

# Paris City Guide



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## Paris Overview

Paris is known as the city of Lights and it absolutely deserves this name. The best time to visit Paris is either in the late spring (May & early June) or in the fall, from September to late October. And winters, although cold and rainy, are a very romantic time to visit Paris. Paris is located in the north-bending arc of the river Seine and includes two islands, the Île Saint-Louis and the larger Île de la Cité, which form the oldest part of the city. Paris has an oceanic climate.

### Statistics:

Location: Ile-de-France region, France  
International Dialing code: 33

Time zone: GMT + 1 (GMT + 2 from last Sunday in March to Saturday before last Sunday in October)

Average temperatures (January): 4°C (39°F)

Average temperatures (July): 19.5°C

### Currency:

The Euro (EUR) is the official currency in Paris, France. Currency can be exchanged at banks, bureaux de change and some large hotels. Major credit cards are widely accepted.

1.00 GBP = 1.1 EUR

1.00 USD = 0.69 EUR

Note: These currency exchange rates are not updated daily and should be used as a guideline only.

### Emergency Contacts:

Police: 17 - free call

Fire service : 18 - free call

Ambulance - SAMU : 15 - free call

## Hotels

Hotel prices generally include VAT and a room tax (taxe de séjour) of between €0.50 and €1.50 per person per night.

The hotels in Paris have been grouped into four different pricing categories:

Category 4 - Over €300

Category 3 - From €200 to €300

Category 2 - From €100 to €200

Category 1 - Up to €100

The prices quoted here are the lowest standard rates for a double room, including VAT and room tax but excluding breakfast, unless otherwise specified.

## Restaurants

The restaurants in Paris have been divided into four categories: Gastronomic, Business, Trendy, and Budget. Most restaurants include tax and a 12-15% service charge in their prices. If service is good, guests will often leave an extra €2 tip or the small change from their bill, if they pay in cash. If service is not included, it is customary to leave a 12-15% tip.

The restaurants in Paris have been grouped into four different pricing categories:

Category 4 - Over €125

Category 3 - From €75 to €125

Category 2 - From €40 to €75

Category 1 - Under €40

These prices are for an average three-course meal for one person and for a bottle of house wine or cheapest equivalent; they include tax and service charge.

# Attractions

- Tour Eiffel (Eiffel Tower)



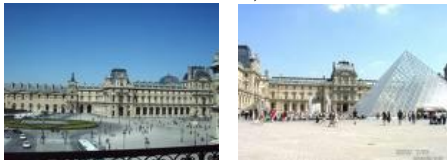
- Cathédrale de Notre-Dame (Cathedral of Our Lady)



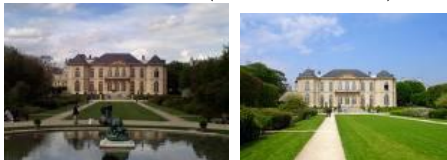
- La Basilique du Sacré-Coeur (The Sacred Heart Basilica)



- Musée National du Louvre (Louvre National Museum)



- Musée Rodin (Rodin Museum)



- Musée d'Orsay (Museum of Orsay)



- Musée du Quai Branly



- Centre Georges Pompidou (Georges Pompidou Centre)



- Paris Plage



- Musée National Picasso (National Picasso Museum)



## NIGHTLIFE

When in Paris, faire la fête (party) Parisian-style with the coutured elite in ever-trendy venues. Fashionable areas for nightlife include Bastille, Marais and Champs-Élysées, to mention just a few. While discos are few and far between in Paris, there is no lack of elegant, classy entertainment options. Just walking around the city at night is a beautiful experience in itself.

## SHOPPING

Paris is a shopper's paradise. The Glitterati will feel at home in the Haute Couture shops found on Rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré, while trend-setting fashions will be found in Rue Etienne Marcel shops.

Bargains are in abundance at the three main flea markets situated around the old gates of the city. They are, however, teeming with pickpockets and shoppers should be on their guard. Les Bouquinistes, which consists of rows of bookstalls perched against the walls of the Seine River, is a great place for bookworms to browse and barter.

# Weather

**BBC**

WEATHER

**Paris**

Last updated at 08:35 on Wed 6th January

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Heavy Snow</b> Max: -1°C Min: -1°C Wind: SSE 8mph	<b>Light Snow Shower</b> Max: 0°C Min: -5°C Wind: N 8mph	<b>Sunny</b> Max: -2°C Min: -5°C Wind: NNE 13mph

[More detailed weather](#)

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**BBC**

WEATHER

**Paris**

Latest Observations

Observed: Wednesday 6th January at 08:00 CET

Observation station: Paris-Orly  
(Lat: 48.72 | Lon: 2.38)  
9.84 miles / 15.84km from Paris

	<b>White Cloud</b> Temp: -4°C Wind: S 7mph 11km/h Hum: 90%	Press: 1002mB, falling Vis: Moderate
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[More detailed weather](#)

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