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# WELCOME TO PARIS!

Made for English-speaking people looking for good tips and good addresses in Paris, *Best of Paris* by Petit Futé is an essential how-to guide to find accommodation, restaurants, to organize your visits and outings to be sure you won't get lost in the capital of France. It is true that Paris is huge and full of charm: the city has many sites to visit like the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame de Paris and Montmartre, as well as museums of high cultural interest, like the Louvre, the Musée d'Orsay and the Musée National d'Art Moderne – Centre Pompidou. But Paris it is also the Parisian way of life with its myriad of restaurants, bistros and cafes, its markets and shops offering a large choice of local products to enjoy French gastronomy. Last but not least, as a fashion capital, Paris is the paradise of fashionistas with its leading designers and iconic brands. You can find some of the most famous couture houses in Paris walking down the Champs-Élysées and Avenue Montaigne. But you can also shop in small traditional boutiques and department stores, flea markets and second-hand shops, like many locals do. That's why Paris is ranked as the first European urban tourist destination attracting more than 27 million tourists each year. With this guidebook, Petit Futé has done everything possible to give you a selection of addresses gathering must-sees and hidden treasures for a successful stay in the *Ville lumière* and to enjoy the best this incredible city has to offer. Welcome to Paris!



 PRINTED IN FRANCE

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Musée Rodin.

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## FIND THE BEST VISITS

★ INTERESTING   ★★ EXCELLENT   ★★★ UNMISSABLE   ★★★★ UNFORGETTABLE



The Eiffel Tower.

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Palais de l'Élysée

Petit et Grand Palais

Palais de Chaillot

Tour Eiffel

Musée du Quai Branly

Champ de Mars

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AG

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# VISITS



# GUIDED TOURS

## ■ PARIS BIKE TOUR

13, Brantôme Street (3<sup>e</sup>)

☎ 01 42 74 22 14

[parisbiketour.net](http://parisbiketour.net)

[info@parisbiketour.net](mailto:info@parisbiketour.net)

M<sup>o</sup> Rambuteau or Hôtel de Ville

Open every day and on public holidays from 9: 30 am to 6: 30 pm. From €36 per visit for an adult and €30 for 12-18 year olds.

Located in the heart of Paris, facing Île Saint-Louis, Paris Bike Tour offers guided bike tours of the capital, as well as a bicycle rental service. On the program, relaxation of course, discoveries, but also history and anecdotes told by professional guides. The visit to Paris en Seine, for example, takes you along the banks of the Seine (right and left banks) to discover the monuments built along the river (from Notre-Dame to the Eiffel Tower, via the Palais de Chaillot and the Conciergerie). Another visit: the eternal Paris, which focuses on the centre of the capital with an incursion into the Marais. For those who are not very comfortable on a bike, Paris Bike Tour also organizes walking tours. Whatever your choice, book at least 24 hours in advance, by phone or Internet.

## ■ LA CROISIÈRE ENCHANTÉE DES BATEAUX PARISIENS

Port de La Bourdonnais (7<sup>e</sup>)

☎ 08 25 01 01 01

[www.bateauxparisiens.com](http://www.bateauxparisiens.com)

[reservation@bateauxparisiens.com](mailto:reservation@bateauxparisiens.com)

RER Champs de Mars Tour Eiffel

or M<sup>o</sup> Bir-Hakeim

*Edutainment walk of 1 hour. Cruise. Show on the water. Departures at 2: 00 and 3: 45 pm. Rates online. Guided tour. Animations.*

There is nothing more extraordinary to discover the most beautiful city in the world than to board these mythical boats and let yourself slide quietly along the Seine. Parisian boats have built the enchanted Cruise to discover with the whole family. Two elves, Lila and Philou, played by professional actors, tell Paris, its history and secrets, with a playful animation. A one-hour panoramic boat trip, punctuated by songs and games, will therefore be an original and rich way to discover the capital. Services adapted to large families are also available on its Parisian boats.

## ■ VEDETTES DE PARIS

Port de Suffren

At the foot of the Eiffel Tower (7<sup>e</sup>)

☎ 01 44 18 19 50

[www.vedettesdeparis.com](http://www.vedettesdeparis.com)

[billetterie@vedettesdeparis.com](mailto:billetterie@vedettesdeparis.com)

M<sup>o</sup> Bir-Hakeim or Trocadero

Open all year round. Every day and public holidays from 10.30am to 10pm with departures all 30 min (the schedule is likely to vary). Specify your needs when reserving. One-

hour walk on the Seine. Glass of champagne, sweet crepe or a snack depending on the selected formula. Guided tour. Restaurant. Activities.

With Croisière Découverte, Vedettes de Paris allows you to discover Paris every day of the year by crossing the Grand Palais, Place de la Concorde, the National Assembly, the Musée d'Orsay, the Louvre, the Conciergerie, the Hôtel de Ville, not to mention Notre-Dame! All the boats, elegant and human-sized, are equipped with bars to enjoy a fast food service. For children, the *Croisière Mystères de Paris* cruise is animated by a specialised guide. The company also offers several thematic cruises. And finally, for your birthday, Vedettes de Paris offers you a one-hour cruise and a glass of champagne (upon presentation of proof).

## ■ FLYVIEW

32, rue du 4 septembre (9<sup>e</sup>)

[www.flyview360.com](http://www.flyview360.com)

M<sup>o</sup> Opéra

Open 7 days a week. Admission: €15 (minimum age: 8 years / minimum height: 1,20 m).

For nearly two years now, you can fly in the sky of Paris, alone, in the air, like a bird. No, the Petit Futé team are not hallucinating, but they have tested the entertainment FlyView, a virtual reality system that makes you feel – and even more – of flying over the capital. Thus, you stand in a metal frame, hands on handles, with especially the vision helmet on your eyes. Reality sometimes exceeds fiction, and it is difficult to describe the sensations you will going to experience. The custom-made simulators combined with the work of hundreds of people over several years, give a completely amazing result. Children or adults, you will leave above the streets of the most beautiful city in the world without the slightest risk. Awesome!

## ■ OPEN TOUR

Open Tour Agency

13, rue Auber (9<sup>e</sup>)

☎ 01 42 66 56 56

[www.opentourparis.com](http://www.opentourparis.com)

[info.paris@opentour.com](mailto:info.paris@opentour.com)

M<sup>o</sup> or RER Auber

Open all year round. Bus frequency: High season (from 30 March to 5 November): every 10 to 15 minutes depending on the line. Low season (from 2 November to 31 March): every 20 to 30 minutes depending on the line. Shop open from 9am to 10pm in high season and from 9am to 6pm in low season. Bus tour pass, bus tour + boat, bus tour + night tour, bus tour + fly boats, etc. The Open Tour bus pass gives discounts on many attractions and activities. Guided tour. Shop. Comments available in 10 languages (French, English, Spanish, Italian, German, Portuguese, Brazilian, Russian, Chinese and Japanese). The children's comments are available in 3 languages (French, English, Spanish). It's very simple, these buses with open top deck of Paris l'Opentour are everywhere in the city! They make you discover Paris «from above» – comments are done by an

audioguide (available in 10 languages!). The vehicles are accessible using a pass valid for 1, 2 or 3 consecutive days: You can get on and get off the bus indefinitely on the three routes on offer. Visit the city's main attractions! You will discover the history of the capital and its secrets. Kids will be attracted by the Parisian adventures of D'Artagnan, Quasimodo, the Phantom of the Opera... If you want to discover unusual corners, do not hesitate to get off the bus.

### ■ VISITES-SPECTACLES

12, rue Laugier (17<sup>e</sup>)

☎ 01 88 32 53 98

[www.visites-spectacles.com](http://www.visites-spectacles.com)

[info@visites-spectacles.com](mailto:info@visites-spectacles.com)

The weekend and some weekdays during holidays. Rate depending on the visit-show. Reduced rate for groups. Reduced rate for children for some visit-shows. Internet shop.

Turning a simple guided tour of a neighbourhood into a show, you had to think about it! Along the way, between two pieces of information or anecdotes given by your guide, you come across historical characters played by actors. As for you, you are the spectators of the show. Several «shows» are offered in different categories.

#### ▶ Tour-Shows

- The tour-show La Magie du Marais, from 28 €.

- Visits and shows led by a troupe of actors in the streets of Montmartre (L'Eternel Esprit de Montmartre), in the covered passages (L'Intrigue des Passages couvertes) or in the Quartier Latin (Le Crime du Quartier Latin), from €28.

- An unusual visit-show in an old crayon of Issy-les-Moulineaux (Le Secret des Caves Oubliées) at the gates of Paris, from 28 €.

▶ **Investigation-Visits** which are **treasure hunts** always with actors in the form of team rallies:

- on Ile de la Cité around Notre-Dame (Le Mystère de l'Île de la Cité), from 19 €.

- at the Palais Royal (L'Enquête du Palais-Royal), from 19 €.

- in the Père Lachaise cemetery (L'Enquête du Père Lachaise), from 19 €.

- in the Tuileries garden (La Merveilleuse Légende des Tuileries), from 19 €.

#### ▶ Tell-tale tours

- Les Grandes Heures des jardins de Versailles, from 30 €.

- Un Amour d'opéra, from 30 €.

▶ **Exceptional visits** for groups (in association with a top-of-the-range guided tour operator): The Catacombs (without queuing) – Murders, poisonings and scandals at the Palace of Versailles – The underside of the masterpieces of the Louvre. Price according to the visit (ask for details).

### ■ LE PETIT TRAIN DE MONTMARTRE

Promotrain (18<sup>e</sup>)

☎ 01 42 62 24 00

[www.promotrain.fr](http://www.promotrain.fr)

[promotrain@wanadoo.fr](mailto:promotrain@wanadoo.fr)



Visites-spectacles.

*Opening hours: 11am-5pm from November to March (departure every hour) on weekdays and every 30 minutes on weekends and school holidays in Zone C, 10am-8pm from April to October (departure every 30 minutes) and until 11pm in July and August. Adult: €6.50. €4.50 for children under 12 years old. For groups (20 people minimum): €5.50.*

This small, moderate-speed train allows you to leisurely discover Montmartre during a 35-minute guided tour. You see the Moulin Rouge, the Montmartre cemetery, the Sacré-Cœur basilica, the Place du Tertre, the Montmartre vineyards, the cabaret of the Agile Rabbit, the Saint-Pierre market... The departure is from the Place Blanche or the Place du Tertre (M<sup>o</sup> Abbesses or Anvers). You can start the walk from either square, stay as long as you want and return later.

### ■ VÉLO PARIS

44, rue d'Orsel (18<sup>e</sup>)

☎ 01 42 64 97 39

[www.veloparis.com](http://www.veloparis.com)

[contact@veloparis.com](mailto:contact@veloparis.com)

M<sup>o</sup> Anvers or Abbesses

*Various schedules according to the seasons. Visits from €25 (the price varies according to the number of participants). Rent a bike from €10/day.*

Vélo Paris offers several itineraries of about two to three hours from Montmartre. These rides – L'incontournable de Paris, Le Cœur de Paris or Le Vrai Paris – introduce you to the capital's main tourist attractions. Other visits – thematic (Paris by night, Au fil de l'eau, etc...) – offer different ways to discover the City of lights.

# SITES & MONUMENTS

## ■ LA BOURSE DE COMMERCE- PINAULT COLLECTION



2, rue Viarmes (1<sup>er</sup>)

[www.boursedecommerce.fr](http://www.boursedecommerce.fr)

M° Les Halles or RER Châtelet – Les Halles

Open all year round. Free of charge.

The monumental building of the Bourse de Commerce, which for a long time housed the services of the Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry, is recognizable among all with its beautiful rotunda topped by a dome. After lengthy restoration work, in mid-June 2020 the Bourse will host an exhibition program based on a collection of more than 5,000 works by François Pinault, which will feature many artists, including many top names such as Jeff Koons, as well as many artists of various generations, cultures and practices.

## ■ LA COLONNE VENDÔME



M° Tuileries, Pyramides  
or Palais Royal-Musée du Louvre

Built at Place Vendôme to the glory of the French people in 1810 on the model of Trajan's column in ancient Rome, this bronze column of 44 meters in height and 3,60 m in diameter was soon designed to celebrate the glory of Napoleon 1<sup>st</sup>. Around its trunk winds a spiral frieze representing scenes of battles carved by Pierre Bergeret on bronze plaques from the melting of guns taken from the Russians and the Austrians (if we are to believe hearsay that is perhaps propagandist). At the top, you can see a statue of the emperor Napoleon sculpted by Antoine-Denis Chaudet. In 1871, the column was destroyed by the Communards and rebuilt under the Third Republic. From 2014, the column was restored due to the considerable damage of its bronze and stone works and its locksmiths. The Direction Régionale des Affaires Culturelles of the Ile-de-France region was the project owner of the works led by Christophe Bottineau, the chief architect of historic monuments, with significant cofinancing since it is that of the famous Hôtel Ritz, interested in the brightness of the Column, which is in front of its doors... Nearby, many Parisian important places deserve to be seen: Place Vendôme itself, with its shops and luxury hotels, including the Ritz, already mentioned, Jardin des Tuileries, Rue Saint-Honoré, Rue de la Paix, L'Opéra, etc.

## ■ LES HALLES



101, Porte Berger (1<sup>er</sup>)

[forumdeshalles.com](http://forumdeshalles.com)

M° Les Halles. RER Châtelet Les Halles.



Open Monday to Saturday from 10am to 8:30pm; Sunday from 11am to 7pm. Free of charge. Food service. Shops. Entertainment.

Nicknamed «Le ventre de Paris» (the belly of Paris) by the novelist Emile Zola, the Les Halles district has

been dedicated to commerce since the Middle Ages. Several large food markets have followed one another, which has led to the establishment of many shops and craftsmen's workshops in a vast area, each street having its own speciality. Under the Second Empire, for reasons of efficiency and hygiene, a covered market was built between 1854 and 1866. Ten pavilions designed by Victor Baltard were then built. Their structures are metallic while their roof is glazed. In 1963, it was considered that this wholesale market was no longer suitable. It was then transferred to Rungis in 1969. Once this move was completed, a redevelopment of the former space occupied by the pavilions and neighboring blocks was launched. Once used for the presentation of cultural events, the Baltard pavilions were demolished – one of them survived, to be brought back to Nogent-sur-Marne. The site is nicknamed «trou des Halles» (hole of Les Halles). It was only in 1979 that the Forum des Halles, an underground shopping center that would expand in the following decade, was inaugurated. A swimming pool, facilities from the City of Paris and a gigantic RER station are part of this vast complex. In 2004, the Paris City Hall decided to redevelop the district once again. Work began in 2010 and was completed in 2016. Today, Les Halles (officially named Westfield – Forum des Halles) are overlooked by a gigantic canopy, a building designed by architects Patrick Berger and Jacques Anziutti. On the surface, a beautiful and large driveway runs through the entire length of the garden, which consists of tree-lined lawns.

## ■ LE PONT DES ARTS



Quai du Louvre (1<sup>er</sup>)

M° Louvre Rivoli.

«Si, par hasard / Sur l'Pont des Arts / Tu croises le vent, le vent fripon / Prudence, prends garde à ton jupon...» («If by chance / On the Pont des Arts / You cross the wind, the rascal wind / Beware, beware of your petticoat...») sang Georges Brassens. The Pont des Arts is the romantic symbol of lovers on the run, legion in the capital of Love. This pedestrian bridge connects the Cour Carrée du Louvre and the dome of the Académie Française. Built during the First Empire, it was the first metal bridge in Paris. It consisted of nine arches that caused the boatman a lot of trouble. The accidents were so numerous that this work was closed to the public in 1970. This pedestrian-only footbridge was finally rebuilt identically – minus two arches – in the early 1980s. Since 2008, many so-called love locks have been hung along the bridge. This practice, which seems to have appeared in Eastern Europe, sees couples hanging a padlock with words of love or the initials of those couples in love! However, the Paris City Council has decided to withdraw them in June 2015. The number of locks was so great that it threatened the railings on which they were collapsing. Glass panels have been placed.



© STEPHAN SZBENETA

Pont des Arts and Pont Neuf.

## ■ REMNANTS OF THE PHILIPPE AUGUSTE ENCLOSURE



### Pont des Arts

Quai François-Mitterrand (1<sup>er</sup>)

M<sup>o</sup> Louvre – Rivoli

*Open all year round. Free.*

3 m wide and 9 m high, the enclosure built by Philippe Auguste between 1190 and 1209 on the right bank of the Seine did not give in the decorative! At a time when the future City of Lights was only a city subject to danger of invasions, the French king had to protect his people. Today, some remains of this tremendous construction continue. The Louvre tower was located at the level of the Pont des Arts, 25 m high, then, the wall crossed the Cour Carrée du Louvre. Go then to the 148-150 rue Saint-Honoré where the Saint-Honoré tower, against whose remains the current building leans, stood. Head then for 11 rue du Louvre where you can find the well-preserved base of a former surrounding-wall tower. The wall then followed the line of the current rue du Jour which you can take to go to rue Montmartre. Once you arrive at rue Montmartre, turn left and you are at the place of Porte de Montmartre whose plaque reminds us of the good memory at n°30. Turn right at rue Étienne-Marcel and go straight, thus going along the interior side of the enclosure. At n°20, admire the Tour Jean-sans-Peur which was built on the remains of the tower of the surrounding wall (visible on the ground floor), you can thus observe here two towers one on top of the other! Go then to 71-73 rue du temple, to the Saint-Aignan hotel where a vestige can be found in the courtyard (careful, you will have to pay an entrance to observe this trace of the past). Head then for 55 rue des Francs-Bourgeois where in the courtyard of the Crédit Municipal, you can admire a tower, undoubtedly the most moving vestige of the neighbourhood. End at rue des Jardins Saint-Paul, right in the heart of Le Marais, where you can find the most impressive remains since it is neither more nor less than the longest portion of 13th-century fortification visible in Paris!

## ■ GALERIE VIVIENNE



6, rue Vivienne

4, rue des Petits-Champs – 5, rue de la Banque (2<sup>e</sup>) - [www.galerie-vivienne.com](http://www.galerie-vivienne.com)

M<sup>o</sup> Bourse

*Open every day from 8:30 am to 8:30 pm.*

They have been in the news for three years, but they are now finished: the renovation works on the Vivienne gallery have ended. Considered for some as an insult to the initial spirit of this listed monument, and as an architectural success for others, this one deserves a detour, just the time to make an opinion! Located between the Richelieu Library and Place des Victoires, the gallery is originally one of the most beautiful covered passages in the capital. Opened in 1826, it has a mosaic floor and an original glass roof (and now redone), projecting one into another era. It provides a radiant light in an absolutely charming covered street, lined with shops.

## ■ LE PALAIS BRONGNIART



Place de la Bourse (2<sup>e</sup>) ☎ 01 83 92 20 20

[www.palaisbrongniart.com](http://www.palaisbrongniart.com)

M<sup>o</sup> Bourse.

A Greco-Roman style building from the early 19th century, this palace was designed by the architect Alexander Theodore Brongniart. From 1826 to 1986, it was the headquarters of the French Stock Exchange or Bourse. We no longer hear people shouting «I buy» or «I sell» because transactions are now done by computer. Today, it is a place that offers a Conference and Events Center with a surface area of 3,000 m<sup>2</sup>, with 2 auditoriums with 100 and 600 seats, 4 meeting rooms for 16 to 26 people and 6 lounges and reception areas from 100 to 580 m<sup>2</sup>. There are also structures such as the European Internet Business School or the Camping, which hosts start-ups.

## ■ PASSAGE DES PANORAMAS



11, boulevard Montmartre

158, rue Montmartre – 10, rue Saint-Marc – 38, rue Vivienne (2<sup>e</sup>)

M<sup>o</sup> Grands Boulevards or Bourse

*Open every day from 6am to 12am.*

Opened in 1800, the Passage des Panoramas connects the Grands boulevards to the Place de la Bourse. It owes its name to the two extinct rotundas that decorated the entrance. They were the stage of an attraction which offered painted and panoramic views of big cities. The passage itself crosses a mini network consisting of four galleries (Variétés, Feydeau, Montmartre and Saint-Marc). They are all set under bright glass windows and surrounded by numerous shops that target collectors. Stamps, autographs, documents, coins, medals or postcards are sold there. A place a little out of time.

### ■ LE PASSAGE VENDÔME

**1, place de la République**

**16, rue Béranger (3°)**

**M° République or Temple**

*Open all year round. Every day. Free of charge.*

The Passage Vendôme was built in 1827 to link Boulevard du Temple and the convent of the Filles-du-Sauveur. At the end of the 19th century, its length was reduced when the district was disrupted by the creation of the Place de la République. In the 2000s, the premises were renovated to restore the charm of yesteryear to this prestigious passage, as its appearance had deteriorated considerably due to the lack of maintenance of the premises for a long time. Since then, it has been a pleasant place to relax, and is very popular and appreciated by residents. A little further away from the usual passages, you shouldn't to forget this one, which is well worth a detour.

### ■ LA COLONNE DE JUILLET

**Place de la Bastille (4°)**

**M° Bastille or Saint-Paul**

*Free of charge. Guided tour.*

Everyone knows the *Génie* of Bastille, winged, standing on one foot, a torch in hand (gilt bronze sculpture by Auguste Dumont), but we generally know very little about the column he surmounts, in the centre of the Place de la Bastille. The Colonne de Juillet is so named because it was built by order of King Louis-Philippe to celebrate the memory of the dead of the Three Glorious Days of July 1830, revolutionary days which, paradoxically, restored the monarchy, known as the July Column, and brought it to power. The paradox became even more complicated when the remains of the victims of the revolution that overthrew Louis-Philippe in 1848 were added to the deaths of the Three Glorious Ones. After the dead who had brought him to power, those who had overthrown him were celebrated! The bodies of the victims are buried in the bedrock of the spine. It is possible to climb inside the column and climb the 238 steps to admire the interior. You can also see the Statue of the *Génie de la Liberté* at the top. The column rises in the Opéra-Bastille district, close to the Arsenal port, the rue de la Roquette, the rue de Lappe, the Marais district and the Place des Vosges. In 2017, the work underwent extensive restoration and development work. Since 2017, the work has been the subject of numerous restoration and development works, and is expected to reopen to the public at the end of 2020. The Place de la Bastille itself is under construction to become largely pedestrian by the end of 2020.

### ■ FONTAINE STRAVINSKY

**Place Igor-Stravinsky (4°)**

**M° Rambuteau or Hôtel de Ville.**



*Open all year round. Every day and public holidays. Free of charge. Entertainment.*

The fountain is located next to the Centre Pompidou, and has beautiful dimensions. Created in 1983, the fountain is composed of sculptures by Niki de Saint-Phalle and Jean Tinguely, two major figures of New Realism, a movement that revolutionized the modern art scene in the 1950s. These two plastic artists, who were united in life, each had their own style, their own signature, but these were complementary. This fountain is living proof of this, it is like an open-air museum. Animated by the water that flows through them, the sixteen works created together all evoke with humour Igor Stravinsky's music.

### ■ PAVILLON DE L'ARSENAL

**21, boulevard Morland (4°) ☎ 01 42 76 33 97**

**www.pavillon-arsenal.com**

**infopa@pavillon-arsenal.com**

**M° Sully Morland.**

*Open from Tuesday to Sunday from 11 am to 7 pm. Closed on January 1st. Free of charge. Guided tour. Conferences. Library. Bookstore.*

Pavillon de l'Arsenal is a place that lovers of the capital interested in urban planning and architecture cannot ignore. Paris-themed temporary exhibitions are organised by a historian, a researcher or an architect. Others present projects in architecture, town-planning, landscape and public and private prime contracting. The permanent exhibition «Paris, visite guidée» invites you to discover the construction of the city over the centuries and its future prospects through various documents (drawings, prints, photographs, correspondence, official records...) and a regularly updated large model of Paris. The function of Pavillon de l'Arsenal is also to publish the public procurement procedures of public tenders and a link towards the platform of purchases with all the documents needed for the submission of applications and the procurement decisions.

### ■ LA TOUR SAINT-JACQUES

**Square de la Tour Saint-Jacques (4°)**

**M° Châtelet or Hôtel de Ville**



*Open from June to November. Open from Friday to Sunday from 10 am to 5 pm. Reservation required online on the website of Les Mots et des Arts or on site (39 rue de Rivoli) the same day (limited to 5 places per visit). Adult: €10 (reduced rate €8). Group limited to 17 people. Free access during the European Heritage Days. Guided tour.*

The view of this Gothic tower in the middle of a public garden can be surprising! If this eponymous public garden is the first Parisian public garden, set under the Second Empire, the tower is actually the remains of the Saint-Jacques-de-la-Boucherie, demolished in 1793 during the Revolution. The bell tower dates back to the 16th century, but the statues that decorate it on its top actually date back to the early 20th century. They symbolise evangelical symbols (the Angel, the Lion, the Beef, the Eagle) and Saint James the Greater to whom it

was dedicated. This was, moreover, one of the rallying points of pilgrims on the way to Compostela. Note that a weather station is housed in the tower.

■ **LE COLLÈGE DES BERNARDINS** ★★  
**20, rue de Poissy (5<sup>e</sup>) ☎ 01 53 10 74 44**  
**www.collegedesbernardins.fr**  
**contact@collegedesbernardins.fr**  
**M<sup>o</sup> Cardinal-Lemoine or Maubert-Mutualité.**

*Closed from the end of July to mid-August. Open Monday to Saturday from 10am to 6pm; Sunday and public holidays from 2pm to 6pm. Large nave, former sacristy, exhibitions: free entrance. Guided tour of the entire site: €6 (reduced: €3). Free for children under 12 years old. Food service. Shop. Entertainment. Concerts.*

Opened and blessed by Pope Benedictine XVI in 2008, this catholic cultural centre offers exhibitions, film screenings, concerts, meetings and theology courses. Dating back to the 13th century, the building is a vast medieval stone ship built to train young monks from all over Europe. After the French Revolution, it was successively used as a prison, warehouse, fire station and boarding school for the students of the Police Academy. Fully renovated by Herbé Baptiste (chief architect of Historical Monuments) and Jean-Michel Wilmotte (architect designer), this rare vestige of school buildings that abounded in the old Latin neighbourhood has a superb large Gothic nave with columns and arches in the ground floor. Its basements and floors include meeting rooms and an auditorium. A small garden has been created on the left of the square.

■ **LE PANTHÉON** ★★★★★  
**Place du Panthéon (5<sup>e</sup>) ☎ 01 44 32 18 00**  
**www.paris-pantheon.fr**  
**M<sup>o</sup> Cardinal-Lemoine or RER Luxembourg.**

  *Due to weather, the monument is likely to modify its schedule of visits. Last access 45 min before closing. From January to March and from October to December circuits days from 10am to 6pm. From April to September every day from 10am to 6.30pm. Closed on January 1st, May 1st and December 25th. Free for under 18-year-olds. Adult: €8.50. Group (20 people): €6.50. Reduced rate: €6.50. Cartes Paris Museum Pass accepted. Free also for 18-25 year-olds (amenable to non-European EU and regular EU residents, disabled visitors + their guide). No pets allowed. Activities and workshops adapted for disabled people. Inaccessible to people in wheelchairs. Guided tour (45 minutes. Provided: each day in afternoon visits general on the Pantheon and its history. Also 1h30 conference visit in French, English, Spanish: €15). Shop. From April to October, visit of the restored upper parts of the Pantheon: supplement admission fee €2, duration 45 minutes. Free tour with document of visit in French, English, German, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Polish, Portuguese and Chinese: 1am. Run by Jacques-Germain Soufflot in 1758, the construction works of the Pantheon, commissioned by King Louis XV in tribute to Saint Geneviève, ended in 1793, thirteen years after the architect's death. The building, 110 meters long and 84 meters wide, is built on the form of a Greek cross. Its decor is also worth visiting: the academic painters Puvion de Chavannes, Gros or Cabanel*

were commissioned to carry it out. It was from 1885, that the Pantheon became the place of worship that we know today. It is the place where the great personalities of French history rest! The first great man to enter is Victor Hugo. Among the personalities who rest in the crypt include: Voltaire, Rousseau, Jean Moulin, Condorcet, Pierre and Marie Curie, Dumas and Simone Veil. The dome has been refurbished for several years thanks to a crowd funding. Now, you can admire it again, just refreshed.

■ **FONTAINE SAINT-MICHEL** ★  
**Place Saint-Michel (6<sup>e</sup>)**  
**M<sup>o</sup> Saint-Michel**

Built in 1860 at the time of the major Haussmannian works, the Fontaine Saint-Michel is the work of Gabriel Davioud. It occupies an entire facade of a building (26 metres high and 15 metres wide). Its ornamentation is made up of a statue by Francisque Duret representing Saint Michel slaying the dragon, of bronzes symbolizing the four cardinal virtues (Fortitude, Temperance, Justice and Prudence) and of two dragons from where flow the water jets.

■ **THE EIFFEL TOWER** ★★★★★  
**Champ-de-Mars (7<sup>e</sup>) ☎ 08 92 70 12 39**  
**www.tou Eiffel.paris**  
**serviceclients@tou Eiffel.paris**  
**M<sup>o</sup> Bir-Hakeim or Trocadéro.**



*Open all year round. Open from mid-June to September from 9am to 0.45am (last ascent 12am) and the rest of the year from 9.30am to 11.45pm (last ascent 11pm). Free up to 4 years. Adult: 25 €. Child (from 4 to 11 years old): 6,30 €. Other rates online. People with reduced mobility (wheelchairs, mobility impairment, etc.) can access the 1st and 2nd floors by lift. For security reasons, the top of the Eiffel Tower is not accessible to them. Guided tour. Catering. Shop. Reduction granted to disabled people to their guide on presentation of proof.*

The tower built by Gustave Eiffel for the 1889 Universal Exhibition – which marks the centenary of the Revolution – and whose destruction was planned 20 years later, is finally preserved for scientific reasons. The feet of the building coincide with the four cardinal points, they weigh more than 10,000 tons, and it was the highest monument in the world until 1931. The Tower has reached a height of more than 320 m since 1957, when the French television broadcasting antenna was set up. From the second floor, 115 m above ground level, it is estimated that on clear days up to 55 km to the south, 60 to the north, 65 to the east and 70 to the west can be seen. Le Jules-Verne, taken over from Alain Ducasse's group, is a gastronomic restaurant open seven days a week and very popular. The third floor is an enclosed space punctuated by orientation tables, but equipped with an upper floor, totally open, with the most beautiful view of Paris. If you are brave enough to climb the 750 steps that lead from the bottom to the second floor, it is cheaper, more sporty and above all it is much faster to buy tickets. Among the many attractions of the tower, the shops, its champagne bar at the top and its many restaurants, including its gourmet restaurant, Le Jules Verne. Sublime!

### ■ ARC DE TRIOMPHE

1, square du Vert-Galant (8°)

☎ 01 46 33 98 38

[www.vedettesdupontneuf.com](http://www.vedettesdupontneuf.com)

[info@vedettesdupontneuf.com](mailto:info@vedettesdupontneuf.com)

M° Pont-Neuf or Cité.



Closed on January 1st, May 1st, May 8th (morning), July 14th (morning), November 11th (morning) and December 25th. Because of the climatic risks, the monument is likely to modify its schedule of visits. Schedule provided: from April 1st to September 30th from 10am to 11pm and from October 1st to March 31st from 10am to 10.30pm. Last access 45 minutes before closing. Free for under 18-year-olds (and -25 years amenable to the countries to the European Union and non-European regular residents on the French territory and unemployed on presentation of a -6 month old certificate). Adult: €12 (reduced rate: €9). Group (20 people): €9. Tourism label & Disability. Free admission for the disabled people and their guide on presentation of a written proof. Guided tour (booking required for groups: [reservation.arcdetriomphe.com](http://reservation.arcdetriomphe.com) / [monuments-nationaux.fr](http://monuments-nationaux.fr)). Shop. Free tour or with conference.

The Arc de Triomphe is located on a beautiful perspective: in the East you have the Champs-Élysées, the Concorde square, the Tuileries Gardens and the Louvre. In the West lies the neighbourhood of La Défense and its Grande Arch. To help you identify the important sites of the capital, you have orientation tables on the terrace where you will find a small museum that tells the story of the building. The latter was commissioned by Napoleon I with the aim of paying homage to the French armies. Started in 1806, its construction was completed 30 years later, during the reign of Louis-Philippe. Designed by the architect Jean-François Chalgrin, the Arc has a height of 50 m and a width of 45 m. It is decorated with high and low reliefs sculpted by about fifty artists. The most famous work is «La Marseillaise» by François Rude (Champs-Élysées side). On the arch you can still read the names of generals and victories won by the revolutionary and imperial armies. Under the monument, in 1921, was installed the tomb of the Unknown Soldier in memory of soldiers who died during the First World War. A flame is revived every day at 6: 30 pm.

### ■ PETIT PALAIS – MUSÉE DES BEAUX-ARTS DE LA VILLE DE PARIS

Avenue Winston-Churchill (8°)

☎ 01 53 43 40 00

[www.petitpalais.paris.fr](http://www.petitpalais.paris.fr)

M° Champs-Élysées Clemenceau



Closed on January 1st, May 1st, July 14th and December 25th. Open Tuesday to Thursday, Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 6pm (last visit at 5: 15pm); Friday from 10am to 9pm (last visit at 8: 15pm). Access to the permanent collections is free of charge. The price of the entrance ticket for temporary exhibitions varies (generally between 10 and €20). Exhibitions are free for those under 18 years



of age. Children welcome. Guided tour (conference tours: €7 / workshops and walks: €10). Food service. Shop. Entertainment.

Just like its neighbour the Grand Palais, it was built for the 1900 Universal Exhibition by Charles Girault. This superb setting allows one to discover a rich collection of works of great diversity. It has beautiful antique bronzes, works of art from the Renaissance, icons, Flemish and Dutch paintings, but also beautiful prints (Rembrandt, Goya ...), tapestries, furniture, earthenware, beautiful porcelain ... The Petit Palais is full of treasures! In addition, temporary exhibitions are regularly organized. There is also a lovely garden surrounded by colonnades, with mosaic pools, and a cafe where one can spend a moment of pleasant relaxation.

### ■ OPÉRA NATIONAL DE PARIS – PALAIS GARNIER

Corner of the Scribe and Auber Streets (9°)

☎ 08 92 89 90 90

[www.operadeparis.fr](http://www.operadeparis.fr)

[visitegarnier@operadeparis.fr](mailto:visitegarnier@operadeparis.fr)

Metro: Opéra, lines 3, 7, 8 - RER: Auber station, line - Bus: lines 20, 21, 22, 27, 29, 42, 52, 53, 66, 68, 81, 95 - Parking area: Galeries Lafayette

Closed on January 1st, May 1st and performance days. Open every day from 10am to 5pm (last visit at 4.30pm). Shows from September to July. Reservations can be made at the Palais Garnier and Opéra Bastille ticket offices from Monday to Saturday from 11: 30 to 18: 30 and one hour before each performance. Adult: €11. Guided tour. Restaurant. Shop.

The Palais Garnier is one of the cornerstones of major renovations of the capital led by Baron Haussmann during the Second Empire. Charles Garnier was the architect. This magnificent temple of opera and ballet was inaugurated in 1875 after 15 years of work. It is admired for its architecture as for its programs. It has the famous double helix staircase which rises in a marble nave of varied colours – from its opening, it was adopted by the «high society» who loved to be seen. The house itself contains sculptures and paintings in abundance. As for the room, dominated by red and gold colours, it has a great and legendary crystal chandelier – 8 tons! – And a ceiling painted by Marc Chagall in 1964. It can accommodate up to 1,900 people. A museum, through its collections and temporary exhibitions, tells the three-century history of the opera – it can be seen during a visit to the palace. The institution has an orchestra that interprets most of the works of the program. The Palais Garnier shares its opera productions with the Opéra Bastille, but remained a key place for ballets. Some recitals and orchestral concerts are also organised here.

### ■ LE PASSAGE BRADY

46, rue du Faubourg-Saint-Denis

43, rue du Faubourg-Saint-Martin (10°)

M° Château d'eau or Strasbourg Saint-Denis

Open all year round. Monday to Saturday from 9: 30 am to 11: 30 pm; Sunday from 6 pm to 11: 30 pm. Free of charge. Elderly film lovers know this place well because they used to attend the Le Brady cinema there. Dedicated to genre films, it has contributed to the ennoblement of



B movies and to highlighting its cinematographic interest. The passage owes its name to the merchant Brady who had it built in 1828. When the Boulevard de Strasbourg was opened, it was divided in two. There are costumers and many Indian and Pakistani addresses. Some offer a good quality cuisine, but beware of the touts. This passageway is covered by a magnificent period glass roof, which has been under renovation for several years now.

### ■ LE CIRQUE D'HIVER

110, rue Amelot (11<sup>e</sup>)

☎ 01 47 00 28 81

www.cirquedhiver.com

infos@cirquedhiver.com

M<sup>o</sup> Filles du Calvaire ou Oberkampf

Open all year round. Shows: variable schedules and prices. Food service.

This beautiful polygonal building reflects a bygone era. It is in fact the last circus that was built with bricks and not in a tent. Built in 1852 by architect Jacques Hittorff, at the beginning of its history, it was known as Napoleon circus. In 1907, it was used as a theatre for fifteen years, witness of the first steps of the 7th art. Returned to circus with the Fratellini, who managed it on the artistic level, it was bought in 1934 by the very famous Bouglione brothers. In the years 1960, the television was present to introduce shows of the famous successful programme «La Piste aux Étoiles». The circular stage of this wonderful «theatre» is regularly used by numerous non-circus artists. But the circus reigns brilliantly, thanks to the ancestral know-how of the Bouglione family that recruits exceptional artists from around the world to make the performances rare moments to enjoy as a family.

### ■ BERCY VILLAGE

Cour Saint-Emilion (12<sup>e</sup>)

www.bercyvillage.com

M<sup>o</sup> Cour Saint-Emilion

Open every day from 11am to 9pm. Until 2am for the restaurants.

Dating back to the 19th century, old cellars of the wine storehouses of Bercy have been refurbished, highlighting these stone buildings. This mecca to the French work world, which is so important to the wine country, has become an extremely smart «trendy» place. The rails have been preserved along with their wooded environment. Many shops, restaurants and a complex of cinema, in particular, form a very lively shopping mall. It's a very popular walking and meeting place, especially as it borders the gardens of Parc de Bercy. In the evening, after the office, the village is invaded for a drink on one of the available terraces!

### ■ LE PONT DE BERCY

Quai de Bercy

Quai d'Austerlitz et quai de la Gare (13<sup>e</sup>) (12<sup>e</sup>)

M<sup>o</sup> Quai de la Gare or Bercy.



Open all year round. Free of charge.

This structure links the Ministry of Economy, the Palais Omnisports and the new Austerlitz district. Although the first stones of the building were laid in 1864, the

finalization of this passage took place almost a century later. The initial widening in 1904 was carried out in order to add a viaduct for the passage of the metro, an installation that still exists today. The last improvement, that of the 1990s, was intended to facilitate traffic flow, since with the installation of the Ministry and the multi-purpose sports center, the increase in traffic was too great. Note that these installations have been carried out in accordance with the original aesthetics, and if you look closely at the bridge piers, you will see medallions decorated with laurel on which Napoleon III's «N» appears.

### ■ CARRIÈRE DES CAPUCINS

SEADACC

27, rue du Faubourg Saint-Jacques

Hôpital Cochin (14<sup>e</sup>)

www.seadacc.com

association@seadacc.com

RER Port-Royal or M<sup>o</sup> Raspail.

Open all year round. Visits upon reservation with the association. Guided tour.

Don't miss the Carrière des Capucins in the undergrounds of Paris. Located under Hôpital Cochin, it is part of the many stone extraction points that allow Paris to be built on solid foundations. Since the Roman era, while Paris was still only Lutèce, until 1813 and the definitive ban on all underground extraction, the Carrière des Capucins played a major role in the construction of the city. Run since 1973 by the SEADACC association, the Carrière des Capucins can be visited by contacting the association. You can discover numerous winding underground galleries, indicating the names of the streets and surface locations.

### ■ LE PONT DE BIR-HAKEIM

Quai de Grenelle et quai Branly

Avenue du Président-Kennedy (16<sup>e</sup>) (15<sup>e</sup>)

M<sup>o</sup> Passy or Bir-Hakeim, RER Champ-de-Mars – Tour Eiffel

Long known as the viaduct de Passy, this structure was renamed after the victory won in 1942 by the Free French Forces in Libya. Inaugurated in 1905, it has the particularity of being surmounted by a viaduct where the trains of line 6 of the metro pass. On the right bank, they stopped at Passy station, which is located at the outlet of a tunnel drilled into the side of Chaillot hill. We are always surprised by the proximity of the roads and buildings that border them. Inside one of them, scenes were shot of the *Last Tango in Paris*, a film by Bernardo Bertolucci (1972) in which we also see the bridge. This one is very appreciated by filmmakers and directors of clips or commercials. In 2010, for example, the alignment of the metal pylons of the railway viaduct was once again used, this time by Christopher Nolan, for his film *Inception*. On the piers of the bridge, you can discover Gustave Michel's cast iron sculptures representing «Nauts» and «Forgerons riveurs». In the center, an arch is decorated with bas-reliefs. These are allegories of Science, Labour (Jules Coutan), Electricity and Trade (Jean-Antoine Injalbert). In addition, «La France renaissante», a statue of Holger Wederkinch, is to be enjoyed on a terrace on l'île aux Cygnes. The bridge is based on the latter.



### ■ LE PONT MIRABEAU ★

Quai André-Citroën

Quai Louis-Blériot (16<sup>e</sup>) (15<sup>e</sup>)

M<sup>o</sup> Mirabeau.

RER Javel André Citroën

This steel bridge built in the 1890s features four sculpted groups of Jean-Antoine Injalbert on its piers. They feature boat bows and sterns surmounted by characters on either side of the book. These are allegories of the City of Paris (bow) and Navigation (stern) on the right bank, Abundance (bow) and Commerce (stern) on the left bank. This building was made famous by a magnificent poem by Guillaume Apollinaire published in «*Alcools*» (1913): «*Sous le pont Mirabeau coule la Seine / Et nos amours / Faut-il qu'il m'en souviennne / La joie venait toujours après la peine / Vienne la nuit sonne l'heure / Les jours s'en vont je demeure...*». («*Under the Mirabeau bridge flows the Seine / And our loves / Should I remember it / Joy always came after pain / Come nighttime sounds the hour / The days go away I stay...*»)

### ■ TOUR MONTPARNASSE 56 ★★

33, avenue du Maine (15<sup>e</sup>)

☎ 01 45 38 52 56

[www.tourmontparnasse56.com](http://www.tourmontparnasse56.com)

M<sup>o</sup> Montparnasse

*Open all year. Sunday to Thursday and public holidays from 9.30am to 10.30pm; Friday and Saturday from 9.30am to 11pm. Free for under 4-year-olds. Adult: €18. Child (from 4 to 11 years old): €9.50. Catering facilities.*

If you want to see Paris from a new angle, discover the nuances of the colours of its roofs, the layout of its streets, where you recognise and where you discover some, the abundance of its green areas (Paris has more than 450), then you should go to the Observatoire Panoramique de la Tour Montparnasse, with its panoramic floor and its outdoor terrace. This exceptional viewpoint of Paris, which 200 m high, will make you discover a 360° view of the capital. You can practically admire all the Parisian monuments and neighbourhoods: in the first instance, the Eiffel Tower, which will appear very close to you in the middle of the green rectangle of Champ de Mars, Les Invalides, Notre-Dame, Le Sacré-Cœur, Jardin de Luxembourg, Louvre Palace, the Business district of La Défense, etc. Moreover, this visit is never the same: indeed the hygroscopy, the natural and artificial light change from day and even hour to the next. And you will not enjoy only the view of Paris, because, in clear weather, you can see beyond the limits of the city, up to 40 km! Associations et Comités d'entreprise, Tourism professionals, officials of schools and leisure centres, you wish to present this extraordinary viewpoint to the public? The commercial service of the Montparnasse 56 company, which runs Tour Montparnasse 56, will support you in the preparation of your visit. Lastly, managers of companies, if you want to organise an event (cocktail, conference, dinner, presentation of products, seminar) for your company at the top of Tour Montparnasse, the panoramic Espace 56 lounge can be privatised. Do not hesitate to call the commercial service of this company.

### ■ LE PALAIS DE CHAILLOT ★★★

Place du Trocadéro-et-du-11-Novembre (16<sup>e</sup>)

☎ 01 58 51 52 00

M<sup>o</sup> Trocadéro

From one universal exhibition to another ... The imposing Palais de Chaillot was built in 1937 in the Palais du Trocadéro square which was built in 1878. Its architects (Léon Azéma, Jacques Carlu and Louis-Hippolyte Boileau) designed two detached houses extended by long wings curved on both sides by a square from where an exceptional view on the Eiffel Tower situated on the other side of the Seine is offered. The Trocadero garden is found below. The square and the buildings are adorned with numerous sculptures by Paul Belmondo and Henri Bouchard. Inside the palace, you will find the Museum of Man, the national Marine museum, Cité de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine and Théâtre national de Chaillot, former Théâtre National Populaire (TNP) managed by Jean Vilar. The palace for a long time hosted the French Cinematheque, which now has its own site in Parc de Bercy.

### ■ LA PLACE DE CLICHY

Place de Clichy (17<sup>e</sup>)

M<sup>o</sup> Place de Clichy.

Just as the Place d'Italie is located where the barrière d'Enfer du mur des Fermiers Généraux was located, this square is located where the Barrière de Clichy was, another point of passage through the wall. This gateway to Paris was ardently defended by Marshal Moinet in 1814 against Russian soldiers. The statue (Edmond Guillaume, 1864) that can be seen in the middle of this urban space pays tribute to him. Separating the 8th, 9th, 17th and 18th arrondissements, the square was extensively developed some ten years ago to increase pedestrian traffic and limit traffic. However, it remains very busy.

### ■ LE FUNICULAIRE DE MONTMARTRE

Station basse: entre places Saint-Pierre

et Suzanne-Valadon – Station haute:

rue du Cardinal-Dubois (18<sup>e</sup>)

☎ 3424

[www.ratp.fr](http://www.ratp.fr)

M<sup>o</sup> Antwerp or Abbesses.

*Open every day from 6am to 12.45am: Rate(RATP): price of a metro ticket.*

If you want to climb up to Montmartre and don't want to climb the 222 steps (the number of steps of rue Foyatier staircase along the rails of the Funicular) and if you want to enjoy the landscape by slowly going up in a fully glazed cabin, including the roof, then you must take the famous Funiculaire de Montmartre (funicular in the mechanical sense: «Which is set in motion by a set of cables», the funicular tramway, but also in the medical sense: «Which refers to a cord», the funicular circulation in the sense of blood circulation through the umbilical cord). The Funiculaire de Montmartre is a two-cabin inclined electric traction elevator with 60 seats, one of which move up while the other goes down, reaching the top of the Montmartre hill at the foot of the Sacré-Cœur. Commissioned in 1900 (and renovated in 1935 and then in 1991), it climbs 36 m of vertical drop over a length of

108 m in less than 1m30. It carries more than 3 million passengers each year. The cabins with glass walls were designed by Roger Tallon, who also designed the TGV Atlantique trains.

■ **VILLA LÉANDRE**  
**23 ter, avenue Junot (18°)**  
**M° Lamarck-Caulaincourt**



*Open all year round. Free of charge.*

This is a beautiful and picturesque district of Paris which bears unusually the name of a comedian and not that of a general nor a president. Charles Léandre, active in the early 20th century resided in the heart of Montmartre district near this street. The few red brick houses are reminiscent of a British style while others are fairly classic. The cobbled street goes along these charming houses whose walls in the spring are adorned by a blend of flowers and leaves. A little advice: don't venture here without having identified how to get there in advance because finding this Villa has to be earned, and it's not necessarily easy to find if you've never been here before.

■ **LE CANAL SAINT-DENIS À PIED OU À VÉLO**  
**Porte de la Villette (19°)**

[www.parisinfo.com](http://www.parisinfo.com)

Rendez-vous de la Villette, in the nineteenth district: This is where this walk begins, which will take you 4 kilometers further at the Stade de France. You can't get lost. you will simply have to go through the Saint-Denis Canal by its right bank, passing the Millennium, and many neighborhoods in conversion, pending the 2024 Olympics infrastructure. When you arrive at your destination, you can even continue over a hundred meters: You will reach Lock N° 5, which deserves these few extra traps. Easy and achievable on foot or by bike, it turns out to be a nice option for a family walk as well as a jogging with friends.

■ **LA CAMPAGNE À PARIS**  
**Place Octave-Chanut (20°)**  
**M° Porte de Bagnolet or Pelleport**

*Open all year round. Free of charge.*

Inaugurated in 1926, this project began in 1907 with the creation of a cooperative by the pastor Sully Lombard to allow workers to access the property. Located on a former gypsum quarry that was left in the old village of Charonne, 92 houses are built there and very quickly, a small wood grows nearby. Although built on the same model, the houses differ from one another through their colour, their glass canopy or their garden. For those who question about the name, know that it is really the true name of this place, not a nickname! Today, these houses, located in the greenery, are worth a gold prize.

■ **TOMBEAU D'HÉLOÏSE ET ABÉLARD**  
**Cimetière du Père Lachaise, Division 7**  
**8, boulevard de Ménilmontant**  
**16, rue du Repos (20°)**

☎ 01 55 25 82 10

*Open all year round. Guided tour. Free map available at the entrance.*

This tomb represents one of the most mythical love stories in history. Pierre Abélard is a philosopher and composer who had a terrible passionate story with

Héloïse. Indeed, the young woman, coming from a noble family, after having known the beginning of her education in a monastery, would obtain the right to continue her education with a preceptor. Pierre Abélard would be chosen for this role and a love story will follow. This one wrote to her many love letters. While Fulbert, both the young woman's uncle and canon of Notre-Dame de Paris, discovered this forbidden love. Heloise told Abélard she was pregnant. She gave birth to Astrolabe, by Abélard's family. The lovers were even going to marry without any malicious scrutiny, because that would destroy the career of the teacher Abélard. Finally, Fulbert revealed the case and the marriage. Abélard was punished and even emasculated. Making him imperfect in body, this punishment would stop his ecclesiastical career and, at the same time, his teaching. The kingdom was shocked by Fulbert's private revenge. The retaliation law was worth the same punishment for Fulbert who would be emasculated, and suspended from his duties. Héloïse eventually took the veil in Argenteuil and Abélard retired as a monk at the Saint-Denis abbey. This love story has been a great success for many centuries. This monument is dedicated to the glory of this legendary couple.

■ **LA GRANDE ARCHE**  
**1, Parvis de La Défense**  
**DEFENCE**

☎ 01 49 07 27 27

[www.grandearche.com](http://www.grandearche.com)

**M° La Défense Grande Arche**

*Open from 10am to 7pm (last visit at 6.30pm). Free for children up to 3 years old. Adult: €15. Child (from 3 to 18 years old): €7. €10 student rate; €12 person with reduced mobility; reduced rate: €12 (job seekers and seniors over 65 years old).*

A true architectural symbol of La Défense, this modern triumphal arch designed by the architect Johann Otto von Spreckelsen, succeeded by Paul Andreu, weighs 300,000 tonnes. Its dimensions are as follows: 112 m long, 106.9 m wide and 110.9 m high, a real architectural feat. The inside of this widened cube could hold in one piece the Notre-Dame de Paris cathedral (before or after the fire) . . . Its construction proceeded very quickly, from 1985 to 1989, since its inauguration by President Mitterrand was planned to coincide with the bicentenary of the French Revolution. For more than twenty years, the roof of the Grande Arche was the most visited monument in the department. Unfortunately, in 2010, the fall of a beam led to the closure of the access, as well as the panoramic restaurant on the first floor. Since its reopening after work in 2017, come and discover the largest terrace in Paris with its 100 m long promenade offering an extraordinary view of the many works of art in front of La Défense, not to mention the panoramic view of the capital's great monuments! With the rhythm of the seasons, the roof is transformed into a place of exhibitions, shows, fairs and concerts, so don't hesitate to consult the official website to experience a unique outing.

Finally, to fully enjoy the outdoor walk, why not take a break at the restaurant du Toit, to refresh yourself, eat or simply contemplate the view!

# MUSEUMS

## ■ CONCIERGERIE

2, boulevard du Palais (1<sup>er</sup>)

☎ 01 53 40 60 80

[www.paris-conciergerie.fr](http://www.paris-conciergerie.fr)

[benedicte.roy@monuments-nationaux.fr](mailto:benedicte.roy@monuments-nationaux.fr)

M<sup>o</sup> Cité or Châtelet



Open all year round. Schedule that may vary: every day from 9.30am to 6pm. Closed on January 1st, May 1st and December 25th. Last access 30 min before closure. Free for under 18 year olds (and disabled person and their guide, unemployed person). Adult: €9 (reduced rate: €7). Group (20 people): €7. For groups, booking advised at least 4 weeks in advance: [resailedelacite@monuments-nationaux.fr](mailto:resailedelacite@monuments-nationaux.fr). Guided tour (every day at 11am, 3pm and 4.15pm guided by the agent of the monument, duration; 1 hour 15 minutes).

La Conciergerie is with the Sainte-Chapelle, one of the main remains of Palais de la Cité where the kings of France stayed for several centuries in the Middle Ages. The main buildings of the 14th century was originally run by a concierge, a title that was given in the past to the steward of a palace. He could simultaneously carry out several activities. During the French Revolution, the monument became a prison. La Conciergerie is now a part of the courthouse in Paris, which extends along the Quai de l'Horloge and where Bonbec, Argent, César and Horloge towers meet. The latter, located at the corner of the quay and the Boulevard du Palais, is equipped with one of the first public clocks in Paris. Transformed on several occasions since its installation in the 14th century, it is topped by a canopy and accompanied on each side of its dial by a statues which represent Strength and Law. A visit of the site will make you discover beautiful medieval vaulted spaces such as the guard room and the Hall of the Soldiers whose dimensions are amazing: 64 m long and 27.50 m wide, with a ceiling height about 8.50 m, extended by the «rue de Paris». During the French Revolution, La Conciergerie counted among its forced residents of the personalities as the queen Marie-Antoinette – whose reconstituted dungeon can be visited – Charlotte Corday, Robespierre or Fouquier-Tinville the public prosecutor of the Revolutionary Court during the Terror. Ironically: he was detained at La Conciergerie where he had sentenced countless «suspects» to death. He ended his career on the guillotine...

## ■ MUSÉE DE L'ILLUSION

98, rue Saint-Denis (1<sup>er</sup>)

☎ 07 66 72 76 40

[www.museedelillusion.fr](http://www.museedelillusion.fr)

[info@museedelillusion.fr](mailto:info@museedelillusion.fr)

M<sup>o</sup> Etienne Marcel.



Open all year round. Sunday to Wednesday from 10am to 8pm; Thursday to Saturday from 10am to 10pm. Adult: 18 €. Child (from 5 to 15 years old): 12 €.

This concept has been very successful in several countries and its arrival in the capital has rightly generated similar enthusiasm. For the musée de l'illusion is, on the borderline between the playful and the scientific, a totally incredible journey. You will thus discover no less than 70 works (there is no other word!) which are like so many optical illusions leaving you completely baffled. Holograms, room of mirrors, room of infinity are the highlights of this museum, in which nothing is missing to surprise you, including a play area for the youngest. A word about museography, at last: it too is bluffing!

## ■ MUSÉE DE L'ORANGERIE

Jardin des Tuileries

Place de la Concorde (1<sup>er</sup>)

☎ 01 44 77 80 07

[www.musee-orangerie.fr](http://www.musee-orangerie.fr)

[information@musee-orangerie.fr](mailto:information@musee-orangerie.fr)

M<sup>o</sup> Concorde



Closed on May 1st, on the morning of July 14th and December 25th. Open from Wednesday to Monday from 9am to 6pm. Free for under 26 years old. Adult: €9. Reduced rate: €6.50. Children welcome. Guided tour (programme of visits to the museum site, workshop visit €7, guided tour €6). Food service. Shop. Animations.

Built in the purest classical style, the orangery in the Jardin Des Tuileries is completed in 1852. Its architects, Firmin Bourgeois and Ludovico Visconti, wanted to suit this building to the architectural collection of Palais des Tuileries, now destroyed, and place de la Concorde. This building was transformed into a museum in 1927. It has one of the most famous works of Claude Monet, suite of «Nymphéas», several paintings in the famous gardens of his residence in Giverny. Other masterpieces are exhibited here, including the collections of Jean Walter and Paul Guillaume. You can therefore admire several masterpiece of the grand masters of modern painting: Derain, Laurencin, Picasso, Matisse, Derain, Cézanne, Renoir, Rousseau, Modigliani, Utrillo, Soutine... During the visit, documents that are provided shade more light on the in and outs of these paintings, thus allowing you to understand the history and social context in which they were created. Many temporary exhibitions are also organized.

## ■ MUSÉE DES ARTS DÉCORATIFS

107-111, rue de Rivoli (1<sup>er</sup>)

☎ 01 44 55 57 50

[www.madparis.fr](http://www.madparis.fr)

[visitelibre@madparis.fr](mailto:visitelibre@madparis.fr)

M<sup>o</sup> Tuileries, Pyramides or Palais Royal Musée du Louvre



Closed on Mondays, as well as on December 25, January 1, May 1 each year. Open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday



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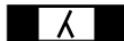
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Giacometti's studio

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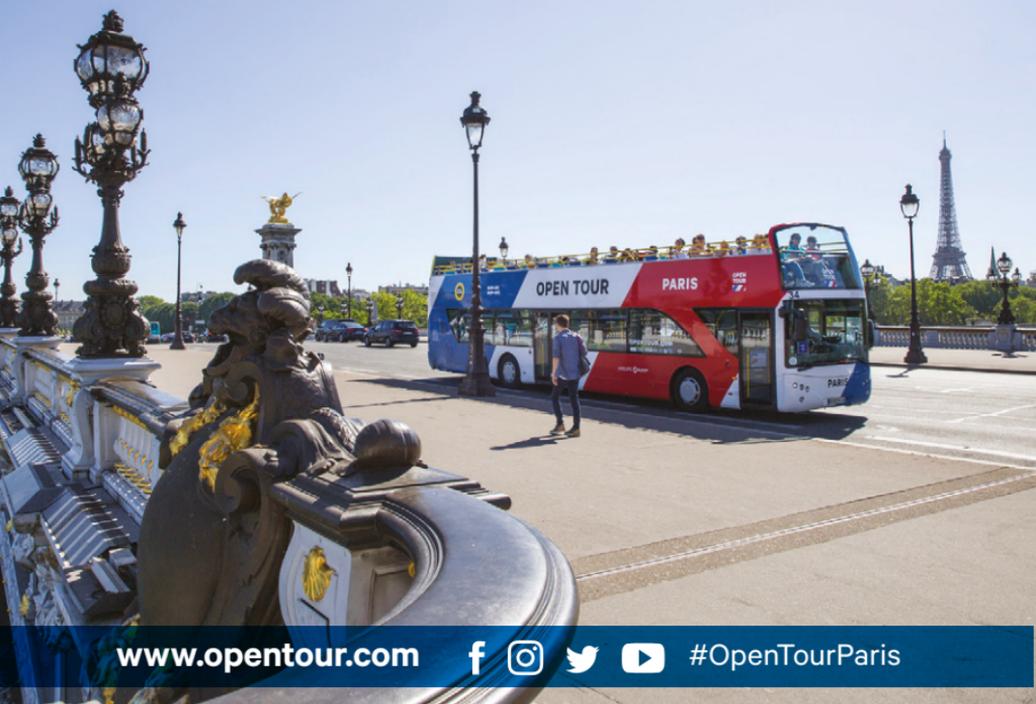
**[www.institut-giacometti.fr](http://www.institut-giacometti.fr)**



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