3-day Paris City Guide

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Overview of Day 1

**LEAVE HOTEL**  [Tested and recommended hotels in Paris >](#)

Take Metro line 6 or 9 to Trocadero station

09:00-09:20  Trocadéro Gardens  ❧ Romantic gardens  Page 5

Take a walk through bridge Pont d'Iéna to Eiffel Tower - 10'

09:30-11:30  Eiffel Tower  ❧ The most spectacular view of Paris  Page 5

Take a walk to Hotel des Invalides - 20'

11:50-12:20  Hotel des Invalides  ❧ Impressive building complex  Page 6

Take a walk through bridge Pont de la Concorde to Tuileries Garden - 30'

12:50-13:20  Tuileries Garden  ❧ Beautiful public gardens  Page 6

Lunch time
Take a walk to Musée du Louvre

15:00-18:00  Musée du Louvre  ❧ The world's largest museum  Page 7

Take Metro line 1 from Palais de Royal Musée du Louvre station to Champs Élysées Clemenceau station (Direction: La Defense) - 30'

18:30-19:30  Champs-Elysées  ❧ One of the most famous streets in the world  Page 7

**END OF DAY 1**
Overview of Day 1
**Attraction Details**

**09:00-09:20**

**Trocadéro Gardens** (11, place du Trocadéro)

**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**
- Trocadéro Gardens is a 10-ha (25-acre) public garden opposite Eiffel tower on the other side of the Seine.
- The building on the north end is called Chaillot Palace (Palais de Chaillot).
- The park descends gently from the palace to the Seine and the Pont d'Iéna.
- Beautiful trees, quiet walkways and bridges over small streams make it a romantic place to take a stroll.
- The highlight of the park is the rectangular pool lined with stone and bronze statues.
- The park was established in 1937 for the International Exposition dedicated to Art and Technology in Modern Life.

**THINGS TO DO THERE**
- Walk along the romantic garden.
- Admire the statues, fountains, and the flowering trees.
- It is one of the best spots for taking the unmissable photo of the Eiffel tower.

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**
- The park offers an excellent view on the Eiffel Tower.

**MORE Info and Photos >**

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**09:30-11:30**

**Eiffel Tower** (5, avenue Anatole France, 75007 Paris)

**Opening hours:** Elevators daily: 9:30am - 11:45pm, Steps daily: 9:30am - 6:30pm, Elevators and steps from June 18 to August 28: 9:30am - 12:45am • **Admission:** 13.1 €

**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**
- Paris’ iconic Eiffel Tower is an iron lattice tower built in 1889 for the Universal Exhibition.
- The tower got its name after its builder, Gustav Eiffel, who also created the framework for the Statue of Liberty.
- The tower was built temporarily among much controversy, but soon became Paris’ main tourist attraction.
- With its 324 m it used to be the world’s tallest building until 1931 (Empire State Building) and it remains the tallest in Paris.
- It is so sound that it never sways more than 7 cm (2.5 in) in strong winds.

**THINGS TO DO THERE**
- Visit the information area on the first floor to get the history of the tower.
- Enjoy the beautiful view of Paris from the second floor.
- Explore the top level with some more breathtaking views of Paris.

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**
- The Eiffel Tower has 3 floors. Before buying your ticket you have to decide whether you only want to go to the second floor or you want to visit the top floor as well.
- You have two options for getting to the first and the second floor: take the stairs or the elevator.
- To get to the top floor you have to take an elevator from the second floor (there is no direct elevator from ground level to the top floor).
- On the second deck usually there is a line to the elevator to the top.
- If you **buy your ticket online** you can jump the queue only at the main entrance (go straight to the reserved entrance), but from the second floor the elevator to the top is the same line for everyone (in case of bad weather the access might be restricted).
- The lines seem to be shorter at night and the tower and city are beautifully illuminated.
- At the second floor you can enjoy a special meal in Le Jules Verne restaurant. You will need to reserve in advance (+33) 1 45 55 61 4. It has its own elevator so you don't have to pay the tower fee and wait in line to reach this restaurant.

**MORE Info and Photos >**
Hotel des Invalides (Place des Invalides, 75007 Paris)

**Opening hours:** April 1 - September 30: 10am - 6pm, October 1 - March 31: 10am - 5pm, First Monday of each month: Closed, Jan 1, May 1, Nov 1 and Dec 25: Closed • **Admission:** 9 €

**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**
- Hotel des Invalides is a magnificent building complex dedicated to France’s military history
- It was built between 1671-78 by King Louis XIV as a military hospital and a showcase of the country's military power
- Napoleon is buried here. His tomb is located right under the golden dome of the Dome Church
- Musée de L’Armée (Military Museum) displays historic weaponry and armor worn by kings (including Louis XIV)
- Musée des Plans Reliefs exhibits the collection of scale model cities used for planning military attacks by military engineer Vauban
- Some part of the complex still accommodates military offices

**THINGS TO DO THERE**
- Admire the magnificent building from the square in front of the main entrance
- Enter the impressive cobbled courtyard
- Head to the opposite side of the building complex and have a glimpse of the Dome Church

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**
- One single ticket gives access to the following museums: Musée de l'Armée, Tomb of Napoleon I, Historical Charles de Gaulle (closed on Mondays), Scale-Models Museum, and Order of the Liberation Museum

Tuileries Garden (rue de Rivoli, 75001 Paris)

**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**
- Tuileries Garden (Jardin des Tuileries) is a beautiful public park between Louvre and Place de la Concorde
- It features a number of pools, walkways and sensuous nude sculptures by Aristide Maillol (1861-1944)
- Originally it was the garden of the Tuileries Palace
- Tuileries Palace was built for Catherine de Medici in 1564 and burnt down by the Paris Commune of 1871
- It was the first royal garden open to the public (1667)

**THINGS TO DO THERE**
- The garden gives home to the Arc de Triomphe du Carrousel, erected by Napoleon in 1808
- The Jeu de Paume gallery and the Musée de l'Orangerie can also be found here

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**
- Take a lovely walk through the gardens
- Relax by the pond
- Arrive to the Louvre Pyramid and enjoy the view of the river Seine
Musée du Louvre  (rue de Rivoli, 75001 Paris)

Opening hours: Mon, Thurs, Sat, Sun: 9am - 6pm, Wed, Fri: 9am - 10pm, Tuesday: Closed, May 1, Dec 25, Jan 1: Closed • Admission: 9.5 €

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW
- The Louvre is the most important museum of France and one of the world’s best known museums
- King François I founded the museum in 1527 with 12 paintings looted from Italy (including the Mona Lisa and Virgin of the Rocks)
- Now more than 35,000 items are on display (antiquites, paintings, drawings, sculptures)
- The building used to be a royal palace that dates back to the 11th century
- The controversial glass pyramid was built in 1989
- Louvre is the world’s largest museum

THINGS TO DO THERE
- Upon entering the museum take a museum map or rent an audio guide (costs 6 €) because all descriptions are in French
- Make your way straight up to the 2nd floor and work your way down viewing all the collections as you go. Most people start at the bottom and go upwards so you can be held up
- Make sure not to miss Venus de Milo, The Turkish Bath, The Card Sharper, The Lacemaker, Winged Victory of Samothrace, Mona Lisa and the Virgin of the Rocks

TIPS & INSIGHTS
- In order to avoid the long lines approach the museum from the Palais Royal Musee du Louvre metro station. The underground exit takes you directly to the gallery. There is a Tabac shop where you can buy your tickets. Enter the museum through ‘Passage Richelieu’ on rue Rivoli
- The other option to avoid the long lines is to go in through the pyramid down into the main lobby. Head straight for the ticket machines rather than the kiosks. The machines only take cash but are simple to use
- If you already have your ticket - bought it in advance or you have a museum pass - use either the ‘Passage Richelieu’ entrance located at 93 rue de Rivoli or ‘Porte des Lions’ entrance on the opposite side of the ‘Passage Richelieu’ entrance
- Be prepared that the museum is always very crowded; especially in front of the Mona Lisa and the Venus de Milo
- Visit in the evening on a late opening day (Wednesday and Friday). If you go after 6pm on these days the entrance fee is lower and you avoid the huge crowds and tourist groups

Champs-Elysées

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW
- Champs-Elysées (Elysian Fields) is one of the best known avenues in the world connecting Arc de Triomphe and Place de la Concorde
- It came into existence when the royal gardener, André Le Nôtre, planted trees beyond the border of the Tuileries Garden
- First it was called Grand Cours (Great Way)
- It earned prominence and became the prime place of socializing and entertainment in the mid-19th century
- Since Napoleon’s funeral in 1840 it became the route for state funerals, processions, parades and city events

THINGS TO DO THERE
- The Rond Point des Champs-Elysées is the nicest part featuring chestnut trees and flower beds

TIPS & INSIGHTS
- Walk along the famous street
- Do some shopping or relax in a café

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Overview of Day 2

LEAVE HOTEL  
Take Metro line 4 to Cite station

09:00-10:00  
**Notre Dame Cathedral**  
UNESCO World Heritage site  
Take a walk to Sainte-Chapelle - 10'

10:10-10:55  
**Sainte-Chapelle**  
Beautiful stained glass windows  
Take a walk to La Conciergerie - 10'

11:05-11:50  
**La Conciergerie**  
Part of a World Heritage Site  
Take Metro line 11 from Chatelet station to Rambuteau station (Direction: Mairie des Lilas) - 25'

12:15-12:45  
**Centre Georges Pompidou**  
Unique, futuristic building  
Lunch time  
Take Metro line 11 from Rambuteau station to Belleville station (Direction: Mairie des Lilas)  
Change to Metro line 2 to Pigalle station (Direction: Porte Dauphine)  
Change to Metro line 12 to Abbesses station (Direction: Porte de la Chapelle)

14:00-16:00  
**Montmartre**  
Most romantic neighborhood of Paris  
Take a walk to Sacré Coeur

16:00-16:30  
**Sacré-Coeur**  
One of the most recognized building in Paris  
Take Metro line 12 from Pigalle station to Saint Lazare station (Direction: Mairie d’Issy)  
Change to Metro line 3 to Opera station (Direction: Gallieni) - 30' in all

17:00-17:20  
**Opéra Garnier**  
Unbelievably ornamented opera house  
Take a walk to Galeries Lafayette - 10'

17:30-19:00  
**Galeries Lafayette**  
Amazing department store  
END OF DAY 2
Overview of Day 2
Attraction Details

09:00-10:00  
**Notre Dame Cathedral**  (6, Parvis Notre-Dame, 75004 Paris)

Opening hours: Daily: 8am - 6:45pm, Saturday, Sunday: 8am - 7:15pm • Admission: Free

**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**
- A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Notre Dame is a Gothic cathedral on the Ile de la Cité
- It is the symbolic heart of the city and the country
- Its construction begun in 1163 by Paris' bishop, Maurice de Sully, and lasted until 1334 (171 years)
- By the 19th century, it had fallen into disrepair and was to be demolished
- It was author Victor Hugo, who saved the cathedral by leading a successful campaign for its restoration
- Napoleon was crowned Emperor here in 1804

**THINGS TO DO THERE**
- Enter the cathedral through the West front
- Walk around and enjoy the unique architecture, history, and atmosphere
- After leaving the cathedral do not forget to walk around it and admire its architecture

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**
- The cathedral's organ is the largest in France
- Audio guide is available for a fee of 5 €
- The Treasury of the cathedral can be visited for a fee of 3 €

**MORE Info and Photos >**

10:10-10:55  
**Sainte-Chapelle**  (4, boulevard du Palais, 75001 Paris)

Opening hours: March 1 - October 31: 9:30am - 1pm, November 1 - February 28: 9am - 1pm, Jan 1, May 1, Dec 1 and 25: Closed • Admission: 8 €

**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**
- Sainte-Chapelle (Holy Chapel) is a Gothic church that dates back to 13th century
- Louis IX (1214-70) commissioned the works
- The church was built to hold a crown of thorns the king believed Christ wore during his crucifixion
- It is considered the most beautiful church in Paris for its magnificent stained-glass windows
- The 15 m high windows show over 1000 Biblical stories from Genesis to the Crucifixion
- They create breathtaking light play in the afternoon light

**THINGS TO DO THERE**
- Start your visit in the lower chapel that was intended for the servants and lower orders of the Royal Palace
- Continue to the upper chapel that houses the striking stained glass windows that soar up to the gothic, vaulted ceiling

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**
- Restoration works are in progress until 2011/12 but the chapel is still worth the visit
- If it is possible save the visit for a sunny day. You won't get the whole effect if it is cloudy or rainy
- You can save money by purchasing a combined ticket to Sainte Chapelle and the Conciergerie (11 €)
- You can enjoy a great classical concert in the church. Visit this site for dates and prices

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Attraction Details

La Conciergerie  
(2, boulevard du Palais, 75001 Paris)

Opening hours: Daily: 9:30am - 6pm, Jan 1, May 1 and Dec 25: Closed  
Admission: 7 €

**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**
- La Conciergerie is an imposing Gothic palace built in the beginning of the 14th century on Ile de la Cité
- It was built by Philippe the Fair as a royal palace, later (1391) it was converted into a prison
- It was during the Revolution that it earned its international fame as being a place of terror
- Thousands were held here (incl. Marie Antoinette, Danton, and Robespierre) before their execution by guillotine
- Today you can see prison cells and trial rooms, a medieval kitchen, and a torture chamber
- Other highlight is the magnificently vaulted Hall of the Men-at-Arms (Salle des Gens d'Armes)
- The clock tower (Tour de l'Horloge), built in 1370, houses the first public clock of Paris

**THINGS TO DO THERE**
- Admire the imposing building
- Enter the palace and visit the museum

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**
- You can save money buy purchasing a Concergerie-Saint Chapelle combined ticket for 11 €

Centre Georges Pompidou  
(Place Georges Pompidou, Paris)

Opening hours: Daily: 11am - 9pm, Tuesday: Closed, May 1: Closed  
Admission: 12 €

**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**
- The Pompidou Center is a culture and leisure center opened in 1977
- It houses the Modern Art Museum (Musée National d'Art Moderne), Europe's largest of its kind
- The center was designed by Renzo Piano and Richard Rogers in high-tech architecture style
- It became famous for its unique architectural approach of having its structural elements on the outside
- It is named after Georges Pompidou, 2nd president of the 5th French Republic (1969-74), who decided its creation
- One of the most popular features of the building is the colorful, snake-like escalator
- The colorful Stravinsky Fountain was inspired by the composer's ballet The Firebird (1910): the bird spins and sprays water

**THINGS TO DO THERE**
- Admire the unique design of the impressive modern building
- Walk to the colorful Stravinsky Fountain on the right side of the building
- Head back to Pompidou Center and take the outside escalator up to the top level for a fantastic view of Paris

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**
- The entrance to the Modern Art Museum is on the fourth floor and to the cinema is on the first floor. Large signs usually indicate the whereabouts of temporary exhibitions

MORE Info and Photos >
14:00-16:00 Montmartre

**Attraction Details**

**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**
- Montmartre is the most romantic neighborhood of Paris
- The district earned its name after its 130 m high hill
- The area is best known for Sacré Coeur Basilica (Sacred Heart) and Moulin Rouge
- Rather than having lots of things to see, it offers a charming area to take a stroll
- Staircase streets, quaint windmills, and sweeping views characterize the area
- The area played an important role in belle époque (a prospering period in European social history)
- Painters and poets such as Salvador Dalí, Amedeo Modigliani, Claude Monet, Pablo Picasso, Vincent van Gogh used to live here

**THINGS TO DO THERE**
- Wander around on the narrow, hilly streets of Montmartre
- Fall in love with streets like rue des Abbesses, rue des Trois Freres, and rue des Martyrs
- Find the windmills on rue Lepic and the famous Moulin Rouge near Blanche metro station
- Stop at a patisserie for a freshly baked chocolate croissant, a taste of creamy brie or sharp bleu at one of the many fromageries, a succulent orange you’d swear was fresh from the orchard. Then relax in a ‘petit café’ to enjoy a café au lait while watching people

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**
- You can book an excellent free walking tour of Montmartre
- Today the Moulin Rouge offers musical dance entertainment
- Beware of pickpockets
- Beware of the false portrait ‘artists’ on Place du Tertre. Some will quote a low price, and after producing something that does not look remotely like you demand a far higher price. It is recommended to watch them first before choosing one

MORE Info and Photos >

16:00-16:30 Sacré-Coeur  (35, rue du Chevalier-de-la-Barre, 75018 Paris)

**Opening hours:** Daily: 6am - 10:30pm • **Admission:** Free

**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**
- The Sacré-Coeur is a spectacular white Roman Catholic church on the top of Montmartre hill
- It stands on the highest point in Paris
- Its full name is the Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus of Paris
- The basilica was built 1876-1919 as a memorial to the French soldiers who died in the Franco-Prussian War (1870-71)
- The construction was financed entirely from donations
- It offers breathtaking views both from its front steps and its dome
- After wandering around the small, narrow and hilly streets of Montmartre take the funiculaire to the top of the hill to this staggeringly beautiful basilica
- Enjoy the atmosphere, visit the church and have a walk along the small and narrow streets on top of the hill
- The views over Paris are gorgeous from there

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**

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Attraction Details

**Opéra Garnier** (8, rue Scribe, 75009 Paris)

**Opening hours:** Daily: 10am - 5pm, Jan 1, May 1 and days of special events: Closed • **Admission:** 9 €

**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**
- Opéra Garnier or Paris Opéra is an unbelievably ornamented opera house designed by Charles Garnier
- It used to be primary opera venue of Paris for more than 100 years (1875-1989)
- Napoleon III commissioned the building as part of the great Parisian reconstruction of the Second Empire
- Construction begun in 1862 and was completed 13 years later (1875)
- It has a 2200-seat auditorium
- Highlights include The Grande Staircase, The Grand Foyer and its ceiling, and the auditorium with a ceiling by Marc Chagall
- The opera house features an underground lake beneath the building inspired by Leroux's Phantom of the Opera

**THINGS TO DO THERE**
- Take some photos and enjoy the amazing building from outside

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**
- If you have the time, participate in a guided tour of the beautiful building. English guided tours: Wed, Sat and Sun 11.30 and 14.30.
- Duration: 90 min. Price: 12.5 €

**MORE Info and Photos >**

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**Galeries Lafayette** (40, boulevard Haussmann, 75009 Paris)

**Opening hours:** Monday - Saturday: 9:30am - 8pm, Thursday: 9:30am - 9pm, Sunday: Closed

**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**
- Galeries Lafayette is a luxurious department store with an amazing selection of nearly everything
- Opened in 1894 it is a fine example of Belle Epoque architecture
- It was modeled after a Mideastern bazaar
- Cutting-edge designer collections, jewelry and accessories, home furnishings, and cosmetics are all sold here
- It features a fabulous gourmet food market, Lafayette Gourmet, which satisfies even the most critical foodies
- The 7th floor offers great views
- The building itself and its atmosphere make it worth visiting even for those who don’t want to buy anything

**THINGS TO DO THERE**
- Enter the luxurious department store
- Discover the many exclusive shops
- Do not miss the stunning dome ceiling and balconies in the centre of the store
- Visit the Food Hall (Lafayette Gourmet)
- Finish your visit at the terrace on seventh floor for beautiful views

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**
- Essential stop for fashion enthusiasts

**MORE Info and Photos >**
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Overview of Day 3

LEAVE HOTEL  Tested and recommended hotels in Paris >

Take RER C5 from Musée d’Orsay station to Versailles Rive Gauche station (Direction: VICK or VERO)

09:00-12:30 Palace of Versailles and Gardens •

Take RER C from Versailles Rive Gauche station to Musée d’Orsay station
Lunch time

One of the most magnificent palaces in the world

15:00-16:30 Musée d'Orsay •

Take RER C from Musée d’Orsay station to Pont de l'Alma station - 30’

Must-see museum for fans of Impressionism

17:00-18:15 Boat trip on river Seine •

Take Bus line 92 to Charles de Gaulle Etoile station (Direction: Porte de Champerret) - 10’

Romantic experience

18:25-19:10 Arc de Triomphe •

Take RER C from Versailles Rive Gauche station to Musée d’Orsay station

Breathtaking views of Paris

END OF DAY 3
Attraction Details

09:00-12:30

**Palace of Versailles and Gardens**  (Place d'Armes, 78000 Versailles)

*Opening hours:* April 1 - October 31 - palace: 9am - 6:30pm, April 1 - October 31 - garden: 8am - 6:30pm, November 1 - March 31 - palace: 9am - 6:30pm, November 1 - March 31 - garden: 8am 6pm, Monday: Palace closed, Jan 1, April 5, May 1, Nov 1 and Dec 25: Closed

*Admission:* 25 €

**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**
- Palace of Versailles (Chateau de Versailles) is one of the most extravagant palaces in the world
- Construction started in 1661 and took 50 years (1710) to turn Louis XIII's hunting lodge into this fascinating palace
- The king and his family lived in the Petits Appartements the reason why the king's and queen's rooms are so much overdone
- Highlight of the palace is the unbelievable Hall of Mirrors (71m, 223-ft) designed to reflect sunlight back into the garden to remind people that the Sun King, Louis XIV, lived here
- French royals lived such a decadent life here in a period of deep poverty that their excesses started the Revolution of 1789
- The treaty ending World War I, in 1919, was signed in the Hall of Mirrors
- It is a UNESCO World Heritage site

**THINGS TO DO THERE**
- Enter the palace and pick up a map and an audio guide (included in the admission fee)
- Visit all the rooms of the palace. The Hall of Mirrors will probably be the highlight of your tour
- Admire the beautiful gardens with lakes, canals, geometric flower beds, long avenues and fountains

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**
- During low season you can avoid the huge crowds, but the gardens are not so spectacular and the fountains do not work
- Try to purchase your tickets at the tourist bureau in Paris to avoid the huge lines
- Also, if you book online you might be able to avoid the long lines (unfortunately even the preferential access can also have a long line)
- An another way to avoid the long lines is buying your tickets from the vending machines on site (only accept cards)

**MORE Info and Photos >**

15:00-16:30

**Musée d'Orsay**  (1, rue de la Légion d'Honneur, 75007 Paris)

*Opening hours:* Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun: 9:30am - 6pm, Thursday: 9:30am - 9:45pm, Monday: Closed, May 1, Dec 25, Jan 1: Closed • *Admission:* 8 €

**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**
- Musée d'Orsay is an art museum on the left bank of the Seine
- The museum opened in 1977 and focuses mainly on French art between 1848 and 1915
- It is best known for the world's largest collection of impressionist and post-impressionist masterpieces
- Monet, Manet, Degas, Renoir, Cézanne, Seurat, Gauguin and Van Gogh paintings are on display
- The stunning building it is housed in used to be a railway station
- The station that was operational until 1939 bearly escaped its demoltion in the mid-1970s
- Orson Welles’ 1962 film, The Trial was shot here

**THINGS TO DO THERE**
- Pay attention to the impressive interior of the building
- Admire the masterpieces on display (the layout makes it easy to do a self-guided tour)

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**
- The impressionist and post impressionist paintings are on the ground floor (their original location, the top floor is being renovated)
- No photography is permitted in the museum
- Audioguides are available for 5 €
- Combined tickets are available: Musée d'Orsay-Musée de l'Orangerie for 13 € (this ticket is valid during 4 days), Musée d'Orsay-Musée Rodin for 12 € (both museums must be visited on the same day)

**MORE Info and Photos >**
**Boat trip on river Seine**  (Port de la Conférence, Pont de l'Alma, 75008 Paris)

**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**
- Touring Paris via the Seine river is a great way to get familiar with many of the city's most stunning monuments, historical buildings, and ornate bridges
- Bateaux Mouches is Paris' most famous boat tour company and is easily recognizable by its enormous decks and bright orange seats
- Bateaux Mouches has a fleet of 14 boats, some of which offer lunch and dinner service
- The tours are narrated in English, French, Spanish, and Italian (brochures available in 17 languages)
- The tour lasts approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes

**THINGS TO DO THERE**
- Sit back and enjoy the sightseeing
- Sites to be seen include Notre-Dame, the Louvre, the Orsay Museum, Palais de Chaillot, the Eiffel Tower

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**

MORE Info and Photos >

**Arc de Triomphe**  (Place Charles-de-Gaulle, 75008 Paris)

**Opening hours:** April 1 - September 30: 10am - 11:00pm, October 1 - March 31: 10am - 10:30pm, Jan 1, May 1, May 8 (morning), July 14 (morning), Nov 11 (morning) and Dec 25: Closed  •  **Admission:** 9 €

**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**
- Arc de Triomphe is the world's largest triumphal arch
- It was commissioned by Napoleon in 1806 and completed in 1836
- It commemorates the victories of Napoleon's army
- Names of his generals are engraved in the arch; the underlined ones died in battles
- In the center burns the eternal flame on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, a World War I victim buried on 11 November 1920
- Napoleon's funeral procession passed under the arch; since then it is a focal point of state funerals
- This is the central arch of 3 arches that form the 8 km-long (5 mile) Grand Axe (Great Axis) that connects Louvre with La Défense

**THINGS TO DO THERE**
- Take the underpass to access the arch. Never attempt to cross the chaotic and dangerous roundabout from the Champs Elysées!
- Climb the steps to the top of the Arch
- On the way up do not miss the small museum presenting the history of the monument
- Enjoy the sublime view of the 12 avenues starting from the arch

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**
- The ticket office is located underground

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