

PARIS

FALL & WINTER GUIDE 2009/2010



The best places to eat, sleep and play
in Paris this fall and winter

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INTRODUCTION



TripAdvisor, the most trusted source for where to eat, sleep and play in thousands of destinations around the world, has collected the best insider tips from its 35 million monthly visitors to produce a unique series of travel guides. In addition to the best hotels, restaurants and attractions for every type of traveler, you'll get great advice about what to pack, how to get around and where to find the best views. Be sure to check out the guides at www.tripadvisor.com.



You'll find reviews for more than 450,000 hotels, 90,000 attractions and 560,000 restaurants on TripAdvisor.com. Learn from other travelers what to expect before you make your plans.



PACKING TIPS

1. Comfort zone—"Paris is best seen on foot, but wear **comfortable shoes** as you cover immense distances."
—TripAdvisor Member, Tokyo, Japan
2. Smart move—"Always carry your valuables in a **money belt**."
—TripAdvisor Member, Seabrook, Texas
3. Convenience—You'll need to carry **lots of small change**: "For first timers to Paris, a little tip: You have to pay to use the restrooms."
—TripAdvisor Member, San Carlos, Calif.

Inside PARIS

Elegant, romantic, exciting, unforgettable... It can only be Paris. Founded in the third century, on what is now the Île de la Cité, Paris did not become France's capital until the 10th century.

Throughout its history, the city has prospered and has been at the forefront of cultural and political innovation, most notably during the French Revolution of the late 18th century. In the early 1900s, the halcyon years of the belle époque ushered in the Art Nouveau movement, bringing with it advances in the arts and sciences.

As capitals go, Paris is relatively small, with a population of just over two million. In the warmth of the fall and winter, explore its plethora of landmarks on foot and you'll quickly work up an appetite for the superb cooking for which its restaurants and cafés are famous. But keep that umbrella handy for unexpected showers! And don't fear the frigid winters; simply duck into the city's many cafes or museums to escape the cold.

Top VIEWS



PARIS'S BEST VIEWS

The **Eiffel Tower** “was easily one of the biggest highlights of my trip through Europe. I’ve been up other skyscrapers and landmarks and usually my response is ‘Eh, so what now?’ But this was one experience that I will remember for the rest of my life.” —TripAdvisor Member, San Francisco, Calif.

Eiffel Tower, Champ de Mars, 01 44 11 23 23

“A **boat ride on the Seine** is an absolute must. Many of the most beautiful monuments were built along the Seine River. The night cruise is also beautiful because all the buildings are illuminated. Most of the boat companies are located by the Trocadero near the Eiffel tower.” —TripAdvisor Member, Alsace, France

“Stand at the **arch opposite the Louvre** around sunset. In the distance, you see the Champs Elysées with the Arc de Triomphe at the end. To your left, you see the Eiffel Tower light up in the distance and the Musée d’Orsay to your immediate left. We spent an hour watching the lights get brighter as the sun disappeared and night fell.” —TripAdvisor Member, Durban, South Africa

Musee du Louvre, 99 rue de Rivoli, 01 40 20 53 17

Where to PLAY

TOP 10 Attractions

1. Bike About Tours, Charlemagne statue, Rue du Cloître Notre Dame, 06 18 80 84 92
2. Cook’n With Class, 21 rue Custine, 06 31 73 62 77
3. Fat Tire Bike Tours Paris, 24 rue Edgar Faure, 01 56 58 10 54
4. City Segway Tours – Paris, Meets at South Leg (“Pilier Sud”) of the Eiffel Tower, 01 56 58 10 54
5. O Chateau – Paris Wine Tasting, 01 44 73 97 80
6. Notre Dame Cathedral (Cathedrale de Notre Dame de Paris), 6 place du Parvis, Ile de la Cité, 01 42 34 56 10
7. Musee d’Orsay, 62 rue de Lille, 01 40 49 48 14
8. Musee Rodin, 79 Rue de Varenne, 01 44 18 61 10
9. Les Invalides, Place des Invalides, 01 44 42 37 72
10. Palais Garnier - Opera National de Paris, 8 rue Scribe, Place de l’Opéra, 01 72 29 35 35



FAMILIES

“Even if you’ve been to Paris a thousand times, **City Segway Tours** is a must do! You see many of the main attractions, and have great fun getting there. The Segway’s themselves are a breeze to learn to drive and huge fun!” —TripAdvisor Member, Kaiserslautern, Germany

City Segway Tours, Meets at South Leg (“Pilier Sud”) of the Eiffel Tower, 01 56 58 10 54

At **Disneyland Paris**, “put a great big smile on your face as you walk through the gates, and enjoy the magic. We can’t wait to go back again.” —TripAdvisor Member, Herefordshire, U.K.

Disneyland Paris, Marne-la-Vallée, 01 60 30 60 53

Vedettes de Paris organizes river cruises for children and awards them a diploma with a picture of a sailor to color in afterwards. “Paris was just incredible seen from this little boat, which looked new and very chic.” —TripAdvisor Member, Paris

Vedettes de Paris, Port de Suffren, 01 44 18 19 50

“You can’t imagine the wealth, expanse and beauty of the place.”

ROMANCE

“Attend a performance of the ballet at the incredibly ornate **Palais Garnier** opera house for a truly unforgettable evening. The lobby is as opulent as the theater, and the performance will be equally spectacular.” —TripAdvisor Member, Boca Raton, Fla.

Palais Garnier, 8 rue Scribe, Place de l’Opéra, 01 72 29 35 35

For a romantic day out of the city and a glimpse of how French royalty lived, visit the **Chateau de Versailles** and its magnificent gardens. “You can’t imagine the wealth, expanse and beauty of the place.” —TripAdvisor Member, Oklahoma

Palace of Versailles, Versailles, 01 30 83 78 00

Sacré-Coeur is a grand basilica whose famous white dome provides excellent views of the city. “It was simply breathtaking.” —TripAdvisor Member, California

Sacré-Coeur, 35 rue du Chevalier-de-la-barre, Montmartre, Place du Parvis du Sacré Coeur, 01 53 41 89 00

Where to PLAY



BUDGET

Entry to **Notre Dame Cathedral** is free, although you will be charged if you want to climb the towers. "Entering the cathedral is almost overwhelming. It is impossible to put into words just how beautiful and impressive this building is."—TripAdvisor Member, Laurel, Md.

Notre Dame Cathedral, 6 place du Parvis, Ile de la Cité, 01 42 34 56 10

Père-Lachaise's 118 acres contain the final resting places of the famous and the infamous, from Oscar Wilde to Jim Morrison. But take a look beyond the better known sites: "Skip the famous graves. Take your time and just let the magic of this place envelop you."—TripAdvisor Member, Chicago, Ill.

Père-Lachaise Cemetery, 16 rue du Repos, 01 55 25 82 10

It costs nothing to wander the **Champs-Elysees**. The grand, tree-lined boulevard is "incredibly charming and a lot of fun. Go and walk and enjoy how beautiful it is."—TripAdvisor Member, San Diego, Calif.

Champs-Elysees

TripAdvisor members have posted more than 2,000,000 photos on the site. The good, the bad and the very candid. It's almost like being there!



ADVENTURE

Fat Tire Bike Tours offers bicycle tours of Paris (day and night), Versailles and more. Also, check out their Segway tours. "We did the Versailles bike tour, and it was magical and lots of fun. Once you get the hang of riding the three-speed beach cruiser bikes, they are super comfy and fun to ride."—TripAdvisor Member, Sydney, Australia

Fat Tire Bike Tours Paris, 24 rue Edgar Faure, 01 56 58 10 54

"If you like wine, you need to go to **O Chateau**. The pours were generous, the wines from various regions, the crowd fun and international. We left the cellar a bit tipsy. The highlight of our trip!"—TripAdvisor Member, Denver, Colo.

O Chateau – Paris Wine Tasting, 01 44 73 97 80

"We left the cellar a bit tipsy..."

If you enjoy in-line skating, join the thousands of like-minded people for **Pari Roller**, and skate your way through the city (starting at the Montparnasse Metro station) every Friday night from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. "To participate, you just need to come with your skates. There is indeed only ONE condition to your participating in the skate, but it is a vital one: You absolutely must be a GOOD skater!"—TripAdvisor Member, Paris

Pari Roller, Adhesions, Place Raoul Dautry, <http://www.pari-roller.com>



EDUCATIONAL/HISTORICAL

"There is a saying, 'See Paris and die.' It holds true, especially at places like the **Arc de Triomphe**, which is breathtaking, historic and a thing of pride and awe to the French."—TripAdvisor Member, Abuja, Nigeria

Arc de Triomphe, Place Charles de Gaulle, 01 55 37 73 77

Home to such famous works as the Mona Lisa and the Venus de Milo, "**The Louvre** is a splendid treasure of knowledge. It took me two hours to visit one room. The experience was one of the best I've had in a museum."—TripAdvisor Member, Rennes, France

Musée du Louvre, 99 rue de Rivoli, 01 40 20 53 17

The beautiful **Musée d'Orsay** was once a railroad station and now houses a stunning collection of Impressionist art. "Fantastic! Super! Magnificent! Tremendous!"—TripAdvisor Member, Oxford, England

Musee d'Orsay, 62 rue de Lille, 01 40 49 48 14



RELAXATION

"A haven of peace, magnificent gardens for the eyes, puppet theater for the children, tennis courts for sports or jogging, statues of queens of France for history and art lovers, the **Luxembourg Gardens** have something to please everyone."—TripAdvisor Member, France

Luxembourg Gardens, Place Edmond-Rostand, Place Auguste-Comter, Rue de Vaugirard, 01 42 34 20 00

"There would be a lot less stress in the world if everyone went to a hammam at least once a month. This was by far the best experience I have ever had in Paris. Sensual pleasures abound at **Les Bains du Marais**, from the permeating eucalyptus scent of this posh spa to the satiny finish of your freshly scrubbed skin."—TripAdvisor Member, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Les Bains du Marais, 31-33 rue des Blancs Manteaux, 01 44 61 02 02

"My wife has always wanted to go to **Moulin Rouge** so I set this up as a surprise, expecting rubbish and to be ripped off at every turn. Instead we had a great evening! I'd tell anyone, 'Do it at least once!'"—TripAdvisor Member, Great Yarmouth, U.K.

Moulin Rouge, 82 boulevard de Clichy, 01 53 09 82 82

What's the **TOUR**

How to Get Around



Beware—"When crossing roads, expect the unexpected. Parisians drive like they first got in a car that morning."—TripAdvisor Member, England

"For international travelers, the **Paris Visite passes** are by far the best option. And they can be pre-purchased online as a redeemable voucher or genuine physical ticket and shipped to your home."—TripAdvisor Member

Paris Visite Pass, <http://parismetro.tourpackagers.com>

River view—The Batobus takes you to eight different stops along the Seine and is "a relaxing way to get the lay of the land."—TripAdvisor Member, Monterey Bay, Calif.

Batobus, 08 25 05 01 01

Want more information on Paris? TripAdvisor.com offers free weekly e-mail updates filled with new deals, reviews and articles for Paris or any other destination you choose.



WHERE to eat

FAMILIES

Le Relais de l'Entrecôte is a family favorite among Parisians because of the simplicity of its menu—*steak frites* or nothing. A "truly memorable and interesting Parisian dining experience."—TripAdvisor Member, New York

Le Relais de l'Entrecôte, 15 rue Marbeuf, 01 49 52 07 17

The reasonably-priced and child-friendly **Crémérie-Restaurant Polidor** is one of the most popular restaurants on the Left Bank and is "well worth a visit, serving traditional French cuisine in an authentic bistro atmosphere."—TripAdvisor Member, Dublin, Ireland

Crémérie-Restaurant Polidor, 41 rue Monsieur-le-Prince, 01 43 26 95 34

"In the heart of Hemingway's Left Bank, cafe/brasserie **Cafe Delmas** is worth knowing. Note the high number of locals tucking into the tasty Sunday brunch. Come for a coffee or a full meal—it is relaxed, stylish and even—gasp!—child-friendly. Not cheap, but not a tourist trap either."—TripAdvisor Member

Cafe Delmas, 2/4 place de la Contrescarpe, 01 43 26 51 26

"...authentic bistro atmosphere."

ROMANCE

Several outfits, including **Bateaux-Mouches**, offer dining on the water. "A fantastic and very romantic dinner cruise on the River Seine, which I'd highly recommend."—TripAdvisor Member, London, England

Bateaux-Mouches, Pont de l'Alma, Right Bank, 01 42 25 96 10

From your table at the swanky **La Tour d'Argent**, you can see the floodlit Notre-Dame and the boats cruising the Seine. What could be more romantic? "One of Paris's greatest and most famous dining experiences."—TripAdvisor Member, Paris

La Tour d'Argent, 15-17 quai de la Tournelle, 01 43 54 23 31

"**Taillevent** is first and foremost known for their one of a kind, phenomenal, very, very personable service." Though the dining is "excellent, the service really outshines the food."—TripAdvisor Member, New York, N.Y.

Taillevent, 15 rue Lamennais, 01 44 95 15 01

"One of Paris's greatest and most famous dining experiences."

BUDGET

"**Chez Denise** is one of the last authentic restaurants in Les Halles. It has been in business for over 30 years. It's good, traditional, hearty food; portions are generous."—TripAdvisor Member, Perpignan, France

Chez Denise, 5 rue Prouvaires, 01 42 36 21 82

Auberge de la Reine Blanche was "DELICIOUS—the best I have had in Paris! This dinner was a highlight of the trip and a good value."—TripAdvisor Member, New Jersey

Auberge de la Reine Blanche, 30 rue St Louis en L'île, 01 46 33 07 87

"You couldn't ask for a more Parisian atmosphere" than the "moderately-priced" **Chartiers**.—TripAdvisor Member, London, England

Chartiers, 7 rue Faubourg, 01 47 70 86 29

WHERE to eat



HEALTH-CONSCIOUS

Remember to make reservations at the “small but scrumptious” **Le Potager du Marais** for “yummy vegetarian food that even my two carnivore companions could not get enough of.”—TripAdvisor Member, New Jersey

Le Potager du Marais, 22 Rambuteau, 01 42 74 24 66

Galerie 88 is “right across the river” from Notre Dame. “All vegetarian. Hip little space, playing American Blues. Would go back, and would certainly recommend it.”—TripAdvisor Member

Galerie 88, 88 quai de l’Hotel de Ville, 01 42 72 17 58

The chic **Goumard** “is one of my favorite seafood restaurants.”—TripAdvisor Member, Paris

Goumard, 9 Rue Duphot, 01 42 60 36 07

“Hip little space, playing American Blues.”

HIDDEN GEMS

“The atmosphere at **L’Atelier de Joël Robuchon** is so very different from any other French dining experience. You sit around the kitchen on high stools. Can be quite a show. You will weep over the mashed potatoes.”—TripAdvisor Member, Chicago, Ill.

L’Atelier de Joël Robuchon, 5-7 rue de Montalembert, 01 42 22 56 56

South of Montmartre, sample **Le Domaine de Lintillac**’s “very Parisian atmosphere,” as well as the “great duck specialties. Very affordable!”—TripAdvisor Member, Austin, Texas

Le Domaine de Lintillac, 10 rue St. Augustin, 01 40 20 96 27

“**Le Nemrod** is a pleasant café/brasserie. Very pleasant for people watching. Usually very busy. Nice daily specials, different salads, etc.”—TripAdvisor Member, France

Le Nemrod, 51 rue du Cherche-Midi, 01 45 48 17 05

SPECIAL EVENTS



For one night, museums, galleries, swimming pools, parks and monuments across the city open their doors to the public. **Nuit Blanche** in Paris is one of the original and largest events of its kind in the world, featuring free events and exhibitions city-wide. (October 3 – 4)

Nuit Blanche, Various venues, 08 20 00 75 75, <http://www.paris.fr> (City Hall)

Discover the latest in modern art at **Slick Contemporary Art Fair**, where hundreds of emerging artists representing nearly 40 galleries showcase their work, host talks and participate in workshops. (October 23 – 26)

Slick Contemporary Art Fair, Le 104 Cent Quatre, 104 Rue d’Aubervilliers, 01 47 03 09 60, <http://www.slick-paris.com>

Honor the soldiers who fought in World War I and World War II with a wreath ceremony, vigil and processions on **Armistice Day**. (November 11)

Armistice Day, Arc de Triomphe, Place Charles de Gaulle-Etoile

Celebrate diversity on film at the **Paris Gay and Lesbian Film Festival**, featuring shorts, feature films, award-winning movies and premiere screenings. (November 16 – 22)

Paris Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, Le Grand Rex, 1 boulevard Poissonnière, <http://www.ffglp.net>

Let your senses be enchanted by the aromas and tastes of some of the world’s finest wines at **Le Grand Tasting**. (December 4 – 5)

Le Grand Tasting, Carrousel du Louvre, 99, rue de Rivoli, 01 48 01 90 17, <http://www.grandtasting.com>

Shop for unique gifts, warm yourself up with a cup of vin chaud and take the kids to see Santa Claus in the **Villages du Père Noël** and Christmas Markets. (December)

Villages du Père Noël and Christmas Markets, Saint-Germain-des-Prés and the Place Saint-Sulpice

Cheer on the Fat Cow and watch a colorful procession of Carnival revelers as they march through the streets making joyful noise at the **Promenade du Boeuf Gras** (Fat Cow Parade). (February 14)

Promenade du Boeuf Gras and Paris Carnaval, Various venues, 01 40 44 87 55, <http://www.carnaval-pantruche.org>

Spring is the time for love, and when better to discover the language of love than during the **Printemps des Poetes**? Throughout the streets, cafes, museums and parks of Paris, poets and artists fill the air with words at poetry readings, recitals, exhibitions and competitions celebrating the love of spring and the art of poésie. (March 8 – 21)

Printemps des Poetes, Various venues, 01 53 80 08 00, <http://www.printempsdespoetes.com>

Where to STAY



FAMILIES

“Forget that rumor about indifferent staff at Parisian hotels: If you choose **Hotel Bassano**, you will have the best hotel staff in the city.”—TripAdvisor Member, Charlotte, N.C.

Hotel Bassano, 15 rue de Bassano, 01 47 23 78 23

“We cannot recommend **Disneyland Hotel** too highly—in our view it is the best hotel we have ever stayed in. The food was excellent, the room was very comfortable, and my daughter particularly enjoyed meeting the different characters.”

—TripAdvisor Member, Bristol, England

Disneyland Hotel, Marne-la-Vallée, 01 60 45 65 89

“We stayed in a family suite at the **Hotel Residence Foch**. It really was perfect for us - a family of four, with kids ages 8 and 11. The price and, more importantly, the staff make this hotel highly recommended by our family!”—TripAdvisor Member, Seoul, Korea

Hotel Residence Foch, 10 rue Marbeau, 01 45 00 46 50

“A true joy!”



Have questions about Paris? Get insider advice from local experts in our forums. The majority of questions are answered within 24 hours.

ROMANCE

“Everything about the **Pavillon de la Reine** is special: the location in the Marais, the generous breakfast and the charming staff. The hotel is quiet; sleeping in late was easy. The hotel is set back from the beautiful Place des Vosges.”—TripAdvisor Member, Montreal, Quebec

Pavillon de la Reine, 28 place des Vosges, 01 40 29 19 19

“We were charmed by the **Royal Magda Etoile**, located within steps of the Arc de Triomphe, on a small quiet street. Rooms are very clean and nicely decorated. Breakfast was plentiful and varied and served until midday. A true joy! The staff are always friendly. In brief, ideal for a romantic stay in Paris.”—TripAdvisor Member, Toulon, France

Royal Magda Etoile Hotel, 7 rue Troyon, 01 47 64 10 19

Dormouse House Bed and Breakfast “is situated 20 minutes by train to Paris, but feels as if it is in the countryside, far away from the city. It has the most beautiful, impressionistic views and coloring.” —TripAdvisor Member, Jerusalem, Israel

Dormouse House Bed and Breakfast, 34 rue de Medan, Villennes-sur-Seine, 01 39 75 95 73

BUDGET

“Though a little far from the center, **Hotel Paris Villette** is a few minutes’ walk to and from Crémée Metro station. Getting from point A to point B wherever in Paris is a piece of cake. Very friendly and accommodating reception.”—TripAdvisor Member, Manila, Philippines

Hotel Paris Villette, 56 rue Curial, 01 40 37 50 74

“The room at **Hotel Terminus-Orleans** went beyond expectation for the price— nice bed, clean bathroom. The staff was very friendly and helpful. The hotel has a great location near the metro and bus, in a nice and safe neighborhood, with all the shops and restaurants around it.”—TripAdvisor Member, Maastricht, Netherlands

Hotel Terminus-Orleans, 197 boulevard Brune, 01 45 39 71 44

The **Hotel Jeanne d’Arc** is a “great hotel in a great location. We would definitely stay at this hotel again and recommend it to friends. Room was comfortable and spacious enough. It’s located close to many attractions and great cafes and restaurants.”—TripAdvisor Member, Toronto, Ontario

Hotel Jeanne d’Arc, 3, rue de Jarente, 01 48 87 62 11

LUXURY

“**One by The Five** is very romantic and original, but also very functional. Everything has been created to awaken the five senses. The bedroom is exceptional—the bed looks like a big cloud, surrounded by a starry sky, and the shower is like a blue rain. Magic and fabulous!”—TripAdvisor Member, Nice, France

One by The Five, 3 rue Flatters, 01 43 31 52 31

The **Four Seasons Hotel George V** is Paris’s top luxury hotel, according to TripAdvisor’s 2008 Travelers’ Choice awards. “If you only visit one hotel in your life, this has to be it.”—TripAdvisor Member, Manchester, England

The Four Seasons Hotel George V, 31 avenue George V, 01 49 52 70 00

“I would love to move in permanently.”

Jays Paris “is an absolute gem! It was difficult to leave at the end of my visit. I would love to move in permanently.”—TripAdvisor Member, Marseille, France

Jays Paris, 6 rue Copernic, 01 47 04 16 16

Where to STAY



HIDDEN GEMS

“If you’re looking for a perfect stay in Paris,” try **Au sourire de Montmartre**. “The proprietress and her family are so friendly and kind, and the breakfast is just unforgettable and typically French! The rooms are very charming, clean, arranged individually and with love for details.”—TripAdvisor Member, Stuttgart, Germany

Au sourire de Montmartre, Rue du Mont Cenis, Montmartre, 06 64 64 72 86

“Five minutes from the Eiffel Tower and around the corner from a market street,” **Hotel Valadon** is “a small, comfortable home away from home, with all the right touches to make our stay perfect. What a find!”—TripAdvisor Member, Buderim, Australia

Hotel Valadon, 16 rue Valadon, 01 47 53 89 85

“We will return to the **Hotel Luxembourg Parc**. It’s what you dream of for a romantic weekend. Cozy rooms. A fireplace in the library. There was nothing not to like.”—TripAdvisor Member, Biarritz, France

Hotel Luxembourg Parc, 42 rue de Vaugirard, 01 53 10 36 50

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