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TRAVEL GUIDES

# Paris

THE CITY OF LIGHT REMAINS ONE OF THE TRULY GREAT CITIES, WITH  
EXTRAORDINARY... WELL, EXTRAORDINARY EVERYTHING.



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# City of Light

Balancing tradition with cutting-edge architectural and artistic innovation, Paris pulls together the very best of what France has to offer. With a vibrant multiculturalism and art scene and as the epicentre of new fashions and trends, an eclectic range of experiences await the keen traveller in this happening city. We've selected the very best outings, venues and places to stay to help you make the most of your time in Paris – and there's enough to see and do to keep you entertained for a lifetime. So grab a map, put on your best French accent, and hit the streets with a cheery 'Bonjour!'

TAP IMAGES TO  
GO TO SECTION



SEE & DO ▶



STAY ▶



EAT ▶



DRINK ▶



SHOP ▶

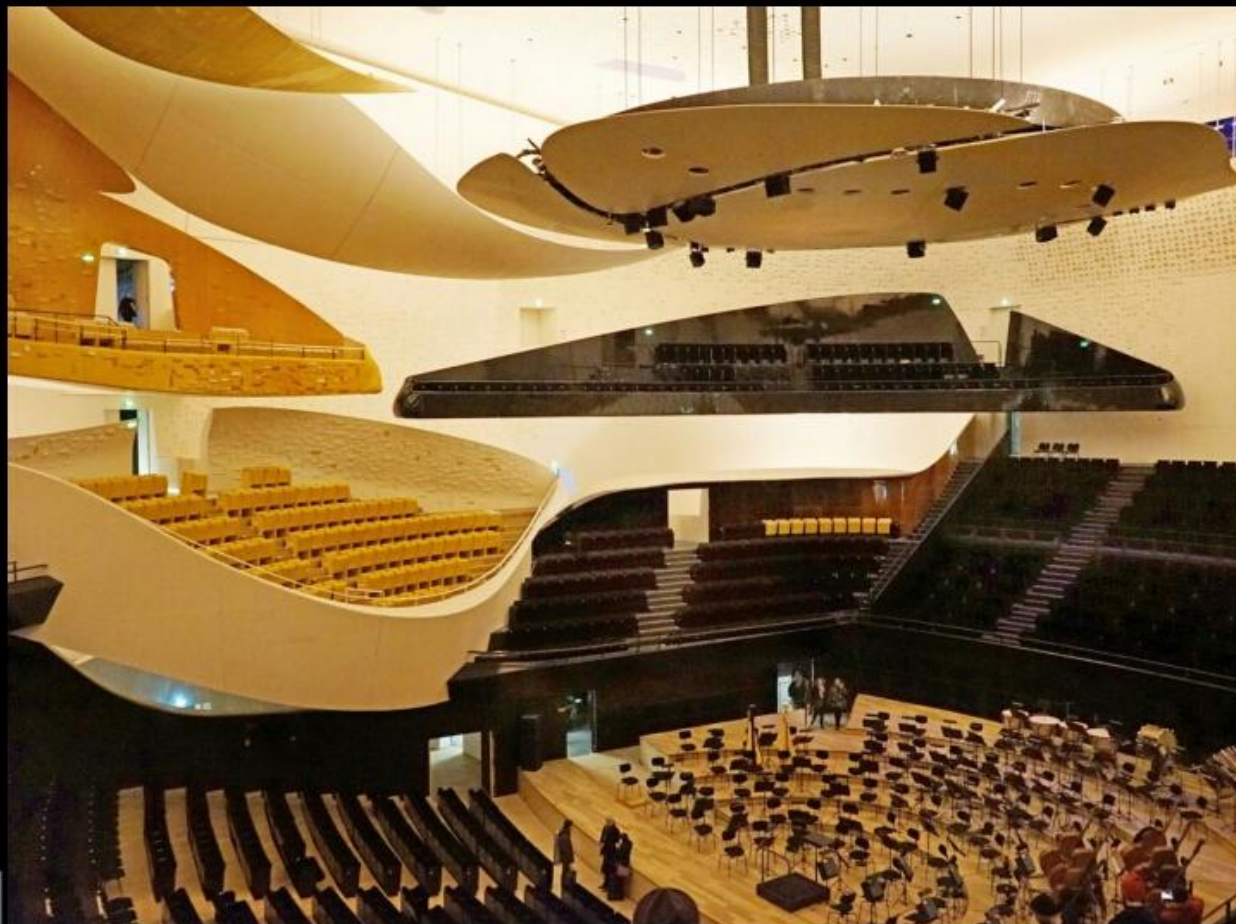


VILLAGE SPOTLIGHT ▶



LOCAL KNOWLEDGE ▶





## PHILHARMONIE DE PARIS

Opened in 2014, the Philharmonie is hailed as a brilliant addition to Porte de Pantin, a working-class area in the north-east of Paris. Overseen by composer Pierre Boulez, the concert hall was built with the vision of democratising what is traditionally a highbrow venue by offering competitively priced tickets and an eclectic selection of events. You could catch anything from a classical music show to a jazz or rock gig in the architecturally astounding concert hall that seats up to 2400 people. Bravo!

221 ave Jean Jaurès, 19th arrondissement;  
[www.philharmoniedeparis.fr/en](http://www.philharmoniedeparis.fr/en)







## ART GALLERIES ON THE PLACE DES VOSGES

Culture vultures shouldn't miss out on the excellent selection of art galleries dotted around the Place des Vosges (above), one of the oldest and most architecturally stunning squares in Paris, located in one of the city's chicest neighbourhoods. Tucked away beneath the impressive arcades you'll find a cluster of contemporary art galleries, most of which opened in the early 1990s. The collections of paintings and sculptures at Art Symbol (right), Galerie Neel and Galerie Mouvance are all well worth a look.

*Place des Vosges, 4th arrondissement*







## LE LOUXOR

Get a feel for ancient Egypt at this stand-out historic cinema. Designed in a neo-Egyptian style back in 1921, Le Louxor has stood the test of time. The gorgeous colourful mosaic facade featuring beetles, cobras and gold-winged discs leads into three screening rooms with their intricate trompe-l'oeil columns, ornate Egyptian headdresses and more. On any given day you could catch a film before heading upstairs to the Art Deco bar and terrace for a great view of the area.

*170 Blvd de Magenta, 10th arrondissement; [www.cinemalouxor.fr](http://www.cinemalouxor.fr)*





## FONDATION LOUIS VUITTON

Opened in 2014, the Fondation Louis Vuitton was a much-anticipated yet controversial addition to Paris's flourishing contemporary art scene. LVMH chairman and CEO Bernard Arnault commissioned the gallery to house the luxury-good conglomerate's art collection. Built at the heart of the Jardin d'Acclimatation, the gallery sits alongside a farm and children's rides. It is an astounding building, designed by acclaimed architect Frank Gehry to look like boat sails draped around a minimalist structure. The effect is impressive, and the rooftop terrace with its panoramic view is an absolute must.

*8 ave du Mahatma Gandhi, 16th arrondissement;  
[www.fondationlouisvuitton.fr](http://www.fondationlouisvuitton.fr)*







## MOSQUEE DE PARIS

Inspired by the Alhambra and the Bou Inania Medersa in Fez, the magnificent Mosquée de Paris is the spiritual heart of the city for the Muslim population. The grand mosque, with its 33-metre-high minaret, was built in 1926 to thank Muslim soldiers for their support during World War I. It has a prayer room, an Islamic school and library. Parts of the mosque are open to visitors; there's a hammam (for women only) and a cafe serving mint tea and North African pastries on a terrace full of greenery and gorgeous mosaic details.

*2 bis place du Puits de l'Ermite, 5th arrondissement;  
[www.mosqueedeparis.net/](http://www.mosqueedeparis.net/)*





## L'AS DU FALLAFEL

Wrapped in paper or served on plastic plates, L'As du Fallafel's wraps bulge with greasy goodness and are renowned for being the best in Paris. The setting is ideal, down the quaint, cobblestoned Rue des Rosiers – the main artery of Paris's historic Jewish neighbourhood. A pita full of falafel, hummus, fresh salad and fried eggplant will set you back just €6. It's a busy spot with an enthusiastic, friendly team out front to lure you in. Sit in or opt for takeaway and munch as you explore the rest of the beautiful Marais area. \$\$

32-34 rue des Rosiers,  
4th arrondissement  
+33 1 48 87 63 60







## BUVETTE

Sister of a popular restaurant in Greenwich Village, New York, Buvette is a cosy gastrothèque that serves wholesome French dishes (salmon rillettes, coq au vin), cocktails and wines with an American twist. Jody Williams set up shop in the boho South Pigalle neighbourhood, a perfect match for the interiors – all wooden tables, antique furniture, porcelain dining sets and baskets of fruit. If you like informal dining with great-quality food, you'll love Buvette, whether you stop in for breakfast, lunch or dinner.

\$\$\$

28 rue Henry Monnier,  
9th arrondissement;  
+33 1 44 63 41 71;  
[www.buvette.com](http://www.buvette.com)





## LE BOUILLON RACINE

This little gem, hidden down an unremarkable street in the lively 6th arrondissement, is a treat for the senses, housed as it is in a 1906 Art Nouveau building. Classified as an historical monument, the restaurant has retained much of its magnificent original decor of mirrors, opalines, ornate carved woods and beautiful tiling. The cooking is a blend of contemporary and traditional French cuisine. It's unpretentious and prices are reasonable, with a three-course meal setting you back €30-50. \$\$\$



3 rue Racine, 6th arrondissement;  
+33 1 44 32 15 60;  
[www.bouillon-racine.com](http://www.bouillon-racine.com)





# DRINK

Universally known for its passion for the grape, Paris is overflowing with traditional caves à vin and wine bars selling world-class French wine. The Parisian appetite for great beverages doesn't end there, though, as the city's growing love of craft beer, creamy lattes and classy cocktails proves. You'll find bartenders as well-versed in mixology as coffee art across the city's haunts. Don't forget to order a charcuterie board or cheese plate to soak it all up.



LES BANCS PUBLICS



CABARET SAUVAGE



LE CARMEN



CHEZ BOUBOULE



LE COMPTOIR GÉNÉRAL



EN VRAC



EXPERIMENTAL COCKTAIL CLUB



LE PAVILLON DES CANAUX



LE PERCHOIR



LE PLAYTIME



SUNSET/SUNSIDE



LE WOOD



TAP TO LOCATE



TAP FOR MAIN MENU

SEE & DO

STAY

EAT

DRINK

SHOP

SUBURB SPOTLIGHT

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE



## DRINK



### LES BANQUES PUBLICS

This charming canal-side establishment is an ideal stop-off point after a walk around the Parc de la Villette. This wallet-friendly, classic French bistro serves creative dishes and delicious cocktails. Jazzy background music and smiling staff make you feel right at home in a cosy decor of red-brick walls, mirrors and huge French windows thrown open when the weather is right. There's a little terrace, too, perfect for watching the houseboats go by as you savour a coffee or freshly squeezed juice.

2 rue de Nantes,  
19th arrondissement;  
**+33 9 80 76 36 71**







## LA ROTONDE

This imposing rotunda dominates the cityscape between the Saint-Martin and Ourcq canals. Built a year before the revolution, La Rotonde sits on the site of a former tax collection point on the city's boundaries. Today it's a trendy restaurant in one of Paris's most artistic areas (and shouldn't be confused with the restaurant of the same name in Montparnasse). Dining under the bright dome in the atrium is divine, and the menu is all modern French gastronomie. The fun continues outside with a sprawling terrace perfect for a glass of rosé on a sunny afternoon. It's chic and romantic yet laid-back and friendly, and the locals love it. \$\$\$

6-8 place de la Bataille  
de Stalingrad,  
19th arrondissement ;  
+33 1 80 48 33 40 ;  
[www.larotonde.com](http://www.larotonde.com)





## LE COMPTOIR GÉNÉRAL

African culture meets Parisian boho-chic at this hip bar set up in a huge 600 square-metre old barn behind a block of houses bordering the Canal Saint-Martin. The madly popular spot celebrates Paris's vibrant second cultures through exhibitions, markets, vintage clothes sales, projections and more, while serving up exotic cocktails and Asian dishes to the sound of live music. The eclectic decor is just as exotic as the concept. As one of Paris's leading venues for social innovation, environmental awareness and cultural exchange, Le Comptoir is well worth dropping in to.

80 quai de Jemmapes,  
10th arrondissement;  
+33 1 44 88 24 48;  
[www.lecomptoirgeneral.com/en](http://www.lecomptoirgeneral.com/en)







## SHAKESPEARE & CO.

This world-famous English-language bookshop is a must for anyone looking to experience Paris's vibrant literary scene. A favourite with Joyce, Pound and Hemingway, today Shakespeare & Co is a gathering place for writers, readers and travellers. Stocked from floor to ceiling with classics, the shop is higgledy-piggledy and kept in check by a friendly staff of 'tumbleweeds' – travelling writers given a bed in exchange for putting in a couple of hours a day at the shop. If you're lucky, you'll stumble upon a writing workshop, someone playing the piano, or acting out a scene from Othello upstairs.



37 Rue de la Bûcherie,  
5th arrondissement;  
[www.shakespeareandcompany.com](http://www.shakespeareandcompany.com)





## LE PAVILLON DE LA REINE

This is the place to go for traditional top-notch French hospitality in an authentic classic setting. Le Pavillon de la Reine is one of just 400 remaining *hôtel particuliers* in Paris. Just off the Place des Vosges, Paris's oldest square, this part of town was at the heart of the high society gatherings of Mmes de Sévigné, La Fontaine, Molière and their ilk. The ornate bourgeois house is separated from the square by a peaceful green courtyard. The neo-classical interior is ornate and luxurious.

**ORNATE****\$\$\$\$**

28 Place des Vosges,  
3rd arrondissement  
+33 1 40 29 19 19  
[www.pavillon-de-la-reine.com/uk/hotel-luxe-paris-marais-site-officiel.php](http://www.pavillon-de-la-reine.com/uk/hotel-luxe-paris-marais-site-officiel.php)

### FEATURES

- Lounge area
- Patio
- Spa
- Jacuzzi
- Turkish baths
- Gym

