1:30 PM, 7:00 – 10:00 PM
- Friday: 12:00 – 1:30 PM, 7:00 – 10:00 PM
- Saturday: 12:00 – 1:30 PM, 7:00 – 10:00 PM
- Sunday: Closed





Must See

Le Vieux Bistrot★★★★★ 4.7 (2,433)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Le Vieux Bistrot is a highly-rated restaurant in Paris, rated 4.7★ from 2433 reviews. Located at 54 Rue Mouffetard, 75005 Paris, France.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Tuesday: Closed
- Wednesday: 6:00 – 11:00 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Friday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Saturday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Sunday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM



Must See

Restaurant L'Ange 20★★★★★ 4.7 (1,574)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Restaurant L'Ange 20 is a highly-rated restaurant in Paris, rated 4.7★ from 1574 reviews. Located at 44 Rue des Tournelles, 75004 Paris, France.

Opening Hours

- Monday: Closed
- Tuesday: Closed
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 2:00 PM, 6:30 – 10:00 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 2:00 PM, 6:30 – 10:00 PM
- Friday: 12:00 – 2:00 PM, 6:30 – 10:00 PM
- Saturday: 12:00 – 2:00 PM, 6:30 – 10:00 PM
- Sunday: 12:00 – 2:00 PM, 6:30 – 10:00 PM





Must See

Les Baux de Paris★★★★★ 4.7 (2,145)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Les Baux de Paris is a highly-rated restaurant in Paris, rated 4.7★ from 2145 reviews. Located at 71 Rue Mouffetard, 75005 Paris, France.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM, 5:45 PM – 12:00 AM
- Tuesday: 5:45 PM – 12:00 AM
- Wednesday: 5:45 PM – 12:00 AM
- Thursday: 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM, 5:45 PM – 12:00 AM
- Friday: 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM, 5:45 PM – 12:00 AM
- Saturday: 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM, 5:45 PM – 12:00 AM
- Sunday: 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM, 5:45 PM – 12:00 AM



Must See

Restaurant Pantagruel Paris★★★★★ 4.7 (1,204)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Restaurant Pantagruel Paris is a highly-rated restaurant in Paris, rated 4.7★ from 1204 reviews. Located at 10 Rue de Richelieu, 75001 Paris, France.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:15 – 1:30 PM, 7:30 – 9:00 PM
- Tuesday: 12:15 – 1:30 PM, 7:30 – 9:00 PM
- Wednesday: 12:15 – 1:30 PM, 7:30 – 9:00 PM
- Thursday: 12:15 – 1:30 PM, 7:30 – 9:00 PM
- Friday: 12:15 – 1:30 PM, 7:30 – 9:00 PM
- Saturday: Closed
- Sunday: Closed



Must See

L'Oiseau Blanc★★★★★ 4.6 (1,950)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

L'Oiseau Blanc is a highly-rated restaurant in Paris, rated 4.6★ from 1950 reviews. Located at 19 Av. Kléber, 75116 Paris, France.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:00 – 2:00 PM, 7:00 – 10:00 PM
- Tuesday: 12:00 – 2:00 PM, 7:00 – 10:00 PM
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 2:00 PM, 7:00 – 10:00 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 2:00 PM, 7:00 – 10:00 PM
- Friday: 12:00 – 2:00 PM, 7:00 – 10:00 PM
- Saturday: 12:00 – 2:00 PM, 7:00 – 10:00 PM
- Sunday: 12:00 – 2:00 PM, 7:00 – 10:00 PM



Practical Information

Best Time to Visit Paris

Spring (April-June) is ideal with *mild temperatures, blooming gardens*, and manageable crowds. May offers pleasant weather and extended daylight hours perfect for exploration.

Fall (September-October) provides beautiful autumn colors, harvest season produce, and comfortable temperatures. September is particularly pleasant as summer crowds dissipate.

Summer (July-August) brings warm weather and numerous festivals but also peak tourist crowds and higher prices. Many Parisians vacation in August, closing some local businesses. Expect temperatures around 25°C (77°F) with occasional heat waves.

Winter (November-March) offers the lowest prices and smallest crowds but cold, gray weather. Christmas markets and decorations brighten December. January-February sales (*soldes*) attract shopping enthusiasts. Museums and indoor attractions are less crowded.

Season	Temperature	Rainfall	Crowds
Spring	12-20°C (54-68°F)	Moderate	Medium
Summer	20-25°C (68-77°F)	Low	Very High
Fall	10-18°C (50-64°F)	Moderate	Medium-High
Winter	3-8°C (37-46°F)	High	Low

Getting Around Paris

➔ Airport Transfer

- **Charles de Gaulle (CDG):** RER B train to central Paris (€11.45, 30-40 min), Roissybus to Opéra (€16.60), taxis (€50-55 flat rate to Right Bank, €58-62 to Left Bank), or private transfers
- **Orly (ORY):** Orlyval + RER B combination (€14.50), Orlybus to Denfert-Rochereau (€11.20), or taxis (€37.10 flat rate)
- **Beauvais (BVA):** Budget airline airport 85 km north; shuttle buses coordinate with flights (€17, 1.5 hours)

Public Transportation:

The **RATP network** operates metro, buses, and trams:

- **Métro:** 16 lines, runs 5:30 AM-1:15 AM (2:15 AM weekends), single ticket €2.10
- **RER:** Commuter trains connecting suburbs, same ticket in central zones
- **Buses:** Extensive network, scenic routes above ground, same ticket as metro
- **Trams:** 11 lines primarily serving outer arrondissements

Tickets & Passes:

- **Navigo Easy** card (€2, rechargeable) for single tickets and carnets
- **Navigo week pass** (€30.75 for zones 1-5) for unlimited travel Monday-Sunday
- **Paris Visite** pass for tourists (1-5 days, zones 1-3 or 1-5) includes some discounts
- **Carnet** of 10 tickets for savings versus single purchases

Alternative Transport:

- **Vélib'** bike share: 20,000+ bikes, first 30 min free with day pass
- **Taxis:** Meter starts at €4.18, approximately €1-1.50/km depending on zone and time
- **Uber/Bolt:** Ride-sharing apps widely available and competitive pricing
- **Walking:** Central Paris is compact - many attractions within walking distance

Pro tip: Download the Citymapper or RATP app for real-time navigation and journey planning!



Tourist Passes

Paris Museum Pass

The **Paris Museum Pass** provides skip-the-line access to over 50 museums and monuments including the Louvre, Versailles, Musée d'Orsay, Arc de Triomphe, and Sainte-Chapelle. Available in *2-day (€62)*, *4-day (€77)*, or *6-day (€92)* consecutive day options. Ideal for museum enthusiasts planning to visit multiple major attractions. The pass pays for itself after 4-5 attractions. Does not include special exhibitions or tours. Not valid for transportation.



www.parismuseumpass.fr

Paris Passlib'

Comprehensive pass combining **museum entry, public transportation, and river cruise**. Options include 2, 3, or 5 consecutive days with Paris Museum Pass coverage plus unlimited metro/bus travel. More expensive than separate purchases but offers *maximum convenience* and flexibility. Best for first-time visitors wanting worry-free sightseeing. Includes Seine cruise ticket and additional discounts at partner attractions.



parisspasslib.com

Paris Visite Travel Pass

Unlimited travel pass for **metro, RER, buses, and trams** in selected zones. Available for 1, 2, 3, or 5 consecutive days in zones 1-3 (central Paris) or 1-5 (including airports and Versailles). Includes discounts at various tourist attractions and shops. Prices range from €13.95 (1 day, zones 1-3) to €72.40 (5 days, zones 1-5). *Best for extensive daily travel* across multiple modes of transportation.



www.ratp.fr

Paris je t'aime Pass

Digital tourist pass offering **flexible entry to popular attractions** with 3 or 5 credits to use across 2 or 3 days. Credits work at major sites like the Louvre, Eiffel Tower summit, and Seine cruises. Unlike Museum Pass, it's *not consecutive days*, providing more flexibility. Includes digital Paris guidebook and one city tour. Prices vary by selected options. Good for visitors wanting choice without commitment to intensive museum-hopping.



www.parisjetaime.com

