

VILLAGE PARIS

Following in the footsteps of a horde of street entertainers, climb the picturesque “*Butte*” (little hill), crowned by the Sacré-Cœur – the second most-visited site in Paris. A leisurely stroll will enable you to enjoy the pleasures of this wonderful Parisian ‘village’. And going from one ‘village’ to another you can venture as far as the popular Batignolles area, a hidden gem, before wandering through the Saint-Georges theatre district and the little place Gustave-Toudouze.

Surrounded by bell towers, the day begins at the counter of a café with a café crème and crusty buttered baguette. One can browse idly, filling one’s shopping basket full of delicious treats in rue Lepic, rue des Martyrs, rue Caulaincourt ... and also with fabrics in rue d’Orsel and the Saint-Pierre market, and why not guitars in rue de Douai and rue Victor-Massé. Lunch is at a bistro offering simple, hot dishes or crunchy salads.

And given that the village is a bit of a ‘fashion victim’, there are designer boutiques and galleries to check out amid the charcuteries and dairy shops. In the evening, you can dress up, stay casual, dance the java, enjoy the nouba or a fiesta, or just go to the movies.



Montmartre (18th) • Pigalle (9th)
• Saint-Georges (9th) • Trinité (9th)
• Batignolles (17th)



Abbesses (line 12) • Pigalle (lines 2, 12) • Barbès-Rochechouart (lines 2, 4) • Anvers (line 2)
• Place-de-Clichy (lines 2, 13) • Trinité (line 12) • Saint-Georges (line 12) • Blanche (line 2)

DON'T MISS

Butte Montmartre



Venice has its gondolas, Montmartre its steps – physically demanding but Romanesque in the extreme. Countless novels, legends and “fabulous destinies” are set in the Butte, such as the Bateau-Lavoir in place Émile-Goudeau, where Picasso painted the *Demoiselles d'Avignon*, and the café made famous by Amélie Poulain in rue Lepic. The grocery from the film is higher up on rue des Trois-Frères. And there's even more climbing to do – but Montmartre's well worth it! Walk up rue Tholozé, for example, for a film or a drink in the winter garden of a tiny cinema patronised by Buñuel and Cocteau. Pause at the top of the street under the last remaining

windmills, before continuing on up ... Keep going! At the top is Sacré-Cœur, surrounded by a labyrinth of extraordinary little streets, and a vineyard, where the grape harvest is celebrated each year. There is also the flattering bust of Dalida in the square of the same name, breathtaking views over the rooftops of Paris, amazing crowds and hundreds of tranquil spots. From the square of la Turlure or the rue de la Chevalier-de-la-Barre, the Sacré-Cœur is just as wonderful from the side, the back or the front!

Basilique du Sacré-Cœur



In 1873, the National Assembly voted for the construction of a

basilica devoted to the Sacred Heart on the butte Montmartre. The site was chosen as much for its altitude (127 metres) as for its symbolism; it was sanctified long before with the martyrdom of Saint Denis and sullied by the violent acts of the Commune, in 1870. Pitfalls, controversies, underground quarries, and 83 buried pillars caused the work to extend over forty years. All these efforts were rewarded! From below, the Romano-Byzantine contours take on the appearance of a whipped-cream palace set on a hill of gardens and terraces: green and white outlined against swathes of azure. The view from the top of the steps, and especially from the top of the dome, is simply stunning.
Parvis du Sacré-Cœur (18th). M° Anvers.
Tel: 01 53 41 89 00.
Basilica: 6am-11pm.
www.sacre-coeur-montmartre.com

Place du Tertre

Welcome to picture-postcard Montmartre, with its restaurant terraces and artists' easels and portrait painters, who share 140 allotted spaces – 1 sq.m. for two artists working alternately. But the historic village square merits a little tour. The commune of Montmartre established its town hall at No 3, in 1790; No 19 is the headquarters of the Commune libre du Vieux Montmartre, which organises fun events and was founded in 1920. Another institution is the café Chez la mère Catherine where the word 'bistro' was said to have originated, in 1814. "Hurry" cried the occupying Russian soldiers, eager to down a drink before

rejoining their ranks. The waitresses thought they were simply asking for something to drink ... Standing serenely at the centre of all this activity, the adjoining church of Saint-Pierre de Montmartre conceals the Roman vestiges of the Abbaye des Dames.

Moulin-Rouge®

Montmartre hill once bristled with windmills. They closed one after the other, while the Moulin de la Galette became a popular dance hall. In 1889, another opened with just the exterior decor of a windmill. Soon the French Cancan – black stockings, garters and petticoats – created an air of euphoria and stardom for

La Goulue and her fellow dancers. The first revues were staged and, in 1907, a certain Mistinguett began her music-hall career. After the war, a new generation of artists arrived, including Edith Piaf, Montant, Trenet and Aznavour... Every evening, glitz, feathers and sequins continue to weave their magic at the Moulin Rouge.

**82, bd de Clichy (18th).
M° Blanche.**



DISCOVER

Pigalle

From place d'Anvers to place de Clichy, night revellers, neon lights and illuminated signs ensure that, almost for as long as Paris has existed, this area never sleeps. In the Paris of yesteryear, wine, taxed at the entry to the city, was more expensive. So, Montmartre was the lively out-of-town place to go with its mix of lower classes, artists, young women and free thinkers. Later, the village was absorbed into the capital but the rowdiness continued. Piano-bars, night clubs, private clubs, concert halls, café-theatres, music halls, dinner shows, pubs, cabarets lasted for three seasons or over one hundred years. In the 1960s, Serge Gainsbourg sang "les petits gars de Liverpool" causing a sensation at the Bus Palladium. Others followed. When the Paris of Jacques Dutronc "awakes" at 5am, place Blanche – at the end of turbulent rue Fontaine – often looks the worse for wear. But after a short rest, all is well again.



Espace Dalí

Next to the little place du Calvaire, this strange sanctuary at basement level showcases 300 works by the major Catalan artist in a scenography alternating sound and light. Engravings, sculptures and surrealist furniture, including the famous *Montres Molles*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *the Mae West lip sofa*, *The Space Elephant* and an array of fantastic creatures, recreating the phantasmagorias of Salvador Dalí. On certain dates, workshops initiate children into the playful creativity of the great surrealist.

11, rue Poulbot (18th). M° Abbesses, Anvers.

Tel: 01 42 64 40 10. Daily: 10am–6pm.

Audioguides available for hire. €10 – RR: €7/€6.

Under 8s: free. www.daliparis.com

Cimetière de Montmartre

Lovers of Montmartre come to the cemetery to admire the outdoor art, catch a glimpse of the sun, watch the squirrels hopping between maple trees or to make the acquaintance of a string of poets, generals, thinkers, inventors and the Lady of the Camellias. Discover Vigny, Nijinsky or Guitry in a labyrinth of mossy rows and irregular stone steps. Cross the path of stray tomcats, a bust of Rodin, the bridge of Caulaincourt and finally, Alexandre Dumas, Zola, Degas and

MOULIN ROUGE[®] PARIS



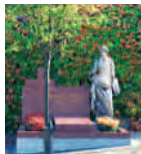
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Valida. Then, it's off again to look for Poulbot, Truffaut and Feydeau. Up above the statues and carved chapels, and the tombs of Stendhal and Berlioz, a brood of young sparrows chirp high in the chestnut trees. Eleven enchanting hectares.



Musée de Montmartre

In the 17th century, this folly was a country house belonging to the actor Rosimond, Molière's successor. Much later, Auguste Renoir, Raoul Dufy, Francisque Poulbot, Suzanne Valadon and her son Maurice Utrillo had their studios here. Today, the house enables you to discover a chapter of history, complete with cabaret signs and dance posters. The Chat Noir, the Lapin Agile, the dances at the Moulin-Rouge and the Moulin de la Galette, and the Divan Japonais were the top spots. The cabaret singer Aristide Bruant also brought a crowd of night-revelling poets. La Goulue, Jane

Avril, Nini Patte-en-l'air and other stage goddesses posed for Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Théophile Steinlen, Adolphe Willette and other artists.
12, rue Cortot (18th). M° Anvers, Lamarck-Caulaincourt. Tel: 01 49 25 89 37.
Tues, Wed, Thurs: 11am-6pm and Fri, Sat, Sun: 11am-7pm, except 1 Jan, 1 May and 25 Dec.
€8 – RR: €6. www.museedemontmartre.fr

Jardin sauvage Saint-Vincent

For a long time, this sloping parcel of land was overgrown with alders, foxgloves, brambles, ivy and wildlife. One day the city's landscape gardeners decided to make it into a garden again. But impressed by the wild natural beauty of the site, the spades and secateurs were put to one side and it was decided to preserve this fragile and poetic site as a place for observing the ecosystem and biodiversity, pond life, trees, shrubs and the charm of wild flowers.



GET A RIDE!

Give the steps a miss with Promotrain. Children will be delighted, and parents too. For the price of a metro ticket, but without a commentary, the funicular will take you from the bottom to the top of Sacré-Cœur and the Montmartrobus makes the ascent from place Pigalle to the 18th arrondissement city hall, in place Jules-Joffrin.

Promotrain – les petits trains de Montmartre
131, rue de Clignancourt (18th).
M° Simplon. Tel: 01 42 62 24 00.
www.promotrain.fr



Musée Gustave-Moreau* PASS

At a time of world-stage museums, here is the exclusive domain of an artist, laid-out by himself, in his family home. At the end of his life, Gustave Moreau assembled precious memorabilia in a "little sentimental museum" on the first floor. In 1895, he had two huge glazed workshops built on the upper floors, linked by a fine spiral staircase of wrought-iron steps. On the plum-pink walls there are some 5,000 wooden-framed drawings, and your eyes – and soul – are raised up to the ceilings to admire Italian-style, symbolist and fauvist paintings ... a fantastical body of work.
14, rue de la Rochefoucauld (9th). M° Trinité.
Tel: 01 48 74 38 50. Daily: 10am-5.15pm, except Tues, 1 Jan, 1 May and 25 Dec.
€7.50 – RR: €5.50. Under 18s and 1st Sun of the month: free. www.musee-moreau.fr

Place de Clichy

In 1814, Marshal Moncey and his troops bravely defended the former "place de la barrière de Clichy" against the invading Russians. Today, this lively and popular square at the crossroads of four arrondissements – reputed for its brasseries and cinemas – is currently experiencing a new kind

of invasion, public redesign and renovation works. But the statue of the general oversees everything.

M° Place de Clichy.

Musée de la Vie romantique

A tree-lined path, a rectangular flower garden, a little mansion far from the buzz of the city: this is where the painter and sculptor Ary Scheffer lived from 1830 to 1858. Delacroix, George Sand, Chopin dropped in as neighbours; the whole of the intellectual and artistic world of Paris (Liszt, Rossini, Turgenev, Dickens, etc.) frequented his workshop-salon. Even today, as you go from room to room, Chopin will accompany you with his piano as you discover George Sand, and the paintings of Ary Scheffer and his contemporaries.

16, rue Chaptal (9th). M° Saint-Georges.

Tel: 01 55 31 95 67. Daily: 10am-6pm, except Mon and public hols. Free permanent collections.

www.vie-romantique.paris.fr



DID YOU KNOW?

Around 1820, neoclassical houses were built in and around rue Chaptal. Grecomania was all the rage, and the architecture was nicknamed "Nouvelle Athènes" (New Athens). Painters, writers, poets and actors were attracted to the area and soon the whole neighbourhood of Saint-Georges – the epicentre of artistic life – took on the new name.

Musée de l'Érotisme

Eroticism is an art and it needed a showcase. Pigalle was the obvious home for these statuettes, amulets, saucy photos, satirical sketches, little tantric totems, painted, modelled, sculpted and engraved idols. Two rounded Buddhas form the entrance to this arousing but never shocking world, where 2,000 objects displayed over seven exhibition floors and from all over the world, explore popular, contemporary and sacred erotic art.

72, bd de Clichy (18th). M° Blanche.

Tel: 01 42 58 28 73. Daily: 10-2am.

€9 – RR: €3. www.musee-erotisme.com



Parc Clichy-Batignolles Martin Luther-King

This park – open but still being laid out – will be the biggest green area in the north-west of Paris. It will need 624 trees, 5,600 shrubs, 200 climbing plants, 51,000 perennial plants and aquatic plants, 47,000 bulbs, 8,400 sq.m lawned areas, 25,000 sq.m of gardens, 2,900 sq.m of ornamental ponds, and 3,460 sq.m of play areas for children and adolescents to embellish it. You have probably guessed: the park's three themes will be sport, water and the seasons.

172, rue Cardinet (17th). M° Brochant.



Quartier des Batignolles

Considered a quiet neighbourhood, with its market, church, garden and brand new Clichy-Batignolles park. Batignolles was annexed to Paris in 1860. At the time, this ancient hamlet between the city and fields, close to Montmartre, offered cheap living for artists. Impressionism took form here in a café frequented by Manet, Degas, Cézanne, Monet and Renoir. This was not just a centre for artists, and writers Zola, Verlaine, Max Jacob, Éluard and Simenon also lived here. And as you stroll down the rue des Dames and rue des Batignolles, something tells you that these windows, tables and welcoming café counters are still a refuge for tamed bohemians and a slower pace of life.



Square des Batignolles

Its grotto, waterfall and a miniature lake, where black swans ruffle their feathers, make this English-style garden appear much larger than it is. Among the things to see are a Turkish hazel tree, swings, a sweets kiosk, a lemon tree, carp, a sequoia, a skate area, a sculpture in black stone from Volvic and table-tennis tables.



Place des Abbesses

There are lifts for passengers at the deepest underground station in Paris – it is thirty metres below ground – but hale and hearty walkers are encouraged to climb the fresco-painted steps before emerging exhausted into the little square to catch their breath on one of the benches. In a glance, one takes in the art nouveau metro entrance by Hector Guimard, the merry-go-round, the cast-iron street lights and the Wallace fountain. In the adjoining Square Jehan-Rictus, kids play at the foot of a wall in enamelled lava, where “I love you” is declared in 311 languages. Opposite, the church Saint-Jean-l’Évangéliste, nicknamed Notre-Dame-des-Briques (Our-Lady-of-Bricks) since 1904, mixes Byzantine and art nouveau influences. On both sides of rue des Abbesses, rue Durantin, and rue de la Vieuville, and rue Yvonne-le-Tac ... trendy local boutiques rub shoulders with café terraces, where it is nice to do nothing more than watch the world go by.



Avenue Junot and villa Léandre

Still on the hillside of the Butte, but beyond the sculpture of the Passe-Muraille – in the square where its creator Marcel Aymé once lived – is the start of avenue Junot with its cubic art deco unfussy architecture, the beauty of pure forms, and harmony of volumes, as at No 15, the house built in 1926 for the dada poet Tristan Tzara. Further on, there is a new change of scene at Villa Léandre, where you can wander around in a fairytale setting between two rows of red and white brick Anglo-Norman pavilions with painted shutters, arbors and chocolate-box London-style gardens.

Halle Saint-Pierre – musée d’Art brut, Art singulier et outsider

Below the Sacré-Cœur, the Saint-Pierre fabric market is gaily-coloured and its neighbouring covered multicoloured market offers popular, naive and unusual art. Built in 1868 by a disciple of Baltard, this ancient covered market houses a cheerful cultural centre. Stop by for a snack or a coffee, amidst the canvasses and works exhibited by the gallery or to flick through the colourful

art books in the bookshop, under the circle of the mezzanine. This is also the place to come for shows and concerts in the auditorium, activity trails for children and, of course, for the 600 items in the Max Fourny collection, representing Naive art from the 1970s.



2, rue Ronsard (18th). M° Abbesses.
Tel: 01 42 58 72 89. Daily: 10am-5.30pm.
Temporary exhibitions: €7.50 – RR: €6.
www.hallesaintpierre.org

DID YOU KNOW?

At number 21, place du Tertre, the tourist office of Old Montmartre will tell you everything there is to know about the Butte, and offers a programme of guided visits and events.
21, place du Tertre (18th). M° Abbesses.
Tel: 01 42 62 21 21.
Daily 10am-7pm, except 1 May.
www.montmartre-guide.com

Marché Barbès

On Saturday mornings under the overhead metro, the boulevard de la Chapelle is home to a colorful market, where Africans in boubous, dazed night-owls and Arabs in burnous rub shoulders with mothers and their young children looking for a watch, a headscarf or fruit and vegetables.



Wed: 7am-2.30pm. Sat: 7am-3pm.

Windmills of the past

While the Moulin Rouge is only there for decoration, of the fifteen windmills that used to dot Montmartre, only two now remain – the Moulin de la Galette and the Moulin Radet. Their grinding stones ground grain, plaster of Paris and grapes from the Montmartre vineyard, of which a few slopes remain.





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