

COSMOPOLITAN PARIS

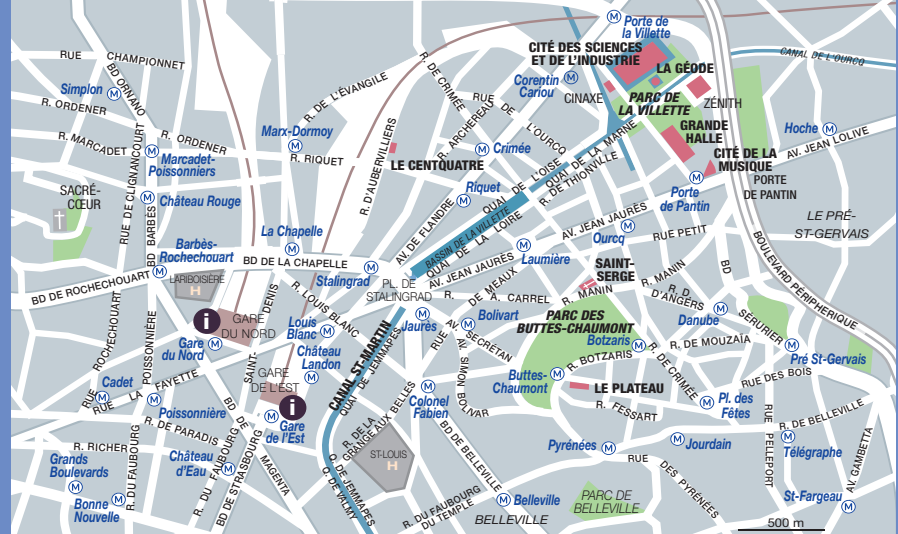
Taking flight from the end of rue des Enverges, on the high terrace of Belleville Park, above Maison de l'Air, you fly over four-storey Chinese restaurants, city gardens and a schoolboy's huge blackboard on which Ben has written that we shouldn't trust in words.

Next stop, the Canal Saint-Martin, where a blue barge passes through a green lock – it's a lengthy process. On the Ourcq, a rowing boat races a kayak, and a graffiti-covered van overtakes them on the quay. Call in at the CENTQUATRE, rue d'Aubervilliers, for a novel cultural adventure. Next stop, a 3,000 sq.m. bamboo plantation, surrounded with lawned areas – you are in the Parc de la Villette. Zigzagging your way through the Jardin des Voltiges then the Jardin des Dunes and Vents, you'll find pedal-driven windmills, weather vanes, kites ... before you reach an enormous ball that reflects the clouds – the Géode!

A spatial odyssey on a giant screen – it definitely gives you an appetite. Choose your menu: mafé in place Sainte-Marthe and a Technicolor film? A slam session, soup and kebabs at "Ménilmuche"? Curry, capoeira dances and ragga hip hop performances? Chill with bird's beak pepper and a theatre bar? Tagine and a pop-electro concerto ...



Canal Saint-Martin (10th) • La Villette (19th) • Buttes-Chaumont (19th) • Belleville (20th)



M Belleville (lines 2, 11) • Pyrénées (line 11) • Buttes-Chaumont (line 7 bis) • Botzaris (line 7 bis) • Porte-de-la-Villette (line 7) • Porte-de-Pantin (line 5) • Jaurès (lines 2, 5, 7 bis)

DON'T MISS

Le CENTQUATRE
City of Paris artistic establishment



This project has opened on the site of the former Municipal Funeral Service. It enables the public to formulate a new perception of the visual arts, music, dance, theatre, video, fashion, design, cinema or literature.
104, rue d'Aubervilliers or 11 bis, rue Curial (19th). M° Crimée, Stalingrad.
Tel: 01 40 05 51 71.
Sun to Thu: 11am-8pm.
Fri and Sat: 11am-11pm.
Artists workshops closed Mon.
www.104.fr

La Villette

A lot's happened since they stopped slicing bacon here ... In the 19th century, the *commune*

of La Villette was an industrial centre. In 1867, a cattle market and huge abattoirs were built on the site. In 1974, their closure led in the 1980s to its reconversion into a cultural centre, symbolic of the renewal of the East of Paris.

Parc de la Villette



One can play ball, read, and jiggle to the rhythm of percussion sounds on the park's wide lawns crossed by the Canal de l'Ourcq and dotted with bright red pavilions, surprising themed gardens, techno equipment. In fine weather, they play host to picnics, and open-air concerts and films. Scattered around the four corners of the perimeter: the Grande Halle, the former Bourse aux Cuirs now the Théâtre Paris-Villette, the Zénith concert hall, an equestrian centre, the big top

of the Cabaret Sauvage, a dragon slide, and more.
211, av. Jean-Jaurès (19th). M° Porte-de-la-Villette.
Tel: 01 40 03 75 75.
www.villette.com
Grande Halle :



Cité des sciences et de l'industrie – La Villette **PASS**

Behind its steel and glass exterior, this futuristic giant, surrounded by water offers a multitude of activities that make science and technology fun and accessible. Conferences, aquarium, 3-D cinema, Cité des Enfants, des Métiers, de la Santé, exhibitions, media library, planetarium, workshops ... It is difficult to fit everything in at one go!
30, av. Corentin-Cariou (19th). M° Porte-de-la-Villette.
Tel: 01 40 05 80 00.
Individual reservations:
0 892 69 70 72 (€0.34/min).



Group reservations:
01 40 05 12 12. Tue to Sat:
10am-6pm. Sun: 10am-7pm.
Admission ticket for Explora
exhibitions: €8 – RR: €6.
Planetarium supplement: €3.
www.cite-sciences.fr



The Cité des Enfants

It offers two exhibitions (2-7yrs and 5-12yrs) in the form of interactive learning activities: building a house, playing with water ... a fully-renovated centre. Even parents will love it!



2-12yrs: €6.



Three spectacular satellite sites:

The Argonaute, a former naval submarine; the Cinaxe with a mobile projection room that simulates a high-speed flight; the sparkling silver Géode, a 36-diameter stainless steel ball with a 1,000 sq.m. hemispheric screen that makes for thrilling cinema.



The Argonaute
Tue to Sat: 10am-6pm.
Sun: 10am-7pm.
€3. From 3yrs.
Under 7s: free.

The Cinaxe
From 4yrs. Not recommended for pregnant women or people suffering from epilepsy or heart problems. Tue to Sun: film shows lasting approx. 15 min from 11am-5pm. Sch hols and some Mon: 11am-6pm.
€5.40 – RR: €4.80.

The Géode
26, av. Corentin-Cariou (19th).
M° Porte-de-la-Villette.
Tel: 0 892 68 45 40 (€0.34/min).
www.lageode.fr

Cité de la musique – Musée de la musique* **PASS**

To the south of the park, opposite the Conservatoire de Paris, this centre dedicated to all forms of musical expression houses concert rooms, a media library and a museum – recently re-laid out. The museum visit, which incorporates live and recorded music, showcases instruments, from the birth of opera in the 17th century to current world music.

221, av. Jean-Jaurès (19th).
M° Porte-de-Pantin.
Tel: 01 44 84 45 00.
Tue to Sat: 12-noon-6pm.
Sun: 10am-6pm.
€8 – RR: contact for information.
www.citedelamusique.fr

Belleville



In the beginning there were the sources, hence the names of the streets rue de la Mare (pond), rue des Rigoles (rivulets), and wine fresh from the vines, called *piquette* (cheap local wine). In 1730, the Grand-Rue of the village (rues de Belleville and du Faubourg-du-Temple) were paved. Carousing took place under shady trees. From cheap eating houses to popular dance halls, every carnival was rounded off with an extravagant parade down the Courtille. In the 19th century, people of modest means flooded into the factories: misery and workers movements went hand-in-hand. The Armenians arrived

in 1918, Greeks in 1920, German Jews in 1933, Spaniards in 1939 ... In "Babelville", the whole world mixes, except perhaps the blackbird and song thrush nesting in the heights of the park.

DID YOU KNOW?

You can also discover the neighbourhood on one of the thematic urban walks proposed by several organizations.

Canal Saint-Martin



Extending over 4.5 km, of which two are underground, it has linked the Port de l'Arsenal to the La Villette canal basin since 1825. Its course across working class areas, punctuated with locks, swing bridges, Venice-style footbridges, and lined with chestnut trees and squares, inspired Georges Simenon, Léo Malet and Marcel Carné in the film *Hôtel du Nord*. Yes! It was from the little iron bridge at the Grange-aux-Belles-Vinaigriers crossroads – reconstructed in the studio – that Arletty famously quipped to Louis Juvet *"Atmosphère..."*. Not surprising, serenading by the water and supper under the stars have become an institution here, as have brunches, delightful retro bistros and colourful eateries on both sides of the canal banks.

DID YOU KNOW?

From Port de l'Arsenal to Parc de la Villette, or the other way round, cruises with a commentary will take you on a peaceful voyage through the 4th, 10th, 11th and 19th arrondissements.

DISCOVER

Bassin de la Villette and canal de l'Ourcq

Until the industrial decline of La Villette, after the Second World War, wood, coal, fodder, and sugar passed in transit along its long quaysides. Today, they are the location for attractive cinemas, *petanque* players, cosy cafés to warm up in, benches in the fresh air looking on to the lapping water, fishermen, barge-theatres, a water sports centre in a reconvered 19th-century warehouse, etc. In the background you'll hear the cries of gulls and the referee's whistle.

Ménilmontant

Of all the Belleville hamlets this one is the most famous, with its rough wine and *guingette* dance halls that played host to Piaf, Chevalier, Trenet and others. The old songs can still be heard in its winding streets mixed with contemporary melodies: informal bars, groovy *apéros*, gypsy jazz or philosophical debates at the café, colourful bazaars and tropical stalls, trompe-l'œil and artistic graffiti at the bend in rue des Cascades or on rue de l'Ermitage, rickety small houses and the red citadels of the affordable housing built in the 1920s.

Quartier Jourdain

Also known as Haut-Belleville, the area around the Église Saint-Jean-Baptiste, built in the Gothic style in 1859, and a *pâtisserie* that's almost as old, in rue du Jourdain, offers typical Parisian dishes and quiet walks past hidden courtyards and artists' workshops opening onto flower gardens.



Parc des Buttes-Chaumont

In 1860, the *buttes* (little hills) of the "*mont chauve*" were still quarried for gypsum and blasted in the open air. Seven years later, on the orders of Napoléon III, the steepest and most picturesque of the landscaped parks was inaugurated. In the interval, titanic work was carried out using dynamite to terrace and reshape the landscape, creating

waterfalls, a lake, a grotto with fake stalactites, and an island of rocks 30-metres-high, crowned with the fanciful little temple of Sibyls. From here, there are sweeping views across the horizon or down to the balletic black swans and moorhens below, which will witness the renovation of the site in 2009.
19th. M° Pyrénées, Buttes-Chaumont.

Église Saint-Serge

This former Lutheran temple was bought at auction in 1924, on Saint Serge Day, to welcome faithful Russian orthodox worshippers, whose numbers had become too large in rue Daru. Behind the gate, visitors admire its red vermillion walls, filigree wooden staircase and icons.

93, rue de Crimée (19th). M° Crimée.
Tel: 01 42 01 96 10.

Quartier de la Mouzaïa



It is a working-class housing estate built between the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century! Running down the side of the hill are some twenty pedestrianized little streets, with delightful 'villas' laid out in a star shape from rue de Mouzaïa and rue Michel-Hidalgo. Red brick dominates but each of the houses has its own character – a pink façade here, yellow tiles there, shutters with heart-shaped cut-outs, tidy yards and wild gardens.

Le Plateau – contemporary art centre

Immaculate walls display contemporary art for the public with exhibitions and an experimental space that presents the works of artists in residence in Paris. 50 metres away at 22, cours du 7^e-Art, the Antenne organises contemporary creation-related educational events.

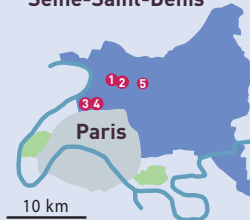
Place Hannah-Arendt.
On the corner of rue des Alouettes and rue de Carducci (19th).
M° Buttes-Chaumont.
Tel: 01 53 19 84 10.
www.fracidf-leplateau.com



SURROUNDING AREA

Just north-east of Paris the Seine-Saint-Denis area possesses many treasures. There is something for all tastes: sporting adventures, relaxing shopping, a full programme of artistic events, great outings with the family. Take your pick!

Seine-Saint-Denis



1 Basilique cathédrale de Saint-Denis* PASS

The basilica is a cradle of gothic architecture. A royal abbey in the Middle Ages, it became the official burial place for Merovingian aristocrats, then Carolingian and Capetian kings. From its illustrious past, the basilica retains a unique ensemble of recumbent statues and more than 70 sculpted tombs, including those of Clovis, François I, Catherine de Médicis ...
1, rue de la Légion-d'Honneur. 93200 Saint-Denis.
M° Basilique-Saint-Denis. Tel: 01 48 09 83 54.
Opening times: contact for information.
7 € - RR: €4.50. Under 18s: free.
www.monuments-nationaux.fr



2 Stade de France

The stadium boasts 6 hectares of roofing, 45 km of terraces and 9,000 sq.m. of turf, and hosts a round of sporting events, concerts and shows. A visit and museum trail recount all these great moments, the behind-the-scenes (dressing rooms, official stand, etc.) and public areas.



93216 Saint-Denis-la-Plaine. M° Saint-Denis - Porte-de-Paris. Tel: 0 892 700 900 (€0.34/min).
Daily, except during events: 10am-6pm.
Stadium tour: access gate H. Days and times: contact for information. €12 - RR: €8.
Under 6s: free. www.stadefrance.com



3 Puces de Paris-Saint-Ouen

This flea market brings together 2,000 secondhand and antique dealers on some 16 markets and little

streets, and attracts several million visitors each year for its inimitable atmosphere and the quality of its old furniture, gilded wood, glassware and other unusual objects for bargain hunters!
M° Porte-de-Clignancourt, Garibaldi.
Sat: 9am-6pm. Sun: 10am-6pm. Mon: 11am-5pm.
Tel: 01 58 61 22 90.

4 Musée Pierre Cardin

Referred to as an "architect of clothing", a "pioneer" and a "fashion reference", Pierre Cardin gives us here a selection of the most original and representative creations of his career.
33, bd Victor-Hugo. 93400 Saint-Ouen.
M° Mairie de Saint-Ouen. Tel: 01 49 21 08 20.
Wed, Sat and Sun: 2-5pm.

5 Musée de l'air et de l'Espace* PASS

150 planes bring the history of aviation alive for you, from the epic adventures of Louis Blériot, or Saint-Exupéry ... to the high-tech Mirage and Ariane rockets. Climb aboard a Boeing 747 or Concorde, or simply discover the secrets of the stars at the planetarium!
Aéroport de Paris - Le Bourget. 93350 Le Bourget.
RER B Le Bourget. Tel: 01 49 92 70 00.
Contact for opening times. Free (except exhibitions). www.museedelair.org



CONTACT

Comité départemental du tourisme de la Seine-Saint-Denis

140, av. Jean-Lolive.
93695 Pantin Cedex.
Tel: 01 49 15 98 98.
info@tourisme93.com
www.tourisme93.com

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entrance

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