

Guidester France Getaway 2017

Look for this globe to
guide you to important
information!



Dear Bob and Stephanie,

Thank you for choosing Guidester. You've made a great decision. This customized travel guidebook will provide you with more time to enjoy your vacation to France and less time trying to find a restaurant for dinner. All points of interest are divided up by section and color coded for easy navigation. Every point of interest includes a description, opening times, prices, and location. The 'Cultural Guide' includes useful travel information such as transportation, weather and cultural tips. The Guidester globe marker will point out special tips and tricks throughout the guide. We recommend that you review each section carefully before you arrive.

Your digital guidebook provides greater flexibility and enhanced capabilities. The guidebook can be viewed on any smart device, including your phone or tablet. Simply download the guide and you will have access to the guidebook anytime in your device's 'eBooks' application. Anything that is underlined is clickable, allowing you to easily navigate through the guide as well as go to an attraction or restaurant's website for further information or reservations.

The guidebook is also equipped with interactive custom maps with a great visual of all your customized recommendations. Simply click on the map.

From all of us here at Guidester, have fun and enjoy your trip!

Sincerely,
The Guidester Team

Itinerary

Booking Number: 1384801 - Active

Contact: Jack Baumann

Phone: (954) 958-3700

Fax: (954) 958-3703

Email: j.baumann@dreamvacations.com

Jun 10th 2017

Hertz Rent A Car SDAR - G RENAULT TALISMAN AUTO GPS OR SIMILAR

Category: Standard,Type: 4-5 Door,Transmission: Automatic,Air Cond...: Yes

Inclusive rate includes Unlimited Mileage, CDW, TP, VAT and Third Party Liability.

--Optional and miscellaneous items must be paid locally and are subject to VAT.

-- Additional fees payable locally:

Drop-Off Fee: 152.45 EUR

Optional Personal property insurance 8.32 EUR/Day

Optional Super Cover 24.99 EUR/Day

Pick up: 10-Jun-2017 10:00 / BORDEAUX AIRPORT AEROPORT DE MERIGNAC

Phone: 08 25 002400

Drop-off: 13-Jun-2017 22:00 / PARIS GARE DU NORD RAIL STN 18 RUE DE DUNKERQUE

Phone: 01 55 319321

Important Car Fees and Rules

Important Car Fees and Notices

All quoted rates are approximate, in local currency, prior to VAT

A credit card will be required at pick-up and a deposit/deductible may be held on the card

Drop Fee Paid Locally: 152.45 EUR

Itinerary

Jun 10th 2017

1 Night Nantes - Oceania Hotel de France-DOUBLE DELUXE for: WILL/Robert, WILL/Stephanie 1-Double Room

Jun 11th 2017

1 Night Luynes - Domaine de Beauvois-Traditional for: WILL/Robert, WILL/Stephanie 1-Double Room

Jun 12th 2017

1 Night La Ferte Saint Aubin - L Oree des Chenes-Standard for: WILL/Robert, WILL/Stephanie 1-Double Room

Jun 13th 2017

4 Nights Paris - Plaza Tour Eiffel-Superior for: WILL/Robert, WILL/Stephanie 1-Double Room

Paris Visite Pass - 3 Day - Zones 1-3 2-Adults

The Paris Visite pass allows unlimited travel for 3 consecutive days on the entire Ile de France network:

- Metro
- RER
- Bus
- Montmartre funicular
- Montmartobus
- Noctilien (Paris Night bus)

The pass becomes valid from the first use so you can activate it when it is convenient for your schedule. The entire day is billed towards the duration time so it's best to activate the pass early in the day (NOTE: the Ile de France network operates from 5:30am to 1:00am). The pass for Zones 1-3 includes travel within central Paris including stops near major tourist sites listed below. It does NOT include entrance fees.

Itinerary

Jun 14th 2017

Louvre Museum Tour - 3 Hours - 1:30pm 2-Adults

You are picked up in the afternoon and taken to the museum for a tour conducted by a licensed English speaking guide. You will see many of the most famous paintings and sculpture in the world. Works include Michelangelo, Da Vinci, Raphael, Veronese, Tintoret, David, Delacroix, Ingres, and Fragonard. The Mona Lisa has now a special large room dedicated to her. Maximum of 10 persons to keep the visit as intimate as possible.

Jun 17th 2017

Shared Shuttle Transfer - Paris Hotel to CDG Airport 2-Adults

AD-Airline:AF~Flight#:682

Departure Airport:CDG

Arrival Airport:ATL

Departure Time:1035~:AM

Paris Shuttle: Pick-up Time: 6:35 AM

Transfer rate valid for 1 suitcase + 1 carry-on per person! Additional luggage will incur fees to be paid locally.

Tripmate Insurance Details

Avanti Terms and Conditions

MAIN TABLE OF CONTENTS



8



Nantes, France

20



Tours, France

33



Orléans, France

44



Paris, France

68



France Cultural Guide

76



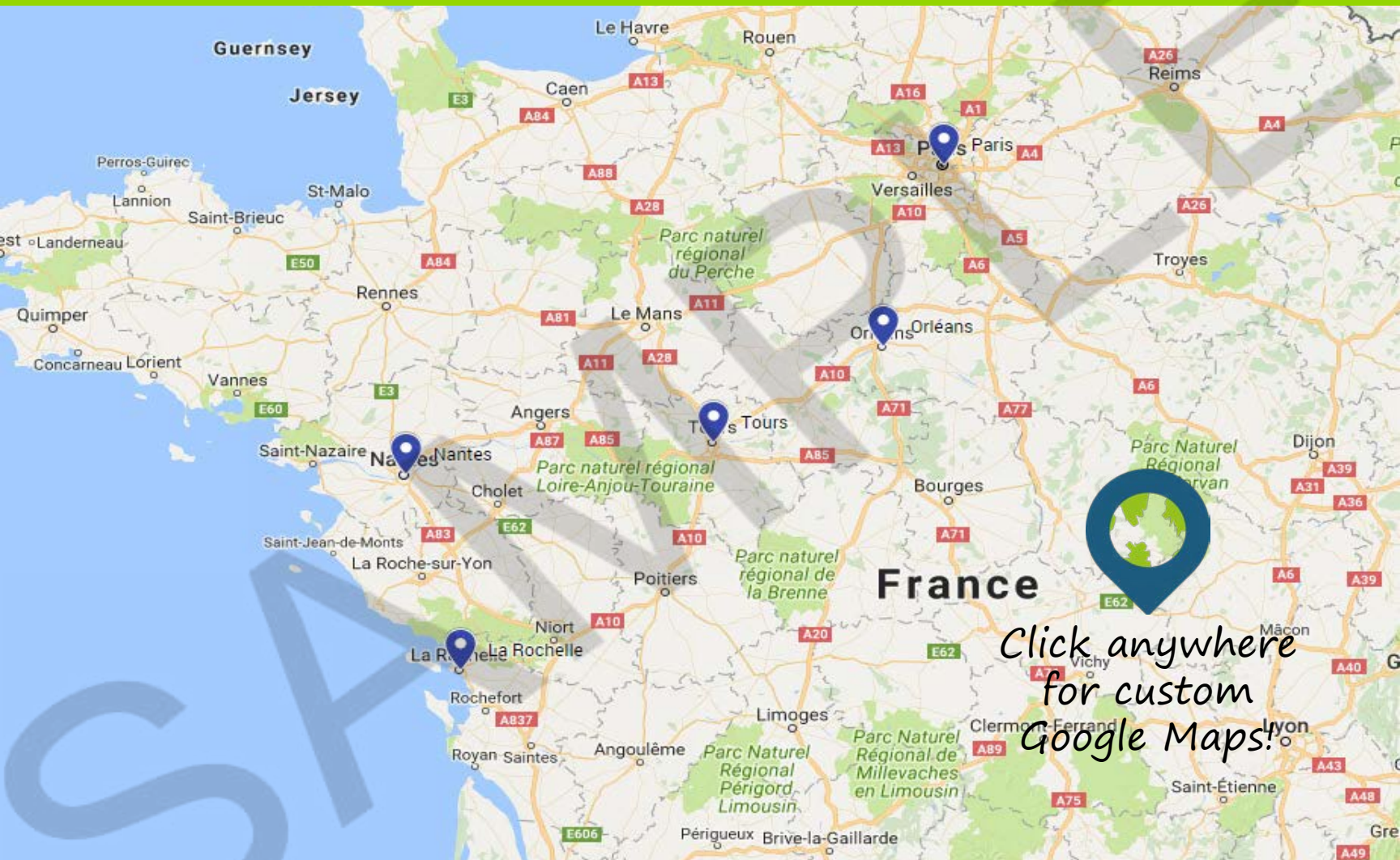
Traveler Checklist



Easily navigate your digital guidebook by clicking on:

- Underlined titles
- Underlined addresses
- Table of Contents buttons
- Anywhere on your maps

Summary Map



Guidester NANTES

Hôtel Oceania Hôtel de France

24 Rue Crébillon, 44000 Nantes, France

Phone: +33 2 40 73 57 91



A Snapshot & Brief History

A Snapshot of Nantes, France

The word 'vibrancy' would best sum up Nantes. Nantes has always strived to move, live, create, build and evolve for the well-being of its inhabitants. The community is at the heart of everything the city does. Nantes has become a particularly green city by redeveloping the banks of the Loire river, promoting its architectural heritage, organizing public transport and developing several pedestrian areas. It is the 6th largest city in France with 600,000 inhabitants. It is ranked the number one city in France for social cohesion and is the 1st and only French city to be named European Green Capital.

A Brief History

Nantes, the city that was home to Jules Verne, and that inspired the Surrealists and Jacques Demy. Nantes continues to feed the dreams of contemporary artists, like the international street theatre company Royal de Luxe, Dominique A, Madeon, and Christine and the Queens, all of whom find their natural inspiration here. Here, you can drift down a street from a public work of art to a remarkable example of the city's architectural heritage, or from artist-revamped shop signs to contemporary buildings. All you have to do is follow the green line on the ground to discover the essential spots along this cultural itinerary. Every summer, this circuit is revived and expanded with temporary or definitive public art installations. As a city filled with art and history, Nantes possesses: 1 national theatre, 36 theatres and concert venues, including the Zénith Nantes Métropole, the only Memorial to the Abolition of Slavery in France; a 20-meter tall ocean-themed Carrousel des Mondes Marins; 14 museums, as well as a dozen festivals and more. It goes without saying that Nantes is alive with art and culture!

Since you have a very short time in Nantes, these are our top recommendations. Our goal is to not overwhelm you with other recommendations you will not have time for.



Things To See & Do

[Table of Contents](#)

Château des Ducs de Bretagne



The Château des ducs de Bretagne is the city's most important historic building, along with the Cathedral St. Pierre. The inner courtyard reveals an elegant 15th century ducal residence made of tufa stone, in gothic style and bearing the first traces of Renaissance inspiration, as well as other buildings dating back from the 16th and the 18th centuries.¹

Tue-Sun:
10am-6pm

Mon:Closed

Adult: €8

4 Place Marc
Elder, 44000
Nantes, France

Machines of the Isle of Nantes



Nantes' quirkiest sight is this fantasy world where you can fly giant herons in La Galerie des Machines and prance around like a maharajah on a 12m-tall, 48-ton mechanical elephant with a secret lounge in its belly. Outside, by the river, a gigantic funfair carousel whisks you under the sea on the back of giant crabs, octopuses and other strange sea creatures.²

Tue-Fri:
10am-5pm

Sat-Sun:
10am-6pm

Elephant
Ride
Adult:
€8.50
Carousel
Adult:
€6.40

Parc des
Chantiers,
Boulevard Léon
Bureau, 44200
Nantes, France

Nantes Cathedral



Nantes Cathedral, or the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul of Nantes, is a Roman Catholic church in the city of Nantes, Pays de la Loire, France. It is in the Gothic architectural style. Built in the 15th century, the Cathedral remains, as it is today, the "House of Prayer" for Catholics, but it is also an oasis of peace and beauty, offered to all.

Daily:
9am-7pm

Garden:
8:45am-8pm

Free

7 Impasse Saint-
Laurent, 44000
Nantes, France



Things To See & Do

		DESCRIPTION	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
Tour Bretagne		a 32 story skyscraper with a viewing terrace on the top floor offering 360-degree panoramic views. Enjoy a snack or a beverage while you take in the views.	Mon-Sat: 8am-6pm Sun: Closed	Free	<u>Place de Bretagne, 44047 Nantes, France</u>
<u>Musée Jules Verne</u>		This is a magical museum with 1st-edition books, hand-edited manuscripts and cardboard theatre cut-outs. Child-friendly interactive displays introduce or reintroduce you to the work of Jules Verne, who was born in Nantes in 1828. The museum is a 2km walk down river from the town center.	Sun-Mon, Wed-Fri: 2-6pm Sat: 10am-12pm & 2-6pm	Adult: €3	<u>3 Rue de l'Hermitage, 44100 Nantes, France</u>
<u>Natural History Museum</u>		This museum represents an important scientific heritage, and the sheer number of its specimens places it among the top few in France. Its collections cover all the areas of natural history: zoological collections, regional wildlife, mineralogy and also has a reptile house containing regional and exotic reptiles.	Wed-Mon: 10am-6pm Tue: Closed	Adult: 4€	<u>12 Rue Voltaire 44000 Nantes, France</u>



Things To See & Do

¹With their elegant white stone walls and sophisticated sculpted façades, they contrast strikingly with the rough textures of the exterior fortifications, made of granite blocks and separated by layers of schist.

²This park was inspired by Jules Verne and Leonardo da Vinci.

	DESCRIPTION	CUISINE	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
<u>Cocotte</u>	Located in a former neighborhood butcher shop, this old-fashioned restaurant excels at traditional French cooking. Poultry, ranging from chicken to duck and highly sought-after pigeon (France's best) from the Atlantic village of Mesquer, are menu favorites.	French	Mon-Fri: 12-2pm & 7:30-10pm Sat-Sun: Closed	€€€	<u>27 Rue Fouré, 44000 Nantes, France</u>
<u>Pickles</u>	Pickles is located in the center of Nantes offering a neo-bistro cuisine with products from the region cooked in the French culinary tradition. Dishes are combined with flavors and textures elsewhere, especially from Asia, Italy, North Africa and the Islands British.	French	Wed-Fri: 12-2pm & 7:30-10:30pm Sat: 7:30-10:30pm Sun-Mon: Closed	€€	<u>2 Rue Marais, 44000 Nantes, France</u>
<u>Lulu Rouget</u>	Locals love this contemporary bistro, with steel grey façade and designer interior to gorge on some of the most creative and gastronomic, homemade cuisine in the city. This restaurant is best experienced with one of the chef's 'yeux fermés' fixed menus – a succession of four or five surprise tasting courses.	French, European	Tue-Fri: 12-1:30pm & 7:45-9:15pm Sat: 7:45-9:15pm Sun-Mon: Closed	€€€€	<u>1 Rue du Cheval Blanc, 44000 Nantes, France</u>
<u>Les Chants d'Avril</u>	A favorite of locals and visitors alike. All dishes are homemade and personally prepared on every order.	Local French Bistro	Mon-Wed: 12-1:30pm Thu-Fri: 12-1:30pm & 8-9:15pm Sat-Sun: Closed	€€	<u>2 Rue Laennec, 44000 Nantes, France</u>

	DESCRIPTION	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
<u>Passage Pommeraye</u>	Pedestal statues represent traditional Nantais industries inside this elegant and ornate, three-tiered shopping arcade. Built in 1843 to link the then-stock exchange with the post office, the passageway is bejeweled with some of Nantes' most chic shops, including Hermès, Provencal perfumier Durance and Breton chocolatier Georges Larnicol.	Daily: 8am-8pm	€€€	<u>Rue de la Fosse,</u> <u>44000 Nantes,</u> <u>France</u>
<u>Chocolatier Gautier-Debotté</u>	Jules Verne was awed by this beautiful chocolate shop's chandeliers, marble floors and circular velvet banquettes where Nantais have lingered amid the sweet aroma of chocolate since 1823.	Tue-Sat: 9am-7:15pm Mon: 2-7:15pm Sun: Closed	€€	<u>9 Rue de la Fosse,</u> <u>44000 Nantes,</u> <u>France</u>

Nightlife & Entertainment

[Table of Contents](#)

	DESCRIPTION	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
<u>Mélocotton</u>	This café concert, cozy and eclectic space for lounging over drinks and live jazz, soul, funk and electro from around 9pm. On Tuesday evenings listen to the local music, with vintage vinyls for sale.	Tue-Sat: 5pm-2am Sun-Mon: Closed	€€€	<u>9 Rue de l'Héronnière, 44000 Nantes, France</u>
<u>Le Jéroboam</u>	An enchanting bar à vin with vintage green wood façade, this is the best spot in town to taste regional wines and feast on tartines (toasts), served on slate platters and featuring some wonderful combinations.	Tue-Sat: 6pm-2am Sun-Mon: Closed	€	<u>21 Rue Léon Blum, 44000 Nantes, France</u>
<u>La Comédie des Vins</u>	Natural wine bar and nibbling cellar with a variety of wines available.	Tue-Sat: 6-11:45pm Sun-Mon: Closed	€€	<u>4 Rue Suffren, 44000 Nantes, France</u>

BASIC INFORMATION

Weather: In June, expect average highs of 73°F and lows of 55°F.

TRANSPORTATION

Tramway, bus and navibus, bikes and car sharing service, walking tours... all of Nantes is accessible to you through its many transportation options, where you can visit the city just about every way imaginable.

Public Transport

To travel in Nantes and to the urban agglomeration by bus, tramway and navibus.

With a single ticket (1,60€), you can use the TAN network during one hour: 3 tramway lines, a dense bus network and a shuttle bus (Navibus). TAN transports run daily.

Pedicab

The pedicab easily transports two to four passengers without polluting the environment. Pedicabs are available Monday to Saturday 11am to 7pm. Prices start at €3.

Parking

If you want to avoid bringing your car into the town center, leave it in one of the Park and Ride (P+R) car parks located outside town and take the tramway or busway to the city center. Otherwise, follow the signs and park in the town center car parks.

[See here for a map.](#)

Nantes

[Table of Contents](#)

POINTS OF INTEREST COLOR KEY

Purple = Hotel

Green = Things to See & Do

Blue = Dining

Yellow = Shopping

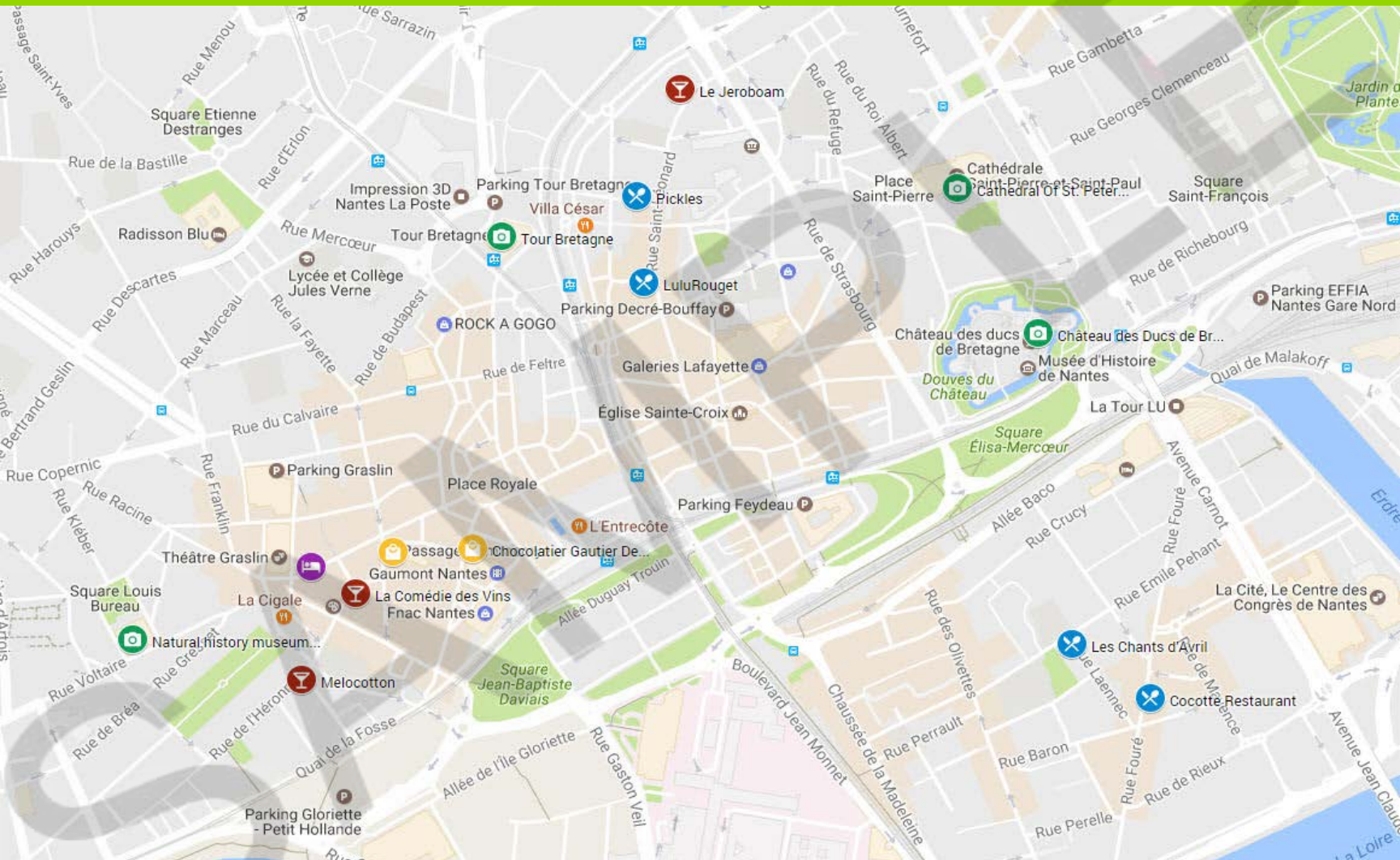
Red = Nightlife & Entertainment

Click anywhere
for custom
Google Maps!

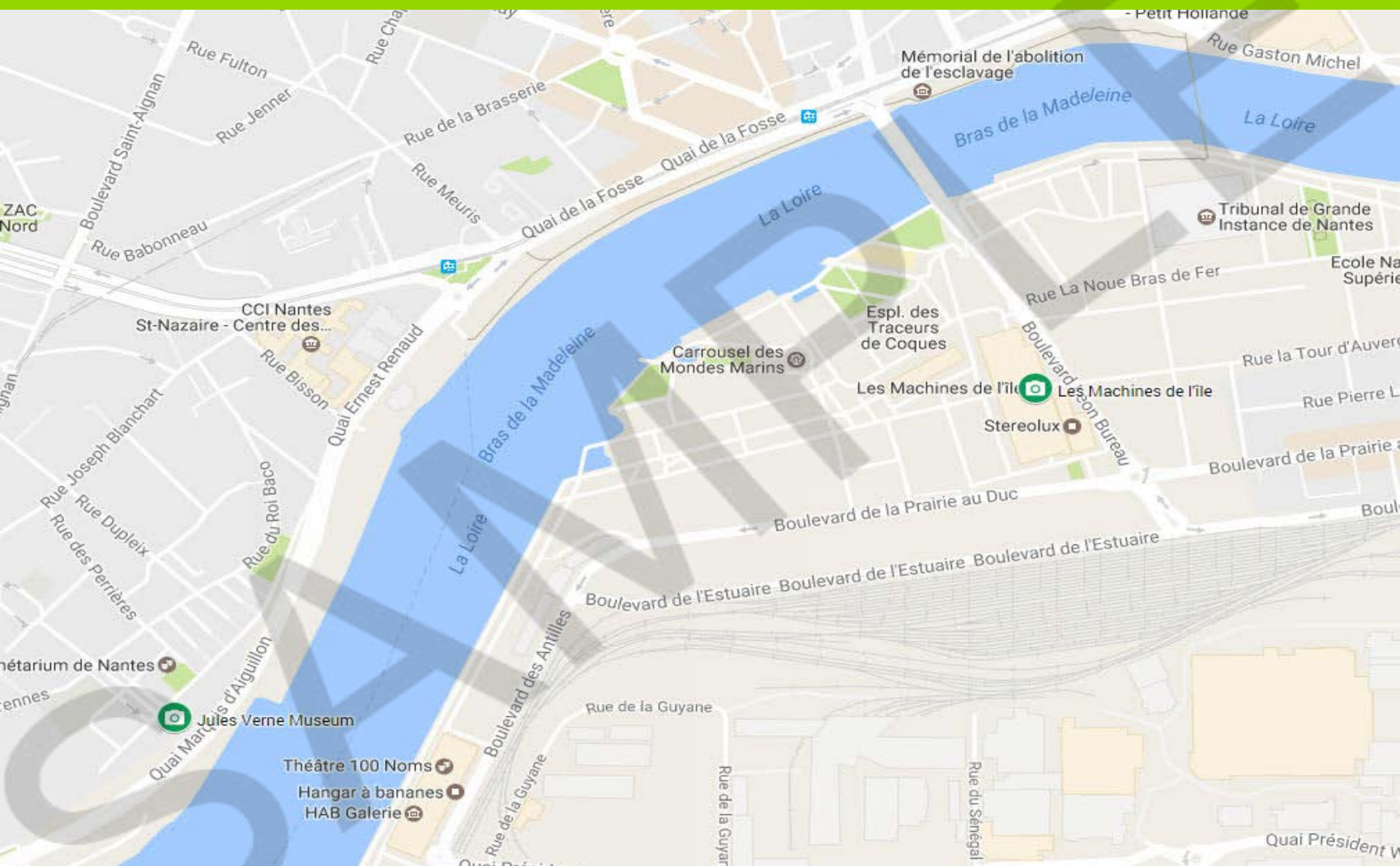
Map 1

Map 2

Map 1



Map 2



Guidester TOURS

A Snapshot & Brief History

A Snapshot of Tours, France

Tours is a bustling town between France's Cher and Loire rivers. Once a Gallic-Roman settlement, today it's a university town and a traditional gateway for exploring the chateaux of the Loire Valley region. Major landmarks include the cathedral, Saint-Gatien, whose flamboyant Gothic facade is flanked by towers with 12th-century bases and Renaissance tops.

Located at the heart of an area exceptionally rich in heritage with the major Loire Valley castles all close by and great vineyards like Vouvray, the city of Tours delight travellers from around the world with its medieval center, the great shopping areas, and also in summer with the possibility to board for a pleasant boat trip from the riverside guinguette cafe! Tours is renowned for its quiet atmosphere, its first rate cultural heritage, and the added energy of some 40,000 resident students. Tours is ideally located at the heart of an area that is exceptionally rich in heritage. The prestigious Loire Valley chateaux are never very far: Amboise (35 km), Azay-le-Rideau (25 km), Chenonceau chateau (40 km), Chinon chateau (40 km), Langeais or Villandry (19 km), all of these castles, and others, are within a reasonable distance.

A Brief History

Early records show that the Gallic tribe of the Turones (a pre-Roman tribal group) settled on the right bank of the Loire River. The Romans moved the settlement across the river and called it Caesarodunum, but from the 5th century it was known as Civitas Turonorum. The settlement was evangelized in the mid-3rd century by the early Christian ecclesiastic and missionary Gatien, who founded the bishopric. The Christian community remained small, however, until the second half of the 4th century, when St. Martin, the great apostle of the Gauls, was persuaded to become their bishop. A magnificent basilica was raised above his tomb in the late 5th century, and for hundreds of years it attracted pilgrims to Tours.

When the town became part of the Frankish dominion under Clovis I (reigned 481/482–511), Clovis accepted for himself and his successors the title of canon of St. Martin. At the end of the 6th century the bishopric was held by St. Gregory of Tours, who had

A Snapshot & Brief History

an abbey built around St. Martin's basilica. The abbey grew immensely rich. The emperor Charlemagne (reigned 768–814) reestablished discipline in the monastery and developed the intellectual life under the English scholar Alcuin. After pillaging incursions by the Normans, a protective wall was built around the St. Martin's district, which 400 years later was united to the borough of Tours, when a common wall was built around both Tours and Châteauneuf.

At a point somewhere between Tours and Poitiers is the site of the Battle of Tours; there, in 732, Charles Martel, master of the Frankish kingdom, defeated Moorish invaders from Spain in a battle that proved to be the turning point in the advance of Islam into western Europe. The battle is believed by some historians to have been fought at Moussais-la-Bataille, 6 miles southwest of Châtellerault.

Tours continued to maintain its prosperity in the Middle Ages in spite of involvement in the strife between the French and English kings in the 12th century and later during the Hundred Years' War (1337–1453). In 1462 Louis XI established a civic council and a silk industry that thrived for more than a century. The emigration of Huguenots (a Protestant group) after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes (1685) resulted in industrial decline. During the French Revolution of the late 18th century, the town was a base for operations against the royalist Vendée rebels. During World War II the French government had its headquarters in Tours from June 13 to 15, 1940, and British statesman Winston Churchill met French premier Paul Reynaud there in a vain attempt to dissuade France from negotiating an armistice with Germany. In the 1944 bombardments that preceded the German retreat and the liberation, one-fourth of the city was destroyed.

The modern-day city of Tours presents sharp contrasts in its buildings and architectural styles. The town hall, finished in 1904, is typical of its time, pompous and slightly overpowering. Outside the central square the cathedral of Saint-Gatien sums up four centuries of French religious architecture: the choir is from the 13th century, the nave marks a transition between Flamboyant Gothic and Renaissance styles, and the facade was built from 1426 to 1547. Another contrast is found south of the Loire River and west of the rue Nationale, in the town's old section where cobbled streets and ancient houses are preserved. The Museum of Fine Arts in the former 17th–18th-century archiepiscopal palace has a rich collection of paintings.

A Snapshot & Brief History

Since the 1960s Tours has expanded rapidly, initially as a result of the decentralization of Parisian industry. This was accompanied by rapid suburban development, notably to the south. Tours now has an important and diversified industrial sector. The city is also an administrative and commercial center, and much of it has been refurbished with offices and retail outlets. In addition to the University of Tours, the city is home to medical and pharmaceutical research institutions.



Things To See & Do

[Table of Contents](#)

		DESCRIPTION	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
<u>Saint Gatien's Cathedral (Tours Cathedral)</u>		With its flying buttresses, gargoyles and twin Renaissance-style towers and, inside, Gothic vaulting, dazzling stained glass and a huge Baroque organ, this cathedral is a must see!	Daily: 9am-7pm	Free	<u>Place de la Cathédrale, 37000 Tours, France</u>
<u>Basilique St-Martin</u>		This is home to the relics of soldier turned evangelist St Martin (c 317–97). In the 5th century a basilica was constructed above his tomb; in the 13th century it was replaced by a Romanesque church, of which only the Tour Charlemagne and Tour de l'Horloge remain. Modern-day Basilique St-Martin, a domed, neo-Byzantine structure, was built from 1886 to 1925.	Daily: 7:30am-7pm	Free	<u>7 Rue Baleschoux, 37000 Tours, France</u>
<u>Chateau de Tours</u>		This castle was built in the 11th century, with an architecture of the Carolingian period, and was the residence of the Lords of France. The Chateau de Tours has regular interchanging exhibitions on site.	Tue-Sun: 2-6pm Mon: Closed	Free	<u>25 Avenue André Malraux, 37000 Tours, France</u>



Things To See & Do

		DESCRIPTION	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
<u>Musée des Beaux-Arts</u>		A magnificent fine-arts museum converted from a gorgeous 18th-century archbishop's palace. Featured exhibits include paintings, sculpture, and furniture from the 14th to 20th centuries.	Wed-Mon: 9am-12:45pm & 2-6pm Tue: Closed	Adult: €6	<u>18 Place François Sicard, 37000 Tours, France</u>
<u>Place Plumereau</u>		Picturesque square known for its half-timbered medieval houses & lively open-air bars & restaurants.	24/7	Free	<u>Place Plumereau, 37000 Tours, France</u>
<u>Domaine Marc Bredif</u>		Since the end of the 18th century, the family of the Comtes Lafond has the most important and most famous vineyards of Pouilly Fume. Baron Patrick de Ladoucette, the great grandson of Les Comtes Lafond, has perpetuated this tradition of high quality and produces this great white wine of Ladoucette, world reference of Sauvignon.	Mon-Sat: 10:30am-12pm & 2:30-6pm Sun: 10am-1pm	Free, tastings vary	<u>87 Quai de la Loire, 37210 Rochecorbon, France</u>



Things To See & Do

Pierre et Bertrad COULY



Pierre and Bertrand Couly work around 20 hectares in the Chinon appellation. They are from a long line of wine producers going back to the 15th century on the maternal side of Bertrand's family (Farou). Pierre and Bertrand Couly. They have received the HVE (High Environmental Value) label for their cultivation choices by allowing the preservation of biodiversity.

HOURS

Daily:
10am-
12:45pm
&
2-6:45pm

PRICE \$

Free,
tastings
vary

LOCATION

Route de Tours
Rond Point des
Closeaux, 37500
Chinon, France

	DESCRIPTION	CUISINE	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
Le Zinc	A highly rated restaurant with just a dozen tables, known for its traditional French cuisine, prepared in the old style. Each dish – saltwater fish, duck breast, steak, rice pudding with caramel sauce – is prepared with exemplary finesse using market-fresh ingredients from the nearby Halles.	French	Tue, Thu-Sat: 12-2pm & 7:30-10:30pm Mon & Wed: 7:30-10:30pm Sun: Closed	€€	27 Place du Grand Marché, 37000 Tours, France
Le Timbre Poste	One of Tours' best purveyors of savory buckwheat galettes, sweet crêpes, apple ciders from Normandy and Brittany, and creative salads. The intimate dining room is decorated with old French postage stamps and postcards.	French	Tue-Sat: 12-2:30pm & 7-10pm Sun-Mon: Closed	€	12 Rue de Châteauneuf, 37000 Tours, France
Tartines & Co	This snazzy little cafe serves tartines (toasted or cold open-face sandwiches), made with scrumptious pain Poilâne (artisanal bread), amid jazz and friendly chatter. Toppings include smoked duck breast, tomato and red-pepper compote, beef carpaccio and foie gras with artichokes. Also has meal-size salads.	French Sandwiches	Mon-Sat: 12-3:30pm & 7:15-10pm Sun: Closed	€	6 Rue des Fusillés, 37000 Tours, France
Barju	A high-end date spot, more formal at dinner than at lunch, whose French cuisine is infused with inspiration asiatique (inspiration from Asia). The standout, served in bright, contemporary rooms, is the tasting menu, with its series of imaginative, often fish- and seafood-based, creations.	French Fusion	Mon-Thu: 12-2pm & 7:30-9:30pm Fri-Sat: 12pm-2pm & 7:30-10pm Sun: 12-2pm	€€€	15 Rue du Change, 37000 Tours, France

	DESCRIPTION	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
Galerie Nationale	Galerie Nationale is an indoor shopping center located in the heart of the city center and offers jewelers, perfumes and chic fashions. Here you should look for style, not just bargains.	Mon-Sat: 10am-7pm Sun: Closed	€-€€€	<u>72 Rue Nationale, 37000 Tours, France</u>
Rue Nationale	Rue Nationale is the main commercial artery of the city, where most department stores, shops and boutiques are concentrated. It is in fact one of the oldest streets and for sure the busiest shopping street in the city of Tours.	Varies by store. Most open 10am-5pm	€€-€€€	<u>Rue Nationale</u>

Nightlife & Entertainment

[Table of Contents](#)

Grand Théâtre

DESCRIPTION	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
Hosts operas, symphonies, chamber music and other concerts.	Box Office Tue-Sat: 10am-12pm & 1-5:45pm	Varies by performance	<u>34 Rue de la Scellerie, 37000 Tours, France</u>



BASIC INFORMATION

Weather: In June, expect average highs of 75°F and lows of 52°F.

TRANSPORTATION

The bus network in Tours is one of the best in France and many people think that Tours needs no subway or tram because of the very good bus service. You can buy a rechargeable bus/tram ticket for €1.60 from a bus driver (including the first journey), which can be recharged at major bus/tram stops for €1.50 per trip or €13 for ten trips. These machines take card and change, but not notes. Simply tap the card on a reader to pay for a journey once on the bus.

Cycling is one of the best ways to see the city; Tours lies at the heart of the Loire à Velo project which has made the entire Loire Valley cyclable, and there are numerous bike rental stores.

Tours is a small place and walking is often the easiest and more pleasant way to get around.

There are numerous underground car parks in the city, such as at Place de la Gare (underneath the large square outside the train station), Place des Halles (underneath the Halles market, ideal for visiting the old town), and at Place Anatole-France (easy access to the shops on Rue Nationale).

Tours

[Table of Contents](#)

POINTS OF INTEREST COLOR KEY

Green = Things to See & Do

Blue = Dining

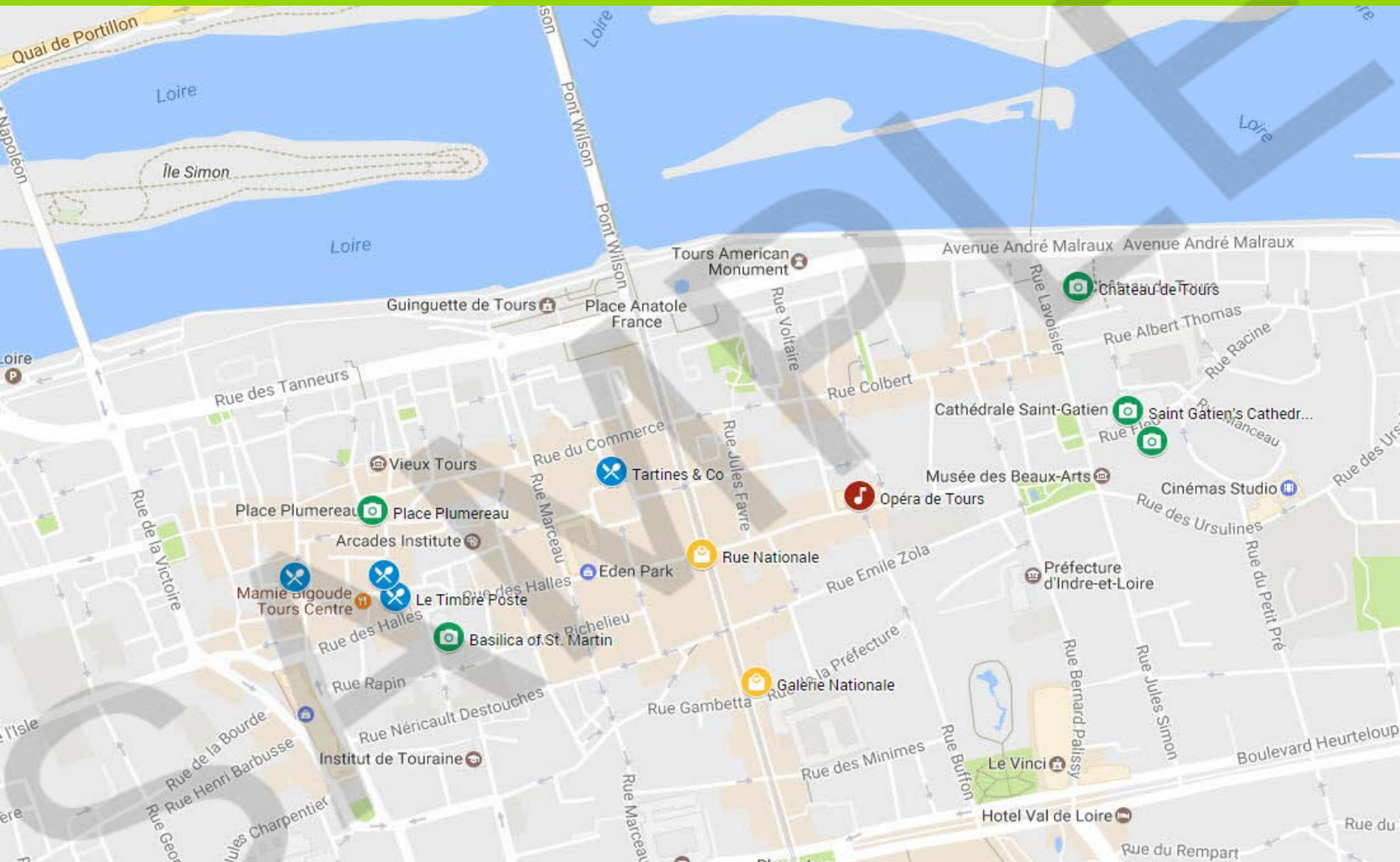
Yellow = Shopping

Red = Nightlife & Entertainment



Click anywhere
for custom
Google Maps!

Map 1



Guidester ORLEANS

L'Orée des Chênes

921, Route de Marcilly en Villette, 45240

La Ferté-Saint-Aubin, France

Phone: +33 2 38 64 84 00



A Brief History

A Snapshot of Orleans, France

Orléans is a city on the banks of the Loire River in north-central France, and it's the capital of the Centre-Val de Loire region. Joan of Arc famously saved the city from English siege in 1429, an event celebrated with an annual festival. A re-creation of the house where she stayed during the battle, the Maison de Janne d'Arc, features multimedia exhibits on her life.

A Brief History

Orléans, which derives its name from the Roman Aurelianum, was conquered by Julius Caesar in 52 BC. It became an intellectual capital under Charlemagne, emperor from 800 to 814, and in the 10th and 11th centuries it was the most important city in France after Paris. In 1429, during the Hundred Years' War (1337–1453), after it had been besieged for seven months by the English, the French national heroine St. Joan of Arc, known as the Maid of Orléans, and her troops delivered it. The victory continues to be celebrated annually.

Orléans was a Huguenot (Protestant) center during the 16th-century Wars of Religion, but the Roman Catholics took control of the city in 1572 after the Massacre of St. Bartholomew's Day in which about 1,000 Protestants were killed. (It was occupied in 1870 by the Prussians after a long siege.)

The Sainte-Croix Cathedral, begun in the 13th century, was largely destroyed by the Protestants in 1568. Henry IV, king of France from 1589–1610, gave funds for its reconstruction, and it was faithfully rebuilt (17th–19th century) in Gothic style. The 18th-century towers were damaged in World War II but were later restored. The cathedral is about the same size as Notre-Dame of Paris. The stone and brick Renaissance Hôtel de Ville (1549–55) was restored and enlarged in the 19th century.

The city was severely bombed in World War II. Many buildings of historical and artistic interest were destroyed, including the Jeanne-d'Arc Museum and the Church of St. Paul.

The Contemporary City

The Loire River divides Orléans into two unequal parts. To the south lies the smaller Saint-Marceau quarter, a market-gardening center. The main part of the city stands on the northern bank of the Loire. The old quarter, surrounded by pleasant wide boulevards and quays along the river, was largely destroyed during World War II. It has been rebuilt in keeping with the style of the old 18th-century town, with consideration for the imperatives of modern traffic. Beyond the boulevards new districts were created along the main roads leading out of the city.

Since you have a very short time in Orleans, these are our top recommendations. Our goal is to not overwhelm you with other recommendations you will not have time for.



Things To See & Do

[Table of Contents](#)

		DESCRIPTION	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
<u>Orléans Cathedral</u>		Gothic cathedral associated with Joan of Arc. Guided tours include treasury with Byzantine enamels. The cathedral was built from 1278-1329 and 1601-1829 (after partial destruction in 1568). The edifice is Gothic. The cathedral is most famous for its association with Joan of Arc.	Daily: 9:15am-6pm	Free	<u>Place Sainte-Croix, 45000 Orléans, France</u>
<u>Floral Park of the Source</u>		Park with several themed gardens, a butterfly greenhouse, farm animals, a playground and mini golf. Located between the hillside of Sologne and the plain of the Loire Valley, this landscape is a special relief.	Daily: 10am-7pm	Adult: €7	<u>Avenue du Parc Floral, 45100 Orleans, France</u>
<u>Hotel Groslot</u>		Located near the cathedral, the Hotel Groslot was built between 1530-1550 for the Bailiff Jacques Groslot. It has been the City Hall since 1790, and its interior was restored in 1850. Today, visitors can browse the Salon d'Honneur, the guardroom, the former Municipal Council Hall and more.	Mon-Fri: 10am-12pm & 2-6pm Sat: 10am-7pm Sun: 10am-6pm	Free	<u>2 Place de l'Étape, 45000 Orléans, France</u>



Things To See & Do

		DESCRIPTION	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
Museum of Fine Arts of Orléans		The city of Orleans is rich in history and art, so where better to start a tour than the Museum of Fine Arts. The Museum houses a masterpiece by Velasquez [1599-1660] (called the 'Saint Thomas'), and landscapes by François Boucher (1703-1770). It also has a rich collection of works by some 16th century Italian painters and modern and contemporary art.	Tue-Thu & Sat: 10am-6pm Fri: 10am-8pm Sun: 1-6pm Mon: Closed	Free	<u>1 Rue Fernand Rabier, 45000 Orléans, France</u>
<u>House of Jeanne d'Arc</u>		Exhibits on Joan of Arc featured in a reconstructed building. The half-timbered house is a reconstruction of the residence of Jacques Boucher, general treasurer of the Duke of Orleans, in which Jeanne d'Arc stayed during the siege of Orleans in 1429. It now hosts a multimedia room and a research and documentation center.	Fri-Sun & Tue-Thu: 10am-1pm & 2-6pm Mon: Closed	Adult: €6	<u>3 Place du Général de Gaulle, 45000 Orléans, France</u>
<u>Domaine du Croc du Merle</u>		Transmitted from father to son since since 1794, the Domaine du Croc du Merle is divided between dairy and vineyard. Since its creation, Domaine's wines have been rewarded each year for their quality and diversity. Tours and tastings of the farm available - check website for contact form.	Mon-Sat: 9am-12:30pm & 2-7pm Sun: 9am-12:30pm	Free, tastings vary	<u>38 Rue de la Chaumette, 41500 Muides-sur-Loire, France</u>



Things To See & Do

Les Vignerons de Mont-Près- Chambord



Founded in 1931, the Cave Cooperative of the Vintners of Mont-Près-Chambord is ideally located for a tasting break between the visit of the castles of Blois, Cheverny and Chambord. From white to red, to fine bubbles: a tasting full of colors and full of sensations awaits you!

HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
Mon: 2-6pm Tue-Sat: 9am-12pm & 2-6pm Sun: Closed	Free, tastings vary	<u>816 Petite Rue la Petite Rue, 41250 Mont-près- Chambord, France</u>

	DESCRIPTION	CUISINE	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
<u>La Parenthèse</u>	With its red, half-timbered façade, this building dating from 1597 tempts food lovers inside. Copious servings, fresh ingredients, well-cooked jus and sauces await, with no shortage of flavors.	French	Tue-Sat: 12-1pm & 7:30-9pm Sun-Mon: Closed	€€€	<u>26 Place du Châtelet, 45000 Orléans, France</u>
<u>Le Lievre Gourmand</u>	A gourmet restaurant offering playful combinations of flavors, and textures with an original concept.	French, Specialty, International	Wed-Mon: 12-1pm & 8-9pm Tue: Closed	€€€	<u>28 Quai du Châtelet, 45000 Orléans, France</u>
<u>La Dariole</u>	A gorgeous half-timbered house near the cathedral with fabrics, flowers, beams and exposed stonework. The decor lends itself to a good meal and you won't be disappointed. The chef is spot on with each dish. A fine restaurant exhibiting care, tradition and a touch of originality.	French, Tea Room	Mon, Wed-Thu: 12-1:30pm Tue, Fri: 12-1:30pm & 7:30-9:30pm Sat-Sun: Closed	€€€	<u>25 Rue Etienne Dolet, 45000 Orléans, France</u>
<u>Restaurant le Brin de Zinc</u>	A retro atmosphere of the 1920s, with jazz music, this brasserie is a truly a friendly place to enjoy a meal. Try the famous fried mussels.	French, European	Sun-Thu: 11:45am-2:30pm & 6:45-10:30pm Fri-Sat: 11:45am-2:30pm & 6:45-11pm	€€	<u>62-64 Rue Sainte-Catherine, 45000 Orléans, France</u>

Nightlife & Entertainment

[Table of Contents](#)

	DESCRIPTION	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
<u>L'antidote</u>	Antidote, rumery and wine bar in the heart of Orléans, renowned for its dinary cocktails.	Mon-Sat: 5pm-1am Sun: Closed	€€	<u>32 Rue de l'Empereur, 45000 Orléans, France</u>
<u>Le Cabanon</u>	Le Cabanon serves a variety of cocktails, wines, rum and beer. Kick back and enjoy a drink.	Mon-Sat: 5pm-2am Sun: Closed	€	<u>249 Rue de Bourgogne, 45000 Orléans, France</u>
<u>La Scène Bourgogne</u>	The Scène Bourgogne offers creative cocktails, expos and concerts on a regular basis.	Tue: 8pm-2am Wed-Thu: 5pm-2am Fri-Sat: 4pm-2am Sun-Mon: Closed	€	<u>177 Rue de Bourgogne, 45000 Orléans, France</u>

Cultural Guide

Table of Contents

BASIC INFORMATION

Weather: In June, expect average highs of 73°F and lows of 52°F.

TRANSPORTATION

The best way to travel is by foot or bike. The city is not large so by foot is the best way. Many bike rental stations allow you to use a bike from point A to B for a small fee.

Orleans

Table of Contents

POINTS OF INTEREST COLOR KEY

Purple = Hotel

Green = Things to See & Do

Blue = Dining

Yellow = Shopping

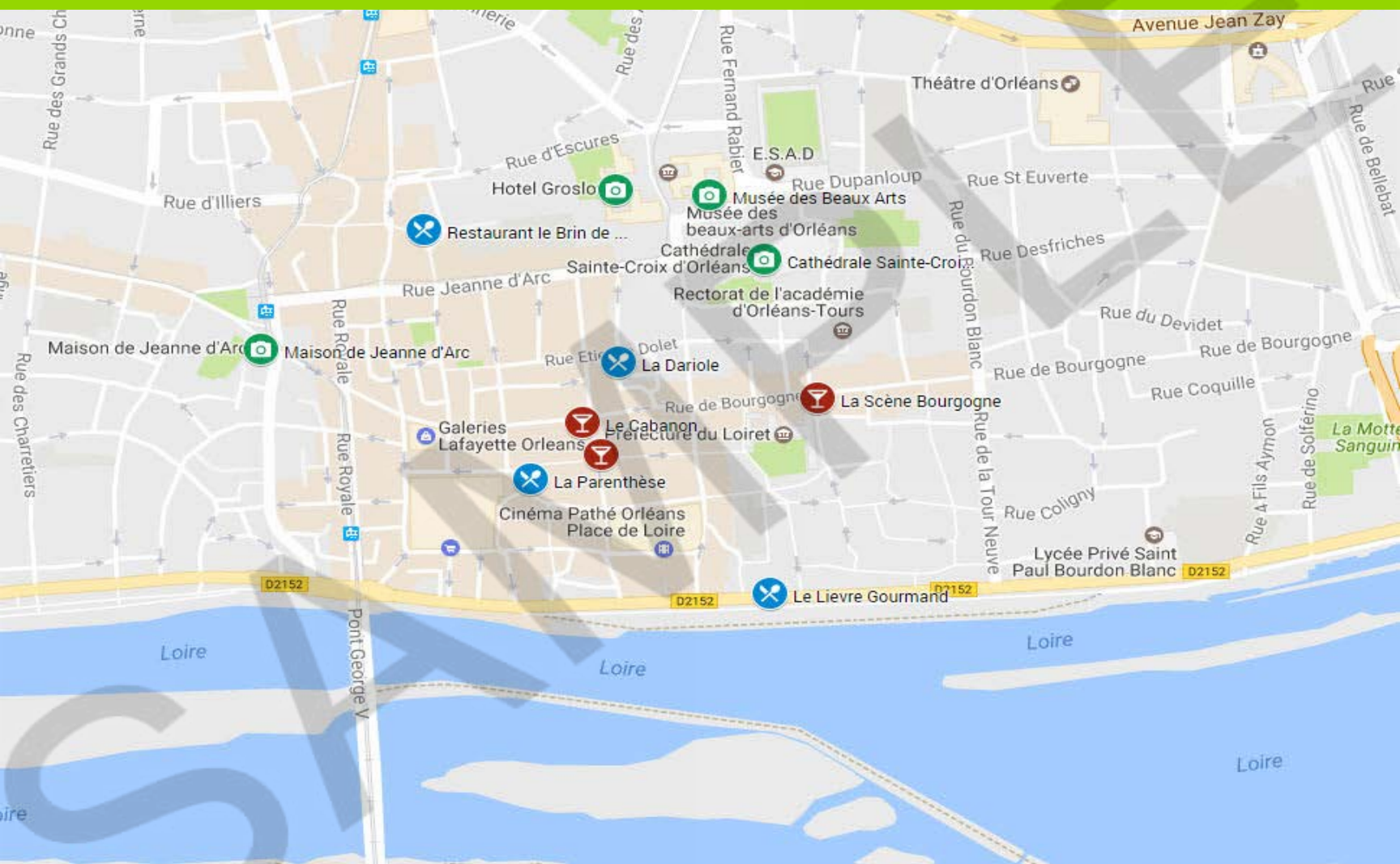
Red = Nightlife & Entertainment

Click anywhere
for custom
Google Maps!

Map 1



Map 1



Guidester PARIS

Plaza Tour Eiffel Hotel

32 Rue Greuze, 75116 Paris, France

Phone: +33 1 47 27 10 00



A Snapshot & Brief History

A Snapshot of Paris, France

A city for romantics, art enthusiasts and lovers of street life, Paris holds fascination and beauty around every corner. Paris, the cosmopolitan capital of France, is one of the largest agglomerations in Europe, with 2.2 million people living in the dense, central city and almost 12 million people living in the whole metropolitan area. Located in the north of France on the river Seine, Paris has the reputation of being the most beautiful and romantic of all European cities, brimming with historic associations and remaining vastly influential in the realms of culture, art, fashion, food and design.

The city of Paris itself is officially divided into 20 districts called arrondissements, numbered from 1 to 20 in a clockwise spiral from the center of the city (which is known as Kilometre Zero and is located at the front of Notre Dame). Arrondissements are named according to their number. You might, for example, stay in the "5th", which would be written as 5e in French.

A Brief History

Paris started life as the Celto-Roman settlement of Lutetia on the island in the Seine currently occupied by the Cathédral de Notre Dame. It takes its present name from name of the dominant Gallo-Celtic tribe in the region, the Parisii. At least that's what the Romans called them, when they showed up in 52 BCE and established their city Lutetia on the left bank of the Seine, in what is now called the "Latin Quarter" in the 5th arrondissement. The Romans held out here until the Western Roman Empire fell, but by 508 CE they were gone, replaced by Clovis of the Franks, who is considered by the French to have been their first king.

Clovis' descendants held onto the expanded state for nearly 500 years through Viking raids and other calamities, which finally resulted in a forced move by most of the population back to the islands which had been the center of the original Celtic village. Over the next several centuries Paris expanded onto the right bank into what is still called le Marais (The Marsh). Quite a few buildings from this time can be seen in the 4th arrondissement. The medieval period also witnessed the founding of the Sorbonne. As the "University of Paris", it became one of the most important centers for learning in Europe, if not the whole world,

for several hundred years. Most of the institutions that still constitute the University are found in the 5th, and 13th arrondissements.

In the late 18th century, there was a period of political and social upheaval in France and Europe, during which the French governmental structure, previously a monarchy with feudal privileges for the aristocracy and Catholic clergy, underwent radical change based on Enlightenment principles of nationalism, citizenship, and inalienable rights. Notable events during and following the revolution were the storming of the Bastille 4th arrondissements, and the rise and fall of Napoleonic France. Out of the violent turmoil that was the French Revolution, sparked by the still known *Passion des Français*, emerged the enlightened modern day France.

In the 19th century, Baron von Hausmann set about reconstructing the city, by adding the long straight avenues and replacing many of the existing medieval houses, with grander and more uniform buildings. New wonders arrived during *La Belle Époque*, as the Parisian golden age of the late 19th century became known. Gustave Eiffel's famous tower, the first metro lines, most of the parks, and the streetlights (which are partly believed to have given the city its epithet "the city of light") all come from this period.

The 20th century was hard on Paris, but not as hard as it could have been. Hitler's order to burn the city was thankfully ignored by the German General von Choltitz who was quite possibly convinced by a Swedish diplomat that it would be better to surrender and be remembered as the savior of Paris, than to be remembered as its destroyer. Following the war, the city recovered quickly at first, but slowed in the 1970s and 1980s when Paris began to experience some of the problems faced by big cities everywhere: pollution, housing shortages, and occasionally failed experiments in urban renewal. During this time however, Paris enjoyed considerable growth as a multi-cultural city, with new immigrants from all corners of the world. These immigrants brought their foods and music, both of which are of prime interest for many travelers.

Immigration and multi-culturalism continues in the 21st century with a marked increase in the arrival of people from Latin America, especially Mexico, Colombia, and Brazil. The 21st century has also seen vast improvements in the general quality of

life for Parisians, with the Mayor's office concentrating on reducing pollution and improving facilities for soft forms of transportation including a huge network of cycle paths, larger pedestrian districts and newer faster metro lines. Visitors who normally arrive car-less are the beneficiaries of these policies as much as the Parisians themselves are.



Things To See & Do

[Table of Contents](#)

Palace of Versailles (On the way to Paris)



Together with its gardens, the Château de Versailles is one of the most famous monuments of world heritage. Any visit to Paris is not complete without a visit to the famous palace of the French kings. You should plan to spend a half to full day here.¹

Daily:
9am-6:30pm

Palace Ticket
Adult: €18
Full Access to Estate
Adult: €20

Place d'Armes,
78000 Versailles,
France

Eiffel Tower



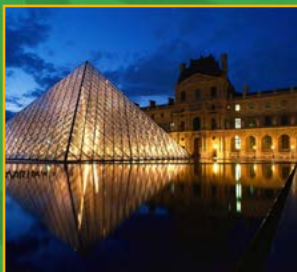
A not-to-be-missed monument and symbol of the capital, the Eiffel Tower stands 324m tall, and weighs 10,100 tons. Created in 2 years, 2 months and 5 days, it was built for the 'Exposition Universelle' of 1889. You can go up the Eiffel Tower by the stairs or by lift.²

Daily:
9am-12am

€17/adult
for lift
entrance to
top

Champ de Mars,
5 Avenue Anatole
France, 75007
Paris, France

The Louvre



Former residence of the kings of France, the Louvre has been one of the biggest museums in the world for two centuries. Unless the line is visibly nonexistent, avoid the main entrance under the glass pyramid. Instead, head to the Porte des Lions on the wing closest to the Seine to purchase tickets at a rarely-used entrance. 📍

Mon, Thu,
Sat & Sun:
9am-6pm

Wed & Fri:
9am-9:45pm

Tue: Closed

€15/adult

Rue de Rivoli,
75001 Paris,
France



Things To See & Do

Notre Dame Cathedral



A masterpiece of Gothic architecture, this cathedral is the most visited monument in France. Its many visitors come to admire its stained glass and rose windows, the towers, the steeple and the gargoyles. You can also discover the Notre-Dame treasury and have a go at climbing the towers to enjoy a beautiful panoramic view of Paris.³ 

Mon-Fri:
7:45am-
6:45pm

Sat-Sun:
7:45am-
7:15pm

Cathedral:
Free

Towers:
€10/adult

6 Parvis
Notre-Dame
- Pl. Jean-Paul
II, 75004 Paris,
France

Arc de Triomphe



Overlooking the Champs-Élysées, the Arc de Triomphe is the biggest arch in the world. It was commissioned by Napoleon in 1806 to celebrate his victory at Austerlitz. Beneath the arch is the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and each evening at 6.30pm its flame is rekindled. From the top of the monument, visitors can benefit from a beautiful panoramic view of Paris.

Daily:
10am-11pm

€12/adult

Place
Charles-de-
Gaulle 75008
Paris, France

The Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Paris



The Sacré-Coeur, consecrated in 1919, is one of the most iconic monuments in Paris. Atop the Butte Montmartre, it has one of the most beautiful panoramic views of the capital, from more than 400 meters above ground. In a Roman-Byzantine style, the Sacré Coeur is recognizable by its white color. Inside, the ceiling is decorated with the largest mosaic in France.⁴

Daily:
6am-
10:30pm

Free
Dome
and
Crypt:
€8/adult

35 rue du
Chevalier de la
Barre 75018 Paris

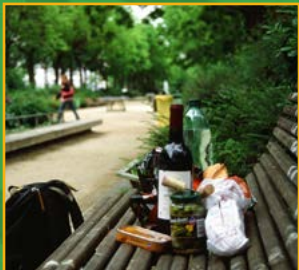


Things To See & Do

		DESCRIPTION	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
Montmartre		Montmartre, a 427 ft. tall hill located in the north of Paris, has long been known as the premier artist's enclave. The word Montmartre means "mountain of the martyr" and was derived from the martyrdom of Saint Denis, the bishop of Paris, who was decapitated atop the hill in 250 AD. These sweeping views of the city are often touted as the best in the city. 📍	24/7	Free	<u>Montmartre</u> <u>75018 Paris</u>
Musée d'Orsay		Walk over the bridge from the Louvre to the Musée d'Orsay and witness a literal and figurative bridge between classical and modern art. Housing the world's most important collection of impressionist and post-impressionist painting, the Musée d'Orsay's light, airy rooms whirl you through three floors of modern wonders.	Tue-Sun: 9:30am-6pm Mon: Closed	€11/adult	<u>1 Rue de la</u> <u>Légion</u> <u>d'Honneur,</u> <u>75007 Paris</u>
The Latin Quarter		A historic area near the Notre Dame, the Latin Quarter is filled with tiny, winding streets that turn at weird angles to open into little cafe-lined squares. There are a lot of bars here and it's very popular with students at night. Located on the left bank of the Seine near Sorbonne University.	24/7	Free	<u>Latin Quarter,</u> <u>Paris</u>



Things To See & Do

		DESCRIPTION	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
<u>Catacombs of Paris</u>		Underneath the city of Paris, you'll find a honeycomb of tunnels. The French resistance used these tunnels during World War II, and rave parties flourished there during the 1990s. Victor Hugo used his knowledge about the tunnel system when he wrote Les Misérables. The section of catacombs open to the public has a nice tour that takes about 45 minutes.	Tue-Sun: 10am-8pm Mon: Closed	€12/adult	<u>1 Avenue du Colonel Henri Rol-Tanguy,</u> <u>75014 Paris,</u> <u>France</u>
<u>Luxembourg Garden</u>		This is one of the most popular park in Paris. The park, situated near the Latin Quarter, offers a lot of variety and attracts all kinds of people, from students and parents with children to tourists. The gardens, which cover 25 hectares of land, are split into French gardens and English gardens. Between the two lies a geometric forest and a large pond.	Daily: 7:30am-8pm	Free	<u>Boulevard Saint-Michel, Ile-de-France, Paris,</u> <u>France, 75006</u>
<u>Have a picnic</u>		With so many beautiful parks and outdoor gardens, it would be hard not to take advantage of this. Eating in Paris is cheap when you do your own shopping. Buy some bread, cheese, and meat at the local shops and have an outdoor picnic. It's fun and will cost you a fraction of what a restaurant would.	24/7	Free	Luxembourg Garden



Things To See & Do

		DESCRIPTION	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
<u>Centre Georges Pompidou and the Beaubourg Neighborhood</u>		Parisians consider the Centre Georges Pompidou to be the cultural pulse of the city. This modern art museum and cultural center, located in the neighborhood affectionately dubbed Beaubourg by locals, opened in 1977 to honor president Georges Pompidou.	Wed-Mon: 11am-10pm Tue: Closed	€14/adult	<u>Place Georges-Pompidou, 75004 Paris</u>
<u>Walk the Champs Elysees</u>		This very prestigious avenue in Paris is full of cinemas, cafes and specialty shops. It's also one of the most famous streets in the world, running down from the Arc de Triomphe to the Louvre. It is always busy and expensive, but it's a great place to stroll and take in Paris. Come in the early morning to see the place utterly deserted - it makes for great photos. 📍	24/7	Free	Champs Elysees, Paris
<u>Private Paris Food Tour: The 10 Tastings</u>		French food, c'est si bon! From tasty tapenades from the Provence to sweet macaroons made by a true artisan - this private food tour has it all! Get ready for 10 tastings and memories to last a lifetime during this fun 3-hour food tour. All 10 tastings are included, bon appetit!	Departure Time: 11am or 4:30pm Duration: Approx. 3 hours	\$64.58 / person	<u>Start: Central meeting point next to Marché d'Aligre</u>



Things To See & Do

Paris Chocolate and Pastry Food Tour



DESCRIPTION	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
Combine your love of chocolate and cakes with your passion for Paris! This small group tour (max. 8 people) combines French gourmet specialties with an afternoon walking tour. An expert food connoisseur will take you through a number of Paris neighborhoods to visit at least three pastry shops, a bakery and three chocolate shops. Free snacks included!	Duration: Approx. 3 hours	\$107.64 / person	Departure Point: Central Paris location

¹The buildings trace the architectural style of the 17th and 18th centuries and comprise: the Royal Apartments, the Hall of Mirrors, the Chapel, the Royal Opera and the Museum of the History of France.

²On the completely refurbished 1st floor, there are shops; on the 2nd, treat yourself to a gastronomic meal at the famous Jules Verne restaurant, 125 meters above ground. Finally on the 3rd floor you are at cloud level and have an exceptional 360° view! It is best to allot a couple hours just for the Eiffel Tower. You can also arrange a dinner at the very top for those romantic occasions.

³It was built in the Middle Ages, at the far end of the île de la Cité. Work started in the 13th century and finished in the 15th century. Badly damaged during the French Revolution, the cathedral was restored in the 19th century by the architect Viollet-le-Duc.

⁴Take the funicular up with a metro ticket and stop off at Sacre Coeur before exploring the winding, village-like streets of Montmartre. Check out the crypt below and climb the 300 steps to the top of the dome for great views.

	DESCRIPTION	CUISINE	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
<u>Bouillon Chartier</u>	A great place to discover the authentic French cuisines with all your usual clichés. This is a classy, historic place over 100 years old that offers a lot of French culture in a single dose.	French	Daily: 11:30am-12am	€€	<u>7 Rue du Faubourg Montmartre, 75009 Paris, France</u>
<u>Dominique Bouchet</u>	An upscale Parisian establishment with an intimate, contemporary atmosphere, attentive service, and beautifully prepared dishes based around fresh and tasty market ingredients. Reservations recommended - call +33(0)1 45 61 09 46 	French	Mon-Fri: 12pm-2pm & 7pm-9:30pm Sat-Sun: Closed	€€€	<u>11 Rue Treilhard, 75008 Paris, France</u>
<u>Bistrot Victoires</u>	Just a short walk from the Louvre, this cheerful bistro with a nostalgic decor worthy of a Parisian postcard is a local favorite for tasty Gallic grub such as steak frites, confit de canard, or roast chicken. Skip a starter and share a dessert instead, maybe the tarte tatin or the profiteroles with lashings of hot chocolate sauce.	French, Bistro	Mon - Fri: 9am-12am Sat-Sun: 10am-12am	€€	<u>6 Rue de la Vrillière, 75001 Paris, France</u>
<u>Boco</u>	A good, cheap meal when you're on the go. Dishes have been specifically prepared for reheating or to be consumed refrigerated and most are excellent, particularly the desserts, and it'll end up costing you little more than a trip to McDonald's.	Quick Bite, Bistro	Mon-Sat: 11am-10pm Sun: Closed	€	<u>3 Rue Danielle Casanova, 75001 Paris</u>

Dining

	DESCRIPTION	CUISINE	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
<u>Breizh Café</u>	The Marais branch of an excellent crêperie from the seaside Breton town of Cancale, serves buckwheat galettes and crêpes made with top quality ingredients.	Creperie, Café	Tue-Sat: 11:30am-11pm Sun: 11:30am-10pm Mon: Closed	€€	<u>109 Rue Vieille du Temple, 75003 Paris, France</u>
<u>Le Petit Cler</u>	A well-priced and very casual spot on the rue Cler from the people behind La Fontaine de Mars. Le Petit Clerc is its excellent-value sibling and ideal for a meal before or after a visit to the Eiffel Tower.	French, Café	Daily: 8am-11:30pm	€€	<u>29 Rue Cler, 75007 Paris, France</u>
<u>Frenchie</u>	Tucked down an alley you wouldn't venture down otherwise, this bijou bistro with wooden tables and old stone walls is iconic. The place is very popular with locals and tourists alike so reservations are recommended. 📍	French, Modern European	Mon-Wed: 6:30-10pm Thu-Fri: 12-2pm & 6:30-10pm Sat-Sun: Closed	€€€	<u>5 Rue du Nil, 75002 Paris</u>
<u>Du Pain et Des Indes</u>	Renowned bakery and pastry shop along the Canal St. Martin.	Bakery	Daily: 6:45am-8pm	€	<u>34 Rue Yves Toudic, 75010 Paris, France</u>

Dining

	DESCRIPTION	CUISINE	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
<u>La Flûte Gana</u>	This bakery is run by the three daughters of the famous baker Bernard Ganachaud. The recipe for his traditional baguette has been passed down through generations, so it's definitely something to taste!	Boulangère	Tue-Sat: 7:30am-8pm Sun-Mon: Closed	€€	<u>226 Rue des Pyrénées 75020 Paris</u>
<u>Le Verre a Pied</u>	A friendly neighborhood bistro with beautiful French dishes and a great selection of drinks. This café-tabac is a pearl of a place where little has changed since 1870. Its nicotine-hued mirrored wall, molded cornices and original bar is full of charm, glamour and romance of an old Paris.	French, Bistro	Tue & Thu-Sat: 9am-9pm Wed: 9am-11:30pm Sun: 9:30am-3:30pm	€€	<u>118 Rue Mouffetard, 75005 Paris, France</u>
<u>Chez Gladines</u>	This fantastic restaurant continues to conquer Paris and convince the Parisians with their dishes directly from the South West region. Reservations can only be made online. 📍	French, Basque	Mon-Fri: 12-3pm & 7-11:30pm Sat-Sun: 12-4pm & 7-11:30pm	€€	<u>30 Rue Des 5 Diamants, 75013 Paris, France</u>
<u>Le Jules Verne</u>	The designer decor on the second floor of the Eiffel Tower lives up to expectations, with a magical view as a bonus! French culinary heritage is the focus here, where classic dishes are accompanied by some excellent wines.	French, Modern	Daily: 12-1:30pm & 7-9:30pm	€€€€	<u>Eiffel Tower, Avenue Gustave Eiffel, 7500 Paris, France</u>

Dining

	DESCRIPTION	CUISINE	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
<u>Le Poincaré</u>	Market cuisine made from fresh produce. Renewed each day are bistro classics, specialties like beef tartare and fried parmesan pesto-fries, wild sea bass with citrus, the real Caesar salad or tiramisu delicious Nutella-Speculoos. A warm welcome and a sunny spacious terrace all year.	French, Bistro	Daily: 7am-11pm	€€	<u>22 Avenue Raymond Poincaré, 75116 Paris, France</u>

	DESCRIPTION	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
Galleries Lafayette and Printemps	Historical and prestigious shopping temples that sit next to each other. The Coupole inside the Galleries Lafayette is a must see, as well as the Printemps' rooftop for the view.	Mon-Sat: 9:30am-8:30pm Sun: 11am-7pm	€€	<u>40 Boulevard Haussmann, 75009 Paris</u>
Avenue Montaigne and Rue du Faubourg St Honoré	An incredible shopping experience if you can afford it. If you don't have enough, end up with a quick tour on the Champs Élysées. Most of the Golden Triangle area is great for shopping.	Varies	€€€	<u>Avenue Montaigne, Paris</u>

Nightlife & Entertainment

[Table of Contents](#)

	DESCRIPTION	HOURS	PRICE \$	LOCATION
<u>Le Comptoir Général</u>	A very cool bar where hipsters, boho-chic types and families are all tumbled in together for a fun time out. It is a varied but very Parisian mix.	Daily: 11am-2am	€€	80 Quai de Jemmapes, 75010 Paris
Le Baron Rouge	In this tiny den devoted to the glory of wine, the walls are carpeted with bottles and barrels are stacked from floor to ceiling where locals come to get their wine fix after work and weekends.	Mon: 5-10pm Tue-Fri: 10am-2pm & 5-10pm Sat: 10am-10pm Sun: 10am-4pm	€€	<u>1 Rue Théophile Roussel, 75012 Paris, France</u>
Canal Saint Martin	Grab some wine and drinks to go along the beautiful canal Saint-Martin.	24/7	Free	<u>Quai de Valmy, 75010 Paris</u>
<u>Experimental Cocktail Club</u>	Called ECC by locals, this famous speakeasy with grey façade and old-beamed ceiling is fun and hip. The place is oozing with spirit and soul with retro-chic decor and serves as a great place to grab a cocktail in Paris center.	Mon-Thu: 7pm-2am Fri-Sat: 7pm-4am Sun: 8pm-2am	€€€	<u>37 Rue Saint-Sauveur, 75002 Paris, France</u>

BASIC INFORMATION

Weather: In June, expect an average high of 73°F and an average low of 57°F.

TRANSPORTATION

Most visitors combine the efficient metro with walking. Buses offer a good view of the city, but can be hard to figure out and slowed by traffic.

Metro

The quick and easy way to travel around the city, as well as the best value. The Paris metro has around 300 stations, their entrances marked by a big yellow “M”, and 16 lines, numbered from 1 to 14, 3 bis and 7 bis. Each line has a color, which you’ll find on signs in the stations and on all the RATP maps. Operates everyday from 6:30am-12:30am.

Buy a Paris Visite

The Paris Transport travel card is a pass allowing unlimited travel on the bus, metro, tramway and RER networks in Paris and its suburbs. The Paris Visit pass is valid for 1, 2, 3 or 5 consecutive days. Starting from €6.50/adult. [See here to book online.](#)

Bus

The bus is a great way to discover the city, but can be difficult to navigate. There are a wide variety of routes, many of which go through the city center, along the Seine River banks or through well-known historical areas. The bus routes do mirror the metro maps so if you can get that down you will be great. Buses operate from Monday to Saturday from 7am to 8.30pm or thereabouts.

Cultural Guide

CULTURAL TIPS

Paris Pass

- This one purchase gives you admission to all the leading museums and monuments in Paris and Ile-de-France, as well as sightseeing tours to admire the top sights in Paris. And you get unlimited transport throughout your stay in zones 1 to 3. A free map is provided with every purchase of a Paris City Pass.
- The Paris City Pass is available for 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 days
- Offering skip-the-line access to the leading museums and monuments in Paris and Ile-de-France, the pass saves you precious time during your Paris stay.
- **[More information here.](#)**

Paris

Table of Contents

POINTS OF INTEREST COLOR KEY

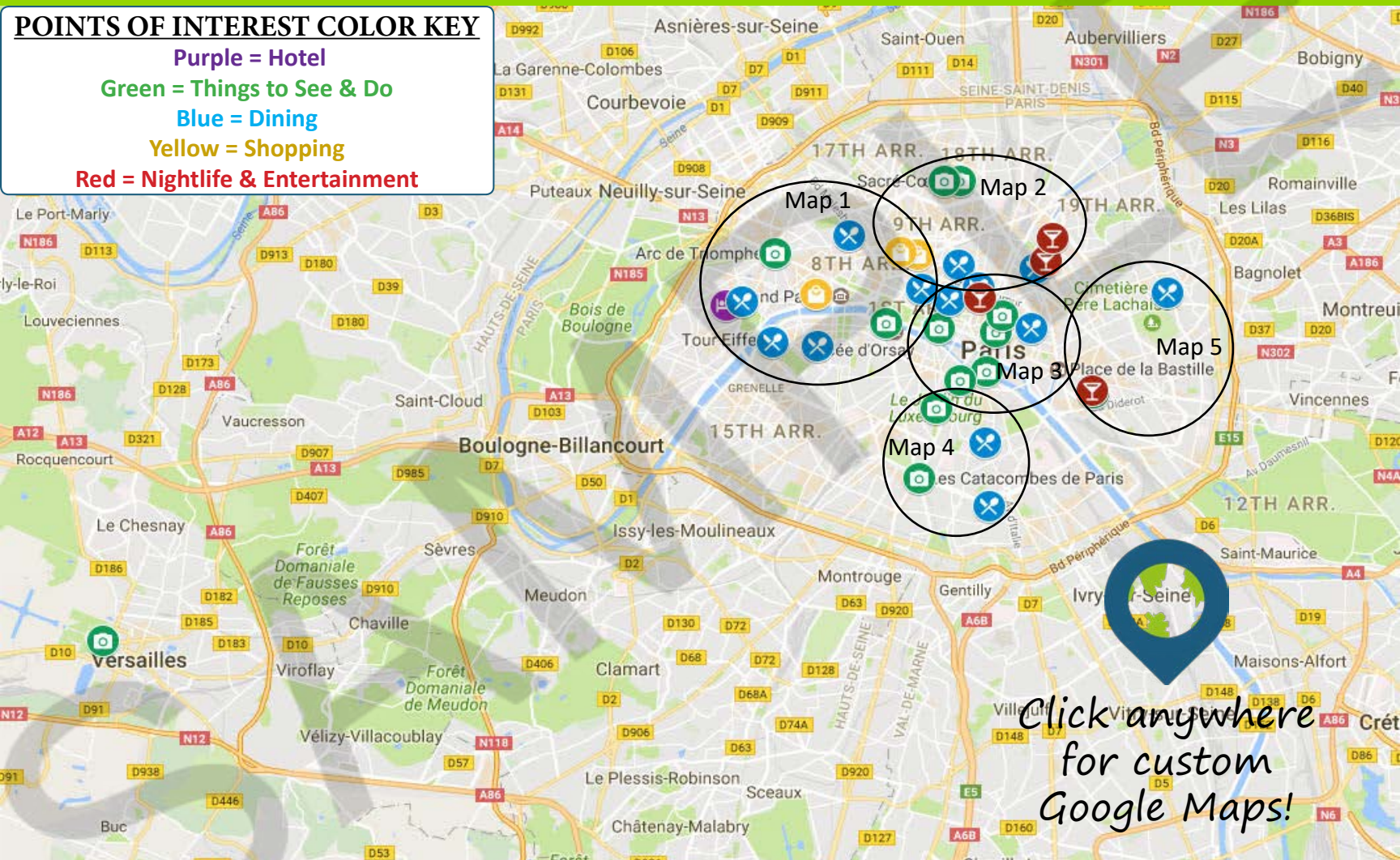
Purple = Hotel

Green = Things to See & Do

Blue = Dining

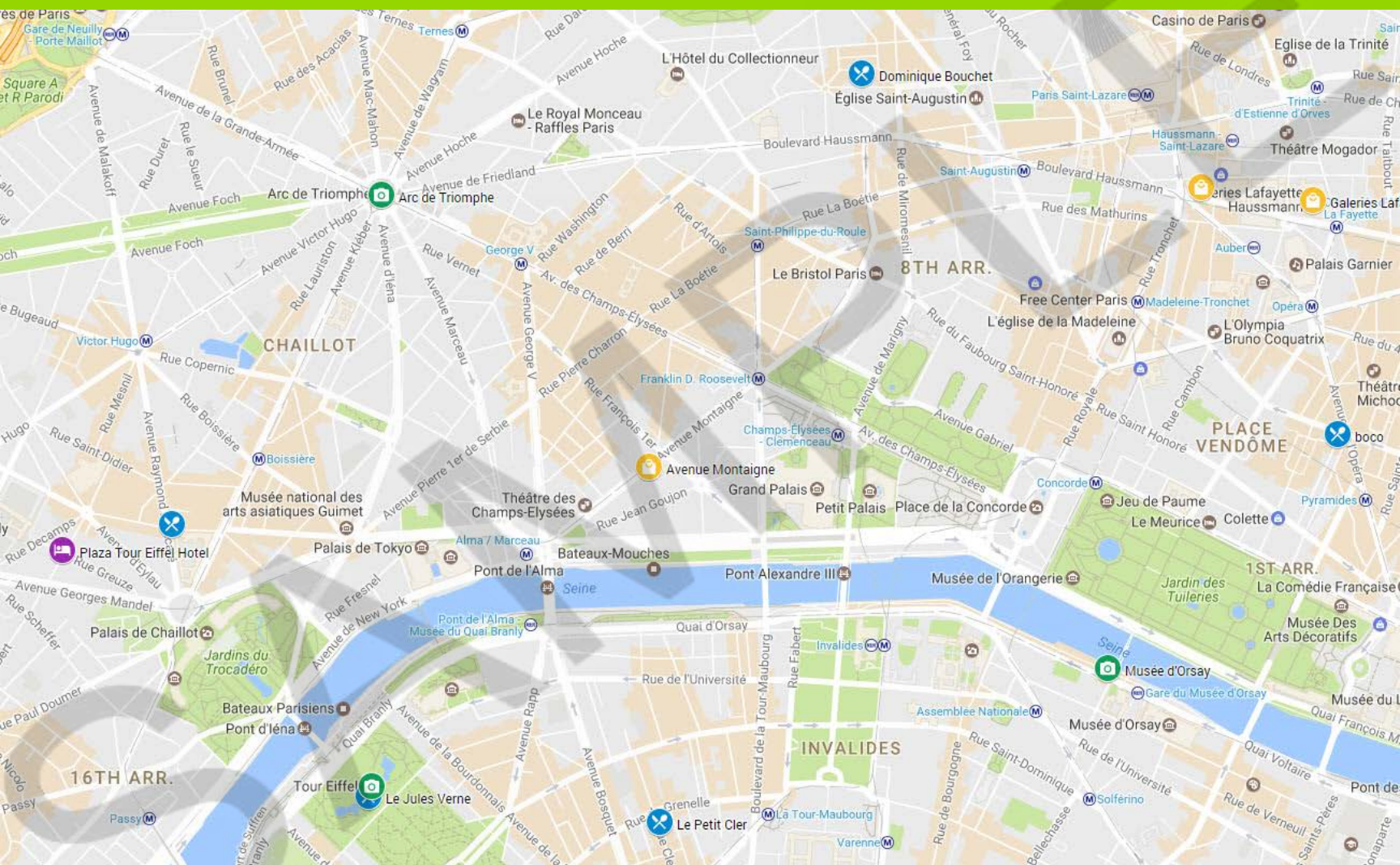
Yellow = Shopping

Red = Nightlife & Entertainment

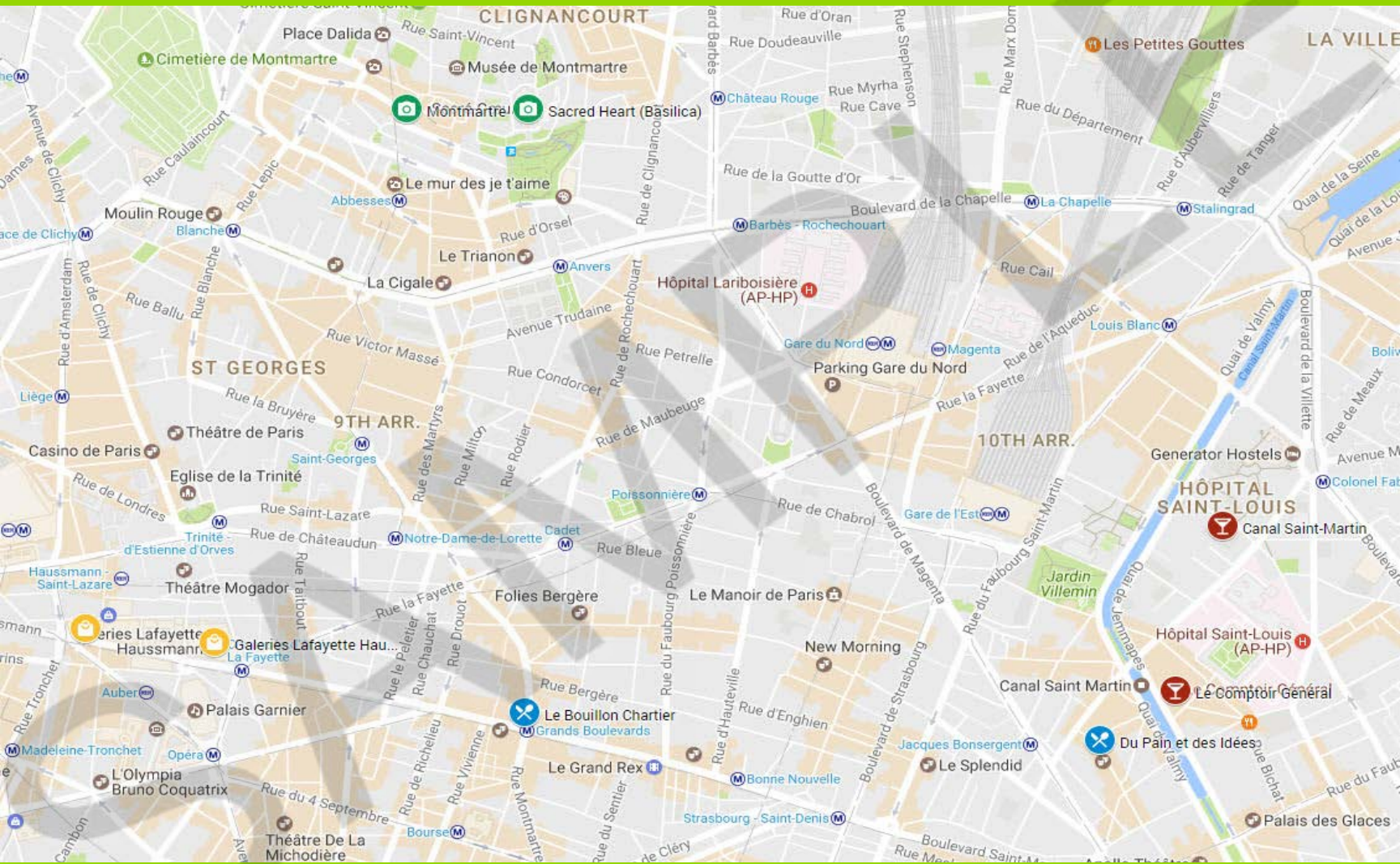


Click anywhere
for custom
Google Maps!

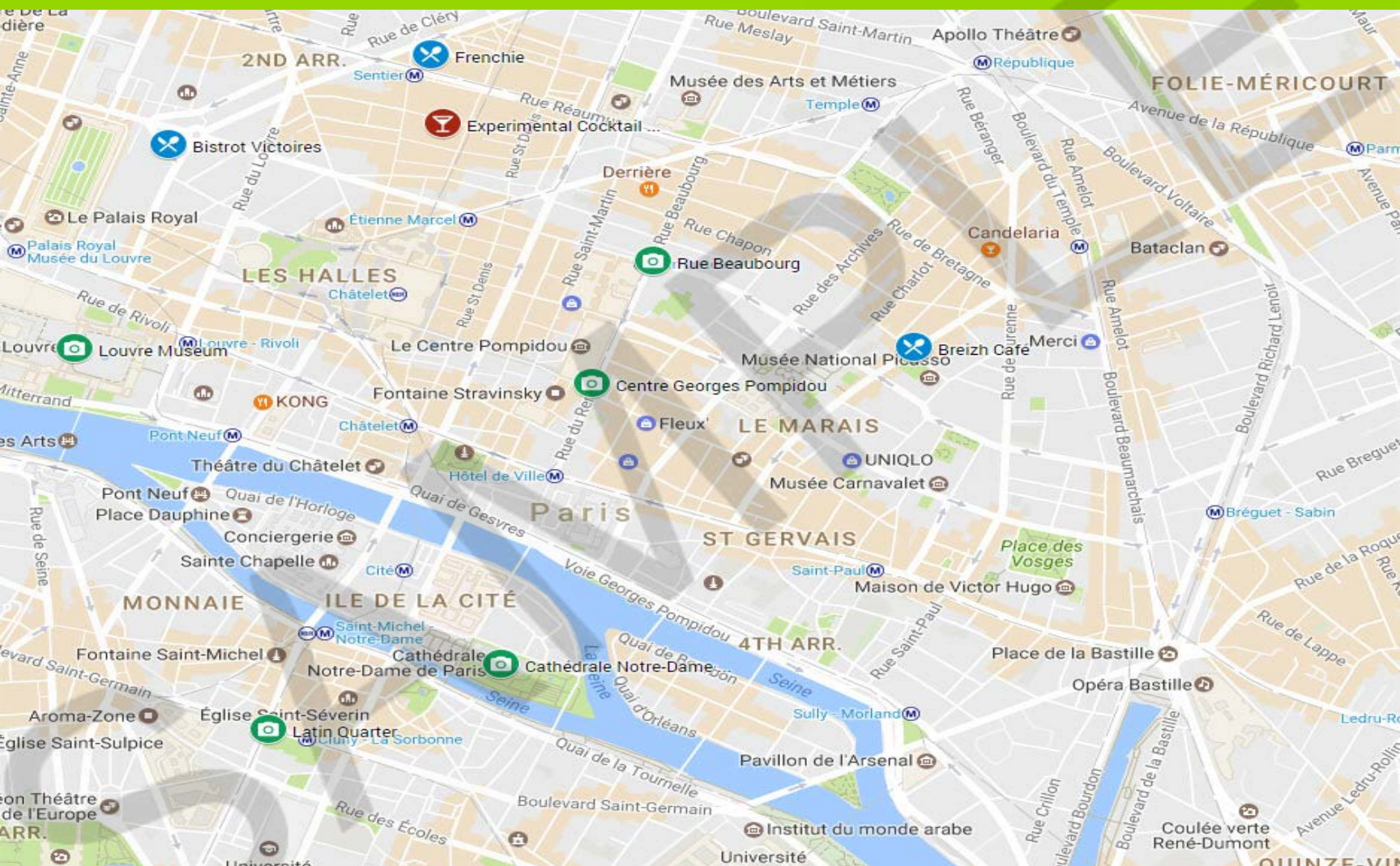
Map 1



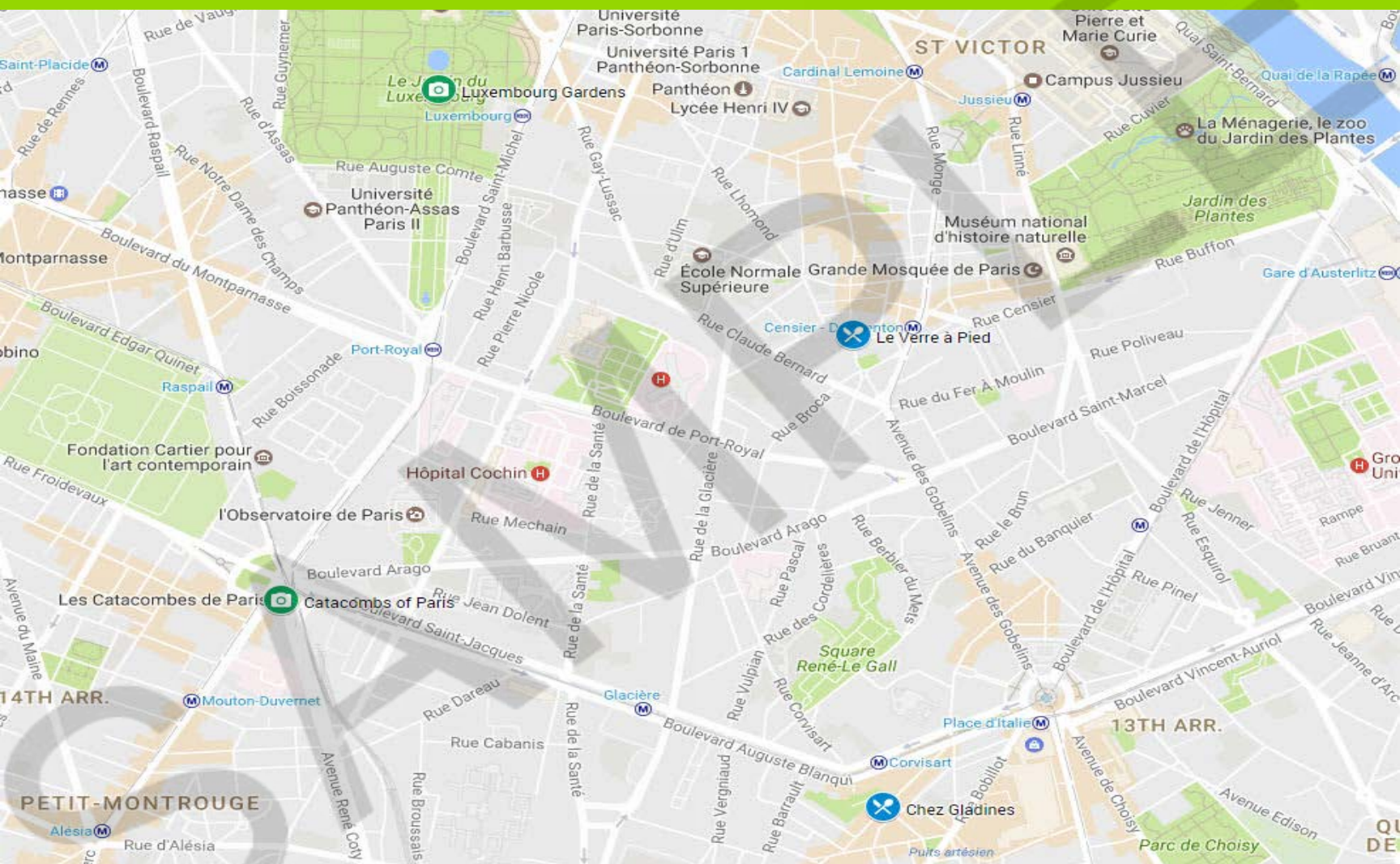
Map 2



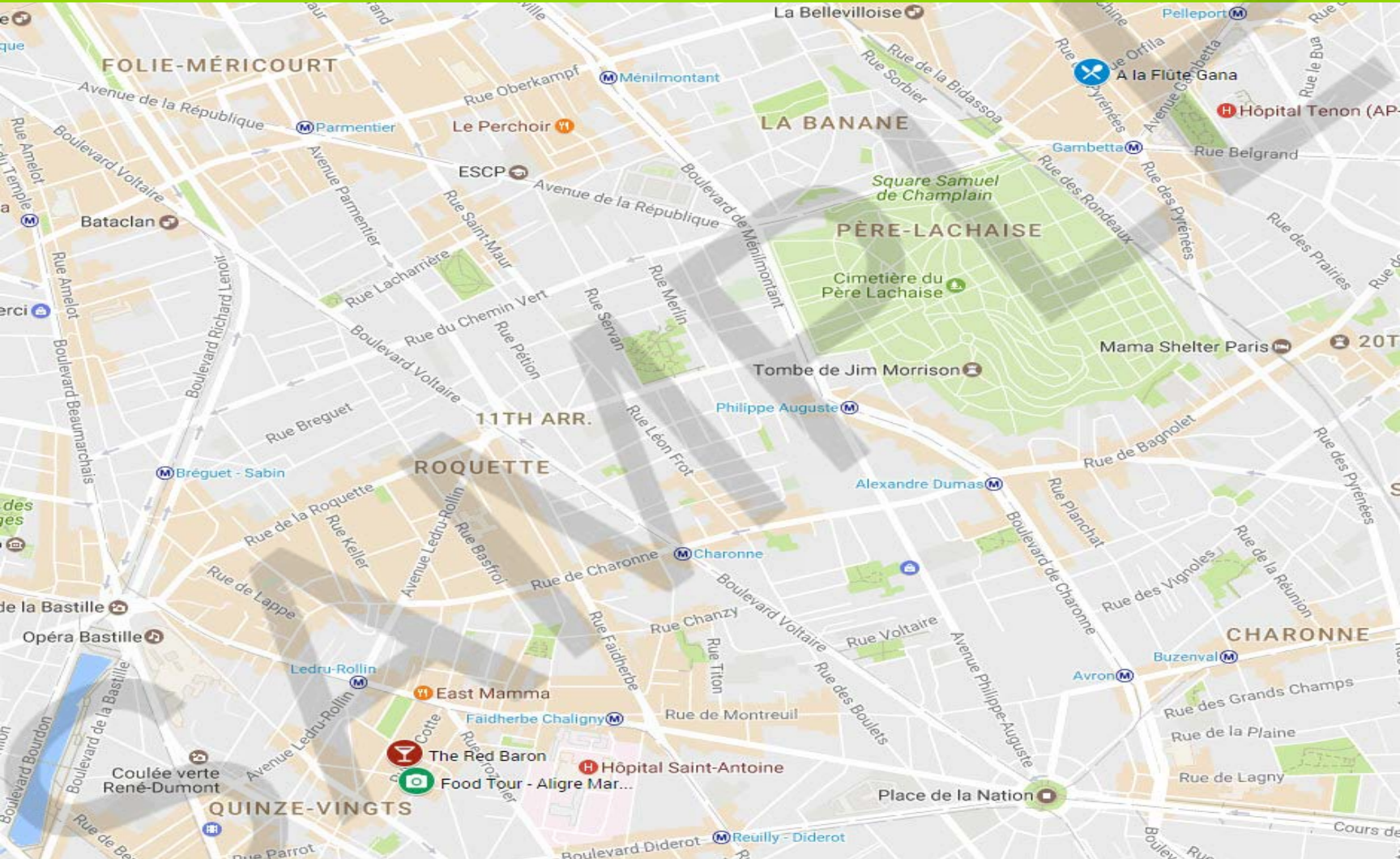
Map 3



Map 4



Map 5



BASIC INFORMATION

Language: French

Currency: Euro €

Voltage: 220-240 Volts (U.S./Canada are 110-120 Volts) Adapter needed.

Local Time Zone: Central European Time Zone (UTC+1:00) -7 hours behind CST

TRANSPORTATION

Driving in France

Renting a car is the best way to explore the Loire Valley region so you have flexibility. Exploring each of these towns by foot is generally an easy task.

If you want to see the real France, be clever and combine autoroutes and expressways with country roads and local highways. This makes it possible to drive through the idyllic French countryside on a brisk journey to the sun, while making sightseeing stops at charming towns and villages en route.

French autoroutes are excellent and fast-moving, but tolls can add up quickly. There's no need to worry about carrying the right money for autoroute tolls, however, as they accept all the major credit and debit cards, and even foreign currency.

Be sure to obey French laws on the road. They're simple enough, but French police have a penchant for on-the-spot fines. Fines can be imposed for almost any offence, such as not stopping at a 'stop' sign, not wearing a seat belt, breaking the speed limit, or illegally overtaking. Headlights should be adjusted for driving on the right so as not to dazzle oncoming drivers at night. Driving while over the alcohol limit is a more serious matter. The legal limit for alcohol in the blood is only 0.05% (compared to 0.08 in the US).

The only unfamiliar rule may be *priorité à droite* (priority to the right). This means that as well as driving on the right, you must "give way to anything approaching from the right". In practice, this mainly refers to urban traffic, because it doesn't apply when

Cultural Guide

your road has the right of way (“passage protégé” – indicated by a rectangular yellow sign), or where vehicles coming from the right are emerging from private property. But do watch for signs to see who has priority when two roads merge. When entering a roundabout, if there’s a cédez le passage (give way) sign, it means cars already in the roundabout have priority.

Petrol should serve no problems. Prices may be a little higher than in the United States.

SAFETY

Generally speaking, France is a very safe place to visit. As with all travel, be aware of your surroundings, especially in public transportation systems, restaurants, places of worship, public areas, and other tourist destinations that draw a large number of people. Always be aware for pickpockets.

A new smartphone app ([see here](#)), by the French government, notifies users of possible security incidents across the country, including natural disasters and all terror attacks.

In a state of emergency, the French government is at liberty to shut down certain attractions or points of interest without warning if they believe there is a threat to security. Public transportation systems will see more security, as will airports, which means arriving at airports or train stations in anticipation of delays is advised.

COMMUNICATION

To call the US, dial 00 + 1 + area code + local number

To call France from the US, dial 011 + 33 + local number

Cultural Guide

Skype - This is a great, free, way to communicate with loved ones back home. Simply have both parties install the program on their computer, smart phone or iPad. Create an account and video chat for free, or you can purchase Skype credits for cheap, which allow you to call landlines back home.

Cell phones – you can purchase international minutes from your local provider, but those can sometimes be expensive. To do this, call your provider's service line and tell them the dates and destinations to which you'll be traveling.

Calling cards – prepaid calling cards are another alternative if you are wanting to call home frequently. These can be bought online or at many convenient stores.

Other apps – There are several other free apps you can download which allow you access to people with the same app anywhere in the world. **WhatsApp** and **Viber** are the two most popular. Both are very easy to use.

FRANCE CULTURAL TIPS

Boulangerie vs. Patisserie

Boulangerie is what the French call a bakery. It is important to know the difference between a boulangerie and a patisserie. While a patisserie is a bakery specializing in pastries, and headed by a pastry chef, a boulangerie is a bakery that focuses mainly on baking breads.

Restaurant / Tipping Etiquette:

- Service is included, by law, in all French restaurants bills. A good rule of thumb is to leave some change on the table for the meal. Depending on the service, 1-5 €, per person, is appropriate.
- Make advance dinner reservations for small or upscale restaurants.
- Don't cut around a line even though you may see locals do it.
- Ask, don't assume everyone speaks English.
- It's fine to ask about foreign menu items you don't know.

Cultural Guide

LOIRE VALLEY CULTURAL TIPS

Loire Valley Wines

The Loire Valley produces some of France's best wines, with over 20 different appellations. So take advantage when you are in Orleans of sampling the wines in the restaurants, but also taking side trips to the vineyards. To the east, you can discover Sancerre with its white wines produced from the Sauvignon grape. To the west, the area around Nantes produces Muscadet.

Loire Valley Food

The Loire Valley is known for its game, hunted in the nearby forest of the Sologne. As Orleans is on the banks of the Loire, fish is also a good bet, while mushrooms come from the caves near Saumur.

Wine in Loire Valley Chateau Country

The first traces of wine production in this part of the Loire started under Roman occupation. Most of the region is under the AOC Touraine wine region, covering 8,000 hectares in 146 communes. Vouvray is made from Chenin Blanc grapes, known as pineau blanc in the Loire, and can be made into a sweet wine.

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

French	Pronunciation	Meaning
Aperitif	a-pare-a-teef	An after work drink/pre going out
S'il vous plaît	see-voo-play	Please
Je suis	zheu swee	I am
Je cherche	zheu share-sh	I'm looking for
Je veux	zheu veu	I want
Un hôtel	ern otell	a hotel

Cultural Guide

French	Pronunciation	Meaning
Une chambre	une shombre	a room
Manger	mon-zhay	to eat
Boire	bwar	to drink
Payer	pay-yeh	to pay
Acheter	ash-tay	to buy
Petit-déjeuner	peuti – dayzheurnay	breakfast
Diner	dee-nay	dinner
Un demi	ern deu-mee	a half pint of draught beer
Un verre	ern vair	a glass
De l'eau	deu-lo	some water
Un thé (au lait)	ern tay (olay)	a tea (with milk)
La toilette	lar twa-lette	the washroom / toilet
Prix	pree	price
Carte de crédit	kart deu cray-dee	credit card
Une banque	une bonk	a bank
Des magasins	day magga-zan	shops
Un supermarché	ern supair-mar-shay	a supermarket
La gare	lar gar	the train station
L'aéroport	l'aero-por	the airport
Une voiture	une vwa-tiure	a car

Cultural Guide

French	Pronunciation	Meaning
Bonjour	bon-zhour	Hello
Merci	mair-see	Thank you
Au revoir	oh-reu-vwar	Goodbye
Je ne comprends pas	zheu neu kompron par	I don't understand
Je ne parle pas français	zheu neu parl par fron-say	I don't speak French
Pouvez vous parler plus lentement, s'il vous plaît	poo-vay-voo par-lay ploo lontermon, see-voo-play	Could you speak more slowly, please?
Pouvez-vous répéter, s'il vous plaît.	poo-vay-voo ray-pay-tay, see-voo-play	Could you repeat that please?
S'il vous plaît, je cherche...	see-voo-play, zheu share-sh...	Please, I'm looking for (whatever you are looking for)
Avez-vous...	avay -voo	Do you have... ?
A quelle heure est-ce que cela ferme?	a kel eure esk slar fairme	When does it close?
Combien ça coûte?	kom-bjanne sar coot	How much is it?
Où sont les toilettes, s'il vous plaît?	oo son lay twar-let, see-voo-play	Where is the toilet / washroom, please?
Où est-ce qu'on peut trouver des restaurants, s'il vous plaît?	oo esk on peu troo-vay day resto-ron, see-voo-play	Where are there some restaurants, please?
L'addition, s'il vous plaît?	lad-eesi-onsee-voo-play	Could I have the bill please?
A l'aéroport, s'il vous plaît	ar l'aeropor see-voo-play	To the airport, please
Une table pour deux / quatre personnes	oon tarbleu poor deuh	A table for two
Je ne me sens pas bien	zheu neu meu son par bjanne	I'm not feeling very well
Nous sommes perdus	noo som pair-dju	We're lost

Cultural Guide

French	Pronunciation	Meaning
Nous voulons aller à...	(noo voolon allay are...)	We want to go to (wherever you want to go)
Je cherche un distributeur de billets	zheu share-sh ern dee-stree-beaut-eur deu bee-ay	I'm looking for an ATM / cash dispenser
Pouvez-vous m'appeler un taxi, s'il vous plait?	poovay voo maplay ern taxi see-voo-play	Could you please call me a cab?
Nous sommes très pressés / en retard	noo som tray pressay / on retar	We're in a great hurry / late



Thank you!

Let us guide you through your next adventure.

www.Guidester.com

Tell your friends about us!

Guidester condones only safe travel practices, and does not, at any time without exception, condone illegal or otherwise dangerous activities. Guidester assumes no liability for actions taken by travelers that may incur damages or loss due to negligent acts.

No part of this guidebook may be reproduced or distributed without expressed written consent from Guidester.

Guidester

Traveler's Checklist

[Table of Contents](#)

Make Sure Your Passport Is Current

You will need a valid passport if you want to travel overseas. Most foreign countries require a valid passport to enter and leave. Some countries may allow you to enter with only a birth certificate, or with a birth certificate and a driver's license, but all persons, including U.S. citizens, traveling by air, must present a valid passport to reenter the United States.



[CLICK HERE - To apply or renew your passport](#)



Get Foreign Currency

Don't leave home without at least some foreign currency for the countries you are going to visit. This will get you through the first few days until you get more local currency. Foreign currency can be ordered from your personal bank, or purchased at designated exchange offices like you will find at the airport. Once you arrive at your destination you can use your debit card to withdrawal money from local ATM's.



[Click here - To view up to date exchange rates here](#)



Notify Your Bank

You must notify your banking institution prior to departure of exactly what countries you will be visiting. This is crucial as your bank will deactivate your card if unauthorized transactions are found, leaving you stuck in another country without any money.



Set Up Communication

Get a phone plan. International roaming rates can put a giant dent in your travel budget, so it's important to do your homework to find the most affordable way to stay connected. For a survey of the mobile landscape comparing the best international phone plans on the market visit [Nerd Wallet](#)

Skype is a great, free, way to communicate with loved ones back home. Simply have both parties install the program on their computer, smart phone or tablet. Create an account and video chat for free, or you can purchase Skype credits for cheap, which allow you to call landlines back home.



Pay-as-you-go phones are available for cheap, usually around \$15 for the phone and another \$20 for credit will last you a while. This is a good option for those who are staying abroad for an extended period and need to call local numbers.

Prepaid calling cards are another alternative if you are wanting to call home frequently. A calling card will place credit on a card which you then can

activate via payphone, hotel phone, or other phone device. These can be bought online or at many convenient stores.

Internet access: Many wireless hotspots can be found in private and public establishments. Access is sometimes free but often costs a small fee. Usually there will be a posting, but if not, just ask.



Electronics and Adapters

Most American-made electrical devices work at 110 volts. While Japan, most of North America, parts of South America, and the Caribbean use voltage between 100 and 125, the vast majority of the world uses 220 - 240 volts.

Converters: Check the label or owner's manual on your electronic device before buying a converter, as it is probably designed to work at both 110/120 and 220/240 volts - most newer [travel gadgets](#) are, especially things like laptops, tablets, cameras and smartphones. If this is the case, you will only need a plug adapter (see below for more details). If your appliance only operates at 110 volts, you will need to buy a voltage converter.



[Click Here - For a complete list of voltage requirements](#)

Adapter plugs: Even if two countries operate on the same voltage, their outlets might not take the same shape of plug - and that's where an adapter comes in. An adapter will allow you only to plug your appliance into another type of outlet - not change the electrical voltage.



[Click Here - To see what kind of adapter you will need for your destination](#)



Safety Precautions

Know the local laws and customs. While traveling, you are subject to the local laws even if you are a U.S. citizen. Foreign laws can be vastly different from our own and it is very important to know what's legal and what's not. In addition to not getting into legal trouble, you always want to put your best foot forward while in another country. You will make friends a lot faster if you know the local customs and traditions.



Sign up for the 'The Smart Traveler Enrollment Program' (STEP), a free service to allow U.S. citizens and nationals traveling abroad to enroll their trip with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. This will log your trip with the embassy and will notify you of any situations.



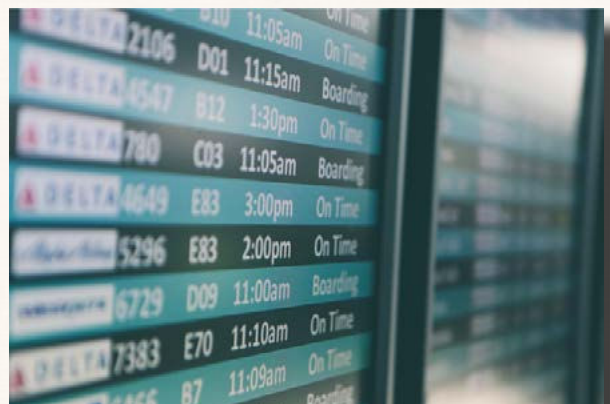
[Click Here - To enroll in the smart traveler program](#)

Let your friends and family know what your movements will be with a simple list of dates and destinations.



Signup for Airport Clearances

Signup for TSA Pre-Check. TSA Pre-Check is an expedited security screening program connecting travelers departing from the United States with a faster screening process. Passengers can apply for the TSA Pre-Check to determine if they are low-risk and eligible to receive expedited screening.



[Click Here - To learn more and signup](#)

Global Entry is also an option available to travelers. Global Entry is a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) program that allows expedited clearance for pre-approved, low-risk travelers upon arrival in the United States. Program members proceed to Global Entry kiosks, present their machine-readable passport or U.S. permanent resident card, place their fingerprints on the scanner for fingerprint verification and complete a customs declaration. The kiosk issues the traveler a transaction receipt and directs the traveler to baggage claim and the exit. Global Entry is typically better than TSA Pre-Check, however the screening and application is much more rigorous.



[Click Here - To learn more and signup for the program](#)



Packing

- ✓ **Pack light to travel light.** Try taking half of the things you need and twice the money. You can make buying a few new items a fun part of the adventure.
- ✓ **Pack a sleep mask and ear plugs.** These can come in handy on a plane, train or in your hotel room.
- ✓ **Capitalize on empty suitcase space.** Roll your clothes, instead of folding them. Stuff socks, underwear, and accessories inside of shoes. Leave no space unused.
- ✓ **Keep a sarong or pashmina in your carry-on.** They can be used as a blanket on the plane, a scarf if it's cold or a shawl on an evening out.
- ✓ **Bag it.** Kitchen sandwich bags can be used to hold your accessories, vacuum pack bags can be space savers, and trash bags have multiple uses (laundry bag, shoe covers).
- ✓ **Skip airport snacks and bring your own.** You can save yourself a bit of money and keep your hunger at bay in case you have a delayed flight.



- ✓ **Create compartments.** Two words: packing cube. If you are visiting more than one city during your trip, packing cubes will keep your suitcase organized and save you from having to pack and unpack.
- ✓ **Share your packing space.** Traveling as a couple? Split your clothes between two suitcases on the off chance one of them gets lost during the flight.
- ✓ **Bring a multi-socket extension cord.** Although newer hotels have USB ports in rooms, it's best to have an extra outlet to charge all of your electronics at once.
- ✓ **Make photocopies before leaving home.** If you're traveling out of the country, make two photocopies of your passport. Use your smartphone to take pictures of your car in the airport's parking garage and do the same for your luggage and its contents in case it gets lost.



Bring Your Guidester Custom Guide

Whether you're a travel expert or a first timer, having some source of knowledge about your destination is invaluable. From useful phrases, tipping etiquette and other cultural tips to what to see and do and where to eat, it's always better to travel prepared. [Guidester](#) can handle all the unknowns while providing you the tools to have a better vacation!

