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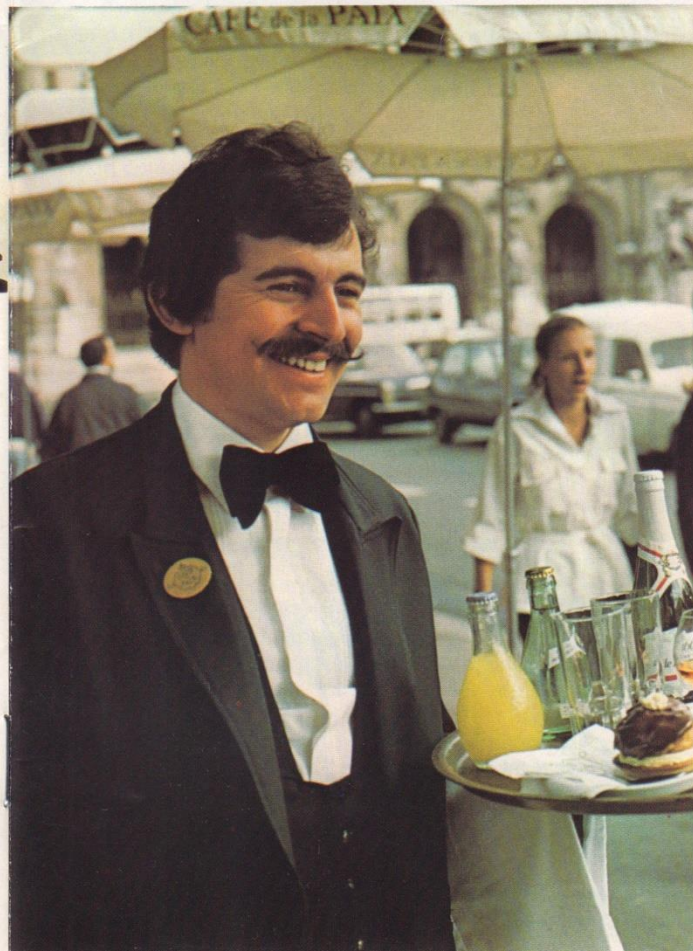


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SAS
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Paris
SAS City Portrait



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This is the 13th edition of Paris City Portrait printed in 75,000 copies – with information based on facts available in June 1982. Main changes from 12th edition: General price increases; one hotel deleted; one restaurant deleted and two added.

"Doing business in France" – on the pink pages in the center of the portrait – is a new commercial section produced especially for our business travelers.



Front cover: Pavement cafés . . . a delightful way to watch Paris walk by . . .

Introduction

"Paris", to quote Ernest Hemingway, who lived and loved here long, "is a Moveable Feast" . . . Indeed, the city's beauty, joie de vivre, grandeur and greatness appear to move from each decade to the next, in essence untarnished by time, in spirit unchanged by vicissitude. And what pleases this perennial Paris promises! . . . with its architectural splendors, historic treasures, colorful shops and noisy street cafés.

But first what of its past? Paris is one of the most ancient cities in Europe. A stronghold existed on what is now the Ile de la Cité as early as the 3rd century B.C.

Called then "Lutetia", the island was occupied by an autonomous Gallic tribe, the Parisii, until 52 B.C. when Caesar conquered it for Rome.

Barbarian hordes devastated the area between 250 and 275 A.D. The first influences of Christianity were felt about the same time. And a milestone erected in 307 A.D. pinpoints the first recorded notice of the city's change of name to "Paris".

By the end of the 5th century, Clovis with his Franks had conquered Paris – although it could be argued that the city, with its marked Roman culture and Christian trends, in fact, conquered Clovis. It was, however, in the 12th and 13th centuries that Paris became an important European capital and the university was founded at this time by Philip Augustus. Many of the great historic buildings of the city were erected in the late 15th century during the Renaissance. And although Louis XIV moved the Royal Court from Paris to Versailles, the French capital continued to flourish throughout the 17th century as a focal point of Western art and culture. Paris suffered a decline after Louis' reign and the monarchy was abolished during the Revolution which followed. For the past two centuries, with interruption only by war, Paris has proved a stimulating magnet for tourist and artist alike.

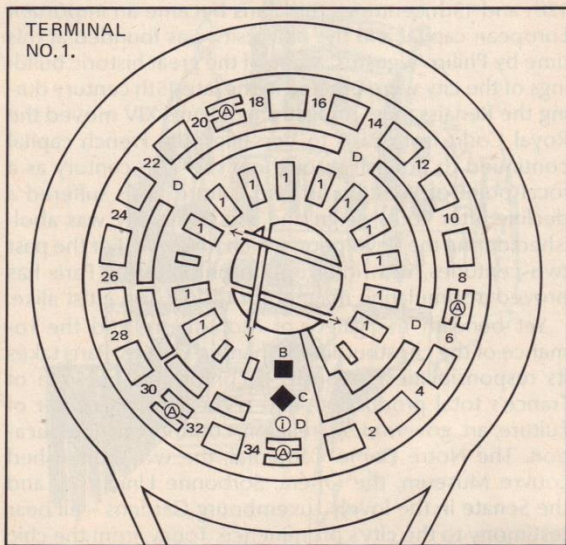
Yet beneath the gaiety of Montmartre and the romance of the chestnut-lined Champs-Élysées, Paris takes its responsibilities seriously. It contributes one-fifth of France's total production, and is the nation's center of culture, art, government, religion, commerce and education. The Notre Dame Cathedral, the world-cherished Louvre Museum, the Opéra, Sorbonne University and the Senate in the lovely Luxembourg Gardens – all bear testimony to the city's prominence. Today, from the chic salons of Paris emerge the world's fashions of tomorrow. Moreover, the famous 11-km (7 miles)-long course of the River Seine – that has become synonymous with the city

– offers more than an enchanting way of sightseeing: it serves Paris, one of Europe's greatest ports, as a major commercial artery, and the barges and tugs that chug along it, bear and distribute a tonnage that exceeds 17 million.

7,000,000 people reside in a municipal area of 100 km² (40 sq.miles). Yet ultimately, it is not the statistics of Paris that will endear you to her. It is what the capital means and stands for . . . The Paris of Renoir and Toulouse-Lautrec, of Mark Twain and Gertrude Stein, of gaulois and black coffee, sophisticated, swinging mademoiselles, and lively Latin Quarter, its traditional student fraternity that now colors the Left Bank, its langour and its lovers . . . It is this that makes Paris a "Moveable Feast", a city whose memories are ever present.

Your arrival in Paris

As your SAS aircraft comes in to land at Roissy-Charles de Gaulle Airport (24 km – 15 miles from the center of Paris), you will enjoy your most exciting vista of Paris. On disembarking, a moving sidewalk takes you to the arrival level. The baggage is brought by conveyor belt with the flight number marked just above. If you have nothing to declare, you leave via the green circuit. Otherwise, you have to go through customs control via the red circuit.



- | | | |
|------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Baggage. | B Information desk. | D ⓘ Flight information display board. |
| D Customs. | C "Point de Rencontre" (meeting place). | 10 24 Exit for taxis. |
| A Lifts. | | 32 34 Exit for Air France. |

A new terminal – Terminal No. 2 – was opened in April 1982 at Roissy-Charles de Gaulle Airport for French airlines. There is a regular shuttle service between the two terminals.

The trip by bus to the Porte Maillot takes 30 minutes and the fare is FRF25 (the new Palais des Congrès, Porte Maillot, the new main air terminal in Paris, is located about 600 meters from the Place Charles de Gaulle – Place de l'Etoile). You can also go by bus no. 350 to Gare de l'Est, bus no. 351 to Nation and by train, Roissy-Rail, to Gare du Nord, FRF17–26. A metered taxi to the center of town costs about FRF80. For additional transportation services between the airport and Paris, or Orly, please contact the general information desk, or the SAS Office, on the departure level.

Currency: The monetary unit of France is the French franc (FRF) divisible into 100 centimes. Notes are issued in the following denominations: FRF10, 50, 100 and 500, and coins in FRF1, 5, 10 and centimes 5, 10, 20 and 50.



Special airport facilities

People with handicaps: In order to standardize the service procedures for disabled passengers, some airlines have decided to be represented by a single company. This company's desk is near door 12, departure level, tel. 862 28 24.

For disabled passengers without a driver or an escort, there are parking facilities located in park A, third level, lane B, where a zone of 30 spaces is reserved. At the entrance zone, a telephone is within easy reach for contacting the duty office if necessary. This zone is located between the two sets of elevators corresponding to gates 8 and 20 of the departure and arrival levels.

Departure floor: Special elevators between doors 34–36. Low telephone booths at gates 6, 16 and 26.

Satellites "access to planes" floor: Rest-rooms near satellites 4 and 7, showers near satellite 4. Low telephone booths at the post office.

Arrival floor: Elevators between gates 34 and 36, rest-rooms in front of gates 4, 16 and 24. Low telephone booths at gates 4, 12, 20, 28 and 34, also a transfer point at gate 20.

"Boutiquaire" floor: Post office with a low level counter, and rest-rooms for disabled persons inside the medical center.

Note: An agent can also come and pick you up and take you by car to the airport. Please call 866 56 27 at Roissy-Charles de Gaulle Airport to book this service and for information about the current rates.

Hotels

There are over 1,000 reputable hôtels de tourisme in Paris. Even so, it is always advisable to book accommodation in advance and in this respect your travel agent or SAS will be able to

help. Either one can offer you detailed information on hotels of different classes with immediate confirmation of accommodation in most. Should you, however, arrive unaccommodated, a hotel reservation service at the Welcome Office, 127 Champs-Élysées - tel. 723 6172, will be able to assist you. On weekdays, please also contact Gare du Nord, tel. 526 94 82.

While limited space does not permit a comprehensive listing of hotels, here is a diverse selection:

De luxe hotels

Among famous de luxe hotels are:

Bristol (C4)
112 Rue du Faubourg
St. Honoré,
75008 Paris.
Tel. 266 91 45.

California (B4)
16 Rue de Berri,
75008 Paris.
Tel. 359 93 00.

Concorde Lafayette (off map)
3 Place de la Porte des Ternes,
75017 Paris.
Tel. 758 12 84.

Crillon (E5)
10 Place de la Concorde,
75008 Paris.
Tel. 296 10 81.

George-V (B5)
31 Avenue George V,
75008 Paris.
Tel. 723 54 00.

Grand Hotel (F4)
2 Rue Scribe,
75009 Paris.
Tel. 260 33 50.

Hilton-Paris (A7)
18 Avenue de Suffren,
75015 Paris.
Tel. 273 92 00.

Intercontinental (F5)
3 Rue de Castiglione,
75001 Paris.
Tel. 260 37 80.

La Pérouse (A5)
40 Rue de la Pérouse,
75016 Paris.
Tel. 500 83 47.

La Tremoille (B5)
14 Rue de la Tremoille,
75008 Paris.
Tel. 723 34 20.

L'Hotel (G8)
13 Rue des Beaux Arts,
75006 Paris.
Tel. 325 27 22.

Lotti (F5)
7 Rue de Castiglione,
75001 Paris.
Tel. 260 37 34.

Meridien (off map)
16 Blvd. Gouvion Saint Cyr,
75017 Paris.
Tel. 758 12 30

Meurice (H6)
228 Rue de Rivoli,
75001 Paris.
Tel. 260 38 60.

Plaza-Athénée (B5)
25 Avenue Montaigne,
75008 Paris.
Tel. 723 78 33.

Prince de Galles (B5)
33 Avenue George V,
75008 Paris.
Tel. 723 55 11.

Ritz (F5)
15 Place Vendôme,
75001 Paris.
Tel. 260 38 30.

Royal Monceau (A3)
35 Avenue Hoche,
75008 Paris.
Tel. 561 98 00.

Sheraton (E10)
19 Rue du Commandant René
Mouchotte,
75014 Paris.
Tel. 320 15 51.

Prices: Single room with bath
FRF450-800, double room
with bath FRF550-1,250.
Breakfast not included.

There are excellent four-star hotels in many sections of Paris, and the following are among those centrally located:

Four-star hotels

Ambassador (G4)
16 Boulevard Haussmann,
75009 Paris.
Tel. 246 92 63.

Baltimore (A5)
88bis Avenue Kleber,
75016 Paris.
Tel. 553 83 33.

Burgundy (E5)
8 Rue de Duphot, 75001 Paris.
Tel. 260 94 32.

Chateau Frontenac (B5)
54 Rue Pierre Charron,
75008 Paris.
Tel. 723 55 85.

Commodore (G4)
12 Boulevard Haussmann,
75009 Paris.
Tel. 246 72 82.

Élysées Marignan (B5)
12 Rue de Marignan,
75008 Paris.
Tel. 359 58 61.

France et Choiseul (F5)
239-241 Rue Saint Honoré,
75001 Paris.
Tel. 261 54 60.

Franklin et du Bresil (H3)
19 Rue Buffault, 75009 Paris.
Tel. 280 27 27.

Hôtel R.L.M. St. Jacques
(off map)
17 Boulevard St. Jacques
75014 Paris.
Tel. 589 89 80.

Louvre-Concorde (G6)
Place André Malraux,
75001 Paris.
Tel. 261 56 01.

Lutetia-Concorde (E9)
45 Blvd. Raspail, 75006 Paris.
Tel. 544 38 10.

Madeleine-Palace (E5)
8 Rue Cambon, 75001 Paris.
Tel. 260 37 82.

Pavillon L'Horset (J4)
36 Rue de l'Echiquier,
75010 Paris.
Tel. 246 92 75

Relais Christine (G8)
3 Rue Christine, 75006 Paris.
Tel. 326 71 80.

Résidence St. Honoré (B3)
214 Rue du Faubourg St.
Honoré, 75008 Paris.
Tel. 225 26 27.

Royal Malesherbes (D4)
24 Boulevard Malesherbes,
75008 Paris.
Tel. 265 53 30.

Saint James et Albany (F5)
202 Rue de Rivoli, 75001 Paris.
Tel. 260 31 60.

Schweizehof (B4)
11 Rue Balzac, 75008 Paris.
Tel. 563 54 22.

Sofitel Sèvres (off map)
8 Rue Louis Armand,
75015 Paris.
Tel. 554 95 00.

Splendid Etoile (A3)
1bis Avenue Carnot,
75017 Paris.
Tel. 766 41 41.

Vernet (A4)
25 Rue Vernet, 75018 Paris.
Tel. 723 43 10.

Prices: Single room with bath
FRF300-550, double room
with bath FRF350-700.
Breakfast included.

Three-star hotels

Among these are:

Arenes (I9)
51 Rue Monge, 75005 Paris.
Tel. 325 09 26.

Ascot Opera (G5)
2 Rue Monsigny, 75002 Paris.
Tel. 296 87 66.

Bellechasse (E7)
8 Rue Bellechasse,
75007 Paris.
Tel. 551 52 36.

Bourgogne et Montana (D7)
3 Rue de Bourgogne,
75007 Paris.
Tel. 551 20 22.

Buckingham (E3)
45 Rue des Mathurins,
75008 Paris.
Tel. 265 81 62.

Champlain (D1)
99bis Rue de Rome,
75017 Paris.
Tel. 227 49 52.

Colbert (I9)
7 Rue de l'Hôtel Colbert,
75005 Paris.
Tel. 325 85 65.

De la Bourdonnais (A7)
111 Avenue de la Bourdonnais,
75007 Paris.
Tel. 705 45 42.

Élysées Bassano (A5)
24 Rue de Bassano,
75016 Paris.
Tel. 720 49 03.

Élysées Ponthieu (C4)
24 Rue de Ponthieu,
75008 Paris.
Tel. 225 68 70.

François (H4)
3 Boulevard Montmartre,
75002 Paris.
Tel. 233 51 53.

Hôtel Astra (F4)
29 Rue Caumartin,
75009 Paris.
Tel. 266 15 15.

Mont Fleuri (off map)
21 Ave. de la Grande Armée,
75016 Paris.
Tel. 500 33 65.

Piemont (G5)
22 Rue de Richelieu,
75001 Paris.
Tel. 296 44 50.

Residence Lord Byron (B4)
5 Rue de Chateaubriand,
75008 Paris.
Tel. 359 89 98.

Richepanse (E5)
14 Rue Richepanse,
75001 Paris.
Tel. 260 36 00.

Sainte Anne (G4)
10 Rue Sainte Anne,
75001 Paris.
Tel. 296 10 18.

Saxe Residence (C9)
9 Rue Villa de Saxe,
75007 Paris.
Tel. 783 98 28.

Suffren La Tour (A7)
20 Rue Jean Rey,
75015 Paris.
Tel. 578 61 08.

West End (B5)
7 Rue Clément Marot,
75008 Paris.
Tel. 720 30 78.

Prices: Single room with bath
FRF170-330, double room
with bath FRF250-360.
Breakfast included.

Two-star hotels

Claude Bernard (J10)
43 Rue des Écoles,
75005 Paris.
Tel. 326 32 52.

De Genève (F3)
36 Rue de Londres,
75009 Paris.
Tel. 874 33 99.

Favart (G4)
5 Rue Marivaux, 75002 Paris.
Tel. 297 59 83.

Laffitte (G4)
38 Rue Laffitte, 75009 Paris.
Tel. 770 27 20.

Marronniers (F8)
21 Rue Jacob, 75006 Paris.
Tel. 325 30 60.

Oratoire (E5)
141 Rue Saint Honoré,
75001 Paris.
Tel. 260 70 38.

Racine (G9)
23 Rue Racine, 75006 Paris.
Tel. 326 00 60.

Select (H10)
1 Place de la Sorbonne,
75005 Paris.
Tel. 634 14 80.

Prices: Single room with bath
FRF170-200, double room
with bath FRF180-230.
Breakfast included.

Restaurants and cuisine

From the delicacies of the renowned French breakfast (petit déjeuner) with its flaky croissants and strong coffee, to the later-in-the-day delights of a full-course dinner – eating out in Paris will prove to be a highlight of your vacation. Here are a few suggestions where you might sample the best of the world's foremost cuisine.

In addition to average meal prices, service charges range between 12-15%.

Prices range from FRF100-300.

Restaurants

Brasserie Lipp (H9)
151 Boulevard St. Germain, 6e.
Theoretically an Alsatian brewery restaurant, by long tradition the "in" place for well-known politicians and artists.

Chez Marius (I10)
30 Rue Fosses-St. Bernard, 5e.
This simple restaurant serves the best lobster in the city.

Cochon d'Or (off map)
192 Avenue Jean Jaurès, 19e.
The best place for steaks and chops in Paris.

Drouant (G5)
Place Gaillon, 2e.
Situated in a fine hotel area near the Opéra.

Escargot Montorgueil (I6)
38 Rue Montorgueil, 1er.
Speciality: snails. Situated in Les Halles (see "Sights").

La Coupole (F10)
102 Blvd. Montparnasse, 14e.
Here you can have fun and good food, mixing with artists and students.

La Grenouille (H8)
26 Rue des Grands-Augustins, 6e.

La Méditerranée (C9)
2 Place de l'Odéon, 6e.
Excellent sea food.

Lapérouse (H8)
51 Quai des Grands Augustins, 6e.
Speciality: Norway lobster gratin.

Lasserre (C4)
17 Avenue Franklin-Roosevelt, 8e.
(Closed on Sundays, Mondays and during August).
Open-air dining in summer.

Le Fouquet's (B4)
99 Ave. des Champs-Élysées, 8e.

Le Grand Véfour (G5)
17 Rue du Beaujolais, 1er.
(Closed on Sundays and during August).

Le Relais Plaza Grill Room (B5)
21 Avenue Montaigne, 8e.

Maxim's (E5)
3 Rue Royale, 8e.
(Closed on Sundays).
Late night music and dancing.

Restaurant de Copenhague (B4)
142 Ave. des Champs-Élysées, 8e.
(Closed on Sundays and during August).
Danish specialities.

Restaurant Regence Plaza (B5)
25 Avenue Montaigne, 8e.

Rôtisserie Périgourdine (H8)
2 Place St.-Michel, 6e.
Specialities: Potted duck Sarladaise, pressed duck.

Tour d'Argent (J9)
15 Quai de la Tournelle, 5e.
(Closed on Mondays).
Speciality: pressed duck.

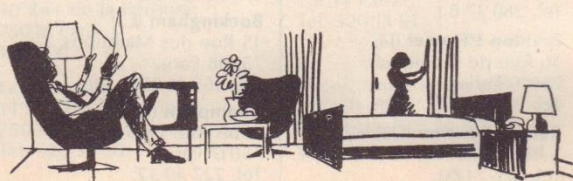
Snack-bars

Drugstore des Champs Élysées (A4)
133 Ave. des Champs-Élysées, 8e.

Drugstore Matignon (C4)
1 Avenue Matignon, 8e.

Drugstore Saint Germain (F8)
149 Boulevard St. Germain, 6e.

Pub Renault (B4)
53 Ave. des Champs-Élysées, 8e.





CUSTOMARY MEALS AND MEALTIMES

Breakfast (petit déjeuner): Served from 08.00 to 09.30 hrs. This is a delicious repast with croissants or fresh rolls, butter, jam or marmalade and coffee.

Lunch (déjeuner): The Frenchman always allows plenty of time for lunch. Usually served between 12.00 and 14.00 hrs.

Dinner (dîner): Served from 19.00 to 21.30 hrs. or later in the more expensive restaurants.

TYPICALLY FRENCH DISHES

Boeuf Bourguignon: Stewed beef with red wine sauce; Canard à la Presse: Pressed duckling; Coq au Vin: Chicken in red wine; Entrecôte Marchand de Vin: Sirloin steak with red wine sauce; Escargots: Snails; Escargots de Bourgogne: Large snails baked with parsley, garlic and butter; Gigot aux Soissons: Leg of lamb roasted and served with white haricot beans; Grenouilles: Frogs' legs; Grenouilles Provençales: Frogs' legs fried with garlic; Quenelles de Brochet à la Nantua: Tiny pike dumplings with lobster sauce; Jambon persillé de Dijon: Ham with parsley garnish; Langoustines: Norway lobster; Loup au Fenouil: Grilled sea perch with fennel; Moules Marinières: Mussels in a white court-bouillon; Veau Marango: Braised veal with mushrooms.

WINES

The wine waiter will help you with your choice of wine – it is usual to begin with lighter wines, for example the white and red wines of Bordeaux, and to progress to the heavier, stronger wines such as the reds of Burgundy.

CHEESES

There are even more French cheeses than there are wines, which add great variety and interest to round off an unforgettable meal. Try, for example, Fontainebleau (a fresh cream cheese), Chèvre (cheese made from goat's milk, served either fresh or dry), Camembert (the famous strong creamy cheese from Normandy), Brie (a moderately strong mellow cheese), Roquefort (a "blue" cheese with strong flavor).

For our recommendations in the cheaper restaurants' category, see the chapter "Bargain Corner" on page 16.

Sights and excursions

An introductory sightseeing tour of Paris will help you to find your bearings and give you a quick run-down on the chief points of interest. An attractive trip consists of a 3-hour bus tour, "Paris Vision", departures at 09.00 and 13.00 hrs. from Place de la Madeleine, cost: FRF86.

"The Seine", said Napoleon, "is the high road between Paris, Rouen and Le Havre". And Paris owes much of its prosperity to the river. In its course of 11 km (7 miles) through the city, the Seine is spanned by 33 bridges and footbridges, and magnificent views of the quays, islands and floodlit Notre Dame may be enjoyed from a trip along the river at sunset.

Here are a few suggestions: "Bateaux Mouches", departure from Pont de l'Alma, tel. 225 96 10; "Bateaux Parisiens Tour Eiffel", departure from Left Bank Port de la Bourdonnais-Pont d'Iena, tel. 551 33 08; "La Patache Eautobus", departure from Quai Anatole France, tel. 874 75 30.

Another suggestion for novelty sightseeing is a flight over Paris in a helicopter. Departure from Heliport de Paris, tel. 554 12 55, Metro Balard, cost FRF120-320.

However, quite the best way of all to become acquainted with Paris is to wander around at leisure, visiting places of interest as they appear along the way, exploring at random the tree-lined avenues and squares with their colorful pavement cafés, and topping your growing observations of France's charming capital with the endless beautiful vistas to be seen from the Eiffel Tower, the Arc de Triomphe, the Sacré-Cœur and the Tour Montparnasse.

INTERESTING CITY POINTS

The following constitute the major attractions and the nearest métro station is marked with the letter M. The subsequent letter and number pinpoint the sight's position on the center map.

The Louvre (M. Louvre and Palais Royal – F/G6/7). The largest and most magnificent palace in the world, the Louvre first appeared in history as a fortress at the beginning of the 13th century and it later became the royal residence of Charles V. Napoléon III completed the building and today the Louvre contains the greatest art collection in the world. Of the Roman and Greek antiquities, the Winged Victory and the Vénus de Milo are perhaps the most famous of all, and among the paintings are Leonardo da Vinci's immortal Mona Lisa, Mantegna's Saint Sebastian, Frans Hals' Gypsy and Millet's Angelus. Objets d'art include the French crown jewels.

Doing business in France

General introduction

France covers an area of 551,000 km² (212,741 square miles) and has a population of 53 million. It is divided into 22 regions which consist of 95 departments which are again divided into arrondissements, cantons and communes.

France is one of the world's leading industrial nations with a highly developed production system, located mainly in the northern and eastern regions and around and within Paris. During the last decade a considerable industrial growth has taken place in the Rhône-Alpes region and in southeastern France.

The main industries are iron and metal, machinery, automobiles, electronics, aerospace, shipbuilding, textiles and foodstuff. The French industrial sector is still dominated by small or medium-sized family-owned companies which together employ approx. 8 million people and contribute some 40% of the GNP. But the situation is changing rapidly as more and more of the smaller industrial companies join together or cooperate due to the competition from abroad and particularly from other European Common Market members.

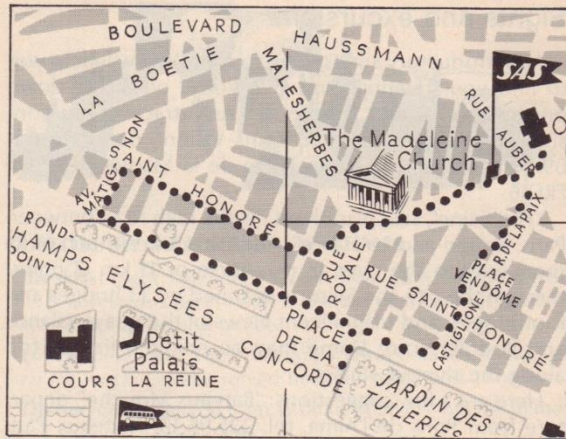
At the same time, it is worth noting that nationalized industries are the suppliers of gas, water, telephones, radio, television and railway transportation. The state owns most of the coal mines, the two largest oil companies, the biggest shipping company, four major banks, the Renault factories and Air France.

During the last decades France has had a strong economic growth, only Japan outperforming it, with the GNP having an annual increase of 5.4% up to 1974. The Energy crisis in 1975 slowed down the development in foreign trade but since then it has steadily recovered.

The EEC countries dominate France's trade being responsible for some 50% of its imports.

France as a market

France is Europe's second most important market after the Federal Republic of Germany and number four in the world after USA, Japan and Germany. France's share of the international trade rose considerably when it became a member of the European Common Market. One of the reasons behind France becoming a leading industrial nation is the fruitful cooperation between the public authorities and industry.



One hour's walk around Paris

Start at the SAS Office, 30 Boulevard des Capucines, near the Opéra, and walk to the Madeleine Church. Turn to the left on the Rue Royale and continue to the Rue du Faubourg Saint Honoré. Turn right and walk along this street, one of the most elegant in Paris. Continue along Avenue Matignon on your left to the Rond-Point des Champs-Élysées, and then to Place de la Concorde down the tree-lined avenue. After crossing the Place, you will have a wonderful view across the Tuileries Gardens to the Palais du Louvre. On the left turn into the Rue de Rivoli to the Place Vendôme, and then along the Rue de la Paix to the Place de l'Opéra, just 100 yards from the SAS Office.

Open daily (except Tuesdays and holidays) from 10.00 to 17.00 hrs. Admission charge, Sundays free. The view from the courtyard of the Louvre to the Arc de Triomphe is one of the most beautiful in Paris, including in its prospect the Tuileries Gardens, the Place de la Concorde, the Champs-Élysées and the Place de l'Etoile. It is known as "La Voie Triomphale" – "The Way to Triumph".

The Tuileries (M. Tuileries – E6). These gardens were designed by Le Nôtre, who planned some of the most beautiful gardens in France. The central avenue, which runs between neat lawns, fountains and statues, is ideal for a leisurely stroll away from the bustle of the city.

Place de la Concorde (M. Concorde – E5). One of the most elegant parts of the city, this square was designed by Gabriel in

(cont'd on page 13)

As to political and economic matters for the next few years, the French Government has taken or announced, measures to encourage a recovery of private consumption by raising the lowest incomes and social security benefits and to stimulate productive investments through tax incentives and by expanding the nationalized sector.

French industries

AGRICULTURE

Some 35% of France's total area is cultivated land and 25% grazing pastures. The nation produces enough foodstuff to meet domestic needs – and also for exports, contributing 16–17% to France's total export figures.

FORESTRY

Despite the huge forests – 25% of the total land area – France is still a major importer of wood and wood products.

FISHING

One of Europe's leading fishing nations with a fleet of 13,000 boats. Despite yearly catches of approx. 700,000 tonnes, France imports a third of its consumption of fish and fish products.

MINING

France has considerable mineral deposits including iron ore, coal, bauxite, copper, salt and potassium. The resources of bauxite, for instance, has made France one of the leading producers of aluminum.

INDUSTRY AND TRADE

France has approx. 130,000 companies with more than five employees.

IRON AND STEEL

Mainly centered in Lorraine, Dunkerque and Denain, the industry employs 240,000 and each year produces approx. 18 million tonnes of iron and 22 million tonnes of steel.

MACHINE INDUSTRY

The major industries are located around the Paris area, the northeastern and southeastern parts of France, employing 800,000 people with a yearly production of FRF50 billions! They make machine tools, turbines, contracting machinery, agricultural machinery, railway engines, prefabricated factories – and hundreds of other different products.

TEXTILE INDUSTRY

France has established a leading position in the textile and clothing fields. There have been enormous developments in the past 20 years. The industry employs approx. 386,000.

ELECTRONICS

Mainly centered around Paris, Normandy and the Rhône-Alpes Region – with yearly production of approx. FRF40 billions. Produces mainly medical instruments, telecommunication equipment, navigation equipment for ships and aircraft, scientific measuring instruments, televisions and radios.

AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY

France is number three in the world after USA and Japan manufacturing some three million cars per year. The largest companies are Renault, Citroen, Chrysler-Simca and Peugeot. Directly employing 470,000 it is estimated that, in all, some one million or approx. 1/20th of the workforce is employed within the automobile industry and its associated companies.

AEROSPACE INDUSTRY

France is one of the world's leading aircraft manufacturers – producing everything from sports planes to supersonic jets.

SHIPBUILDING

Concentrated around Le Havre, Dunkerque, Nantes and Saint Nazaire. France is number seven in the world.

CHEMICAL AND PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

Previously located in the mining districts, the chemical industry has now spread to the oil refining centers, harbors and other industrial areas.

OIL REFINERIES

Number two in Europe – with a capacity of 171 million tonnes a year.

ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES

The nationalized electricity supply company EdF (Electricité de France) produces the major part of the electric energy – some 148 million KWH, with 10% being supplied by nuclear power stations.

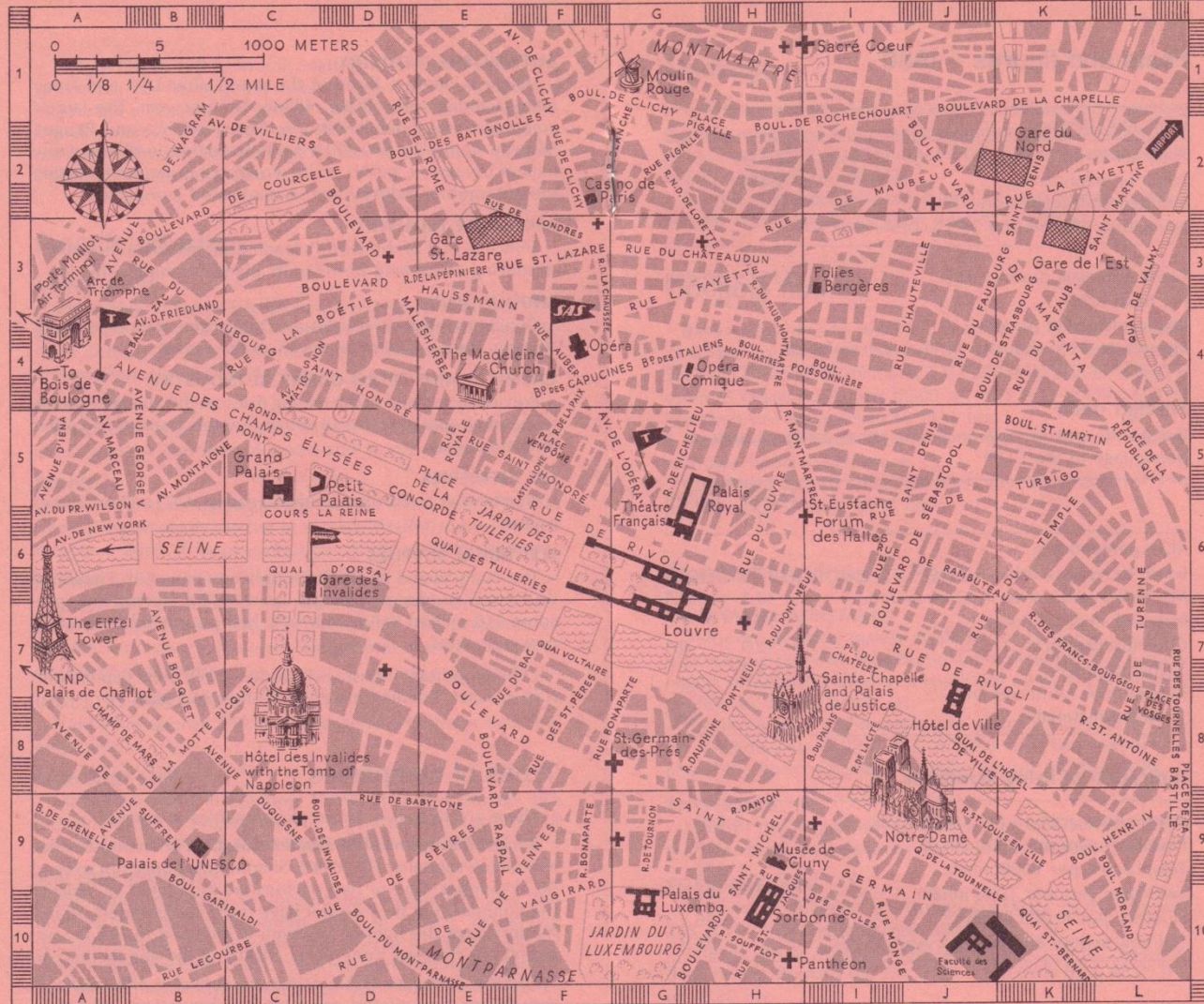
Other important industries include rubber, pulp, paper, furniture, plastics, building materials, leather and glass.

Types of companies

There are two main types of companies in France:

Société à Responsabilité Limitée (S.A.R.L.): This company has a minimum capital of FRF20,000. Shareholders must not exceed 50 in number. One or two persons are appointed to manage the company but they do not have to be shareholders. Shareholders have the right at any time to demand to see the accounts for the past three years, including the annual reports.

Société Anonyme (S.A.): Minimum capital is FRF500,000 if the shares are offered for public subscription, otherwise FRF100,000. The board of directors consists of 3–12 persons elected by the shareholders at a general meeting. If the share capital does not exceed FRF250,000, the management can consist of only one person with the title "directeur general unique". Citizens of other EEC countries can hold such appointments on the same conditions as French citizens but other non-French nationals must possess a "Carte d'identité commerçant étranger" (Identity card for commercial foreigners) in order to hold the position of managing director of a company with one owner, managing director of an S.A., managing director of a limited company or member of a board of directors.






Code numbers in this booklet refer to the above map. Thus (F4) is located where lines drawn from "F" and "4" cross each other.

Interesting sights

- | | |
|---|---|
| (I8) Notre-Dame. | (E5) Place de la Concorde. |
| (I8) Hôtel de Ville (City Hall). | (C8) Hôtel des Invalides (with the Tomb of Napoléon). |
| (I8) Palais de Justice (with Sainte-Chapelle and the Conciergerie). | (A7) Eiffel Tower. |
| (G10) Jardin du Luxembourg (near Sorbonne and the Cluny Museum). | (off A4) Bois de Boulogne. |
| (I6) Forum des Halles. | (C5) Grand Palais and Petit Palais. |
| (G6) Palais Royal and Salle Richelieu (Théâtre Français). | (E4) Madeleine Church. |
| (F/G6/7) Louvre. | (F4) The Opéra. |
| (France's national museum). | (G/I1) Montmartre and Sacré Cœur. |
| | (J6) Centre Georges Pompidou. |

Useful addresses

-  **SAS Ticket Office:** 30 Boulevard des Capucines, 75009 Paris (F4), tel. 742 06 14 or 742 28 08.
-  **Air Terminal:** For *Roissy-Charles de Gaulle Airport*: take the bus at the Porte Maillot Terminal in the Centre International de Paris. Metro: Porte Maillot. For *Orly Airport*: take the bus at the Invalides Terminal. (Metro: Invalides). Open hours: 06.00 to 23.00 hrs. Direct inter-airport services Charles de Gaulle-Orly.
-  **Official Tourist Information Office:** Bureau National de Renseignements de Tourisme and Paris Welcome Information Service, 127 Champs-Élysées (A4), tel. 723 61 72.

Distance from city center to Orly Airport: 14 km (9 miles),
Roissy-Charles de Gaulle Airport: 24 km (15 miles).

Facts and figures – 1980

Unit: 1000 persons

Total labour force.....	23,310
Influx of manpower.....	9,444
(permanent foreign workers)	
agriculture 9%, industry 36.3%, other 54.7%	

Gross domestic product (FRF).....	2,754.9 billions
Per head (US\$).....	12.136
Origin of market prices:	
agriculture 4.5%, industry 32.1%, services 56.1%	

Foreign trade

(for goods and services including those to Franc area, as a percentage of the GDP)

	Export	Import
	21.1	23.1
Main percentages:		
Food, beverages, tobacco.....	15.5	9.4
Machinery and transport equipment.....	33.2	21.5
Iron and steel products.....	9.0	7.1
Chemical products.....	12.0	9.1
Textile products.....	3.3	
Mineral fuel, lubricants and related materials.....		26.7

Indication of living standards

Private consumption per capita (US\$).....	6,620
Passenger cars, per 1,000 inhab.....	314
Telephones, per 1,000 inhab.....	372
Television sets, per 1,000 inhab.....	372
Doctors, per 10,000 inhab.....	16
Full-time school enrolment – years 15–19.....	55.9

Parlez-vous Français?

French is spoken by some 20% of the world's population – and as in the United Kingdom and Germany – you should not expect the average French company to correspond in any other than their national language. Again do not expect the average French businessman to speak other languages, though nowadays many of the younger executives can often converse in English as well.

In other words, if you want to do business successfully in France, it is essential to know some French.

Meetings

To arrive without an appointment is considered bad manners. It is recommended you arrange your meeting in advance – by letter. Meetings during the afternoons prior to weekends or holidays should be avoided.

Do not plan a business trip during July and August as these are the most popular vacation periods in France.

Opening hours

Banks: 09.00 hrs. to 16.00 hrs. or 09.00 hrs. to 12.00 hrs. and 14.00 hrs. to 18.00 hrs. weekdays, Saturdays closed. Banque Société Générale's branch office at Charles de Gaulle Airport is open Mondays to Fridays 09.00 to 18.15 hrs., at Orly Airport Mondays to Fridays 09.30 to 18.15 hrs.

Government Offices: 09.00 to 18.00 hrs. Mondays to Fridays, with two hours' lunch break.

Customs: Customs offices are open weekdays 08.00 to 12.00 hrs. and 14.00 hrs. to 18.00 hrs.

Special services in Paris

SECRETARIAL ASSISTANCE

Aéroport de Paris makes available for business travellers, offices equipped with telephones and typewriters and a multi-lingual secretariat, conference rooms for up to 35 persons and conference notice board etc.

For information and reservations, please contact 2A Service on weekdays from 08.15 hrs. to 17.15 hrs., Orly Airport tel. 686 32 95, Roissy-Charles de Gaulle Airport tel. 862 22 90.

TELEPHONES

Most of the French slot-telephones are operated by coins, but sometimes by tokens which should be bought locally.

TELEX, TELEGRAM

To send a telegram to foreign countries in English, call 233 21 11 – in other languages 233 44 11.

Telexes can be sent from the public telex office, 7 Rue Feydeau (Métro Bourse), tel. 233 20 12, open daily from 08.00 hrs. to 20.00 hrs.

Information for rates of postage, call 280 67 89.

The office at 52, Rue du Louvre (Métro Louvre) is open 24 hours, every day of the year.

POST

Letter boxes are painted yellow and apart from those at the post offices, are to be found at tobacconists displaying an illuminated red cigar-shaped sign. Stamps can be bought at such tobacconists. Letters FRF2.60 and postcards FRF2 weighing up to 20 grams, mailed to other points of Europe (except for Italy, Belgium, West Germany, Luxembourg and the Netherlands: letters FRF2,30.).

CAR HIRE

AVIS: 60 Rue de Ponthieu, 75008 Paris. Tel. 359 03 83 and airports, Orly 687 12 34 and Charles de Gaulle 862 34 34.

Interent: 12 Rue Turgot, 75009 Paris. Tel. 526 87 89.

Europcar: Tel. 645 21 25 and airports, Orly 853 12 34, Charles de Gaulle 862 33 33.

Hertz: Tel. 788 51 51 and airports, Orly 687 10 44, Charles de Gaulle 862 29 00.

Mattei: 20 Rue de Bercy, 75012 Paris. Tel. 346 11 50.

Driver service car: Tel. 731 35 50 – 624 37 27.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

Heavily booked periods due to congresses and exhibitions: March, April, June, September, October.

Low season: July, August, November, December.

BUSINESS INTERPRETERS

Biat: 3 Villa Poirier, 75015 Paris. Tel. 566 69 33.

Eclair Courrier: 25 Avenue Franklin Roosevelt. Tel. 225 86 10.

Opera Traductions: 26 Rue du 4 Septembre, 75002 Paris. Tel. 742 84 43.

Traductor: 12 Rue Lincoln, 75008 Paris. Tel. 261 64 97.

CONGRESSES, CONVENTIONS, EXHIBITIONS

Comité Parisien des Congrès – Office de Tourisme de Paris: 127 Champs-Élysées, 75008 Paris. Tel. 723 72 11.

Comité Français des Expositions: 12 Avenue Franklin Roosevelt, 75008 Paris. Tel. 227 70 94.

Palais des Congrès de Paris (CIP): Tel. 758 27 01 – 758 22 22.

CNIT: Tel. 773 66 44.

Useful commercial addresses

Centre Français du Commerce Extérieur, 10 Avenue d'Iéna, 75016. Tel. 723 61 23 – 505 30 00.

Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de Paris, 27 Avenue de Friedland, 75008. Tel. 720 52 00.

Useful government departments

Ministry of Agriculture: Ministère de l'Agriculture, 78 Rue de Varenne, 75007 Paris. Tel. 555 94 50.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Ministère des Affaires Étrangères, 37 Quai d'Orsay, 75007 Paris. Tel. 555 94 40.

Ministry of Economy and Finance: Ministère de l'Économie et des Finances, 93 Rue de Rivoli, 75001 Paris. Tel. 260 33 00.

Ministry of Industry and Research: Ministère de l'Industrie et de la Recherche, 101 Rue de Grenelle, 75007 Paris. Tel. 555 93 00.

(cont'd from page 12)

the reign of Louis XV. It was the site of the guillotine during the Revolution and saw the execution of Louis XVI, Marie Antoinette, Mme. Roland and Robespierre. The 3,300-year-old obelisk, which stands in the square, was a gift from Egypt in 1836. Close to the Concorde, see the Musée du Jeu de Paume, permanent exhibition of the Impressionist School of French painting. Open from 10.00 to 17.00 hrs. except Tuesdays.

Champs-Élysées (M. Champs-Élysées Clemenceau/Concorde – A/D4/5). The Champs-Élysées, a beautiful avenue lined with chestnut trees, stretches for more than a mile, starting at the Place de la Concorde and ending at the Place de l'Étoile and the Arc de Triomphe.

Proceeding along the Champs-Élysées, you'll spot on your right the Élysée Palace, home of the President, and on your left the Grand Palais (C5) and the Petit Palais (C5). The section of the avenue which follows contains many attractive shops, theaters and pavement cafés and is known as the "Avenue des Champs-Élysées".

Grand Palais and Petit Palais (M. Rond-Point des Champs-Élysées – C5). These were built for the 1900 Exhibition. The Grand Palais is used for various exhibitions and the Petit Palais contains a fine arts' museum, notable in particular for its collections of Chinese vases and paintings of the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries.

Arc de Triomphe (M. Etoile – A4). This great arch was built between 1806 and 1836 and commemorates the victories of Napoléon. The Tomb of the "Unknown Soldier" lies beneath and a flame of remembrance is rekindled each evening at 18.30 hrs. The panoramic view from the top of the arch – 50 m (165 ft.) above street level – reveals 12 magnificent avenues radiating from the Place de l'Étoile and all the sights of Paris with the white dome of the Sacré-Cœur rising in the distance. There is a lift to take you to the top of the arch, open daily from 10.00 to 17.00 hrs. It is closed on Tuesdays and on November 11. Admission charge.

Bois de Boulogne (M. Porte Dauphine, Porte Maillot, Porte d'Auteuil – off A4). The Bois de Boulogne lies to the west of Paris, just outside the city. Within its considerable area (9 sq. km – 3.47 sq.miles) are the race tracks of Longchamp and Auteuil, the Jardin d'Acclimatation (zoo), a bowling green and a miniature railway, as well as wooded groves, boating lakes, one or two fashionable restaurants, a rose garden and a polo ground.

The Eiffel Tower (M. Trocadero, Bir-Hakeim – A7). This symbol of Paris was erected between 1887 and 1889. On a clear day it is possible to see as far as 80 km (50 miles) from the top – 307 m (1,010 feet) high. Few visitors climb the 1,710 steps that ascend this girdered structure – fortunately four elevators serve the three different levels.

The restaurant on the first platform is extremely pleasant and from its height of 80 m (260 ft.) one may enjoy a lovely view over the city whilst dining on excellent food and wine. The tower is open daily between 10.00 and 17.00 hrs. Special services in summer.



Hôtel des Invalides (M. Invalides – C8). The Hôtel des Invalides was built by Louis XIV for disabled soldiers and today contains the Musée de l'Armée and the Tomb of Napoléon, which is housed in the crypt. The tomb may be visited daily, except Tuesdays and Sunday mornings, from 10.00 to 12.15 hrs. and from 13.30 to 17.00 hrs. in winter, 17.30 hrs. in summer. Admission charge.

Notre-Dame (M. Cité – I8). Notre-Dame – seen at its best from the quayside – is the Cathedral of Paris. A magnificent example of Gothic architecture with its rose windows and 69 m (226 ft.) towers, it is the loveliest of the city's religious edifices, enhanced the more by its peaceful setting on the Ile de la Cité. Notre-Dame was founded in 1163 on the site of a small Romanesque church and here Napoleon was crowned Emperor by Pope Pius VII in 1804. Fine views of the city may be enjoyed from the towers, which are open from 10.00 to 16.00 hrs. Don't miss seeing the treasures in the crypt while you are there. Daily visits except on Sundays and holidays. Admission charge.

The Panthéon (M. Luxembourg – H10). This imposing building, on the highest point on the Left Bank, is the burial place of many distinguished citizens, including Rousseau and Voltaire. The interior is decorated with paintings, which include scenes from the life of St. Geneviève. The Panthéon is open daily except Tuesdays, from 10.00 to 16.00 hrs. Admission charge.

Palais du Luxembourg (M. Luxembourg – G10). Built in the 17th century by Marie de Medicis and turned into a prison during the Revolution, the once-royal building is now the Palace of the Council of the Republic and may be visited between sessions. The Jardins du Luxembourg, frequented by many students in the area, provide fine views of the palace and a number of verdant promenades. These gardens are, in fact, the loveliest in Paris, with numerous statues, attractive fountains, lawns and trees.

The Sorbonne (M. St.-Michel – H9). Founded in the 13th century, the Sorbonne is the oldest college of the University of Paris. The main courtyard, galleries and Richelieu's Tomb can be viewed daily from 10.00 to 12.00 hrs. and from 14.00 to 18.00 hrs.

Les Halles (M. Halles – I6). The Central Market, known as "Les Halles", has moved to Rungis (11 km – 7 miles – south of Paris). The departure of Les Halles marks a transformation of the heart of Paris: over an area of 32 hectares (80 acres), from the Rue du Louvre to the Rue Beaubourg and from Saint-Eustache to Saint Merri, the old district of Les Halles has become a multi-level shopping arcade "Le Forum des Halles", with theaters, restaurants and exhibitions. The traditional and famous restaurants, Au Pied de Cochon, L'Alsace Aux Halles, with their bowls of onion soup and snails or pig's trotters, are still open all night.

The Madeleine (M. Madeleine – E4). Based on the design of a Greek temple, the Madeleine was built in 1805 by Napoléon in honor of his armies – it is one of the best-known buildings in Paris, partly because of its location.

L'Opéra (M. Opéra – F4). The Opéra is a most imposing building, overlooking the Place de l'Opéra and the Café de la Paix. It was opened in 1875 and is famous for its operatic productions and its corps de ballet as well as for its ornate and sumptuous interior.

Rue de la Paix (M. Opéra – F4). Leading from the Place de l'Opéra to the Place Vendôme, the Rue de la Paix is famous for its luxurious shops.

Montmartre (M. Montmartre – G/H1). This is an extremely attractive quarter of Paris with its narrow alleys, steep stairways, quiet places of worship and its Place du Tertre, where numerous artists can be seen at work.

Sacré-Cœur (M. Anvers – H1). At the top of the steep hill of Montmartre rises the white Basilica of the Sacré-Cœur, visible from almost every point in Paris. This monumental oriental-style basilica from the end of the 19th century was founded, by tradition, on the site of the martyrdom of St. Denis. The dome is open from 10.00 to 13.00 hrs. and from 14.00 to 18.00 hrs. (admission charge), and from the Galerie des Colonnes or from the top of the dome (80 m – 260 feet high) it is possible to see over a radius of 50 km (30 miles).

Conciergerie (M. Cité – I8). For years this was the most important public building in France. Here Marie-Antoinette was sentenced to death and her cell, as well as many other points of historic interest, is open to visitors, daily, except Tuesdays, April through September from 10.00 to 12.00 hrs. and from 13.30 to 18.30 hrs. – until 17.00 hrs. the remainder of the year. Admission charge.

Tour Montparnasse (M. Montparnasse – E10). Panoramic view of Paris from the 56th floor.

Centre Georges Pompidou (M. Rambuteau – J6). A cultural complex in the center of Paris with a Library containing one million documents, a National Museum of Modern Art, a Center of Industrial Creation, a Handicraft Workshop and a Musical Institute. Open daily, except Tuesdays, from 12.00 to 22.00 hrs.

INTERESTING SURROUNDING POINTS

There are many fascinating points within easy reach of Paris by car, motorcoach or train. Alternatively you can reach such goals by joining one of the many conducted tours.

Versailles. The magnificent Palace of Versailles, with its beautifully laid out gardens and picturesque miniature palaces (the Trianons), is really worth several visits. The Palace was built by Louis XIV and became the seat of government at that time. The Great Hall of Mirrors (Galerie des Glaces) is of special interest to the visitor (open 10.00 to 17.00 hrs. daily except Mondays), as well as the Royal Suites and the Chapel. Admission charge. The Gardens – designed by Le Nôtre – are open all day and the fountains play on the first and third Sunday of

the month from May to October. The Grand Trianon, built by Mansart in 1687, is related in its design to the Galerie des Glaces. The Petit Trianon was the favorite residence of Marie-Antoinette. Both are twenty minutes' walk across the park from the Palace. One can get to Versailles by car – 22 km (14 miles) from Paris by Autoroute de l'Ouest – or by train (Gare St. Lazare, Gare Montparnasse, Gare des Invalides).

Barbizon and Fontainebleau. A trip to Fontainebleau may be combined with a visit to the little village of Barbizon, setting of Millet's famous painting "the Gleaners" and meeting place of many artists of the Barbizon School, whose works are displayed to visitors. Barbizon is 58 km (36 miles) from Paris, by car (Autoroute du Sud). Or you can take the train at the Gare de Lyon.

The Palace of Fontainebleau was the favorite hunting lodge of Louis XIV, Napoléon and Louis Philippe. It was here that Napoléon signed his abdication and in his apartments visitors may see Napoléon's camp bed, a lock of his hair, the hat he wore on his return from Elba and a clock with ten dials which was specially made for him. Other points of interest are the apartments of Marie-Antoinette and the royal apartments. Fontainebleau is 61 km (38 miles) from Paris by car (Autoroute du Sud). It can be reached quite conveniently by train (Gare de Lyon). Closed on Tuesdays.

Malmaison: The Chateau of Malmaison, 16 km (10 miles) from the center of Paris, was the home of Joséphine Bonaparte. It is particularly famous for its fine historical collections and is open daily except Tuesdays and holidays. Open from 10.00 hrs. to noon and 13.30 to 17.30 hrs. (summer) or 16.30 hrs. (winter). Admission charge. One can reach Malmaison by car (10 km – 6 miles – from Porte Maillot) or by train (Gare St. Lazare).

Chartres. On the highest point in the city of Chartres stands the Cathedral, completed in 1194. It possesses the finest stained glass windows in France with their famous "Chartres Bleu". The remote and charming town provides an ideal setting for this magnificent piece of Gothic architecture. The Cathedral is floodlit throughout the summer months. If you decide to visit Chartres independently, there are frequent train services departing from Montparnasse.

Sèvres. At Sèvres on the outskirts of Paris you can visit the famous Porcelain Factory and Museum. Daily visits from 09.30 to 12.00 hrs., 13.00 to 17.00 hrs. except Tuesdays. Admission charge. Metro: Pont de Sèvres, then take direct bus to the factory.

Bargain Corner

It is a sad fact that prices in Paris are on the whole high. With a little care, however, and a certain amount of know-how, the traveler on a budget may have a thoroughly enjoyable vacation. Inexpensive restaurants and cafés cluster the Left Bank – particularly in the students' and artists' quarters. Here, too, you'll find good, clean, comfortable hotels to suit even the tightest budget.

We suggest the following:

Hôtel Central des Ecoles (H10)
3 Rue Champollion,
75005 Paris.
Tel. 634 14 20.

Hôtel Duminy (E5)
3 Rue du Mont Thabor,
Paris 75001.
Tel. 260 32 80.

Hôtel Pretty (B7)
8bis Rue Amelie,
75007 Paris.
Tel. 705 46 21.

Hôtel Saint-Séverin (H9)
40 Rue St. Séverin,
75005 Paris.
Tel. 634 05 70.

Eating inexpensively is also possible if you're prepared to hunt out the growing crop of cafeterias. In addition, there are many reasonably-priced bistros on the Left Bank, where the food and wines are as good as the prices are low.

Try these:

Chez Pierre Vedel (off map)
50 Rue des Morillons, 15e.

La Petite Hostellerie (H9)
35 Rue de la Harpe, 5e.
Fixed-price meal, with wine.

Restaurant Champollion (H10)
3 Rue Champollion, 5e.
Fixed-price four-course meal.

St. Germain de la Mer (F8)
2 Rue du Sabot, 75006 Paris.

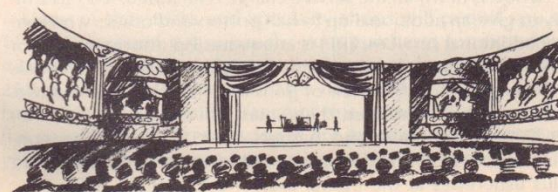
Unquestionably, the most efficient and inexpensive form of travel in Paris is the métro – a "carnet" of ten tickets can be obtained for FRF20, each ticket covering one trip of any distance.

Entertainment and night life

"Paris by Night" . . . innumerable creators have translated this glowing subject into words, music and colors. It's not surprising, no city in the world is more famous for its night life. Theaters, night clubs, café-bars, even circuses – each spells out capital enjoyment in the fullest sense of the word.

Opera, ballet: The renowned Opéra House (F4), with its rich program of international works, is of course the center of classical opera and ballet.

Theater: For drama, attend the Comédie Française or the Salle Richelieu (G6). Either promises enjoyment, even for visitors with only a scant knowledge of the language.



Concerts: There are concerts all year round at the Salle Pleyel, 252 Rue du Faubourg St. Honoré, 8e and Salle Gaveau, 45 Rue la Boétie, 8e. Summer concerts are staged at the Palais de Chaillot (A5) and the Abbaye de Royaumont and Sceaux. You can reach the former by car (35 km – 22 miles – north of Paris) and the latter by Métro-ligne de Sceaux from Luxembourg (special fares).

Musical revues: Topping the list in this particular realm of entertainment are the Folies Bergères (I3), Le Lido (B4) and l'Alcazar (G8), equally renowned for their magnificent spectacles.

Night spots: Montmartre, with Place Pigalle (G1) at its heart, is famed for its variety of night clubs, discotheques etc. Also internationally popular – especially among American visitors – is the Crazy Horse Saloon on 12 Ave. Georges V, 8e. Speciality of this house is its striptease show with a sense of humour. Difficult as it is to single out just one or two boites from the very many good ones that scatter the Left Bank, we would recommend Club St. Germain-des-Prés (I3 Rue St. Benoît). For dancing, dinner and floorshow par excellence, there's Le Lido, 78 Ave. des Champs-Élysées. For pavement café metaphysics, try the Café de Flore (F8) whose clientele includes a strong element of existentialists. (It's an old haunt of Jean-Paul Sartre.) And for the traditional French can-can with shades of Toulouse-Lautrec, don't miss the Bal du Moulin Rouge (F1).

If you've a basic knowledge of French, spare time, too, for a visit to one of the tiny theater-clubs that stage Les Chansonniers of Paris, Deux Anes (F1), Caveau de la République (K5) and Théâtre de 10 Heures (F1), are excellent examples of the style of singing that has become synonymous with the French national character.

Last but not least – a night trip on a "Bateau Mouche" along the Seine is an unforgettable experience, with romantic views of the floodlit city and a most enjoyable dinner on board. Trips start from the "Pont de l'Alma" (B6) every half hour from 10.00 to 12.00 hrs., 14.00 to 18.00 hrs., and in the evening.

For a guide to what's currently on in Paris, buy: "Paris Weekly Information", "Une Semaine de Paris", "Allo Paris", "Pariscope" or "Paris Scene".

Tipping

Tipping is widely practised in Paris. In cafés and restaurants, usually a service charge is included in the bill. It is fairly common to leave a small additional gratuity.

At hotels in which the service charge is included, it is customary to give an additional tip to hall porters and others who render additional services: FRF1 is adequate. Tip doormen FRF1 for calling you a taxi, chambermaids FRF5 a day or FRF20 per week, concierges in tourist hotels or pensions FRF10 when you leave.

On top of the metered charge, taxi drivers are usually given 10–15%; hairdressers and barbers 12–15%; guides on conducted tours FRF1; and cloakroom and washroom attendants, plus usherettes at the opera, theater and cinema, FRF1.

Shopping and souvenir hunting

Shopping in Paris – or merely window-gazing – is a delightful pastime. For while Paris is certainly not the place for bargain shopping, the elegance of its merchandise spans both the heady heights of the world of Haute Couture and the chic practicality of its midinettes and office girls. Browse through secondhand books and prints on the stalls on the quays aside the Seine and admire the jewelry shops in the Rue de la Paix (F5).

Antique lovers will want to search – and haggle – for bargains in the city's famous Flea Market at the Porte de Clignancourt, open on Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays. Ladies will want to stroll the lovely Rue de Rivoli or patronise such stores as Galeries Lafayette, Au Printemps or Aux Trois Quartiers.

The top shopping area extends from the Grands Boulevards to the streets leading off the Place de l'Opéra, the Place de la Madeleine, the Place Vendôme and especially the Rue du Faubourg St. Honoré. Here you will find jewelers, perfumers (perfumes are probably Paris' greatest bargain offer), dress and accessory shops.

WHAT AND WHERE TO BUY

Antiques and art: Place Vendôme; Rue du Faubourg St. Honoré; le Village Suisse, Rue de Seine.

Ceramics, china, glass: Baccarat, 30bis Rue de Paradis; Lalique, 11 Rue Royale.

Children's clothing: Carcharel Enfants, 66 Champs-Élysées; Enfantillage, 260 Blvd. St. Germain,

Toys: Nain Bleu, 408 Rue St. Honoré.

Jewelry: Mappin & Webb, Cartier, Rue de la Paix; Aldebert, 1 Blvd. de la Madeleine; Van Cleef & Arpels, Boucheron, Place Vendôme; Clerc, Place de l'Opéra.

Perfumes, gift shops: Michel Swiss, 16 Rue de la Paix; Gray, 5 Rue Scribe and 39 Rue de Caumartin.

Exotic and typical French food: Fauchon, 26 Place de la Madeleine.

Gloves, accessories: Nicolet, 18 Rue Duphot; Francelle, 244 Rue de Rivoli; Perrin, 8 Rue Royale.

Leather goods: Hermès, 24 Rue du Faubourg St. Honoré; Au Caprice, 16 Rue de Sèvres.

Opening hours: Large department stores open daily 09.00 to 18.30 hrs. or 19.00 hrs. except Sundays. Many shops close on Mondays as well as Sundays.

SAVING HINTS

Many of the stores and speciality shops will permit you a 12–20% discount, if you pay for your purchases for export in traveler's checks or dollars. An additional reduction of 20 to 25% is also granted on purchases delivered to ship or plane bound for points outside France or to a home address outside the country. As this concession is not mandatory, it's best that you inquire, before you buy.

Transportation

For its logic and clarity, public transportation in Paris might almost have been designed with the tourist in mind. There are fourteen different subway or underground lines (the Métro), about seventy bus lines and numerous taxis. The bus lines cross Paris in various directions, the route and terminals being clearly marked on the side of each bus and the destination being indicated both back and front.

The Métro. Le Métro – fastest method of transport in the city – is indispensable to the enthusiastic explorer. Every station displays a lucid map of the entire underground system on which sometimes each line is indicated by colored lights at the press of a button. First class tickets cost FRF5, second class tickets FRF3.50 for any distance. A first class carnet (book of ten tickets) may be bought for FRF30 and a second class carnet for FRF20. The Métro starts operating at 05.30 hrs. and closes between 00.30 and 01.00 hrs. These tickets can be used for both Métro and bus services. Please note that between 09.00 and 17.00 hrs. disabled travelers, pregnant women and senior citizens (75 years and upwards) are entitled to travel in first class on the Métro on a second class ticket.

Buses. Most buses in the city run from 06.00 to 21.15 hrs., though a few operate up to 00.30 hrs. The passenger buys tickets on the bus, one being used for each fare stage traveled. A ticket for a single stage (approx. 1.5 km or 1 mile) costs FRF3.50 but it is more economical to buy these tickets in booklet (carnet) form, a carnet of 10 tickets costing FRF20 at any Métro station.

Special Tourist Tickets. Billets de Tourisme allowing unlimited use of the Métro (first class) and buses, may be obtained for FRF100 (valid for one week), FRF60 (for 4 days) and FRF40 (for 2 days). These tickets are issued only on presentation of a passport or identity card and may be obtained outside France at any French Railway's office, or in Paris from the tourist services or R.A.T.P., 53 Quai des Grands-Augustins (H8), tel. 326 98 50. A new system called "Carte Orange" allows unlimited use of Métro/bus in Paris for one month for FRF150 first class and FRF100 second class. The French Government Tourist Office issues maps of the Métro and bus systems. You can also buy a Plan de Paris par Arrondissement at any Métro station.

Taxis. For those who prefer taxi as a mode of transport, the charges are: a basic FRF7, plus FRF1.60 per km between 06.30 and 22.00 hrs., and FRF3.50 per km after 22.00 hrs. in Paris. Such charges are shown on the taxi's meter. (See also section "Tipping".) There are plenty of taxis in Paris, wait for them at the stations or call 656 94 00, 739 33 33, 200 67 89, 735 22 22.

Sports

Cycle racing, horse racing, tennis, swimming, skating, football (soccer) and golf are among the most popular sports in Paris.

In fact, Paris witnesses the conclusion of France's major sporting event – the Tour de France countryside cycle race with participants from many European countries.

Horse racing and riding: The main racecourses are at Auteuil and Longchamp in the Bois de Boulogne. Steeplechasing takes place at Auteuil from February to April, from the end of May to mid-July, and from mid-October to mid-December. The Grand Steeplechase de Paris is run on the third Sunday in June. Flat racing at Longchamp begins in April and continues until the end of October. On the last Sunday in June the Grand Prix de Paris marks the climax of the Paris season.

There are also many riding schools available in the Bois de Boulogne.

Tennis: Numerous indoor and outdoor tennis courts dot the city. If you want to play tennis on outdoor courts or covered courts, contact the Federation Française de Lawn Tennis, Stade Roland-Garros, tel. 743 96 81. International matches are played at the Stade Roland-Garros.

Squash: Try the Eurosquash Montparnasse, 37 Avenue du Maine or Le Squash Front de Seine, 21 Rue Caillavet.

Swimming: There are many swimming pools in Paris, both indoor and open-air, and in summer you can swim at the Bains Deligny (E6) on the Seine.

Skating: Skaters can find their delight at the Patinoire des Champs-Élysées, the Molitor (open October 15–April 15), the Palais des Sports and the Stadium. It is also possible to skate in the Bois de Boulogne or the Bois de Vincennes, if the winter is cold enough!

Boxing, wrestling: During winter, boxing and wrestling aficionados are also catered for at the Palais des Sports (M. Porte de Versailles) or the Salle Wagram (A3).

Rugby, soccer: Fans frequent the recently renovated Parc des Princes. A new stadium – Omnisport – is presently under construction close to the Gare de Lyon.

Golf: There are many golf clubs in and around Paris – try the Golfers' Club at 53 Avenue Hoche. Golf lessons are held from 08.00 to 21.00 hrs. and there is a bar and restaurant at the club.

For more comprehensive information contact the French Golf Federation, 69 Ave. Victor Hugo, tel. 727 95 40.

Climate and clothing

Paris enjoys a relatively mild climate the year round. Spring, with its warm, sunny days, its occasional showers and blossoming chestnut trees is surely the loveliest season of all.

Summer can be hot, though it is rarely unpleasant. Fall brings nights and days that are good for walking and sightseeing. November through February can be cold at times, and you should be prepared for rain, tempered by occasional sunny days. Middle-weight suits and raincoats are most suitable for daytime wear almost the year through, and during winter a heavy overcoat is a practical addition. For gala performances at the opera, and on all official occasions, dress should be formal.

Laundry – many hotels offer a 48-hour laundry service. Should you decide to use other laundry services, allow 3–4 days for laundry and dry cleaning.

Religious services

Catholic: Notre-Dame de Paris; Sacré-Cœur, Butte Montmartre; La Madeleine, Place de la Madeleine; (English-speaking services) Church of St. Joseph, 50 Ave. Hoche.

Protestant: Eglise Protestante de l'Etoile, 54 Avenue de la Grand Armée; Eglise Danoise, 17 Rue Lord Byron and Eglise Suédoise, 9 Rue Médéric.

Presbyterian: (Church of Scotland): 17 Rue Bayard.

Episcopalian: American Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, 23 Ave. George V.

Non-denominational: American Church, 65 Quai d'Orsay.

Baptist: 48 Rue de Lille.

Methodist: 5 Rue Roquepine.

Christian Scientist: 58 Blvd. Flandrin.

Jewish: Liberal Synagogue, 24 Rue Copernic.

Russian Orthodox: Cathedral, 12 Rue Daru.

Greek Orthodox: 2bis Rue Laferrière.

Paris Mosque: 39 Rue Geoffroy St. Hilaire.

Special services

Emergency medical services. For all-night medical services call 337 77 77. There is also a chemist open all night at 84 Champs-Élysées (B4), tel. 256 02 41.

English-language newspapers. You can get almost the full range of English-language newspapers and magazines at Brantano's (37 Avenue de l'Opéra), W. H. Smith and Galignani (248 and 224 Rue de Rivoli respectively).

Weekly events: Please call 720 88 98 for a survey of weekly events in English.

Something lost. If you are trying to retrieve something left in subway or bus, contact the "Bureau des Objets Trouvés", 36 Rue des Morillons.

Babysitters. Kid Service, 12 Rue Molière, tel. 296 04 16.

Public holidays

All offices, museums and historic monuments are closed on these holidays: January 1; Easter Monday; May 1; Ascension Day; Whitmonday; July 14; August 15; November 1 and 11; December 25.

May 8 marks the end of World War II in Europe and is also Joan of Arc's Day with processions at her statue in the Place des Pyramides.

Bastille Day celebrations on July 14 take place in every restaurant and every street in Paris with flags, bunting, colored lights, spectacular fireworks, music and dancing all night long in the streets. On November 25, the mininettes, or girls in the dressmaking trades, celebrate the feast of Sainte-Catherine, bedecking her statue with flowers and crowning those over 25, still unmarried, with the traditional bonnets.

Military parades are held on May 8, July 14 and November 11.

Your comments

We hope you found this City Portrait useful. All the facts were checked and double-checked before printing, but errors can still occur. If you found that any of the addresses or telephone numbers were incorrect, or hotels or restaurants of an unacceptable standard, or want to suggest additional facts to be included in the next edition, please write to:

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Name of my hotel:

Address:

Tel.:

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