

DAY 1

Paris Walks



You will often hear that there is no better way to experience Paris than by foot. Why not let an informed, English guide take you to some interesting parts of Paris. Choose from Fashion to Chocolate or tailor your own. The walks are endorsed by the Paris Tourist Office and while no reservation is required, it might be best to check and confirm the meeting point. Monthly walk programs can be downloaded from their site, if we have made your hotel booking, only too happy to reserve for you.

Adults 12 € Children under 15 - 8 €

www.paris-walks.com

12 passage Meunier Saint Dennis t: (33) 01 48 09 21 40

Discount Beauty Products



Tip : City Pharma is a small pharmacy that offers discounts on French brands, and others, some at half price. Practice your french as you will have to compete with locals in this small space. Expect great discounts on brands like Lierac, Rene Furterer, Klorane and others. This is fun 'beauty' shopping. If you can't find what you are looking for ask! Some of the assistants will gladly direct you elsewhere for discount products.

26, rue du Four, St. Saint Germain-des-Prés

Le Comptoir du Relais - one of the best



The truth is that this place is always full not of tourists but locals. The food is great, and chef Yves Camdeborde dishes up daily simple but delicious classics such as creamy slices of foie gras and chunky prune sauce, perfect pork dishes, duck and wonderful desserts. Allow 70 euros for two for three courses with wine expect to queue. They don't have website. 5 carrefour de l'Odeon 75006 (6th) t: 01 44 27 07 97

Marché aux Puces

No trip to Paris is complete without a visit to these famous markets.

These markets were the gateway to Paris in the early 19th century and it's a wonderful atmosphere. Don't miss a wonder through the Paul Bert and Biron for wonderful 'shabby' chic items; oversized French clocks, contemporary and industrial furniture pieces, art deco furniture, chandeliers and the list goes on.



These markets are huge (over 7 hectares) you could easily spend two whole days scouting. Most dealers will export and don't forget to negotiate. If you can bring cash always a better tool than credit cards and some of the smaller ones don't except cards.

Start early, browse for bargain then lunch, always 'tres important' at a wonderful bistro in rue Paul Bert. The markets listed below are open :

Saturday 8.30am to 6.30pm

Sunday and Monday 10am to 5.30pm (several, but not all close for lunch 12-2pm)

Dauphine – for a genuine antique item

Vernaison – one of the more casual markets, friendly, lots of bric-a-brac

Malik – young people head here for 'moins cher' items, leather, makeup etc

Antica – a sophisticated marke with elegant and beautiful tapestries and antiques

Biron – top interior decorators head here in search of items for their latest project

Cambo – Over two floors you'll find an array of dealers including vintage clothing

Serpette – In a former Citroën garage lots of art nouveau pieces

L'Entrepot – fireplaces staircases, bookcases and garden gates.

M: Porte de Clignancourt.

www.parispuces.com

avenue Georges Lafenestre & ave Marc Sangnier, 75014

a great many museum closed Mondays.

DAY 2

Marché des enfants rouges



For a trip down memory lane this market is a 'must'. It began in the early 1600s and remains as popular as ever. You'll find foie gras, tempting charcuterie, fresh seafood and other delights delivered daily from many of France's small provincial towns.



Also a great spot for lunch try 'La Rôtisserie' for crisp-skinned rotisserie Bresse chicken, potatoes and a glass of vin rouge, or Le Traiteur Marocain for spiced lamb-and-prune tagine and fluffy couscous royale, both under 20 euros.

Open: Tuesday to Saturday, 8.30am to 1pm and 4pm to 7.30pm (until 8 pm on Friday and Saturday);
Sunday, 8.30am to 2pm. M: Filles-du-Calvaire
39 rue de Bretagne, 75003

Le Relais de L'Entrecôte



If you are seeking the best 'steak et frites' this is a Parisian institution. In the heart of St.Germain, arrive close to opening time at 7pm to avoid queues. Once seated the harried but usually friendly waitress will ask how you like your steak. Well done = bien cuit

Medium-rare = à point: Rare = Saignant

Very Rare = Bleu.

First a walnut salad, then a large silver tray will arrive with your steak, accompanied by a pepper sauce with a hint of mustard. No doubt a secret recipe. Seconds are encouraged, sometimes thirds!

20 rue Saint-Benoit, St.Germain t: 01 45 49 16 00

Musee Les Art Decoratifs



Boasting some 150,000 objects, the collections are privileged testaments to the French art of living, the 'savoir-faire' of its craftsmen and industrialists, the research and creativity of its artists, the passion of its collectors, the generosity of our donors and the desire to pass these riches on to others.

TIP: Don't miss the Museum of Jewellery on the second level, exit 2nd floor. A historic and mesmerising exhibition of important jewellery throughout the ages. Why not lunch at the oh so trendy 'Le Saut du Loup'.

Metro: Palais Royal-Musée du Louvre ou Tuileries, Pyramides

Entry: 8 euros for all areas.

www.lesartsdecoratifs.fr

107 rue de rivoli

DAY 3

Les Bouquinistes



A lovely restaurant situated on the Quai of the Seine. Decor is modern, minimalist but elegant. Service is attentive and friendly. Sampled was the 'Carpaccio de Canard' accompanied by a Foie Gras and Kumquat confiture; followed by 'Croustillants d'escargots' drizzled in a light garlic cream sauce. Both were close to perfect. Also tried was one of their signature dishes, 'Ravioli Brittany Crab', served in a frothy light sauce with a hint of ginger, oil and lemongrass.

Don't miss this restaurant, which is one of six in the Guy Savoy stable. A lunchtime set menu starts from €25 (menu du jour) with one glass of wine.

www.lesbouquinistes.com

53 quai des Grand Augustins t : 01 43 25 45 94

Fancy a tour with a Parisian - Free?



This voluntary organisation of 'Parisian Greeters' was set up to dispel the myth that Parisians are an unfriendly lot. You can book a 2-3 hour tour, it must be a group of up to 6 and designed to show you 'their' Paris. Sounds too good to be true but what a great way to promote the city. See website for details. Tours offered in English and other languages.

www.parisiendunjour.fr

DAY 4

Centre Pompidou



Always a crowd, always an expo. The Parisians call this area 'beaubourg', they dislike recalling previous politicians. It is a great venue for all ages. To many expos to mention here so visit their site also in English.

Remember free access to the museum first Sunday of the month. Closed Tuesdays then Daily 11am – 9pm.

Metro: Pompidou

Le Crazy Horse Saloon

This famous Paris show that has been running since the 1950's. I wasn't sure what to expect, but I totally enjoyed the light show, dancing, scant costumes (OK maybe a feather or two) and precise choreography. Its not a 'spectacle' like The Lido or Moulin Rouge. The stage is small and we were seated less than five feet away from the performers however it added to the authenticity of its original intention ; an intimate 'cabaret'.

www.lecrazyhorseparis.com

12 ave George V, 75008 t: 01 47 23 32 32



Musee de l'Orangerie

This museums offers works from the great masters, Cézanne, Picasso, Soutine, Modigliani, Renoir, Matisse and numerous temporary exhibitions.

Closed Tuesdays. Open 9am - 6pm

Entry: Entry fee: Full rate: € 7.50

surcharge for temporary exhibitions

Free entry on the first Sunday of each month, under 18 free.

Metro: Concorde

www.musee-orangerie.fr

Jardin des Tuileries t: 01 44 77 80 07



DAY 5

Musée Rodin

One of the most important museums for sculpture fans. The museum is home to some 6,000 pieces. Regular exhibitions feature international sculptors. There is an extensive calendar of events online. Don't miss the gardens, or lunch in the gardens.

Open Daily: 10am to 5.45pm.

Closed Mondays



Hôtel Biron cleared at 5.45pm

Garden cleared at 6pm

Last tickets sold at 5.15pm

Metro: Invalides. Entry 6€ or Family 10

www.musee-rodin.fr

77 rue de Varenne

OPTIONAL - DAY TRIP EITHER VERSAILLES OR CHATEAU CHANTILLY

Chateau Chantilly

A beautiful 16th chateau with over 7,000 hectares of parkland and a fascinating history throughout the Medieval Ages and Renaissance until the museum it is today. From the grand apartments to the vast and exquisite library and even more important treasures in the galleries.



Stroll around the French and English gardens. A wonderful day in the French countryside among all things royal. Don't miss the very special 'living horse' Museum

Night of Fireworks 12, 13 & 14 June, 2008.

Approximately one hour from Paris. Take a tour coach or the a train line from the Gare du Nord or Châtelet (45 minutes) then a bus or taxi to the chateau. Closed Tuesdays.

Should you wish a guided tour we can provide an expert guide who can advise you about the very special art collection and history of the chateau or simply the transportation to the chateau and various attractions in the area.

www.chateaudechantilly.com

Step into a world of inviting luxury - The Champagne Flute Bar

Why not plan to shop the Champs-Élysées late afternoon and then retreat to the wonderfully, relaxing and decadent environment of the Champagne Flute Bar. Why? Because its Happy hour from 5pm till 8pm. The finest champagne in the world is grown in France and what could be better than to end the day than with a glass of



Krug, Bollinger, Billecart-Salmon or a Veuve Clicquot accompanied with some Petrossian caviar or smoked salmon.

This cosy venue is the perfect spot to celebrate just being in Paris. Choose by the glass or if you prefer a cocktail, the barman is sure to know the latest groovy concoctions; if you feeling like something more substantial there's a choice of tasty appetizers.

Ensure that you have your own table by booking online their site below.

Open Tuesday to Saturday 5pm till 2am.

www.flutebar.com

19 rue de l'Etoile, 17th t :33 (0)1 45 72 10 14

Les Parfums de Rosine

This is all about one of the world's most beautiful flowers, the rose, and one of Paris' finest Perfume boutiques.

The perfume is made with a high concentration of the best roses in France (40-50%) and other aromatic and spicy overtones. All elegantly bottled and decorated with a silk-fringed pompom and delicate packaging. Its creator, Marie-Hélène was born into a family of perfumers going back to Napoleon III. Her range is widely exported and also includes candles, soaps and body creams. For addicts you can order online.

www.les-parfums-de-rosine.com

105, galerie de Valoise t: 33 (0)1 42 60 11 51



Paul Bert - Best value Paris Bistro

A great day out in Paris is to wonder the 'Marche aux Puce' then a bistro lunch at the Bristo Paul Bert. Its constantly busy with arty types and antique dealers all enjoying some great bistro food; their signature dish is a 'pot-au-poulet' or Lobster and chips. They will happily accommodate children. But if you don't believe me below is New York Times Review Metro: Faidherbe-Chaligny

Closed Sundays and Mondays and month of August.

<http://travel.nytimes.com/travel/guides/europe/france/paris/restaurant-detail.html?vid=1154673793659>

18, rue Paul Bert, 75011 t: 01 43 72 24 01



Annick Goutal

This one of nine stores in Paris and its a 'must visit'. This one is so traditional, so elegant and so uplifting.

www.annickgoutal.fr

12, Place St Sulpice, 75006 t: 01 46 33 03 15



Le Timbre

A wonderful place to eat after a long stroll around the Luxembourg Gardens. Run by an Englishman, he's gained a lot of respect for his French culinary skills. The restaurant offers only one or two choices and these changes with what is fresh and in season. It is tiny, hence the name, 'poststamp' seats around 20 diners but that adds to its charm. Lots of lovely wines by the glass. Closed Sunday and Mondays. Reservations recommended due to its size.

www.restaurantletimbre.com

3 rue Saint Beuve 75006, 6th, t: 01 45 49 10 40

