

PARIS WALKS APRIL 2024

Walking Tours in English. All tours require a reservation

Please reserve by 10pm the day before the tour (e-mail is best). If we already have some reservations you can reserve on the day of the tour. Tours with no advance reservations will be cancelled, but sometimes the tours fill up completely in advance. We will acknowledge your booking. If you don't receive a reply it will mean we didn't get your e-mail

Price: Adults 25€. (Children under 15 = 10€, students under 21 = 15€) Tours last about 2 hours. We meet at metro stations, unless indicated, above ground at street level, guides wear Paris Walks badges.

Private tours can be arranged (walks and museum visits) E-mail us for details

EVERY MONDAY 10.30am The French Revolution In the historic Latin Quarter, see where the revolutionaries lived and met, the oldest café in Paris, and the hall where Danton and the radical Cordeliers' club held their debates. On this lively tour you will understand the background to the chilling stories: Dr Guillotin's sinister 'razor', Marat stabbed in his bath by Charlotte Corday.

Meet at metro Odeon, at the statue of Danton (exit 1)

Mon 1st April 2.30pm Medieval Paris and the Templars – special walk for Easter weekend
Meet at metro Temple. See description below

EVERY TUESDAY 10.30am The Historic Marais Quarter This is the most unspoilt historic quarter in Paris. Beautiful architecture from picturesque medieval streets to splendid classical mansions, and the lovely royal square, the place des Vosges. We look at architecture, history, Jewish heritage, and hear stories of the famous inhabitants such as Victor Hugo and Mme de Sevigné, celebrated for her witty letters. *Meet at metro St Paul (at the entrance)*

EVERY TUESDAY 2.30pm Ile de la Cité and the Medieval Latin Quarter

We explore the architecture of Ile de la Cité where Paris was first founded, and look at our beautiful ruined cathedral, hear its story over the ages, including the tragic fire. We see highlights and hidden details of the Latin Quarter: Roman remains, charming medieval streets, St Severin church, a jewel of flamboyant gothic architecture, and the Sorbonne university. *Meet at metro Cité*

EVERY WEDNESDAY 10.30am The Village of Montmartre On this picturesque walk you will discover a delightful neighbourhood with old winding streets, the vineyard, artists' studios (Renoir, Lautrec, Van Gogh, Picasso) street art, quiet gardens, historic cabarets, the place-du-Tertre with its artists and the Sacré Coeur Basilica. *Meet at metro Abbesses (use the elevator, the station is deep!)*

Wed 10 2.30pm **Chanel Fashion Tour 30€** - see description below

Wed 17 2.30pm **Chocolate and Pastry Tasting Tour 50€** – see description below

Wed 24 2.30pm **Palais Royal Fashion Tour 30€** - see description below

EVERY THURSDAY 10.30am Paris during the Occupation and Liberation

On this walk in the area of the Tuileries gardens, place Vendome, Concorde and Champs Elysées, hear how the Parisians survived the dark years of the Occupation from 1940-44 with stories of daily life, the Gestapo, the plight of the Jews, the Resistance and the Liberation. *Meet at metro Tuileries*

4pm SMALL GROUP ORSAY TOUR– 80€ per person including entrance, (55€ for those who don't need an entrance ticket) description below. It is advisable to reserve at least a week in advance. Timed entrance tickets can sell out.

EVERY FRIDAY 10.30am Hemingway's Paris Explore this charming district in the Latin Quarter with its old houses and courtyards, the Mouffetard market street, a hidden fragment of the medieval city wall, and the lovely historic church of St Etienne-du-Mont. It is associated with many writers: Joyce, Orwell, Balzac, Hugo, Verlaine. The area was immortalised by Hemingway in A Moveable Feast and by Woody Allen in Midnight in Paris. *Meet at metro Cardinal Lemoine (exit 1)*

4pm SMALL GROUP LOUVRE TOUR – 75€ per person including entrance (55€ for those who don't need an entrance ticket) See description below. It is advisable to reserve at least a week in advance. Timed entrance tickets can sell out.

EVERY SATURDAY

The Marais 10.30am See Tuesday above. *Meet at metro Saint Paul*

Special tour on Saturday 30 2.30pm The Resistance – see below for description

EVERY SUNDAY

The Village of Montmartre 10.30am See Wednesday above. *Meet at metro Abbesses.*

EVERY SUNDAY Special Afternoon Tour

Mon 1 2.30pm Medieval Paris and the Templars – special tour for Easter weekend

Sun 7 2.30pm The St Germain Neighbourhood

Sun 14 2.30pm The Occupation and the Resistance, Left Bank circuit

Sun 21 2.30pm Pere Lachaise Cemetery

Sun 28 2.30pm The Occupation and the Resistance, Left Bank circuit

See descriptions below

Medieval Paris and the Templars (Mon 1 April 2.30pm)

On this walk, which takes you off the beaten track, we hear the story of the Order of the Knights' Templar, their links to the area, and their spectacular downfall. The circuit includes: the beautiful medieval architecture of the Abbey of St Martin, the oldest house in Paris, built by the alchemist Nicolas Flamel, the flamboyant gothic tower of St Jacques'. We visit the spot where Henry IV was assassinated by the mad monk Ravailac and discover traces in Les Halles of the famous cemetery of Les Innocents. *Meet at metro Temple.*

The St Germain Neighbourhood (Sun 7 April 2.30pm)

This tour captures the essence of the Left Bank: the abbey church of St Germain-des-Prés (the oldest church in Paris) charming old streets and squares, artists' studios, literary cafés still frequented by writers, jazz bars of the 1950s, the famous Paris Art School, the hotel where Oscar Wilde died, and imposing St Sulpice church to hear the truth behind its mysterious gnomon, which featured in the Da Vinci Code. *Meet in front of St Sulpice Church. A short walk from metro St Sulpice (line 4)*

The Occupation and the Resistance (Sun 14 and 28 April 2.30pm)

Left Bank Circuit. The story of the resistance fighters (who came from all backgrounds) the prisons, the plight of the Jews and the round ups. Everyday life during the Occupation, many poignant and revealing stories and the heroic acts of ordinary people. *Meet at metro Sevres Babylone, exit 3 at junction of rue de Sevres and bvd Raspail, by the garden.*

Pere Lachaise Cemetery (Sun 21 April 2.30pm)

Our expert guide will lead you through this vast and labyrinthine cemetery, sharing its secrets, finding exceptional effigies and telling the stories of celebrities including: Chopin, Balzac, Oscar Wilde, Edith Piaf, Maria Callas, Jim Morrison and ill-fated lovers Abelard and Héloïse. Enjoy the atmospheric mixture of cobbled pathways, magnificent tree-lined avenues and beautiful elaborate tombs. *Meet metro Père Lachaise, at exit on blvd Ménilmontant*

Chanel and the rue St Honoré Fashion Walk (Wed 10 April 2.30pm)

The story of Coco Chanel who rose from poverty to become one of the great names for traditional French chic. This walk explores rue Cambon, the rue St Honoré, and place Vendome (with the Ritz) all famous for the luxury trade and glamour. Our fashion specialist will give the background to the famous fashion designers and we visit Chanel and Hermes. Meet in front of Smith and Sons, 248 rue de Rivoli, (metro Concorde, exit rue Cambon). Price 30€

Paris fashion in the Palais Royal Quarter (Wed 24 April 2.30pm)

Explore this attractive district (with its elegant architecture, lovely covered arcades, and secluded gardens) which is now home to alternative luxury. We begin with the place where fashion boutiques first started in the early 19thC. On the circuit we see shops selling vintage designer clothes (one where stars do their shopping), Christian Louboutin's spectacular shoes and other distinctive boutiques for perfumes, accessories and design. Our fashion specialist weaves in the history of fashion, personalities, anecdotes and the designers of today.

Meet at metro Palais-Royal-Musée du Louvre, at the exit on place Colette. Price: 30€

The Chocolate and Pastry Tasting Tour (Wed 17 April 2.30pm)

Learn how to select and appreciate top quality chocolate. We visit a variety of superb chocolatiers on this enjoyable walk which mixes history and anecdotes with delicious chocolate and pastry tasting.

Meet at metro Tuileries. (Price 50€ including tastings)

THE LOUVRE HIGHLIGHTS – Every Friday 4pm- 6.15pm

On this tour of highlights of the fabulous collection of the Louvre Museum you will see how the building evolved from a fortified castle to become the main palace of the kings of France and then the superb museum it is today with the elegant modern glass pyramid as its entrance. Our guide will lead you through this vast and beautiful building to see the remains of the castle, splendidly decorated rooms, and world famous masterpieces. The tour includes sculptures such as the Venus de Milo, the Winged Victory of Samothrace, and paintings: the Coronation of Napoleon by David, the Wedding at Cana by Veronese, other French and Italian paintings, and of course the Mona Lisa. Along the way you will also discover other exceptional works chosen by the guide. Tour lasts about 2 hours and you can stay on afterwards.

Meet at the statue of Louis XIV in front of the Louvre pyramid.

Price 75€ per person including entrance tickets (or 55€ for those aged under 18, or with museum passes) (Group limited to 6 people)

MUSEE D'ORSAY HIGHLIGHTS (Impressionism and 19thC masterpieces)

Thursdays 4pm -6pm

This world famous museum celebrates the Impressionists and those who revolutionised art by capturing the modern life of their day. We hear the historical background and the stories of the painters and their lives, many of whom endured years of hardship and incomprehension. We see the works of the conventional artists of the 19thC against whom the dissident artists rebelled, we look at iconic works by Monet, Manet, Renoir, Degas, Van Gogh and Lautrec. We also see some superb sculptures by Carpeaux, Rodin and Camille Claudel. Tour lasts about 2 hours and you can stay on afterwards. Meet at the horse statue outside the museum

Price 80€ per person including entrance tickets (or 55€ for those aged under 18, or with museum passes) (Group limited to 6 people)

PARIS WALKS

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