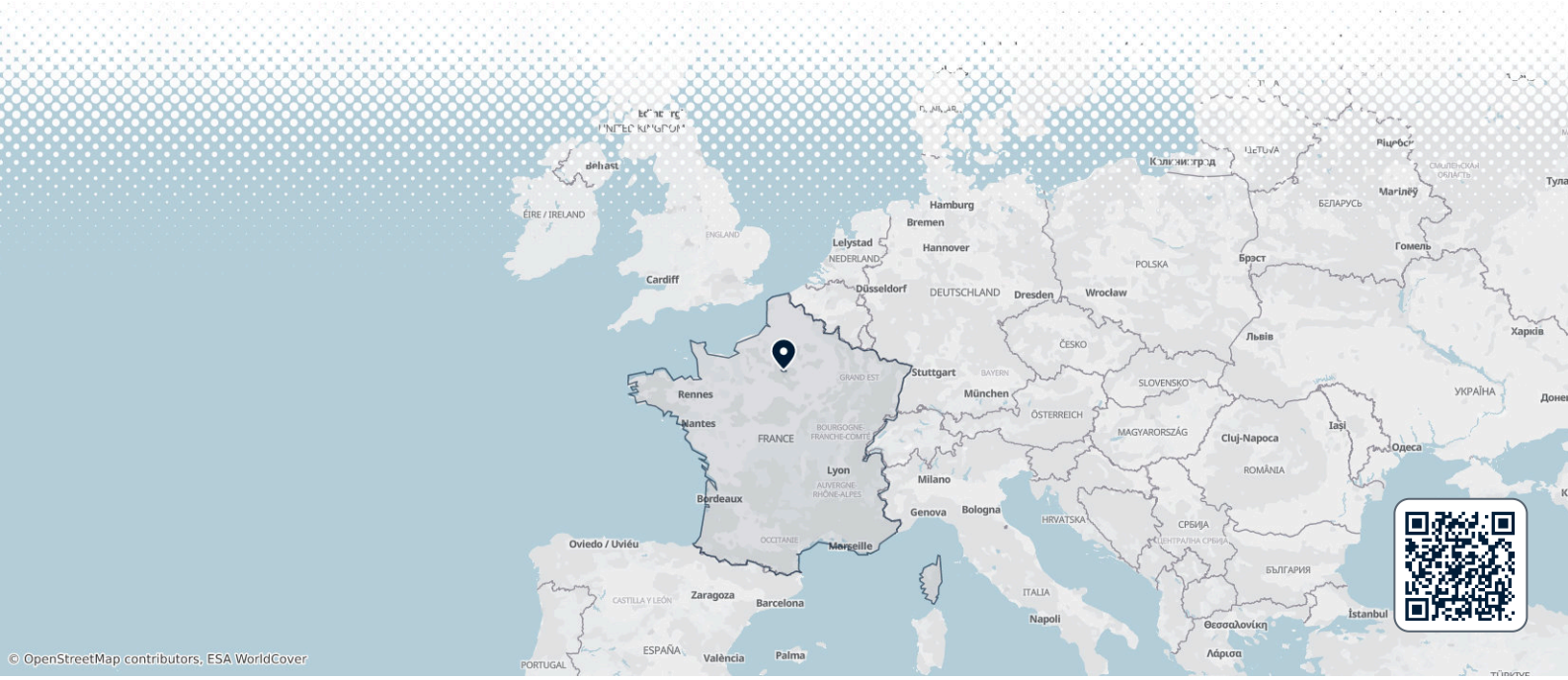


Paris

Île-de-France · France

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Paris is France's capital and one of the most visited cities in the world. It rewards visitors with grand boulevards and celebrated art museums. The center is compact and easy to explore on foot or by metro.

The city suits almost any kind of trip. A first visit can cover the highlights, while a slower trip can focus on museums, food, or walking along the Seine. Painters like *Claude Monet* and writers like *Ernest Hemingway* found inspiration here, and that creative pull still shapes the city's cafes, galleries, and bookshops today.

When to visit

Spring and autumn are mild, summer is warm with occasional storms, and winter is cold but rarely freezing.

Plan around **Bastille Day** on July 14 if you can. The national holiday brings a military parade down Champs Élysées and a fireworks show at Eiffel Tower that evening.

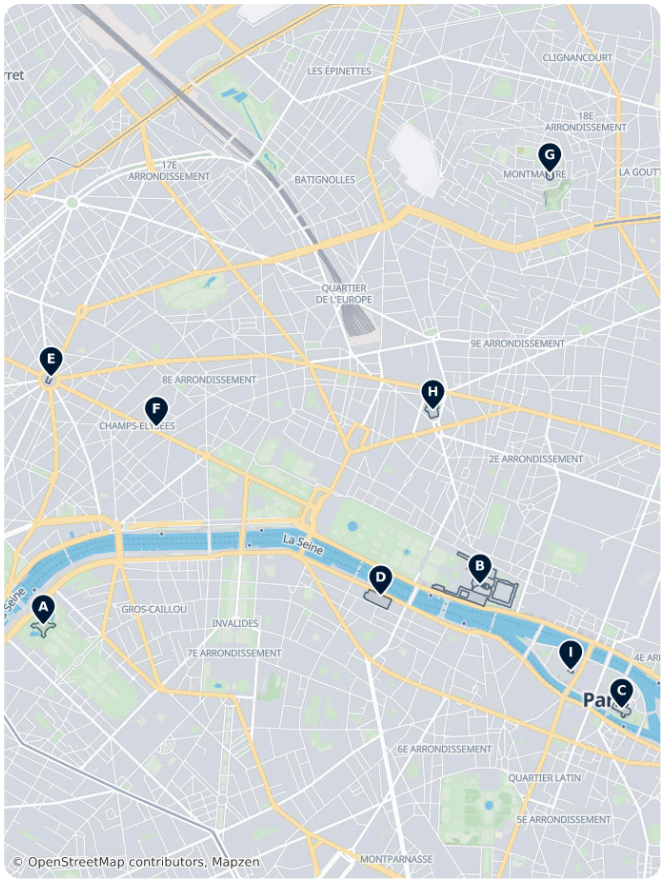
MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	7° / 12° Feels like 1°	1° / -6°	12 rainy days · Dry air
February	Fair Fair for cycling	9° / 15° Feels like 4°	1° / -5°	Dry air
March	Good Good for cycling	13° / 19° Feels like 8°	3° / -3°	Dry air
April	Great Great for cycling	16° / 23° Feels like 12°	5° / -1°	Dry air
May	Great Great for sightseeing	19° / 26°	9° / 4°	12 rainy days · Dry air
June	Great Great for sightseeing	23° / 30°	12° / 8°	
July	Great Great for sightseeing	25° / 31°	14° / 10°	
August	Great Great for sightseeing	25° / 32°	14° / 10°	
September	Great Great for sightseeing	22° / 29°	11° / 6°	Dry air
October	Good Good for cycling	17° / 23° Feels like 14°	8° / 2°	12 rainy days · Dry air
November	Fair Fair for cycling	11° / 17° Feels like 7°	4° / -2°	12 rainy days · Dry air
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	7° / 13° Feels like 2°	2° / -4°	13 rainy days · Dry air

Best months: May, June, July, August, September

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

July and August are the warmest months and also the busiest. Late spring and September offer similar sunshine with smaller crowds.

Top sights



A Eiffel Tower is the city's defining landmark, built for the 1889 World's Fair. Climb to the top for rooftop views, or see it sparkle after dark on the hour.

B Louvre Museum holds thousands of years of art and artifacts, including the Mona Lisa. Book a timed entry online to skip the longest queues.

C Notre-Dame Cathedral anchors the Île de la Cité and reopened in 2024 after a five-year restoration following the 2019 fire. Its Gothic towers and rose windows are worth the visit alone.

D Orsay Museum fills a former railway station with Impressionist and Post-Impressionist masterpieces by Monet, Degas, and Van Gogh.

E Arc de Triomphe honors France's war dead and offers one of the best panoramas in the city from its rooftop terrace, at the top of F Champs Élysées.

G Sacré-Cœur Basilica sits atop Montmartre hill, the city's old artists' quarter. The white domes and the steep streets around them make for one of the best sunset views in Paris.

H Opéra Garnier is Paris's opulent 19th-century opera house, with a marble grand staircase and a ceiling painted by *Marc Chagall*. Tours run most days when there's no performance.

I Sainte-Chapelle is a small Gothic chapel with some of the most complete stained glass to survive from the Middle Ages.

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What to experience

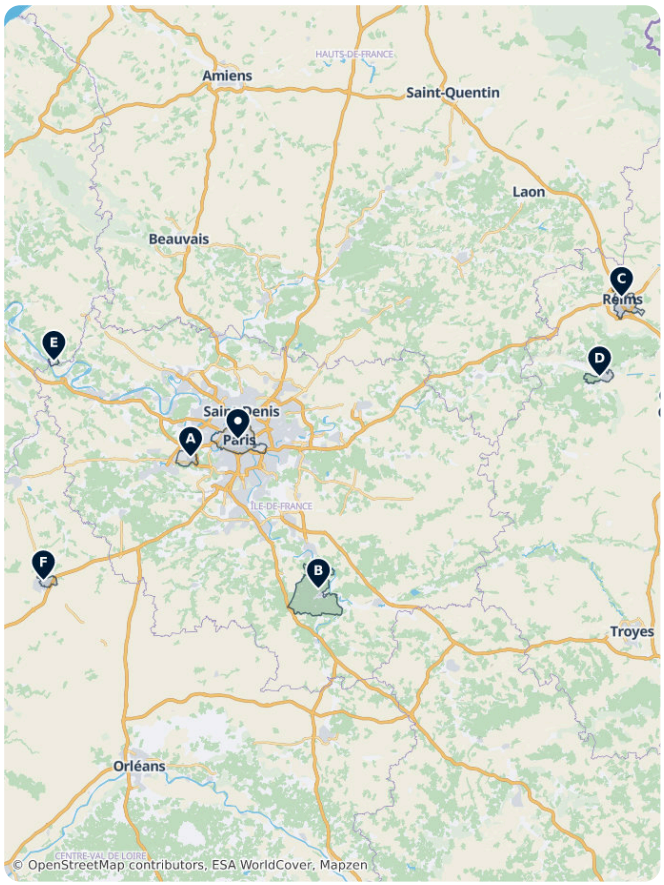
Paris offers plenty of things to do beyond its landmarks.

- Take a sunset boat trip on the Seine, when the bridges and riverside buildings light up.
- Browse the secondhand book stalls (bouquinistes) that line the riverbanks near Notre-Dame Cathedral and the Latin Quarter.
- Join the grape harvest festival at the Montmartre Vineyards each October, one of the last working vineyards inside a major city.
- Catch a free concert on June 21 during the Fête de la Musique, when bands and DJs perform across the city.

Day trips

Paris sits within easy reach of royal palaces, wine country, and historic towns. Here are the best options for a day out and back.

- A Versailles — ≈40 min by RER C. The former royal palace and its gardens are the single most popular day trip from Paris; arrive early or book a timed entry to beat the queues.
- B Fontainebleau — ≈40 min by train. A former royal château set beside a large forest good for walking or climbing on sandstone boulders.
- C Reims and D Épernay (Champagne) — ≈45 min to 1.5 h by train. Tour a Champagne house and its cellars in the region that gives the drink its name.
- E Giverny — ≈1 h by train plus a short bus or taxi ride. Claude Monet's house and water-lily garden inspired many of his best-known paintings.
- F Chartres — ≈1 h 15 min by train. A medieval cathedral town famous for its stained glass, one more Gothic landmark within easy reach of Paris.



Getting there

- **By air**: Most international flights use Charles de Gaulle Airport (CDG), 25 km northeast of the center; the RER B train reaches the city in about 50 minutes for around 14 €. Orly Airport (ORY), 13 km south, handles mostly domestic and European flights, reached via the Orlyval shuttle plus RER B in about 30 minutes total. Some budget airlines fly into Beauvais Airport, over an hour away by coach.
- **By train**: High-speed TGV trains connect Paris to most major French cities, and Eurostar trains link it to London, Brussels, and Amsterdam. Book tickets via SNCF Connect. Paris has several main stations on different sides of the city, including Gare du Nord, Gare de Lyon, and Gare Montparnasse — check which one your ticket uses before you travel.
- **By bus**: Long-distance coaches, including international routes, arrive at the Bercy Seine coach station in the south east of the city.

Getting around

- **Public transit**: The Métro, RER, bus, and tram network covers the whole city and suburbs. Buy a reusable Navigo Easy card or single tickets through the app; contactless bank-card payment is being rolled out on buses but doesn't yet work at metro turnstiles. Île-de-France Mobilités covers journey planning and fares.
- **Taxi / ride-hailing**: Uber and G7 taxis both operate widely and are easy to book through their apps.
- **On foot / cycling**: The center is compact and flat, so walking between sights is easy. The Vélib' bike-share system and a growing network of bike lanes make cycling practical, though traffic on major boulevards can feel intense.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

Paris's central arrondissements are compact and best explored on foot, with the metro filling in the gaps.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

Vélib' bike-share and a growing network of dedicated lanes make cycling practical, though traffic on major boulevards can be heavy.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: No. Traffic, one-way streets, and scarce parking make driving in central Paris more trouble than it's worth, and the metro and RER cover the city and its day trips well. A car only helps for exploring the wider countryside at your own pace.
- **Parking**: Street parking is metered and paid through apps like PayByPhone or Flowbird, or at the machines nearby; a car park close to your hotel is usually the easier choice.
- **Restrictions**: Paris has a low-emission zone (ZFE) that requires a Crit'Air sticker on any vehicle, including rentals, driven within the ring road (boulevard périphérique).

Food & drink

Paris food ranges from a quick bakery lunch to a multi-hour tasting menu, and both are worth trying.

Look for a fresh baguette and pastries from any neighborhood boulangerie, and try a proper French bistro for classics like steak-frites or duck confit. For something special, head to Le Marais, where Jewish delis, falafel counters, and trendy bistros sit side by side, or graze the stalls of Rue Mouffetard Market, one of the city's oldest market streets.

What to eat & drink

BREAKFAST

Croissant
Buttery, flaky laminated pastry and a classic French breakfast staple.

LUNCH

Ratatouille
A Provençal stewed vegetable dish of eggplant, zucchini, peppers, and tomatoes.

DINNER

Coq au Vin
Chicken braised slowly in red wine with mushrooms, onions, and lardons.

Beef Bourguignon · Bœuf Bourguignon
Beef stewed in red Burgundy wine with carrots, onions, and mushrooms.

Escargot · Escargots de Bourgogne
Snails cooked in garlic and parsley butter, a classic starter.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Baguette
Long, crusty white bread loaf bought fresh daily from the local boulangerie.

Cheese · Fromage
France produces hundreds of cheese varieties, often served as a course before dessert.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Crepes · Crêpes
Thin pancakes served sweet with sugar or jam, or savory as galettes.

Macarons
Delicate almond meringue sandwich cookies in a range of flavors and colors.

DRINKS

Wine · Vin
France's wine regions, including Bordeaux, Burgundy, and Champagne, are among the world's most renowned.

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Safety & health

Paris is generally safe for tourists, and violent crime against visitors is rare. The main risks are petty theft and scams.

Watch for pickpockets on the metro, at major sights, and around Eiffel Tower and Sacré-Cœur Basilica, especially in dense crowds. Politely decline "petitions," friendship bracelets, or "found ring" approaches near tourist landmarks — they are set-ups for a scam or a demand for money. Keep bags zipped and in front of you on crowded trains.

History

Paris grew from a small settlement on the Île de la Cité, the island where Notre-Dame Cathedral now stands, over two thousand years ago. It became the seat of French kings by the Middle Ages.

The French Revolution began here in 1789. Conciergerie held Queen Marie Antoinette and other prisoners before their executions nearby. In the 1850s and 1860s, Baron Haussmann demolished much of the medieval city to build the wide boulevards and uniform stone buildings that still define Paris today. Pantheon, built as a church, now serves as a mausoleum for the nation's most honored figures, including *Marie Curie* and *Victor Hugo*.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for France at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR €

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY



Type C / Type E
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
French

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Walks

Audio Guides by Tripomatic
Walk it with an audio guide
Available in 9 languages · **Plays when you arrive** · **Works offline**
Scan to get the app

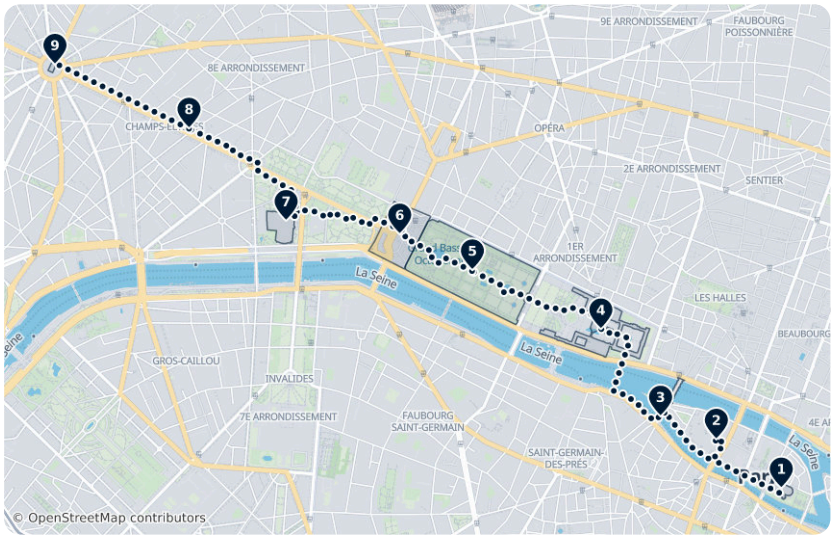
Best of Paris

1h 52min · 6 km · 9 stops



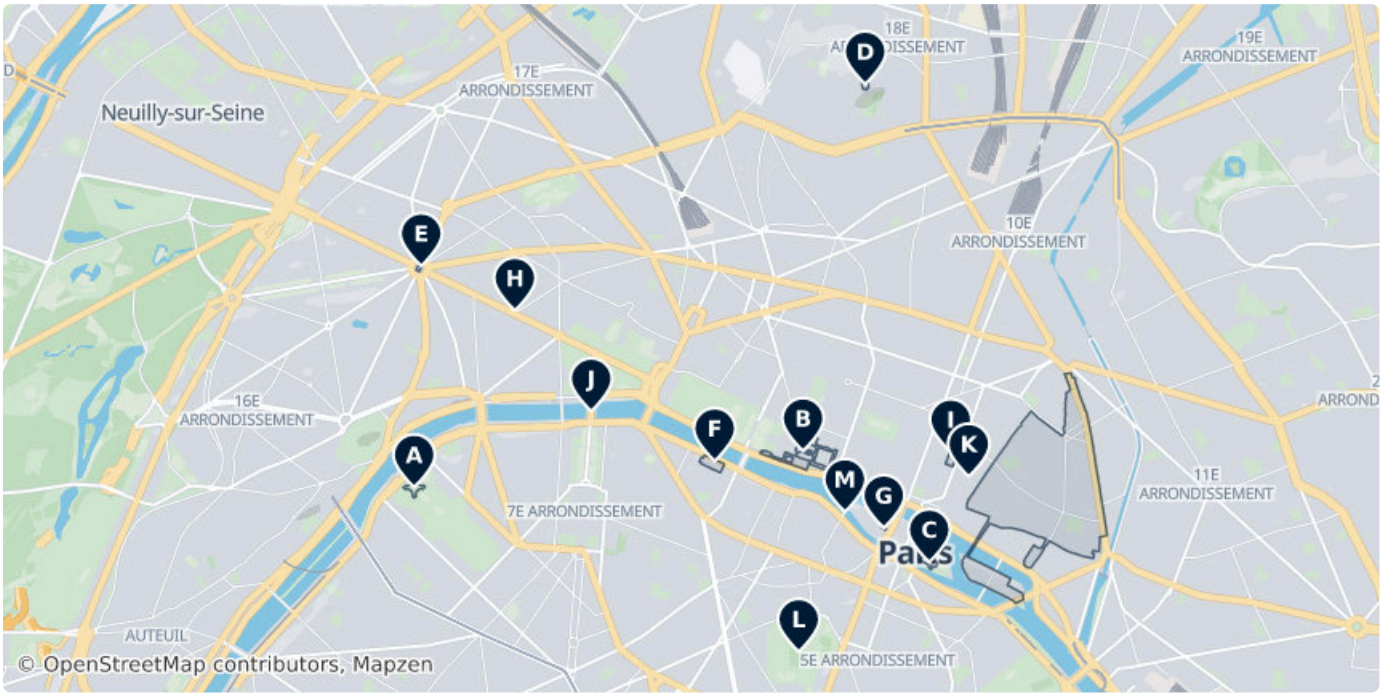
1. Notre-Dame Cathedral
2. Sainte-Chapelle
3. Pont Neuf
4. Louvre Museum
5. Tuileries Garden
6. Concorde Square
7. Grand Palais
8. Champs-Élysées
9. Arc de Triomphe

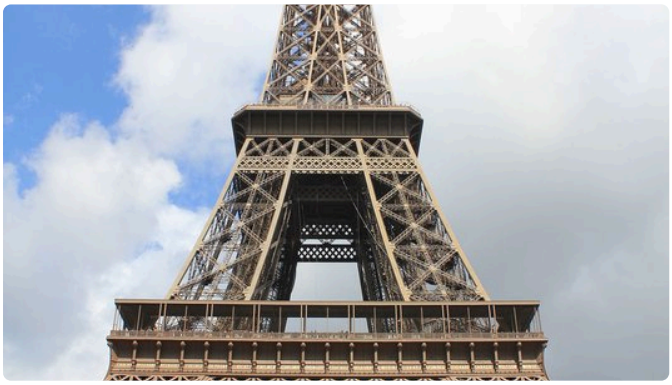
Walk the great east-west axis that made Paris famous: from the medieval cathedral island, through the Louvre and its royal gardens, across the square where a revolution turned deadly, and up the Champs-Élysées to the Arc de Triomphe. This is the single walk that ties together the city's most unmissable sights, with a glimpse of the Eiffel Tower itself along the way. Start at Notre-Dame Cathedral on the Île de la Cité, reachable by metro to Cité or Saint-Michel–Notre-Dame.



Paris Essentials

This collection spans Paris's architectural and artistic evolution, from the 13th-century stained glass of Sainte-Chapelle to the high-tech design of Centre Pompidou. It features world-renowned landmarks like the 330-meter Eiffel Tower, the Gothic Notre-Dame Cathedral, and the Louvre, the world's largest art museum housed in a former royal palace. The list highlights historic districts like Le Marais, the Impressionist collections within the Beaux-Arts Gare d'Orsay, and the monumental Arc de Triomphe crowning the luxury boutiques of the Champs Élysées.





A Eiffel Tower

Wrought-iron lattice tower standing 330 meters tall, originally constructed for the 1889 World's Fair. It features three levels for public access and serves as a broadcast transmitter.

Champ de Mars, 5 Avenue Anatole France, 75007 Paris, France (48.85826, 2.29450)

Mo–Su	09:30–23:00

toureiffel.paris, +33892701239



B Louvre Museum

National art and archaeology museum housing a vast collection of Western art from the Middle Ages to 1848, alongside ancient civilizations and Islamic art. It was established in a historic palace during the French Revolution.

75001 Paris, France (48.86084, 2.33633)

Mo	09:00–21:00
Tu	Closed
We–Su	09:00–21:00

louvre.fr, +33140205229



C Notre-Dame Cathedral

Historic Gothic Catholic cathedral known for its stunning architecture and cultural significance. It features notable Gothic art and serves as a place of worship and a national monument.

6 Parvis Notre-Dame, Place Jean-Paul II, 75004 Paris, France (48.85297, 2.34991)

notredamedeparis.fr/en/, +33142345610



D Sacré-Cœur Basilica

Historic Roman Catholic basilica in romano-byzantine style located at the summit of Montmartre, known for its panoramic views of Paris.

35 Rue du Chevalier de La Barre, 75018 Paris, France (48.88677, 2.34302)

Mo–Su	06:30–22:30

sacre-coeur-montmartre.com, +33153418900



E Arc de Triomphe

Monumental neoclassical arch serving as a war memorial and national symbol, featuring sculptures and a viewpoint with panoramic city views.

Place Charles de Gaulle, 75008 Paris (48.87391, 2.29524)

Mo–Su	10:00–22:30

paris-arc-de-triomphe.fr, +33155377377



F Orsay Museum

Beaux-Arts art museum housed in a historic former train station featuring major collections of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist masterpieces.

Rue de la Légion d'Honneur 1, 75007 (48.86012, 2.32683)

Tu–We	09:30–18:00
Th	09:30–21:45
Fr–Su	09:30–18:00

musee-orsay.fr, +33140494814



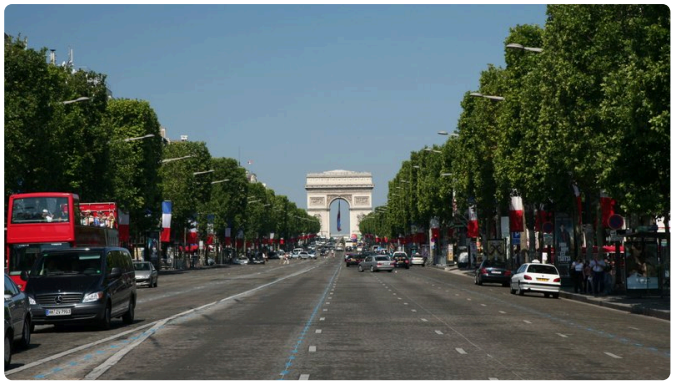
G Sainte-Chapelle

Historic Gothic chapel from the 13th century renowned for its stunning stained glass windows and rich religious and artistic heritage.

8 Boulevard du Palais, 75001 Paris, France (48.85539, 2.34502)

Jan-Mar Mo–Su	09:00–17:00
Apr-Sep Mo–Su	09:00–19:00
Oct-Dec Mo–Su	09:00–17:00

sainte-chapelle.fr, +33153406080



H Champs Élysées

Luxury shopping street featuring high-end stores, cafes, theaters, and landmarks such as the Arc de Triomphe. Known for hosting major cultural events including the Tour de France finish and military parades.

75008 Paris, France (48.87076, 2.30533)



I Centre Pompidou

Modern art museum and cultural center known for its high-tech architecture and extensive collection of contemporary artworks.

Rue Beaubourg 19, 75004 Paris (48.86076, 2.35222)

Mo–Su	Closed

centrepompidou.fr, +33144781233



J Alexandre III Bridge

Historic arch bridge inaugurated in 1900, featuring ornate sculptures and Art Nouveau design. It provides panoramic views of the Seine and nearby landmarks.

Pont Alexandre III, 75007 Paris, France (48.86364, 2.31354)



K Le Marais

Historic and cultural district known for its well-preserved medieval architecture, museums, shopping streets, and diverse communities including Jewish and LGBTQ+ populations.

52 Rue Sainte-Croix de la Bretonnerie, Paris 75004, France (48.85903, 2.35416)

parisinfo.com/decouvrir-paris/balades-a-paris/a-la-decou...



L Jardin du Luxembourg

Historic 17th-century public park featuring a blend of formal French and English-style gardens, tree-lined promenades, and numerous historical statues. The grounds contain the Médicis Fountain and the central palace.

(Unnamed Road), Paris 75006, France (48.84663, 2.33587)

Mo–Su Closed

senat.fr/visite/jardin/



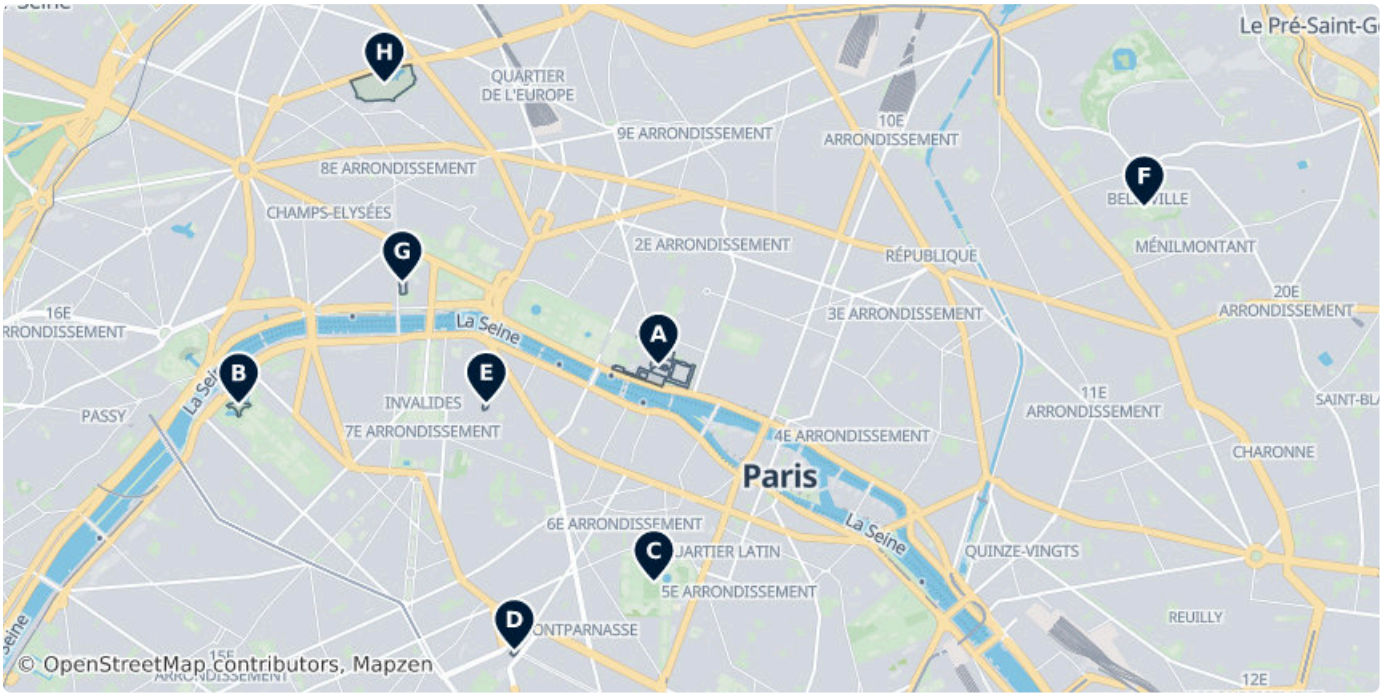
M Pont Neuf

Historic arch stone bridge dating from the late 16th century, known for its statues and architectural features.

74 Quai des Orfèvres, Paris 75001, France (48.85653, 2.34083)

Editor's Choice

This selection highlights Paris's architectural and cultural milestones. It features the world's largest art museum, the Louvre, and the iconic 330-meter Eiffel Tower. Green spaces range from the 17th-century Jardin du Luxembourg to the hilltop Belleville Park, offering panoramic city views. Architectural highlights include the neo-gothic Sainte-Clotilde Basilica and the modern Montparnasse Tower. The list also includes the science-focused Discovery Palace and Monceau Park, known for its collection of architectural miniatures and elegant 18th-century landscape design.





A Louvre Museum

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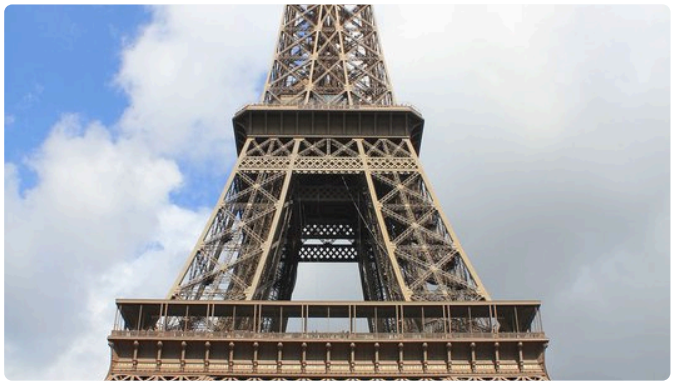
75001 Paris, France (48.86084, 2.33633)

Mo	09:00–21:00
Tu	Closed
We–Su	09:00–21:00

louvre.fr, +33140205229



B Eiffel Tower

Wrought-iron lattice tower standing 330 meters tall, originally constructed for the 1889 World's Fair. It features three levels for public access and serves as a broadcast transmitter.

Champ de Mars, 5 Avenue Anatole France, 75007 Paris, France (48.85826, 2.29450)

Mo–Su	09:30–23:00

toureiffel.paris, +33892701239



C Jardin du Luxembourg

Historic 17th-century public park featuring a blend of formal French and English-style gardens, tree-lined promenades, and numerous historical statues. The grounds contain the Médicis Fountain and the central palace.

(Unnamed Road), Paris 75006, France (48.84663, 2.33587)

Mo–Su Closed

senat.fr/visite/jardin/



D Montparnasse Tower

Skyscraper standing at 210 meters featuring an observation deck on the 56th floor and a rooftop terrace. This office building is currently undergoing extensive renovations and its observatory is closed.

33 Avenue du Maine, 75015 Paris, France (48.84211, 2.32198)

Mo–Su 09:30–22:30

tourmontparnasse56.com, +333145385256



E Sainte-Clotilde Basilica

Neo-gothic Catholic basilica featuring twin spires and stained glass windows, built in the mid-19th century. It is a national monument known for its architecture and religious significance.

23 bis, Rue Las Cases, 75007 Paris, France (48.85831, 2.31917)

Mo–Fr 09:00–19:30
Sa–Su 10:00–20:00

sainte-clotilde.com, +33144186260



F Belleville Park

The lovely park is located on a 108-meter hill and thus provides amazing views of Paris.

47 Rue des Couronnes, 75011 Paris, France (48.87120, 2.38476)

Mo–Fr 08:00–19:00
Sa–Su 09:00–19:00

paris.fr/equipements/parc-de-belleville..., +33 1 43 28 47 63



G Discovery Palace

The Palais de la Découverte is a science museum located in the Grand Palais, in the 8th arrondissement on Avenue Franklin D.

Avenue Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 75008 Paris
(48.86627, 2.31080)

Tu–Sa	09:30–18:00
Su	10:00–19:00

palais-decouverte.fr, +33 1 56 432 020



H Monceau Park

Historic public park featuring elegant gardens, sculptures, a pond, and playgrounds. Known for its cultural heritage and architectural miniatures, it serves as a green oasis with designated areas for pets and accessible paths.

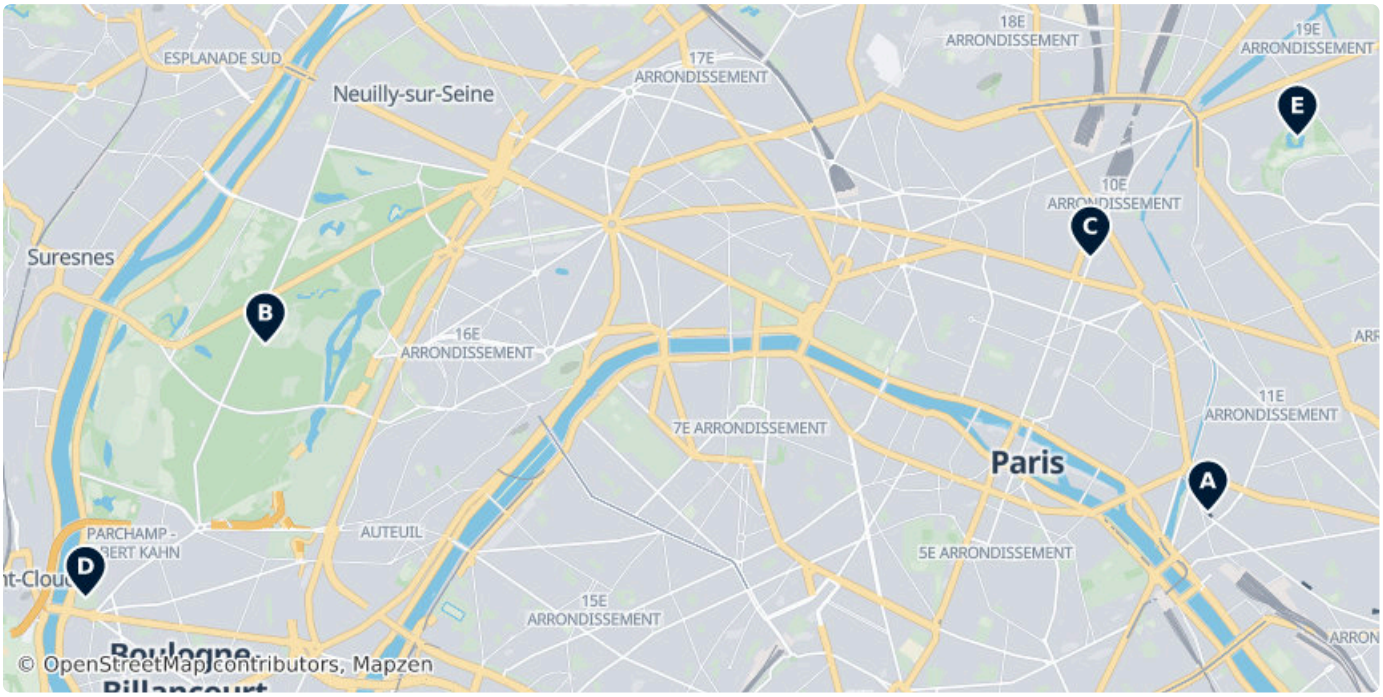
35 Boulevard de Courcelles, 75008 Paris, France
(48.87931, 2.30901)

Mo–Su	07:00–20:00

+33142273956

Hidden Gems

Paris offers secluded retreats beyond its main landmarks. This list features the Coulée verte René-Dumont, an elevated parkway built on a former railway viaduct, and the 1828 iron-and-glass Passage Brady arcade. It highlights the Albert Kahn Museum's international botanical collections and the neoclassical Temple de la Sybille, situated on a cliff overlooking an artificial lake. Rounding out the selection is the Bois de Boulogne, a vast English-style park on the city's western edge housing a zoo and diverse landscapes.





A Tree-lined Walkway

If you enjoy greenery and plants and would like to see something quite extraordinary, come visit the Coulée verte René-Dumont - also known...

Edouard-Lartet à la Bastille, 75012 Paris, France (48.84941, 2.37157)

leviaducdesarts.com, +1 01–44–75–80–66

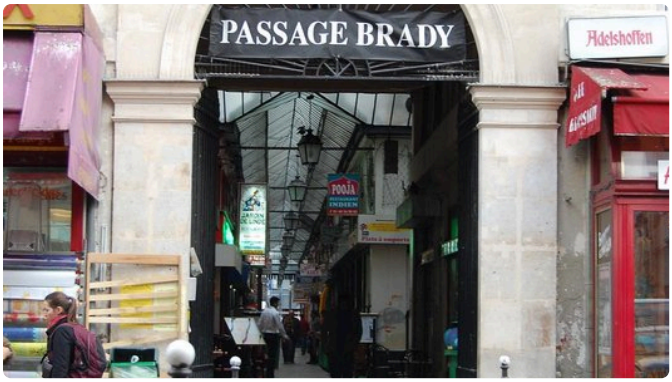


B Woods of Boulogne

The Bois de Boulogne is a large public park that is the western half of the 16th arrondissement of Paris, near the suburb of Boulogne...

75016 Paris, France (48.86359, 2.25058)

paris.fr/jardins



C Passage Brady

Passage Brady is one of two iron-and-glass covered arcades located in the 10th arrondissement of Paris, France constructed in 1828.

43 Rue du Faubourg Saint-Martin, Paris 75010, France (48.87090, 2.35648)



D Albert Kahn Museum and Gardens

The museum of photography and large gardens were created by Kahn, a banker and a philanthropist. There are species from all around the world.

10-14 Rue du Port, 92100 Paris, France (48.84220, 2.22750)

albert-kahn.hauts-de-seine.fr/les-collectio..., +33155192800



E Temple de la Sybille

A beautiful temple located on the cliff on the Île du Belvédère island in the middle of an artificial lake.

(Unnamed Road), Paris 75019, France (48.88109, 2.38307)

DATA SOURCES

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