



# TOURIST INFORMATION

## PARIS CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU

This free map and guide is produced by the Paris Convention and Visitors Bureau (PCVB), your one-stop information service during your stay in Paris. The PCVB also offers a website, **parisinfo.com**, to help you plan your visit, and several booklets, including **Paris For You!** a walking guide for exploring Paris, **Good Food Guide**, a good food and restaurant guide, and a selection of summer events. All of these guides are available for free from our agents. In our welcome centres, you can also purchase a museum pass, buy tickets to the Louvre or Disneyland® Resort Paris, choose a bus tour, reserve a boat trip along the Seine, book seats for a cabaret show and much more. Our information points are located throughout the city, close to major attractions (see below). Our staff will be happy to answer your questions and provide information in your own language, on what's happening around the capital to ensure your stay in Paris is a complete success.

Our agents can also help you reserve a hotel room (hotels, tourist residences and youth hostels in Paris and the Paris Region). Book on-line on the PCVB's website: **parisinfo.com**.

The Paris Convention and Visitors Bureau online store (**parisinfo.com**) offers a selection of products to make your stay as easy and comfortable as possible. The secure ordering and payment system helps you make your choice with peace of mind.

Your order can be sent to your address (see terms and conditions on the website) or you can collect your items from the Pyramides Welcome Centre at **25 rue des Pyramides (1st)**.

A telephone information service is also available in France and from certain countries on **+33 (0) 892 68 3000** (€0.34/min; operates during the main Welcome Centre's opening times).

## INFORMATION CENTRES

- E7 Main welcome centre**  
25, rue des Pyramides (1st) - M° Pyramides, Tuileries and Opéra; RER A Auber.  
From 1 June to 31 Oct: daily from 9am to 7pm.  
From 1 Nov to 31 May: from Mon to Sat, 10am to 7pm (closed 1 May);  
and Sun and public holidays, 11am to 7pm. These times are subject to change
- G10 Gare de Lyon**  
20, bd Diderot (12th) - M° and RER A and D Gare-de-Lyon  
Daily from 8am to 6pm (closed Sundays and public holidays)
- C8 Anvers**  
72, bd Rochechouart (9th) - M° Anvers  
Daily from 10am to 6pm (closed 1 Jan, 1 May and 25 Dec).
- C9 Gare du Nord**  
18, rue de Dunkerque (10th) "Bulle accueil" beneath the glass roof in the Île-de-France station - M° and RER B and D Gare du Nord - Daily from 8am to 6pm. (closed 1 Jan, 1 May and 25 Dec)
- H4 Paris-Expo**  
1, place de la Porte-de-Versailles (15th)  
Entrance A - M° Porte-de-Versailles - From 11am to 7pm during trade shows and fairs.
- C-D9 Gare de l'Est**  
Place du 11-Novembre-1918 (10th)  
Near the international TGV arrivals area - rue d'Alsace side  
M° Gare-de-l'Est - Daily from 7am to 8pm (closed Sundays and bank holidays)  
Daily from 9am to 5pm, closed Sundays and public holidays.
- D6 Kiosque Champs-Élysées - Clemenceau**  
Corner of avenue des Champs-Élysées and avenue Marigny (8th)  
M° Champs-Élysées-Clemenceau - Daily from 9am to 7pm, from May to October  
(closed 1 May and 14 July).

- F8 Kiosque Notre-Dame**  
Parvis de Notre-Dame (4th) - M° Cité – Daily 10am to 7pm, from May to Sept (closed 1 May)
- F8 Kiosque Hôtel de Ville**  
Place de l'Hôtel de Ville, rue de Rivoli side (1st)  
M° Hôtel-de-Ville – Daily from 10am to 7pm, from July to Sept
- F10 Kiosque Bastille**  
4, place de la Bastille (11th) - M° Bastille – Daily from 11am to 7pm in July and August

## PARTNER WELCOME CENTRES

- E7 Espace du Tourisme Paris Île-de-France (Regional Tourist Board)**  
Carrousel du Louvre – Place de la Pyramide-Inversée  
99, rue de Rivoli (1st) - M° Palais-Royal–Musée du Louvre  
Daily from 10am to 6pm (closed 25 Dec, 1 Jan and 1 May)  
Tel: 0 826 166 666 (€0.15/min)  
[www.nouveau-paris-ile-de-france.fr](http://www.nouveau-paris-ile-de-france.fr)
- B8 Syndicat d'Initiative de Montmartre (Montmartre Tourist Office)**  
21, place du Tertre (18th) - M° Abbesses - Tel: 01 42 62 21 21  
Daily from 10am to 7pm (closed 1 May)  
[www.montmartre-guide.com](http://www.montmartre-guide.com)

**F8-9 MAIRIE DE PARIS**

Reception: 29, rue de Rivoli (4th) - M° Hôtel-de-Ville  
Open 10am to 7pm Monday to Saturday during exhibitions  
and from 10am to 6pm Monday to Friday outside of exhibitions.  
Tel: 39 75 (€0.15/min) - [www.paris.fr](http://www.paris.fr)



# VISITOR GUIDELINES

## Protecting the environment

In Paris, protecting the environment is everybody's concern. Local initiatives include sorting household waste, road cleaning, monitoring air quality, developing clean public transport systems and the City of Paris' participation in Sustainable Development Week. Visitors to the capital are also encouraged to play their part: wherever you stay, avoid wasting water and energy, take public transport to travel around the city and sort your waste whenever possible.

## Protecting children

The prostitution of children and teenagers is strictly prohibited in France. Anyone participating in the prostitution of minors, whatever their age, risks penalties of up to 100,000 euros in fines and seven years imprisonment. Both adults and minors can be charged with this offence. As stipulated in the preamble of the UN Convention of 2 December 1949 for "the suppression of the traffic in persons and of the prostitution of others", the trafficking of minors is "incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person".

# SERVICES

## POST

Post offices are open from 8am to 7pm Monday to Friday and 8am to 12-noon on Saturdays. Stamps can be purchased at all post offices and tobacconists (tabacs).

**Exception:** Paris Louvre post office: 52, rue du Louvre (1st) - M° Louvre-Rivoli

Open 23 hours per day from 7.20am to 6.20am. Limited service after 7pm. Tel: 01 40 28 76 00

## TELEPHONE

Most telephone boxes operate using Télécartes® (50 or 120 units), which can be purchased from the city's main metro and RER stations, tobacconists, newsagents, the Paris Convention and Visitors Bureau, France Télécom stores and post offices. Each telephone box has an incoming number that allows calls to be received. To call France from outside the country, the international prefix is 33. The first 0 at the start of all numbers should only be dialled when calling from within France (for 10-digit numbers).

To use your mobile telephone in France, please contact your operator.

## INTERNET POINTS

Addresses on [parisinfo.com](http://parisinfo.com) "Practical Paris" section

## PARIS GOES DIGITAL

400 public wireless terminals provide Parisians and visitors with local information. From a mobile phone or computer, you can now find out about nearby places of interest, locate the nearest tourist information centre and more – all in several languages. Information on [www.paris.fr](http://www.paris.fr)

## BANKS

Banks are generally open every day from 9am to 4.30pm, and closed on Mondays, Sundays and public holidays. Some branches are open on Saturdays. If you have an International Visa card or Eurocard/Mastercard, you can withdraw cash 24 hours a day from most cash points.

## CURRENCY EXCHANGE

You can change money at stations, airports, major bank branches and bureaux de change (open until late in the evening). Before you go ahead with a transaction, it is a good idea to ask at what rates the agency buys and sells currency and how much the commission charge is. A selection of bureaux de change:

- E6** • **Change & collection:** 1, rue Rouget-de-Lisle (1st) - Tel: 01 42 60 00 35  
[www.yes-change.com](http://www.yes-change.com)
- D7** • **Comptoir Change Opéra:** 9, rue Scribe (9th) - Tel. : 01 47 42 20 96 - [www.ccopera.com](http://www.ccopera.com)
- E8** • **Comptoir des Tuileries:** 27, rue de l'Arbre-Sec (1st) - Tel: 01 42 60 17 16 - [www.cdt.fr](http://www.cdt.fr)
- D5** • **Multi change:** 7, rue Marbeuf (8th) - Tel: 01 47 20 23 57 - [www.multi-change.com](http://www.multi-change.com)
- D7** • **Travelex:** 8, place de l'Opéra (9th) - Tel: 01 47 42 46 52 - [www.travelex.com](http://www.travelex.com)

## PUBLIC TOILETS

There are approximately 400 public toilets available to tourists across Paris. Throughout 2009, new public toilets with disabled access facilities will be installed. Addresses on: [www.paris.fr](http://www.paris.fr).



# HEALTH AND SAFETY

## RECOMMENDATIONS

We advise visitors not to walk around with all their holiday money or any valuables, jewellery, plane tickets or passports (make a photocopy), or to leave these items in their rooms. Wherever possible, use the safe provided for this purpose at hotels. It is also a good idea to lock away your credit card details.

Likewise, please be cautious with people you meet around the city. Unfortunately, tourists are the prime targets of pickpockets (close your bags securely and never leave items in pockets) and street hawkers (always use official retail outlets).

Even if you follow these precautions, be particularly vigilant:

- when using public transport (especially the metro, a popular haunt for pickpockets);
- at popular tourist attractions (the Eiffel Tower, Champs-Élysées, Louvre Museum, etc.);
- in certain hostess bars and cabarets (particularly in the Pigalle district) where tourists can be forced to buy drinks at exorbitant prices.

If you are approached by a person who claims to be a police officer, feel free to ask to see their official ID. If the person seems suspicious, call a uniformed officer.

## EMERGENCY SERVICES

- **European emergency call number** Tel: 112
- **SAMU** (emergency medical service) Tel: 15
- **Emergency police** Tel: 17
- **Fire service** Tel: 18
- **Emergency doctors** Tel: 01 47 07 77 77 or 36 24 (€0.12/min)
- **Emergency dentists** Tel: 01 43 36 36 00
- **Poisoning Treatment Centre** Tel: 01 40 05 48 48
- **Serious burns (children)** Tel: 01 44 73 74 75 (hôpital Trousseau)
- **Serious burns (adults)** Tel: 01 49 28 20 00 (hôpital Trousseau)
- **STD Health Clinic** (sexually transmitted diseases) Tel: 01 40 78 26 00 (Institut Fournier)

## LOST OR STOLEN PROPERTY

### • Identity documents

If your documents are lost or stolen, report the incident to your nearest police station.

Be sure to keep hold of the receipt, which you may need for later proceedings. To locate your nearest police station, please contact the Préfecture de police - 9, bd du Palais (4th) M° Cité - Tel: 01 53 71 53 71 - [www.prefecture-police-paris.interieur.gouv.fr](http://www.prefecture-police-paris.interieur.gouv.fr)

### • Credit cards/cheque books

**Visa** Tel: 39 33 (€0.34/min)

**Diner's Club** Tel: 0 810 314 159 (cost of a local call)

**American Express** Tel: 01 47 77 72 00

**Eurocard Mastercard** Tel: 0 800 90 1387 (free number)

**Banque de France cheque books** Tel: 0 892 68 32 08 (€0.337/min)

### • Lost property office

Préfecture de police - 36, rue des Morillons (15th) - M° Convention

Tel: 0 821 00 25 25 (€0.12/min) - Mon to Thu: 8.30am to 5pm; Fri: 8.30am to 4.30pm

## LATE-NIGHT CHEMISTS

- D5** • Les Champs Dhéry  
84, avenue des Champs-Élysées (8th) - M° George-V  
(24 hours daily)
- G6** • Pharmacie des Arts  
106, boulevard du Montparnasse (14th) - M° Montparnasse-Bienvenue  
Mon to Sat: 9am-midnight
- H12** • Grande Pharmacie Daumesnil  
6, place Félix-Éboué (12th) - M° Daumesnil  
(24 hours daily)
- C7** • Pharmacie Européenne  
6, place Clichy (9th) - M° Place-Clichy  
(24 hours daily)
- F8** • Pharmacie Première  
24, boulevard de Sébastopol (4th) - M° Châtelet  
(8am to 2am daily)

## EMBASSIES AND CONSULATES

**Algeria** Tel: 01 53 72 07 07

**Argentina** Tel: 01 44 34 22 00

**Australia** Tel: 01 40 59 33 00

**Austria** Tel: 01 40 63 30 90

**Belgium** Tel: 01 44 09 39 39

**Brazil** Tel: 01 43 59 03 26

**Bulgaria** Tel: 01 45 51 85 90

**Canada** Tel: 01 44 43 29 00

**Chile** Tel: 01 47 05 46 61

**China** Tel: 01 47 23 34 45

**Croatia** Tel: 01 53 70 02 87

**Czech Republic** Tel: 01 44 32 02 00

**Denmark** Tel: 01 44 31 21 21

**Egypt** 08 99 70 45 05 (special rate number)

**Finland** Tel: 01 44 18 19 28

**Germany** Tel: 01 53 83 46 40

**Great Britain** Tel: 01 44 51 31 02

**Greece** Tel: 01 47 23 72 28

**Hungary** Tel: 01 56 81 02 30

**Iceland** Tel: 01 44 17 32 85

**India** Tel: 01 40 50 71 71

**Ireland** Tel: 01 44 17 67 50

**Israel** Tel: 01 40 76 55 00

**Italy** Tel: 01 44 30 47 00

**Japan** Tel: 01 48 88 62 00

**Kuwait** Tel: 01 47 23 54 25

**Lebanon** Tel: 01 40 67 26 36

**Luxemburg** Tel: 01 45 55 13 37

**Mexico** Tel: 01 42 86 56 20

**Monaco** Tel: 01 45 04 74 54

**Morocco** Tel: 01 56 56 72 00

**Netherlands** Tel: 01 40 62 34 62

**New Zealand** Tel: 01 45 01 43 43

**Norway** Tel: 01 53 67 04 00

**Poland** Tel: 01 43 17 34 22

**Portugal** Tel: 01 56 33 81 00

**Romania** Tel: 01 47 05 10 46

**Russia** Tel: 01 45 04 05 01

**Saudi Arabia** Tel: 01 47 47 62 63

**Senegal** Tel: 01 47 05 39 45

**Serbia & Montenegro** Tel: 01 40 72 24 10

**Singapore** Tel: 01 45 00 33 61

**Slovenia** Tel: 01 44 96 50 60

**South Africa** Tel: 01 53 59 23 23

**South Korea** Tel: 01 47 53 01 01

**Spain** Tel: 01 44 29 40 00

**Sweden** Tel: 01 44 18 88 00

**Switzerland** Tel: 01 49 55 67 00

**Taiwan** Tel: 01 44 39 88 30

**Tunisia** Tel: 01 47 63 41 89

**Turkey** Tel: 01 56 33 33 33

**United Arab Emirates** Tel: 01 44 34 02 00

**United States** Tel: 01 43 12 22 22

**Ukraine** Tel: 01 56 58 13 70

**Vietnam** Tel: 01 44 14 64 20



# TRANSPORTS

## FLIGHTS TO/FROM PARIS

### Flight times

www.adp.fr - Tel: 39 50 (€0.34/min)

### Paris—Charles-de-Gaulle Airport (CDG): transport services

- **Roissybus:** Paris — CDG: 5.45am-11pm every 15-20 mins and CDG — Paris: 6am-11pm. Arrivals/departures Opera (corner of rue Scribe and rue Auber, 9th). www.ratp.fr - Tel: 32 46 (€0.34/min)
- **RER B:** CDG — Denfert-Rochereau: 4.56am-11.56pm every 10-15 mins. and Denfert-Rochereau — CDG: 5.18am-0.30am. Main stops: Gare-du-Nord (10th), Châtelet-les-Halles (1st), Saint-Michel-Notre-Dame (5th), Denfert-Rochereau (14th). Metro connections. www.ratp.fr - Tel: 32 46 (€0.34/min)
- **Cars Air France:** CDG — Porte-Maillot — Arc de Triomphe and Arc de Triomphe — Porte-Maillot — CDG: 5.45am-11pm. CDG — Gare-de-Lyon — Montparnasse: 7am-9pm. Montparnasse — Gare-de-Lyon — CDG: 6.30am-9.30pm every 30 mins. www.cars-airfrance.com - Tel: 0892 35 08 20 (€0.34/min)
- **Taxis:** prices between €45 and €50, depending on the time, day, traffic conditions and destination, etc. Information: 01 55 76 20 05.

### Orly airport: transport services

- **Orlybus:** 5.35am-11.05pm, every 15-20 mins. Departs from place Denfert-Rochereau (14th) www.ratp.fr - Tel: 32 46 (€0.34/min)
- **Orlyval (metro):** 6am-11pm every 4-7 mins. www.orlyval.com - Tel: 32 46 (€0.34/min)
- **RER C:** Paris — Orly: 5.41am-12.12pm and Orly — Paris: 5.01am-11.30pm every 20 mins. Main stops: Gare d'Austerlitz (5th), Saint-Michel — Notre-Dame (5th), Invalides (7th), Porte-Maillot (17th). Metro connections. www.ratp.fr - Tel: 32 46 (€0.34/min).
- **Cars Air France:** Orly — Montparnasse — Invalides: 6.15am-11.15pm. Invalides — Montparnasse — Orly: 5.45am-11.15pm. Orly — Montparnasse — Arc de Triomphe: 6am-11.30pm. Arc de Triomphe — Montparnasse — Orly: 5.55am-10.55pm every 30 mins. www.cars-airfrance.com - Tel.: 0892 350 820 (€0.34/min)
- **Taxis:** prices between €27 and €48, depending on the time, day, traffic conditions and destination, etc. Information: 01 55 76 20 05.

### Paris Beauvais Tillé Airport: transport services

www.aeroportbeauvais.com - Tel: 0 892 68 20 64 (€0.45/min)

- **Shuttle buses:** 1, boulevard Pershing (17th) - M° Porte-Maillot: 3 1/2 hours before take-off.
- **Trains:** departure from Gare-du-Nord, followed by taxi.

For other transport companies in operation, visit [parisinfo.com](http://parisinfo.com) "Maps and transport" section.

## TRAINS TO/FROM PARIS

Train tickets must be validated in a ticket punching machine before boarding the train.

SNCF Main Lines: Tel: 36 35 (€0.34/min) - [www.sncf.com](http://www.sncf.com)

### SNCF stations

- G9** • **Gare d'Austerlitz (5th):** South-west France, Spain and Portugal. Luggage office and lockers open daily: 7am-11pm (station approach, entrance 27).
- C-D9** • **Gare de l'Est (10th):** Eastern France, Luxemburg, Germany, Austria. Switzerland, Eastern Europe. Luggage lockers available daily: 6.30am-11.15pm.
- G10** • **Gares de Lyon et de Bercy (12th):** South-east France by TGV, Switzerland, Italy. Luggage lockers available daily: 6.30am-11.30pm (Salle Méditerranée).

- C9** • **Gare du Nord (10th):** Northern France, Germany, Scandinavia, Belgium and the Netherlands (Thalys) and UK (Eurostar). Information: [www.thalys.com](http://www.thalys.com) and [www.eurostar.com](http://www.eurostar.com)  
Luggage office, weekdays: 6.15am-11.15pm; weekends: 6.45am-11.15pm.
- G-H6** • **Gare Montparnasse (15th):** Brittany, Aquitaine by TGV.  
Luggage lockers available daily: 5am-1am; luggage office: 7am-9pm (level B).
- C-D6-7** • **Gare Saint-Lazare (8th):** Normandy, connection for the boat to UK. No luggage facilities.

## GETTING AROUND...

### **The Paris Visite pass:** [www.ratp.fr](http://www.ratp.fr)

Paris Visite is a travel card valid for 1, 2, 3 or 5 consecutive days. You can use it to visit Paris and its surrounding areas by metro, bus, RER and mainline train as far out as Disneyland® Resort Paris, Versailles and both Roissy-CDG and Orly airports (depending on the validity of the card). Special offers from the RATP that can be used with 16 partners. On sale in all main metro / RER / mainline train stations, Paris airports and the Tourist Office.

**By metro and RER:** The Paris metro system, operated by the RATP, is made up of 16 lines, each identified by a number, colour and start/end destinations. The RER (Réseau Express Régional), comprising RATP and SNCF lines A, B, C, D and E, serves Paris and the surrounding region. These trains link up with the urban metro network and certain SNCF lines.

The "ticket t+" can be used to travel on the metro and buses as well as a bus/bus and bus/tram connection within a 90 minute period (€1.60). Tickets can be purchased at RATP stations and certain tobacconists. Outside zone 2, the RER is subject to a different pricing system.

First and last metros: 5.30am-1.15am on weekdays. Frid, Sat and public holidays: 5.30am-2.15am.

**IMPORTANT:** if you have not validated your ticket, you are considered as travelling without a ticket! Info, times, prices, routes: [www.ratp.fr](http://www.ratp.fr) - Tel: 32 46 (€0.34/min).

**By bus:** Bus lines are numbered and operate from 6.30am to 8.30pm.

Some services operate in the evening until 0.30am or later.

**By Noctilien:** 42 night buses operate between 0.30am and 5.30am.

You can travel across Paris and up to 50 km outside the city (prices based on journey).

[www.noctilien.fr](http://www.noctilien.fr) - Tel: 32 46 (€0.34/min)

**By Tram:** Paris and its inner suburbs are served by three tramlines:

- Saint-Denis station – Noisy-le-Sec, from Mon to Fri: 5.30am-0.15am,  
Sat: 5.30am-1.15am and Sunday: 7am-0.15am.
- La Défense – Issy-Val-de-Seine, from Mon to Fri: 5.30am-0.30am,  
Sat: 5.30am-1.30am and Sun: 6.30am-1.30am.
- Pont-du-Garigliano – Porte-d'Ivry, from Mon to Sun: 4.50am-0.30am,  
Sat: 4.50am-1.30am and Sun 6.30am-0.20am.

**Vogüeo:** River shuttle service with 5 stop-off points on the Seine and Marne, from the Gare d'Austerlitz to the Maisons-Alfort veterinary school. You can use your 3-zone transport pass on the service, seven days a week (weekdays, every 20 mins; weekends, every 30 mins). One-off ticket: €3. [www.vogüeo.fr](http://www.vogüeo.fr)

**Vélib' – self-service bike rental:** Make the most of the 371 kilometres of bike paths around Paris with Vélib'! The City of Paris has made 20,000 bikes available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to hire from 1,500 stations located every 300 metres all over the capital. Interactive terminals explain how the service works in eight languages.

Bikes are free for the first 30 minutes, with an additional €1 to €4 cumulatively for each additional half hour.

NB: this service is reserved for persons over 14 years of age and who have civil liability insurance. The carrying of passengers or lending of bikes to others is prohibited.

Information on: [www.paris.fr](http://www.paris.fr) and [www.velib.paris.fr](http://www.velib.paris.fr)

**By taxi:** Taxis can be picked up from the 470 taxi ranks at stations, airports and close to main roads. If the taxi's white light is on, this indicates that the taxi is free to be hailed. Pick-up charge: €2. Minimum fare: €5.50.

Additional charges: each extra person as of the fourth person (€2.70); luggage: €1 as of the second item in the boot. It is advisable to ask for a receipt at the end of your journey in the event of dispute or lost property.

Did you know? Contact your nearest taxi rank by calling the City of Paris taxi service on 01 45 30 30 30.

**Préfecture de police:** 36, rue des Morillons (15th) - M° Convention

Lost & Found Bureau and Car Pound: 0 821 00 25 25 (€0.12/min)

Information and complaints: 01 55 76 20 05

**By coach:** The Préfecture de Police has designated 12 tourist zones where coaches are not permitted to park, including Notre-Dame, Île de la Cité and Île Saint-Louis.

These sites are served by riverboats. Outside these 12 zones, a brief stop is permitted in the areas provided. Coaches must always park in the spaces reserved for them.

Information: [parisinfo.com](http://parisinfo.com), "Maps and Transport" section.

**By car:** Visitors are strongly dissuaded from travelling around Paris by car and encouraged to use the public transport system provided. If this is not possible, here are a few basic driving rules: vehicles drive on the right side of the road; seat belts are compulsory in the front and rear of the vehicle; the use of a telephone whilst driving is prohibited; never use your horn and remember to bring your international insurance Green Card and your driver's license. Do not use bus lanes; never park on red or double lines or in spaces reserved for delivery vehicles or disabled drivers.

Paid parking is limited to two hours. Hourly parking rates vary on average between €1 and €3 per hour. There are underground car parks in every district around the city where drivers can park for as long as they like in total security for €2-3 an hour.

Information on [www.saemes.fr](http://www.saemes.fr)

If you're coming to Paris by car, you can reserve a parking space in advance and benefit from reduced rates. Information on [www.parkingsdeparis.com](http://www.parkingsdeparis.com)

**Préfecture de Police:** 9, bd du Palais (4th) - M° Cité

[www.prefecture-police-paris.interieur.gouv.fr](http://www.prefecture-police-paris.interieur.gouv.fr) - Tel: 01 53 71 53 71

The **Tourisme & Handicap** label provides disabled people throughout France with reliable information about access facilities in holiday and leisure areas (physical, visual, auditive or mental disabilities). **For a complete list of Paris-based locations taking part in the scheme, visit [parisinfo.com](http://parisinfo.com).**

**Infomobi** is a free service for disabled people provided by the STIF, the authority that controls the Paris public transport network. It provides information about access facilities on public transport and helps people prepare for their journeys according to their disability. Free maps are available for partially-sighted people or people in wheelchairs at the PCVB welcome desks. If you would like to receive a map by post, telephone 08 10 64 64 64 (local rate from a landline).

Office hours: 6am-midnight, everyday - [www.infomobi.com](http://www.infomobi.com)

Find a list of professional hire companies for chauffeur-driven cars, shuttles, minibuses, minivans, coaches and bicycles in the "Maps and transport" section of [parisinfo.com](http://parisinfo.com)



# CULTURE

The wealth and diversity of Paris' artistic, historic and cultural heritage is unrivalled. Explore the legacy of 6,500 years of history through 173 museums, 171 churches and temples and 31 monuments.

## MAIN ATTRACTIONS

### E-F4 Tour Eiffel

324 metres, 10,100 tonnes, 1,665 steps: the undisputed symbol of Paris was erected by Gustave Eiffel for the Exposition Universelle in 1889. The Eiffel Tower sparkles for the first 5 minutes of every hour from nightfall until 2am in summer and 1am in winter. A must-see! Champ-de-Mars (7th) - M° Bir-Hakeim - Tel: 01 44 11 23 23 - [www.tour-eiffel.fr](http://www.tour-eiffel.fr)  
Daily: 9.30am to 11pm - From mid-June to early Sept: 9am to midnight.

### D4-5 Champs-Élysées

Luxury and fashion, top restaurants, theatres and museums: from the Arc de Triomphe to Place de la Concorde, the world's most beautiful avenue has it all!

### E7 Louvre

The former palace of the Kings of France, the Louvre Museum displays 35,000 works of art — from the 350,000 items among its collections — from antiquity to 1848. Entry via the pyramid (1st) - M° Palais-Royal—Musée-du-Louvre  
Tel: 01 40 20 50 50 - [www.louvre.fr](http://www.louvre.fr)  
Daily: 9am to 6pm, closed Tue and some public holidays. Wed and Fri: late night until 10pm.

### B8 Montmartre

Its narrow streets and village atmosphere make Montmartre one of the historic hearts of Paris. See: the Sacré-Cœur Basilica and Place du Tertre.

### G8 Quartier latin

The student and academic district of the "Latin Quarter" spreads out from the Sorbonne University, which was founded in 1257. Bookshops, shops and restaurants galore.

### F8 Cathédrale Notre-Dame

A Gothic masterpiece built between the 12th and 13th centuries on Île de la Cité. Towers, museum and archaeological crypt.  
6, parvis Notre-Dame - place Jean-Paul-II (4th) - M° Cité  
Tel: 01 42 34 56 10 - [www.cathedraledeparis.com](http://www.cathedraledeparis.com)  
Mon to Fri: 8am to 6.45pm - Sat and Sun: 8am to 7.15pm.  
Fewer tours on Sun due to services.

### D7 Palais Garnier – the Paris National Opera House

A temple to the arts of opera and dance, built by Charles Garnier in 1875, this palace is lavishly decorated in bronze, marble and gold. Place de l'Opéra (9th) - M° Opéra  
Tel: 01 41 10 08 10 - [www.opera-de-paris.fr](http://www.opera-de-paris.fr) - Open every day: 10am to 4.30pm.  
Except on matinée performance days and for special events.

### E6-7 Musée d'Orsay

A museum built in the former Orsay train station (1900) and dedicated to artistic production — painting, sculpture, photography, architecture, etc. — from 1848 to 1914.  
1, rue de la Légion-d'Honneur (7th) - M° Solférino  
Tel: 01 40 49 48 14 - [www.musee-orsay.fr](http://www.musee-orsay.fr)  
Tue to Sun: 9.30am to 6pm - Thu: late night until 9.45pm.

### F9-10 Place des Vosges

A series of 36 brick pavilions and arcades dating from the 17th century surround a small park. A majestic marvel of architectural symmetry at the heart of the Marais district, Place des Vosges was once the home of countless men of letters.

## F10 Bastille

This square is the symbol of the French Revolution. Bastille Day, a national holiday on 14 July, commemorates the day in 1789 when the people of Paris stormed the prison that once stood on the site. Wander around the district's bustling streets behind the opera house.

## E8 Centre Pompidou

A tribute to modern and contemporary creation, this building – itself a unique example of modern architectural art – is home to a modern art museum, library, exhibition rooms and cinema. Place Georges-Pompidou (4th) - M° Hôtel de Ville  
Tel: 01 44 78 12 33 - [www.centrepompidou.fr](http://www.centrepompidou.fr)

## A-B11 Parc de la Villette

A series of buildings that play host to festivals, plays, circuses, concerts, exhibitions and other exceptional events set in a large green park.  
211, av. Jean-Jaurès (19th) - M° Porte-de-la-Villette  
Tel: 01 40 03 75 75 - [www.villette.com](http://www.villette.com)

**Alongside these must-see attractions**, dozens of other sites and museums, workshops, former homes of artists and famous people, gardens, churches, foundations, mansions and cultural centres invite the public to explore the world of art and culture in all its forms.

**Buildings are forever being renovated and reopened in Paris.** Some recent additions to the cultural landscape that are worth a visit include the Centquatre (the new innovation centre for contemporary creation), the Cité de l'architecture et du patrimoine (museum of architecture), la Cité nationale de l'histoire de l'immigration (museum of the history of immigration), la cité de la Mode et du Design (centre for fashion and design), la Maison La Roche (Corbusier's third commission in Paris), la cité de la Musique (centre for music), the great hothouses of the Natural History Museum, and many others...

**Information and addresses** listed in the **Paris For You!** guide (in French and English), available free of charge at Paris Convention and Visitors Bureau information points or on the [parisinfo.com](http://parisinfo.com) website in the "Museums & monuments" section.

## DISCOUNTS

Young people between 18 and 26 years old, students, disabled people, the unemployed, people drawing certain social benefits, teachers, etc. may be eligible for discounts or free entry into certain museums and monuments (upon presentation of proof of status). It's worth finding out...

## PARIS MUSEUM PASS

The Paris Museum Pass is your passport to just under 60 attractions around Paris and the surrounding region. A variety of passes are available (consecutive days only): 2 days = €32; 4 days = €48; 6 days = €64. Prices and free entries stipulated apply to permanent collections only and not to temporary exhibitions. The Pass is on sale at participating museums and monuments, the Paris Convention and Visitors Bureau and exclusively on [parisinfo.com](http://parisinfo.com)

## MUSEUM OPENING AND CLOSING TIMES

They open at 10am, close at 5 or 6pm. Many offer a late-night opening one evening a week. The majority are closed on either Monday or Tuesday and some public holidays. As a general rule, the ticket booths close half an hour before the building closes and guided tours can be booked in advance.

At City of Paris museums, entry to permanent collections is free every day. Certain museums offer free entry on other days of the week. Reduced rates are offered to children, students, the unemployed and senior citizens.

For more information, refer to the **Paris For You!** guide, published in English and French by the PCVB, or visit the [parisinfo.com](http://parisinfo.com), "Museums and monuments" section.

## **NATIONAL MUSEUMS**

These museums are tasked with acquiring works to extend France's national collections and organizing temporary exhibitions. Open to the public.

There are 14 such museums in Paris: Arts asiatiques-Guimet, Eugène-Delacroix, Ennery, Hébert (closed until further notice), Jean-Jacques Henner, Louvre, Gustave-Moreau, Middle Ages (Thermes and Hôtel de Cluny), Orangerie, Orsay, Picasso (closed for renovations in 2009), Rodin, Galeries Nationales du Grand Palais, Palais de la Porte-Dorée (tropical aquarium).

NB: Entrance to these museums is free the first Sunday of each month, and every day for certain groups of the public ([www.rmn.fr](http://www.rmn.fr)).

## **CITY OF PARIS MUSEUMS**

Art, history and literature – the City of Paris has assembled an exceptional group of collections, the second largest in France after those owned by the State!

14 sites and museums are owned by the city council: the Musée d'Art Moderne, Bourdelle, Carnavalet (history of Paris), Cernuschi (Asian art), Cognacq-Jay, Galliera (museum of fashion), Vie Romantique, Zadkine, the Maison de Balzac, the catacombs, the archaeological crypt at parvis de Notre-Dame, the memorial of Maréchal Leclerc de Hauteclocque and the Liberation of Paris – Jean-Moulin, the Petit Palais (museum of fine arts) and Maison de Victor Hugo.

NB: Entry to these attractions is free to everybody, with the exception of temporary exhibitions, the catacombs, the crypt at Notre-Dame, Musée des Égouts and Musée Galliera ([www.paris.fr/musees/](http://www.paris.fr/musees/)).

# ÎLE-DE-FRANCE

## **AROUND PARIS**

The capital is surrounded by seven metropolitan départements that collectively make up Île-de-France. Here, you will find splendid parks and châteaux (Auvers-sur-Oise, Fontainebleau, La Malmaison, Rambouillet, Vaux-le-Vicomte, Versailles, Vincennes and more), along with many places dedicated to modern art and architecture (mac/val, Villa Savoye designed by Le Corbusier and the roof of the Grande Arche de la Défense).

The region offers four nature parks and theme parks (Disneyland® Resort Paris, Parc Astérix, etc.).

At Saint-Denis, places of interest include the royal basilica and the Stade de France. And to complete your holiday agenda, shopping at La Vallée Village, visit the Sea Life aquarium or the Musée de l'Air et de l'Espace – or why not take a hot-air balloon ride with Aerfun Montgolfières, le Ballon Panoramique or Montgolfière Paris.

All of these attractions can be reached by public transport (metro, RER, SNCF trains, shuttles, bus).

### **Île-de-France Regional Tourist Board**

**Tel: 0 826 166 666 (€0.15/min)**

**[www.nouveau-paris-ile-de-france.fr](http://www.nouveau-paris-ile-de-france.fr)**

### **Paris Convention and Visitors Bureau**

**Tel: +33 (0) 892 68 3000 (€0.34/min)**

**[www.parisinfo.com](http://www.parisinfo.com)**



# ACCOMMODATION

Paris has nearly 76,000 rooms in hotels ranging from small family-run establishments to palaces (five-star luxury).

**Classification:** New standards for classifying hotels are coming into force starting early January 2009 so as to bring them into line with international norms. The 1 to 5 star system (\*) is based on comfort and available services. Details and information about services available in hotels and these new norms can be found on [parisinfo.com](http://parisinfo.com) and [www.tourisme.gouv.fr](http://www.tourisme.gouv.fr)

**Holiday tax:** The tax currently stands at €0.20 to €1.50 per person per night depending on the category of the establishment (hotels, residences, furnished apartments, campsites, B&Bs, youth hostels and other residences specifically for young visitors).

**Reservations:** Prices are at the hotels' discretion and are always advertised inclusive of taxes (TTC). Hotels are legally obliged to display their prices. To avoid disputes, always ask the hotel to send written confirmation of your reservation including the dates of your booking, the cost including tax, the type of room, the services included and any cancellation conditions. An invoice must be provided before you are required to pay. Cancellations must be confirmed in writing and comply with the hotel's cancellation conditions. It is also possible to book Paris hotels and residences on line on [parisinfo.com](http://parisinfo.com) or by visiting the Paris Convention and Visitors Bureau information points (see the "Tourist Information" section).

**Breakfast:** Hotels are not obliged to provide breakfast. When it is offered, it can be continental or buffet style. Breakfast prices must be indicated separate from the room price and breakfast should only be billed if guests have actually used the service (except for groups).

# RESTAURANTS

The reputation of French gastronomy speaks for itself: from regional dishes to nouvelle cuisine, crêpes from nearby Brittany to world food, France is known far and wide for its discerning palate! To sample great classic French cuisine, just step into one of the capital's traditional brasseries. Savour mouth-watering menus served by professionally trained waiters. The touch of extravagance creates all the charm of these restaurants which often have rich and colourful pasts. Or take an evening stroll to the heart of the Marais and join one of the many queues to enjoy the district's legendary pastrami sandwiches. For a taste of Latin America, head for La Montagne Sainte-Geneviève (5th) to enjoy a plate of delicious *parilladas*. The Grands Boulevards meanwhile are a melting pot of various communities: from Turkish lentil soups to Indian curries and biryanis. If African cooking tempts you, then just below Montmartre you can enjoy a dish of *mafe*. Or opt for a taste of the Orient and feast on spring rolls and Peking duck around Place d'Italie. Paris is a veritable smorgasbord of world cuisine.

As a general rule, restaurants serve from midday, and then from 7pm.

Prices are at the restaurants' discretion and eateries are legally obliged to display prices inclusive of tax and service charge (around 15% of the total bill). If you are satisfied with the service, you can leave a tip for your waiter if you wish. Information and addresses on [parisinfo.com](http://parisinfo.com), "Restaurants & cafés" section.

Did you know? The **Good Food Guide** published by the Paris Convention and Visitors Bureau lists more than 350 establishments (restaurants, cafes, caterers, dinner cruises, cookery courses, etc.) in Paris and the Paris Region, to help you enjoy the best of Parisian cuisine.



# BUSINESS TOURISM

Paris is a major venue for the organization of conventions, corporate events and trade shows. The Paris Convention and Visitors Bureau is on hand to assist you with arrangements for your events in Paris.

**E-mail :** [meeting@parisinfo.com](mailto:meeting@parisinfo.com) or [convention@parisinfo.com](mailto:convention@parisinfo.com)

The Paris Convention and Visitors Bureau website <http://convention.parisinfo.com>, dedicated to business tourism in Paris, includes a "venue finder" (search engine), an online Request For Proposal module, and a "planner's toolkit" offering access to tools and practical information about venues in Paris.

## VIPARIS - VENUES IN PARIS

Tel: 01 72 72 10 10 - [www.viparis.com](http://www.viparis.com)

- E7** • **Les salles du Carrousel du Louvre:** 99, rue de Rivoli (1st)  
M° Palais-Royal – Musée-du-Louvre
- Hi34** • **Paris Porte de Versailles:** 1, place de la Porte-de-Versailles (15th)  
M° Porte-de-Versailles
- B4** • **Espace Champerret:** Place de la Porte-de-Champerret (17th) - M° Porte-de-Champerret
- **Cnit Paris la Défense (off map):** 2, place de la Défense  
M° La Défense – Grande-Arche
- **Espace Grande Arche (off map):** Grande-Arche - M° La Défense – Grande-Arche
- C3** • **Palais des Congrès de Paris:** 2, place de la Porte-Maillot (17th) - M° Porte-Maillot
- **Palais des Congrès de Versailles (off map):**  
10, rue de La Chancellerie - 78000 Versailles - RER C Versailles - Rive gauche
- **Paris Nord Villepinte (off map):**  
BP 68004 - 95970 Roissy-CDG Cedex - RER B Parc-des-Expositions
- **Paris Le Bourget (off map):** BP 60119 - 95350 Le Bourget
- **Palais des Congrès d'Issy-les-Moulineaux (off map):**  
25, avenue Victor Cresson - 92130 Issy-les-Moulineaux - M° Mairie-d'Issy

## OTHER MAJOR VENUES

**Centre d'exposition Parc Floral de Paris (off map):** Tel: 01 49 57 24 84

Esplanade du Château de Vincennes - Route de la Pyramide (12th) - M° Château-de-Vincennes  
[www.parcfloraldeparis.com](http://www.parcfloraldeparis.com)

- A11** **Cité des sciences et de l'industrie:** Tel: 01 40 05 81 47  
Centre des congrès de la Villette - 30, avenue Corentin-Cariou (19th) - M° Porte-de-la-Villette  
[www.cite-sciences.fr](http://www.cite-sciences.fr)

**Disneyland® Resort Paris Business Solutions (off map):** Tel: 01 60 45 75 00

77777 Marne-la-Vallée Cedex 4 - RER A Marne-la-Vallée Chessy  
[www.drpbusiness.com](http://www.drpbusiness.com)

- E6** **Maison de la Chimie :** Tel: 01 40 62 27 00  
28, rue Saint-Dominique (7th) - M° Invalides  
[www.maisondelachimie.com](http://www.maisondelachimie.com)

**MAIRIE DE PARIS** 

 **Chambre de commerce  
et d'industrie de Paris**



# OPEN SPACES

With some 400 parks, Paris was made for walking. Take a stroll along the Seine quayside (in central Paris), the banks of Canal Saint-Martin (10th, D9) or the “promenade plantée”, a tree-lined walkway that connects Opéra Bastille to the place Daumesnil (12th, G10-11). Or to venture all over the city, here are a host of other suggestions:

## GARDENS

- H6 Jardin Atlantique (15th):** M° Montparnasse-Bienvenüe  
A modern green space above the train station.
- G9 Jardin des Plantes (5th):** M° Jussieu  
This garden is home to the “Evolution Gallery”, hothouses and a zoo.
- E1 Jardin des serres d’Auteuil (16th):** M° Porte-Maillot + bus 244  
A collection of orchids and other blooms in a French-style garden.
- E6-7 Jardin des Tuileries (1st):** M° Concorde  
Stretching along the Seine, this park links the place de la Concorde to the Louvre Museum.
- G7 Jardin du Luxembourg (6th):** RER B Luxembourg  
The meeting point for students at the Sorbonne.
- E7 Jardin du Palais-Royal (1st):** M° Palais-Royal–Musée-du-Louvre  
Flanked by arcades, this garden is a historical gem from the 19th century.
- F8 Jardin Médiéval du musée du Moyen Âge (5th):** M° Cluny-La Sorbonne  
A garden with a difference: enjoy a walk among plants from medieval times!
- B9 Jardins d’Éole (18th):** M° Stalingrad  
Ecologically in-managed gardens.

## PARKS

- G-H3 Parc André-Citroën (15th):** M° Balard  
Series of animated Japanese-themed gardens.
- D1 Parc de Bagatelle (16th):** M° Porte-Maillot + bus 244  
Famous for its rose garden.
- D11 Parc de Belleville (20th):** M° Couronnes. Popular with families. Superb view of the capital.
- H11 Parc de Bercy (12th):** M° Cour-Saint-Emilion. The site of former wine warehouses is now a landscaped park.
- B11 Parc de la Villette (19th):** M° Ourcq. Enjoy a picnic along the Canal de l’Ourcq.
- C11 Parc des Buttes-Chaumont (19th):** M° Botzaris, Buttes-Chaumont  
Built over quarries, this is the archetypal Haussmannian park.
- F4-5 Parc du Champ de Mars (7th):** RER C Champ-de-Mars  
Elegant lawns at the foot of the Eiffel Tower.
- Parc Floral (12th) Esplanade du Château (off map):** M° Château-de-Vincennes  
Themed gardens, pavilions and patios. Summer concerts.
- C5 Parc Monceau (8th):** M° Monceau  
A classic slice of late 19th century greenery featuring rock gardens.
- K7 Parc Montsouris (14th):** RER B Cité-Universitaire  
Sprawling English-style garden designed by Alphand.

## FORESTS

- E1 Bois de Boulogne (16th):** M° Porte-Maillot + bus 244  
West of Paris, this forest boasts several parks including the parc de Bagatelle, the Pré-Catelan, the Jardin d’Acclimatation and the jardin des serres d’Auteuil.
- J13 Bois de Vincennes (12th):** M° Porte-Dorée or Château-de-Vincennes  
East of Paris, visitors can stroll around the parc Floral and the ferme de Paris.

## RAMBLING PATHS

180 km of walking trails around Paris. [www.ffrandonnee.fr](http://www.ffrandonnee.fr)



# ENTERTAINMENT

**Live entertainment.** Boasting 219 theatres, café-theatres and song houses, 3 opera houses, as well as 150 event halls and a host of academy and association premises, Paris will surprise and delight you with its concerts and live performances. All year long, the city's legendary, intimate and alternative stages, whether they be permanent or erected temporarily for special celebrations and festivals, welcome artists from around the world to present the full gamut of live shows: reviews, musicals, ballets, dance, stand-up comedy, vaudeville, contemporary theatre and more.

Kids are also included on the agenda: from circus, magic and puppet shows to children's theatre and story-telling performances, a host of activities will keep little ones captivated. The school holiday programme is especially animated.

**Music.** International hits, rising stars and promising talents all flock to the stadiums, auditoriums and tiny inner rooms of neighbourhood bars spread all over Paris to perform concerts ranging from traditional music to the latest sounds.

**Cinema.** With nearly 110 cinema screens in Paris, you are sure to find your type of film, whether your taste is for art house and experimental film, blockbusters, documentaries or animation.

**Bars and nightclubs.** Night owls can start the evening at one of the many bars around Paris offering "happy hour" prices between 6 and 8pm before dancing the night away at one of the many night spots!

NB: Bars close at 2am or later if the bar has a special licence. Whatever type of club you are looking for – fancy, alternative, traditional, electro, tropical – you can move your feet from 11pm right through to dawn!

## EVENTS TICKETS

You can book seats for concerts and other events at specialist agencies or ticket offices. Here are a few addresses:

- D7** • **Agence Check Théâtre:** 33, rue Le Peletier (9th) - M° Le Peletier  
Tel: 0 825 05 44 05 (€0.15/min) - [www.check-theatre.com](http://www.check-theatre.com)
- **Fnac Billetterie:** 0 892 68 36 22 (€0.34/min) or [www.fnac.com](http://www.fnac.com)  
Telephone service: 0 891 702 703 (€0.22/min) – From Mon to Sat: 9am to 7.30pm
- **Virgin Megastore:** Telephone service: 0 825 023 024 (€0.15/min) Mon to Sat: 9am to 7pm

To obtain half-price tickets in person on the actual day:

- **Kiosques**
  - D6** - 15, place de la Madeleine (8th) - M° Madeleine
  - G6** - Esplanade de la Tour-Montparnasse (14th) - M° Montparnasse-Bienvenüe  
From Tue to Sat: 12.30 to 7.45pm, Sun: 12.30 to 4pm.
  - C4** - Place des Ternes (17th) - M° Ternes  
From Tues to Sat: 12.30pm to 7.45pm, Sun: 12.30pm to 4pm
- **Kiosques jeunes (for young people)**
  - F9** - 14, rue François-Miron (4th) - M° Saint-Paul
  - F4** - 101, quai Branly (15th) inside the CIDJ - M° Bir-Hakeim  
[www.portailj.paris.fr](http://www.portailj.paris.fr)
- **For young people aged between 13 and 28 years:**  
show tickets at reduced prices or free places.

**For more information,** refer to the **Paris For You!** guide (in English or French), available free of charge from Paris Convention and Visitors Bureau information points or visit the "What's on" section on the [parisinfo.com](http://parisinfo.com)



# SHOPPING

Paris is the capital of fashion, design and shopping! From designer accessories to unusual pieces hunted down at flea markets, from that little seasonal dress to a timeless classic, there is a store, boutique or stall where visitors can find everything – absolutely everything – they ever wanted.

To discover Paris through its shops and boutiques, ask for the free **Paris Shopping Book**, published in both French and English by the PCVB, or visit [www.shoppingbyparis.com](http://www.shoppingbyparis.com)

## SHOPS AND DEPARTMENT STORES

Paris' department stores are an essential destination for any shopping trip to the capital. Soak up the stylish décor as you wander around the luxury collections on display. You can shop here, of course, or come and enjoy a gourmet treat, catch an exhibition or gaze at the animated window displays at Christmas. Shopping centres are also the perfect place to find fashion, beauty, interior design and more under one roof. Another option is the flagship stores of leading brands. These extravagant retail outlets stretch from the Champs-Élysées right up to rue de Rivoli. And last but by no means least are the 17,000 Bohemian, ethnic, concept or more traditional shops that line the streets of every district in Paris. Surprises guaranteed!

## A TASTE OF LUXURY

The favourite haunt of perfumers, jewellers, haute couture designers, high-end antique dealers, luxury artisans and the like is on and around the Champs-Élysées, avenue Montaigne, place Vendôme, rue de la Paix and Saint-Germain-des-Prés.

## GOURMET GOODS

Well-known delicatessens and fine food stores are the perfect opportunity to indulge your passion for shopping and all things gourmet. Divine! In each district, wine merchants, delicatessens, confectioners, pâtisseries and chocolate-makers also offer a selection of treats to take away as a souvenir or gift.

## OFF THE BEATEN TRACK...

Antique hunters and collectors flock to the indoor galleries around the capital and the flea markets at the main gateways to the city (Porte de Vanves and Saint-Ouen). For design aficionados (ceramics, jewellery, textiles, design, photography and more), there's no better place than the Marché de la Création de Bastille. If antique or contemporary art is what you are looking for, countless galleries are dotted around the city at Bourse, Saint-Germain-des-Prés, the Marais and elsewhere. Information on [parisinfo.com](http://parisinfo.com), "Shopping and Fashion" section.

**Did you know?** Visitors from outside the European Union (EU) can claim back VAT (until 12%) on purchases of €175.01 or more made from the same shop on the same day. When leaving the EU, visitors, after declaring goods to Customs, must return the form provided by the retailer within three months at the latest in order to receive the reimbursement. Information: Customs Information Centre  
From Mon to Fri: 8.30am-6pm  
Tel: 0 811 20 44 44 (local rate from a land line)

Global Refund, the leading tax refund company, is present in 37 countries with 220,000 affiliated stores and 700 refund points around the world. Information: [www.globalrefund.com](http://www.globalrefund.com)

