

30 Secret Places and Hidden Gems in Paris

France Adventurer The Eiffel Tower, the Louvre, the Arc de Triomphe, Sacré Coeur ? these top monuments in Paris are all incredible and shouldn't be missed when you visit the city. But Paris is so much more than just her most famous attractions and there are so many hidden gems in Paris, just waiting to be discovered. I love visiting Paris and have visited 7 times (including a 3-month stint in the city), and I am still adding to my list of new-to-me places to explore around the city. You could spend weeks and weeks in Paris and never run out of things to do and "secret places" to explore! So, in this guide, I'm sharing 30 of my favorite secret places and hidden gems in Paris, perfect for anyone who wants to get off the beaten track, avoid some of the crowds, and discover more of what Paris has to offer! The Rodin Museum displays the works of the sculptor, Auguste Rodin, and also some of the talented work of his contemporary, Camille Claudel. The museum is located on an estate in the middle of Paris, and the art is displayed both in the house and on the grounds. While The Thinker (pictured above) is Rodin's most famous work, other notable sculptures include The Kiss, the Gates of Hell, and The Burghers of Calais. Plus, the grounds are calming and peaceful ? I love spending an hour or two here! Montmartre is a hilly neighborhood found in the northern region of Paris, and it means "Mountain of the Martyr." As such, there are 38 different staircases around Montmartre. These staircases are incredibly charming and I love to wander around the Montmartre neighborhood and discover the different staircases dotted throughout. A few of my favorites include: This park, nestled in the 19th arrondissement, is a hidden gem for tourists but a greenspace beloved by locals. It's simpler than other Parisian parks, with minimal sculptures and manicured landscapes. Yet, its beauty is undeniable, and it has a sizable pond, a bridge, and a striking cliff face. The majority of the park is a blend of grassy areas, trees, and trails. Positioned on a hill, the park provides a unique view of the city. It's an ideal location for a relaxing picnic away from the crowds, offering a glimpse of local Parisian life. The catacombs of Paris are a fascinating, only slightly creepy look at Paris's underbelly. Back in the Medieval and Renaissance days, there were many stone quarries on the outskirts of the city that were used to supply the stone used in building up

Paris. As the city expanded, it grew over the top of where these quarries were, and now the extensive tunnels were directly underneath the actual streets and buildings of central Paris. In the 1700's, the cemeteries of Paris were overflowing, so the decision was made to transfer all the bones and remains from the cemeteries to the catacombs. Today, there is a massive network of catacombs around the city, of which only a tiny fraction is part of the official Catacombs tourist attraction. I think the Catacombs are just such an unusual attraction. The bones are stacked nicely, and the bones and skulls are often arranged to create designs in the stacks. You need to make your reservation in advance, whether you do a self-guided walk-through or go on a guided small-group tour, as tickets are only available online and do sell out. If you go by yourself, you can get an audioguide (€5 extra) to take with you to learn about the Catacombs. I've done this option, and it's a good experience. I've also done a guided tour of the Catacombs, which is a fantastic experience, as you hear a lot more of the history, backstory, and fun anecdotes surrounding the catacombs, as well as getting to access 'secret' parts of the Catacombs not available to regular guests. Book the exact guided tour of the Catacombs I did here.

5. Moulins in Montmartre One of Montmartre's most iconic features is The Moulin Rouge, a cabaret establishment with a massive 'moulin rouge' or 'red windmill' displayed on top of the theater. What most people don't know is that Montmartre used to have over 30 windmills throughout the neighborhood, however, today only 2 remain. The most prominent of these two remaining windmills is Moulin Radet, which is now the entrance of the Moulin de la Galette restaurant located at 83, Rue Lepic. Rue Lepic is actually one of my favorite walking streets in Paris!

6. Marché de Saxe-Breteuil or Marché d'Aligre Marché d'Aligre Parisian markets are just so charming - stalls full of fresh, vibrant fruits and vegetables fill the street, as well as stalls selling fresh meat, cheese, bread, pastries, and often hot foods to eat right there. The Marché d'Aligre also has an antique section adjacent to the produce section. I usually can't resist picking up a small cup of raspberries to snack on as we wander, and I'm always drawn to the enticing cheese displays! There are usually some stalls selling things like soap, herbs, or jams that make for great souvenirs to bring home, but even if you don't buy anything, it's fun to wander the market and get a glimpse of what everyday Parisian life is like. Hours: The Marché d'Aligre is

closed Mondays but is open from 7:30am-1:30pm the rest of the week. The Marché Saxe-Breteil is only open on Thursday and Saturday, from 7am to 1:30pm (Thursday) and 2:30pm (Saturday).

7. Saint Germain des Pres Church Saint-Germain-des-Pres is a gorgeous, colorful Gothic church located in the heart of the St Germain quarter and right across the street from Les Deux Magots. It is considered the oldest church in Paris, and although Gothic style is common in Paris, it is unlike any other religious building in the city. The church was first founded in 558, although it was rebuilt and expanded multiple times over the years, notably in the 1100-1300's. During the French Revolution, the church was badly damaged and was almost completely destroyed (and parts of the church complex were totally demolished). In the early 1800's a complete restoration and a total re-decoration and re-imagination of the church were undertaken, and the interior was painted the colorful hues we enjoy today. The main ceiling of the nave is covered in stars set against an azure background, punctuated by colorful archways and fanciful and geometric designs on the columns.

8. Petit Palais The Petit Palais sits prominently along the Seine, across the street from its counterpart, the Grand Palais, both of which were built for the 1900 Universal Exhibition, and today is one of the best free museums in Paris. The best part of the Petit Palais is the main sculpture gallery, a beautiful room filled with a remarkable collection of sculptures. Many pieces are authentic plaster casts from the 1800s, replicas of sculptures that adorn Paris. Beyond sculptures, the museum showcases a wide variety of paintings and tapestries, including works from famous artists such as Monet, Rembrandt, Rubens, Cezanne, and Rodin. Don't miss the courtyard and garden cafe – a hidden gem within this hidden gem – and is a charming oasis with the palace's facade as a backdrop, complete with an archway, greenery, and flowers.

9. Hang Out Along the Banks of the Seine Walking the Seine is always one of my favorite parts of visiting the city, whether I'm staying for 2 days or 10 days in Paris. The Seine sits just a little bit below street level of the city, but there are ramps and stairs that lead down to pedestrian-only sidewalks that line the river. These walkways are so peaceful and idyllic, and a lot of people just sit down, hang out, and enjoy their picnic in Paris along the riverbank. While there really aren't any *bad* sections of the Seine to walk along, the section between Ile Saint Louis to Place de la Concorde is my favorite area. And while both the left

bank and right bank are nice to walk along, I do have a slight preference for the left bank (the southern side of the Seine). There are stairs or ramps down to the walkway approximately every 1-2 bridges, so it's not hard to just start walking and eventually make your way down.

10. Cour Marly in the Louvre Visiting the Louvre is certainly not a secret activity Paris (it welcomes even more visitors than the Eiffel Tower!), but there are a few areas in the Louvre that are somewhat less well-known but are really beautiful and worth stopping by. In particular, I love the Cour Marly and its twin, Cour Puget, which are large courtyards filled with Greek sculptures. Most of the Greek and Roman sculptures in the Louvre are located in the galleries on the Denon and Sully wings, but Cour Marly and Cour Puget are located on the -1 floor of the Richelieu wing, which sees somewhat fewer visitors.

11. Pantheon The Pantheon is a soaring, stately building originally built as the Church of Saint Genevieve in 1764 that was converted into a national pantheon in 1791. The Pantheon is designed in early Neoclassical style with some Gothic elements, including soaring domes, intricate paintings and sculptures, a large portico of Corinthian columns, and embellishments covering almost every surface. In the middle of the Pantheon is the Foucault Pendulum, installed in 1851 by Leon Foucault to demonstrate that the earth revolves around itself. The paintings, sculptures, and frescos honor Saint Genevieve, the patron saint of Paris, the men and women who died in the World Wars, and important men and women who participated in the Enlightenment, the French Revolution, and WW1. While the soaring building is truly inspiring, you must also visit the underground crypt, where important philosophers, scientists, writers, soldiers, and others of note are buried. The Enlightenment philosophers of Voltaire and Jean Jacques Rousseau have their own separate tombs and statues, and then you can find other notable figures, including: Louis Braille (developed Braille language for the blind) Marie Curie (Nobel Prize for Chemistry for research in Uranium) Victor Hugo (author of Les Miserables and Hunchback of Notre Dame) Emile Zola (French author) Alexandre Dumas (author of Three Musketeers, Count of Monte Cristo)

12. Parc Monceau Parc Monceau is one of my favorite gardens in Paris, and is a local favorite in the upscale 8th arrondissement. The distinguishing feature of the park is the beautiful pond draped in willows and encircled by a colonnade. The rest of the park is a mix of laidback (open grass, wide walking paths, and a

children's playground), and fancy, with a big rotunda at the main entrance, intricate wrought iron, gold-tipped fence all around the park, a cute bridge, and statues dotting the park.

13. National Archives This residence was originally built in the 1300's, but was renovated in high Rococo style in the 1730's for the Prince and Princess of Soubise. The state seized the palace during the French Revolution, and it has belonged to the government since. Today, it is both a beautiful residence to walk through, as well as the home of the Museum of the National Archives, where important historical documents are kept and displayed. The rooms are incredibly decorated with gilded ornamentation and embellishments on the ceilings and walls, sculpted wood panels, paintings, and designed to imitate Versailles, creating jaw-droppingly sumptuous rooms. Marie Antoinette's last letter Important documents on display in the National Archives include: The Tennis Court Oath from the French Revolution The Edict of Nantes by Henri IV (granting French protestants freedom of belief and end to persecution) The last letter of Marie Antoinette before being guillotined The keys of the Bastille (the prison was stormed to start the French Revolution) A letter written by Charlemagne I was seriously geeking-out over these documents – major moments written by important historical figures! This is one of the best unique museums in Paris. Cost: €8 Hours: Mon-Fri 10am-5:30pm, Sat-Sun 2pm-5:30pm

14. Hotel de la Marine Hotel de la Marine is an impressive historical building facing Place de la Concorde. Originally it served as the "Garde-Meuble Royal," where the king's furniture for his many palaces was managed. This responsibility and proximity to grandeur meant the residence was decorated like a palace. Today, you can tour through the sumptuous rooms decorated in the 1700's, learning about their history and use. Of course, all the rooms are beautiful, but the ballroom is truly breathtaking, with intricate, golden details and ornamentation covering the walls and ceiling, and beautiful chandeliers hanging from the ceiling. Even though Hotel de la Marine is in many ways as sumptuous and ornate as Versailles, it remains a hidden gem in Paris (at least for now – the museum only opened to the public very recently, in 2021).

15. The Grand Mosque of Paris The Grand Mosque of Paris is the largest mosque in France and is located in the charming Latin Quarter (the 5th arrondissement). This beautiful place of worship is built in traditional Islamic style, with a symmetrical design, a large water feature in the middle of the room,

colorful mosaics covering the floors and walls, and carved stucco archways. I've had the fortune of visiting Morocco, and it 100% reminded me of the gorgeous architecture and designs we experienced in that country. There are a few rooms you can walk through, but you're mainly visiting the large courtyard and a garden, which is filled with plants, water features, archways, and a view of the 33-meter-tall minaret. Hours: Sat-Thurs, 9am-12pm, 2-6pm (closed Friday) Entrance Fee: ?3 adults, ?2 children, cash only.

16. Arenes de Lutece The Arenes de Lutece are the ruins of an ancient Roman arena, tucked away in the bustling Latin Quarter. This historical site dates back to the end of the 1st century AD, and served as an entertainment venue for two centuries in what was then known as Lutecia. Its rediscovery came unexpectedly in the 1870s during construction work, when the arena was uncovered during excavation work. Now, visitors can explore a quaint garden and walking path that encircles the arena ? one of the many Roman relics left over in France from the empire's heyday. Inside, you can roam the arena floor and the remaining sections of the stands. This is a very low-key attraction that is yet very unexpected in the heart of Paris, and is free to visit.

17. Covered Passageways Some of Paris's secret spots are the numerous covered passageways found throughout the city. Two of the most prominent and beautiful passageways are Galerie Vivienne and Passage des Panorames, which are very close to each other and just north of the Louvre and the Palais Royal. Galerie Vivienne is such a pretty passageway, complete with arched ceilings with skylights and beautiful mosaics covering the floor. Cafes, bistros, and boutique shops fill the passageway. Passage des Panorames is also very charming, but is a little narrower, giving it a more intimate feeling, and is full of restaurants and places to eat.

18. Les Invalides Les Invalides is the military museum of Paris that celebrates and documents France's historical military campaigns. There are multiple more traditional exhibits about different military periods, but the main attraction at Invalides is the Eglise du Dome (The Church of the Dome), which is the golden dome visible throughout Paris. This insanely gorgeous royal church was originally built in the late 1600's for Louis 14th, and was converted into the resting place for Napoleon's tomb, as well as tombs for other notable French military leaders. As you enter the church, you are greeted by an enormous domed roof decorated with murals, reliefs, sculptures, columns, and gold leafing. In the center of

the room, right under the golden dome, is an opening with Napoleon's immense, polished coffin on display on the lower level. Napoleon apparently wanted all visitors to his tomb to bow their heads as they looked down at his grave. In the different "chapels" of the church are other tombs for important military officers, like Marechal Foch, Vauban, and Joseph Napoleon. You can also walk down to the crypt, which takes you to the walkway around the tomb of Napoleon and has sculptures honoring the accomplishments of Napoleon.

19. Galeries Lafayette Panoramic Viewpoint Galeries Lafayette is the most famous and big department store in Paris that sells mainly luxury brands. The flagship store is massive and so beautiful, covering 6 levels with an open center and a gorgeous glass dome. This is a destination in and of itself in Paris (especially during Christmastime), but visitors can also go to the panoramic terrace on the 7th level. Just follow the signs up the escalators to the 7th floor, where you can go to an open-air terrace overlooking the city. It's a great view – right behind the Opera Garnier and with a view of the Eiffel Tower. While I do qualify this as a hidden gem, it's not so hidden that the terrace is empty – indeed, there were actually quite a lot of people there when I visited on a Sunday afternoon in March. However, it's a big terrace with plenty of room to spread out.

20. Printemps Panoramic Viewpoint The Printemps rooftop terrace, in contrast, is a true hidden gem. Printemps is another big, luxury department store, also with a gorgeous glass dome (although you can only see the dome on the top level). It's actually right next to Galeries Lafayette on Boulevard Haussman. Make sure you go into the store called Printemps Femme, and then just head up the escalators to the panoramic terrace on the top floor. This terrace is a lot smaller, but it's very nice – there are plants and chairs to sit at, and hardly any people at all. You don't have the same view of the opera house, but that's okay, you still have a great view over the rooftops of Paris. When we were there, there was a crane set up right in the line of sight with the Eiffel Tower, so our view unfortunately wasn't quite as good, but of course, this is a temporary situation.

21. Dome of Sacré Coeur One of the most Instagrammable spots in Paris is the domes of Sacré Coeur – you can actually go up into the domes! There's a sign for the panoramic viewpoint right before you enter the basilica where you can pay the entrance fee and start climbing the 292 steps of the spiral staircase up to the rooftop. When you reach the rooftop, you'll actually walk

along a short pathway between the different domes and spires along the roof ? a super cool part of the experience. Then another spiral staircase takes you into the dome viewpoint, where you get the true panoramic view of Paris. Besides enjoying a great view of the Eiffel Tower (one of the best Eiffel Tower viewpoints in Paris, if you ask me), you'll also get to admire the many spires and small domes on the Sacré Coeur Basilica. Hours: 10am-5pm for the domes. The basilica itself has extended hours, these hours are just for the dome. Cost: ?8 for adults and ?5 for kids 22.

Professional Paris Photoshoot One of the things Matthew and I have been doing on most of our international trips is to book a local photographer for a photoshoot in a beautiful spot in the country we're visiting. We've done this 7 times now and I absolutely adore our collection of professional pictures we have together around the world. Plus, taking beautiful pictures around the city is just one of the most romantic things to do in Paris. I like to search for photographers on Instagram (I would search hashtags like #parisphotographer) or you can also easily browse photographers available and secure your booking on websites like flytographer.com. 23.

Place des Vosges Place des Vosges is a unique square in the Marais ? all the buildings lining the square are red brick, and a public park sits in the center. Victor Hugo's house is in one of the corner buildings of Place des Vosges and is now a museum about the famed author. The park is laid out very symmetrically, with a giant central statue, tree-lined paths, a matching fountain in each corner, and green lawns to relax on. It's a lovely spot to spend an afternoon in Paris. 24.

La Coulée Verte La Coulée Verte is a charming elevated walking path in the 4th arrondissement (Le Marais) that is located on an old railway line. This railway line was in use from 1853-1969 and then was converted to a greenspace. It has a paved walking trail, fantastic views looking over the Parisian cityscape, and ?combines wild vegetation typical of train emplacements and a modern pedestrian pathway.? This is a local favorite and is 4.5 km long, so you can spend a lot of time enjoying this walking path. 25.

The Old Timey Photographers Around the Eiffel Tower This hidden gem in Paris is so secret that there actually isn't even a specific location to give you! Here are the deets: A group of women run the most charming little old-timey photograph stand, where they will take pictures of you with their old-school camera and then print them off onto an old-timey looking newspaper front page. They don't have

set hours and they always set up somewhere a little bit different around the Eiffel Tower (you can sometimes find them by Pont d'Iena, but we actually stumbled upon them at Passerelle Debilly ? a charming pedestrian bridge in Paris). There is no set price ? it's by donation only ? and is the most charming little souvenir to bring home from Paris with you. Hopefully you can find them on your visit to the Eiffel Tower!

26. Marché aux Fleurs The Marché aux Fleurs is a covered, yet open-air flower market founded by Napoleon in 1808. It is filled with vibrant and colorful stalls displaying many varieties of flowers and plants as well as garden-related items, including birdhouses, wind chimes, decorative pots, and other decorations. The beautiful displays and greenhouse-like roof make it a lovely spot to walk through.

27. Canal Saint Martin Canal Saint Martin is a 4.6 km long canal that cuts through the center of the right bank of Paris, connecting the Seine to Canal de l'Ourcq in the north. The canal was built in the early 1800s and was used heavily during that century. Although traffic has dwindled significantly in the 1900s, it is still in use today, both with shipping and for tourist boats. But Canal Saint Martin is on this list because the riverbanks are a popular local hangout spot.

Restaurants and cafes line the streets nearby, walking paths go up and down both sides of the canal, and cute little bridges cross over. The canal is long and the section right near the Seine isn't the best. Instead, I'd head to the area around the Republique metro station ? it's a charming area with a lot of vibes, especially on a warm evening.

28. Marché des Enfants Rouge The Marché des Enfants Rouge is the oldest food market in Paris (it was started in 1615) and is part traditional fruit/veggie/meat/fish/cheese stands, but also has a huge variety of restaurant stalls right in the market. This is a very popular spot with locals, and at lunchtime, the stalls serving food are hopping ? be prepared to wait in line. You can order at the counters for takeaway or eat at the stools set up around the stands. All of the food everywhere looked really, really good ? some fun options include Chez Alain Miam Miam, a popular sandwich stop, the Butcher of Paris, which serves beautiful charcuterie boards, or the stand selling Moroccan food (where we went). The entire market is closed on Monday.

29. Musée de la Vie Romantique The Museum of the Romantic Life was once the residence of Ary Scheffer, a Dutch painter who lived there for over 20 years in the 19th century. Although Scheffer may not be as renowned as some of his contemporaries today, he was a

significant artist and social figure in Paris, hosting notable personalities like Charles Dickens, Frederick Chopin, and Franz Liszt. The museum offers a walkthrough of the house, showcasing historical furnishings, decor, and artwork by Scheffer and his peers. The ground floor is dedicated to George Sand, a widely celebrated writer of the era, featuring her belongings. The house's courtyard, garden, and exterior are beautifully preserved, offering a peaceful oasis in the city. The art workshop/greenhouse, an addition to the house, is now a glass-enclosed café, and some visitors come simply to relax in the charming garden café.

30. View of Sacré Coeur from Rue Lafitte

The construction the last time we were here made it? less of a fantastic view. Just pretend the scaffolding is gone! Rue Lafitte is a rather small street that heads from Boulevard Haussman up towards Sacré Coeur in Montmartre. The street is situated so that it gives you a perfect view of the basilica, framed right between the buildings. While you can see the basilica from almost anywhere along Rue Lafitte, I do think you get the best view right at Blvd Haussman.

Secret Spots in Paris ?

The Wrap Up I hope this gives you some good ideas of off-the-beaten-path spots to visit on your Parisian vacation. All of the spots on this list are hidden places in Paris I have personally visited and enjoyed and all are lesser known locations in the city! One of Montmartre's most iconic features is The Moulin Rouge, a cabaret establishment with a massive ?moulin rouge? or ?red windmill? displayed on top of the theater. What most people don?t know is that Montmartre used to have over 30 windmills throughout the neighborhood, however, today only 2 remain. The most prominent of these two remaining windmills is Moulin Radet, which is now the entrance of the Moulin de la Galette restaurant located at 83, Rue Lepic. Rue Lepic is actually one of my favorite walking streets in Paris! Parisian markets are just so charming ? stalls full of fresh, vibrant fruits and vegetables fill the street, as well as stalls selling fresh meat, cheese, bread, pastries, and often hot foods to eat right there. The Marché d'Aligre also has an antique section adjacent to the produce section. I usually can?t resist picking up a small cup of raspberries to snack on as we wander, and I'm always drawn to the enticing cheese displays! There are usually some stalls selling things like soap, herbs, or jams that make for great souvenirs to bring home, but even if you don?t buy anything, it?s fun to wander the market and get a glimpse of what everyday Parisian life is like.

Hours: The Marché

d'Aligre is closed Mondays but is open from 7:30am-1:30pm the rest of the week. The Marché Saxe-Breteuil is only open on Thursday and Saturday, from 7am to 1:30pm (Thursday) and 2:30pm (Saturday). Saint-Germain-des-Pres is a gorgeous, colorful Gothic church located in the heart of the St Germain quarter and right across the street from Les Deux Magots. It is considered the oldest church in Paris, and although Gothic style is common in Paris, it is unlike any other religious building in the city. The church was first founded in 558, although it was rebuilt and expanded multiple times over the years, notably in the 1100-1300's. During the French Revolution, the church was badly damaged and was almost completely destroyed (and parts of the church complex were totally demolished). In the early 1800's a complete restoration and a total re-decoration and re-imagination of the church were undertaken, and the interior was painted the colorful hues we enjoy today. The main ceiling of the nave is covered in stars set against an azure background, punctuated by colorful archways and fanciful and geometric designs on the columns. The Petit Palais sits prominently along the Seine, across the street from its counterpart, the Grand Palais, both of which were built for the 1900 Universal Exhibition, and today is one of the best free museums in Paris. The best part of the Petit Palais is the main sculpture gallery, a beautiful room filled with a remarkable collection of sculptures. Many pieces are authentic plaster casts from the 1800s, replicas of sculptures that adorn Paris. Beyond sculptures, the museum showcases a wide variety of paintings and tapestries, including works from famous artists such as Monet, Rembrandt, Rubens, Cezanne, and Rodin. Don't miss the courtyard and garden cafe ? a hidden gem within this hidden gem ? and is a charming oasis with the palace's facade as a backdrop, complete with an archway, greenery, and flowers. Walking the Seine is always one of my favorite parts of visiting the city, whether I'm staying for 2 days or 10 days in Paris. The Seine sits just a little bit below street level of the city, but there are ramps and stairs that lead down to pedestrian-only sidewalks that line the river. These walkways are so peaceful and idyllic, and a lot of people just sit down, hang out, and enjoy their picnic in Paris along the riverbank. While there really aren't any *bad* sections of the Seine to walk along, the section between Ile Saint Louis to Place de la Concorde is my favorite area. And while both the left bank and right bank are nice to walk along, I do have a slight preference for the left bank (the

southern side of the Seine). There are stairs or ramps down to the walkway approximately every 1-2 bridges, so it's not hard to just start walking and eventually make your way down. Visiting the Louvre is certainly not a secret activity Paris (it welcomes even more visitors than the Eiffel Tower!), but there are a few areas in the Louvre that are somewhat less well-known but are really beautiful and worth stopping by. In particular, I love the Cour Marly and its twin, Cour Puget, which are large courtyards filled with Greek sculptures. Most of the Greek and Roman sculptures in the Louvre are located in the galleries on the Denon and Sully wings, but Cour Marly and Cour Puget are located on the -1 floor of the Richelieu wing, which sees somewhat fewer visitors. The Pantheon is a soaring, stately building originally built as the Church of Saint Genevieve in 1764 that was converted into a national pantheon in 1791. The Pantheon is designed in early Neoclassical style with some Gothic elements, including soaring domes, intricate paintings and sculptures, a large portico of Corinthian columns, and embellishments covering almost every surface. In the middle of the Pantheon is the Foucault Pendulum, installed in 1851 by Leon Foucault to demonstrate that the earth revolves around itself. The paintings, sculptures, and frescos honor Saint Genevieve, the patron saint of Paris, the men and women who died in the World Wars, and important men and women who participated in the Enlightenment, the French Revolution, and WW1. While the soaring building is truly inspiring, you must also visit the underground crypt, where important philosophers, scientists, writers, soldiers, and others of note are buried. The Enlightenment philosophers of Voltaire and Jean Jacques Rousseau have their own separate tombs and statues, and then you can find other notable figures, including: Parc Monceau is one of my favorite gardens in Paris, and is a local favorite in the upscale 8th arrondissement. The distinguishing feature of the park is the beautiful pond draped in willows and encircled by a colonnade. The rest of the park is a mix of laidback (open grass, wide walking paths, and a children's playground), and fancy, with a big rotunda at the main entrance, intricate wrought iron, gold-tipped fence all around the park, a cute bridge, and statues dotting the park. This residence was originally built in the 1300's, but was renovated in high Rococo style in the 1730's for the Prince and Princess of Soubise. The state seized the palace during the French Revolution, and it has belonged to the government since.

Today, it is both a beautiful residence to walk through, as well as the home of the Museum of the National Archives, where important historical documents are kept and displayed. The rooms are incredibly decorated with gilded ornamentation and embellishments on the ceilings and walls, sculpted wood panels, paintings, and designed to imitate Versailles, creating jaw-droppingly sumptuous rooms. Important documents on display in the National Archives include: I was seriously geeking-out over these documents ? major moments written by important historical figures! This is one of the best unique museums in Paris. Hotel de la Marine is an impressive historical building facing Place de la Concorde. Originally it served as the ?Garde-Meuble Royal,? where the king?s furniture for his many palaces was managed. This responsibility and proximity to grandeur meant the residence was decorated like a palace. Today, you can tour through the sumptuous rooms decorated in the 1700?s, learning about their history and use. Of course, all the rooms are beautiful, but the ballroom is truly breathtaking, with intricate, golden details and ornamentation covering the walls and ceiling, and beautiful chandeliers hanging from the ceiling. Even though Hotel de la Marine is in many ways as sumptuous and ornate as Versailles, it remains a hidden gem in Paris (at least for now ? the museum only opened to the public very recently, in 2021). The Grand Mosque of Paris is the largest mosque in France and is located in the charming Latin Quarter (the 5th arrondissement). This beautiful place of worship is built in traditional Islamic style, with a symmetrical design, a large water feature in the middle of the room, colorful mosaics covering the floors and walls, and carved stucco archways. I?ve had the fortune of visiting Morocco, and it 100% reminded me of the gorgeous architecture and designs we experienced in that country. There are a few rooms you can walk through, but you?re mainly visiting the large courtyard and a garden, which is filled with plants, water features, archways, and a view of the 33-meter-tall minaret. The Arenes de Lutece are the ruins of an ancient Roman arena, tucked away in the bustling Latin Quarter. This historical site dates back to the end of the 1st century AD, and served as an entertainment venue for two centuries in what was then known as Lutecia. Its rediscovery came unexpectedly in the 1870s during construction work, when the arena was uncovered during excavation work. Now, visitors can explore a quaint garden and walking path that encircles the arena ? one of the many Roman relics

left over in France from the empire's heyday. Inside, you can roam the arena floor and the remaining sections of the stands. This is a very low-key attraction that is yet very unexpected in the heart of Paris, and is free to visit. Some of Paris's secret spots are the numerous covered passageways found throughout the city. Two of the most prominent and beautiful passageways are Galerie Vivienne and Passage des Panorames, which are very close to each other and just north of the Louvre and the Palais Royal. Galerie Vivienne is such a pretty passageway, complete with arched ceilings with skylights and beautiful mosaics covering the floor. Cafes, bistros, and boutique shops fill the passageway. Passage des Panorames is also very charming, but is a little narrower, giving it a more intimate feeling, and is full of restaurants and places to eat. Les Invalides is the military museum of Paris that celebrates and documents France's historical military campaigns. There are multiple more traditional exhibits about different military periods, but the main attraction at Invalides is the Eglise du Dome (The Church of the Dome), which is the golden dome visible throughout Paris. This insanely gorgeous royal church was originally built in the late 1600's for Louis 14th, and was converted into the resting place for Napoleon's tomb, as well as tombs for other notable French military leaders. As you enter the church, you are greeted by an enormous domed roof decorated with murals, reliefs, sculptures, columns, and gold leafing. In the center of the room, right under the golden dome, is an opening with Napoleon's immense, polished coffin on display on the lower level. Napoleon apparently wanted all visitors to his tomb to bow their heads as they looked down at his grave. In the different "chapels" of the church are other tombs for important military officers, like Marechal Foch, Vauban, and Joseph Napoleon. You can also walk down to the crypt, which takes you to the walkway around the tomb of Napoleon and has sculptures honoring the accomplishments of Napoleon. Galeries Lafayette is the most famous and big department store in Paris that sells mainly luxury brands. The flagship store is massive and so beautiful, covering 6 levels with an open center and a gorgeous glass dome. This is a destination in and of itself in Paris (especially during Christmastime), but visitors can also go to the panoramic terrace on the 7th level. Just follow the signs up the escalators to the 7th floor, where you can go to an open-air terrace overlooking the city. It's a great view - right behind the Opera Garnier and with a view of the Eiffel

Tower. While I do qualify this as a hidden gem, it's not so hidden that the terrace is empty ? indeed, there were actually quite a lot of people there when I visited on a Sunday afternoon in March. However, it's a big terrace with plenty of room to spread out. The Printemps rooftop terrace, in contrast, is a true hidden gem. Printemps is another big, luxury department store, also with a gorgeous glass dome (although you can only see the dome on the top level). It's actually right next to Galeries Lafayette on Boulevard Haussman. Make sure you go into the store called Printemps Femme, and then just head up the escalators to the panoramic terrace on the top floor. This terrace is a lot smaller, but it's very nice ? there are plants and chairs to sit at, and hardly any people at all. You don't have the same view of the opera house, but that's okay, you still have a great view over the rooftops of Paris. When we were there, there was a crane set up right in the line of sight with the Eiffel Tower, so our view unfortunately wasn't quite as good, but of course, this is a temporary situation. One of the most Instagrammable spots in Paris is the domes of Sacré Coeur ? you can actually go up into the domes! There's a sign for the panoramic viewpoint right before you enter the basilica where you can pay the entrance fee and start climbing the 292 steps of the spiral staircase up to the rooftop. When you reach the rooftop, you'll actually walk along a short pathway between the different domes and spires along the roof ? a super cool part of the experience. Then another spiral staircase takes you into the dome viewpoint, where you get the true panoramic view of Paris. Besides enjoying a great view of the Eiffel Tower (one of the best Eiffel Tower viewpoints in Paris, if you ask me), you'll also get to admire the many spires and small domes on the Sacré Coeur Basilica. One of the things Matthew and I have been doing on most of our international trips is to book a local photographer for a photoshoot in a beautiful spot in the country we're visiting. We've done this 7 times now and I absolutely adore our collection of professional pictures we have together around the world. Plus, taking beautiful pictures around the city is just one of the most romantic things to do in Paris. I like to search for photographers on Instagram (I would search hashtags like #parisphotographer) or you can also easily browse photographers available and secure your booking on websites like flytographer.com. Place des Vosges is a unique square in the Marais ? all the buildings lining the square are red brick, and a public park sits in the center. Victor

Hugo's house is in one of the corner buildings of Place des Vosges and is now a museum about the famed author. The park is laid out very symmetrically, with a giant central statue, tree-lined paths, a matching fountain in each corner, and green lawns to relax on. It's a lovely spot to spend an afternoon in Paris. La Coulée Verte is a charming elevated walking path in the 4th arrondissement (Le Marais) that is located on an old railway line. This railway line was in use from 1853-1969 and then was converted to a greenspace. It has a paved walking trail, fantastic views looking over the Parisian cityscape, and "combines wild vegetation typical of train emplacements and a modern pedestrian pathway." This is a local favorite and is 4.5 km long, so you can spend a lot of time enjoying this walking path. This hidden gem in Paris is so secret that there actually isn't even a specific location to give you! Here are the deets: A group of women run the most charming little old-timey photograph stand, where they will take pictures of you with their old-school camera and then print them off onto an old-timey looking newspaper front page. They don't have set hours and they always set up somewhere a little bit different around the Eiffel Tower (you can sometimes find them by Pont d'Iena, but we actually stumbled upon them at Passerelle Debilly - a charming pedestrian bridge in Paris). There is no set price - it's by donation only - and is the most charming little souvenir to bring home from Paris with you. Hopefully you can find them on your visit to the Eiffel Tower! The Marché aux Fleurs is a covered, yet open-air flower market founded by Napoleon in 1808. It is filled with vibrant and colorful stalls displaying many varieties of flowers and plants as well as garden-related items, including birdhouses, wind chimes, decorative pots, and other decorations. The beautiful displays and greenhouse-like roof make it a lovely spot to walk through. Canal Saint Martin is a 4.6 km long canal that cuts through the center of the right bank of Paris, connecting the Seine to Canal de l'Ourcq in the north. The canal was built in the early 1800s and was used heavily during that century. Although traffic has dwindled significantly in the 1900s, it is still in use today, both with shipping and for tourist boats. But Canal Saint Martin is on this list because the riverbanks are a popular local hangout spot. Restaurants and cafes line the streets nearby, walking paths go up and down both sides of the canal, and cute little bridges cross over. The canal is long and the section right near the Seine isn't the best. Instead, I'd head to the area

around the Republique metro station ? it's a charming area with a lot of vibes, especially on a warm evening. The Marché des Enfants Rouge is the oldest food market in Paris (it was started in 1615) and is part traditional fruit/veggie/meat/fish/cheese stands, but also has a huge variety of restaurant stalls right in the market. This is a very popular spot with locals, and at lunchtime, the stalls serving food are hopping ? be prepared to wait in line. You can order at the counters for takeaway or eat at the stools set up around the stands. All of the food everywhere looked really, really good ? some fun options include Chez Alain Miam Miam, a popular sandwich stop, the Butcher of Paris, which serves beautiful charcuterie boards, or the stand selling Moroccan food (where we went). The entire market is closed on Monday. The Museum of the Romantic Life was once the residence of Ary Scheffer, a Dutch painter who lived there for over 20 years in the 19th century. Although Scheffer may not be as renowned as some of his contemporaries today, he was a significant artist and social figure in Paris, hosting notable personalities like Charles Dickens, Frederick Chopin, and Franz Liszt. The museum offers a walkthrough of the house, showcasing historical furnishings, decor, and artwork by Scheffer and his peers. The ground floor is dedicated to George Sand, a widely celebrated writer of the era, featuring her belongings. The house's courtyard, garden, and exterior are beautifully preserved, offering a peaceful oasis in the city. The art workshop/greenhouse, an addition to the house, is now a glass-enclosed café, and some visitors come simply to relax in in the charming garden café. Rue Lafitte is a rather small street that heads from Boulevard Haussman up towards Sacré Coeur in Montmartre. The street is situated so that it gives you a perfect view of the basilica, framed right between the buildings. While you can see the basilica from almost anywhere along Rue Lafitte, I do think you get the best view right at Blvd Haussman. I hope this gives you some good ideas of off-the-beaten-path spots to visit on your Parisian vacation. All of the spots on this list are hidden places in Paris I have personally visited and enjoyed and all are lesser known locations in the city! Stephanie is obsessed with everything having to do with France, and she's visited the country 10 times (including a 3 month stint when she lived in Paris). She draws on her extensive knowledge of the country to bring you detailed and helpful guides, from the perspective of a fellow traveler. Since I was a teenager I've been obsessed with all things France. Today, I've visited more than 10 times

(including a 3-month stint in Paris), and have traveled all over the country. I'm here to help you plan your most magical trip to France, whether you're looking for city guides, charming small villages, hidden gems, insider tips, or even a custom itinerary. Read more about Stephanie © 2024 France Adventurer ? Rosemary Theme by Restored 316

The Best Hidden Gems in Paris: 25 Secret Spots & Hidden Treasures

Hidden gems in Paris are secret spots that are less well known to tourists. Typically, these are places that locals know and love. Hidden gems of Paris aren't typically found in guidebooks and require in depth research or local knowledge to find. I spent a year working for a French company, and while I was in Paris I made it a goal to learn all of the local hidden gems that are off the beaten path in Paris. I wanted to get a feel for the city that was more than the tourist crowds at the Eiffel Tower, so I did just that. By sharing these hidden gems of Paris, I hope to help others fall in love with the city ? the real Paris ? not the one the guidebooks show you. you'll find a list of 25 of the best hidden gems, secret spots, and hidden treasures of Paris. Visiting these hidden treasures in Paris makes for a perfect addition to any Paris itinerary, especially if you want to explore a bit off the beaten path! Get Lost in Wanderlust contains affiliate links. If you make a purchase using one of the links below, we may receive a very small compensation at no extra cost to you. We only recommend products and services we use and trust. Read our disclaimer for more information.

Located at 2 Rue de l'Abreuvoir, 75018 Paris, France La Maison Rose is a café on the picturesque cobblestone street of Rue de l'Abreuvoir. Located in the Montmartre neighborhood, La Masion Rose makes for a perfect stop for a cup of coffee in one prettiest neighborhoods and streets of Paris. La Masion Rose is one of the most Instagrammable spots in Paris, so what really makes this café a hidden gem in Paris is its beauty and interesting history behind its. Enter your email for a FREE guide to 10 hidden gem places to add to your Europe bucket list! We respect your privacy. Unsubscribe at any time. La Masion Rose is over 120 years old, and was purchased in 1905 by Laure Germaine and her husband. Laure Germaine was a French dancer and model, and had once been one of Picasso's muses and lovers. After a trip to Barcelona, Germaine was inspired by all the colors and came back to paint the café pink and rename it La Masion Rose. If you love the sound of this neighborhood, you might even want to consider staying in one of these charming boutique hotels in Montmartre. ??

Insider Tip: I highly recommend this Hidden Gems of Montmartre Walking Tour. Not only is this one of the most beautiful neighborhoods in Paris, but there are many unique places to explore here!

Located at 33 Av. du Maine, 75015 Paris, France Every year, millions of people go to Paris and go up the Eiffel Tower for a view of the city. The only problem with viewing the Paris skyline from the Eiffel Tower is that you don't see the Eiffel Tower! Montparnasse Viewing Deck solves this problem by giving you an amazing view of the Paris skyline with the Eiffel Tower! Located in the 15th arrondissement, the Montparnasse Tower has a wonderful outdoor viewing deck on the 56th floor of the building. The panoramic views of Paris are astonishing and you can even enjoy a glass of champagne from the café here. So, yes it may still be worth visiting the Eiffel Tower, but I can guarantee that the view will be better from Montparnasse Tower. Starting point located at 47 Quai de Valmy, 75010 Paris, France Everyone has heard of the Seine River, and while it is certainly beautiful it is also full of tourists.. So where do the local Parisians go to hang out and sip wine along a river? The answer is one of the best hidden treasures in Paris ? the Canal St Martin. Located in the trendy 10th arrondissement the Canal St Martin is nearby to several bars and restaurants. The Canal stretches for 4.6km. The sides of the canal are a popular spot amongst locals to bring drinks and hang out, especially in warm weather. If you visit Paris in the summer, I definitely recommend heading here to escape the tourist crowds and feel like a local Parisian! Located at 28 Rue du Sommerard, 75005 Paris, France The Cluny Museum is a museum focusing on the Middle Ages. This museum was reopened in 2022 after years of renovation and is home to important historical artifacts of the middle ages. This is a must see place in Paris for history lovers! The highlight of the Cluny Museum is the Lady and the Unicorn which is a series of six tapestries from the middle ages. The first five tapestries depict the five senses, and the sixth tapestry is thought to depict love as a sixth sense. ?? Insider Tip: For tickets to the Cluny Museum, check out the Paris Museum Pass. This pass gives you access to the Cluny Museum and many of the other top museums in Paris. Located at 11 rue Francois Miron, 75004 Paris France Located in Le Maris district, you will find some of the oldest houses in Paris. These half-timbered houses are strikingly different from the typical Haussmann style Parisian buildings. The ground floor of these two houses was built in the 14th century, with later additions in the 16th century. This makes these houses some of the oldest in all of Paris, and a great secret spot to check out for those that love history! Located at 77300

Fontainebleau, France Everyone has heard of the famous French Palace of Versailles, but why not avoid those crowds and visit a forgotten gem just outside of Paris? Built in 1137, Château de Fontainebleau has been the home to more French royalty than Versailles. In fact, 34 French kings and two emperors have claimed a residence here. So why isn't Château de Fontainebleau as popular as Versailles? It certainly isn't for the lack of history as Château de Fontainebleau is around 500 years older than Versailles. Additionally, while Versailles is massive and very beautiful, so is Château de Fontainebleau. Getting to Château de Fontainebleau is also quite easy. Located a mere 50 minutes outside of Paris, this hidden gem day trip can easily be reached using public transport or by car. To take public transport, simply take the train from Paris Gare de Lyon station to Fontainebleau-Avon station, and then take a short bus ride on line 1 to the Château stop. Located at Square Jehan Rictus, Pl. des Abbesses, 75018 Paris, France

When visiting one of the most romantic cities in the world, why not check out the Wall of Love? This hidden gem is located in the artsy Montmartre neighborhood. The Wall of Love is a permanent art installation that features 612 squares of enameled lava, on which the phrase "I love you" is written 311 times in 250 languages. There are several red marks across the art piece. These red marks symbolize a broken heart due to the lack of love people have for each other across the world. If you put all the red pieces together, it would form a complete heart. However the fact that the red pieces are scattered across the mural symbolizes how people from all around the world need to work together to rebuild and heal the world's broken heart. Located at 75006 Paris, France

Located in one of the prettiest and safest neighborhoods in Paris, the Luxembourg Gardens are a real Parisian treasure. Full of blooming flowers, beautiful statues and picturesque water fountains, these gardens are perfect for an afternoon stroll or picnic. Many people visit the Tuileries Gardens near the Louvre, and miss out on the Luxembourg Gardens completely. In my opinion, the Luxembourg Gardens is one of the most relaxing (not to mention beautiful) places in Paris. Located in Parc André Citroën, 75015 Paris, France

Looking for some great views of Paris? Look no further than Air Balloon de Paris! This hidden gem is located in the Park André Citroën in the 15th arrondissement of Paris. The balloon ride takes you up to 984 feet (300 meters) in the air. The balloon rides go everyday from 9am, as

long as the weather is decent. Tickets are also very affordable at only 15 Euros per adult or 8 Euros per child. This definitely makes for a unique and off the beaten path activity in Paris! It's also a great way to see the Paris skyline and Eiffel Tower. Located at Rue Crémieux, 75012 Paris, France

Located in the 12 arrondissement, you'll find a picturesque pedestrian only cobblestone street filled with pastel colored houses. Known as Rue Crémieux, this adorable street may just be the prettiest street in Paris. Rue Crémieux has become more well-known with the increasing amount of instagrammers and photographers seeking out one of Paris' prettiest streets. When visiting, keep in mind that this is a residential area so it's important to be respectful of those who live here. Located at 29 Rue de la Parcheminerie, 75005 Paris, France

Shakespeare and Company is the famous bookstore in the heart of the Latin Quarter. Lines to get in this bookshop can be super long, so why not visit a hidden gem bookshop in Paris instead? Abbey bookshop is similar to Shakespeare and Company and sells new, secondhand, and rare books, mostly in English. This is a great alternative to visiting Shakespeare and Company. Abbey Book Shop also encompasses historical significance as the street it is located on in the Latin Quarter was once called Rue des Escrivains after the medieval scribes who were the heart of the Parisian book trade, that is until parchment makers replaced them in the late Middle Ages. While you are in the 5th arrondissement, make sure to stop at some of the charming cafes and unique restaurants in the Latin Quarter. Located at 1 Rue Botzaris, 75019 Paris, France

Parc des Buttes-Chaumont is one of the hidden gems in Paris, frequently visited by locals. Located in the north-east part of Paris, Parc des Buttes-Chaumont offers an extensive 61 acres of green space. Parc des Buttes-Chaumont makes for the perfect spot for a Parisian picnic on the green space surrounding the lake. When visiting, check out the Temple de la Sibylle, a small replica famous ancient Roman Temple of Vesta. There is also a small waterfall in the grotto, which is a refreshing spot to visit on a hot summer day. Located at 40 Bd Haussmann, 75009 Paris, France

The Galeries Lafayette is a grand department store that is over a century old. It has over 2,000 brands and a number of cafés, bars, and restaurants and is famous for its Art Nouveau dome. The Galeries Lafayette is a very popular tourist site, but what you may not know is that Galeries Lafayette has a rooftop terrace that offers amazing panoramic views of Paris. Visiting

the rooftop terrace is especially great at sunset, as it has a magical sunset view of the Eiffel Tower and Paris skyline. Located along the Seine River A typical tourist activity in Paris is to take Seine River boat cruise, but why not ride a bike along the Seine instead like the local Parisians do? Along the banks of the Seine from the Eiffel Tower to the Notre Dame, you will find electric bikes and scooters. To rent a bike or scooter, you just download the app, scan the bike, and go! When you have finished your ride, you park it, click finish ride, and submit a photo. It is a super easy and fun way to see Paris! ?? Another option is this Hidden Gems Electric Bike Tour, which is led by a local guide and is a fun way to explore Paris! Located at Pont de Grenelle, Paris, 75015 France Everyone knows of the Statue of Liberty in New York, but did you know that Paris also has a Statue of Liberty?! While much smaller in size, there is a replica Statue of Liberty located amongst the banks of the Seine River. The statue is an important piece of history, and was gifted to Paris from the Americans in 1889 to commemorate the 100 years since the French Revolution. The gift was also because France had originally gifted the United States with the original Statue of Liberty that was placed in New York City. This statue symbolizes the alliance and respect between France and the United States. Located at 16, rue du Repos Paris, 75020 France The Père Lachaise Cemetery is home to the grave sites of several notable people. One of the most visited is that of Oscar Wilde. Fans of Wilde will leave love letters, flowers, and even kiss the gravestone while wearing lipstick. Another notable grave is Jim Morrison's, where you will likely see full bottles of Jim Bean and roses left in remembrance at the site. History lovers will want to stop by the tombstones for Abelard and Heloise, two famous star crossed lovers from the 12th century. The two had a love affair resulting in a child, but once found out Heloise was forced into the nunnery and Abelard was castrated. Their love was only allowed to live on through the letters they wrote each other. Located at Champ de Mars 5 Anatole France Ave Paris France The Eiffel Tower is the most famous monument in Paris, but did you know about the secret spot at the top? Gustave Eiffel created a hidden apartment at the top of the Eiffel Tower in order to entertain high society Parisians. While the apartment isn't open to the public, you can view it through a window if you purchase a ticket to the Eiffel Tower Summit. Located at Place Georges-Pompidou, 75004 Paris, France Everyone has heard of the Louvre, but

art lovers should also know about another hidden gem in Paris, the Centre Pompidou. The Centre Pompidou is home to the National Museum of Modern Art, and features art by famous artists such as Matisse, Picasso, Andy Warhol, and others. The building itself is also incredibly unique as it is designed as being inside out. ?? Insider Tip: Centre Pompidou is part of the Paris Museum Pass which gives you admission to many of the top museums in Paris. Check out more on the Paris Museum Pass [here](#). Located at 16 Rue Chaptal, 75009 Paris, France While in the City of Love, why not stop at the Museum of Romantic Life? This small museum is located in the romantic Montmartre district and is dedicated to the authors, artists, and literary works that prevailed during the romantic period. There is also a picturesque cobblestone alleyway and small garden, a great hidden gem for instagram photos. Located at 83 Boulevard Ornano, 75018 Paris La REcyclerie is a unique café located in a former train station. The idea behind La REcyclerie is sustainability and the food here is from freshly sourced ingredients. This eclectic café is a great spot to grab a Vegan or Vegetarian meal, or for coffee or drinks. A true hidden gem, La REcyclerie is a nice change of pace from the typical Parisian cafes. Located at 1 Rue Lamarck 75018 Paris, France Known as the Sinking House of Montmartre, this Parisian building appears to be sinking into the ground. However, the appearance is an Optical Illusion due to the hill (and turning a camera at a 45 degree angle) which give the building a "sinking" look. This hidden gem in Paris makes for a great photo opportunity! Located at Pont Alexandre III, 75008 Paris, France Pont Alexandre III Bridge connects the Eiffel Tower to the Champs-Élysées area. The bridge has ornate decorations and gilded statues, along with an impressive view of the Eiffel Tower. Known as one of the most beautiful bridges in the world, this is certainly worth a stop on your next trip to Paris. Located at Place de la République ? 75003 ? 75010 ? 75011 Paris Place de la Republique is a large square which marks where the 3rd, 10th, and 11th arrondissements meet. This is a popular meeting spot for Parisians, and is also a place where important protests may occur. In the middle of the square is a large statue with a girl named Marianne at the top. Marianne embodies the French Republic and holds an Olive branch in her right hand and a tablet of the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen in her left hand. The three statues below her symbolize liberty, equality, and fraternity, which are the values of the

French Republic. Located at Place des Vosges, 75004 Paris, France Located in the lively Le Marais district, Place des Vosges is a picturesque square. This square is one of the oldest in Paris, and was opened in the 1600's. It is a great starting point for exploring the charming and historical Le Marais neighborhood. Located at 59 Rue de Rivoli, 75001 Paris, France 59 Rivoli is a contemporary art gallery in Paris with a unique story. In 1999, it started out as an illegal artist squat house in an abandoned building. Today, 59 Rivoli is a art studio for 30 artists, a contemporary art gallery, and hosts concerts on Saturdays and Sundays. The contemporary art exhibit is free to visit, and truly is a secret spot in Paris! Paris is one of the most visited cities in the entire world, with millions of tourists coming each year to see the Eiffel Tower, Louvre Museum, and other famous sites. The crowds and touristy side of the city is what makes some people find Paris to be completely overrated. So, if you are planning a trip to France I highly recommend checking out these hidden gems in Paris. Not only will you escape the tourist crowds, but you'll get to feel like a local and explore some of the best hidden treasures and secret spots in the City of Lights. Amber is the owner and author of Get Lost in Wanderlust, a blog that helps travelers plan incredible trips across Europe from bucket list cities to charming hidden gems. She has a Bachelor's Degree in History and Psychology, and enjoys learning more about the culture and historical significance of each place she visits. When she isn't exploring Europe, she loves reading, writing, and planning her next adventure. [Read More Paris Zip Codes & Paris Postal Codes: A Guide & Map for 2025](#)[Continue Read More Safest Places to Stay in Paris in 2025 \[& Where to Avoid\]](#)[Continue Read More Is Paris Safe at Night? Safety Tips & Where to Avoid](#)[Continue Read More Best Time to Visit Paris \(& Which Month to Avoid\)](#)[Continue Read More Verizon in Paris: What to Know about Using your Phone in Europe](#)[Continue Read More Paris Alternatives: Best Places like Paris to Visit](#)[Continue](#) Hi, I'm Amber, author behind Get Lost in Wanderlust. I'm an avid reader, writer & traveler. I'm a Florida local, but my love for history & beautiful places has led me across Europe. I started Get Lost in Wanderlust to share information and resources about all the amazing places throughout Europe. [About Get Lost in Wanderlust](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Travel Resources](#) © 2024 Get Lost in Wanderlust - WordPress Theme by Kadence WP

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Paris: your favourite off the beaten path places - Rick Steves Travel Forum

Bonjour mes amis! i have travelled to Paris at least 10 times and will return in November. I would love to hear about your favourite off the beaten path places, whether it be a park, a square, a shopping street, an overlook, anything goes! I love outdoor food markets and vide greniers. My favourite outdoor food markets are Grenelle (starts at the foot of the Grenelle Motte Piquet metro and goes towards the Seine under the elevated Metro and President Wilson marche. Other great ones are Monge and Bastille. I do like the indoor market at St Germain and I am staying in the 6th on this next trip. I found a website <https://vide-greniers.org/75-Paris> that shows "garage sales" or community yard sales which includes some antique sales. I will use that as I love wandering through the less pricy stalls for a hidden gem....like Pastis glasses and a small water jug. I will be searching out more markets in the outer arrondissements of the city this trip. Please add your favourite places that are off the beaten tourist track. Merci. One of my favorites I think is all but hidden in plain sight is the Museum of Decorative Arts. Beautiful displays in chronological order. It's next to the Louvre and also has a great shop. <https://madparis.fr/en> Here is a random selection! In terms of markets, the Marche St Quentin in the 10th is a very good covered market. So is the Marche Beauvau (indoor) next to the Marché d'Aligre outdoor, but that one is better known. It is closer to the 6th.

Boulevard Raspail has a big organic market on Sunday mornings. Regarding parks, not too far from the 6th arrondissement...

Jardin Catherine Labouré is a beautiful little park right behind the Bon Marché. Very peaceful, great for a sandwich lunch (you can buy good sandwiches at the Bon Marché grocery store, "la Grande Épicerie").

A bit better known, the Arènes de Lutèce in the 5th are worth passing through.

And have you been to the Jardin Alpin section of the Jardin des Plantes? It is well hidden, and really well-tended. As for cute neighborhoods, shopping streets, etc, I think La Butte aux Cailles is

interesting, a neighborhood of low buildings right off Place d'Italie with many bars and restaurants along Rue de la Butte aux Cailles and adjacent streets.

Rue Daguerre is a nice shopping street too, which combines well with Montparnasse cemetery, Catacombs or Cartier Foundation visits. In terms of museums, again staying in/close to the 6th, if you've been to the Rodin museum, try the Bourdelle museum. Great museum for a great sculptor. The small Zadkine museum, free, next to Luxembourg garden, is also worthwhile if you pass by. And Cartier Foundation, Luxembourg museum and Maillol museum can have great exhibitions; check what's on! Last but not least, viewpoints. Western tip of ile de la cité (Vert-Galant) is a classic, but it's easy to overlook. Further away, Parc de Belleville has great views over a good chunk of Paris. And there's a hot air balloon you can ride in Parc André Citroën in the 15th, with good views of the Eiffel Tower! Take a look at the Marche Notre Dame in Versailles. There is a large covered market, and on Tuesday and Fridays there is an open air market too. Take the Ligne L train from La Defense to the Versailles Rive Droite station that is about a block away. Have you visited the Potage de Roi? Depending on when you are there in November there may still be some plants to see. My favorite market is St Germain-en-laye. It's on Sundays and I think Wednesdays. It's around the Square and kind of spills out on Sundays on the other roads and you can sit up at a café on the steps of a building and look down on it which is just great. It's near the archaeological museum, and a great park with a great view of Paris. It's a little town that's basically a suburb of Paris. It's on the RER easy to get to and the town itself is adorable too. There's some museums / it's just a lot of fun. I grew up going to the marché in St Germain-en-Laye, where we lived, twice a week with my mom? :)? It is wonderful, as Carol said. But St Germain-en-Laye is an actual town in and of itself, not a suburb. It, and the chateau there, figures quite a lot in French history. St Germain-en-Laye is very easy to get to on the RER. Also, situated on the edge of St Germain-en-Laye and a town called Marly-le-Roi, is the chateau and gardens of Alexandre Dumas where he lived and wrote The Three Musketeers. It's lovely to visit and tour. You'd have to take a bus or taxi there. <https://www.chateau-monte-cristo.com/main/en/> I also love visiting Malmaison, the home of Josephine and Napoleon, just outside Paris. Easy to get to by bus from La Défense.

Thanks so much for the great ideas. A favourite Marche is Popincourt in the 11th. A favourite street is Rue des Martyrs for which there is a book written about it. Random places which I have enjoyed?not exactly off the beaten path, but not usually visited by first-time Paris tourists: Covered Passages. Any of them. Arènes de Lutèce. Very old Roman amphitheater in the 5th arr. Cimetière du Père-Lachaise. Or any of the other historic cemeteries, including the Passy Cemetery! Grave of Marquis De Lafayette. at the Cimetière de Picpus. Musée Marmottan Monet. Not the first or even second museum that most visitors go to, but a wonderful collection of Monets and other impressionists. Passy Covered Market. Pont de Bir-Hakeim. And its wonderful view of the Eiffel Tower. Walk to the end of the All. des Cygnes island to see the mini Statue of Liberty. La Promenade Plantée. Wonderful garden walkway along an old elevated railway. The Vanves flea market is very enjoyable, i like it better than the huge St Ouen market. Vanves is not overwhelming and always has good stuff. <https://www.parisperfect.com/blog/2015/03/vanves-flea-market-paris/> I celebrate my birthday month of November in Europe for the month. Again it will be Paris. One of the best books I have is Markets of Paris by Long and Williams. Lists markets by arr, day of the week and especially those that are open on Sunday You haven't mentioned the passages? Fabulous. Venturing outside of Paris--I loved Chateau Chantilly, and I venture to all the small towns within 1 hour of the city. Concerts: lots of free ones. I love going in November as I catch the beginning of the Christmas season, decorations, markets, store windows and lights. Musée des Arts Forains museum in Bercy Village of carnival arts. Alfred Kahn Museum and Gardens. The gardens jam a half dozen different styles of garden: Japanese, English ramble, French formal etc into a small space. The museum has many of the photos and such that Alfred Kahn made around the turn of the 20th century to try to preserve a record of what he realized would soon be lost cultures as distant parts of the world modernized. The church created by the Jewish Bishop of Paris combining imagery from Judaism and Christianity. Notre Dame de l'Arche de Alliance. (Our Lady of the Ark of the Covenant) It is an interesting modern design located in the 15th not far from Gare Montparnasse. The Picpus Cemetery and the graves of those murdered in the terror and also Lafayette whose inlaws were murdered in the terror. (you have to be a descendent or relative of those condemned to

death during the revolution to be buried there). Lafayette's tomb is tended by a local ex-pat group and an American flag is always present. Musée des Arts Forains - their own website literally says "A museum off the beat track in Paris". It is a fascinating and beautiful museum dedicated to carnival and fairgrounds arts. Vintage games and rides -- some interactive. The venue is gorgeous. <https://arts-forains.com/en/visitors> I stumbled over this in a magazine years ago and tried several trips to visit, but "back then" you had to actually call on the phone to reserve and you could only get in if tagging along with an-already-reserved group. And they only spoke French (and I do not), so I didn't have much luck. But I tried every time I visited Paris and eventually, through email, was able to tag along with a group. It was so much fun and so interesting. Highly recommend. It is MUCH easier to book now. Following up on PharmerPhil's list, I recommend the Basilique de Saint-Denis (Metro line 13, Mo: Basilique de Saint-Denis). Not usually on anyone's must see list, the basilica contains the tombs of many of the kings & queens of France including Henri II & Catherine de' Medici, Louis XIV, & Louis XVI & Marie Antoinette. Fascinating history & walk-through of the burial sites. I concur with PharmerPhil's rec of La Promenade Plantée which my husband and I began from the Coulée Verte René-Dumont entrance. It is a most beautiful, lightly visited garden which is reminiscent of an English garden.

Montmartre Cemetery and Pere Lachaise Cemetery.

Marmottan Museum (many Monet paintings--many fewer visitors than Orsay, etc.)

Musée Nissim de Camondo--a beautiful mansion with lovely furnishings, again, sparsely frequented in the lovely Parc Monceau, a nice respite from crowds. Thanks so much for the great tips. I have not yet been to the Picpus cemetery or the Popincourt market. Nissim de Camondo, yes! Love it. Susan, I was just going to suggest Nissim de Camondo. It is my favorite museum in Paris -- small, antique furniture, artwork, history. And a walk through the adjoining park. We visited Picpus Cemetery based on a recommendation from someone on this forum. You might also be interested in these ?off the beaten path? military cemeteries we visited on a recent trip -

- Sureness American Cemetery

- Mémorial de L'Escadrille La Fayette Pere LaChaise was fascinating and definitely worth exploring.

You've probably already seen the Catacombs and Cluny Museum but if not, add them to your list! I think the St. Denis Basilica is the best often overlooked site in Paris, so agree with that rec.

In this list of Paris places with snapshots, you will see pictures of several of the things I and others recommended -- including Basilica St. Denis, Picpus cemetery, various churches, the Promenade Plantee, Albert Kahn Gardens, Musee Arts Forains etc.

<https://janettravels.wordpress.com/category/paris/>

It might help you narrow things down. If you decide to go to the Picpus Cemetery, be aware that the entrance is hard to find, and it is a private cemetery only open from 2-6pm, Monday through Saturday. We really enjoyed the Musee Curie, 1 Rue Pierre et Marie Curie, 75005. It's a small, well-curated museum about the lives and achievements of Marie and Pierre Curie. Very interesting! Free, but hours are limited. <https://musee.curie.fr/> Thanks for the wonderful suggestions and the details. The Marie Curie museum is on the list and I have added the Picpus cemetery. So many markets to visit. "...off the beaten tourist track." In Paris,,some of the favourites, the 13th Arrond, 14th Arrond. and the 20th, which I find culturally interesting and sociologically intriguing as I was exploring these areas, a lot of walking. I saw Lafayette's tomb some 20 years ago, a local showed it thinking I would be interested. Picpus Cemetery is at 35, rue de Picpus, Paris 75012. Big green door, across the street from a car dealer. horsewoofie, i agree, it's definitely one of my top favorites. But Lindy mentioned it first, i was just agreeing with her? :) There is also a lot of street art - unfortunately the quite wonderful murals in the Tuilleries Tunnel a year ago have been ruined by talentless tagger vandals who printed huge block letters across all the art -- but there are lot so professional murals in the 13th along line 6 of the metro -- the area between cheverolet and nationale metro stops contains about 25 of these amazing murals -- some are visible from the metro and others you have to wander around behind corners. There are also lots of murals deeper into Chinatown in the 13th. We've been to Paris three weeks ago and we went to some off-the-beaten path, in case you haven't been there in your 10x of travels. Just be careful, the Picpus cemetery has very limited opening days / hours. Be sure to find out before going. Yes, the Picpus cemetery is typically open from 2-5 or 6 PM only, and closed Sundays. It is very interesting and peaceful. If you

go, there is delicious ice cream and sorbets 5-10 min walk away at Raimo on Boulevard de Picpus. Not much else of note in the immediate vicinity. Thanks for the details. I will Check out some of the street art in the 13th. Thanks for asking the question. I love the suggestions. This topic has been automatically closed due to a period of inactivity. ©2024 Rick Steves' Europe, Inc. | CST# 2086743 | [Terms of Service](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

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20 Best Hidden Gems In Paris, France

International Luxury Lifestyle Magazine International Luxury Lifestyle Magazine The city of Paris is one of the top tourist destinations in the world, however there are plenty of lesser known sights to explore. From secret spots to magnificent museums, it's easy to get off the beaten track in Paris. Here are some of the best hidden gems in Paris, together with nearby restaurants that Parisian locals love. If you're looking for a unique and off-the-beaten-path experience in the City of Lights, then be sure to check out some of the city's hidden gems. From quirky art galleries to picturesque gardens, there's something for everyone to explore. So grab your map and get ready to discover some of Paris' best-kept secrets! Head away from the main tourist sights like the Champs Elysees, the Arc de Triomphe and Louvre Museum and you'll find some amazing secret Paris spots. These are a few of our favorite hidden gems in Paris to visit. The Palais Royal is a 17th century palace located in central Paris near the Louvre. It was the former home of Cardinal Richelieu, followed by King Louis XIV up to the French revolution. These are actually the only gardens in Paris that are classified as a "Remarkable Garden" by the French Ministry of Culture. They were created by Victor Louis in 1731 and are a real sanctuary on a Summer's day. On one side there's a courtyard filled with black and white columns, designed by Daniel Buren in 1986. Flanked by contemporary and vintage fashion boutiques and stylish cafes, it's a lovely place for a stroll and one of the best Paris hidden gems. If you're lucky you might come across a mysterious birdman, as we did. This gentleman who attracted all the birds to him. He let us in on his secret, give them bread soaked in milk and they will eat out of your hand. We certainly had fun once we'd got used to them landing on us! Address: Jardin du Palais Royal, 2 Galerie de Montpensier, 75001 Paris, France The Marais is one of the most unspoiled areas in Paris and Place des Vosges is a magnificent square, built by Henry IV in 1605. Although the square itself is quite well-known, if you venture into the side streets you'll come across some lesser-known museums and parks that are really worth a visit. Under the vaulted arcades of the Place des Vosges, there are some interesting art galleries and restaurants. L'Ambroisie and Restaurant Anne are two of the most well known Place des Vosges restaurants.

Le Marais has some amazing museums including the Carnavalet Museum, which is all about the history of Paris, and the Picasso Museum. The Hotel de Soubise is one of the most charming Paris hidden gems, housing the Museum of French History and the National Archives Museum. We'd also recommend the Musée Cognacq-Jay which has a superb collection of decorative items and art from the 18th century. Robert et Louise is an unpretentious little steak house at rue Vielle du Temple in the Marais. You can sit at the communal table and tuck into delicious potatoes, wood-fire cooked meat and a tasty creme brulee to finish. Address: Robert et Louise, 64 Rue Vieille du Temple, 75003 Paris, France If you're looking for untouristy and more hidden things to do in Paris, then head to the passages. The city has numerous covered malls dating from the 18th and 19th centuries, known as passages. These days they house interesting shops and restaurants. One of our favourites is Galerie Vivienne, built in 1823 with mosaic floors and some great shops including Jean-Paul Gaultier. Nearby you can find the Passage du Grand Cerf in rue Saint Denis near the Chatelet les Halles shopping area. It was built in 1825 and is almost 12 metres tall, with an impressive glass roof. The Passage des Panoramas is the oldest covered passage in Paris and can be found in the 2nd arrondissement at 11 Bd Montmartre. The Galerie Vero-Dodat dates from 1826 and was one of the first passages to get gas lighting, in 1830. This shopping arcade houses two Christian Louboutin stores and the 'By Terry' renowned make-up range. A very cool option for a drink before or after dinner is Andy Wahloo on rue des Gravilliers. There's a hidden Paris courtyard with Moroccan inspired decor. It comes as no surprise that it's owned by the Mazouz brothers who are behind Sketch and Momo in London. A great place for dinner is Le Grand Colbert, which film buffs will recognize from the film 'Something's Gotta Give' with Jack Nicholson and Diane Keaton. It's a classic Parisian bistro serving up simple dishes like the roast chicken that Diane Keaton had in the film. The building itself dates from 1825 and became a restaurant in 1900. It's listed as a historical monument and has an impressive dining room with a mosaic floor as well as sculpted pillars in a Pompeian style. Address: Le Grand Colbert, 2 Rue Vivienne, 75002 Paris, France One of our favourite secret things to do in Paris, this raised park was built on a disused viaduct and soars above the streets. The walk starts behind Bastille Opera House, passes above avenue Daumesnil to

the Jardin de Reuilly and finishes at Porte Dorée near the Bois de Vincennes. Also known as the Coulée Verte René-Dumont, quite a few Parisians don't know of its existence. It's a pleasant 4.7 kilometer scenic walk, which was completed in 1993. This Parisian walkway was the inspiration behind the Highline in New York. The park is planted with many rosebushes, trees and climbing plants. You get a great view over the surrounding buildings like this Postmodernist masterpiece. Although this looks like an Art Deco era building, it was completed in 1991. Designed by Spanish architect Manolo Nuñez-Yanowsky, it houses a police station. Below the viaduct, there's a good selection of design shops and some good brunch spots like Brasserie L'Arrosoir on Avenue Daumesnil. Address: 1 Coulée verte René-Dumont, 75012 Paris, France

Whilst Montmartre can be extremely busy, especially the area around Sacre Coeur Basilica, there are some lesser known streets that are well worth seeking out. Rue de l'Abreuvoir is one of our favorite Montmartre hidden gems, with its cobbled paving stones and pretty pink houses. At the top of this picturesque Paris street, there's La Maison Rose, one of the most Instagrammable places in Paris. The restaurant was painted pink by its original owners, Laure Germaine and her husband Ramon. Several famous artists such as Pablo Picasso and Maurice Utrillo frequented this charming place. Address: Rue de l'Abreuvoir, 75018 Paris, France

Did you know that the only vineyard in Paris can also be found in Montmartre? Located on rue des Saules, La Vigne du Clos Montmartre vineyard holds an annual harvest festival, La Fete des Vendanges. You can only visit Montmartre Vineyard as part of a guided wine tasting tour, however you can buy their wine all year round at the Musée de Montmartre and at La Maison des Epicuriens, 46 rue Lamarck. Address: 18 Rue des Saules, 75018 Paris, France

Also in Montmartre, don't miss the incredible sinking house which you may have spotted on Instagram! You can find this building just next to the steps in front of Sacre Coeur. It's an optical illusion, but if you rotate your photos it certainly looks like it is disappearing into the grass! Address: 1 Rue Lamarck, 75018 Paris, France

One of the best hidden gems in Paris is the Buttes-Chaumont Park. Located in the 19th arrondissement in the North East of Paris, this is the fifth largest park in Paris. It opened in 1867 and has several impressive features, including a 1.5 hectare lake around the Île de la Belvédère, a rocky island. At the top, you'll spot the Temple de la Sibylle, a miniature copy of the

Roman Temple of Vesta in Tivoli, Italy. There is also a grotto inspired by English landscape gardens, and an artificial waterfall. Above the lake is a 63-meter suspension bridge designed by Gustave Eiffel, famous for the Eiffel Tower. Address: Parc des Buttes-Chaumont, 75019 Paris, France

This Instagrammable Paris street has cobbled paving stones and many colorful houses. Situated in the 12th arrondissement of Paris, it is named after lawyer and politician Adolphe Crémieux. Originally construction workers' houses, the properties on rue Crémieux are now highly covetable. However, the residents do have to contend with this popular spot having an influx of visitors taking photographs! Address: Rue Crémieux, 75012 Paris France

20 meters underground in the 14th arrondissement, lies a macabre secret ? the bones of millions of Parisians. Their remains were transferred there in the late 18th century due to public health concerns. From 1809 onwards, the Paris Catacombs were open to the public by appointment. These days, you can purchase an individual or group ticket to visit. There are 243 steps and a 1.5 km circuit so allow an hour and wear comfortable shoes. Address: 1 Avenue du Colonel Henri Rol-Tanguy, 75014 Paris, France

The Bercy District is a vast leisure area in the 12th arrondissement, with a public park and The Pavillons of Bercy, aka the Museum of Fairground Arts. Bercy Village has many good restaurants and boutiques housed in former wine cellars. Visitors can enjoy a drink at Café Oz Rooftop or head to the UGC Ciné Cité multiplex cinema. Address: 28 Rue François Truffaut, 75012 Paris, France

Experience Paris like a local in Rue Mouffetard in the 5th arrondissement. Originally a Roman road, this pedestrianized street in the 5th arrondissement has no airs and graces. A true hidden gem, you'll find many neighborhood cafes and specialty food stores in this area of Paris. Fromagerie Androet is a great cheese store, with a beautiful Renaissance fresco above it. Address: Rue Mouffetard, 75005 Paris, France

A great place to go for a stroll, the Canal Saint-Martin is popular with local Parisians who come here at the weekends. Located in the 10th arrondissement, it has appeared in movies such as Amélie and Mission Impossible: Fallout. You can also take a canal boat ride here or simply enjoy a drink in one of the many bistros and bars lining the route. One of these is the Hôtel du Nord, built in 1885 and immortalized in the film by Marcel Carné in 1938. The starting point of this unique Paris gem is Place de la Bataille-de-Stalingrad in the 19th district of Paris. The

finishing point is at Quai de la Rapée in the 12th district. One of the most beautiful museums in Paris, this hidden gem in the 8th arrondissement was formerly the home of Édouard André and Nélie Jacquemart. Avid collectors, they filled their home with treasures from their travels to Italy and the Orient. The Sculpture Gallery has some fine examples of 15th and 16th century sculptures. There's also a charming tea room with a terrace overlooking the courtyard. Address: 158 Boulevard Haussmann, 75008 Paris, France

Created in 1884 when two islands were joined to the Ile de la Cité, the Square du Vert-Galant is a perfect place to enjoy a picnic on a sunny day in Paris. You get great views of the river Seine, the Hôtel de la Monnaie and the Musée du Louvre here. Next to the famous Pont Neuf bridge, it's quite a small park so get there early to nab the best spot! Address: 15 Place du Pont Neuf, 75001 Paris, France

Less well known than Notre Dame Cathedral, La Sainte-Chapelle is an extraordinary royal chapel on the Île de la Cité. Work on this beautiful building started in 1238 and was completed in 1248. Designed in the Gothic style to house King Louis IX's relics of the passions collection, it has some of the best examples of 13th century stained glass windows in the world. Address: 10 Boulevard du Palais, 75001 Paris, France

Opened in 1989 by Canadian Brian Spence, The Abbey Bookshop is known for its cozy, inviting atmosphere. There are books stacked up to the ceiling and comforting reading nooks. Hidden away in the Latin Quarter, it has over 40,000 English titles in stock. This is one of the few remaining independent English bookstores in Paris, along with Shakespeare and Company. Address: 29 Rue de la Parcheminerie, 75005 Paris, France

La Grande Mosquée de Paris was built in the 1920s in Moorish style. The mosque complex is open to visitors Saturday to Thursday from 9am to noon and 2pm to 6pm. It is closed on Fridays for prayer services. The entrance fee is 3 euros and modest dress is advised. The Islamic-style gardens with fountains are lovely to stroll through. If you have time, book for tea, lunch or dinner at the Grand Mosque Restaurant. With its original 1920s tiled interior, this beautiful place is usually quite busy. The Hammam at the Grand Mosque is also a true hidden gem in Paris. Address: 2bis Place du Puits de l'Ermite, 75005 Paris, France

The Rodin Museum is an unmissable Paris attraction. It's housed in the Hôtel Biron in the upmarket 7th arrondissement. The Musée Rodin contains the largest collection of works by the French sculptor Auguste Rodin, including iconic

sculptures like The Thinker and The Kiss. Rodin donated his entire collection to the French state in 1908. This unique Paris museum is set amidst beautiful formal French gardens. The gardens house many of Rodin's famous outdoor sculptures like The Gates of Hell and the Monument to Balzac.

Address: 77 Rue de Varenne, 75007 Paris, France

This pretty street in the 7th arrondissement of Paris runs parallel to the Seine River. It offers a spectacular view of the Eiffel Tower, especially from the southern end of the street near Allée Paul Deschanel. Standing on Rue de l'Université near the intersection with Avenue de Suffren, you can see the Eiffel Tower perfectly framed at the eastern end of the street. Early morning and late afternoon are especially good times for photography from this vantage point, as the lighting illuminates the Eiffel Tower. If you're looking for a more off-the-beaten-path experience in Paris, be sure to check out some of these secret places. They're all great inclusions for your Paris itinerary. And after all that sightseeing, what about a bit of retail therapy in the 5 hottest Paris shopping districts? Our other France articles can help you plan your trip and make the most of your time in this beautiful country. We've rounded up the most famous French landmarks that you shouldn't miss. And if you're a fan of getting off the beaten path, you might want to check out our articles on hidden gems in Ibiza, London, Rome and Venice. You might also enjoy: Check out some more international hidden gems below. Like these hidden gems in Paris? Pin for later or share with friends. Looking for more travel hacks and tips? From hidden gems to unique experiences, we've got you covered. Join us on Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest and Twitter. Sharing is caring!

Suze and Paul are the founders of LuxuryColumnist, one of the leading luxury online magazines worldwide. Pingback: 5 hottest Paris shopping districts - Luxury Columnist

How cool. Paris is just full of surprises. You're right, for a smallish city, it certainly does have a lot of cool surprises That's really kind V, and I'm really glad that you managed to get into Paris after all ? I've had a few scary passport moments myself! I hope your niece gets to check out some of the places, we really had fun going off the beaten track! I went to Paris when I was a teenager on a class trip and I have always wanted to go back on my own and just explore. I am now dying to get over to The Marais! Thanks for sharing these hidden gems ? I am saving this for when I do get back to Paris! The Marais is my favourite part of Paris, many of the

other parts were standardised by Baron Haussman and they look lovely but the Marais is really quirky. Hope you get to go back soon! Thanks Laura, my hubbie did a great job capturing the birds ? they were moving around so much! I'll be in Paris in April, looking forward to seeing some of these favorite haunts again! Have fun Noel, and if you're ever in London, do let me know! Well I thought I had explored Paris having been a few times, clearly not this post has reinvigorated the want to visit. Le Marais District looks beautiful Lucy x Le Marais is so lovely, there's even more new parks and museums ? I really want to get to the Picasso Museum again L'Arrosier was great and the walk along the viaduct is great, so far away from any beeping horns! I loved my visit to Chicago by the way though was a good few years ago Hope you get to go there soon Kay, it's amazing how much you can cram in as it's such a compact city Place des Vosges is brilliant in Summertime, but it's very atmospheric in Winter wandering around under the arches! Hope you do get up there Lauren, must be quite quick on the TGV? Looking forward to reading about your trip I'm taking note of this! Thanks for sharing ? STYLE VANITY Thanks Alyssa, hope you get to visit Paris at some point The Palais Royal Gardens look gorgeous, great list! Thanks Becky, the gardens are indeed lovely and there's some really nice little cafes around the edges Thanks Camille, hope you have a fantastic time in Paris! A most excellent write-up of charming finds. I love the hidden passages; you're right, it's as though you're in on a secret. Now I have an entire list for our next visit. Terrific post! Thanks Betsy, that's very kind. Hope you have an amazing trip to Paris Thanks Emily, Pershing Hall is great and the cocktails are to die for Glad you liked it and hope you have fun on your next trip Ruby Thank you, I hope that you get to visit again soon! Spring is such a great time to visit I'm really glad you liked it Maria These are indeed hidden gems, I would love to see these places next time ? love the visuals Suze. Thanks Noel, Paris is so photogenic! I love the street with gold leaf carpet stretching. That's so romantic. Pingback: 15 Unmissable Hidden Gems In Paris, France ? TSBA

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5 Days in Paris - Hidden Gems, Must Sees & Tips - Rick Steves Travel Forum

I'm in the very early stages of planning our (hopefully...) Summer 2022 trip. We will have 5 full days in Paris at the end of our trip. Here's what I've sketched out so far. These days will be interchangeable as I don't have set travel dates yet. I'm trying to group things geographically and logically (is there anything that stands out to you as not working?). This will be at the end of a 2.5 week trip, so we won't need to worry about jet lag. I'll be traveling with my husband and two middle school children (they're good travelers). I know there are a million amazing art museums in Paris, but I think three is a good amount for our family. We won't be doing Versailles (I didn't just forget it). A couple of these days seem pretty full and one seems light - not sure if there are things that would make sense to switch around. We want to allow time for exploring neighborhoods, enjoying cafes, etc. My daughter will also want to shop places that a middle schooler can afford ;) Thoughts on Belleville, Canal St. Martin (I liked the idea of a couple of off the beaten path neighborhoods but?) Anything I'm leaving out? Any hidden gems near any of these that I should add in? Day 0 - Arrive from Normandy, check in and explore neighborhood (Hopefully St. Germain Des Pres)

Day 1 - Musee d'Orsay, Shop Rue Cler for picnic items, picnic on Champ Mars, Eiffel Tower (Trocadero for pics)

Day 2 - Notre Dame, Ste. Chapelle, Pantheon, Latin Quarter, Luxembourg Gardens, Catacombs (evening at Montparnasse Tower for view)

Day 3 - Belleville, lunch at Galleries Lafayette, Pompidou Center, Marais, evening cruise of Seine

Day 4 - Arc de Triomphe, Champs Elysees, Tuileries Gardens, Louvre

Day 5 - Pucés Flea Market, Sacre Couer, Montmartre, Canal St. Martin I like it. I started to say that Day 2 looked too full, but then I remembered that Notre Dame may not be open to the public yet. I like the walks and parks you've included. What kinds of things are your kids interested in? There are lots of small specialty museums that you might want to have tucked in your back pocket for rainy days. Hi Jane - Yes. Day 2 was the day that I was worried about being too full. Those things seem

to be close together though, so it made sense to lump them. Not sure if it's too much. Hmm, my kids are pretty flexible - they'll like just experiencing the city. My daughter will like exploring cute streets and shops. They like to ride subways and be in groups. It's hard to predict what will be a favorite- sometimes it's something they've studied in school. My son loves history - especially WWII and Roman history (we'll have already been to Normandy and Amsterdam before we get to Paris). I'll have them read up and watch movies set in Paris before the trip. Whoa. I think you're going to be hard pressed to accomplish all this and have time to explore neighborhoods, shop, and chill at a few cafes. You're moving in a group of four, and that slows you down. Take into account also that by the summer of 2022, lots of tourists will be back, and you really should factor in the crowds and waiting times at museums and churches when mapping out your days. Even on the Metro, getting from place to place takes time. Unless you're planning to zoom through each site, I doubt this itinerary would be truly satisfying. Can you sort out everyone's priorities? If you peel off in twos to do shopping vs museums vs churches, it might be more doable. The Pompidou and Louvre museums can be overwhelming. Alternatives might be the Rodin Museum (lots of outdoor exhibits), the Orangerie the Picasso and the Cluny museums. The Marmottan Museum has the world's largest collection of Monet paintings. I would consider skipping the Pantheon. A museum pass would allow you to make shorter visits to several locations. The Shakespeare and Company bookstore is fun. - day 2? Our favorite hotel in Paris, Le Citizen, is next to the Canal St. Martin - we last stayed there in 2019. We did little more in Belleville than walk through it, but it is a nice break from the "must see" areas of Paris. You might consider strolling to Pere Lachaise cemetery - it's a fascinating piece of Parisian history. Seconding Bob, the Cluny was a nice size and a fantastic Medieval collection. The brickwork at the exterior back of the building, dating back to Roman times, was a plus. While you're there in the Latin Quarter, the Pantheon can be skipped, but the Luxembourg Gardens make for a really nice stroll, and you can glimpse the Pantheon from there. Or just check out your state capitol building :) You have a few things on your list that are scheduled to be closed for remodeling: Centre Pompidou, Tour Montparnasse, and of course Notre Dame won't be open.

The Champ de Mars may be undergoing remodeling, too. You'll see if a picnic is possible.

I'd skip the Pantheon, too. I agree with Bob that good arguments can be made to go to the smaller gems instead of the large ones: the Rodin Museum, the Orangerie, and the Cluny. I'll throw in there the Jacquemart-André Museum, which is close to the Galeries Lafayette and Printemps department stores. It has a tea room in the former ball room, with a beautiful ceiling painted by Giovanni Domenico Tiepolo,. This is a favorite lunch spot or dessert stop for me. With middle schoolers, I'd definitely take a look at the Arts and Meters museum: France's national museum of scientific and industrial instruments. It's a favorite of mine and my now-grown offspring. Actually, I find it a real mind blower! <https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/musee-des-arts-et-metiers> And the Basilica of St. Denis will more than make up for the Pantheon, much more worthwhile. So if everything that is scheduled to be closed for remodeling is indeed under construction, that opens up time for other interesting things. The Paris museum pass for two or three days makes entries easy and no pressure to spend a lot of time at each place. Group these places for the time of your pass. For example-identify what you want to see each art museum then leave. Even the Orsay can eat up a half day, let alone the Louvre. We enjoyed the Rodin gardens and sculptures. The Orangerie with Monet's big lily pond paintings has a wonderful small collection of Impressionist paintings in the basement. It could be a replacement for the Orsay. Use the RS Paris or France book to see all the places covered by the pass. Check out the current safety and offerings at the Puce Flea Market. It seemed a little sketchy 7 years ago. Also the items for sale tend towards cheap house hold/clothing items. Just saying! Sunset on the steps of Sacre Coeur is an event. Have a drink, small picnic and grab a gelato on the way home. Watch all the performances and people. Definitely leave some free time for enjoying the parks. Bon voyage! You have obviously given this some thought and know where your primary interests are. Be prepared to spend some time with the bouquinistes on day two also. You might consider doing day four in the reverse order, tackling the Louvre when your feet are fresh. You can rejuvenate at a cafe along the Champs Elysees on the way to the Arc de Triomphe with insanely expensive drinks and snacks but great people watching. Give your priorities the morning, Paris wears you out and those cafe chairs have glue on them that make it difficult to move

as the day wears on. In Oct, RS has a new FR guidebook coming out which features good self-guided walking tours that will take you past the places you want to see.

I've been to Canal St. Martin and would leave that at the bottom of your list. Bets, the Arts et Metiers was what I was thinking of when I asked what the kids were interested in. We visited it when we were in Paris in 2019, and they finally ran us out so they could close! It was great. And I agree with Bob the the Cluny, Rodin, and Marmottan are all worth visiting, and not as exhausting as the Louvre. You might explore walking tour possibilities, though it will probably be difficult to find reliable information before things open up. A walking tour with a guide would be a good way to see nooks and crannies in a neighborhood you're interested in. Walking tours are usually reasonably priced unless you go with a very high-end company like Context. I've been trying to find time for Paris for several years. It hasn't happened yet, but I've been gathering information from this forum on sights related to World War II. I can't vouch for these personally, but they are on my list: Paris Walks has a couple of WWII-themed walking tours:

- ? Paris During the Occupation and Liberation

- ? The Resistance and the Occupation, Left Bank Circuit

I don't know how often those walks are offered. The company usually charges 20 euros per person (less for children and students), but I don't know how those two specific walks are priced. The Musée de la Libération de Paris/Musée du General Leclerc/Musée Jean Moulin is on Place Denfert-Rochereau. (Jean Moulin was a huge Resistance hero.) Part of the exhibit labels and part of the videos are English-accessible, but some are only in French. Sign up to visit the underground bunkers; capacity is limited.

<https://www.museeliberation-leclerc-moulin.paris.fr/en/visit-museum/visit-colonel-rol-tanguys-command-post> Les Invalides has considerable Resistance/liberation content in the L'historial Charles de Gaulle exhibition. I know it would be hard to substitute a different sight for the Louvre, but the latter is humongous, crowded and rather expensive if you just plan a short visit (not that you said that). At the very least, I urge you to spend time on the museum's website and a guidebook or two to figure out what section(s) of the museum you most want to see and how you will navigate your way there.

It is easy in places like the Louvre to waste considerable time wandering around. The Marche aux Puces at Sant-Ouen is open to the public on weekend mornings only, I believe. I don't know whether there's a reason to prefer Saturday or Sunday. One of the forum posters has warned about shoddy merchandise on the edges of the market, pickpockets, etc. It might not be the best choice for a family (I haven't been there). The Marche aux Puces at Vanves, also weekend mornings only, is reportedly smaller and less crazy though still crowded. Just a reminder that the Louvre and the Musee d'Orsay are normally closed on Mondays and Tuesdays, or vice versa. Who knows what it'll be like post Covid And remember you have to have a Louvre Reservation even with a pass. There is no time here for 'hidden gems' -- you are barely scratching the surface of standard tourist spots and there is no time to chill or explore 'neighborhoods' Your itinerary looks pretty good to me, although even if they're good travelers, it's hard to manage a lot of mileage on short pre-teen legs, especially at the end of a 2.5 week trip. Like others, I'll also say that the interior of the Pantheon is rather underwhelming. On Day 1, while you're nearby on Rue Cler, your son may be interested in Les Invalides: The Army Museum and Napoleon's Tomb. On Day 2, if you don't hit the Catacombs first thing in the morning, you will have a ridiculously long wait, and if you're trying to tuck it in at the end of the day, it's likely you won't even get in. When I went a couple years ago, it was one of the few attractions without a skip-the-line pass, and the line can be daunting. You do not want to wait along a mostly unshaded traffic circle in the middle of summer. I know it's nice to find shopping areas that are affordable, especially on an allowance, but while in Paris, it may also be nice to gawk at some windows of the rich and famous on Ile St-Louis or near the Vendome. And now that the Louvre collection is online, it may be worth considering skipping the crowds and just viewing specific masterpieces at home. This is somewhat ambitious and especially day 5. The Louvre is easily an all day event.

Some of these can be checked off pretty quickly depending upon your interests. For example, the Arc has a very short access time and an inside tour offers some interesting access but the view from the top and of the Champs Elysees is the highlight unless you want to find your family name on the walls. It's right next to a subway station so can be checked off quickly.

The Eiffel Tower is much the same...and the time to access depends upon the lines. From there the walk to Notre Dame is literal minutes as are several other interesting highlights.

Point being, you can probably still do a bit more tweaking. The key to getting around and doing a lot in a short time is to use the subways. Try to locate your accommodations near subway access so that you don't lose time getting to and from your neighborhood.

Paris grows on you. You can never spend too much time there. You can spend too little. Make sure you have time to just down and enjoy things. That's a big part of a visit. I'm not sure if this is a hidden gem or not, but I wrote it down after an episode of Amazing Race <http://arts-forains.com/en> it describes itself as a Fairgrounds Museum with a unique collection of objects from the performing arts of the 19th and 20th centuries. It is a timeless getaway into the themes of curiosity cabinets, carnivals, incredible gardens and Belle Epoque funfairs. Yes, agree it is a unique gem, Allan. Musée des arts forains (too bad about the new-build bleak neighborhood). Not unique gems, but when we went we added a chocolate theme to the trip. Before going over I found a list of the supposed best chocolate shops in Paris. Believe there were 10 or 11. Then when we were in that part of the city, we stopped in for a treat. It started with 1 chocolate per shop, but by the end we were at 3 per shop. The only one on the list we didn't get to was Maison Chaudun, the one closest to our hotel. It was closed all three times we stopped by. Already mentioned is Pere Lachaise Cemetery. You can also walk to see the Statue of Liberty at the far end of Swan Island. There are a couple sculptures: Walking through walls sculpture and Dalida (Italian singer), but neither is a must see. We also enjoyed Napoleon's tomb and the army museum. A chocolate crawl is great. Be aware that good French chocolate is dark chocolate, which many kids and some adults find less tasty, though trying a few can change minds. Some of the chocolatiers also have wonderful macarons in many flavors, most are wonderful for all ages and tastes. It is not at all uncommon to buy chocolates and macarons by the piece. Paris Walks has a chocolate walk, usually only once a month, that is wonderful. They also have a food market tour that is excellent. Both of course include lots of tastings. They have lots of other tours that focus on neighborhoods with lots of history and interesting stories. Another great tour possibility is with Fat Tire Bikes, who have bike tours and

Segways (check the age restriction, though I think middle school would be okay). The guides are very good. With kids, I would concentrate on experiences rather than sights. As others have said, avoid the big museums, they are overwhelming and people of all ages can get bored and/or tuckered out before seeing all the highlights. Next to Sainte-Chapelle is the Palais de Justice (a functioning law court) that is usually open to the public and worth having a gander at. Once you're through security for the chapel visit, you should be able to access it without going through security again. And a few meters down from there (toward the river) is the Conciergerie, which was a Gothic palace and became a prison, its most famous "resident" was Marie-Antoinette. The real joy of a visit to Paris is walking and discovering: ancient churches, quaint buildings, odd shops, zigzagging streets, charming postage-stamp sized parks. On weekends much of the Marais quarter is closed off to vehicles and the streets are lined with trendy boutiques, quirky shops, small parks filled with sunbathers, picnickers and little kids, and lots of outdoor cafes. Just throwing this out there. I took my two oldest granddaughters to Paris a couple of summers ago. Granted they were both just graduating from high school so older than your kiddos, but they really, really enjoyed a ghost tour we took one evening. There are several offered in a google search and truthfully, I don't remember which one we took. Of course it was an evening tour and our guide told us some wonderful stories....and there was a mild scare or two or ten along the way. I enjoyed it, too! I took my twins when they were 12 so I thought I'd pass along what we did and what they liked.

Louvre - they liked staying long enough to be able to say they saw the Mona Lisa. Maybe an hour tops was all we spent there.

Pompidou - they didn't like at all

Army Museum - my daughter was real reluctant to go here because she didn't like any discussion about war but she ended up fascinated with the artistry associated with the medieval weaponry. My son enjoyed the entire museum.

Catacombs - the workers went on strike the day my son and husband were going to go so they spent their time at a cafe watching the strike itself (my son found it interesting)

Lafayette Galleries - I'm not a shopper but both my daughter and I enjoyed this place

The science museum - we seek out science museums in most cities - this one was fun and not too crowded

Tuileries - my daughter in particular liked these gardens

Eiffel Tower - they liked it

Our daily visit to the patisserie was loved by all

Picnicking - finding food in small neighborhood shops and eating on a park bench was great

Paris sewer tour - I thought this would be more interesting. I gave it a B- The kids did too. But it is different.

Wandering the city - the kids really liked the city

World Cup soccer was going on - so fun!

The Airbnb we stayed in gets rated an F by all family members. I may never live it down. ?

No matter what, you will have some good memories. For middle schooler shopping I recommend Monoprix, a budget-friendly department and grocery store chain with multiple locations all over the city. I would compare it to Target - cute, affordable fashion, accessories, paper goods and room decor - only French. We discovered it on our first family trip to Paris when our daughter was 9. Five trips to Paris and 17 years later, we always include a Monoprix shopping trip in our itinerary. If your kids are interested in arts and crafts, we also enjoy shopping for pens, paper, washi tapes and other unusual supplies in the arts and craft department of Bazar de l'Hotel de Ville or BHV. If I've hit on your shopping interests, let me know and I might be able to make more recommendations. Thanks everyone. Some great suggestions here. Looks like I can definitely skip the Pantheon and Canal St Martin. The Pompidou isn't supposed to start renovations until 2023, so hopefully that will work out as I haven't made it there on other trips. I love the idea of the Paris Walking tour and a ghost tour one evening. Les Invalides might be a good option for us. I love the Orsay, but maybe swapping that with the Orangerie would be an option, since that's one I haven't been to before. JenS - Monoprix sounds perfect for my daughter. Any more tips like those would be wonderful. Thank you! When we went with our kids 2 years ago they were 5th grade and 8th grade. Their favorite activity was a walking food tour. I can't remember the company, but we found it on line and it was great. You

might look into whether there are Louvre tours for children. Unless yours have received good art education, that experience is likely to be a rather boring blur. As a (retired) teacher, I have witnessed how a good guide can teach children how to view works of art, lessons that can carry over to future museum visits. Also, I think there are travel guides with titles like "Paris with Kids." Might be worth investigating. Paris has been overrun by tourists for so long that anything worth looking at was discovered long ago. I prefer to think of novel or unexpected "gems". One is the sewer museum, demonstrating ingenious 19th-century engineering. Its atmosphere is, uh, distinctive and not at all offensive. Another is the Hunting and Nature Museum, filled with portraits of rich and powerful citizens with their horses and dogs and bloody trophies, along with the essential firepower. It's a different window on upper-class life. <https://www.chassenature.org/informations-pratiques/> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paris_sewers The Cluny is glorious if you like medieval, but it's scheduled to be closed for renovations for quite a while. For everything, even next year, check & doublecheck; many destination places are making similar lemonade out of the pandemic lemons. But ohh, to travel! Plan on. I think you have a great plan in place! I'll only add a comment about the Louvre, since there were several comments addressing that. It is overwhelmingly enormous, but we followed Rick Steves audio guide tour twice (once with our elementary and middle school kids) and found it to be manageable. They were definitely more impressed with the Louvre than the Orsay, although the Orsay is my fav art museum. And how can you go to Paris and skip the Louvre?! I think we were there for 3 hrs tops, including security. At least seven months prior to taking our 16 year old nephew to Paris in 2015, my husband gave him a slim guide book (and some links to various websites), along with a request to follow up a month or two later to discuss his thoughts. Above all else, getting our nephew's input (he specifically requested smaller, less crowded sights & museums) was instrumental in making our trip a memorable and enjoyable experience. In the end, his favorite museums were the Musée de Cluny (due to reopen in early 2022) and the Musée Carnavalet (due to reopen very soon). Also known as "the History of Paris Museum", my nephew absolutely loved the Carnavalet. At one point, we split up for a short while and when we regrouped, he excitedly told me that he saw THE actual painting that was in his history book (can't remember which one) ... he

was blown away to see the original painting IN PERSON, that was reproduced in his history book at school. There were loads of interesting objects & exhibits, and because the museum is housed in former private mansion in the Marais, just walking through various rooms (and the beautiful gardens) was memorable. Moreover, all of the exhibits are translated into English, and according to the museum website, "10% of the works displayed have been installed at a child's height". For what it's worth, on each of my four visits, I've encountered small groups of French school children who were as enthusiastic as my nephew. Here's a link to the museum website: <https://www.carnavalet.paris.fr/musee-carnavalet> Afterwards, you can visit the nearby Place des Vosges - one of my favorite small parks in Paris (technically, it's the oldest planned square in Paris, built by Henri IV in 1612). On the food front, the Marais district is home to some of the best falafel in the world. These inexpensive and delicious Middle-Eastern sandwiches are composed of deep-fried round chickpea fritters, grated or chopped vegetables like cabbage, carrots and/or cucumbers, and sesame tahini and/or hummus. Several competing restaurants (with take-away options) are located along the Rue des Rosiers. As one who eats very little meat, I welcome the occasional falafel as a break from the typically rich cuisine normally found in Paris, and eating your take-away sandwich in the park makes for a lovely picnic. One other note regarding the Marais: as it was the old Jewish quarter, I think it's important to pay attention to, and pause momentarily at one of the moving plaques placed outside schools, which pay sad tribute to the more than 6,000 Parisian children sent to death camps during WWII - the vast majority of whom died. One such plaque is posted near the entrance to the school located on Rue des Hospitalières-Saint-Gervais, a pedestrian street just off of Rue des Rosiers. Here a link to a website with more info about these plaques: <http://www.alamemoireparis.com/overview.html> Also, do keep in mind that Paris gets brutally hot & humid in the summer. We were there with our nephew in June, and didn't cover nearly as much ground compared to when my husband and I normally visit in early spring. If you aren't used to that sort of weather, please understand that it can be exhausting - especially for kids. Obviously, be sure to drink plenty of water, but also beat the heat by trying the various ice cream shops - glaces in French - to find your favorite flavor. One last note: don't underestimate the sheer amount of walking

one does in Paris; even when using the Metro, you still clock a fair number of miles & steps. That, combined with heat & humidity, can cause some serious chaffing. Thank goodness for an anti-chaffing skin protectant product called "Glide" ... it literally saved our vacation. Here's a link for it at REI: <https://www.rei.com/product/745879/bodyglide-anti-chafe-formula-skin-protectant-15-oz>

Hope this helps. And I forgot to add my nephew's other favorite: the Rodin Museum - just the outdoor sculpture garden portion. Prior to seeing the famous Burghers of Calais, it helps to know the story being portrayed. You can read about it here:

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-art-history/late-europe-and-americas/modernity-ap/a/rodin-the-burghers-of-calais> This topic has been automatically closed due to a period of inactivity.

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Hidden gems you need to see in Paris | A Parisienne Life

Paris is a beautiful city with endless possibilities of things to see and do. Obviously you will want to see the Eiffel Tower and a few museums, wander through the Luxembourg gardens and the Tuileries but Paris has numerous delights to be found off the beaten path. If you are looking for a few things to do in order to experience Paris like a local, read on! A colorful piece of paradise in Paris, Rue Cremieux Paris is found in the 12th Arrondissement and is a place of pastel coloured houses and shutters. It is a quirky little street in the center of the city. Wandering along this street gives you the impression that you have ventured outside of Paris, somewhere like a small provincial town or a French seaside resort. It's a short, picturesque stroll, and I highly recommend it if you're in the area. Situated in the Bois de Boulogne in Paris' chic 16th arrondissement, Parc de Bagatelle is not to be missed. Few Parisian parks are as romantic as this. Through the teal and gold gates at the entry you will find a park full of wonder; waterfalls, hidden caves, grottos, little bridges and ponds, a rose garden, Chinese pagoda as well as a circular maze that runs up a hill. This is a perfect place for families with children as there is endless exploration and a new surprise around every corner. Created as the result of a wager in 1775 between Marie-Antoinette and her brother in law, the park was built in a mere 64 days. The Chateau and the Trion itself are beautiful, although unfortunately they are currently under renovation, but will be stunning when complete. This hidden gem is a perfect place to bring a picnic and enjoy a quiet day away from the crowds while still enjoying the beauty of Paris. During the 1800s and 1900s, covered passageways started to appear all over Paris. Long, tall, and imposing, these new walkways were often ornately decorated and featured hotels, restaurants, and boutique shops. These were the precursor to modern day shopping malls and today the passages make for a great walking spot during a rainy day in Paris. Inside Passage de Panoramas you can expect to find wrought-iron signs, tiled floor, and a beautiful stained glass ceiling. It is full of bars, restaurants, postcard shops and quirky boutiques. You will always find something unique here! Situated in the Marais, this lesser known museum, dedicated to the history of Paris itself, needs to be on your list. Set in two 16th and 17th century mansions, it

recreates the living spaces of 15- 19th century Parisian houses. Also featured are artifacts dating back from Roman time; everyday items related to the construction of Paris and a very interesting collection of memorabilia of the French Revolution. You won't want to miss the amazing Boutique Fouquet, an Art Nouveau shop, rebuilt inside the museum itself. Make sure you stop at the new café in the gardens for a bite after your tour. The garden is quiet and serene and makes a perfect break! Since admission is FREE (yes! you heard me right) make sure to book your ticket in advance on the website. Paris is undoubtedly famous for its pastries, and I love a fresh Pain au chocolat, but I have discovered another delicious treat that you must try! It will blow your mind. This little chocolate shop has been hiding his version of the Kougin Amman, which he calls Kouginettes. I can only describe them as a small rolled buttery croissant with your choice of filling, and topped with a gooey caramelized sugary topping. It is so good that they are mini, as you will want to eat more than one. I had the raspberry and caramel ones. I am dreaming of my next trip back! Treat yourself the next time you are in Paris! You won't be disappointed. If you are looking for more hidden gems, check out my Paris Guide [here](#). Subscribe to get your monthly dose of Paris style and travel tips delivered straight to your inbox! [Blog](#) [All Articles](#)[Fashion](#)[Beauty](#)[Lifestyle](#)[Travel](#) [Store](#) [Paris Essential Guide](#)

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6 Hidden Gems Paris | Blogger tips for your next trip to Paris

Paris, mon amour! How about a short trip to the city of love? Croissants and Café au lait for breakfast are the perfect start to a weekend full of culinary delights and savoir vivre. Stroll through the hustle and bustle of Montmartre, enjoy some culture (whether Louvre, Opera or Eiffel Tower) and admire the chic boutiques on the Champs-Élysées. In our travel guide you will find great things to do in Paris. Those who have already been to Paris a couple of times might have figured out that the coffee is, for the most part, pretty bad. BUT there are some places where you can find a fantastically delicious coffee. La Caféothèque offers plenty of different coffee flavors and roast the beans behind the bar. How about a flat white with matcha cake on the side? The atmosphere is also very nice as the interior is super cozy, and you feel like you're in a living room. Where: Pont Marie (closest Metro) La Caféothèque / © Instagram: mishviews Je t'aime, Jeg elsker dig, Ich liebe dich, Volim te? At the 'I love you wall' in Paris, you can find these magical words written in 311 languages. The whole wall covers 40 m² and is a work of art by Frédéric Baron and Claire Kito. It is definitely a must see for all the couples out there. A kissing photo in Paris in front of the I love you wall. What a cliché and how lovely! #couplegoals I love you Wall / © Instagram: anne.groza_ An oasis situated in the heart of the city. Here you will find a library, shops, a bakery, nice cafes and the biggest youth hostel in Paris. It's the perfect place to just stroll around for a bit. The building was also created with sustainability in mind: the facade is made entirely from wood and solar panels on the roof provide the building with electricity. Just go there and explore the covered garden! Halle Pajol / © Instagram: maleba01 No city trip is complete without an amazing view point. The Le Perchoir rooftop terrace has refreshing drinks, tasty snacks and a stunning 360-degree view. You might have to face a little queue to go up to the bar, but it is definitely worth it. Watching the sunset over Sacre-Coeur with a glass of wine and good music vibes? Sounds amazing, right? Le Perchoir Rooftop / © Instagram: clarasintre If you spend a couple of days in Paris and you can't stand a buttery croissant or crusty baguette for breakfast anymore, a great alternative might be porridge. You can choose between different toppings like banana, apple, nuts, sesame seeds, salted caramel,

nut butter and many others. They also offer a lunch menu with savory choices. The Bol Porridge Bar is located in the 10th arrondissement on the Rue du Faubourg Poissonnière. Bol Porridge Bar / © Instagram: thefrenchmunchie Paris has 82 food markets scattered all across the city. One of the must see's is "Marché d'Aligre," also called "Marché Beauvau," which is divided into two parts. Outside, stalls are set up all over the square and along rue d'Aligre. Here you can buy fruit, veggies and lots of second hand items for affordable prices. In the covered market, you will find gourmet stores with more pricey delicacies. Marché d'Aligre is located between Place de la Bastille and the Place de la Nation. Marché d'Aligre / © Instagram: yuriqucl Vacation rentals in Paris

The best hidden gem in every Paris arrondissement - The Earful Tower

The Earful Tower Paris and France by Oliver Gee So you've seen all the main Paris sights, and maybe even a few of the offbeat ones. But let's go deeper. Here are 20 truly hidden gems, one from every arrondissement, most of which we discovered during our Paris Countdown season. Listen below or wherever you get your podcasts. Scroll down for a look at some of the show's talking points.

At the western edge of the Square du Vert-Galant pass through a willow tree's branches to enjoy a private, unrivalled and unspoiled view of the Seine. Best to visit in the early morning, forget about having it to yourself at lunchtime or in the evenings. Address: 15 Pl. du Pont Neuf, 75001

The Passage du Grand Cerf. Each of the covered passages in the second arrondissement has its own personality, and this one offers something for the curiosity collector. It's a stunning passage too. Look at the light shining through that high glass ceiling. Address: 145 Rue Saint-Denis, 75002

The Musée des Archives Nationales. We absolutely love this museum here at the Earful Tower (so much so, it's a part of our Marais walking tour ? books yours here). Be sure to venture upstairs, where you'll find Napoleon's handwritten will and a letter from Marie Antoinette. The rooms downstairs are sublime. Address: 60 Rue des Francs Bourgeois, 75003

The Jardin des Rosiers Joseph Migneret not only features a big chunk of the Philippe Auguste Wall, but it's a perfectly peaceful place to escape the city's hustle and bustle. A significant portion of this quiet corner has been handed over to the cultivation of flowers, herbs and fruits. Long time podcast listeners will, no doubt, remember the time a prolific Paris writer told me to meet him under the fig tree in this park. Address: 10 Rue des Rosiers, 75004

The Grand Mosque of Paris. A great spot for a cup of mint tea, which we had chilled. Apparently it's a top spot for a massage too, but remember: they only treat women. The old movie Don't Look Now? We're Being Shot At filmed a scene at the spa here, watch it here. Address: 2bis Pl. du Puits de l'Ermite, 75005

Officine Universelle Buly. This perfumerie has only been here a handful of years, but the brand dates back centuries. The interior is nothing short of magical and a feast for all the senses. Address: 6 Rue Bonaparte, 75006

Deyrolle.

If you've never visited Deyrolle taxidermy shop, then you have been missing out. Its delightful collection includes stuffed animals and pinned butterflies. Part museum and part shop, it might be recognisable to movie-lovers, it features in the movie *Midnight in Paris*. Address: 46 Rue du Bac, 75007 Église Saint-Philippe-du-Roule. Paris is packed full of churches. The competition for the most beautiful is fierce. As a result, this church is not even remotely famous. In fact, I bet most Parisians have never even heard of it. But, this unknown gem boasts an interior so impressive that it would be the main attraction of almost any other town in the world. Address: 9 Rue de Courcelles, 75008 Cité Malesherbes. If you time it right you can sneak into this impressive gated community, which features some of the most impressive buildings in the area. The painted facade halfway down the street (pictured below), is simply breathtaking. Note: This is indeed a private road. Don't tell anyone I sent you! Address: Cité Malesherbes, 75009 NOTE: This museum has now closed down. We will replace this gem with another as soon as we find it. The fan museum: Atelier Anne Hoguet Eventails. Here's something way off the beaten track. The fan museum is a delight tucked away in what was once a huge Paris apartment. It's a functioning atelier too, meaning you might be lucky enough to see people making hand-held fans as you explore the museum. Address: 2 Bd de Strasbourg, 75010 Passage de l'Homme. The 11th is full of old alleyways which were once teeming with artisans. Furniture makers, frame fixers, handymen and more. Nowadays, the passages are still there, but it's often residents or office workers inside the buildings. If you know where to look, you'll find stunning oases of calm and sometimes an artisan from today plying their trade. A good one to start at is Passage de l'Homme. We ended up visiting about ten of them with our photographer. Here are our full findings and many more pictures. If you're a Patreon member, here's your invite to watch my Walk Show video showcasing these passages. Musée des Arts Forains. This fairground museum is excellent. If you've seen *Midnight in Paris* you'll recognise one of the rooms, where Owen Wilson is dancing near the carousels. There is so much to take in here that you'd be justified in making multiple visits. It's amazing that it's not better known. Address: 53 Av. des Terroirs de France, 75012 If you head into the François-Mitterrand Library you can find the enormous globes of Coronelli, seemingly suspended in a dark room. Each is about four metres in diameter (over 13

feet). One shows the Earth as far as it had been explored in the 17th century, the other shows celestial star formations. The globes were a gift to Louis XIV. [Learn more about these globes here.](#)

Address: Quai François Mauriac, 75706 Église Notre-Dame-du-Travail. Have you ever seen this much metal inside a church? The steel framework was stripped from the 1855 Universal Exposition and re-purposed in the construction of this unique and intriguing church. Address: 59 Rue Vercingétorix, 75014 The Île aux Cygnes. Many people know and have visited the Île de la Cité and Île Saint Louis, but few have heard of the Île aux Cygnes. This tiny artificial island boasts amazing views of the Seine and the Eiffel Tower. Be sure to walk all the way to the western edge for a closer look at the biggest Statue of Liberty in Paris ? [here's](#) how to find the other seven. [Learn more about the Île aux Cygnes here.](#) Address: Île aux Cygnes, 75015 Mosaics on Rue Jasmin. Dotted around the 16th are some of the finest lobbies you'll find in France. These are private residences, so if you're tempted to seek them out, please do so with respect and, perhaps, discretion. [Here's](#) a sneak peek at one we found that got me so overwhelmed that I had to sit down. Here are all the pictures and the addresses from our mosaic explorations. These domes (or coupolas) are an architectural delight and they're dotted around this arrondissement. If you want to see inside one, here are some pics from when we visited someone who lives inside one of them. Top points to whoever finds the most domes in this neighbourhood! Terrass? Hotel bar. Very easily the best view from a bar/restaurant in the whole district. So many people don't seem to know about this place. And you're in luck, because this view is not just for hotel guests, this is for anyone looking for a classy cocktail in the 18th arrondissement. Get up there! Address: 12 Rue Joseph de Maistre, 75018 It's called the Péniche L'Eau Et Les Rêves (the barge of water and dreams) and it specializes in books about gardening and plants. There's also a very charming cafe/restaurant in the hull. [Click here to learn more about this magical place](#) Address: 9 Quai de l'Oise, 75019 Visit Le Vieux Belleville for a nostalgic Edith Piaf singalong, though remember this is only on Tuesday nights. Other nights are other themes. This is unique for an unforgettable evening out, [learn more about the experience here.](#) Address: 12 Rue des Envierges, 75020 That's all for now! Happy hunting! Below, again, is the podcast episode ? enjoy! And if you like what you hear, please

consider becoming a Patreon member on the link below. Become a Patreon member of The Earful Tower to support this show and get extras. Become a Patreon It's here and updated for 2024! After 14 seasons of making The Earful Tower podcast, featuring hundreds of expert guests, I've thoroughly updated my ultimate guide to Paris. There are 150 tips spread over 100 pages, arranged by arrondissement. You'll find our choices for best restaurants, cafes, hidden treats, parks and museums. All of them? Photos: Augusta Sagnelli. Additional reporting: Charlotte Pleasants. Oliver: Thanks for sharing these hidden gems! How lucky are you???? VERY. Love the exquisite details that you give us about these locations-they define Paris as the jewel of Europe!! LOVE IT!

jeanie This site uses Akismet to reduce spam. [Learn how your comment data is processed.](#) The Earful Tower is a channel about Paris and France, hosted by Oliver Gee. It has 200,000 followers and 100,000 podcast listeners. The New York Times calls the Earful Tower one of the world's most transportive podcasts. We share Paris via walking tours, videos, blog posts, and social media. We even make Paris-themed children's books. Welcome to The Earful Tower's official website, where we share it all. Why not start with the latest YouTube video below? Here's The Earful Tower's 2024 PDF guide to Paris. All the tips you need for a visit to the City of Light. Buy it now for \$19.99 and you'll get it automatically in an email. [Click here to purchase the PDF guide.](#) If you like what you see, but are itching for more, become a Patron and get all the bonus content, including our PDF guide to Paris. Check it all out on Patreon here. Here are all our books, Animal Games in Paris, Grace the Giraffe, Roger the Liger, Kylie the Crocodile, and Paris On Air. [Click here for your copy.](#) Connect your Patreon to see more [here](#) Enter your email here for a notification when we add a new blog post to this site. Email Address Follow Subscribe now to keep reading and get access to the full archive. Type your email? [Subscribe](#) [Continue reading](#)

Paris Hidden Gems - Beyond the touristy facade

Paris Hidden Gems : When people think of Paris, they imagine the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre, and the bustling Champs-Élysées. But there's so much more to the City of Lights than its typical tourist attractions. For those who crave a deeper, more intimate experience, PARIS BY EMY offers exclusive private tours that take you beyond the tourist hotspots. PARIS BY EMY is not your average tour company. We specialize in personalized private tours, tailored to your individual preferences and interests. Whether you're an art lover, a history buff, or someone seeking the authentic Parisian lifestyle, PARIS BY EMY crafts an itinerary just for you. Unlike already-made private tours, our private tours allow for exclusive experiences and insider knowledge that typical guides won't offer. When you think of a typical tourist private tour, you have an already-made tour that you book online, tight schedules, and generic stops. That's where private tours with PARIS BY EMY stand apart. Our private tours offer flexibility, are personalized, allowing you to stop for a leisurely lunch at a local spot or spend more time at a boutique you discovered along the way. Optional private driver. No rushing, no fixed schedule, just the Paris you want to explore. Paris is made up of countless unique neighborhoods, each with its own charm and history. Sure, Montmartre and the Eiffel Tower are famous, but what about the true Parisian streets, bistros, and the unusual Paris ? These areas offer a glimpse into the everyday life of Parisians, with charming boutiques, local bakeries, and picturesque districts. PARIS BY EMY ensures that your journey includes these often-overlooked areas, making you feel like a true local. Forget the overpriced, tourist-filled restaurants near major landmarks. With PARIS BY EMY, you'll be introduced to the authentic Parisian food scene. Picture yourself strolling through a local market, sampling fresh baguettes, artisan cheeses, and delicious pastries. Whether you're visiting a hidden bistro or a cozy cafe, the food on your tour is guaranteed to be authentic and flavorful, just like the locals enjoy. Paris may be famous for its museums, but its vibrant art scene is much broader than the Louvre. PARIS BY EMY takes you to lesser-known museums or art galleries, studios, and cultural spaces. Here, you'll discover modern artists, explore Paris' underground art scene, and even meet local creators. This

side of Paris is often missed by standard tourists but is full of inspiration and creativity. Paris is rich with history, and some of its most fascinating stories are hidden in plain sight. Instead of sticking to the major monuments, why not explore the forgotten historical sites of Paris? With PARIS BY EMY, you can enjoy walking tours that take you through places like old passageways, historic homes, and even abandoned structures that carry untold stories. Paris is known for its beauty, and what better way to enjoy it than through its outdoor spaces? From serene parks and gardens to quieter spots along the Seine, PARIS BY EMY offers peaceful outdoor experiences that let you take in the city's charm away from the hustle and bustle. Whether you want to relax in the Luxembourg Gardens or discover a hidden corner of Paris' green spaces, they have you covered. Want to connect with real Parisians? PARIS BY EMY provides opportunities to engage with locals, whether it's through exclusive events, private dinners, or cultural activities. These are not the commercialized 'meet-the-locals' experiences; instead, you get to join genuine Parisian gatherings and feel like part of the community. France is known for its charming villages and stunning landscapes, many of which lie just outside its capital, Paris. Venturing beyond the city will take you to a world of medieval towns, serene countryside, and natural beauty. Explore Normandy, the region of Champagne. Known as the place where Vincent van Gogh spent his last days, Auvers-sur-Oise is a charming village with a strong connection to art. Not sure where to start? PARIS BY EMY helps you with recommendations to customize your private tours. Indeed, the tours will fit your travel style and goals. Whether you want a food tour, a historical walk, or a deep dive into Parisian culture, we guide you through the process of crafting the perfect itinerary. Your tour is shaped around what excites you most. Choosing a private tour with PARIS BY EMY means you're in control. Flexibility, exclusivity, and personalization are key benefits that typical tours just don't offer. From picking your preferred times to deciding how much time to spend at each location, a private tour guide ensures that your Paris experience is uniquely yours. Imagine starting your day at a local cafe, sipping coffee and eating croissants. Then, you explore a hidden art museum, and enjoy lunch at a tucked-away bistro. In the afternoon, you wander through a quiet historical neighborhood and wrap up the day with a private wine tasting. This is what a day on a PARIS BY EMY tour could look like, where every

moment is curated to your preferences. Sure, visiting iconic landmarks like Notre-Dame or the Arc de Triomphe is great, but there's something magical about exploring the real Paris. When you venture off the beaten path, you'll see how Parisians truly live. Picture yourself sipping coffee at a quiet cafe in a lesser-known arrondissement, or strolling through a quaint neighborhood where the locals outnumber the tourists. With PARIS BY EMY, you can dive into the hidden parts of the city that most visitors never see. Paris has so much more to offer than what's on the surface. By choosing PARIS BY EMY, you open yourself up to discovering the city's hidden gems. Whether it's through exclusive experiences, authentic food, or personal interactions with locals, their Paris private tours provide an in-depth and unique look at Paris that goes beyond the touristy facade. So, step outside the box, and let PARIS BY EMY show you a side of Paris you'll never forget. Email contact@parisbyemy.com Tel/WhatsApp +33767389625 Please, give me detailed information in order to send you a first adequate quotation. Once the final quote has been validated, the booking is made by credit card or bank transfer. Thank you for your request. By sending your email and in accordance with Article 5 of the GDPR, you expressly consent to the use of your personal data for the purpose of being contacted for a Paris trip project. For more information, see the privacy policy.

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Hidden Gems In Paris | 43 Off the Beaten Path Secrets - Dreamer at Heart |

Dreamer at Heart | Last Updated: October 3, 2024 By Alison Browne 32 Comments Welcome to the City of Lights, where the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame Cathedral, and Louvre Museum often steal the spotlight. But beyond these iconic landmarks lies a treasure trove of hidden gems in Paris waiting to be discovered. From secret gardens and ancient monuments tucked away in cobblestone alleyways to lesser-known museums showcasing exquisite art collections, Paris has a wealth of surprises for those willing to venture off the beaten path. In this article, we'll find some of Paris' best-kept secrets, unveiling a side of the city that even locals may not know about. So pack your curiosity and let's embark on an enchanting journey through the captivating hidden gems in Paris. Did you know there are vineyards in various places in Paris? The most well-known (and not really a secret of Paris) is the Clos de Montmartre (Montmartre vineyard) which has been in operation since the 12th century when nuns and monks were in charge of making wine. Every year, the Montmartre vineyard produces a small amount of wine that is auctioned off for charity. The yearly wine festival in early October is very popular and looks like great fun! Add it to your list. [Read More](#) | [Discover 20 amazing things to do in Montmartre](#) Location: rue des Saules; 18th arrondissement Metro: Abbesses, Anvers, Lamarck-Caulaincourt But what about this vineyard? A true hidden gem in Paris. Head on over to Butte Bergeyre and what you will discover is a quiet little oasis in Paris. Do you know that village feel? Secret Paris is right here. Growing on a steep hillside is a terraced vineyard with lovely views over the city. You have to be on a mission to find this hidden gem in Paris as it is easily missed! Here are 5 Great Reasons to Visit Butte Bergeyre. Location: 76 rue Georges Lardennois; 19th arrondissement Metro: Colonel Fabien Orient yourself in Paris with my detailed guide to the arrondissements of Paris. This boutique hotel is built on the site of a 17th-century convent, and this small luxury hotel is right by Place des Vosges. [Read my article on 11 Best Boutique Hotels in the Marais](#). Fancy staying in an apartment in le Marais? This stylish apartment sleeps up to 6 people right in the heart of le Marais. This one-bedroom apartment is in the perfect

location for exploring le Marais. Check out these [13 Affordable Hotels in Paris](#) and [21 Hotels with Eiffel Tower views](#). In the 19th century, Baron Haussmann redesigned Paris and still today the architectural style is recognizable worldwide. Stone buildings with wrought iron railings line the boulevards in Paris. Quintessential Paris. Tucked away are also many unique streets and rue Crémieux is one of those hidden gems in Paris. Located near the Gare de Lyon, rue Crémieux has become popular with Instagrammers so go early and enjoy this colourful, cobblestone street in Paris. Residents are tired of all the action on their street and have requested gates at both ends. Visit this not-so-hidden Paris spot soon. [Read More](#) | [The 12th Arrondissement of Paris: 13 Great Things To Do](#) Location: between rue de Lyon and rue de Bercy; 12th arrondissement Metro: Gare de Lyon, Quai de la Rapée [Read More](#) | [25 Key Travel Tips For Paris](#). Here are the best Paris experiences to have. Only have a short time in Paris? Try this [One Day in Paris Itinerary](#). If you want to find the charms of secret Paris, find them in my eBook, [Paris for the Curious Stroller](#). Stroll along the gorgeous mosaic floors of Galerie Vivienne, one of my favourite hidden spots in Paris, and transport yourself back to 1823 when this covered passageway was filled with Parisians socializing and meeting up at cafés. Today it is possible to do the same! With natural light streaming along the hallway of Galerie Vivienne, the boutiques, stores and cafés are worth exploring or, at the very least, engaging in a window-shopping expedition. This hidden gem of Paris is one of the remaining and restored covered passageways that were common in Paris in the 1800s. Visit all of the remaining ?passages couverts? in Paris, but be sure to start with the elegant Galerie Vivienne. Location: 4 rue des Petits-Champs; 2nd arrondissement Metro: Bourse, Pyramides [Hidden Gems in Paris](#) Tip: If you love the covered passageways in Paris, the Passage des Panoramas is another favourite secret spot in Paris. Planning your trip to Paris? Book timed entry tickets in advance: This one-hour Seine cruise is unforgettable but so is the evening Seine cruise. It's a hard choice! This skip-the-line admission to the Arc de Triomphe Rooftop or the timed entry to the Louvre and reserved access to the Musée d'Orsay can maximize your time. Get to the top of the Eiffel Tower with direct access to the summit by elevator. A day trip to Versailles with access to the Palace and Gardens with an audio guide is always a good idea. Parc Monceau is secret Paris at its best! Find the Roman

columns facing the pond and for a moment you might wonder where you are. It's quiet and slightly overgrown in Parc Monceau, a perfect place for a respite from sightseeing. Walking paths wind carelessly under blooming trees and amidst statues. Parc Monceau, one of Paris's hidden gems and smallest parks, is charming, chill and a great place to try and blend in like a local. Go at lunchtime, find a bench and picnic like the Parisians. Location: 35 Boulevard de Courcelles; 8th arrondissement Metro: Monceau [Read More](#) | Discover 19 more gems in the French countryside. 19 of Les Plus Beaux Villages. This is one of the best-kept secrets in Paris. Les Arènes de Lutèce (Arenas of Lutetia) is the real deal. A real Roman arena dating from the first century AD hidden away in the Latin Quarter of Paris. Roman gladiators fought here. Imagine that. Right in Paris. And why the name Lutèce? Aeons ago, the capital of France was called Lutece or Lutetia and was occupied by the Romans. Ahh, Paris! Never a dull moment. Come and sit in an ancient Roman arena where 15000 spectators used to cheer. Hidden gems in Paris? Definitely! [Read More](#) | 15 Highlights of the Latin Quarter and an Insider's Guide to the Latin Quarter Location: 47 rue Monge (5th arrondissement) When you enter from rue Monge, look for the gladiator watching over the doorway. Metro: Cardinal Lemoine It's hard to believe that windmills exist in a city like Paris. Searching for these hidden gems in Paris is a thrill. The Moulin Rouge is the most famous and obvious of the Parisian windmills. Up the hill though, are two more remaining wooden windmills from another century. Montmartre Hill used to be a rural area dotted with windmills that ground flour and pressed grapes. Impressionist painters such as Utrillo, Renoir and Van Gogh immortalized the existence of Parisian windmills in a bucolic setting. Curious that wooden windmills still exist in Paris? I am obsessed with hidden Paris and went exploring in bohemian Montmartre. One of the windmills is on private property and only visible in the winter or early spring. The other stands proudly above a restaurant, Le Moulin de la Galette at 83 rue Lepic. Did you see Renoir's painting at the Musée d'Orsay entitled Le Bal de la Moulin de la Galette? It's a throwback- you're standing right where Renoir stood! Location: 83 rue Lepic; 18th arrondissement Metro: Maison Blanche; Abbesses From the top of the Centre Pompidou, the views of Paris include the Eiffel Tower, Sacre-Coeur and the classic rooftops of the city. Gazing out across the city feels like one of the best kept secrets of

Paris. Ride the funky exterior escalators and head up to the top-floor balcony for ?3. If you are an admirer of modern art enjoy the National Museum of Modern Art?s renowned permanent collection and then head to the top floor for the magnificent views of Paris. Get your skip-the-line ticket [here](#).
[Read More](#) | Love museums? Here?s a guide to 15 museums in Paris. Where will you go first?

Location: Place Georges Pompidou; 4th arrondissement Metro: Rambuteau Hidden gems in Paris are often tucked away on tiny streets. Rue Férou holds one of these secrets of Paris. Who doesn?t like a poem written on a wall in elegant calligraphy? On rue Férou between L?Église Saint-Sulpice and the Jardin du Luxembourg, Arthur Rimbaud?s poem *Le Bateau Ivre* (The Drunken Boat) is inscribed for all to see. Rimbaud, a French poet, wrote this poem about a sea voyage in 1871 at the age of 16. He first recited *Le Bateau Ivre* in a café close to rue Férou. Location: rue Férou; 6th arrondissement Metro: Saint-Sulpice [Read More](#) | Don?t miss all these fabulous things to do in Saint Germain des Prés (6th arrondissement) Atelier des Lumières opened in Paris in April 2018. Its first multimedia sound and light exhibition featured Gustav Klimt?s artwork. The immersive experience just blew my mind! Atelier des Lumières? second exhibition in Paris opened in Feb 2019 with a show featuring Vincent Van Gogh?s work. Imagine walking through Van Gogh?s paintings that are deconstructed and recreated on 10-metre-high walls. Atelier des Lumières continues to have dynamic exhibitions: Until January 7, 2024: *Ocean Odyssey* February 9, 2024, to January 5, 2025: *The Egypt of the Pharaohs and The Orientalists* (Ingres, Delacroix, Gérôme?) Hidden gems in Paris? Atelier des Lumières might have moved from a hidden gem of Paris to a popular spot! Location: 38 rue Saint-Maur; 11th arrondissement Metro: Voltaire, Saint-Ambroise, Père Lachaise, rue Saint-Maur [Read More](#) | Atelier des Lumières showcased Klimt?s work in 2018. Watch my video [here](#). Read about 13 great things to do in the 11th arrondissement. Hector Guimard, a French architect and designer, is well known for his Art Nouveau entrances to the Paris metro. Those in themselves are some of the best hidden gems of Paris. But Guimard also designed many houses in Paris in the Art Nouveau style, a far cry from the look-alike Haussmann buildings that line Paris?s boulevards. Castel Béranger was the first solo project for Hector Guimard for which he became famous. In 1898, Castel Béranger won Paris?s first ?façade competition.? Keep an eagle eye out for

the ornate details that Guimard used on the doorways, railings and downspouts. Standing in front of Castel Béranger, you can't help but feel that you have discovered secret Paris. [Read More | Discover hidden treasures of Art Nouveau Paris in the residential 16th arrondissement with Castel Béranger as its star!](#) Location: 14 rue de la Fontaine; 16th arrondissement Metro: Ranelagh, Mirabeau, Église d'Auteuil

Bike Tours of Secret Paris: One of my favourite ways to explore Paris is by bicycle. Here are three guided bike tours to discover Paris. This electric bike tour shows you hidden gems, this bike tour covers Paris highlights and secrets and this bike tour is of charming nooks and crannies. Which will you choose?

Walking Tours: Why not try a walking tour of the iconic neighbourhoods of Paris? Pick your area and get to know the hidden gems and stories in the quartier!

Père Lachaise is the largest cemetery in Paris and therefore not technically a hidden gem of Paris. But, what unique gravestones uncovering the secrets of Paris can you discover among the average citizen and the greats? Search for Chopin. Usually, a sonata playing will draw you to his gravesite. And of course, Jim Morrison's tombstone is no secret. The final resting place of Oscar Wilde, the famous Irish writer, draws women to place a red lipstick kiss on the effigy (not really allowed). But what about Victor Noir? This reporter was shot to death by a member of the emperor's family over a century ago. For about 50 years now myth has it that if women rub his bulging crotch and kiss his lips, fertility and a wonderful sex life will follow. Did you think hidden gems in Paris would be this exciting? Looks like it is a story that has captured a wide audience? non?! You could also pop a flower in his upturned top hat! [Read More | How To Visit Père Lachaise Cemetery and whose tombs to look for!](#) Location: Père Lachaise Cemetery; 20th arrondissement Metro: Gambetta, Père Lachaise

Guided Tour of Père Lachaise: If you don't have time to discover the iconic gravesites of Père Lachaise yourself, book a guided tour. That is how I first familiarized myself with one of the most visited gravesites in the world.

Hidden Gems in Paris Tip: If you enter close to the Gambetta station you will be walking downhill towards the main entrance. No maps are available at this entrance. I love it when the best-kept secrets of Paris are an oasis to relax. This gorgeous hidden Paris gem is minutes away from the hustle and bustle of Canal St Martin. It is the perfect place for a summer picnic or a quiet refuge to rejuvenate away from the crowds. Talk about

one of the hidden gems in Paris. Getting a weird ?déjà vu? feeling? This square was also commissioned by Henri IV and has the same architectural style as Place des Vosges in Le Marais. If you are in the Canal Saint Martin area, find out all the things to do. And? where to grab a bite at a nearby restaurant or pick up picnic supplies. Location: 1 Avenue Claude Vellefaux; 10th arrondissement Metro: Goncourt or Colonel Fabien or walk from the Quai de Jemmapes Is there anything more romantic than dancing the tango by the Seine? Well, there might be, but this ranks right up there with the hidden gems in Paris. Head on over to the Jardin Tino-Rossi. This secret Paris evening is a winner. Watch partners move across the dance floor, or even bravely partake in this delightful Paris experience. [Read More | Tango by the Seine ? Does life in Paris get any better than this?](#) Location: Garden Tino-Rossi at 2 Quai Saint-Bernard; 5th arrondissement Metro: Sully-Morland or Gare-d'Austerlitz

Hidden gems in Paris? Look no further than Avenue Junot. Find the gate at #23 and press the buzzer to enter this paradise. You will feel immediately that you are entering secret Paris. Wander past the massive rock and find the second gate on the left. Buzz again? Et voilà, the Hôtel Particulier. Come for tea, dinner, a cocktail or splurge and stay in one of their rooms. This is really a taste of unique places in Paris. And did I mention the view of the Eiffel Tower from the passageway? It?s one of the best hidden places in Paris. Location: 23 Avenue Junot; 18th arrondissement Metro: Blanche or Lamarck-Caulaincourt

Hidden gems of Paris sometimes look like an entire neighbourhood! La Butte aux Cailles is truly a hidden place to visit in Paris. Walk the streets in La Butte aux Cailles and feel like you are wandering in a village. Explore the area and find Rue Daviel. Here you?ll find houses built in the style of eastern France in the Alsace region. Facing these homes is Villa Daviel, a quiet street that will transport you momentarily to the countryside. A true best-kept secret in Paris. [Read More | Discover this hidden gem in Paris-](#)

the neighbourhood la Butte aux Cailles. Location: Rue Daviel; 13th arrondissement Metro: Corvisart or Place d'Italie

Hidden gems in Paris that are clues to her long history fascinate me. Tucked away in the 4th arrondissement in le Marais is the largest surviving section of the King Philippe Auguste Wall from 1190. Paris was at one time fortified and surrounded by a stone wall with 77 semi-cylindrical towers. It is great fun spotting traces of the ancient wall in Paris. Location: Rue des

Jardins Saint-Paul; 4th arrondissement Metro: Saint Paul [Read More](#) | Discover 21 treasures of Le Marais in Paris and this interview has a local from Le Marais share her insider tips. Stroll along Paris's ancient and abandoned railway line, La Coulée Verte, that inspired New York's Highline. You'll pass interesting architecture, rose gardens, parks perfect for a picnic, and street art. Walk all the way from the 12th arrondissement of Paris to the Bois de Vincennes for a wonderful adventure. It's definitely one of the non-touristy things to do in Paris. La Coulée Verte, also known as La Promenade Plantée, is a true hidden gem of Paris. Location: la Coulée Verte runs above Avenue Daumesnil.; 12th arrondissement Metro: Reuilly-Diderot; Montgallet [Read More](#) | Wonder what Paris is like in the different seasons? Here is Paris in the Spring, Paris in the Summer, and Paris in the Fall... Head on over to the Bois de Boulogne and take a stroll through the Parc de Bagatelle. This gorgeous green space is one of the best hidden places to visit in Paris. Roses galore and peacocks fanning their tail feathers are the perfect taste of the country in Paris. Read all about how the Parc de Bagatelle came to be because of a bet between Marie Antoinette and her brother-in-law. Location: Bois de Boulogne Metro: Pont de Neuilly and then Bus # 43 or #93 Église Notre-Dame du Travail in the 14th arrondissement is truly one of the best hidden places to visit in Paris. Many Parisians I've met haven't been here. It truly is one of a kind! At least in the interior. I wandered in and immediately thought of the Eiffel Tower. Finished in 1902, the nave of Église Notre-Dame du Travail is built of steel and iron inviting the residents, at the time, in this working-class neighbourhood to join in worship together. Be sure to check out this hidden gem in Paris. [Read More](#) | Tons of fabulous things to do in and around Montparnasse. Location: 59 rue Vercingétorix, 14th arrondissement Métro: Pernety The Luxembourg Gardens are well known in Paris. Sitting by the Medici Fountain, one of the prettiest in Paris, or sailing a boat across the Grand Bassin are iconic experiences in this famous Jardin in Paris. But, did you know that there are 20 hidden gems in Paris watching over you? Find the 20 graceful, marble statues of Saints and Queens, all women positioned near the Grand Bassin. The statues were commissioned by King Louis-Philippe who reigned from 1830 ? 1848. My favourite of the lovely statues is Saint-Genevieve (422-512), the Patron Saint of Paris. Location: 6th arrondissement Métro: Odéon One of the hidden gems in Paris

that keeps one of the most enduring love stories of all time alive is on Ile de la Cité. Héloïse and Abélard met at 11 Quai aux Fleurs on Ile de la Cité in 1118. Pierre Abélard, a brilliant philosopher and theologian, was teaching in Paris at Nôtre-Dame and was invited to teach Héloïse who was a gifted student. They fell in love, got pregnant and the star-crossed lovers were secretly married. Héloïse was sent to a convent for safety and Abélard returned to Paris. Héloïse's outraged uncle, Canon Fulbert, got his revenge and sent a troupe of men in the dark of night to castrate Abélard. What a story. Is it myth or truth? Abélard became a monk and the two wrote each other letters but never spoke in person again. Location: Close to Ile Saint-Louis on Ile de la Cité. Métro: Hotel de Ville

The first time I discovered the Bassin de l'Arsenal I knew I had stumbled upon a Paris hidden gem. Stand at the lock where Canal Saint-Martin empties into the Seine River, peruse the boats in the marina, explore the gardens, and best of all sit in the bustling Le Grand Bleu with its unobstructed views over the water. Stop by the Port de l'Arsenal for an apéro after exploring the 12th arrondissement. Métro: Bastille

Bouillons in Paris are a fabulous way to eat a traditional French meal at affordable prices. Hidden gems in Paris? Definitely! Bouillon Julien, a historic monument, opened its doors in 1906, having been constructed by the French architect Edouard Fournier. Top Art Nouveau artisans of the day were used to design the sumptuous and elegant interior. I couldn't take my eyes off the sea-green walls, the mirrors, the lights, and the glassworks of four nymphs representing the seasons nor the peacock panels which symbolize eternity and paradise. Oh.. and the food? Dining at this Bouillon Paris restaurant is simply a must. [Read More](#) | [Read all about bouillons restaurants in Paris](#)

There are plenty of tiny, surprising, and slightly hidden streets in Paris. In the 11th arrondissement of Paris, Cour Damoye is a quiet cobbled lane lined with ateliers. You'll feel like you have stumbled across one of the best kept secrets in Paris as you wander down Cour Damoye. It's the perfect place for a photoshoot! Head to the 19th arrondissement in Paris and find the Parc des Buttes Chaumont. Hidden gems in Paris? This park has many, but my favourite is the lovely Temple de la Sibylle. Perched on a rocky cliff of 50 metres (164 feet), the Temple de la Sibylle has a fantastic view of Sacre Coeur in the distance. Inspired by the Temple of Vesta in Tivoli, Italy, the temple in Parc des Buttes-Chaumont looks out over the park's artificial lake. One of the

delights of wandering in Parc des Buttes Chaumont is finding the best views to photograph the Temple de la Sibylle. [Read More](#) | All the best things to do in Parc des Buttes Chaumont. Opening in 2022, La Galerie Dior situated right by the Christian Dior flagship store recounts the personal and creative history of Christian Dior and his six successive designers. And why is this one of the best museums in Paris? If you like fashion, history, and magical ultra-modern displays, this museum is for you. Here is what I found at the Galerie Dior. This Paris museum's website: [Galerie Dior](#)

Location: 11 Rue François 1er,. Paris, 8th arrondissement Métro: Franklin D. Roosevelt, Alma Marceau Although Le Marché aux Puces de Saint-Ouen is legendary, it is still one of the best hidden gems in Paris. Why? Because it is just full of hidden gems! This Paris flea market is the perfect place to find a treasure to bring home. It is a massive market and requires time to stroll, explore, and ponder which treasures will fit in your suitcase. Just walking past the stalls and observing the vendors is in itself an unforgettable Paris experience. The enchanting Île aux Cygnes in Paris, a stone's throw from the Eiffel Tower, boasts its very own version of the iconic Statue of Liberty. Standing tall and proud against the backdrop of the Seine River, this masterpiece encapsulates both historical significance and an enduring symbol of freedom. The statue's history dates back to 1889 when it was gifted to France by American residents living in Paris. Modelled after its big sister in New York City, sculptor Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi carefully crafted this scaled-down replica as a gesture of friendship between France and the United States. Location: Ile aux Cygnes Métro: Bir-Hakeim, RER C It's cosy. It's iconic. It's one of the hidden gems in Paris. And even if you have never read a book by Ernest Hemingway, you can't help but get caught up in the fabulous atmosphere in this bar tucked away in The Ritz Hotel. One of Paris's best secrets comes with legendary cocktails! [Read more about the Hemingway Bar.](#) One of the great landmarks in the City of Light, the Arc de Triomphe is not one of the hidden gems of Paris. But did you know about these hidden gems of Paris that you can find at the Arc de Triomphe? First of all head to the very top of the Arc de Triomphe for one of the best places to see sweeping views over Paris, including the Eiffel Tower. Secondly, the flame that burns brightly by the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier has been reignited every day for 100 years. Even when Paris was occupied during WW II, the flame was lit.

Thirdly, every single day at 6:30 there is a ceremony to reignite this significant flame. It is a moving event to witness soldiers assemble and partake in the solemn ceremony. Métro: Charles de Gaulle-Étoile It's so much fun exploring the hidden streets of Paris. Charming market streets abound in Paris. Why not take a stroll down lively rue Mouffetard, one of the oldest market streets of Paris, hailing from Roman times? Given its lifespan, rue Mouffetard has a long and intriguing history but today it is lined with grocers, butchers, cheese shops, cafés and crêperies. Take note of the lovely façade, designed by Italian painter Eldi Gueri, across from église Saint-Médard. It's the perfect place to pick up picnic supplies and head down to the Seine River and enjoy a picnic facing Ile Saint-Louis. One of the hidden gems in Paris on Ile de la Cité, right at rue des Chantres and Quai des Fleurs, is the sign that displays the height to which the Seine River rose during the devastating flood of January 1910. Stop momentarily before the small metal plaque here. The scale is striking, with water reaching heights that seem almost unfathomable. Look around and imagine what would have been completely submerged. Location: Quai des Fleurs and rue des Chantres Spring in Paris is one of the most beautiful times of the year. When Paris is bursting with cherry blossoms, it is sublime and romantic, and the scent stops you short. The cherry blossom season in Paris is also a photographer's dream. Here are all the secret spots in Paris to find the best blossoms. Stunning. The perfect place to wander. Hidden gems Paris? A resounding yes. The Jardin des Plantes was founded in 1626 as a medicinal herb garden for Louis XIII. It's a huge botanical garden (24 hectares) and houses the Natural History Museum, a zoo, and incredible greenhouses (Les Grandes Serres) which have been in use since 1714. The Jardins des Plantes also has a Christmas light display during the Christmas Season with a biological bent! I love the Cluny Museum for it is situated on ancient Roman baths, reminding citizens of the 21st century that Paris was inhabited by the Romans for over 500 years. It's a pause for reflection. Although it doesn't seem like a museum would be one of the secret places in Paris, many people don't know about the tapestries. The series of six tapestries from 1500 entitled "The Lady and the Unicorn" is beyond breathtaking. Read More | 7 reasons to visit the Cluny Museum Museum website: The Cluny Museum Location: 29 rue Du Sommerard, the Latin Quarter Métro: Odéon, Maubert-Mutualité, Saint-Michel Notre-Dame One

of the very best ways to discover secret places in Paris is to take a walking tour led by an expert. I love to learn about off the beaten path Paris, historical anecdotes, and Paris secret spots! Here are 7 terrific walking tours to discover hidden gems in Paris. Calling all Harry Potter fans who also love discovering hidden gems in Paris! Perhaps you already know that J.K. Rowling did not invent the character Nicolas Flamel. Nicolas Flamel, born in 1330, was indeed a real person, an alchemist and a manuscript seller, experimenting with that elusive and magical elixir to obtain eternal life and change lead into gold. He and his wife Dame Pernelle opened this inn in le Marais, Paris to welcome the homeless. It is the oldest inn (auberge) in Paris and a historic monument. The facade is detailed and fun to examine. If you want the full experience, stay for a meal at the Auberge Nicolas Flamel. Location: 51 rue de Montmorency, 75003 Paris Métro: Rambuteau Opéra Garnier or Palais Garnier, we know of. And it is magnificent. But, the Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord, which opened in 1876, is one of the best hidden gems in Paris. Closed in 1952, due to its deteriorated state, it was slated for demolition. Luckily it was purchased and renovated (to some degree) and reopened in 1974. In 1993, the Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord was classified as a historic monument. To watch an opera in a theatre whose 3-tiered balconies soar to a stunning ceiling, paired with a rustic renovation is a truly unique experience in Paris. Location: 37 bis Boulevard de la Chapelle Métro: La Chapelle I can't decide if this is one of the best hidden gems in Paris or if everyone knows about it! Many people are familiar with the black and white columns, Les Deux Plateaux/ Les Colonnes du Buren, by artist Daniel Buren. This fun installation is perfect for photos and for watching how shadows fall. Wander further afield to find the garden of the Palais Royal, a tranquil spot right in the heart of Paris. Pull up a green chair by the fountain and ponder life, observe Parisians, chuckle at all the dogs, or simply read a book! Métro: Palais Royal- Musée du Louvre You may already know that tucked in the corner of one of the prettiest squares in Paris, Place de Fürstenberg, is the Musée Eugène Delacroix. Eugène Delacroix, one of France's most famous artists and the leader of France's Romantic movement, lived here during the last years of his life. Many of his works of art are found in his atelier there. But hidden gems in Paris abound when it comes to Delacroix! Find Delacroix masterpieces in these secret spots in Paris: You really can't write about secret spots in Paris

without mentioning the Eiffel Tower. Everyone knows the Eiffel Tower but where are the best hidden places to get a fine glimpse of the Iron Lady? One of the best hidden spots in Paris to see the Eiffel Tower is Avenue de Camoens. Walk down this elegant, quiet street not far from Trocadéro and soak up the magnificent views of the Eiffel Tower. The balustrade and stairs make it the perfect place for photographs.

Métro: Trocadéro Fabulous day trips from Paris abound but one that may not be on your radar is the Château de Fontainebleau, a majestic masterpiece nestled in the heart of France. With its rich history spanning over eight centuries, this extraordinary castle stands as a testament to the grandeur and elegance of French architecture. From housing French royalty to witnessing momentous events that shaped Europe's destiny, Fontainebleau holds within its walls countless stories waiting to be unravelled. Read how to plan your day trip to the Château de Fontainebleau.

Tucked away in the Latin Quarter, in central Paris, this charming little park is home to Paris's oldest tree. The Black Locust was planted here in 1602 by Jean Robin, a Royal gardener and still stands today. Square René Viviani blooms with roses in the spring and is the site of a Christmas Market in Paris. It's a great spot to start exploring the Latin Quarter which gets its name from the Latin language spoken here by students and professors up until the French Revolution. The best way to discover hidden gems in Paris is to flâner. Slow down. Stroll. Wander. Turn in the opposite direction from the crowd. Observe. Read the plaques. Smell the roses. You'll be sure to discover your own hidden gems in Paris. Paris is a city brimming with hidden gems waiting to be discovered by intrepid travellers. From charming neighbourhoods and secret gardens to lesser-known museums and off-the-beaten-path cafés, there is always something new and exciting to uncover in the City of Light. So next time you find yourself strolling along its picturesque streets or gazing at its iconic landmarks, take a moment to venture beyond the tourist hotspots and explore the enchanting hidden corners that make Paris truly magical. I hope you enjoy these 43 hidden gems in Paris as much as I do! Until next time, All my Paris resources are right here on this page.

Practical Paris: How to ride the Paris Metro like a pro? Read the low down right here. After discovering these 43 hidden gems in Paris, it's time to explore Paris's villages Montmartre feels just like a small village. This post on Montmartre leads you to the most popular sites as well as some lesser-known

places on the hill. Le Marais is one of the oldest areas of Paris. Once marshland, it is hopping with boutiques, cafés, gorgeous old mansions and museums. Read my full guide to le Marais and also insider Marais tips from a local. Ile Saint-Louis is still one of my favourite spots in Paris. On Pont Saint-Louis, you'll almost always find some street music. And Montparnasse. Most people think of the tall black tower looming over the Paris skyline or the train station. This guide on Montparnasse uncovers some marvellous things to discover in the 14th arrondissement. If you are looking for food suggestions, read about where to find the best croissants in Paris. And, if you have a sweet tooth like me, check out these best pâtisseries to try. There are also plenty of café suggestions for the Marais area in this post: Tips from a Local. And if you are exploring the area around Canal Saint-Martin, here are the best places to stop for a bite or to find the fixings for a picnic. Filed Under: Europe Tagged With: Paris, Things To Do Creator and Founder of Dreamer at Heart

Alison, a Francophile from a young age, is following a long-held dream and has been living in Paris since 2020.

Her passion for uncovering Paris and discovering the regions of France has resulted in an expertise about France that she loves to share in her articles. Also a solo traveller, Alison shares her experiences of solo travel to many corners of the world. Alison helps over 65000 readers a month plan their trips. Robin Browne says April 4, 2019 at 9:59 am oooh so many wonderful hidden gems! Definitely want to check out the wooden windmill, and the Parc Monceau- But it all looks amazing! Alison Browne says April 4, 2019 at 11:18 am Oh Yes!!! Let's do BOTH!! Sinjana says April 6, 2019 at 10:12 pm These are really offbeat and quirky destinations in Paris which I never found on the official guides. Alison Browne says April 7, 2019 at 2:32 pm So glad you think so! Hope you can get out and discover a few of them! Kristina says April 7, 2019 at 10:35 am I love Paris so much. Every time I go I see new things and yet, here are more for me to check out. Great post! Alison Browne says April 7, 2019 at 2:34 pm Ohhhh ? so happy there are a few new ones on there for you to discover! Enjoy! Paris is always a delight ? non?! Paula Morgan says April 7, 2019 at 3:42 pm A hidden gems article with things that really are hidden gems. I have spent weeks in Paris and have

not seen most of these. Thanks, I have a few new ones to add to my list esp Parc Monceau and that Roman arena ? Alison Browne says April 8, 2019 at 7:40 am I am so glad that even to someone who has spent a lot of time in Paris there are many places on this list that you haven't seen. It's exactly what I love about Paris ? it's full of surprises and tucked away gems! Enjoy! Let me know which ones you love the most! whereivebeentravel says April 7, 2019 at 3:44 pm What an incredible list! I can't wait to go back to Paris and visit some of these. Thank you! Alison Browne says April 8, 2019 at 7:38 am You are so welcome. Let me know which ones you love the most! tayaramuse says April 7, 2019 at 8:00 pm Paris is one of the cities where you can never really see everything, this is such a wonderful post truly highlighting hidden gems in the city. Thank you so much for putting this together, saving for later! Alison Browne says April 8, 2019 at 7:37 am OH so glad you are saving this! Yes, Paris is full of gems and surprises. Even the locals will say they haven't seen it all! Sabrina says April 7, 2019 at 9:28 pm I have a friend going to Paris later this month, I will share this with her Alison Browne says April 8, 2019 at 7:36 am That's great! I hope she can enjoy a few of the hidden gems! An Indian Traveler says April 8, 2019 at 7:28 am I wish I had read this blog before my visit to Paris. I always look for offbeat places/hidden gems whenever I visit a new place. This post is full of them. Beautifully captured pictures. Alison Browne says April 8, 2019 at 7:35 am I am glad you liked the photographs! Just tuck this away until your next visit to Paris! Glad you enjoyed it! Nic says April 9, 2019 at 1:04 am It's been a while since I visited Paris and I am dying to go back!! Though I am interested to see the main places again after such a while this time I am looking to see some more off the beaten track places so this is perfect!! Alison Browne says April 10, 2019 at 9:06 pm It always surprises me how visiting the main attractions years later is still a thrill and a completely different experience to the initial visit. So glad you will check out some of my hidden gems! Nitin Singhal says April 9, 2019 at 7:23 am Paris is my bucket list destination. I have compiled the list of places I would like to visit and none of these places are in the list because I had never heard or read about them before. I found Parc Monceau, Oscar and Victor the most fascinating. These 2 things are definitely added on my list. Alison Browne says April 10, 2019 at 9:04 pm I love how you are keeping a list of marvellous things to do in Paris for when you get there! So happy that

you have added 2 of my hidden gems to your list! ENJOY! Candy says April 9, 2019 at 1:58 pm I love visiting these lesser known areas especially since there are fewer crowds/tourists. I studied a little bit of ancient Rome in college and would love to visit Les Arènes de Lutèce. The history of the Roman gladiators has always been fascinating to me. Alison Browne says April 10, 2019 at 9:07 pm It is so cool to find this arena tucked away and sit and imagine gladiators in action! ENJOY! Yukti says April 11, 2019 at 11:17 am I love hidden gems instead of very crowded touristic places. I never knew about rue Crémieux when I visited Paris as this would be my favorite point because of colorful houses. Thanks for sharing great post as I have to plan for Paris again. Alison Browne says April 11, 2019 at 11:38 am It is such a lovely little street but has gotten quite popular in recent years. It is so unlike other streets in Paris that it is totally worth searching it out! Enjoy Paris! sunsetsandrollercoasters says April 11, 2019 at 4:12 pm This is such a great list! We've visited Paris twice now and other than the vineyards and windmills of Montmartre and the view from Centre Pompidou we haven't seen any of the locations. I'd love to visit Rue Cremeux. Those colourful houses are amazing. Alison Browne says April 15, 2019 at 4:09 pm Rue Crémieux is really unique! It is getting quite popular so go early! Paris is one of those cities where you can just keep discovering tucked away treasures every visit! Sandy N Vyjay says April 11, 2019 at 7:24 pm This is such a fascinating list of hidden gems of Paris. We have been to Paris only once and due to a short trip had to stick to the main attractions only. Hope to get back and explore the hidden gems of Paris. It would be really great to visit the resting place of Oscar Wilde, one of my favourite writers. Alison Browne says April 15, 2019 at 4:14 pm Oscar Wilde's tombstone is very worthy of a visit. He is surrounded in red kisses and these words. "And alien tears will fill for him pity's long broken urn. For his mourners will all be outcast men, and outcasts always mourn." Carmen Edelson says April 12, 2019 at 4:14 am Wow, I really had no idea about those vineyards! Paris is one of those places that I can visit over and over again but there will always be more to discover. I'm adding all of these places to my ever growing list! Alison Browne says April 15, 2019 at 4:15 pm I went on a mission last summer to find the hidden vineyards of Paris! Still have some to discover! Pam says May 27, 2019 at 12:48 pm A mother-daughter trip exploring rural France! Very special ? Alison Browne says

May 29, 2019 at 1:33 am It was so special, Pam! Stories and photos coming soon (ish!). Your email address will not be published. Required fields are marked * Comment * Name * Email * Website Save my name, email, and website in this browser for the next time I comment. ? Welcome to Dreamer at Heart. Are you a dreamer like me? I?m Alison, a Canadian, who spent years travelling the world and then chose to live in Paris. Dreamer at Heart showcases the magic of Paris and France highlighting hidden gems, itineraries, and travel guides to help make your travels to France exceptional. The eBook, Paris For The Curious Stroller, is a delightful stroll through Paris soaking up extraordinary ?bite-sized jewels.? It showcases the extraordinary side of Paris. Have Paris travel questions? France? Solo travel? Contact me at dreameratheart75@gmail.com Dreamer at Heart is a participant in the Amazon Services LLC Associates Program, an affiliate advertising program designed to provide a means for sites to earn advertising fees by advertising and linking to Amazon.ca and affiliated sites. Amazon and the Amazon logo are trademarks of Amazon.com, Inc, or its affiliates. [Privacy Policy](#) | [Disclaimer](#) | [Terms and Conditions](#) | [Contact](#)

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Top 20 Hidden Gems in Paris

If you think you have seen everything that Paris has to offer, think again. The City of Light is full of surprises and secrets that are waiting to be uncovered by curious travelers. In this article, we will reveal 20 of the best hidden gems in Paris that will make you fall in love with this city all over again.

Paris's Hidden Gems | THE FINE CIRCLE

Romantic Palatial Characteristic

10 Hidden Gems In Paris: The Ultimate Travel Guide - A Vagabond Life

Paris is world-renowned for its iconic landmarks like the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame, and the Louvre. But beyond these tourist hotspots lie lesser-known treasures that only the savvy traveler may stumble upon. In this guide, we'll explore 10 Hidden Gems in Paris that will allow you to experience the city's more intimate, charming side. From hidden gardens to secret museums, let's uncover the real soul of the French capital.

Located in the charming neighborhood of Montmartre, Musée de la Vie Romantique is one of the 10 Hidden Gems in Paris that offers an intimate look into 19th-century Parisian life. This small museum is tucked away in a cobbled courtyard, far from the crowds, and once belonged to the famous French painter Ary Scheffer. Today, it showcases works of art and memorabilia associated with the Romantic period, including pieces by George Sand and Chopin. The hidden gem doesn't stop with the artwork – the museum also boasts a tranquil garden and a cozy café where you can unwind after a cultural journey. If you're looking for a quiet escape from the busy streets of Paris, this museum is a must-visit. It feels like you've stepped into another era, making it a perfect secret spot to add to your itinerary. Don't miss this hidden gem on your next trip to Paris!

One of the most unique hidden gems in Paris is the Promenade Plantée, an elevated park built on an old railway line. Stretching 4.7 kilometers from Bastille to the Bois de Vincennes, it predates New York City's famous High Line and offers a peaceful stroll through lush gardens and tree-lined walkways. As one of the 10 Hidden Gems in Paris, this park gives you a bird's-eye view of the city's charming streets and rooftops while staying far removed from the typical tourist crowds. Wander through the hidden paths, find secluded benches, and take in views you wouldn't expect in a bustling city like Paris. It's the perfect place for a morning jog or a serene afternoon walk. Whether you're a nature lover or just in search of some tranquility, this secret garden in the sky will give you a new perspective on Paris.

La Campagne à Paris is a true hidden gem, offering a slice of the French countryside right in the heart of the city. Nestled in the 20th arrondissement, this small residential area is a peaceful haven of quaint houses and narrow, tree-lined streets. It's one of the

10 Hidden Gems in Paris where you can experience the charm of a French village without leaving the city limits. Take a leisurely stroll through this area to admire the ivy-covered homes, blossoming flowers, and quiet ambiance. It's a world away from the busy boulevards, yet still only a metro ride away from central Paris. If you're searching for Paris secret spots that make you feel as though you've escaped the urban chaos, La Campagne à Paris is a delightful find. If you're on the hunt for Instagram-worthy locations, Rue Crémieux is one of the 10 Hidden Gems in Paris you cannot miss. This colorful cobblestone street in the 12th arrondissement is lined with pastel-colored houses, each uniquely painted in vibrant hues. It's a hidden street that offers a completely different vibe compared to the typical Parisian architecture. Despite being in the heart of the city, Rue Crémieux feels like a step into a fairytale. Stroll along this charming road to capture stunning photos or simply enjoy the tranquil atmosphere. Since it's not well-known to tourists, you'll often have the street to yourself, making it one of Paris' best-kept secrets. Square des Peupliers is a quiet, residential cul-de-sac that feels like a hidden village within the city. Located in the 13th arrondissement, it's one of the 10 Hidden Gems in Paris that even many locals don't know about. This picturesque corner is lined with charming houses, each surrounded by flowering plants and trees that give the area a countryside feel. Stroll through this serene square to find a spot where time seems to slow down. Its secluded nature makes it perfect for a peaceful afternoon walk. Though it's far from the tourist trail, this secret spot offers a glimpse into the quieter, more intimate side of Paris. Tucked away in the Marais, Le Marché des Enfants Rouges is a foodie paradise and one of the 10 Hidden Gems in Paris. Dating back to 1615, this is the oldest covered market in the city and remains a beloved spot for both locals and visitors who are in the know. You'll find a diverse array of stalls selling fresh produce, flowers, cheeses, and prepared foods from around the world, including Moroccan, Italian, and Japanese cuisines. Grab a seat at one of the small tables, order something delicious, and watch the market come alive. Whether you're looking for a quick bite or a leisurely meal, this market is a culinary hidden gem that's worth seeking out during your stay in Paris. The Montmartre Vineyards, located in the historic heart of Montmartre, is one of the 10 Hidden Gems in Paris that combines history, culture, and a taste of rural life. These vineyards have been around for

centuries, though few tourists venture here. Each year, the grapes are harvested to make a small batch of wine, which is auctioned off for charity during the annual Fête des Vendanges festival. While the vineyards are small, the charm and tranquility they offer are unparalleled. Stroll through the surrounding streets, enjoy a glass of wine at a nearby café, and soak in the bohemian atmosphere that Montmartre is famous for. This secret spot is a true delight for wine lovers and history buffs alike.

Hidden in the Latin Quarter, the Arènes de Lutèce is one of the 10 Hidden Gems in Paris that transports you back to the city's ancient Roman past. This well-preserved amphitheater dates back to the 1st century AD and was once used for gladiatorial combat and theatrical performances. Today, it's a peaceful public park where locals come to play pétanque or relax in the sun. Despite its historical significance, the Arènes de Lutèce remains one of Paris' lesser-known attractions. Wander through the ancient ruins and imagine what life was like in Roman Gaul. This secret spot offers a quiet escape from the bustling streets of the Latin Quarter and is a must-visit for history lovers.

For panoramic views of Paris without the crowds, head to Parc de Belleville, one of the 10 Hidden Gems in Paris that offers a breathtaking overlook of the city. Located in the 20th arrondissement, this park is less frequented by tourists compared to Montmartre or the Eiffel Tower, making it a serene place to enjoy stunning cityscapes. Climb the park's winding paths and terraces to reach the top, where you'll be rewarded with a sweeping view of the Paris skyline, including the Eiffel Tower in the distance. Bring a picnic, relax on the grass, and take in the scenery from one of the city's most underappreciated vantage points.

One of the oldest covered passages in Paris, the Passage des Panoramas is one of the 10 Hidden Gems in Paris where history and shopping collide. Dating back to 1799, this narrow arcade in the 2nd arrondissement is lined with antique shops, stamp dealers, and old-fashioned bistros that transport you to a bygone era. Wander through the passage to discover unique treasures, sample fine chocolates, or enjoy a coffee at one of the cozy cafés. The Passage des Panoramas offers a glimpse into Paris' past while still being a vibrant, bustling spot for those who seek out its charm. It's the perfect hidden gem for anyone looking to explore Paris beyond the usual tourist traps.

Disclaimer: While every effort has been made to provide accurate and up-to-date information about these hidden gems in Paris, it is always a good

idea to double-check opening hours, availability, and any changes in admission before planning your visit. · © 2024 A Vagabond Life · Powered by · Designed with the Customizr Theme ·

7 hidden gems in Paris (that won't break the bank) | GO Blog | EF United States

Home Programs Offices About us Careers Home Programs Offices About us Careers Ah, Paris! There's nothing more sophisticated than strolling through ancient streets lined with swanky boutique shops and more fancy hair salons than you can shake a pair of curling irons at. But what if you're in search of a more chilled experience? Something that won't break the bank? I asked a few Parisian student for their favorite hidden haunts and compiled this exclusive list for your reading and visiting pleasure. Oh, and hurry – these hidden gems aren't likely to remain hidden for much longer. (Just don't tell anyone I told you!) The term "rosbif" is a Frenchified version of "roast beef", one of the UK's signature dishes, and a colloquial term for people from England. Combined with France's international moniker of "frogs" (presumably from their love of eating frog's legs), the name of this relaxed pub fairly accurately describes the vibe you can expect: friendly, unique and idiosyncratic. No wonder it's a hit with students from France and overseas. Long ago, the Bercy district used to be a huge wine market with historical features to make even the most prestigious arrondissements jealous. Today it's a cute shopping area that's taken on a village-esque life of its own – the ideal place to hang out with friends and enjoy an ice cream in the sun. Although Saint-Michel has long held the crown for authentically Parisian al fresco socializing, fierce rival Bastille is fast stealing its crown. Here you can enjoy refreshments on the cobbles surrounding one of the city's iconic roundabouts, with the streets leading off of it awash with cafés and restaurants to suit all tastes and budgets. Head north to the edge of the 19th arrondissement and you'll find the expansive Parc de la Villette, home to the City of Science and Industry as well as an open-air cinema, restaurants and lots of wide open space to relax in. Stroll through this jaw-dropping park and you might have to remind yourself you're in the middle of Paris! The centerpiece of this stunning outdoor space is a hill in the middle of a lake with a tower on top. Very fairy tale indeed. It's a popular spot for picnics, chilling with friends and enjoying the summer sun. Need to cool off in the summer? Rendezvous with your

friends at Piscine Josephine Baker, one of the best public pools in Paris. Not only does it have a sliding roof that turns it into an outdoor pool in the summer, it's actually floating on the River Seine! The name of an area just north of the Seine that's home to an intriguing-looking shopping center of the same name, Les Halles is one of the top meeting places for Parisian cool kids. Shop, dine or sit with a coffee and just people-watch for hours. (Paris at its best!) Image by Zylenia, Flickr / Creative Commons

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**20 Best Hidden Gems in Paris, France | Paris, Vacation france, Paris
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Ultimate Paris: Insider Tips, Hidden Gems, and Stunning Views

Growing up as a June baby, my summer holidays climaxed in May, and come June, it was time to stock up on textbooks for the next academic year and prepare for the monsoon season. The temperament of June hasn't changed much since then—still hot and dreary until the monsoons finally creep in around the 12th. Regardless of the weather gods, in 2016, I made a resolution to celebrate my birthday in a new country each year, if possible. That year, Bhutan was the destination of choice. By August 2017, I found myself in the UK, so naturally, June 2018 was celebrated in the United Kingdom. My first European birthday took place in Greece in 2019. Unfortunately, COVID-19 put a two-year halt on all my plans, though I do wish it had paused the aging process as well. For 2023, I decided to venture back to the European continent, planning a trip through France, UK, and Italy. This blog post is dedicated solely to Paris, and its warm embrace on June 12th. Unlike the usual knowledge on things to do in Paris, I have used the perspective of history and the Parisian life that I encountered during my visit. Here's an easy outline for you: Paris's history stretches back over 2,000 years, evolving from a Roman settlement Lutetia and into the city that we know today. It built seven fortification walls to protect itself as a commerce port. The city's journey as a capital started in 508 AD with King Clovis, although it wasn't until King Philippe Auguste's reign that Paris firmly established its status as the capital. During World War I, French authorities constructed a dummy city on the northern outskirts to deceive German bombers. This fake Paris featured replica streets and landmarks, including the Eiffel Tower and Gare du Nord. However, the decoy was not completed before the last German air raid in September 1918 and was dismantled after the war. During World War II, the capital moved from Paris to Vichy from 1940 to 1944 under German occupation. A plaque marks the memorial honoring the 200,000 people who were deported from France to German concentration camps during World War II. Gothic Towers and Guillotines The Conciergerie, the oldest part of the Palais de la Cité, was built during the reign of King Philippe Le Bel and features Gothic architecture and turrets that has served various roles- from royal residence to a state prison. The name 'Conciergerie' derives from the 'Concierge,' a high-ranking official

appointed by the king to maintain order and oversee the police and prison registry. Despite its grandeur, the prison's proximity to the Seine River often led to flooding, resulting in uncomfortable conditions for commoners who slept on damp straw. During the French Revolution, the Revolutionary Tribunal operated from the Conciergerie, sentencing over 2,500 people to death by guillotine within its walls. The most famous prisoner was Queen Marie-Antoinette, who spent her last 76 days in the Conciergerie before her execution in 1793. The Conciergerie also houses one of Paris's oldest public clocks, commissioned by King Charles V in 1371, which has regulated Parisian activities for over 650 years. A Latin inscription is found below the clock: "MACHINA QUAE BIS SEX TAM JUSTE DIVIDIT HORAS, JUSTITIAM SERVARE MONET LEGESQUE TUERI" which is translated in English as: "This mechanism which divides time into perfectly equal twelve hours helps you to protect justice and defend the law".

The Ghastly Glamour of the Morgue

When you see compare the cause of why tourists seek Paris today, it's hard to believe that in the past, a completely different kind of attraction drew crowds: the Morgue of Paris. The term "morgue" actually originated in 16th century France, where bodies were "morgued," or scrutinized disdainfully by jailers before imprisonment. Initially, corpses were kept at the Châtelet prison, where they were displayed for identification through a window. Sounds simple right? Unfortunately no! In 1868, a new morgue opened behind Notre-Dame, designed as a public exhibition space where bodies were displayed on slanted marble tables behind glass. Up to 40,000 people visited daily, including tourists, workers, and even murderers. At a time, 50 would crowd around large windows to gawk and gossip about the dead bodies. The morgue was a mix of curiosity and macabre entertainment, reflecting Paris's evolving social scene. As the morgue was not refrigerated until 1882, cold water would drip from the ceiling constantly, giving the skin of the dead a bloated and puffy appearance. The dead would usually have to be removed after three days due to decomposition, at which point a photograph or a wax cast would take their place. The morgue operated as a spectacle until 1907, when it closed to the public for moral reasons.

L'Inconnue de la Seine: A Mysterious Icon

Notably, the morgue housed the body of L'Inconnue de la Seine, a young woman who was reportedly fished out of the Seine in the 1880s after a successful suicide attempt. Arriving at the morgue with a

?Mona Lisa? smile on her face, an assistant was so taken with her beauty that a cast was taken of her face. Rather than drift into obscurity, that cast spurred a fascination that peaked in the 1920s and 1930s, with many households owning the death mask. In the 1960s her allure continued when she inspired the face of the first CPR dummy, Resusci Anne. Since we are talking about CPR dummy, it makes sense to mention the hospital Hôtel-Dieu. Not only is it the oldest hospital in Paris, but it is also the oldest in the world. Founded in 651 AD by Saint Landry as a refugee for the poor and the sick, it has transformed over the centuries. The current Roman-inspired structure, built in the 19th century, replaced the original Gothic building destroyed by fire in 1772.

Grave Matters: Cimetière des Innocents Exploring the darker aspects of Paris, we encounter the Cimetière des Innocents, or Saint Innocents? Cemetery. This cemetery played a vital role in the daily life of Parisians, containing a church, mass graves, a fountain, and two reclusoirs?small cells where recluses were immured. For almost a millennium, it served as the burial ground for approximately two million Parisians which included individuals from 22 parishes, victims of the Black Death, patients from Hôtel-Dieu hospital, and unidentified bodies from the Seine or public streets. Initially comprising individual sepulchers, it later transformed into a site for mass graves, each pit capable of holding about 1,500 bodies, with new pits being opened only when the previous ones were filled. By 18th century, the cemetery had become dangerously overcrowded and unhealthy, with the ground level rising 2.5 meters above surrounding streets. A pivotal event in 1780?when a partition gave way, spilling corpses into a nearby restaurant?s cellar?led to its closure. By 1786, the remaining bodies were moved to the Catacombs of Paris. Today, only the Fontaine des Innocents, originally part of the cemetery, still stands as a testament to this grim chapter in Paris?s history.

A Tale of Traffic Paris has a rich history of social unrest and power struggles, notably during the Middle Ages, religious wars, and the revolutions of 1789, 1830, and 1848. The urban landscape, chaotic and driven by economic interests, grappled with rising health issues and crime rates. A prime example of this chaos would be the tragic fate of King Henri IV who was assassinated in broad daylight by François Ravaillac in Paris?s bustling Les Halles neighborhood, while his coach was stuck in traffic. Henri IV?s father-in-law had unsuccessfully attempted to widen the narrow street in this busy

marketplace area back in 1554. If he had succeeded, the traffic jam that aided Ravailac's attack might have been avoided. Ravailac was captured, tortured, and executed by being drawn and quartered at Place de Grève in front of L'Hôtel de Ville. Henri IV, also known as le bon Roi or "good king," left his mark on Paris, but his untimely demise is marked by a simple stone on Rue de la Ferronnerie, that reads: "Henri IV, XIV Mai MDCX"(Henri IV, May 14, 1610) Haussmann's Transformation Napoleon III had big dreams for Paris, wanting it to be a stunning symbol of power and order. To make this happen, he brought in Georges-Eugène Haussmann in 1853. Haussmann's task was monumental: to modernize and beautify Paris while addressing health concerns and improving infrastructure. Together with Napoleon III, Haussmann envisioned wide avenues that would facilitate troop movement and police control during uprisings. His first move was adding more land to Paris by joining nearby towns, making the city 40% bigger. Then, he split Paris into 20 sections, changing how the city was run and making old neighborhoods less strong. The 20 arrondissements of Paris, established on January 1st, 1860, form a spiral starting from the city's center and expanding outward like a snail, or "escargot." Before this, Paris had only 12 arrondissements and was smaller in size. The symmetry of this arrangement likely led to its nickname "Le 75," as it corresponds to Paris's postcode. All Paris postcodes start with 75000, so the 1st arrondissement would be 75001, while the 20th would be 75020. But why the spiral shape? When the well-off residents of Passy and Auteuil learned they would be part of the new city, they were unhappy to find themselves in a new 13th district. It wasn't because of superstitions about the number 13, but rather a saying, "se marier à la mairie du 13e" (getting married in the 13th), which meant living together without marriage when there were only 12 districts. To avoid this association, the mayor of Passy suggested the spiral layout. The idea caught on, and the number 13 was given to a less affluent southeastern area, preserving the dignity of the western neighborhoods. Haussmann's vision unified Paris with wide, accessible avenues, grand boulevards radiating from five major train stations, and consistent architectural styles, giving the city much of its modern charm and character. He also expanded the sewer network and developed a drinking water supply system, resulting in numerous public fountains. But his restructuring had another interesting consequence,

that will speak about soon. Rues of Paris: Portals to History There are 6,100 rues ? or streets ? in Paris; the shortest one, Rue des Degrés, is just 5.75 metres long and can be found in the 2nd arrondissement. Rue Portalis, is a street named after Jean-Etienne-Marie Portalis (1746-1807), a prominent French lawyer and politician, who played a pivotal role in shaping the Napoleonic Code, the foundation of the French legal system. As one of the chief draftsmen, Portalis penned key articles on marriage and property succession, infusing the code with the principles of Roman law. Enacted on March 21, 1804, the Napoleonic Code remains a cornerstone of French law and has profoundly influenced the civil codes of many countries in Europe and Latin America. Ville d'Amour or Sex in the City? In the Paris of the Third Empire, marital relationships were not centered on carnal desire. Husbands often sought pleasure elsewhere, frequenting prostitutes known as ?asphalteuses,? ?lorettes,? and ?pierreuses.? There was a distinct separation between respectable wives, who were treated like dolls, and prostitutes, who were seen as sources of sexual pleasure. Haussmann's redevelopment displaced many prostitutes, who moved to the newly created boulevards. Cafes and restaurants doubled as places for culinary tourism and prostitution. The influx of single migrants, soldiers, students, and workers, attracted by Haussmann's public works projects, further fueled the demand for prostitution. This high demand for ?love? contributed to Paris's reputation as the ?City of Love.? Prominent brothels, known as ?maisons closes,? included Le Chabonais, La Fleur Blanche, and L'Étoile de Kléber. These establishments catered to various clientele, from the affluent to the masses and the clergy, with some brothels servicing up to 100 clients a day. I wonder if this is how the term French Disease for STIs came into existence! During major events like the World Fairs, Paris became a hub for sex tourism, earning the moniker ?the brothel of Europe.? In 1878, there were 2,650 registered prostitutes in Paris, a number that grew to 6,000 by 1900. This period also saw the emergence of ?prostitution guidebooks? for men, detailing places of pleasure in multiple languages. The French openness towards sex and sensuality, along with public displays of both, set them apart from more conservative societies such as the Victorian England. This unrestrained attitude contributed to the term ?French kiss,? denoting passionate and adventurous kissing practices. In 2013, the term ?galocher,? meaning to kiss with tongues, was

officially added to the Petit Robert French dictionary. Movies have had a significant impact on Paris's romantic image. As a fan of chick flicks, one can't help but hold high expectations after recalling the romantic scenes from "Before Sunset" and "One Day". However, films like "Inception" and "The Da Vinci Code" also offer a different perspective on Paris in my vivid imagination. A post shared by Pocket Scripture (@pocket.scripture) In 2006, the Italian film "Io Voglio di Te" ("I Want You") featured a scene where two lovers write their names on a lock, attach it to Rome's Ponte Milvo bridge, and throw the key into the river. While Ponte Milvo did not gain much attention, Paris's Pont des Arts did. By 2015, an estimated 700,000 padlocks, weighing as much as 20 elephants, adorned the bridge, causing part of it to collapse. Today, smaller segments of these love locks can be found throughout Paris. This particular section was located in front of Sacre Coeur. Unfortunately for the City of Love, it's not always a happy ending. Pont de l'Alma is also known for a tragedy - the 1997 car accident that claimed Princess Diana's life in the tunnel between the bridge and Place de l'Alma. Near the site stands a replica of the Statue of Liberty's flame, donated by the American newspaper Herald Tribune in 1897 to commemorate Franco-American friendship. This monument has become a place where admirers of Princess Diana come to pay their respects daily. Glamour of Third Empire Haussmann's renovation included the creation of Avenue de l'Opéra, a direct route from the emperor's residence to the opera house, with no trees to obstruct the view. This grand avenue enhances the Palais Garnier's majesty, reinforcing its palace-like appearance. In 1858, Emperor Napoleon III and his wife experienced a failed assassination attempt at the Rue Le Peletier Opera House. This led to the decision to build a new, safer opera house. The project was entrusted to a then-unknown architect, Charles Garnier, who won a contest in 1860 to create an "imperial academy for music and dance." Empress Eugénie was initially skeptical of his design, questioning its style, to which Garnier famously replied, "This is Napoleon III!" I guess it could be another reason why Palais Garnier has the signature of this unknown architect on its very walls. Construction of the Palais Garnier began in 1861 but faced significant challenges, including a wet construction site that required a large cement reservoir to manage excess water. The project continued despite interruptions, including the Prussian War,

during which the unfinished building served as a storage camp. The building's main façade was completed in 1867, and the entire opera house opened to the public in 1875, costing over 20 million gold francs, making it the most expensive building of its time. Renowned for its Neo-Baroque architecture and lavish decorations including 30 types of marble from various countries, Garnier's design incorporated elements of a princely palace, hence the name "Palais Garnier." The building also made history by installing a small power plant in 1883, making it the first opera house to use electricity, with lighting provided by bulbs from Thomas Edison. The Opera Garnier was not just about music but also a show of class! Season ticket holders went to the opera 2-3 times a week, not because there were different performances or were opera fans, but to show off and socialize! The Grand Escalier, a triumphal entrance, surrounded by balconies over four floors, allowed guests to see and be seen, with shallow steps designed to reveal just a glimpse of women's ankles. The Emperor's box in the Auditorium, prominently placed to the left of the stage, was designed for visibility rather than optimal viewing or acoustics. During the show, the lights remained lit in order to facilitate the popular activity of people-watching. Finally, the Grand Foyer, inspired by Versailles' Hall of Mirrors, was designed for spectators to socialize during intermissions. One of the most striking features of the opera house is its 7-ton chandelier, designed by Garnier himself. Though magnificent, it was unpopular with some as it obstructed views. Tragically, in 1896, the chandelier's counterweight burst through the ceiling during a performance, killing a member of the audience. This incident inspired Gaston Leroux's novel, "The Phantom of the Opera," which also drew on other elements of the opera house's history such as the Phantom's box number 5. In Leroux's novel, a myth about phonographic recordings buried in the opera's cellars is mentioned. In 1907, the Gramophone Company indeed sealed 48 records in the cellars, opened 100 years later and digitized by EMI Classics as "Les Urnes de l'Opéra." No corpse was found, contrary to the novel's lore.

Parisian Woes In the harsh winter of 1870-71, during the Franco-Prussian War, German troops besieged Paris, cutting off all food supplies. With no other options, residents resorted to eating horses, cats, dogs, and even zoo animals. By the end of May, reportedly, there wasn't a single rat left in the city. After five months, Paris surrendered, but the aftermath brought the Commune

uprising which resulted in death of almost 30,000 people. The Catholics took it as a sign from God. The Sacred Heart monument was built as a representation of national penance for the supposed excesses of the Commune de Paris of 1871, and of the conservative moral order. The Basilica of the Sacred Heart (Sacre Coeur), designed by Paul Abadie, was constructed from 1875 to 1914 and officially completed in 1923. Its eclectic architectural style draws inspiration from Romanesque and Byzantine architecture, as well as the Saint-Front de Périgueux Cathedral. The façade features prominent equestrian statues of Joan of Arc and King Louis on horseback, with stone from Chateau-Landon used, similar to the Alexandre III bridge and the Arc de Triomphe. When rainwater comes into contact with the stone, it undergoes a chemical reaction, forming cullet, a thin white protective layer that naturally hardens in the sun. It boasts of two records. First, the largest bell in France, called la Savoyarde, is inside the Basilica and measures 3 meters in diameter, 9.60 meters in outer circumference and weighs 18,835 kg. It dates back to 1895 and was built in Annecy in the French Alps. Its installation required a team of 28 horses. The basilica's dome is the highest point in Paris after the Eiffel Tower. However, showstopper is the huge mosaic of Jesus Christ located above the altar. It is among the largest mosaics in the world (measuring 475 square meters) and was finished in 1922.

Rats, De Gaulle, and Pestilence Interestingly, 1872 saw the return of rats to Paris. During the 14th century's Black Death, flea-infested rats had caused a plague that killed about half the city's population. In the 1871 siege, starving Parisians turned to eating rats, making rat paté a temporary delicacy. Once food supplies resumed, Parisians reverted to their regular diets, and the rat population around Les Halles surged again due to market waste. During De Gaulle's presidency, the relocation of Les Halles market deprived rats of their food source, causing them to invade nearby apartments. This led to a massive extermination campaign led by Julien Aurouze, a dedicated rat exterminator. From the Palais de l'Élysée, De Gaulle noticed a sign reading "ATTILA, Fléau des Rats" (Attila, Scourge of Rats), which he took as a personal affront. Despite his efforts, the sign and the exterminator's business remained long after his presidency. Founded in 1872, Maison Aurouze specializes in pest control and famously displayed mummified rats. The shop's history highlights Paris's ongoing struggle with these pests, a quirky yet significant aspect of city

life. Urban Flooding Tales: The Watchman and Other Untold Stories Historic postcards capture the flooded City of Light in grainy black and white, depicting Parisians navigating the streets in wooden boats or along submerged sidewalks. The scenes, almost romantic in nature, evoke comparisons to Venice. However, these images don't reveal the harsh reality faced by most Parisians during the "flood of the century". The city grappled with the loss of electricity, gas lighting, heating, public transportation, communication, postal services, clean water, trash collection, and food provisions. Once a symbol of modernity, Paris found itself plunged into a medieval-like existence. At the peak of the flooding, 300 streets were submerged, and 20,000 homes flooded, despite efforts to erect sandbag barriers or brick up cellar entrances. The Rue Des Chantres is a narrow passageway with a dark history rivaling its haunted neighbors. In the early 1900s, an old hotel on this street served as a quarantine for sick children during a time when tuberculosis swept through Europe. To prevent the spread of illness, these children were locked away in the hotel's lower floors, hidden from the public eye. Tragedy struck during a great storm that caused the Seine River to flood its banks. The Rue Des Chantres, located near the river, was completely flooded. The floodwaters breached the old hotel, trapping and drowning the quarantined children inside. As we listened to the stories, a mark on the wall just below the street name oddly resembled a child standing there and watching. Locals often believe that the spirits of these children linger on the Rue Des Chantres. Visitors frequently report hearing eerie sounds of children whispering and playing, serving as a somber reminder of the young lives lost in this passageway. Etched into stone or displayed on green plaques, these flood markers offer a hidden glimpse into the city's history, often unnoticed by passersby. They signify the level reached by the Seine during the famous 1910. City dwellers have relied on one particular figure to warn them of rising water levels—the Zouave. This stone statue, created by French artist Georges Diebolt in 1856, has served as an informal flood marker since its installation on the Pont de l'Alma. The bridge, commemorating a Crimean War victory involving Zouave soldiers, originally featured four statues representing different infantrymen. Over time, the other statues were relocated, leaving only the Zouave. Standing at 5.2 meters tall and weighing eight tons, the Zouave plays a crucial role during floods, with water covering his feet indicating alert conditions in Paris. The

statue's significance grew during the Great Flood, when images of him submerged up to his waist became iconic. Through the years, he became a cultural icon of Paris, featured in dozens of songs and novels, including the Tintin tales, beloved by children of all ages. Although in *The Adventures of Tintin*, Captain Haddock uses the term "faire le Zouave" as an insult meaning "to act the fool." The Zouave's attire reflects North African styles of the early 1800s, depicted in paintings by artists like Van Gogh. The statue's influence even extends to fashion, with "Pantalone alla Zuava" referring to short trousers inspired by the Zouave's uniform. "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" film, serves as a familiar reference point for many outside France when it comes to the iconic cathedral. Inspired by Victor Hugo's 1831 novel "Notre-Dame de Paris," this Disney film sheds light on the cathedral's historical context. At the time of the book's release, Notre Dame was in a state of neglect, with damaged artwork, decapitated statues mistaken for French kings during the Revolution, and blackened stone from industrial pollution. Hugo's love for medieval architecture motivated him to write about Quasimodo, Esmeralda, and Frollo, aiming to highlight the cathedral's deterioration. The novel's success led King Louis Philippe to allocate over 2 million francs for its restoration. Architect Eugène Viollet-le-Duc led the 20-year project, costing 12 million francs, and added notable features like the 180-foot spire and famous gargoyles. Despite facing significant criticism, the restoration became iconic. After all, it cannot be denied that Notre-Dame, a symbol of French history and culture, has endured wars, revolutions, and natural disasters. Significant events, such as the crowning of Henry VI of England as King of France in 1431 and Napoleon Bonaparte's coronation as Emperor in 1804, have taken place within its walls. No legend can truly become L-E-G-E-N-D-A-R-Y unless there are ghost stories and other myths shadowing it. Two unknown women are frequently mentioned as ghosts, seen walking across Gothic architecture and gargoyles before vanishing. Rumors suggest they might have committed suicide by jumping from the cathedral's roof. During the construction of Notre Dame, the aim was to create the finest cathedral in Europe. Among the craftsmen was a Frenchman named Biscornet, who faced numerous rejections. And yet, at the time of unveiling, the finished cathedral door showcased intricate ironwork that was unprecedented, elegant, and perfect. A fact that even modern metal experts can't explain

how the ironwork was achieved with medieval tools. However, in the superstitious 1300s, the craftsmanship seemed too extraordinary to be human. Rumors spread that Biscornet had sold his soul to the devil for this masterwork. When the doors were installed, they wouldn't open, and Biscornet was found in his studio unconscious with the project mysteriously completed in record time. Priests claimed the locks only worked after being sprinkled with holy water, fanning the flames of suspicion. Despite insisting he was the sole artist, Biscornet couldn't shake the unholy accusations. He died soon after, reinforcing the belief that the devil had returned for his soul. Interestingly, the name Biscornet can be broken down into 'bis' (two) and 'cornet' (horn) in French, hinting at 'the two-horned one.' Nevertheless, rumors are afloat that homage to Satan appears hidden within the doors' design. Close inspection of the irons swirls on the door reveals swirls similar to the number 666. I guess that's the main reason why the door is known as the Devil's Door. The 2019 fire caused significant damage, particularly to the roof and spire. And guess who comes to the rescue? Virtual reality! Assassin's Creed Unity, a popular action-adventure video game developed by Ubisoft Montreal and released in 2014, is set in Paris during the French Revolution and features stunning recreations of iconic landmarks, including the Notre-Dame cathedral. Ubisoft's 3D model, created for Assassin's Creed Unity, is highly detailed and accurate, based on historical records, architectural plans, and photographs of the cathedral as it was after its renovation in the mid-1800s. After the fire, Ubisoft donated \$500,000 for restoration efforts and provided its detailed 3D model of the cathedral to aid architects and engineers. Strolling along rue Chanoinesse today, you'll find a charming street with views of Notre Dame Cathedral and one of the city's loveliest café bistros, Au Vieux Paris d'Arcole. The café is as old as its name suggests! Constructed in 1512, around the same time Notre Dame cathedral was completed, the building was once home to the Canon of the nearby cathedral. By the 18th century, it had been purchased by a private citizen and was turned into a wine bar. It has remained a place for Parisians to congregate to eat and drink ever since. However, this picturesque setting belies a darker history. Perhaps rather macabrely, the café is situated right next to a courtyard which is paved with repurposed gravestones, which were taken from a nearby church after it was pulled down in the 18th Century.

The street was once notorious for the Affaire de la rue des Marmousets, also known as the Affaire de la rue Chanoinesse after a later name change. The Pie Killers French cuisine is a high point for many tourists, which includes me as well! But I never expected to come across a darker fate of one of the most sought-after culinary delights! Lets meet the Pie Killers of Paris, a tale quite similar to Sweeney Todd, the fictional London barber who slit his customers' throats then gave the bodies to his lover to be cooked into pies and sold in her pie shop. In medieval Paris, meat was a luxury. Between 1384 and 1387, the butcher on rue des Marmousets became infamous for his delectable meat pies, renowned throughout France. However, for some, these pies were literally 'to die for.' The meat had a delicate flavour, quite unlike anything they had experienced before, and even King Charles VI was said to be a fan. The story goes that during the 14th century, a barber and a pastry chef on rue des Marmousets entered into a horrific pact. Students from the nearby Chapter of Notre-Dame began to disappear, often foreign students with no local ties. The barber would kidnap and butcher these unfortunate souls, passing their remains through a trap-door into the pastry shop's cellar, where the chef turned them into meat pies. This gruesome practice allegedly continued for years until a faithful dog exposed the crime. A German student named Alaric, one of the victims, had a loyal dog that wouldn't stop barking outside the barber's shop. This drew the constabulary's attention. Upon inspection, they discovered the macabre truth of the killing duo. Unfortunately while the duo were rumored to have killed over 2000 young men, they were found guilty for only 4. For their heinous crimes, the butcher and pastry chef were burned alive, and their shops were destroyed. Today, the location believed to be the site of these gruesome murders is, ironically now the headquarters of a Paris Police Department. The French Bread Law After the freaky duo, there is a much need for some Parisian breads. But did you know according to the French Bread Law, a traditional Parisian baguettes have to be made on the premises they're sold and can only be made with four ingredients: wheat flour, water, salt and yeast. They can't be frozen at any stage or contain additives or preservatives, which also means they go stale within 24 hours. To be called a boulangerie, a French bakery has to make its bread on the premises. If this prized word doesn't feature in the name of the bakery or isn't plastered on the window it could be a plain

old dépôt de pain selling industrially-made bread. Each year, a bakery in Paris receives an award for crafting the best baguette in the city. The winner gets the honor of delivering fresh baguettes to the French President at the Élysée Palace for an entire year. As per the Parisian norm, croissant and coffee go hand-in-hand. I don't know about everybody, but it is definitely the impression I gathered after going through all the viral Instagram reels. Historians will agree with me ? The Parisian café evolved from a place for alcohol consumption to a social institution where revolutions were planned, and debates stirred. Jean de Thévenot introduced coffee to Paris in 1657. Although an earlier account suggests coffee was sold under the name ?cohove? or ?cahoue? during Louis XIII's reign, this lacks confirmation. Coffee officially became popular after a 1670 visit from an Ottoman delegation to King Louis XIV's court, introducing Turkish coffee to the French elite. This sparked a trend that led to the opening of numerous coffee houses. By 1720, Paris boasted nearly 300 cafés, growing to 1,000 by 1750 and almost 2,000 by the late 1700s. Cafés became hubs for artists and thinkers, fostering community, conversation, and creativity. Café Procope, established by Italian-born Francesco Procopio, stood out by offering patrons drinks in a luxurious setting, complete with porcelain cups, marble tables, gilded mirrors, and chandeliers. Located near the Comédie-Française theatre, it attracted famous patrons like Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Dennis Diderot, Voltaire, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and Napoleon. In other culinary news, France is famous for its love of escargot or snails. But did you know, every year, the French consume a whopping 25,000 tons of these little gastropods ? that's about 6.5 snails per person! This is roughly equivalent to the weight of 2.5 Eiffel Towers!

A Tale of Twin sisters

Unlike other major capitals with numerous sister cities, Paris shares a unique and exclusive bond with only one city?Rome. While New York boasts 13 twin cities, including Madrid, London, and Cairo, Paris and Rome have chosen to embrace a singular partnership. This special relationship was formalized in 1956 with a pact signed at the Hôtel de Ville, the City Hall of Paris. This agreement symbolizes the deep cultural and historical connections between the two cities. The mayors of Paris and Rome continue to honor this bond with regular visits, reinforcing their unique alliance. The sentiment behind their twinning is beautifully captured in the saying: ?Only Paris is worthy of Rome; and only

Rome is worthy of Paris.? The City Hall has been the seat of council since 1977. The building facade features 338 individual statues of illustrious Parisians along with other sculptural elements and figures. Since I had to pay city tax separately beyond my accommodation charges, I was very interested in the building that was responsible for this impact on my finances.

A Bridge Beyond Numbers

The charming stone bridge that leads you to the City Hall, known as Pont Neuf, holds a fascinating secret. Despite its name, which means "New Bridge," it has nothing to do with the number nine. Named by King Henry III in 1578, Pont Neuf was innovative for its time, being the first bridge in Paris without houses built upon it. With its modern design and paved surface, it quickly became a popular gathering spot for socializing. Today, Pont Neuf stands as the oldest surviving bridge in Paris, blending history and modernity to captivate visitors.

Ville-Lumière

Interestingly, the City of Light (Ville-Lumière) nickname has nothing to do with actual lights. It's a fun Paris fact that even though the French capital was one of the first in the world to install street lighting, the nickname has nothing to do with electricity. It derives from the large number of bright intellectuals that lived in Paris through the years. Some of the most notable ones include Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Gertrude Stein, T. S. Eliot, Claude Monet, Salvador Dali, Pablo Picasso, Claude Debussy, and Voltaire. In fact, the Montparnasse district in the 14th arrondissement was home to writers (like Hemingway) and artists in the 1920s and 30s.

La Belle Époque

Referencing the period between 1871 to 1914, La Belle Époque literally means "the beautiful era" in French. Following the relentless building and rebuilding in the city, Paris during La Belle Époque played host to two iconic international expositions, the World's Fair of 1889 and 1900 respectively. Many of the city's landmarks such as Petit Palais and the Pont Alexandre III were built for these two fairs and have continued to dazzle locals and tourists alike to this day.

Petit Palais Sparkling Eiffel

But perhaps the most remarkable of all was the Eiffel Tower, the beloved icon of the French capital. Nicknamed the Iron Lady, the Eiffel Tower was the highlight of the 1889 World's Fair and was the world's tallest structure, until the Chrysler building came in 1930. Nothing captures the essence of City of Light better than the sparkling Eiffel Tower. It was built in just two years by 132 workers and 50 engineers with a goal of showcasing France's industrial prowess, and received 2 million visitors during the

1889 exhibition. Initially criticized by Parisians, the Eiffel Tower was almost demolished in 1909 after its permit expired but was saved as a telecommunications tower. Standing at 324 meters (with antennas) and weighing 7,300 tons, the Eiffel Tower's pressure on the ground is equivalent to a seated man on a chair. Today, it attracts 7 million visitors annually and remains a self-sustaining icon. Gustave Eiffel's construction company won the project, but the design of the Eiffel Tower wasn't Gustave Eiffel's idea but that of his engineers, Émile Nouguier and Maurice Koechlin. Inspired by bridge piles the company built in Portugal and France, their proposal was selected among 107 projects for the 1889 Universal Exhibition. The construction involved 18,000 parts and 2.5 million rivets, with workers moving 48,000 cubic meters of earth to build the foundations. The Eiffel Tower features a unique design with hydraulic jacks and innovative scaffolding. Gustave Eiffel celebrated with workers in 1888 by abolishing a salary deduction for accident insurance. The tower was inaugurated on March 31, 1889, with Eiffel planting the French flag at the summit. It is said that Gustave Eiffel also built a private apartment at the top of the Eiffel Tower, which was used for entertaining illustrious guests like Thomas Edison. Though not open to the public, visitors can catch a glimpse through a viewing window.

Paris Metro Another key infrastructural breakthrough during La Belle Époque was the Parisian Métro, which is short for Métropolitain. Construction for this rapid transit system began in 1890, with established engineer Jean-Baptiste Berlier helming the overall design and planning. In operation since the turn of the 20th century, the Métro has been known for its unique entrances rich in Art Nouveau influences. Art Nouveau Much more than a staid school of 19th-century architecture, Art Nouveau was an entire aesthetic movement. From architecture and design to the decorative and fine arts, Art Nouveau, or "new art," was everywhere. It was first introduced in Paris by French architect Hector Guimard, who drew inspiration from Belgian architect Victor Horta. Guimard's signature metro entrances, with their glass roofs, railings, and "Métropolitain" signs, are iconic. These entrances, in the "dragonfly" style, exemplify the main principles of Art Nouveau: the use of metal, inspiration from flora and fauna, and fluid, curvilinear designs. Hôtel Deron-Levent and Hôtel Guimard are another examples of Art Nouveau designed by Hector Guimard. Another example would be the art nouveaux house located in Montmartre, that was

once occupied by artist Maurice Neumomt (1868 ? 1930). And let's not forget the most famous structure that exemplifies Art Nouveau ? Galeries Lafayette Haussmann. The ceiling, designed in 1912, showcases the Art Nouveau style of that era, crafted by Édouard Schenck, Jacques Grüber, and Louis Majorelle. In contrast, Art Deco (1910-1940) emerged as a reaction against Art Nouveau, favoring rectangular lines and stylized, almost flat floral elements.

Salon and Art Revolution

In the spirit of innovation and experimentation, La Belle Époque was also a time when art went through a great change. Prior to the 1870s, most artists remained conservative and adhered to the styles favored by the Académie des Beaux-Arts, an institute of patronage set up by Louis XIV in 1648 as a way of reinforcing his absolutist prowess. The annual Salon showed its preference of artworks that touched on traditional subject matter such as religious and historical topics. A post shared by !shita | ??????? ???? (@loonymane)

However, a group of artists rebelled against these rigid interpretations, pioneering a new approach that featured non-realistic brushwork and everyday scenes. This group, known as the Impressionists, included now-famous artists like Claude Monet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, and Camille Pissarro. Their revolutionary work laid the groundwork for later movements such as Post-Impressionism and Fauvism.

Montmartre, known for its vineyards since the Middle Ages, became a hub for famous artists like Renoir, Van Gogh, Lautrec, and Picasso, who immortalized Paris further. Paul Cézanne (left; seen at Abu Dhabi Louvre); Vincent Van Gogh (top right; Immersive experience held in Mumbai in 2023) and his painting (bottom right, taken from Google)

Bistros to Ballrooms: Icons Unleashed

As the vibrant artistic community led a cultural revolution, urban leisure and mass entertainment also flourished. Music halls, cabarets, cafes, and salons emerged across society. And so did many legends. For instance, the word bistro was invented at the Place du Tertre square's oldest restaurant, La Mère Catherine, in 1814 during the Russian occupation after the Battle of Paris. The story goes that Russian soldiers would enjoy their alcoholic beverages there, but often shout "bystro!" (meaning "quick" in Russian) to hurry their comrades to finish drinking to rejoin the ranks. One establishment that epitomized this vibrant lifestyle was the Moulin Rouge, a popular cabaret in Paris, founded in 1889 in Montmartre. Its iconic red windmill made it one of the world's most recognizable structures. Interestingly, both Moulin

Rouge and Eiffel Tower were unleashed on the French sensibilities in the year 1889. Unlike the sparkling status of the Eiffel today, Moulin Rouge was the first building to receive electricity. A hallmark of La Belle Époque, the Moulin Rouge is best remembered as the birthplace of the French Can-can, a lively dance featuring high kicks, splits, and cartwheels. In fact, the dance was accidentally invented while the girls were kicking the hyper-eager men. The windmills in Montmartre were originally used to grind flour and press local grapes. In 1809, the Debray family bought these mills. During the siege of Paris in 1814, miller Debray heroically defended the windmill against the Cossacks and was killed, his body nailed to the windmill's wings. By 1833, the last enterprising Debray brother opened an area for dancing, luring patrons with cheap wine and dancing. "Le Moulin de la Galette" was named after a type of bread made from the Debrays' flour and sold with local wine. Capitale de la Mode Fashion, at the nexus of art and consumerism, shapes and reflects our desires, bodies, and eras. At its heart lies Paris, a beacon of innovation and tradition in the fashion world. Fashion historian Valerie Steele encapsulates this allure in her book "Paris: Capital of Fashion," where she remarks: "The history of Paris fashion blurs inextricably into myth and legend." Understanding Paris as the capital of Fashion requires grasping the essence of couture. Often misused worldwide to signify quality, the term holds a regulated, complex meaning, especially in France. Protected by law, its use is overseen by the Fédération Française de la Couture, akin to champagne's strict criteria. A couturier, a designer crafting bespoke garments, is distinguished by the French Chambre Syndicale de la Haute Couture. Ateliers within couture houses specialize in soft dressmaking (atelier flou) and tailoring (atelier tailleur), each mastering distinct skills. To be recognized as haute couture, a fashion house must meet stringent criteria set by the Fédération Française which includes: These standards ensure that haute couture remains an exclusive and high-quality segment of the fashion industry. So why are we learning about these terms and terminologies? Haute Couture trace back to an Englishman once famed but now largely forgotten by the mainstream. Charles Frederick Worth—regarded by many fashion historians as "the father of haute couture" and "the first couturier"—established the first Couture House in Paris, thus championing exclusive luxury fashion for the upper-class woman. No one defines haute couture as

Marie Antoinette who left behind a lasting style legacy. From Luxury aprons to iconic pouf stylings, she was on top of her game. And it was all thanks to Rose Bertin, a milliner introduced to Marie Antoinette by the Duchess of Chartres, who later became a top designer in Paris. Known for her high charges and unique style, Bertin dressed the queen and others, breaking the norm of exclusive royal designers. This also prompted the thrifting trend among the wealthy, with Marie Antoinette's hand-me-downs frequently worn or sold. "Fashion is to France what gold mines are to the Spaniards." Jean-Baptiste Colbert, Louis XIV's minister for finance and economic affairs, on the impact that fabrics had on French economy While discussing his Queen, one cannot overlook the influence of our Sun King, Louis XIV. When he ascended the throne in 1643, Paris wasn't the fashion capital. Madrid held that title. Spain's flourishing Golden Age, supported by a vast global empire, boasted a rigid, predominantly black fashion symbolizing wealth and dignity. French aristocrats imported their fashion from Spain, tapestries from Brussels, lace and mirrors from Venice, and silk from Milan, as France did not produce luxury goods of comparable quality and lacked the clout to dictate fashions to other countries. Enter Louis XIV, the trendsetter! Louis XIV, renowned for his opulence, became a trendsetter, sporting red-heeled shoes and extravagant wigs, prioritizing fashion to bolster the economy. Known for his love of opulence, Louis XIV famously wore red-heeled shoes and ostentatious wigs. Under his rule, trade guilds, known as corporations were established, to set industry standards and provide structure. Every profession, from tailors to dressmakers to fan makers, had its own union, which offered organization and power. In a culture where the wealthy loved to flaunt their riches, Louis XIV implemented etiquette standards that required multiple costume changes throughout the day, further embedding fashion into French society. Additionally, the emergence of the fashion press in the 1670s propelled French fashion to new heights, making concepts like seasonal trends and style evolution accessible to a wider audience. However, the French Revolution ushered in an anti-fashion movement, advocating simplicity and modesty in contrast to the opulence of the monarchy. In 1800, a law was passed, making it illegal for women to wear trousers without police permission. The aim was to curb revolutionary women's demands for equality in jobs and clothing. Although this law went

unenforced for decades, France's Minister of Women's Rights Najat Vallaud-Belkacem officially repealed it on January 31, 2013, after 213 years. The late 19th and early 20th centuries saw the French fashion industry expand significantly, with haute couture, prêt-à-porter, and lingerie emerging as distinct styles. Haute couture, introduced as Paris vocabulary in 1908, featured leading couturiers like Jacques Doucet, Madeline Vionnet, Coco Chanel, and Elsa Schiaparelli. Post-World War II, Christian Dior's "New Look" revolutionized fashion with exaggerated silhouettes and deliberate femininity, while Yves Saint Laurent popularized prêt-à-porter, that is. mass-produced clothing for everyday wear. In 1921, L'Association de Protection des Industries Artistiques Saisonnnières (PAIS) was founded to protect designers' work from being copied and establish workforce regulations. Paris Fashion Week, inaugurated in 1973, set the stage for iconic events like the Battle of Versailles Fashion Show, showcasing French and American designers. But in the world of style, is there ever a clear winner? Paris maintains its enduring influence, from denim jeans, born in the French city of Nîmes and popularized by Levi Strauss among Californian gold miners, to the bikini, a creation of French designers Jacques Heim and Louis Réard in 1946. Even accessories tell stories of Parisian panache. The Panama hat, unveiled at the 1855 World's Fair in Paris, remains a symbol of timeless elegance. Despite its association with the failed Panama Canal project, it still retains its charm, adorning heads at events like the French Open at Roland Garros. The nickname "Paname" for Paris, once linked to a failed endeavor, remains a stylish emblem of the city's enduring allure. And speaking of innovation, it was the French army that pioneered camouflage during World War I in 1915, forever changing the landscape of military attire. And let's not overlook the beret! Originating from France, this chic headgear isn't just for military uniforms—it's a fashion statement beloved worldwide. The Parisian way of life was truly a revelation, especially when you marry the beauty of the city with all the heard and unheard stories from the yesteryear! Now the Pro tips: I utilized the day pass called Mobilis, priced at around 7.20 Euros, valid for Zones 1 and 2 in Paris. With a pack of 10 tickets, I had the flexibility to explore the city at my own pace. To combat jet lag, late check-in and maximize my time, I began my day early with a general city orientation, opting for a guided walk highlighting Paris's main attractions. I prefer to avoid crowded places and long queues, so I skipped

the Eiffel Tower viewing gallery. I don't see the point of paying for views that can be enjoyed for free. Instead, I took in a stunning city view, with the Eiffel Tower as part of the landscape, from the top of Galeries Lafayette. While exploring, I stumbled upon an interesting piece of memorabilia near a popular spot where tourists take photos with the Eiffel Tower. I believe this location is Pont d'Iéna, but I might be mistaken since I found it quite randomly. For an enchanting view of the Sparkling Eiffel, I suggest visiting Pont de Bir-Hakeim. The bridge offers a free and iconic view, but be sure to check the timings beforehand, as they vary with daylight savings. This detail often goes unnoticed in the influencer era. As for the Opera Garnier, I saved it for a special outing with my girlfriends. We all opted for an audio-guided tour to enhance our experience. As for the Dior Museum, booking tickets in advance is advisable due to queues. For a different perspective on Paris, I joined a Haunted and Crime Tour, exploring the city's darker side. I've included the links for your reference. Don't worry, I get no commission out of this! A post shared by Paris France ?? Travel | Hotels | Food | Tips (@paris.explore) Further Readings Recent (and not-so recent) Posts: France A medic with a maverick mind

View all posts by Ishita [?] is a Celebratory post. Hope you all like [?] LikeLike ? ?I haven't been everywhere, but it's on my list.? ?Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness.? Type your email? Subscribe! ?

10 Historical Secrets Of Paris | Paris Insiders Guide

Paris, a city with more than 2000 years of history, is bound to have a few secrets. Sure, we all know about Notre Dame Cathedral, the Louvre, and the Eiffel Tower, but do you know about secret Paris, like the bronze plaque that marks the center of the city? Or a 14-meter-high statue honoring the patron saint of Paris? Or the Roman arena with space for 15,000 spectators? The next time you're here, do your own secret Paris tour to spot the hidden landmarks, statues, and little-known fountains. Get off the beaten path and search out these marvelous gems that set the city apart, and that make your visit that much more special. Paris will never look the same again. The Louvre's Greatest Masterpieces

Skip the lines make the most of your time in Paris with a whirlwind tour of the must-see works of art in the Louvre on this professionally-guided tour. The top choice.

[Check Availability?](#) Louvre Skip-the-Line Tour

Head straight to the front of the line, then journey through art history on a 3-hour private Louvre visit. On this complete tour, an expert guide reveals subtle details about the artwork.

[Check Availability?](#) The Louvre's Greatest Masterpieces

Skip the lines make the most of your time in Paris with a whirlwind tour of the must-see works of art in the Louvre on this professionally-guided tour. The top choice.

[Check Availability?](#) All distances in France are measured from this bronze compass star fixed in concrete in front of Notre Dame Cathedral. Throughout France, autoroute (highway) signs tell you how many kilometres you are from this exact point in Paris. Many pilgrims come here to pay their respect. It is, in fact, considered the official center of Paris. Written on a green metal plaque along Quai de Bethune are the words Crue Janvier 1910, along with a line marking the level the Seine reached during the Great Flood of Paris of 1910. Many streets became canals and rowboats were used to navigate the swollen waters. Surprisingly there were no deaths as the waters rose slowly, but thousands were evacuated from their homes. VIP Dinner Cruise with Bateaux Parisiens

This romantic dinner cruise includes champagne, wine & a classic meal. Choose the Service

Privilege option for the best seating, best meal, and the ultimate experience.

Reserve your table? Dinner Cruise by Maxim's of Paris

The legendary Parisian restaurant takes you on a dinner cruise complete with champagne and wine.

Choose the 2-hour cruise for a stellar evening in Paris.

Check Availability? VIP Dinner Cruise with Bateaux Parisiens

This romantic dinner cruise includes champagne, wine & a classic meal. Choose the Service Privilege option for the best seating, best meal, and the ultimate experience.

Reserve your table? She faces upriver, guarding the city as she has done since 451, when the prayers of Genevieve the virgin nun were credited with halting Attila the Hun's advances. In 464 as the city was under siege by the Franks, Genevieve is said to have smuggled boatloads of grain through enemy lines. 1,280 years after her death, fanatic revolutionaries burned her remains and cast the ashes into the river. Look for her on the Pont de la Tournelle, one of Paris' newest bridges (1928); here you will spot the 14-meter-high statue of the city's patron saint. The statue of Sainte Genevieve, by Paul Landowski (1875-1961), was completed the same year as the bridge. Landowski's most famous work is Christ the Redeemer above Rio de Janeiro. The emblem is everywhere ? on city schools, train stations, bridges, the Sorbonne, police badges, public buildings, and even the mayor's stationary. The image of a sailing vessel (known as La Nef Parisienne) has been on the city's coat of arms since about 1260 when Louis IX, AKA Saint Louis, appointed the Guild of the Watermen to help run the city. As you might expect, during the French Revolution all emblems were abolished. But the coat of arms soon resurfaced. Beneath the vessel you usually find the words, "fluctuat nec merigitur" ? "tossed by the waves but never sinking" ? the motto of Paris. The motto first appeared in the 16th century but was made official by none other than Baron Haussmann in 1853. The Louvre's Greatest Masterpieces

Skip the lines and see a lot of art on this professionally guided tour. Choose from a private tour or semi-private (max 6 people.) The top choice.

Check Availability? Musée d'Orsay Guided Tour

Enjoy skip-the-line access and learn the stories behind the world's greatest Impressionist art at

Musé d'Orsay.

More information? [The Louvre's Greatest Masterpieces](#)

Skip the lines and see a lot of art on this professionally guided tour. Choose from a private tour or semi-private (max 6 people.) The top choice.

Check Availability? Arenes de Lutece, photo Wikimedia Commons by shadowgate How do you hide an enormous first-century amphitheater in Paris? It's one of the city's most important Roman ruins (the other is the Roman Baths at the Musée de Cluny) and it was only accidentally discovered in 1869 when Rue Monge was built, cutting through the Latin Quarter, during the Haussmannian renovations of Paris. Famous folk like Victor Hugo successfully fought for its preservation. Excavation on the arena continued until the end of World War I. Constructed in the 1st century, the oval arena could hold 15,000 spectators and was used for gladiator combats. Today, with its surrounding gardens and benches, the arena is an oasis of tranquility for children to play, impromptu games of boules, and for urban flaneurs to stroll through. It is the perfect place for a picnic after loading up with baguettes, cheese and fruit from shops along the bountiful Rue Monge. By the way, our favorite Latin quarter hotel, Hotel Monge, backs onto the arena. The hotel elevator has a glass wall so you can view the Arenes de Lutece as you ascend to your room! Acting as France's national attic, the Mobilier National is crammed with treasures from Napoleon, Marie-Antoinette, and Louis XVI. Created in 1667 by French Minister of Finance, Jean-Baptiste Colbert, it was a royal storehouse used as he transformed the Gobelins Tapestry Factory. It's now responsible for furnishing government ministries and embassies with everything from doorstops to doorknobs. The institution also once housed the crown jewels and is part of the Gobelins Tapestry museum complex. The Mobilier National maintains and restores about 200,000 items of furniture, clocks, chandeliers, textiles and tapestries, and occasionally stages special exhibitions. Check the complete list of Paris hotels to find current sale prices on rooms in every arrondissement. Save 10%, 20%? or even more!

Paris Hotel Deals

Find hotels in the Latin Quarter, Saint Germain, the Right Bank, the Marais, near the Eiffel Tower.

Search for your hotel? Save on hotels in every arrondissement of Paris ? the Latin Quarter, Saint

Germain, the Right Bank, the Marais, near the Eiffel Tower. Save 10%, 20%? or even more!

Search for your hotel? In the early 18th century Saint-Germain-des-Prés was one of the wealthiest quartiers in Paris, but it was without a water supply. Sculptor Edme Bouchardon (royal sculptor of Louis XV) was commissioned to design a fountain to solve two problems ? to supply water and to solidify the king's benevolence to the people of Paris. It took Bouchardon seven years to complete the project with four distinct bas-reliefs representing the four seasons. Although the Ionic-pillared fountain is adorned with an abundance of decoration, it wasn't very functional; with only two little spouts water merely dribbled out. Voltaire widely criticized the project saying, "I have no doubt that Bouchardon will make of this fountain a fine piece of architecture; but what kind of fountain has only two faucets where the water porters will come to fill their buckets? This isn't the way fountains are built in Rome to beautify the city?" In a small park in Saint-Germain-des-Prés is a bronze bust by Pablo Picasso who gifted it to the city in 1958. The sculpture is in memory of his friend, the poet Guillaume Apollinaire, who died at the end of World War I from head injuries, compounded by the Spanish flu. Versailles with Priority Access + Gardens

Skip the long lines to experience the grandeur of Versailles on a guided tour. Stroll through the stunning gardens with your guide, then visit Marie Antoinette's estate.

More information? Half-Day, Skip-the-Line Tour of Versailles

If you don't have a full day, this popular half-day tour of Versailles includes priority access with an expert guide. The small-group ensures personal attention and includes transportation right from your hotel.

More information? Versailles with Priority Access + Gardens

Skip the long lines to experience the grandeur of Versailles on a guided tour. Stroll through the stunning gardens with your guide, then visit Marie Antoinette's estate.

More information? And speaking of Picasso, Rues des Grands-Augustins is where the great man lived and worked from 1936 to 1955, including during the Nazi occupation of Paris (1940 to 1944). This is where he painted Guernica in 1937 as well as many other somber works. In 2014, the studio was finally classified a French historical monument (after the current owners threatened to turn it

into a luxury hotel). Marais Food & Wine Tour

Walk through the historic Marais neighborhood with a food-expert guide to visit traditional food & wine shops, while tasting iconic Parisian foods.

Check Availability? Cheese & Wine Tasting in a Paris Cellar

In the cheese-aging cellar of a Paris fromagerie discover 7 classic French cheeses and the wines that pair with them. Lots of sampling!

Check Availability? Cheese & Wine Tasting in a Paris Cellar

In the cheese-aging cellar of a Paris fromagerie discover 7 classic French cheeses and the wines that pair with them. Lots of sampling!

Check Availability? This photo shows how Arc de Triomphe du Carrousel lines up with the obelisk and the Arc de Triomphe The triumphal marble arch with its pink pillars isn't really hidden, but here's a secret party trick to impress your friends. The arch can be used like a precise gun sight to line up the Tuileries Fountains, the Egyptian Obelisk of Luxor in the Place de la Concorde, the Champs-Élysées, and the Arc de Triomphe, more than two miles away. (And, if you could see that far, all the way to the Grande Arche at La Défense.) Napoleon built the monument in 1808 to celebrate Austerlitz and other military victories. It was once crowned with the bronze horses of San Marco plundered from Venice during one of Napoleon's military campaigns. Italy recovered the original horses in 1815 after Napoleon's defeat and copies were made to replace them. The arch is based on a model of the Roman Arch of Constantine. Copyright © 2010-2024 Voconces Culinary Ltd, all rights reserved. Original photos © Mark Craft, all rights reserved.

Parisian hidden gems ? Spoons on Trays | Katy Barrett

The Staircase at the Musée Gustave Moreau

These days, when I go abroad, I post on Twitter asking for recommendations of places to visit. I'm lucky enough to be followed by lots of interesting museum, arts and science people so I always get good recommendations. This week, visiting Paris, my tactic really paid off as we were able to visit a host of wonderful small museums, skipping the crowds at the larger institutions. First up was the extraordinary Musée de la Chasse et de la Nature (Museum of Hunting and Nature) housed in a 17th-century mansion. It is dedicated to the relationship between humans and the natural environment, particularly focused on the history of hunting and the animals that involved. Rooms are dedicated to specific animals ? boars, wolves, deer, dogs, birds of prey. There are also larger rooms focused on trophies, weapons or artworks. The displays are marvellous, mixing taxidermy, furniture, fine and decorative arts with contemporary commissions, all with a playful comment on how human-animal relationships have developed. They are equally visually and intellectually stimulating. A small permanent commission on the second floor by contemporary artist Mark Dion brings in the context of the museum's founders François and Jacqueline Sommer, keen hunters and conservationists, by re-imagining their hunting cabin. My readers know I love a house museum, so of course the Musée Gustave Moreau appealed instantly. Imagined and developed by the artist himself this is a wonderful combination of apartment, studio and museum which arguably creates a better legacy for the artist than his (proto-Symbolist) art deserves. The first floor maintains the apartment that he lived in, first with his family then alone, crammed full of furniture, memories and pictures. It is redolent of life and very claustrophobic. The impact is all the more, then, as you walk up to the second floor and emerge into an enormous, high-ceilinged, light-filled space, which Moreau had created, along with another on the floor above, to form his art museum, sacrificing his studio and the second storey of the house. A beautiful spiral staircase curls up from one floor of the museum to another. The walls are lined with Moreau's paintings ? hoarded and reworked in his last years ? large and small, finished and unfinished, almost all treating of biblical or mythological themes. A particular treat for the visitor are the cabinets

of hinged, framed prints under the windows, with inviting stools, for you to sit and look through. Larger but similarly off the tourist beaten track is the Musée des Arts et Métiers (Museum of Arts and Trades) attached to the Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers (National Conservatory of Arts and Industry) founded in 1794. It is essentially a museum of industrial design and is, in many ways, gloriously old fashioned for a science museum, still arranged by large disciplines ? energy, construction, communication, transport ? and featuring a host of models. The highlight is the former church of Saint Martin-des-Champs that forms part of the building and houses the museum's larger treasures in a glorious space filled with decorative paint and stained glass. There's an original version of Foucault's pendulum, the first model of the Statue of Liberty and the Blériot XI in which Louis Blériot first flew the Channel. Planes hang in the roof of the nave, and other large engines, cars and models are displayed on a towering scaffold down one side. Other highlights of the collection include Lavoisier's laboratory, early automaton, and the development of photography. I'm lucky enough to have been to Paris a number of times before, so also insisted that my husband and I go to the Musée de l'Orangerie for a small but ?immersive? Monet experience. I was obsessed with Monet as a child, and still find his large Nymphées paintings utterly captivating, evoking space, water, calm and glorious colour even in the bustle of the museum. Kind Tweeters also recommended many other places for which we didn't have time, so we will have to return. This will be my new tactic for all future excursions, ask for the gems off the beaten track, and revel in their magic. Made with Squarespace

Hidden Gems in Paris | Big Bus Tours

Black Friday Sale - 30% off selected combos! Black Friday Sale - 30% off selected combos! Tickets selected: This website uses cookies to improve your experience. Carry on browsing if you're happy with this. [Learn more.](#)Got it! Wandering the streets of Paris and losing yourself in this magical city is an enjoyable way to explore. But even then you'll be hard pushed to find its hidden gems and secret attractions. With its world-famous monuments, museums and galleries, you'll arrive with an already long list of things to do and see. Then when you've scaled the Eiffel Tower, shopped along the Champ-Élysées and marvelled at the Louvre Museum, head to one of these hidden gems for a more Paris off the beaten path experience: A Parisian park you've probably never heard of, Buttes-Chaumont is one of the city's biggest and most impressive green spaces. A haven to escape the hustle and bustle of the city. Because of its hilly nature, it's the perfect location to be spoilt for incredible views across the city. So pitch up and enjoy a picnic at this tranquil hidden gem in Paris. Then take a wander and discover its caves, waterfalls, suspended bridge and lake. Be sure to look out for the wildlife ? bird watchers will be in for a treat. Bliss. Once the road travelled by French Kings to enter the city after being crowned in the Cathedral of St. Denis, Rue du Faubourg-Saint-Denis has transformed over the years into a gourmet food hotspot. Turkish, Kurdish, African and Indian eateries line the streets, with terraces offering great people-watching opportunities while you eat. You know you're in the right place when the local newsagent serves up award winning falafel, a true hidden gem in Paris. And when you've eaten, be sure to spot the two stone arches of Port St. Martin and Porte St. Denis. Montmartre ? Blue Route, Stop: Gare du Nord If you're a fan of art, why not make it your mission to find the Banksy murals in Paris. A tribute to the May 1968 uprising, it's believed there are 12 works of art in total - although a couple are yet to be found. Browse Paris off the beaten path and see if you can discover them! We'll get you started with your first location: head to Rue du Mont Cenis (18th). On one of the city's most famous Montmartre staircases, Banksy has painted a rat being popped like a cork from a champagne bottle. Some say it symbolises the area's festive spirit, what do you think? For Rue du Mont

Cenis:Montmartre ? Blue Route, Stop: Gare du Nord Picture this: it's a balmy evening in the city of Paris, the river Seine is glistening, soft music is playing in the background and summer strollers begin to ballroom dance in the streets. Sound like movie set? Well you can be the star. From June through to the end of August you can join the fiesta any night of the week. Head to the Rosa Bonheur sur Seine, at Porte des Invalides, and perfect your salsa, tango, waltz or swing. A great way to also meet the locals. For Rosa Bonheur sur Seine:Classic Route ? Red, Stop: Grand Palais

The best bit about exploring Paris off the beaten path is experiencing this city in ways you won't necessarily find in the guide books. Getting away from the tourist hotspots and losing yourself for a few hours. Of course, you need to tick off the iconic sights and landmarks too, the not so hidden gems in Paris. Hop on a Big Bus tour and we'll take you to see all the best bits. For more inspiration on how to fill the rest of your time in this cosmopolitan city, check out our 2 Days in Paris itinerary. Spending just 48 hours in the city of love? Here's how to cram all the much-loved attractions into your trip, along with a dose of culture and a generous helping of French cuisine. When the sun sets in most places it's usually time to head home. The same can't be said for Paris. The city of love erupts into an electric atmosphere at night providing an experience that's completely different to the daytime. From iconic cabaret shows to late night river cruises and moonlight swimming. We've chosen the best places to experience all that the city has to offer after dark. We've rounded up where to find the best shopping in Paris ? now all you have to do is round up the funds? If you're only visiting for a short while, you might want to have some rainy day activities up your sleeve in case the weather turns. Here's how we think you can still enjoy Paris in the rain... Join thousands of our passengersSign up to our newsletter for exclusive info and offers JavaScript seems to be disabled in your browser.

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Ten Hidden Gems to Discover in Paris | Limitless

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Ravoux to Notre-Dame-de-l'Assomption ? celebrated in gloriously luminous colour as The Church at Auvers. Visit the house of Vincent's mentor Dr Gachet, who was immortalised in the melancholy Portrait of Dr Gachet, and pay your respects to Van Gogh in the cemetery, where he lies next to his brother Theo. But Auvers isn't all about Van Gogh. Back in the 1860s this pretty little town was a lively hangout for renowned artists including Corot and Daumier; you can see their sublime murals adorning the walls of the Maison-Atelier Daubigny. Self-guided walking tours of this hidden gem of a town also lead you to spots where Cézanne and Pissarro painted masterpieces.

North-west outskirts of Paris. Train from Gare du Nord to Pontoise; change there for Auvers-sur-Oise. Loved the Musée Rodin? Perhaps you'd like to get to know another artist, who ? unlike Rodin ? has been overlooked for decades. The name of Jean-Jacques Henner was once mentioned in the same breath as other French masters, and with the recent remodelling of a museum dedicated to his works, he's slowly creeping back into the public eye. So visit the splendid Musée National Jean-Jacques Henner soon, before the crowds arrive. It's housed in a majestic mansion ? a hôtel particulier ? close by if you're staying at luxury Le Royal Monceau - Raffles Paris. Displays include more than 2,000 examples of Henner's paintings, beautifully exhibited in opulent rooms decorated with period furnishings. Ethereal portraits follow on from mythical landscapes full of light and shade, set alongside many of his preparatory sketches and the delicate "nymph" paintings for which he was once so well known. And keep an eye out for the mysterious, titian-haired beauty Henner portrayed repeatedly during his career. 43 avenue de Villiers, 75017. Métro line 3 to Wagram or Malesherbes, or line 2 to Monceau. Open Wed-Mon 11am-6pm. Admission ?6. Bought books from Boul'Mich market in the Latin Quarter? Chase more bargains at lesser-known Marché aux Puces Porte de Vanves, the only flea market in central Paris. Held in the 14th arrondissement, it's a photogenic jumble of around 400 stalls sprawled over several streets ? rich pickings for lovers of brocantes who can forage to their heart's content among hidden gems from antiquarian books, 1950s retro furniture, piles of vinyl records, and silverware in need of a good polish. You may have to search hard to source genuine bargains like vintage YSL dresses, Limoges porcelain or perhaps a diamond ring ? but persevere, as hidden treasures can still be found! And should your flea-market

adventure leave you hungry, there are plenty of food stalls serving up delicious street snacks like crepes and falafels. Top tips: Most market traders don't accept cards so take cash with you if you're intending to buy, and remember that it's almost expected that you negotiate over the price of any purchases. 4 avenue Georges Lafenestre, 75014. Métro line 13 to Porte de Vanves. Open 7am-2pm Sat-Sun. Browsed the chic fashions at elegant department store Galeries Lafayette? It's time to explore Galerie Vivienne, a one-stop 19th-century shopping mall exuding Parisian glamour from its soaring glass roof to the swirling mosaic floor and ornate neoclassical frontages of its indie stores. Unknown to many tourists, the gallery is a chic melange of boutiques displaying the wares of up-and-coming designers, shoemakers, hatters and jewellers. It's also home to two historic stores: Librairie Jousseume has been selling antiquarian books for two hundred years, while Legrand Filles et Fils is the gourmet épicerie of choice for locally made foie gras, regional wines and artisan chocolate as souvenirs of your Paris trip. And when you've had your fill of high-end shopping, linger awhile with your beloved in this charming arcade to sip a glass of Champagne and refuel on classic French dishes at elegant Bistrot Vivienne. 4 rue des Petits Champs, 75002. Métro line 3 to Bourse. Open 8am-8:30pm daily. Have you taken a couples' selfie in front of the cute, pastel-hued houses on Rue Crémieux? Try for a unique shot in Rue des Thermopyles, a minuscule, cobbled treasure of a lane tucked away on the Left Bank in hidden Paris. This secret street of rustic cottages adorned with decorative wooden shutters, elaborate glass-panelled doors and minuscule wrought-iron balconies is an oasis of leafy peace way off the touristy beaten track. Magical to visit any time of year, it really comes into its own in spring and summer, when sinuous swathes of ivy, vines and wisteria cover all the façades and creep in arches across the lane. If you're lucky, you'll hit a day when the community garden, run by the local residents, is open to the public. Top tip: Whatever season you visit Rue des Thermopyles, look out for graffiti from street artists like Session 75, Miss.Tic and Les Gars Laxistes. Paris 75014. Métro line 13 to Pernety. Enjoyed a colourful and slightly risqué cabaret show at the Moulin Rouge? That's certainly the most famous windmill in Paris today, but there was a time when mills were the defining symbol of hilly Montmartre. Of the 30 or so that once dotted the district, only two remain. Stroll down Rue Lepic and you'll soon come

across Moulin Radet, one of the hidden gems in Montmartre with a wooden frame and white paddles. Originally a flour mill, it has now morphed into Le Moulin de la Galette, an upscale bistro that often flies under the tourist radar but makes a cosy spot for a romantic dinner à deux. Little-known fact: Steps away you can admire Radet's sister mill, Moulin Blute-Fin. It had its moment of fame in the 1870s, when an al fresco dance hall lay at its feet. It's enshrined forever in Renoir's joyful painting *Bal du Moulin de la Galette* ? you can check it out in the Musée d'Orsay. 83 rue Lepic, 75018. Métro line 12 to Abbesses. Restaurant open daily noon-10:15pm. Admired Paris laid out below you from atop the Eiffel Tower? Now it's time to see the city from a different perspective. An ascent to the Panoramic Observation Deck at Montparnasse Tower puts you 56 floors above the ground and reveals a road map of famous Parisian monuments: the spiky Eiffel Tower taking centre stage, the glistening gold dome of Les Invalides, the Sacré-Coeur Basilica perched on its Montmartre hilltop, Notre-Dame Cathedral? And all the way to the futuristic skyscrapers of La Défense. Kids love the chance to find their Paris hotel through powerful telescopes, and learn more about the city via the interactive exhibits. If you're all happy with heights, you can venture up to the open-air viewing terrace at 210 metres to take some Insta-worthy photos; time your trip for nightfall to get shots of Paris illuminated by a million dancing lights. 33 avenue du Maine, 75015. Métro lines 4, 6, 12 and 13 to Montparnasse-Bienvenue. Open 9:30am-10:30pm Sun-Thur; 9:30am-11pm Fri-Sat. Admission starts at ?19. Viewed Paris from the Ferris wheel in the Jardin des Tuileries? Now it's time to follow Parisian families and nip along to the Jardin d'Acclimatation, a quieter option for kids in the leafy Bois de Boulogne. There's masses for everyone to do, so you can easily spend a day there. Attractions include traditional carousels with gilded, intricately painted wooden horses, roller-coaster rides that offer sneak peeks of the Eiffel Tower, and splash parks for cooling down in summer. Toddlers can get around the park on the mini-train, and they're certain to adore hugging cuddly goats and donkeys at the petting farm. Top tip: When you've squeezed every last happy drop of fun out of the fair, you can replenish family energy levels in a choice of terrace restaurants serving classic burgers and pizzas. Carrefour des Sablons, Bois de Boulogne, 75116. Métro line 1 to Les Sablons or Pont de Neuilly. Open

10am-6pm Mon-Sat; 10am-7pm Sun. Admission starts at €27. If you've enjoyed a balade in some of Paris's famous gardens like the Jardin du Luxembourg or Parc des Buttes-Chaumont, why not step into uncharted territory on the Promenade Plantée? Sometimes known as the Coulée Verte, this obscure delight runs above street level on a defunct railway line between the Opéra Bastille and the Bois de Vincennes. The garden was the inspiration for the High Line in New York City, but it remains surprisingly free of crowds. This gentle 5-kilometre family meander leads along an avenue of trees, among beautifully tended gardens festooned with roses, lavender, bamboo and wisteria. En route, you can check out the Viaduc des Arts, a series of brick archways now packed with the artisan workshops of perfumiers, jewellers and guitar makers, and be sure to look out for The Dying Slaves, a vast, art deco-style sculpture atop the local police station!

1 coulée Verte
René-Dumont, 75012. Métro line 1 to Bastille. Open dawn-dusk. We hope you enjoyed our journey around the lesser-known attractions of Paris – now it's time for you to go out and get exploring the hidden treasures of the city! If you're interested in architectural design, sustainable development, or you simply want to visit a unique hidden gem in England, add Container City to your list of things to do in London. The Catboat in Amsterdam is the world's only floating cat sanctuary. Since the 1960s, the organisation has provided the city's stray cats with food, shelter and medical care. See Amsterdam from the sky as you laugh, look and live a one-of-a-kind experience at A'DAM LOOKOUT Over The Edge - Europe's highest swing. Filled with memorials to world-famous individuals as well as Parisian citizens, Père-Lachaise Cemetery combines graveyard, historic site and memorial park in the city's largest green space. Explore the beauty of New Zealand and see why so many world-class directors decided to film their movies in this unique location. For shopping opportunities beyond department stores and chic boutiques, head to the best flea markets in Paris to seek out vintage fashions, hidden gems and endless antiques. Paris is known and loved as "The City of Light". But beneath the luminous metropolis lies a dark and ghoulish space filled with the bones of over six million people. Tempelhof, the gigantic Nazi-era airport that mutated into a huge park in the heart of the city, is one of Berlin's most singular and captivating locations. Teufelsberg, or "Devil's Mountain", is an abandoned Cold War-era listening

station-turned-street art haven in Grunewald National Forest, 13 kilometres outside of central Berlin.

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best price and discover the Best Secret Travel Destinations in France such as the cities of Saint Cirq Lapopie or Eze. Need more inspiration? Discover the Best Places to Visit in France, Best Things to do in France, Most Beautiful Beaches in France, Best Castles in France but also the Best Christmas Markets in

France and Best Ski Resorts in France. Alsace A 15-minute drive from Colmar and only a 1hour drive from Strasbourg, Eguisheim is one of of your Best Secret Places in

France. With its colourful facades, typical Alsatian houses and stork nests, Eguisheim is a destination straight out of a fairy tale. How to get there: Book your flights to Basel or Strasbourg (1h by car or train) as well as your accommodation and your tours and activities in Alsace, such as a "Half-day wine tour from

Strasbourg". Where to stay: "Hotel Restaurant L'Auberge Alsacienne" with modern rooms and a traditional restaurant. Giverny - Normandy Once in a while, the hand of man intervenes to create

a magnificent landscape and sublime gardens that is now seen as one of the most beautiful Secret Places in France. Without a penny in his pocket, the painter Claude Monet had to leave Paris and moved in as a single tenant in this house located in Normandy. The property underwent major landscaping work including the creation of a pond and the building of three greenhouses. Monet finally acquired the house after 7 years of tenancy. These gardens were

to inspire him with his most famous paintings including "Les Nymphéas". Come relax in this soothing and inspiring place just 1 hour's drive from Paris and book your flights and accommodation at the best price and your tours and activities in France such

as a "Half-day trip to Giverny

from Paris" and discover one of the Best Hidden Gems in France. How to get there: Book your flights to

Paris (1h by car). Where to stay: "Le Jardin des Plumes" located in Giverny. Monet's house and gardens are only 500 m

from the Hotel. Cote d'Azur Close to the border with Italy, Menton is one of the most colourful destinations in France and one of the Best

Secret Travel Destinations in France. Less famous than Nice or Cannes, Menton has nevertheless become one of the most famous

tourist resorts of the Côte d'Azur. Located just a 50 minutes' drive from Nice Airport, Menton is a perfect destination for a multi-day stay or a day trip. Book your flights but also your accommodation at the best price as well as your tours and activities in the

French Riviera such as the discovery of the city of Grasse and the possibility of making your own perfume at a Perfume Factory. How to get there: Book your flights to Nice Airport (50 min by car).

Where to stay: "Best Western Plus Hotel Prince de Galles" located in the seaside town of

Menton. Brittany Located an hour away by car from Saint-Brieuc airport and Rennes airport, Cancale is one of the Best Hidden Gems in France. This small town of 5 000 inhabitants is visited every year by travellers from all over the world who come to taste its wild oysters, enjoy its turquoise blue waters and its magnificent beaches. Cancale is only a 50 minutes' drive from le Mont

Saint-Michel. How to get there: Book your flights to Rennes (1h by car) and hotel at the best price. Where to stay: "La Mere Champlain" located in the heart of Cancale. Alsace Riquewihr is one of the most beautiful villages in Alsace and one of the best off-the-beaten-track places in France. The tourist success of this small village is largely due to its intact architectural heritage spared by the two world wars. How to get there: Book your flights to Strasbourg or Basel (1h by car), your accommodation at the best price and your tours and activities in Alsace, such

as a "full-day wine tour & tastings from Strasbourg". Where to stay: "Maison Rebleuthof" a luxury apartment in the heart of Riquewihr's Old Town. Golden Island - Var This imposing volcanic mountain massif is one of the most incredible natural wonders in France and one of the

Best Secret Places to Visit in France. The Massif de l'Esterel is located in the Var, a department known for the beauty of its landscapes and its beaches which have been elected as being among the best beaches in France. The best way to enjoy these landscapes is to hike. You may see deer, wild boar or turtles and be overwhelmed by the scents of thyme, rosemary, lavender and mimosa. How to get there: Book your flights to Nice (40 min by car) and your accommodation at the best price in the region. Where to stay: "Tiara Miramar Beach Hotel & Spa". This design hotel features a free onsite spa. Cote d'Azur This is one of the best hidden gems in France but also one of the most beautiful French villages. The village of Eze is located a few minutes from the very famous city of Nice and therefore only a 40 minutes? drive from Nice airport. Eze is a 13th century village hung on a rocky peak facing the Mediterranean. We come here for the beauty of the landscapes and for the authentic character of this small village and its medieval

houses. How to get there: Book your flights to Nice (25min by car), your accommodation at the best price in Nice and

your tours and activities in Nice

such as a ?Day trip to the Verdon Gorge from Nice?. Where to stay: "Eze Hermitage Hotel" offering panoramic views of the area and a beautiful swimming pool. Carantec - Morlaix - Brittany This magnificent and tiny island is one of the Best Secret Places to Visit in France. It is located in Carantec, Morlaix bay, in Brittany. The name of this island is not its first owner?s, Charles Cornic,

but his best friend's, Monsieur Louët. It is now possible to stay overnight on this tiny island managed by the Carantec tourist office, but the place is often fully booked; we advise you to keep that in mind and book in advance. Book your accommodation at the best price in Carantec or elsewhere in Brittany and discover one of the best hidden gems in

France. How to get there: Book your flights to Brest-Bretagne Airport (40 min by car). Where to stay: "Hôtel de Carantec" facing the beachfront. Alsace Colmar is not really a secret destination, nor is it unknown but it is full of hidden gems which you will

love. Over the years this beautiful city has become one of the most visited destinations in France. It is no coincidence that travellers from all

over the world book their holidays in Colmar. They also voted the city "Best Destination for Spring". We fell in love with Colmar and have published a small travel guide on the best things to do & see in Colmar. How to get there: Book your flights to Basel or Strasbourg (1h by car) and travel by train or by car to discover Colmar. Where to stay: "Hotel Le Colombier Suites". Dordogne Located in the Dordogne region, one of the most beautiful regions of France, La Roque Gageac is one of the best

off-the-beaten-track destinations in France. Enjoy your stay in the region to explore the most beautiful places of the Dordogne Valley such as the sacred city of Rocamadour, the village of Collonges-la-Rouge and many others. How to get there: Book your flights for Bergerac Dordogne Perigord airport 1h by car) and your accommodation at the best price. Where to stay: We advise you to book in the

guest house "Maison d'hôtes Anne Fouquet". Kerlouan - Brittany This is not really a village but rather a hamlet. Meneham located in Finistere in Brittany is one of the Best Secret Places to Visit in France. It is known for the house between

two rocks built to monitor the coast. The entire hamlet of Menham was renovated about ten years ago and today it welcomes travellers wishing to discover how life was at the seaside in the 18th century. If you are not passionate about history this is not a problem, you will be seduced by the beauty of the landscapes, the turquoise waters of the mer d'Iroise and the wilderness of this

Brittany

coast. How to get there: Book your flights to Brest (30 min by car) and your accommodation at the best price in Brittany. Where to stay: We recommend the hotel

"Relais du Silence Hotel de la Mer", an ecological hotel located on the

seafront. Occitanie One of the most beautiful villages in France is located just 1h30 from Toulon airport in the Lot department. Saint-Cirq-Lapopie is a small medieval village of 200 inhabitants. The village has also inspired artists like André Breton who lived there. Explore in his footsteps the narrow streets and medieval houses of one of the best hidden gems in France. How to get there: Book your flights to Toulon and your accommodation at the best price. Where to stay: Book at the "Charme et jardin c?ur St Cirq" highly rated for its location in the heart of

Saint-Cirq Lapopie. Arcachon - Occitanie With a height of 106 m and a length of 600 m, the Pilat Dune is the highest dune in Europe and one of the Best Hidden Gems in France. The largest dune in the world is still 5 times larger but the beauty of the Dune of Pilat is truly awesome. Size aside, its most impressive feature is its presence, right there amidst a beautiful

forest of pine trees. Go down at the foot of the dune and you will arrive on the basin of Arcachon, world famous for its oysters. A few steps from the dune you can eat at the restaurant "La Coorniche" renovated by the French designer Philippe Starck. You can also book your room at the best price at the 5-star hotel "La Coorniche". How to get there: Book your flights to Bordeaux (50 min by car). Where to stay: "La Coorniche" renovated by the French designer Philippe Starck.

Dordogne The Dordogne valley is a favourite destinations for travellers exploring France. You will fall in love with the villages of

Rocamadour, Carennac, Colonges-la-Rouge and Meyronne, ranked among the Best Secret Places in France. During your stay you will taste the best of French gastronomy and exceptional wines. There is also food for the spirit as the Dordogne Valley is rich in exceptional monuments, medieval castles and its famous half-timbered houses. Guided tours will take

you some of the most beautiful places in the Dordogne Valley. How to get there: Book your flights today for "Brive-Dordogne Valley" airport (40min) and your hotel, guesthouse or B&B, at the

best price in the Dordogne Valley. Where to stay: The guest house "Château de Maraval" is perfect for an unforgettable stay in this region of

France. Corsica You will find the small village of Nonza in the South of Corsica. Located only 1hour drive from Bastia airport, Nonza is considered one of the most beautiful villages in France. Come and enjoy the Mediterranean climate and discover one of the best hidden gems in France. Below the village you can enjoy the beach of Nonza. There is always room for sunbathing since Nonza has only 73 inhabitants. How to get there: Book your flights to Bastia Airport (1h by car), your accommodation at the best price and your tours & activities in Corsica,

such as a "Private tour of

Bastia with a local". Where to stay: If you want to stay in Nonza

we advise you to book at the "Hotel de la Corniche" with a clear view of the valley and the sea.

Corsica Bonifacio is certainly one of the most beautiful secret destinations in

France. The island of beauty, the other name for Corsica, is itself one of the most beautiful islands in Europe. Corsica is a welcoming and self-respecting destination. Nature is the main treasure of this island which counts among the most

beautiful beaches in France but also the best hiking trails of Europe. How to get there: Book your flights for the "Figari-South Corsica" airport (30 min by car) located in the south of Corsica and

discover Bonifacio but also the sublime islands of Lavezzi. Where to stay: "Solemare" offers views of the old port and the Citadel and you can enjoy its heated swimming

pool and air-conditioned rooms. Gordes - Luberon The Notre-Dame de Sénanque abbey is located in the town of Gordes, awarded as one of the most beautiful villages in France. You will be able to visit the two places, the Abbey Notre-Dame de Sénanque and the village of Gordes and its famous ?gories? on the same day. Come visit this place in spring and early summer when lavender is in bloom! How to get there: Book your flights to Avignon (30 min by car) or Marseille (50min)

Where to stay: Stay at "Hotel Les Bories & Spa" and pamper yourself like a star. Pyrénées Orientales Only a few km from the Spanish border, Collioure is one of the best hidden gems in France. Collioure is a peaceful destination where the 3,000 inhabitants among them many artists,

live in harmony with nature and the sea. How to get there: Book your flights to Perpignan (the airport is located 40 minutes by car from Collioure) as well as your accommodation at the best price.

Where to stay "Hotel Madeloc" located 10 minutes? walk from the seaside. Cotes d'Armor - Brittany Plougrescant is only a 50 minutes? drive from Saint-Brieuc airport. Located on the Côte de Granit Rose in the Côtes-d'Armor, Plougrescant is a coastal town ranked among the best hidden gems of France. This peninsula is known for this house wedged between two rocks but you can also see a house on a tiny island. How to get there: Book your flights to Saint-Brieuc Airport (50 min by car). Where to stay: Located a few minutes from

Plougrescant, stay at "Hotel des Rochers. Auvergne Rhône-Alpes - France The Saint-Michel rock on which culminates the church of Puy en Velay is one of the symbols of Puy En Velay, one of the best

hidden gems in France. A land of spirituality, Puy-en-Velay attracts pilgrims from all over the world but also lovers of lace, an ancestral know-how still mastered by a few lacemakers who create refined and 100%

artisanal lace. Passionate about history? Do not miss the Renaissance celebrations of the King of the Bird which take place every year in mid-September. How to get there: Book your flights to Lyon Airport (2h by car). Where to stay: "The House of Lake Fugeres". Situated in the best rated area in Le Puy en Velay. Plan your trip to France Hotels, Apartments, B&B... Fresh deals every single day Thousands reviews you can trust Discover France?s biggest collection of things to do and guided tours. Whatever you want to do you?ll find it here. Travelling to France. Explore France holidays and the best places to visit Best things to do in France Best beaches in France Best castles in France Best places to visit in France Best natural wonders in France Best ski resorts in France Best Christmas Markets Best Destinations 2024 Best Beaches 2024 Best Romantic Destinations Best ski resorts Best Christmas markets 2025 Best beaches in Europe Sustainable tourism in Europe About us Contact us EDEN Destinations Membership Download Press Subscribe to discover latest travel inspiration, tips and deals from European Best Destinations. Best in Europe. Your ultimate bucket list to travel in Europe Best destinations 2024 Most exclusive destinations Best

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10 Off-the-Beaten-Path Spots and Hidden Gems in Paris - InsideHook

With the 2024 Summer Olympic Games kicking off this week, Paris seems to be on the tip of everyone's tongue and an integral part of so many summer travel plans. While France's capital is used to the limelight, the projected tourism numbers promise to surge well above regular summer crowds and smash records left and right (*err gauche and droite* in French). Anyone visiting in the coming months should expect to contend with the masses. But that doesn't mean spending your entire holiday in a queue. Planning a trip to Paris this summer? Whether you're interested in going beyond the well-trodden, first-timer route (sorry, Eiffel Tower and Louvre) or just prefer to explore spots not overrun with the hordes of holiday goers, these insider-approved alternatives to big-name attractions and hidden gems reflect a different, less touristy side of the City of Light. For travelers looking for a more local and laid-back Parisian experience, Hugo Toro, an interior designer and Paris resident, suggests checking out Canal Saint-Martin. Located right by the Grands Boulevards, it's a charming area on the water's edge. The bistros, independent boutiques and bohemian ambiance give it tons of character. "The French Capital is a city of museums," Toto says. "My favorite, Musée de la Chasse et de la Nature, sits inside a superb 17th-century mansion, Hôtel de Guénégaud, designed by François Mansart. Displayed inside are a variety of paintings, sculptures, engravings and more that illustrate hunting through the ages and across cultures." The first elevated linear park of its kind, Promenade Plantée is a leafy walkway built on top of old railway tracks. It starts at Bastille and runs through the 12th arrondissement for three miles to the Bois de Vincennes. It's a nice place for a stroll and to enjoy the rooftop views over the city. Think of it as the Paris equivalent of the High Line, although this one came first. In a district as beloved and busy as Le Marais, you might be surprised to learn of the treasures concealed (almost) within plain sight. Square Georges-Cain is a peaceful best-kept-secret pocket park with greenery, sculptures and shade-giving trees. On a nice day, you'll see Parisians and in-the-know visitors sitting on a bench, eating falafel from the famous stands and taking a break in-between shopping and sightseeing. No doubt you've heard of Jardin des Tuileries, set between the Louvre and Place de la Concorde. But

how about Parc des Buttes Chaumont? Situated in a more off-the-beaten-path location in the 19th arrondissement of northeastern Paris, the fifth-largest park in Paris covers nearly 25 hectares of trees, lawns for picnics, waterfalls, scenic viewpoints, a lake and a suspension bridge. An Instagram hotspot in the making that thankfully hasn't gotten catapulted into the social media spotlight just yet, Rue Crémieux is a pretty-as-a-picture block in the 12th arrondissement that's lined with pastel-hued facades. If you're looking for a spot to pose for photos that's not so ?been there, done that,? give it a shot. Paris has many churches and chapels, some more famous and flocked to than others. Despite its location in the heart of Paris, Sainte-Chapelle is something of a hidden gem. Built at the behest of French king Louis IV, the ornate Gothic-style facade conceals an even more spectacular interior marked by beautiful stained glass windows and religious relics. Looking for something a bit macabre but mostly magnifique? One of the more unusual (and only slightly creepy) attractions, the Catacombs of Paris are underground ossuaries that snake below the city and contain the remains of several millions of people. Edgy Belleville doesn't look as pretty as its more polished counterparts. But the gritty, artsy vibe is all part of the appeal. From the graffiti-covered buildings to the international street food scene to Cimetière du Père-Lachaise ? the most visited necropolis in Paris and the final resting place of Jim Morrison, Oscar Wilde and Édith Piaf ? this vibrant neighborhood is definitely worth checking out. One of the most historic and authentic districts in the city, Saint-Germain-des-Prés used to be a playground for writers like Hemingway and Fitzgerald. Today, its timeless charm makes it one of the best places to stop for a glass of wine at a neighborhood sidewalk café and soak in the atmosphere. Lane Nieset, a Paris-based travel writer, suggests crossing off the classics before taking a seat somewhere more local and in-the-know like Au Sauvignon. This article was featured in the InsideHook newsletter. Sign up now. Subscribed? Log In. Log In. Suggested for you Join America's Fastest Growing Spirits Newsletter THE SPILL. Unlock all the reviews, recipes and revelry ? and get 15% off award-winning La Tierra de Acre Mezcal. Join America's Fastest Growing Spirits Newsletter THE SPILL. Unlock all the reviews, recipes and revelry ? and get 15% off award-winning La Tierra de Acre Mezcal. Sign up for InsideHook to get our best content delivered to your inbox every weekday. It's free. And awesome. Copyright © 2024

Secret Paris and hidden gems - The Good Life France

Everything You Want to Know About France and More... Paris. The City of Light. The City of Love. City of chocolate shops. The world's most visited city. Here you'll find some of the world's most visited attractions. But there is a secret Paris that's filled with hidden gems, fascinating and historic places where the past lingers in the present, places you might miss if you don't know they are there? In 2022, there were 44 million visitors to Paris. The Louvre Museum and the Eiffel Tower were the two most visited Parisian attractions, and the Versailles palace was the most visited destination in the region. But let's dive into the heart of Paris, beyond the guidebooks, postcards and the clichés. Explore the hidden gems of Paris ? those little nooks and crannies that make us fall in love with this city over and over again. So, grab a croissant, settle in, and let's take a whimsical stroll through the streets of Paris! Some say that Paris is a cliché, but like all great clichés, it lives up to the hype. The city is brimming with historic monuments whose tales fill us with wonder even after centuries. The ancient Louvre once a royal palace, now the world's most popular museum, the glittering Opera Garnier, like a miniature Palace of Versailles with gilded corridors and a magnificent staircase, plus a hidden pool where the Phantom of the Opera is said to live. The Arc de Triomphe, the great Gothic Cathedral of Notre Dame and of course the Eiffel Tower. There's just so much to love. The historic Marais district was in fact marshland until the 12th century (marais is a French word meaning marsh) when the Knights Templar, who had run out of Crusades to fight, cleared the land. Four hundred years on, the aristocracy began building their mansions here to be close to the Louvre, the preferred palace of royalty. This area is famous for its stunning architecture, but most people miss the Marché des Enfants Rouges, a covered market dating back to 1615. It's the oldest food market in Paris. The name 'Enfants Rouges' refers to the children who wore red clothes at the orphanage next to the market hundreds of years ago. Now it's a bustling, vibrant place to go shopping, enjoy street food, or put together a picnic to eat in the Place des Vosges, a lovely square at the heart of the Marais. It's very close to the Pompidou centre, and if you like markets and fabulous food, you'll love the Marché des Enfants Rouges. A cemetery may not sound like the most

fun way to spend a few hours getting to know Paris ? but I highly recommend the Père Lachaise Cemetery. It's fascinating, and gives an insight to the city and its past residents. It's in the east of Paris and it's the last resting place of more than a million people. A visit here makes for a very interesting cultural and heritage experience, there are even guided tours available. You'll find some seriously famous people buried here ? Maria Callas, Sarah Bernhardt, Edith Piaf, Frederic Chopin and Jim Morrison, whose tomb is one of the most visited. Marcel Proust lies here ? and people leave little madeleine cakes by his grave, they were his favourite. Oscar Wilde's tomb now has a clear plastic cover on because so many visitors kissed the stone, that it started to disintegrate. Parisians often go here for a Sunday stroll with the family. It feels like a park, in fact there are more than 5000 trees here; it's a labyrinth of tree-lined alleys, full of beautiful sculptures. If you want to go there, the nearest metro is Gambetta. By the way, here's a fun fact about Paris transport. You have the metro which is generally underground, and you have the RER which is underground but mostly overground. RER stands for Réseau Express Régional ? Regional Express network and it runs in Paris and to the suburbs. But when the idea for the RER first came up it was going to be called Metro Express Régional Défense-Etoile which would have been shortened to merde (which I am sure you all know what that means, polite word is poo if you don't). But it was changed at the very last moment! If you head to the Eiffel Tower and cross to the little Île aux Cygnes, which means the island of the swans, which was artificially created in the middle of the river Seine in 1827, you may think that you have been magically teleported to New York because here in Paris you will come face to face with the Statue of Liberty! But non, it's because Paris has its own, slightly more petite, Lady Liberty ? it's like finding a little piece of America, but with more baguettes and less baseball. The statue of liberty was a gift from France to America in 1886. Its interior was designed by Gustave Eiffel, and it was created by sculptor Bartholdi from Colmar, Alsace. The statue of Liberty's face is said to be based on Bartholdi's mother's face. There are in fact hundreds of replicas of the Statue of Liberty all around the world, but none are as big as the New York Liberty. The statue on the Paris island faces west towards her sister in New York. For our next Paris uncovered gem ? how about a quirky bookstore. A stone's throw from The great Gothic cathedral of Notre Dame is Shakespeare

and Company. It's like Narnia for book lovers. You might go in for a quick browse and come out hours later, wondering what year it is. One of my proudest moments was seeing my books on the shelves in this lovely book shop. And if you're a book shop fan, maybe head to Belle Hortense ? it has pretty much only French books, but it's the only book shop in Paris, maybe in all of France, that opens until 2 in the morning and has a wine cellar. It's near the Hotel de Ville ? the city's town hall. La Promenade Plantée also called the Coulée verte René-Dumont, is an elevated park built on an old railway line. You can walk along it and get a really unique perspective of the city. The railway line was built in the mid 1800s and ran above the streets of Paris. It was abandoned in 1969 as bigger trains were introduced and someone had the genius idea to turn these aerial tracks into a park ? in fact the Highline Park in Manhattan New York was inspired by the Paris project! The aerial walkways are quite wide, filled with trees and plants, ponds and benches and outdoor gyms. The track winds for 4.5km from Opera Bastille to Bois de Vincennes. Next on my list of favourites is also a green paradise ? the Square du Vert-Galant. It's a charming little park located at the western tip of the Île de la Cité, offering stunning views of the Seine. The square owes its name to King Henri IV born in 1553 and grandfather of Louis XIV. He was nicknamed the ?Vert-Galant? because of his numerous ? mistresses even as he got older. Apparently, people used to say of him ?he's always green despite his ?great? age though when he died in 1610, he was only 57 years old ? not really a great age, but I suppose for those days it was. The square is about 8m, (25 feet) below the ground floor of the Pont Neuf nearby ? it's the natural level of the land, so it floods easily. And it's overlooked by a statue of Henri IV, sitting on a horse. The square is filled with lots of trees and plants and wild birds ? ducks and moorhens for instance and Parisians love to come here for a romantic stroll and the fabulous views over the Seine with the Louvre in the background. Have you ever heard of Nicolas Flamel's house? It's slightly more famous now due to Harry Potter because Nicolas Flamel made an appearance in ?Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone? ? he made the Philosopher's stone, an object capable of turning metal into gold and granting immortality with its Elixir of Life. The house is a restaurant now and even has a ?Harry Potter menu?. This building, dating back to 1407, at 51 rue de Montmorency, is the oldest stone house in the city. Nicholas Flamel ? the real man lived here.

It's thought he was born in 1330 and he worked as a book seller and it's believed he was obsessed with an ancient book about alchemy, written in Hebrew. A legend developed that he translated the ancient manuscript and discovered the secret of immortality and the philosopher's stone! He lived to be 88 years old – pretty old for those days which probably influenced that story. As an additional piece of trivia, a street named for him, rue Nicolas Flamel near the Louvre, intersects with the rue Perenelle, named for his wife, who he married in 1368 – and who is also in the Harry Potter film! And talking of roads – here's a fun fact about Paris – there are no traffic stop signs in the city. There used to be a one in the 16th arrondissement, the French word for Paris districts. But it was removed in 2016, making Paris a rare case of a capital city without a single stop sign. And a bit of trivia – highways leaving Paris are numbered clockwise from 1 to 16 – for example the A1 goes to Lille in the north, the A6 to Lyon in the south, all the way round until you get to the A16 to Calais in a different part of the north! Paris has such a long rich history and you can find traces of it absolutely everywhere. There are plaques on the wall everywhere you go. For instance there are 'perimeter markers' from 1726. In an attempt to limit development in the city, King Louis XV established 294 plaques, saying, essentially that 'Paris Ends Here'. And if you look at the Hôtel de Sens, in the Marais district, actually it's the oldest mansion in the area and just one of three remaining medieval residences in Paris – is another piece of history. Hôtel in this instance, doesn't mean a hotel like you stay in as a guest, it means a residence of importance. And in this case, the Hôtel de Sens was once a palace for the Archbishops of Sens, a town in Burgundy. And in the wall is a reminder of three days of revolution in July 1830, as, when a cannonball lodged in the wall, it was decided to leave it in place, and erect a plaque with the date it struck. It's so odd in such a picturesque medieval building! But it's well worth a visit, it has a pretty little garden too which you can access for free. Most visitors are intent on entering the cathedral of Notre-Dame, and miss the incredible detailed ironwork on the side doors! There is a legend that when they were created in the 13th century by a locksmith called Biscornet, he was so overwhelmed by the task of designing and making the ornamentation for the doors that he had to sell his soul to the Devil to get help. Against all the odds, he managed to finish his amazing work in a very short time. The doors were called

?The Devil?s doors? and it was said that they were impossible to repair. In the 19th century, they did in fact need to be repaired and a very famous master blacksmith called Pierre Boulanger was chosen to do the work. It took him considerably longer ? 12 years to repair and reproduce the work of Biscornet. Once his work was done Boulanger signed his name on some of the panels on the back of the door to prove that the masterpiece was made by a human and not the Devil! And another Notre-Dame secret ? did you know that you can go underneath the Cathedral and there, in Europe?s biggest archaeological crypt, you will discover the old Roman city of Lutetia as Paris was then called ? it means ?near a swamp?. Hardly anyone ever goes there, but in the corner of the square of Notre Dame there is a staircase that looks like it leads to a car park with a pillar which is engraved with the word ?Crypte du Parvis.? Head down those stairs and be prepared to be amazed. Discovered in 1964 when someone decided it was a good idea to build a car park under the cathedral? hmmm? there are whole roads of ancient Paris, a unique timeline of the city from remains of the city?s very first port to Roman baths to 19th century streets! And talking of streets ? how about the shortest road in Paris? Rue Degrés (2nd arrondissement): 5.75 m, not much to see, but how quaint is that?! And the The oldest clock in Paris is on the corner of the Boulevard du Palais, Quai de l?Horloge near the Conciergerie building. The clock was commissioned by Charles V in 1370 and installed in 1371. And it still works! It was the first public clock in France. It?s set in a tower that was once a watchtower and part of a royal palace. Paris is visually rich but it?s also full of amazing sounds. Head to a café, and just soak up the experience ? people laughing, conversation, servers calling out ??une café allongee?, and depending where you are, the sounds of the locality, the bells of Notre Dame or another church, the hum of traffic and tour buses, the noise of a market or the metro passing beneath your feet, cars driving on cobbles? Paris is also about the little moments: finding a jazz band playing in a cosy café or in a cobblestone alley, the smell of fresh pastries from a boulangerie ? there are more than 1700 in Paris, so you?ve got a lot of choice ? or a sunset view from the bridges over the Seine. Paris really is a city where every street corner has a story. Janine Marsh is the author of several internationally best-selling books about France. Her latest book How to be French ? a celebration of the French lifestyle and art de vivre, is out now ? a

look at the French way of life. Find all books on her website janinemarsh.com Join The Perfect Paris Tour with Janine Marsh ? a week long adventure in the heart of Paris as you discover historic, cultural, gastronomic and dazzling Paris on this very special week-long, small group tour: tourwithabsolutely.com Discover more fabulous destinations in France with our free magazine The Good Life France All rights reserved. This article may not be published, broadcast, rewritten (including translated) or redistributed without written permission. Everything You want to know about france and more? The Good Life France is the leading independent website about all things French from travel to culture, gastronomy to property and practical guides & more?

Covered passages, the hidden gems of Paris | VisitParisRegion

Away from the frantic hustle and bustle, the covered passages of the city of Paris have a vintage charm that still operates even today. As symbols of luxury and elegance, these architectural gems offer the unique experience of being suspended in time. Created between 1820 and 1850 by the greatest Parisian architects, the covered passages are vestiges of 19th-century heritage that showcase the technical achievements of that period. The boutiques and studios that line these glass-covered passages are a delight for antique collectors, fashionistas, fine gourmets and fans of all kinds of oddities. Let the hidden gems of Paris take you on a journey. Your exploration begins with a long walk through the 2nd and 9th arrondissements. Plunge into the Belle Époque by visiting the galerie Vivienne, the passage des Panoramas and the passage Verdeau, all in succession. A stone's throw from the Palais Royal gardens, the Galerie Vivienne is one of Paris' most famous covered passages, attracting 6.4 million visitors each year. Beneath its beautiful glass roof, you may even be lucky enough to come across a film shoot or a fashion show. Hardly surprising in this idyllic setting of authentic mosaic floors, wrought-iron features and gilding, offering a fabulous trip back in time. The Galerie Vivienne's 176-metre covered walkway is a mixture of refined modernity and audacity where you'll find everything from a jeweller's selling ancient pieces to the studio of urban artist, Blase. For children, the boutique si tu veux(jouer) sells a range of educational toys and games. And if you're overcome by the irresistible urge to read, you'll find just what you need at the Jousseume bookshop, one of the oldest in Paris. Your visit continues in the Passage des Panoramas, which is equally elegant and beautiful. Close to the Musée Grévin and the Théâtre des Variétés, this is the oldest covered passage in Paris and one of the most remarkable. Built on the initiative of American ship-owner and developer, William Thayer, the Passage des Panoramas owes its name to the enormous 360° paintings that decorated the interior walls of the rotundas. Although these panoramic paintings were removed in 1831, the buildings have retained all their splendour. This 133-metre covered passage is 3 metres wide and has a very special atmosphere. It is a cabinet of curiosities that makes a great place to

stroll, as it has always been the haunt of collectors and philatelists from across the world. And it's a delight for anyone who loves good food. Besides the food shops that have built the reputation of the Passage des Panoramas, you'll also find plenty of restaurants said to be among the best in Paris. You'll finish your walk in the Passage Verdeau, a real treat for bargain hunters and collectors. Indeed, when this covered passage was built in 1846, it benefited from being near the famous Hôtel Drouot a famous Parisian auction house and became the haunt of antique collectors. Thus, the gallery, also known as the Passage Drouot, still attracts enthusiasts from all over the world. In addition, this vast cabinet of curiosities also features a multitude of art galleries and craft studios that you can admire along the way. A beautiful showcase that art & craft fans will appreciate. Tucked in the heart of the 1st arrondissement of Paris is one of the city's most secret passages. The galerie Véro-Dodat is not the most famous, despite being among the most elegant. The black-and-white marble floor tiles, the brass and cast-iron ornaments and the immaculate light that streams through the glass roof are sophistication itself. Created in 1826 by a pork butcher named Véro and the financier Dodat, the covered passage was intended as a link between Palais-Royal and Les Halles, two very popular districts. Boosted by its proximity with the Messageries Laffitte & Gaillard transport company, the gallery was an instant success and became highly popular, especially among travellers waiting for their vehicle to arrive. But with the Second French Empire and the disappearance of the transport company, the site gradually lost its appeal. Nowadays, its tranquillity only adds to the charm of this little peace haven. Away from the buzzing excitement of Paris, take advantage of the soothing atmosphere in this 80-metre walkway to enjoy a delicious lunch at the Véro-Dodat brasserie. This gallery is also home to the boutique and workshop of the Louboutin footwear brand. So go and admire their iconic stiletto range. Les passages couverts se suivent et ne se Among the succession of covered passages, no two are the same? In Paris's 9th arrondissement, the passage couvert Jouffroy stands out from the crowd. When it was built, in 1847, its structure of iron, glass and nothing else, and the fact that it was the first covered passage to be heated by the ground, made it a symbolic feat of technical innovation. It features all the boutiques typically found in the covered passages of Paris, selling old-fashioned

walking sticks, antiques or traditional toys. (Pop into the boutique Pain d'Épices, a real treasure chest for children). The Passage Jouffroy is also home to one of Paris's flagship museums, the musée Grévin. This unique venue offers a chance to rub shoulders with your favourite celebrities, not in the flesh but in a display of waxwork models. And what better way to round off your walk than by staying overnight at the Chopin hotel? A fabulous end to your trip beyond time? At Place de la Madeleine in the 8th arrondissement of Paris, you cannot help but notice the elegance of this square. Two examples are the Madeleine church and the nearby galerie de la Madeleine. Created in the same year, this discreet covered passage adds to the district's sophisticated charm, with its white inner arches, marble flooring and glass ceiling. Along this 53-metre walkway, fans of luxury items will find what they're looking for among the big names in fashion to be found here, such as Giambattista Valli. Nearby, you'll also find one of the oldest and most beautiful fine-food restaurants of Paris. Art Nouveau enthusiasts should book a table at the Lucas Carton restaurant, to enjoy lunch amid the magnificent wood panelling sculpted by Louis Majorelle. Time for an exotic change of scene! If you think you've seen all there is to see in the covered passages of Paris, try this one! With its shopfronts decorated in pink, yellow and red, the passage Brady, AKA Little India, is well worth a visit. So prepare for an alternative voyage through India and Pakistan. What makes this long walkway so different is that it was split into two to accommodate the Boulevard de Strasbourg, just a few years after it was built. Hence, you'll explore not one but two separate passages, one with a glass roof, the other uncovered. So make yourself comfortable at one of the many Indian restaurants in the covered passage Brady. The dahl, cheese nan and kulfi are truly exotic delights. And to prolong the pleasure even further, visit the grocery shops here to stock up on spices and other flavoursome specialities

Expired session

France's Exquisite Hidden Gems: Discover Elegance

France is home to some of the most iconic and popular holiday destinations in the world. But it's also a great place to venture off the beaten track, discover new and unexpected things, and create unique memories that will last a lifetime. We've put together a list of hidden gems in and around some of the major tourist spots to help you do just that. Paris is a great city to explore on foot, and one of the most intriguing ways to do this is by taking a tour of its beautiful 19th-century covered passages. You'll find everything from luxury goods to quirky antique stores and delicious pastry shops. As Paris is the city of love, the perfect museum to visit has to be the Musée de la vie Romantique where you can immerse yourself in the lives of Romantic era icons such as George Sand. Wondering where to eat during your stay in Paris? Get inspired by our selection of the best Michelin restaurants in Paris. And, if you prefer to be outside, the Jardin du Luxembourg is the ideal place for a nice walk. Our luxury apartments in Paris are the perfect base for exploring the hidden treasures of the most beautiful city in the world. Normandy truly has something for everyone, from bustling beach resorts and swooping limestone cliffs to picturesque villages, along with a rich culinary heritage that includes Camembert cheese, cider, and Calvados. Rouen, the region's historic capital, boasts mediaeval cobblestoned streets, half-timbered houses, and imposing gothic churches including the Cathedral of Notre-Dame, made famous by the painter Claude Monet. While there you can experience local cuisine at its finest at Michelin-starred Pottier Frères, or take a detour to Aux Delices Normands in nearby Franqueville-Saint-Pierre, recently voted the Best Bakery In France. Just over an hour's drive from Rouen, Deauville offers an ideal alternative, offering something for the whole family, from expansive beaches to gourmet dining. You can find out more about Deauville in our exclusive guide. After a day of exploring, return to one of our stunning Normandy villas and bask in luxury. While most people associate the French Riviera with glitzy destinations like Nice or Cannes, the region is also world-renowned for its astonishing natural beauty. Its coastline offers sweeping coastal cliffs, sublime sandy beaches, and secluded rocky inlets, along with sleepy fishing villages and winding coastal roads with breathtaking views over the

Mediterranean. A holiday in the region can take you from the famous beach clubs of Saint-Tropez to the old port and narrow streets of La Ciotat, and upwards to Saint Agnès - Europe's highest coastal village. A few kilometres outside Saint-Tropez, Gassin is a mediaeval village surrounded by vineyards, perched high on a hill 200m above the sea, which offers an ideal alternative to the larger resorts. Journey from the region's secluded spots to our exquisite homes on the French Riviera for the ultimate luxury experience. Marseille is a vibrant, bustling port city overlooking the Mediterranean that radiates all the warmth of the south of France. Soak up the charm of its oldest neighbourhood, Le Panier, with its colourful houses, narrow streets, and hidden squares, and head for the Jardin de Vestiges which combines a beautiful garden and the city's oldest remains. Rich in history dating back to Roman times, Aix-en-Provence, known for being the birthplace of painter Paul Cézanne, is only about 30 minutes from Marseille. Prepare for your trip by taking a peek at our article on the best things to do in Aix-en-Provence. You will love returning to our beautiful villas in Marseille after a day exploring the city. Alpilles is one of the most idyllic regions of France. If you're seeking a bit of tranquility near this highly sought-after massif, Saint-Rémy-de-Provence is the place for you. Other must-dos? Visit a family of beekeepers in the heart of the Alpilles to uncover the secrets of honey-making. Head to Pizza Brun to savour pizzas topped with surprising ingredients like truffle or bull sausage. You could also go hiking, mountain biking, or horseback riding in the midst of nature, and explore the region and its characterful villages. Let yourself be enchanted by the elegance and refinement of our luxury villas in the Alpilles. And for even more inspiration, discover our guide to the Alpilles. Situated on the majestic Garonne River, Bordeaux is world-renowned as a mecca for wine lovers. Château le Carmes Haut-Brion, the only wine estate located within the city limits, has a unique winery designed by Philippe Starck and the architect Luc Arsène-Henry, situated within beautiful gardens. If you have a sweet tooth then we suggest Maison Darricau for some awesome chocolates, or Pâtisserie San Nicolas for their delicious Canelés, the most famous pastry speciality of Bordeaux. If you're travelling with kids, don't miss Guignol Guérin, the oldest puppet theatre in France. And just an hour's drive from Bordeaux, don't miss the chance to discover Cap Ferret. A true oasis of greenery and serenity, this former fishing village is dotted

with oyster huts. With its family-friendly atmosphere, endless sandy beaches, and a multitude of activities, it is a must-visit for families. For those who wish to explore the region further, head south and discover Biarritz and the Basque Country, just a 2-hour drive away. Savour the secret delights of the city and then return to one of our luxury villas in the South West. France's hidden gems offer a unique glimpse into the country's rich culture, breathtaking landscapes, and vibrant local life, far from the bustling tourist trails. Each discovery, from secret Parisian passages to serene Provençal villages, promises an unforgettable journey filled with enchantment and personal moments of wonder. Embarking on this journey to explore France's lesser-known treasures is an invitation to create lasting memories and experience the true essence of French elegance and charm.

Provence is synonymous with the good life. But what does that really mean? Here's what luxury travel in Provence looks like. Provence's picture-perfect reputation exists in so many different, but equally stunning forms. Rocky mountains flatten into sweeping farmlands, eventually giving way to the dramatic and wild. We create your tailor-made holiday in our exceptional houses to rent. Welcome to our holiday magazine! [Click here](#) for our main website. [Click here](#). We'll answer as soon as possible!

Hidden gems in Paris: Offbeat study spots

Read and unlock hidden gems in Paris that promise a unique and enriching experience. Discover secret spots where students can immerse themselves in learning away from the crowds. Paris is often noisy, which makes it hard for students like you to find good places to study. The nearest Starbucks might seem like an option, but they're usually crowded and loud. While some cafes in Paris may not fully meet your expectations, there are plenty of wonderful options waiting to be discovered! From charming atmospheres to reasonable prices and top-notch equipment, you're sure to find a study spot that perfectly suits your preferences. If you worry about loud conversations, uncomfortable seats, no Wi-Fi, or not enough plugs for laptops. We have made a list of places to study in Paris where you won't have to deal with those problems. Whether you like studying in a library or a cosy cafe, you'll find the perfect spot on our list of the seven hidden gems in Paris.

The classic hidden gems in Paris: Libraries to study

The majority of students choose libraries to study and prepare for exams because they provide a quiet and comfortable ambience that helps them concentrate. Let's look at some of the best libraries for you to study in peace. Opened in 1995, this library in Paris holds the title of the largest in France and even has its own metro station (Grande Bibliothèque, Line 14)! Consequently, it provides ample study space and boasts one of the most comprehensive document collections. If you need further persuasion, the library includes its own cafeteria, making it worth enduring the often-lengthy queues to enter. Access requires payment of €3.50 per day (free after 5 pm) or €38 for an annual pass.

The Mazarine Library, constructed in the early 1640s, holds the title of France's oldest public library. Its elegant antique wooden décor makes it one of the country's most stunning libraries. Though it only has 140 seats, it boasts an impressive collection of rare books and literary works. It is open to readers and visitors Monday to Friday from 10 am to 6 pm.

In the centre of Paris, you'll find the Centre Pompidou Library, one of the city's most famous and modern libraries. It's divided into multiple spacious floors with study areas, computer zones and an extensive book collection. The entrance queue can be lengthy, but it typically moves quickly. The library is open from noon to 10 pm on weekdays and from 11 am to 10 pm on

weekends. Remember, it's closed on Tuesdays. Undoubtedly the most stylish choice, this library, often called BSG, is visually stunning. Its wooden arcades and green lamps will remind you of the décor of Harry Potter. Strategically situated in the Quartier Latin, near several academic institutions, it's common to find a wait in line before entering ? but this hidden gem in Paris is absolutely worth it.

Atypical classic hidden gems in Paris

If you like studying in a relaxed environment where you can work in groups or chat with friends, unlike a library, then you should know about these places. If you enjoy quirky places, this spot is perfect for you. An old house has been transformed into seating areas in various rooms, including the kitchen, living room, bedroom and even the bathroom. If you've ever dreamed of studying in a bathtub, this is your chance! The Wi-Fi here is excellent, although it may have issues when crowded. If you're a student looking for a unique place to study in Paris, this could be the perfect spot for you! It opens at 10 am every morning and is located at 39 quai de la Loire, 75019 Paris. L'AntiCafé is a unique café where you pay for the time you spend there and enjoy unlimited coffee, snacks and Wi-Fi. It is one of the best cafes to work in Paris. The aim is to create a homely atmosphere, allowing guests to bring their own food or drinks. It's highly convenient for students, providing projectors, printers, scanners and board games. The vibe is more relaxed than a library, with spacious and comfy chairs and plenty of charging plugs for phones and laptops. To access their beverages and buffet (including juices, cakes, crackers, bread and fruit), you pay an hourly rate of ?5, with payment calculated pro rata after the first hour. For instance, if you stay for 1.5 hours, the fee would be ?7.50. Upon reaching the 5th hour, you'll automatically receive the day pass priced at ?24. The only drawback is its smaller capacity compared to a library, accommodating around 35 people max, so it's best to arrive early. If you're familiar with Regus, you won't be surprised to find it listed here as one of the unique places to study in Paris. While Regus is primarily known for office rentals, it also offers a lesser-known business lounge. This lounge provides a quiet and serene environment perfect for focused work and study, surpassing the typical café experience. You'll find chairs, Wi-Fi, printing services and unlimited coffee available here.

Study in Paris with École de Management Appliqué (EMA)

EMA is a well-known institution offering various academic degrees such as bachelor's, master's, MBA, DBA and PhD programmes in Applied

Management. They specialise in finance, law, economics and creative industries. Situated in central Paris, EMA offers programmes in both French and English. [Click here for further details.](#) Frequently asked questions about hidden gems in Paris

1. Are there any hidden gems in Paris where I can study in peace? There are a lot of hidden gems in Paris for you to study in peace. A few of them are:
2. Can you work from cafes in Paris? Yes, you can work from cafes in Paris.
3. Where can I find the best cafes to work in Paris? The best cafes to work in Paris include L'AntiCafe?, Le Grand Breguet, Nomade café and Columbus Café & Co, to name a few.
4. What are the best places to study in Paris? You can study at all the places mentioned in the blog and more. A few names include Deli-cieux, Comptoir Général and Jozi Café.
5. Where can I study in Paris? You can study with EMA. This well-known institution in Paris offers numerous academic degrees.

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Duration: 4 hrs door-to-door A perfect taster to Versailles if you are short of time or if you are a first time visitor. A private tour of the Palace and its gardens. Price: 180? / pers for 6

Duration: 5 hrs door-to-door Go behind the scenes with your personal guide with exclusive access to areas closed to the general public. Price: 220? / pers for 6

Duration: 9 hrs door-to-door An hidden gem! A magical place that inspired the construction of the Palace of Versailles. Come with us to see for yourself how the King of France found himself a rival. The largest, still inhabited private estate in France, Vaux le Vicomte will not disappoint. Price: 180? / pers for 6

Duration: 5 hrs door-to-door Residence of the French King before becoming a Museum, who wouldn't have heard of the most famous art Museum in the world? But with this tour, you will discover a more hidden history of this grandiose landmark. Plus, view and interpret our selection of the best artefacts found at the Museum. Price: 90? / pers for 6

Duration: 2,5 hrs door-to-door Captivating art, impressive history, stunning gardens! Enjoy this and even more with this special tour, visiting two of the most alluring places in France. Learn about Monet & the Impressionist art movement in Giverny then immerse in the life of the French Monarchs

in Versailles. Price: 270? / pers for 6

Duration: 9 hrs door-to-door These majestic gardens were the scene of many of King Louis XIV's splendid balls and shows. Learn more about the significance of the gardens & of how magic came to life! Price: 145? / pers for 6

Duration: 5 hrs door-to-door After closing, Versailles palace opens its doors to allow a privileged few to visit in confidence the ultimate residence of the french Kings. Price: on request

Duration: customized Paris: City of light, love & arts. Our private Half Day tour of Paris will offer you a good overview of the best historical sites of Paris. Price: 155? / pers for 6

Duration: 4 hrs door-to-door Let us share our knowledge of France's history and heritage. Live the wonders of France as the royalty would. favorite ?My husband and I booked a private tour to Versailles with Paris To Versailles Privates Tours for a full day so that we could really experience the many special things beyond just the palace. Our day was beyond perfect, made more so by our fabulous guide Anna-Maria.

Not only was she extremely knowledgeable about Versailles, but her clear passion for what she does was infectious.

She was delightful to be with, and always mindful of how we were experiencing things. She endeavored to give us some more intimate experiences away from all the crowds which made it very special.? Nancy W, Missouri, USA, Oct 19th 2019 We know that the success of your visit to France depends on the ability to our tours guides and chauffeurs to immerge yourself into our country. Let your experience begin Book online by yourself your guided tours or contact us to customize your stay in Paris if you want the full experience (luxury hotel + restaurant + transport + tours). You are not convinced? Then, learn more about our skills: As the Versailles specialist, let us be your ambassadors to discover the castle and its secrets. Our private tours ? with your own licensed guide and chauffeur ? will enable you to fully appreciate Versailles from a different perspective, ensuring a visit you'll never forget. In addition to Hidden Gems? full range of private tours from Paris to Versailles, we can also arrange access for you to events and shows at the château, including masked balls and other costumed events, opera and concert performances, the fountain light shows

and more. We can organize your costume, make-up artist and everything else you'll need for a night to remember forever! We also offer bespoke corporate visits and private events at the castle, including cocktail receptions and dinners, with musicians, chefs and serving staff dressed in period costumes if requested. Stay up to date about exciting tours, unique trips, exclusive experiences, and the very best that France has to offer. ? © 2015-2022 Paris To Versailles Private Tours owned by Hidden Gems. All rights reserved. Made in Paris with favorite

Discover 168 local hidden gems in Paris

Allez! Explore the hidden heart of Paris with Spotted by Locals! From quaint bookshops to charming bistros, our Spotters reveal the city's best-kept secrets. Experience Paris through the eyes of true locals. Our local in Paris Our local in Paris Our local in Paris Our local in Paris Our local in Paris

This little shop is stylish, friendly and provides hair and beard care for men, including waxing, facial treatments and relaxing steam baths for your face. By Hotel Lutetia is a luxurious place that saw all the "crazy years" of glamour pass by and hosted artists such as Ernest Hemingway during his time in Paris. By Cafe Joyeux employs people with disabilities as their main staff and offers them regular working conditions and salaries. And the coffee is great as well! By When you get in the shop, which does not look very special from the outside, all the items appear strange, and as brought back from a movie or something like that. By "Maison POS" in Paris is a fruit & veg seller is focused on organic fresh produce. It's a pleasure pantry where you can discover local tastes! By "Les Copains du Faubourg" with its English bulldog mascot makes a perfect egg & bacon roll that never fails to draw me in... By "La Kabane" in Paris is a go-to place of mine for citron, coconut, triple chocolate and granola cookies! I love their dog... By "Chez Antoine" in Paris is great any time of day! It's the kind of place they always remember my order - a Pizza Sicilienne usually... By "Refuge BD" in Paris is a local comic book or BD shop where I've been doing 'click & collect' during the lockdown... By "La Musardine" is the only erotic bookshop in Paris. It's off the beaten track, but it's a must-visit if you have a kinky side! Super helpful staff, too... By "The Swedish Institute of Paris" is a little piece of the Nordic country in the heart of the city. I like the modern environment in this classic district! By "Jardin de l'hotel Lamoignon" in Le Marais, Paris, is one of the best areas to spend a quiet moment. I just love relaxing in the shade & on the grass. By Our Spotters' Local Favorites Only. Skip the Tourist Traps. Find Nearby Spots and Navigate with Ease Save Your Favorites and See Them on the Map ? Full access to local favorites. Zero tourist highlights. Our local Spotters share personal tips and secrets about their city. Nothing sponsored! These unique insights can't be found in traditional guidebooks. Discover the city through the eyes of a local! We focus on hidden gems and unique

places that aren't crowded with tourists. Our Spotters' tips help you avoid the crowds and have truly special experiences, far from the tourist masses. By visiting our locals' favorites and lesser-known places, you contribute to a more sustainable way of traveling. You support the local economy and reduce the pressure on popular tourist spots. And in the end, those are the best places right? We are Spotted by Locals. An online travel community publishing city guides in 80+ cities. Our hand-picked local writers and photographers create all the content. Our 488 Spotters (and counting) live in the cities they write about, speak the local language, and regularly update their tips. Their insights help around 1.4 million travelers each year discover the hidden gems of cities. With insider advice from locals, we offer a unique, sustainable travel experience, allowing travelers to slow down and immerse themselves in the local culture, beyond the tourist hotspots. Europe Americas Asia Africa Amsterdam New York San Francisco Frankfurt Barcelona About Spotted by Locals Download our app Blog Contact us FAQs Become a Spotter Collaborations Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookies statement All continents Europe Americas Asia Amsterdam New York San Francisco Frankfurt Barcelona About Spotted by Locals Download our app Blog Contact us FAQs Become a Spotter ? Collaborations ©2024 spottedbylocals.com Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookies statement Enter the destination URL Or link to existing content

Paris ? Day 13 ? September 21st ? Emmanuel?s Hidden Gems! Musée du Luxembourg! La Closerie des Lilas! Montparnasse! Ciel de Paris! ? KEVIN CRAIG

KEVIN CRAIG Author of LGBTQ YA Fiction. Flâneur. Playwright. Poet. Pilgrim. We were close to the end. I could feel the inevitability of our flight as it loomed in the near future. But we still had so much to see and do! We started this day with a walk to the Latin Quarter where we were to meet Emmanuel for his Hidden Gems tour of the Quarter. There was a light rain falling and it was early enough that the city seemed to be just awakening from its slumber. You can read about the fascinating history of Paris?s famous bouguinistes here at WIKI. Another landmark we were constantly walking past on our way to and from other places was Notre-Dame. We met Emmanuel at the Odeon Theatre in the edge of the Latin Quarter. Not quite a part of our tour, but spotted nonetheless? Emily in Paris shooting locations! Yes, we have watched this series. For the location! Location is everything? This was our fourth and final EMMANUEL?S HIDDEN GEMS TOUR. Emmanuel has a Facebook group you can join here: EMMANUEL?S HIDDEN GEMS. The best way to contact Emmanuel is through his Facebook PAGE HERE. On his Facebook page, just click on the MESSAGE button near the top to get in touch with Emmanuel directly. You can book months in advance and you pay on the day of the tour. Like all his other tours, Emmanuel?s Latin Quarter Tour was incredible. We saw many hidden gems and famous iconic places. Take Emmanuel?s Tour to learn all about all the secrets of the Latin Quarter that he?s curated for it. Despite the rain, we had a wonderful time! After the tour, we had a time-slot booked for the new Gertrude Stein/Pablo Picasso exhibit at the Musée du Luxembourg. It was an excellent exhibit, but extremely short. It only took about twenty minutes to see all of it. I most loved the gender focused pieces. Our day was to end in Montparnasse, at the top of the tower in the famous Ciel de Paris restaurant with the incredible views of the city. So, after Luxembourg, we slowly made our way in that direction. We had not really planned on La Closerie de Lilas this trip, but it was always there? waiting. It was my 3rd trip to Paris and La Closerie still felt like a pilgrimage spot I had to visit at least once during every trip. We were

walking right past it! It was at the doorstep of the Montparnasse neighbourhood? just waiting for us. First, we walked up through Luxembourg Gardens. What?s a little rain when you?re walking about in one of the most beautiful cities in the world?! After the Gardens, there?s the big fountain? The fountain then leads to the statue of Marechal Ney. Hemingway mentions this statue in *A Moveable Feast*, his not fully true (but maybe true in his eyes as seen through the passage of time and bias) biography of his 1920s time in Paris. The statue is one of the last things between the walker and La Closerie des Lilas. Now, when I think about La Closerie des Lilas? I always think of Hemingway sitting at one of its tables scribbling in a notebook while sipping something warm on a cold fall day. But this was a mega-literary hangout! Fitzgerald, Verlaine, Apollinaire, Beckett, Man Ray, Sartre, Baudelaire, Cezanne, Modigliani, Oscar Wilde, Emile Zola, André Gide? these are just a few of the many literary patrons who have sought refuge from the streets of Paris inside the comfort of La Closerie des Lilas. They carried on conversations there, wrote their opuses there, made plans there, flirted there, got drunk there, talked their revolutions there. It is a place with a long history with literature. It?s a mecca for the literary pilgrim. Did we stop in for oysters and beer? You betcha! In one of the photos above, you can see the brass nameplate that marks Hemingway?s seat at the bar. Our own table marked the seats of Jean-Paul Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir. After our pit stop in Closerie des Lilas, we still had plenty of time to explore Montparnasse before supper in the tower. I love the history of Parisian cemeteries! And I had never been to the one in Montparnasse! We used Google Maps inside the cemetery walls to be directed from one grave to another. It?s such a great way to visit the tombstones on your list? I read many a Guy de Maupassant stories in my teens. One of the greatest short story writers! After the cemetery, we were still rather early for our dinner reservation at Ciel de Paris?but we were in the neighbourhood. This is one of those blocks of time we landed in where we had to wait around because even though we booked a full jam-packed day, there were empty slots of time with nothing to do but wait. We toured the Montparnasse neighbourhood and saw some of Paris?s most famous restaurants. All of the above restaurants were popular places among the famous of the 1920s and beyond. Ciel de Paris was one of the things we were looking most forward to. The food promised to be incredible, yes, but it was the view

we were dying to see. We reserved a window seat with a perfect view of the Eiffel Tower. After MUCH loitering in the neighbourhood, it was finally time for us to go! I understand the bittersweet feeling Parisians have toward Tour Montparnasse. It's a gorgeous highrise, but an eyesore in a city that prides itself on being low to the ground. And here was our promised view! Somewhere between our first glass of wine and our dessert, the city came to life in the darkness? The holiday was almost over. Two glorious weeks in Paris and its environs! So spectacular. And what a way to see the city, all lit up and from above it. If you're able to book a spot at Ciel de Paris, it is SO worth it! The food is excellent, and the view is to die for! Pro Tip: Always choose a view OF the Eiffel Tower over a view FROM the Eiffel Tower. So ends another glorious day in the City of Light. The Metro took us back to the hotel in no time. The next day was a free day and our last day! We had plans to see Montmartre on our own, and to wander the streets to say goodbye to it all! [Link to previous day](#). [Link to next day](#) Like Loading...

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Paris Hidden Gems | Must-See Secret Spots 2024

Home » Europe » France » 15 Magnificent Hidden Gems in Paris | MUST-SEE Spots! Famed for its enchanting vibe, Paris is everyone's mistress. The city seduces tourists with its historic buildings, alluring venues, and the poetic nostalgia that permeates the air. While it's rich in history, Paris also happens to be one of the swankiest capitals in the world. Let's not forget that the city plays host to the iconic Paris Fashion Week each year – so tangible, so glamorous. But forget the Louvre, the Arc de Triomphe, or even the Eiffel Tower. Today, we're ditching these overly touristy areas in favor of the REAL Paris. This isn't another traditional guide stuffed with Moulin Rouges and shopping on the Champs Elysee. Instead, we're going to tap right into those secret haunts, flea markets, and the kind of boho neighborhoods radiating with that classic Parisian *je ne sais quoi*! So, let's get on! Here's Paris beyond the postcards, unlocking those amazing hidden gems in Paris. Sign up for our newsletter and get the best travel tips delivered right to your inbox. – With that helpful PSA out of the way, you can approach exploring Paris as you should. Travelers should look to balance the epic sightseeing (yes, the list can be endless) with days lovingly mocking the French. By that, I mean, sitting and enjoy *la belle vie*. The crowds flock to the world-class sites from the Eiffel Tower to Notre Dame. I'm not saying you shouldn't follow. The Broke Backpacker is supported by you. Clicking through our links may earn us a small affiliate commission, and that's what allows us to keep producing free content – Learn more. But once you're done, you can start to experience what makes Paris magical. It's the days wandering the back streets and Dalida Square. The ability to go from A to B on foot without spending a dime. It's the evenings along the Seine, still strolling. And with the city slowly lighting up, some dangle in the trees, illuminating streetfront patios with that famously romantic Paris downlight. It's a place where the whole city takes a deep breath and leaves the day's trials behind. For you, fellow traveler, experiencing a balance of the headline acts and the regular, everyday experiences will have you feeling the magic of the city of love. Whether you're exploring on your own or taking one of the many tours and Airbnb experiences in Paris, you can easily discover a different side to the city of light. It's no secret that the French love their bikes. After

all, the Tour de France is easily the most prestigious and the oldest bike race in Europe! So really, there's no better way to find hidden gems in Paris than to bike your way across the city. Plenty of treasures beckon in this guided activity that'll take you through the kinds of spots tourists don't generally know about. One of the best things about exploring Paris by bike is that you'll get to avoid the notorious traffic – perfect for a relaxing day out! Kickstart this 3-hour tour with a visit to the 17th-century St. Louis Island which remained relatively unchanged. You'll also get to explore the River Seine's left bank before visiting the world's oldest company which is 1154 years old! Your guide will also explain the history of each place as you explore every nook and cranny of this magnificent city. It won't take you long to realize that the iconic Parisian baguette is practically an institution in the city. So much so, that a French Bread Law was even passed in 1993: bakeries must follow a set of rules for making a classic baguette! Now, while the French penchant for a good ol' crusty baguette isn't exactly a secret, very few tourists actually get a glimpse of how this delicacy is crafted. With this activity, you'll get to mosey around a hidden gem café while uncovering kitchen secrets from a proper French baker. During the workshop, you'll learn more about the various steps that go into making the crunchy, yet perfectly fluffy-centred stick. But before all of that, you'll be treated to a scrumptious French breakfast, complete with croissants and pain au chocolat. As far as magical places in Paris are concerned, this one is a real doozy! If you'd like to stroll through palatial grounds without pushing through the notorious crowds at Versailles, then I totally recommend this hidden gem in Paris. Located in Central Paris (close to the Louvre) the Palais Royal's Garden is actually the only green space in Paris recognized by the Ministry of Culture as a 'Remarkable Garden.' An absolute lung in the midst of bustling Paris, this space was originally created back in 1633 and redesigned in 1674. It was redesigned a third time when Duchess Henrietta decided to turn it into the most stunning ornamental gardens in the city. Offering an amazing setting in the afternoon, this space is home to over 500 trees, including red horse chestnuts and lime trees planted in the 1900s. Following your exploration, retreat to the comfort of Hôtel Molière, a boutique gem conveniently located just a 5-minute walk from the garden. We've tested countless backpacks over the years, but there's one that has always been the best and

remains the best buy for adventurers: the broke backpacker-approved Osprey Aether and Ariel series. Want more deetz on why these packs are so damn perfect? Then read our comprehensive review for the inside scoop! Paris may be known as the city of love, but not a lot of tourists know that it's got a pretty gruesome history. It actually a bigger dark tourism hotspot than you'd first think. For something different (and spine-chilling!), sign up for a guided tour of all those secret spots in Paris that contributed to mystical legends. Your guide will provide plenty of info about the historical murders and various tales surrounding each site, including an insider's knowledge about France's 'Evil Queen'. Cursed locations and public execution sites await – but that's not all! With this two-hour tour, you'll also discover The Templars which is a contemporary secret society that's deeply rooted in French history. Most tourists go to Montmartre to marvel at the Sacre Coeur or those legendary steps – two iconic areas that overshadow a less-popular spot known as Dalida Square. This underrated place to stay in Paris is named after Dalida, a super-successful Egyptian-born singer with top record success. In 1962, the singer purchased a 4-storey townhouse in Montmartre, just a short distance from the Radet Windmill. The house still stands today, complete with a commemorative plaque with an inscription dedicated to the singer. One of the highlights of the Place Dalida is the bronze, life-size bust of the singer. When exploring this Paris hideaway, you may wish to touch the statue – a tradition that's believed to bring good luck. There's no denying that the Place Dalida is one of the most charming nooks in Paris. The allure of the place is only punctuated by sweeping views of the Sacre Coeur and proximity to the popular Rue de l'Abreuvoir. You're probably wondering, why should you visit UNESCO Headquarters, of all the places? Well, wait until you see this place for yourself! A great venue for families looking for unique things to do in Paris, the UNESCO Headquarters is an absolute treasure that seamlessly combines modern architecture with classic artwork. Through the guided tour, view a unique collection of over 600 pieces from Calder to Giacometti or even Miro and Picasso. In addition, you'll learn more about UNESCO's missions and their impact on the world while visiting some of the headquarters' most iconic spaces including the only Japanese Garden in Paris! Here's another hidden gem in Paris for art lovers that very few tourists seem to know about! If you want to go off the beaten track and swap

The Louvre for smaller-scale museums, the Musée Rodin definitely is the place for you! This museum is housed in an 18th-century mansion. Featuring works by August Rodin, a famous French sculptor, this museum has quite a peaceful atmosphere ? mainly because it's usually devoid of the massive crowds of people that flock to more popular places. Be sure to set aside some time to explore the museum's exterior which holds quite a few treasures of its own, including a sculpture garden. I would suggest that you visit in spring so you can see the plants in full bloom. Nature lovers looking for magical places in Paris should absolutely check out this amazing spot! While locals usually go to the Parc des Buttes Chaumont to hike and picnic, it's a spot that not a lot of tourists know about since it's nowhere as popular as other green spaces like, say, the Jardin des Tuileries. In fact, most tourists stumble upon this place by accident since it rarely features in travel guidebooks. With hidden waterfalls, grottos, and even a Roman monument, this park is an absolute oasis smack in the middle of the city! Located in the 19th arrondissement, the park was created way back during the rule of Napoleon III. After hiking, picnicking, and admiring those gorgeous waterfalls, you can check out nearby treasures like the vineyard of Butte Bergeyre, a forgotten vineyard right at the heart of the city! Here at The Broke Backpacker, we love freedom! And there's no freedom as sweet (and CHEAP) as camping around the world. We've been camping on our adventures for over 10 years, so take it from us: the MSR HUBBA HUBBA is the best damn tent for adventuring? Not only does this activity take you off the beaten track to uncover some of the best hidden gems in Paris ? but you'll also get to do it in style in a classic French car! You'll get the chance to explore heaps of unusual sites on this 2-hour tour. It'll take you through those lush hidden quarters, including the Port de l'Arsenal, the Passage Sully, the Butte aux Cailles, and the Place des Vosges. While the car is convertible, rest assured that it's fitted with a transparent roof. So no issues with rain. You're not going to miss out on those glorious sights! I'm sure you must be surprised to see Versailles on a list of secret places in Paris. After all, this legendary place is everything but a secret ? which is probably why it's always swarming with endless crowds of people! Head to Versailles after the crowd has died down though and it's a whole other story that awaits. With this skip-the-line, last-entry ticket, you'll be able to explore the palace as it was meant to be

experienced: away from the throngs of overly eager tourists. The atmosphere at Versailles is nothing short of regal, just like it used to be back in the golden days. Your guide will bring tales of France's royal past to life as you flit from one room to the other, marveling at the sheer opulence of the place. Best of all, you'll discover secret sites that most Versailles tours don't normally include, such as the Queen's Hamlet where Marie Antoinette used to play dress up. Okay, after all this sightseeing, I bet you're ready for some shopping! Now, you can always head to insanely popular boutiques like the Galeries Lafayette on the Champs Elysees. But if you're looking for something different, you may wish to check out the Marché aux Puces de Paris Saint-Ouen. One of the most underrated places in Paris, this flea market dates all the way back to 1885. The sprawling shopping site combines 13 different markets so there are heaps of stalls to browse through. At least 2,000 shops and stands await, all spread over nearly 8 hectares. Get haggling for old tools to archaeological artefacts, sporting goods, jewelry, bronzes, period clothes, books, and even furniture. Potterheads, rejoice! If you're a fan of the iconic series like me, then you really don't want to miss a visit to Nicolas Flamel's House. I know what you're thinking: Was Nicolas Flamel a real person? Well, he actually was, and yes, he too was an alchemist! London may be the epicenter of all things Harry Potter, but a little-known fact is that his house is the oldest in all of Paris. Built in 1407 on Montmorency Street, the house is apparently where Flamel used to conduct his alchemist experiences. After the death of his wife Pernelle, Nicolas had his house commissioned to provide shelter for the homeless. While this Paris hideaway has now been converted into a restaurant, the ancient façade still stands. It was actually recognized as a historic monument in 1911. The ground floor cornice still retains its original inscription written in Middle French. Another underrated place in Paris, the 59 Rivoli is a far cry from Paris' glamorous vibe but in my opinion, it's well worth a visit! This artistic squat originally started out as an abandoned, 6-storey building. After the building was evicted, a bunch of squatters moved in and they all happened to be artists! The government eventually supported them by allowing them to squat in the place and that's how this colorful, heavily graffitied place came to be. Located in the first arrondissement, 59 Rivoli is especially known for its brightly-hued spiral staircase and intricate murals. While this spot is steadily growing in popularity thanks to social media, plenty of travelers

still don't know about it yet ? perfect for travelers who want to do some digging around without large gaggles of tourists! Paris is full of quirky customs like drinking tea out of a bowl (only at breakfast) or greeting people by kissing them on each cheek. But did you know that another tradition is to place a foot right in the middle of Paris Point Zero? Visually speaking, Paris Point Zero is a pretty unremarkable secret in Paris: it's basically a plaque embedded in the square located right in front of the Notre Dame Cathedral. In fact, most tourists just ended up walking right over it when they used to visit Notre Dame prior to the devastating 2019 fires. When the square is packed with tourists (as it usually is!), the plaque can be hard to find, but keep your eyes peeled for a glint of bronze surrounded by an inscription that reads, Point Zéro Des Routes De France. Representing the exact center of Paris, this spot is shrouded in traditions. For example, placing one foot on the plaque is said to make your deepest wish come true. Others will tell you that kissing the love of your life on the marker is a sign of undying devotion. Let's wrap up this list of magical places in Paris with a place that can best be described as? sobering. Home to over 200 specimens, the Room of Endangered and Extinct Species (found in the Gallery of Evolution) sheds some light on the different species that were pushed to extinction or endangerment. Located in a wood-paneled room, this section of the museum is deliberately kept dark and cold, with the main light sources emanating mostly from the display cases. You'll see various extinct or endangered plants and animals like the Aye-Aye or the Sumatran Tiger. This is also a great opportunity for learning about lesser-known species like the Coelacanth fish or the Barbary lion which is now extinct in the wild. While this room is mostly devoted to natural history, you'll also see some interesting bits and pieces like a gold clock that used to belong to Marie Antoinette. Believe it or not, the clock still works today and you'll hear it chime through the room as you walk through the display cases! Paris is pretty safe as it goes. But that doesn't mean you don't need insurance. This covers you from all kinds of mishaps, so you make the best of this amazing experience! Month to month payments, no lock-in contracts, and no itineraries required: that's the exact kind of insurance digital nomads and long-term traveller types need. Cover yo? pretty little self while you live the DREAM! SafetyWing is cheap, easy, and admin-free: just sign up lickety-split so you can get back to work! Click the button below to learn

more about SafetyWing's setup or read our insider review for the full tasty scoop. There's still more to come. Here are more hidden treasures in Paris to put on your map. If you're staying in a hostel in Paris, ask the staff for the best local recommendations! For attractions, check out Dalida Square, the Palais Royal Courtyard, and the Marché aux Puces de Paris Saint-Ouen. They're completely free! Kids and adults will no doubt relish an adventure in a classic French convertible car. Uncover hidden gems like the Place des Vosges and the Port de L'Arsenal in a way you'll never forget. The Parc des Buttes Chaumont offers an undeniably romantic setting for a sunset stroll or a picnic right by the waterfall! Get a nice Airbnb and have someone good to rest when you get back. ? Paris looks absolutely amazing in the fall. From September to November, you get the most complimentary color changes. And there you have it ? a tantalizing taste of the City of Light away from that well-trodden tourist track! I'm sure by now you've realized that the city overflows with treasures that are just waiting to be discovered. Delightful surprises and cheap French wine beckon you to explore. Take your time to amble around. Don't hesitate to stray away from the usual tourist haunts. After all, you never know when you can stumble across yet another beautifully hidden gem in Paris! A couple of you lovely readers suggested we set up a tip jar for direct support as an alternative to booking through our links. So we created one! You can now buy The Broke Backpacker a coffee. If you like and use our content to plan your trips, it's a much appreciated way to show appreciation ? Share or save this post Your email address will not be published. Required fields are marked * Comment * Name * Email * Website Save my name, email, and website in this browser for the next time I comment. Notify me of followup comments via e-mail. ? ?

Discover the Hidden Gems of Paris: Exploring the 3rd Arrondissement ? Ticketeaser

Explore the timeless beauty of the City of Love. Immerse yourself in the enchanting streets of Paris, adorned with iconic landmarks like the Eiffel Tower, Louvre Museum, and Notre-Dame Cathedral. Indulge in French cuisine, stroll along the Seine River, and unveil the secrets of this captivating city. Unleash your wanderlust and discover the magic of Paris! Paris, the City of Lights, is known for its iconic landmarks like the Eiffel Tower, Louvre Museum, and Notre-Dame Cathedral. However, beyond the popular tourist attractions lies a hidden gem waiting to be discovered ? the 3rd arrondissement of Paris. Nestled in the heart of the city, this vibrant district offers a unique blend of history, culture, and charm. From quaint cobblestone streets to trendy shopping boutiques, the 3rd arrondissement has something for everyone. In this article, we will explore some of the not-to-be-missed attractions in this lesser-known but equally captivating part of Paris. Le Marais is undoubtedly one of the highlights of the 3rd arrondissement. This historic neighborhood, with its narrow alleys and well-preserved medieval architecture, is a treasure trove of cultural and artistic delights. One of the must-visit spots in Le Marais is the Place des Vosges, the oldest planned square in Paris. This serene and elegant square, surrounded by red-brick townhouses and adorned with beautiful gardens, provides a peaceful oasis in the bustling city. For art enthusiasts, the Museum of Arts and Crafts (Musee des Arts et Metiers) is a must-see. Housed in an impressive former priory, this museum showcases a fascinating collection of inventions and innovations throughout history. From mechanical devices to scientific instruments, visitors can explore the ingenuity of human creativity. The 3rd arrondissement is a paradise for shopaholics and food lovers alike. The Rue de Bretagne is a bustling street known for its eclectic mix of specialty food shops, gourmet supermarkets, and trendy cafes. Indulge your taste buds with delicious pastries, local produce, and international delicacies as you stroll along this vibrant street. Just a stone's throw away from Rue de Bretagne lies the Marche des Enfants Rouges, the oldest covered market in Paris. Here, you can immerse yourself in the sights and smells of a bustling market, and sample a

variety of cuisines from around the world. With its lively atmosphere and diverse food stalls, the Marche des Enfants Rouges is a culinary adventure waiting to be experienced. The 3rd arrondissement is home to several renowned art galleries and museums, each offering a unique glimpse into Parisian art and history. The National Picasso Museum (Musee National Picasso) is a must-visit destination for art lovers. Housed in the elegant Hotel Sale, this museum showcases an extensive collection of Picasso's works, spanning the different periods of his artistic career. If you have an interest in photography, make sure to visit the Maison Europeenne de la Photographie. This prestigious institution hosts rotating exhibitions featuring both established and emerging photographers, offering a diverse range of artistic perspectives captured through the lens. Escape the hustle and bustle of the city by discovering the hidden gardens and charming streets of the 3rd arrondissement. The Square du Temple is a peaceful oasis, perfect for a leisurely stroll or a picnic. This beautiful park is located on the site of the former Temple fortress, once home to the Knights Templar. For a taste of quintessential Parisian charm, explore the Rue de Francs Bourgeois. Lined with elegant townhouses, stylish boutiques, and quaint cafes, this picturesque street embodies the essence of Parisian chic. Take your time to meander through the cobblestone streets and discover hidden gems along the way. The 3rd arrondissement is steeped in history and is home to several significant cultural landmarks. The Carnavalet Museum (Musee Carnavalet) is a fascinating testament to the history of Paris. Housed in two magnificent mansions, this museum showcases a vast collection of artifacts, paintings, and sculptures that document the evolution of the city over the centuries. Another iconic landmark in the 3rd arrondissement is the National Archives (Archives Nationales). This massive complex houses the official archives of France and offers visitors a chance to delve into the rich history and heritage of the country. As the sun sets, the 3rd arrondissement comes alive with its vibrant nightlife and entertainment options. Experience the bohemian spirit of Paris at the Cafe Charlot, a popular haunt for locals and visitors alike. Enjoy a glass of wine or a cup of coffee while soaking in the lively atmosphere of this iconic Parisian cafe. For a night of live entertainment and music, head to the Cirque d'Hiver Bouglione. This historic circus, dating back to 1852, continues to enchant audiences with its breathtaking performances and

timeless charm. While Paris is renowned for its world-famous landmarks, the 3rd arrondissement offers a different perspective on the city. With its historic neighborhoods, trendy shops, and hidden gems, this district is a treasure waiting to be explored. So next time you visit Paris, be sure to venture beyond the tourist hotspots and discover the hidden gems of the 3rd arrondissement.

TikTok - Make Your Day

Paris Hidden Gems Archives | World In Paris

In Paris Hidden Gems, read about unique things to do in Paris, lesser-known things to do in Paris and Paris off the beaten path.

The hidden gems to tick off your Paris bucket list - London Southend Airport

LATEST NEWS: London Southend Airport announces appointment of new CEO Save £100 on Black Friday deals to BULGARIA for summer 2025! Use code: BF100 What do you think of when you hear 'Paris'? Right, we know. The Eiffel Tower. Be honest. But there's so much more to the French Capital than the top tourist spots! In fact, some of the best experiences the city has to offer aren't the ones you'll see on the posters. They're known largely by locals. They are, as they say, le Paris authentique. But we're not here to flex our GCSE French. We're also not here to tell you to visit the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre, or the Arc de Triomphe. We're here to tell you about the hidden gems you haven't heard of - to help you build up the perfect bucket list for your trip to the City of Love so that you can get a taste of everything Paris has to offer. So without further ado, allons-y.

You might not think of nature when flying into one of Europe's largest cities, but Paris is teeming with green spaces perfect for a picnic, afternoon stroll or escape from the hustle and bustle. You can't miss: Parc de Buttes Chaumont This public park can be found in northeast Paris, with stunning bridges, a lake, a waterfall, and an environment which can look almost primal when the leaves are in summer bloom.

Jardin du Luxembourg The Luxembourg Gardens has a history stretching back to the 1600s, when it was the residence of Marie de Medici, the widow of France's King Henry VI. Today it's known for its flowers, sailboats, fountains and Grand Bassin.

Jardin Joseph Migneret The perfect place for a quiet picnic, this garden's entrance is hidden between two buildings (just head to 10 Rue des Rosiers - you can't miss it. Well, you can - but don't!). The rest is tucked away in a courtyard. The park itself takes its name from a French headmaster who joined the French Resistance, helping to rescue Jewish students during the Second World War.

Hôtel de Sens Garden This garden sits in the shadow of a beautiful mediaeval castle-turned gallery. It's a sunken garden, so easy to miss - in fact, it's practically invisible from the street level. Everyone's always talking about the city centre, but Paris is also surrounded by some of France's most beautiful and historic villages. Here are three to look out for when you head just north of the city, to

the Oise region of France. Senlis Just 30 minutes from Paris is Senlis, a mediaeval town in the French countryside known as the home of some of the earliest French monarchs. The cobblestone streets are to die for ? this is a picture-book French village. Chantilly If you take a trip to Senlis, you should hop over to Chantilly as well, a nearby estate town home to one of France?s oldest collections of historic art, the Condé Museum, and The Great Stables, a ginormous horse-racing site with frequent dressage events, horse shows and historic reenactments. Auvers-sur-Oise An enchanting village on the outskirts of Paris. Formerly home to Vincent Van Gogh, and bordering Montmorency forest, Paris is home to a disused railway track. Okay ? maybe that doesn?t sound very exciting. Until you see it. The Petite Ceinture (the little belt) loops around the city, and hasn?t seen a train for almost a century. In some parts its overgrown, quiet, and beloved by urban explorers (though anyone hoping to walk through the tunnels should remember to take a torch). In others, it?s used for bars, markets ? you name it! The Petite Ceinture is almost entirely open to the public, but make sure to go during the day to avoid getting lost. Le Marais is one of Paris? historic districts, packed full of beautiful buildings that once reflected the neighbourhood?s aristocratic residents. That air of nobility also comes with its quirks, including some beautiful speciality museums for those who want to avoid waiting in the queue to see the Mona Lisa across town. Those museums include: The Musée de la Magie The Museum of Magic (with magic shows included).s Maison Européenne de la Photographie (MEP) A gorgeous photography gallery. Musée National Picasso-Paris An art gallery housing (surprise surprise) works by the great artist Pablo Picasso. In Paris. Musée de la Chasse et de la Nature A natural history museum housed in a mansion and packed full of taxidermy. Musée Carnavalet ? Histoire de Paris The City of Paris History Museum houses exhibits covering everything from the city?s prehistory to the present day. Still looking for things to do on your Parisian escapade? Check out our ultimate travel guide for a holiday in Paris. Read more: #FlyLondonSouthend Exclusive offers and exciting route updates fly straight to your inbox with London Southend Airport?s community newsletter. Sign up here. Historic architecture, modern marinas and vibrant nightlife in Algarve?s capital Resorts, markets and museums along the stunning bays and beaches of Costa del Sol Island escape with crystal seas, quaint villages, quiet coves and

famous nightclubs Romance awaits in the world-famous French capital Open for every scheduled departure & arrival only. ©2024 London Southend Airport Company Limited. Company number 02881745

20+ Hidden Gems in Montmartre Paris & Munch-Worthy Shops

Europe, France Montmartre is one of the most popular tourist spots in Paris. Perched on a hill in northern Paris, it boasts the most romantic view of the city from the iconic Sacré-Cœur Basilica. Montmartre has been associated with art, bohemian culture and vibrant nightlife. The hilltop neighborhood also has the enchanting village feel within a metropolis, dotted with cobblestone streets, artist studios, adorable cafes, historic architecture and cabarets. Here's your guide to discovering hidden gems in Montmartre, the charming boho district of Paris.?

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Check out my other articles to plan your perfect trip to the City of Light! Pin it for later! Disclosure: This article may contain affiliate links. If you purchase by clicking some of these links, I may receive a small commission, at no additional cost to you. [Click here to read full disclaimer.](#) There are two metro lines within Montmartre Hill: Line 2 (blue) and Line 12 (green). Insider Tip: Hop on a Petit Train de Montmartre (included in The Paris Pass). Enjoy a leisurely ride through the winding Montmartre all the way up to the top at the Sacré-Cœur from Moulin Rouge. Montmartre is in the northern part of Paris in the 18th arrondissement. It is situated on a hill known as the Butte Montmartre, which is the highest point in the city. The hilly neighborhood was initially a rural village outside the city walls of Paris. During the Belle Époque period (1871-1914), Montmartre became a hub for artists, writers and intellectuals, thanks to its bohemian atmosphere, affordable rents and thriving nightlife. It was home to renowned artists, such as Pablo Picasso, Vincent van Gogh, Auguste Renoir, Dalida, Edgar Degas, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec and Amedeo Modigliani. Montmartre was also known for its vibrant nightlife and entertainment venues. The famous Moulin Rouge, a cabaret since 1889, became a symbol of the neighborhood's spirit. It showcased lively cancan dances and extravagant shows. Today, Montmartre retains its unique charm with its narrow cobblestone streets, quaint shops, bustling squares, and vibrant artistic scene. It continues to inspire artists, attract visitors from around the world, and provide a glimpse into the cultural and historical legacy of Paris. Insider Tip: Bring comfortable walking shoes as Montmartre is super hilly. Montmartre is a great neighborhood to stay in if you want a fantastic view and nightlife. Montmartre

Hill is the city's highest point, offering incredibly romantic views over Paris. The artistic vibe is also a huge appeal. And you will enjoy the vibrant nightlife. But Montmartre might not be for everyone. The area is further away in the north from the city center. For example, traveling to the Left Bank (Latin Quarter or Saint-Germain-des-près) takes a while, despite Paris Metro being well connected. Montmartre has nice pockets of pretty streets and quiet residential areas. However, be aware that it can be rowdy at night with bars and the red light district (close to Pigalle). Paris has 20 arrondissements with distinctive pockets of neighborhoods. While Paris is gorgeous, some areas are better than others for tourists to stay. Here's your guide to 10 Best Areas in Paris for all travel styles and budgets. Generally speaking, Paris is acceptable in terms of safety. I never felt threatened in the Montmartre neighborhood. Since it is a lively area day and night, you see people outside on the streets. I randomly thought, though, if I have to run in the hilly area, I don't know how far I can get before running out of breath. Keep in mind that touristy places like Sacre-Coeur are popular scam sites targeting tourists. Obviously, there will be petty crimes like pickpocketing wherever tourists are, so you should watch out for that. With the lively nightlife, you may run into rowdy and drunk people. On my first visit to Paris, I visited Montmartre on a self-guided walking tour. Then, I went on a small group tour this year. In retrospect, I should have done it the other way around. When joining the tour, I learned that I missed out on a lot of hidden spots and secrets I wish I had known earlier. You can do a self-guided walking tour of Montmartre. However, based on my experience, I recommend joining a tour if this is your first time. I assure you that you will learn a lot more. >> [Montmartre Wine, Cheese & Pastry Guided Walking Tour](#): I joined this small-group tour to follow the foodie trail. But this tour is more than just a food tour. You will discover many hidden gems of Montmartre, which are mentioned in this article. >> [Montmartre & Sacré-Cœur Semi-Private Tour](#): Discover the picturesque Montmartre on this 2.5-hour walking tour. The tour is intimate, with 8 people max. >> [Montmartre Walking Tour](#): Experience Montmartre's rich history and culture with this group tour. It takes you to many of the hidden spots mentioned in this article. >> [The Paris Pass](#) also includes a Montmartre Walking tour (and Petit Train de Montmartre). >> [Read My Detailed Guide for The Paris Pass and Paris Museum Pass Comparison](#) Get the all-inclusive pass to save money. Include 80+ attractions,

museums & tours Include 60+ top museums, including the Palace of Versailles. Montmartre offers a rich blend of history, artistic heritage and bohemian charm. Remember to take your time while exploring Montmartre, as the neighborhood's winding streets and hidden corners are full of surprises waiting to be discovered. Although far from hidden, let's first talk about the Sacré-Cœur Basilica. It is not only the crown jewel of Montmartre but also holds the keys to the following two references in this list. This Roman Catholic Church was constructed in 1875 and continued for 40 years. The Roman-Byzantine church was designed by architect Paul Abadie and built as a symbol of national unity to memorialize the victims of the Franco-Prussian War. Visitors are welcome to enter the church. Take your time to admire the beautiful architecture, mosaics and stained-glass windows. This stunning white-dome church sits at the top of a hill, commanding presence. It offers spectacular views of the city. Sit on the stairs to enjoy the breathtaking vistas. Hours: 6:30 am ? 10:30 pm Location: [Open Google Map] Did you know you can climb the dome at the Sacré-Cœur Basilica? I completely missed it on my first visit!! When you enter the basilica gates, go to the left side in the back. You can purchase a ticket there and enter the spiral stairs. There is no elevator, so you will have to climb 300 steps in a very narrow tower. It is an intensive workout, and there will be pressure to continue without a break if people are behind you. But the view is AMAZING! You can circle to enjoy the 360-degree panoramic view. The breeze helps you cool off. And the picturesque view is just so worth it! Admission: ?7 Hours: 10:30 am ? 8:30 pm Location: [Open Google Map] Right next door to Sacré-Cœur Basilica, Saint-Pierre de Montmartre Church is often missed, although it is the second oldest surviving church in Paris. Admire its Romanesque architecture and serene interior, which offers a peaceful respite from the bustling streets of Montmartre. It is a charming church with a fascinating story. Saint-Denis, the first bishop of Paris, was martyred for his faith by decapitation. But the legend has it, he got right back up on his feet and carried his head about two Gallic miles to his burial site. Saint-Pierre de Montmartre Church was built in the location where he stopped. Hours: 9 am ? 12 pm, 3-6 pm. Closed on Mondays. Location: [Open Google Map] Image by Jeff Frenette via Unsplash Rue de l'Abreuvoir is one of the oldest and most historic streets in the city. But it is better known as one of the prettiest streets in Paris. On one end of Rue

de l'Abreuvoir stands the statue of Dalida (#6). At the other end is La Maison Rose (#7). The cobblestone lane winds along the hill, lined with colorful buildings. Indeed, it does have picturesque charm. Location: [\[Open Google Map\]](#) Dalida is an Egyptian-born French singer and actress. She is one of the most celebrated French singers ever. And she had a house in Montmartre. Unfortunately, she commits suicide in this fancy 4-story townhouse. You cannot enter but can see the building from outside. Location: [\[Open Google Map\]](#) You will find a bust of Dalida on the corner of the Rue de l'Abreuvoir. The bronze statue was created to mark the tenth anniversary of her death. People touch her breasts ? as you can see ? for good luck. Location: [\[Open Google Map\]](#) As featured in Emily in Paris, the eye-catching pink house is a popular photo site. But this Instagram-famed house is a historic restaurant frequented by Pablo Picasso and Albert Camus. You can have traditional French cuisine or grab a coffee. The cute pink house at the end of Rue de l'Abreuvoir and outdoor tables along the cobblestone streets make it very attractive to have you sit. But it does get crowded. If you only want to photograph the house, you may swing by on Monday or Tuesday when it is closed. Hours: Wed ? Fri: 12-10 pm | Sat & Sun: 11:30 am ? 10 pm Location: [\[Open Google Map\]](#) Peel your eyes open for the Clos Montmartre, a small vineyard tucked away on a gated slope near Le Maison Rose. It is easy to miss! Montmartre used to have several vineyards on the hill. But today, Clos Montmartre is the only surviving vineyard in Paris that still produces 500 bottles a year. During the annual Fête des Vendanges (Harvest Festival), you can sample their wine in the fall. I was told that their wine is not something you would yearn for, but the vineyard does have some historic appeal. Location: [\[Open Google Map\]](#) Le Bateau-Lavoir is an iconic building known as the birthplace of modern art. Picasso used to live here and invented the cubist movement. Other renowned artists, such as Modigliani, were frequent here. The original building was destroyed, but the new building houses artist's studios today to continue its legacy. Location: [\[Open Google Map\]](#) Rue Lepic is a picturesque street known for its vibrant atmosphere and local shops. Explore the unique boutiques, bakeries, and food markets that capture the essence of Montmartre's local life. Location: [\[Open Google Map\]](#) Pay a visit to Café des Deux Moulins, a cozy café made famous by the movie ?Amélie.? Enjoy a cup of coffee or a meal while immersing yourself in the ambiance of

this charming spot. Or, just take a look at it from the outside. The name Café des Deux Moulins refers to two windmills in Montmartre (see #12 for details). Location: [\[Open Google Map\]](#)

Montmartre used to be farmland with several windmills. Only two windmills left today with the same name, Le Moulin de la Galette (how confusing!). One turned into a restaurant that pays homage to Renoir's famous painting, *Bal du Moulin de la Galette* (1876, housed at the Musée d'Orsay). Back in the day, working-class Parisians gathered to picnic and dance underneath the windmill on Sunday afternoons. (You won't see the windmill in the painting, though.) If you'd like, you can enjoy a classic French lunch or dinner in the restaurant like the 19th-century Parisians. The other one is hidden atop the hill. It is in a private garden without public access. But you can peep the turbine blade behind trees atop the hill. Hours: 12-10 pm Location: [\[Open Google Map\]](#) >> READ: 10 Best Paris Small Museums WITHOUT the Crowds

Le mur des je t'aime (Wall of Love) is a blue mural with "I love you" written in many different languages. It is fun to find your own language. And you will see lots of people trying to take a photo close to their language. Hours: 8 am - 5:30 pm Location: [\[Open Google Map\]](#)

Place du Tertre is another quintessential Montmartre site you should not miss. A lively square is filled with artists and street performers. And cafes and shops surround the square. This is the perfect place to soak up the bohemian vibes of Montmartre. You could have your portrait sketched by a local artist. Location: [\[Open Google Map\]](#)

Good to Know: About 300 officially licensed artists work in this area. And there is a 10-year waiting list for new artists, wowza!

Montmartre is hilly—very hilly. If you choose to walk, it is fun to walk along the winding cobblestone streets. But you may also encounter stairs—lots of them! John Wick 4 was filmed on one of these Montmartre stairs on Rue Foyatier. Spoiler Alert: John Wick had to be at the Sacré-Cœur for the final cowboy-style gunfight at dawn. He fights all the killers while climbing 222 steps. He almost made it, then rolled down to the bottom and had to restart his way up. If you have real-life experience climbing it up (or just look at it), you will appreciate the fantastic fight scene even more and realize how well this portrayed John Wick's determination. Location: [\[Open Google Map\]](#)

Insider Tip: Hey, you are not John Wick. No judging if you opt for a funicular instead! Swipe the Navigo metro card to hop on a funicular. It goes straight to #1. Sacré-Cœur. Image by PublicDomainPictures via Pixabay

Pay a visit to the Montmartre Cemetery. This tranquil resting place is the final resting spot for many notable figures, including Dalida and Degas. It offers a peaceful ambiance and an opportunity to reflect on the area's artistic heritage. Hours: 8 am ? 6 pm | Sat: 8:30 am ? 6 pm | Sun: 9 am ? 6 pm
Location: [\[Open Google Map\]](#) Vincent van Gogh spent two years in Paris (1888-1889) with his brother Theo. Like many artists who flocked to Montmartre for cheap rent, he also lived here on Rue Lepic. Look for a blue door. I love that seemingly-random buildings in Paris have a plaque indicating which famous figures used to live there. Still, it is easy to miss if you are not intentionally looking for it. Location: [\[Open Google Map\]](#) No matter which season of the year, Paris is always a good idea. But it can be overwhelming to plan your perfect trip to the City of Light. Follow my Paris itinerary to see the highlights in just four days. Did you know Salvador Dali Museum exists in Montmartre? The Spain-born surrealist artist was expelled from the Madrid Academy and moved to Paris in 1929. He used to live at 7 Rue Becquerel up in Montmartre Hill. While it is a small museum, the permanent exhibit showcases Dali's sculptures, paintings, furniture, and more. Some of which are reproduction and for sale (if you can afford it). Admission: ?14 [\[Book your tickets here.\]](#) Hours: 10 am ? 6:30 pm
Location: [\[Open Google Map\]](#) The Moulin Rouge with the red windmill is one of the recognizable icons of Paris, and is synonymous with the bohemian spirit of Montmartre. It locates in the strip known as the red light district. Artists such as Toulouse Lautrec and Van Gogh were frequent patrons of Moulin Rouge. As featured in films like Moulin Rouge and Midnight in Paris, the world-famous cabaret puts on a spectacular show filled with dazzling costumes, music and dance. The French Cancan is the show's highlight dance, a famous 19th-century dance symbolizing women's liberty. I met many people who raved about the Moulin Rouge shows. They said the performances were entertaining, and the entire experience was unique and memorable. I heard that the food could have been better. The late-evening show without the dinner option might be a better deal. Admission: Moulin Rouge Cabaret with Champagne (from ?125), with Dinner (from ?231)
Hours: 7pm, 9 pm & 11 pm Location: [\[Open Google Map\]](#) >> 7 Most Beautiful Covered Passages in Paris: the True Hidden Gems to let you travel back in time! Montmartre Museum (Musée de Montmartre) is a heritage museum housed in a charming 17th-century house and garden where

Renoir once worked. The museum showcases Montmartre's history and artistic heritage with artworks, photographs and artifacts. Discover Montmartre's cultural legacy. Admission: ?15 [Book your tickets here.] Hours: 10 am ? 7 pm Location: [Open Google Map]

Le Consulat has an iconic façade recognizable by a cute 3-story building adorned with a red-and-green-stripe awning and red Paris terrace chairs. Located in the picturesque Place du Tertre, this 19th-century cafe serves traditional French fare, like French onion soup, escargots, and duck breast. Touristy? Absolutely. But before all tourists, the historic cafe was frequented by artists and writers, such as Picasso, Van Gogh, Monet and Toulouse-Lautrec. Hours: 12-7 pm | Sat & Sun 12-10:30 pm Location: [Open Google Map]

Aux Merveilleux de Fred sits on a triangular corner house at the beginning of Rue Lepic. The chandelier-hanging patisserie offers a wide selection of pastries. But it is best known for melting-in-the-mouth meringues in various flavors, from citrus (summer limited), chocolate, sea salt caramel, strawberry, etc. You can also choose between mini and jumbo sizes. Hours: 7:30 am ? 8 pm Location: [Open Google Map]

Also on Rue Lepic, À La Mère de Famille is one of the most traditional chocolate artisan shops in business since 1761. The chocolatier has many locations in Paris. It offers delicious patisseries, caramels and jellies. But the ganache in diverse flavors is a must-try! Hours: 9:30 am ? 8 pm (Sunday closes at 7:30 pm) Location: [Open Google Map]

If you like desserts, you might be familiar with Choux pastries or chouquettes. But have you tried choupettes? Well, it is a chouquette filled with chantilly cream. It is one of those good+good=awesome desserts. The shop offers 5 flavors: original, chocolate, caramel, coffee and citrus. It will be hard to resist to try all of them. Hours: 11 am ? 7 pm (Closed on Mondays.) Location: [Open Google Map]

Biscuiterie de Montmartre is in the smack middle of the touristy area. But don?t shy away from this bakery. Macarons, madeleines and coconut biscuits are all amazing! And its bright orange box makes their pastries a perfect edible gift or souvenir. Hours: 10 am ? 7:30 pm | Sun: 9:30 am ? 7:30 pm Location: [Open Google Map]

Carette is one of the iconic Parisian cafes, particularly famous for macaroons and hot chocolate. There are a few locations in Paris, including one in Place de Tertre. It is a much smaller space than the one in Trocadéro, but you can grab some macaroons and check out portraits drawn by artists. Hours: 10 am ? 8 pm Location:

[Open Google Map] >> READ: Discover 25 Iconic French Desserts in Paris! *** Montmartre is an enchanting village in Paris. Take the time to experience its unique charm and allow yourself to discover a side of Paris that is both historically significant and culturally vibrant! Bon Voyage! ENJOYED THIS POST? PIN IT! Your email address will not be published. Required fields are marked * Comment * Name * Email * Website By using this form you agree with the storage and handling of your data by this website.

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12 Things to Do in Paris | Unique Activities & Hidden Gems (2024)

Did you know the Eiffel Tower was built in 1889 for the World's Fair and was originally meant to be taken down after? Paris is full of surprises, find more below. Unique experiences to share with your partner, friends, family or colleagues. Immerse yourself in Paris and discover its secrets. Featured articles to showcase the best places Paris has to offer, no affiliate links here, just our recommendations. Experience Parisian charm with visits to the Eiffel Tower, Louvre, charming cafes, and Seine river cruises in this essay. A curated list of cool, hidden and unusual things to do in Paris. Explore unique places full history, intrigue and secrecy - dive in and explore some great hidden gems. The Medici Fountain: an Italian-inspired water feature in the French capital. The Wall of Love: "I love you", but make it global. The Paris Catacombs are a haunting underworld beneath the streets of the French capital. The Parisian Statue of Liberty was gifted to the French by America to commemorate the 100-year anniversary of the French Revolution. Coulée Verte: the world's first Promenade Plantée. The Conciergerie is the palace turned brutal prison where Marie Antoinette, along with 1,000s of others, were sentenced. Despite being the oldest standing bridge in Paris- dating all the way back to 1604- Pont Neuf in English means New Bridge. One of the most beautiful shopping arcades in Paris and the former home of a notorious criminal turned criminologist. All Paris's amazing hidden gems in one place What have CityDays adventurers been up to? Awesome walk Great idea for a birthday day out exploring a lovely part of Paris - with some history and guidance thrown in. More fun and interactive than a walking tour! Beautiful though confused directions at around 17 The latest news, articles, and resources, sent to your inbox. Speak to a human Social © 2024, CityDays, Lattice Ltd. All rights reserved.

% 15 Stunning Paris Hidden Gems for You to See

At JoinMyTrip, we bring together travelers from around the world. Find your next small group travel adventure to unique destinations with JoinMyTrip. How it works Find a trip Create a trip Remote working Every year, millions of travelers visit Paris to soak up the romance and haute-couture. Definitely, Paris is a legendary destination. The City of Love has so much to offer, from artistic buildings to dreamy afternoons by the Seine River. Aside from popular spots, such as the Eiffel Tower and Louvre Museum, Paris has tons of secret places waiting for a visit. Moreover, there are a lot of Paris hidden gems that will give you one-of-a-kind experiences! We have compiled magnificent hidden gems in Paris for you to visit. Get ready to see their elegant charms! One of the best things about Paris is the passages. Among the gorgeous passages in Paris, there is an incredible secret arcade waiting for you. Just a few steps from the Louvre Museum lies an elegant 17th-century passage colored in mahogany and monochrome. It is Galerie Vero-Dodat, a hidden passage where the rich and noble once roamed around. Galerie Vero-Dodat was built in 1826. However, its captivating beauty lasts until today. The passage is designed with a neoclassical style. Moreover, glass ceilings covered the passage, enhancing the sumptuous atmosphere on the spot. You can find luxury stores, restaurants, and old bookstores lined up in the passage. Now, the passage is open to the public and ready to captivate everyone who comes to visit. Are you dreaming of spending a relaxing, sunny day in a tranquil haven in Paris? Then, you must visit Parc Monceau. The hidden park is located in the 8th arrondissement of Paris, away from the hustle and bustle of the big city. Additionally, Parc Monceau is considered the most elegant park in Paris due to its artistic design and stunning monuments. Parc Monceau was built in 1778 by the Duke of Orléans, Philippe I. Due to his chic preferences, the park has an exquisite style. Therefore, you can find Roman and classic European architecture all over the park, like the Pavillon de Chartres temple and Roman pillars. Besides that, evergreen plants dot every corner of the park. In conclusion, the serene atmosphere and unique ornaments in the park make it a worth-to-visit hidden gem! A post shared by Shakespeare and Company, Paris (@shakespeareandcoparis) Who could have thought this small

bookshop is so special? Well, the Shakespeare and Company bookshop is brimming with an interesting history. Dating back to 1951, the bookshop was built by George Whitman, an American bookseller. Not just a bookstore, Shakespeare and Company is a cultural hub. Legend says that world-class writers, like Ernest Hemingway and Lawrence Durrell, spent a lot of time and even stayed in the bookshop. Besides that interesting fact, Shakespeare and Company offers a comfortable and homey atmosphere perfect for literature lovers. It has a classic, deep-green facade with rustic signs. On the front of the bookshop, there is a small plaza that overlooks the Seine River. Imagine reading a good book while looking at the luscious view of the Seine River. Sounds good, right? If you want to escape from the crowds, you should head to La Butte aux Callies. The quiet and lovely neighborhood lies in Montmartre, in the 13th arrondissement of Paris. La Butte aux Callies offers an enchanting beauty that you can only find in classic French movies. The neighborhood is lined up with storybook houses, pastel-colored buildings, and blooming flowers. Therefore, La Butte aux Callies is great for taking pictures or having a relaxing stroll. There are some attractions you can find in this Paris hidden gem. La Butte aux Callies is dotted with artistic murals, lovely restaurants, and a few historic sites. Moreover, you can also see buildings and houses that resemble classic Northern France and Russian buildings in Little Alsace and Little Russia. La Butte aux Callies also has a century-old nouveau swimming pool that still operates today. As the City of Love, Paris loves to emphasize love. You can see an example in Le Mur des Je t'aimes, translated as "The Wall of Love". Le Mur des Je t'aimes is located in Montmartre, nestled between neighborhoods and public buildings. It is a colossal wall scribbled with the word "I Love You" from 311 different languages. Thus, the wall is structured with 612 black lava tiles, tinted in white and red as a symbol of love. There are some interesting facts behind the wall. The designer of Le Mur des Je t'aimes actually visits all the embassies in France to know what the magic word sounds in their native languages. Moreover, you can also see splashes of red on the wall. The color red symbolizes heartbreak, while tons of white letters symbolize love. It is a unique representation of how love can mend a broken heart. So indeed, Le Mur des Je t'aimes is an impressive hidden gem in Paris. Among the impressive churches in Paris, this church stands with its own uniqueness.

Église Notre-Dame du Travail or the Church of Our Lady of The Labour is different from the classic and elegant churches in Paris. In fact, it has an out-of-the-box interior of metal structures and industrial architecture. Nonetheless, the church is charming as ever. Église Notre-Dame du Travail has a touching history. The church was built in the late 1800s for the working class and laborers. It is a social church where everyone from different classes and social statuses can gather and pray.

Paris Pantheon depicts the elegance of Roman architecture and the authenticity of medieval landmarks. For that reason, the building stands in the Latin Quarter of Paris, along with other well-known sites like the Museum of National History. Even though the Pantheon is known for its regal architecture and fascinating history, only a few know about the incredible view from its summit. If you visit Paris Pantheon, you should climb 276 stairs leading to the top of the building. Thus, you will see a mezzanine that overlooks the City of Love. From there, you can enjoy a panoramic view of Paris, including the beautiful Eiffel Tower. The view is totally top-notch! This 13th-century college is definitely one of the best-kept secrets in Paris.

College de Bernardins is an old Cistercian school in the Latin Quarter. It has an authentic Gothic architecture style with classic arches and wide windows. Even though the college is now closed, you can still find art exhibitions, workshops, and training in the splendid building. Moreover, it is decorated with a lovely park and laid-back restaurants. Thus, College de Bernardins is perfect for escaping the crowds and having a glimpse of centuries-old Paris. Do you know that there is a Paris hidden gem in Petit Palais? Actually, there is! Jardin du Petit Palais is a beautiful garden situated nearby the Petit Palais. The garden compromises the regal atmosphere of Petit Palais. It has manicured verdant plants, serene ponds, and a few types of colorful flowers. Additionally, Jardin du Petit Palais is also a French restaurant. Contrary to the Gothic-styled Petit Palais, the cafe looks modern. You can sit by the exquisite park and between the gorgeous pillars of the museum while sipping a cup of coffee. Sounds like a great way to relax, right?

Musee Nissim de Camondo is an exquisite private mansion with a Gothic and Beaux-Art style that acts as a museum. The mansion is built in the 20th century by French banker Moise de Camondo. Inside its sumptuous walls, you can find decorative art and furniture from the 18th century. Musee Nissim de Camondo is a great place to visit if you are into history and arts. In

the museum, you can find royal art pieces from the reign of Louis XV and Louis XVI. Moreover, it is one of the Paris hidden gems that has lesser crowds but is undeniably beautiful. So, come for a visit! A post shared by L'Atelier des Lumières (@atelierdeslumieres) See how modern technology makes centuries-old art alive in this gorgeous installation. Atelier des Lumières is an art installation in Rue Saint-Maur, specifically between Bastille and Nation. The museum features stunning sights of colorful lights in dark rooms. Interestingly, the lights form pieces of classical art, like Van Gogh's Starry Night. Indeed, Atelier des Lumières is highly artistic and unique. Let's take a slight look at Atelier des Lumières' history. The museum was once a foundry in the 17th century. In 1929, the foundry closed. After a quite long time, the building is renovated by the government and turned into an art installation. So, you can get both history and Instagram-perfect pictures if you visit Atelier des Lumières! Can you imagine that an old hospital is one of Paris' best-kept secrets? Actually, yes. You can visit the Hotel-Dieu de Paris and witness how charming the old hospital is. Therefore, Hotel-Dieu de Paris is millennia-years-old, as it was established in 651 AD. Hotel-Dieu de Paris portrays typical medieval-style architecture, with elegant arches and aesthetic large windows. Inside the hospital, you can find tall ceilings and dim chandeliers, enhancing the mysterious and glorious atmosphere of the hospital. Interestingly, Hotel-Dieu de Paris still operates today. Now, it is both a hospital and a tourist attraction. A post shared by Musée Jacquemart-André (@jacquemartandre) Paris has a lot of mesmerizing nobleman mansions, including Musée Jacquemart-André. Despite its stunning facade, only a few know about this mansion. Nonetheless, Musée Jacquemart-André can captivate everyone visiting with its lavish exterior, exquisite furniture, and magnificent art pieces. Musée Jacquemart-André has a huge collection of Paris fine arts from the Second French Empire. Actually, it was a private mansion of Edouard André and his wife Nélie Jacquemart. The couple loved to collect art pieces from all over Europe. Today, their collections are well-kept inside the large mansion. A post shared by Louxor ? Palais du cine?ma (@cinema_louxor) Do you know that you can find a glimpse of Egypt in Paris? Then, you must see Le Luxour Palais du Cinema. The hidden cinema is located in the 18th arrondissement of Paris, in the La Chapelle District. It has a mix of classic European and neo-Ancient Egypt interior, making it look eccentric and attractive. There is

actually an interesting history behind the Egyptian hieroglyphs and murals of ancient goddesses on the theatres' walls. Le Louxor Palais du Cinema dates back to 1920. The classic, Egypt-inspired movie Cleopatra inspired the design of this cinema. Nowadays, Le Louxor Palais du Cinema still operates and screens movies. Therefore, you can watch both classic and recent movies in this unique cinema. This hidden gem in Paris is one-of-a-kind. La Petite Ceinture is an abandoned century-old railway that loops around 30km all over Paris. La Petite Ceinture or 'The Small Belt' is Napoleon III and Baron Haussmann's legacy. As it has been left since the 19th century, La Petite Ceinture is absolutely quiet and hidden. La Petite Ceinture is now home to diverse plant species, with more than 200 species growing on its metal structure. Moreover, you can also find street murals and graffiti tinting the walls beside the abandoned railway. If you love mysterious and tranquil places, you must give La Petite Ceinture a shot! Those Paris hidden gems are captivating, right? So, are you planning to go to Paris and see them? If the answer is yes, we have something exciting for you! JoinMyTrip allows you to find amazing trips all over the world, whether it is to France or to the exotic islands on the other side of the globe. Moreover, you can also meet fantastic TripLeaders and like-minded travel buddies by joining the trips. And yes, the TripLeaders are excellent in what they are doing and will let you get an unforgettable experience, including seeing hidden gems. Sounds exciting, right? Discover plenty of trips in JoinMyTrip and start your adventure of a lifetime!

Uncover Hidden Gems in Paris | City Unscripted

February 28, 2020 Hi, I'm Myriam, your guide to uncovering the lesser-known wonders of Paris, far beyond the iconic Eiffel Tower. Leave behind the well-worn tourist trails and explore the enigmatic secrets of this captivating city as we unveil the veiled and unearth the mysteries hidden from plain view. Paris is brimming with captivating stories, concealed treasures, and cultural gems waiting to be discovered. As a passionate local with an insatiable curiosity for the city's history, culture, and charm, I've made it my mission to introduce you to Paris, which only a select few are privileged to know. In the bustling heart of the French capital, I've ventured off the beaten path countless times, exploring narrow cobblestone streets and tucked-away corners to provide an authentic, vibrant, and occasionally delightfully humorous view of this mesmerizing metropolis. Together, we'll dive into the Paris that exists beyond the obvious, beyond the Eiffel Tower. Whether you're a first-time visitor or a Paris lover looking for a fresh perspective, come along as we embark on a series of Paris tours that will open your eyes to a city filled with hidden gems. Together, we'll peel back the layers and uncover the treasures that make Paris a true trove of unique experiences. Let's dive deep into the heart of Paris - Île de la Cité. This tiny island floating in the Seine River is often overlooked by tourists seeking the city's best-known attractions. But, oh boy, are they missing out! This island is a treasure trove of hidden gems amidst centuries of history. While Notre Dame Cathedral might be the most famous church on the block, Île de la Cité has more surprises than you'd expect. The island boasts hidden gems like La Petite Cour, a quaint cobblestone street tucked away from the crowds, offering a lovely escape into the heart of French history. Trust me, you'll want to explore every nook and cranny here, from the charming Brasserie Les Deux Palais to the enchanting Marché aux fleurs Reine-Elizabeth-II flower market. The intricate details and secrets held within these hidden places make Île de la Cité one of the best-kept secrets of Paris. While you might think of Paris as a bustling metropolis, Île de la Cité offers a tranquil oasis amidst the hustle and bustle. You can unwind at quaint cafes like Les Deux Colombes and find shady corners to enjoy leisurely reading or people-watch. This island reveals a side of Paris that most tourists never experience, making it one

of the most incredible hidden gems for locals and travelers alike. So, when you're visiting Paris, be sure to include Île de la Cité in your itinerary. It's an absolutely stunning and historically rich spot that promises a unique and unforgettable adventure in the heart of this fantastic city. I'm about to unveil one of Paris's most enchanting, hidden gems - the Temple de la Sibylle. Nestled atop the Parc des Buttes-Chaumont, this place is a secret many locals haven't uncovered. As you ascend the hilly terrain of Parc des Buttes-Chaumont, you'll find yourself in an enchanted park that feels like a scene straight out of a fairy tale. It's the perfect spot for a romantic escapade with your loved one or simply a peaceful retreat from the hustle and bustle of central Paris. Trust me; this hidden gem is a serene oasis that offers breathtaking panoramic city views. But there's more to this temple than meets the eye. The history behind the temple is as captivating as its surroundings. Initially built in the 19th century, it was inspired by ancient Roman architecture and Greek mythology. It's a spot where you can get lost in tales of Paris's past while soaking in the beauty of its present. So, when you visit Paris, remember to include this hidden gem on your itinerary. This temple is a secret spot that promises an unforgettable experience in the heart of the city, a place where history whispers and romance blooms amidst the beauty of Paris's Elysian Fields. I'm taking you off the beaten path to one of my favorite hidden gems in Paris ? Canal Saint Martin. This trendy hideaway tucked away from the usual tourist hotspots is where locals and trendsetters gather to experience the essence of Paris in a new light. Canal Saint Martin is more than just a picturesque waterway; it's a window into the city's soul. As you wander along its tree-lined quays, you'll encounter a vibrant neighborhood filled with charming cafés, quirky boutiques, and creative spaces. It's the perfect place to blend in with the locals, whether sipping on espresso at Café Mareva République or indulging in a picnic along the banks. This is where you'll uncover the heart of Paris' romantic life, away from the crowds and chaos of central Paris. But Canal Saint Martin has more to offer than cozy hideaways. Stroll along the serene waterways and marvel at the ingenious system of locks and bridges that add to the area's scenic splendor. Crossing the arched iron footbridges, you'll feel like you've entered a postcard-perfect world. And if you're lucky, you might even witness the mesmerizing sight of a barge through the water, a true spectacle to behold. It's a secret spot that offers an authentic taste of the

city, where you can experience Paris as the locals do and where the city's romantic charm comes to life in the most unexpected ways. Explore this hidden gem, and you'll discover why Canal Saint Martin is a trendsetter's haven and a delightful escape in the heart of Paris. I've got a hidden gem that might need a treasure map - Bassin de la Villette, where the city's heartbeat thrums along the water's edge. Now, picture this: You're in Paris, but instead of the usual tourist crowds, you find yourself at Bassin de la Villette, where locals gather to embrace the true spirit of the city. Along its banks, you'll stumble upon enchanting surprises like Cinéma en Plein Air, an open-air cinema where you can enjoy a movie under the stars. But that's just the beginning. Le Pavillon des Canaux is my go-to café when I need a caffeine fix. It's where artists and coffee aficionados collide, and the vibrant energy is contagious. And for a dose of local fun, you'll often find passionate pétanque players along the water's edge, showcasing their skills in style. What I adore about this place is its unfiltered authenticity. It's not the Paris of tour buses and tourist traps; it's the Paris where locals create memories. I often tell friends that they must head to Bassin de la Villette if they want to experience the city's hidden pulse. It's an off-the-radar secret spot that guarantees an unforgettable Parisian adventure. By ignis - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wiki> Let's take a plunge beneath Paris, quite literally. Deep beneath the iconic boulevards of Paris lies a hidden gem that's sure to take your visit to the next level: the Paris Sewer Museum. Now, I know what you're thinking. Sewers? Really? Trust me, this is unlike any other museum you've ever visited. It's a journey into the heart of Paris, where you can unmask the underworld beneath your feet. As you descend into the depths, you'll uncover the engineering marvels that have kept this bustling city's underbelly flowing for centuries. It's not just about waste; it's about the intricate web of tunnels that tell a fascinating story of Paris's development. The museum isn't just about pipes and sewage; it's about this remarkable city's history, innovation, and resilience. From the times of revolution when the sewers played a crucial role in the city's defense to modern-day marvels of engineering, you'll navigate through Paris's subterranean history like never before. So, take advantage of this hidden gem when you're in Paris. It's an offbeat experience that even locals like me can't resist. It's not your typical visit, but I promise it'll leave you with a newfound appreciation for the unseen world beneath

your feet. Explore the Paris Sewer Museum, and you'll discover a whole new layer of this incredible city. Let's descend into the city's depths to uncover one of its most enigmatic hidden gems - the Paris catacombs. The Paris catacombs are like a secret city hidden beneath the city. I've ventured into this underground labyrinth, and let me tell you, it's different from your typical tourist attraction. As you wind your way through these dark, eerie tunnels, you'll come face to face with the city's history like never before. Did you know? The catacombs are more than just a spooky tale; they're the final resting place of over six million Parisians, and their bones have created intricate, macabre artworks that will send shivers down your spine. Locals and visitors alike are drawn to this haunting, historic underground world, and I often recommend it to those looking to explore Paris' hidden gems.

Square des Peupliers is a hidden gem tucked away in the bustling city, where serenity and charm blend seamlessly. As I step into this peaceful haven, I'm greeted by a canopy of lush trees, their branches forming a leafy embrace that feels like a warm hug from nature. It's a tranquil spot where locals like me seek respite from the city's hustle and bustle. The cobblestone pathways, colorful facades, and blooming gardens create a picturesque scene that's almost too good to be true. It's where you can sit under a tree with a good book, picnic with friends, or simply enjoy the soothing ambiance. This hidden gem is a delightful escape, and it's one of my favorite spots to rediscover peace and serenity amidst the vibrant energy of Paris.

Di Bencham - Opera propria, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://comm>

Nestled in the heart of the Bois de Boulogne, Parc de Bagatelle is a rose lover's dream come true, and I'm here to share the blooming details. As I entered Parc de Bagatelle, I felt like I'd been whisked into a floral fantasyland. This park isn't just about roses; it's a dazzling display of over 10,000 rose bushes worldwide. I kid you not ? you'll find roses in every conceivable color and fragrance here. From delicate tea roses to robust, old-fashioned blooms, it's like a botanical fashion show, and the roses are the supermodels. And let's not forget the charming rose garden competition, where the most exquisite roses compete for the title of the "Rose Queen." You'll find yourself snapping pictures like a true paparazzo if you're anything like me. And the best part? Parc de Bagatelle is an oasis of tranquility in the bustling city of Paris, and tourists do not overrun it. Parc de Bagatelle, one of the city's best-hidden gems, is waiting to enchant you with its blooming beauty.

Let me spill on one of my go-to Parisian hidden gems ? the Square du Vert-Galant. Nestled right on the tip of the Île de la Cité, this place is my haven for all things romance, and I can't wait to share this little slice of paradise with you. If you're tired of the cliché Eiffel Tower selfies and want an intimate escape in the heart of Paris, then follow me to this secret oasis. Picture this: I'm strolling along the Seine, and suddenly, I stumble upon this pocket-sized park that oozes charm. Tucked away from the hustle and bustle of the city, the Square du Vert-Galant offers breathtaking views of the river and some of the most iconic Parisian landmarks. It's the perfect spot for a cozy picnic or an impromptu rendezvous with your special someone. And here's the kicker: it's never as crowded as those other famous spots. Trust me, if you want to add a pinch of magic to your Parisian adventure, this hidden gem is where it's at. CC BY-SA 2.5, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php>

Prepare to be transported to a secret world of lush greenery in Paris ? the Jardin des Serres d'Auteuil. As a dedicated plant enthusiast, I couldn't keep this hidden gem to myself any longer. If you're ready to escape the usual tourist hustle and bask in the serenity of a botanical paradise, then follow me into this verdant wonderland. This place is not your run-of-the-mill garden; it's a botanical extravaganza that inspired me. From the elegant palm house to the whimsical greenhouses bursting with exotic plants, it's a plant lover's dream come true. As I wandered the winding paths, I discovered hidden corners adorned with colorful flowers and rare species. You can even explore a charming alpine garden and a tranquil Japanese garden ? it's like traveling the world without leaving Paris! Jardin des Serres d'Auteuil, one of the best-hidden gems in Paris, is ready to enchant you with its botanical splendor. I'm letting you in on a little secret - L'Oasis D'Aboukir, a hidden gem tucked away in the heart of Paris that's so enchanting it'll make you forget you're in a bustling city. Now, when you're in Paris, it's easy to be swept away by the grandeur of the Louvre or the charm of Montmartre. But trust me, there's something utterly mesmerizing about the serene L'Oasis D'Aboukir. It's a pocket of green heaven where locals and in-the-know visitors seek refuge from the city's hustle and bustle. As you step into this hidden gem, you'll be greeted by a lush courtyard adorned with vibrant flora, and the soothing sound of a trickling fountain will instantly transport you to a tranquil oasis. Even better, you won't find the tourist crowds here. It's a secret spot to enjoy a quiet moment away from

the typical Parisian hustle. So, the next time you're in Paris, take a detour to L'Oasis d'Aboukir. It's a slice of paradise that'll make you feel like you've stumbled upon one of the city's best-kept secrets, and you'll leave with a newfound appreciation for the quieter side of Paris. I invite you to enter a Rococo splendor world at Parc Monceau. It's a hidden gem where elegance reigns and whimsy takes center stage. This enchanting park is my haven of serenity and style. As I take strolls beneath its majestic trees and along its meandering pathways, I can't help but feel like I've stepped into my very own Rococo reverie. But what truly sets Parc Monceau apart is its charming surprises. You'll encounter miniature Greek temples, a Roman colonnade, and a picturesque bridge that transports you to a world of elegance. It's a place where Parisians and visitors alike come to unwind, picnic, or simply bask in the park's timeless beauty. If you're in Paris and yearning for a dose of Rococo reverie, trust me, Parc Monceau is where you'll want to be. This hidden gem is my tranquil escape, transporting you to a bygone era of Parisian elegance and enchantment. Let's journey into the past along the forgotten tracks of La Petite Ceinture ? Paris' lost railway. Now, you might think of Paris as a city of metros and buses, but I found a hidden gem beneath the bustling streets. La Petite Ceinture, or "The Little Belt," is a disused railway that once circled Paris, transporting passengers in style during the 19th century. Today, it's a secret spot where nature has taken over, and the echoes of the past linger. I often suggest to my friends that this is a must-visit for a unique Parisian adventure. Walking along the tracks, I find myself immersed in a world of urban exploration, surrounded by graffiti-covered tunnels, lush greenery, and the remnants of old stations. This Paris hidden gem is where the city's hustle and bustle feel miles away, even though you're just a stone's throw from a metro station. So, when you're in Paris and looking to escape the usual tourist haunts, hop off the beaten path and visit La Petite Ceinture. It's a secret spot that promises an unforgettable journey back in time. Let's talk about La Promenade Plantée. Nestled high above the bustling streets of Paris, this elevated oasis is like my secret haven for a dose of urban elegance, and I can't wait to share the details with you. As I ascended the stairs to this elevated wonderland, I felt like I'd stumbled upon a Parisian secret garden in the sky. La Promenade Plantée, or the Coulée Verte, is not your typical city park. It's a beautifully landscaped promenade built atop an old railway viaduct,

and it's a tranquil escape from the city's hustle and bustle. Lined with lush greenery, flowers, and quirky art installations, it's a perfect spot for a leisurely walk or a picnic with friends. The cherry on top? The arches and tunnels are adorned with climbing plants, creating a magical, romantic atmosphere. Plus, it's not swarmed by tourists, so that you can savor this hidden gem in peace. Step above the ordinary and explore this secret Parisian paradise ? one of the city's best-hidden gems, waiting to elevate your urban experience. I've got a little secret to share about Paris - Rue de l'Abreuvoir. It's an absolute hidden gem within the city, and trust me, you want to take advantage of it. This charming street is a canvas where art and history converge. My favorite thing to do here is stroll past the Moulin de la Galette, where iconic artists like Renoir and Van Gogh once found inspiration. But it's not just a trip down memory lane; Rue de l'Abreuvoir is a contemporary art hub with boutique galleries like Cité Internationale des Arts. And when you're here, you'll feel like you've stumbled into a cozy Parisian village, complete with ivy-covered facades, cascading flowers, and welcoming cafés like La Maison Rose. It's a true hidden gem that I often recommend to friends visiting Paris, promising an authentic experience of the city you won't find on the usual tourist path. So, include Rue de l'Abreuvoir in your Paris adventure and let its enchanting charm leave you with unforgettable memories. By Thierry Bezecourt - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://> Let's step into the heartbeat of history - Rue Saint Jacques. This hidden gem in the Latin Quarter is a time machine that'll whisk you away to ancient Paris. When you think of Paris, you might picture bustling boulevards and modern cafes, but this street is a different story. This street is like a hidden portal to a bygone era, one of the best-kept secrets among Parisians. As you stroll along its cobbled path, centuries-old buildings surround you, some dating back to the 13th century. I often tell friends that this street is where you can hear the echoes of Paris's past. When you're in Paris, take a break from the most famous streets and visit Rue Saint Jacques. It's a secret spot that'll make you feel like a time traveler, and you'll walk away with a deeper appreciation for the layers of history that make Paris the incredible city it is. By Musée de Montmartre - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://> Let's explore the artistic and historical tapestry of the Musée de Montmartre. Nestled in the heart of Montmartre, this museum is one of the hidden gems in Paris, where art and history intertwine to

reveal the secrets of the creative quarter. While Montmartre's cobbled streets and famous artists like Picasso and Toulouse-Lautrec have drawn in many tourists, the museum is an artistic haven that often escapes the radar. This museum is dedicated to preserving the area's unique history and creative spirit. As you wander through its halls, you'll discover more than just paintings; it's a journey into the soul of Montmartre. This museum isn't just about art; it's about the people who lived and created in this charming Parisian neighborhood. Explore the studios of famous artists like Suzanne Valadon and stroll through the peaceful gardens that inspired countless masterpieces. The Musée de Montmartre offers an intimate view of the lives and loves of the creative minds that once roamed these streets. For art lovers and history buffs alike, this museum is a must-visit on your Paris itinerary. It's one of the many hidden gems in Paris, tucked away in plain sight, waiting to reveal the secrets and stories of Montmartre to those who seek them. By LPLT - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikim>

I've got a treat for you - the Picasso Museum. This place is like a treasure chest of art hiding in plain sight, and it's one of Paris's best-kept secrets. Now, I know what you might be thinking - "Picasso, isn't that guy, like, super famous?" Well, you're right, but most people need to learn that a museum dedicated entirely to Picasso's works is tucked away in the Le Marais neighborhood. It's not just an art gallery; it's a journey through the mind of a genius. As you explore the Picasso Museum, you'll be treated to an array of his masterpieces and get a glimpse into the artist's ever-evolving style. I often say this place is a must-visit because it's not just about the art but the stories behind the brushstrokes and the evolution of one of the greatest artists ever. So, when you're in Paris, don't just stick to the Louvre and the Musée d'Orsay - make your way to the Picasso Museum. It's a hidden gem that'll make you see Picasso in a new light and give you a deeper appreciation for his genius. Trust me; it's one of the art world's best-kept secrets, and you won't want to miss it! Par Moonik ? Travail personnel, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://c>

Get ready to enter a world where carnival dreams come to life and whimsy knows no bounds. When you think of Paris, you probably envision the grandeur of the Arc de Triomphe or the serene Luxembourg Garden, but let me take you on a journey to a different kind of wonderland. Tucked away in the Bercy neighborhood, the Musée des Arts Forains is a hidden gem of a museum dedicated to the magical

world of carnivals and fairgrounds. As I wandered through its whimsical halls, I felt like I'd stumbled into a secret realm filled with vintage carousels, ornate carriages, and quirky sideshow games. What sets this place apart is that it's not just a museum; it's an immersive experience. You can ride the antique carousels, test your skills at century-old games, and bask in the playful atmosphere that enchants locals and visitors alike. The Musée des Arts Forains is a hidden gem that allows you to step back in time and experience the joy of the fair. So, the next time you're in Paris, trade the usual tourist spots for a taste of carnival magic. By Pline - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wiki>

I'm unveiling a hidden gem that will transport you back to the enchanting world of the Middle Ages - the Musée de Cluny. It's where knights, dragons, and tapestries come to life and where you'll discover the magic of Paris' medieval marvels. Nestled in the heart of the Latin Quarter lies the Musée de Cluny, a hidden gem that's the stuff of medieval dreams. As you enter its ancient doors, you'll find yourself surrounded by an incredible collection of art, artifacts, and tapestries from the Middle Ages. It's like a time capsule that allows you to return to a world of chivalry, myths, and legends. What's genuinely enchanting about this place is its atmosphere - it feels like a secret spot where you're the sole discoverer of a hidden treasure trove. Whether you're marveling at the famous Lady and the Unicorn tapestries or exploring the remains of Roman baths in the basement, Musée de Cluny will whisk you away to a bygone era. If you're in Paris and looking to embark on a time traveler's delight, this hidden gem is a must-visit. Prepare to be captivated by the medieval marvels that await you at the Musée de Cluny. By © Salix / Wikimedia Commons, CC BY 2.5, <https://comm>

I'm unveiling a hidden gem that will captivate your senses and transport you to distant lands - the Albert Kahn Museum. It's a place where imagination knows no bounds, and the world's beauty unfolds before your eyes. This hidden gem, tucked away in the leafy suburbs, is a sanctuary of color, culture, and creativity. As you step into the enchanting gardens surrounding the museum, you'll feel like you've been whisked away to different corners of the globe. What's truly captivating about this place is its mission - it's a tribute to Albert Kahn's vision of promoting peace and understanding among nations through photography and film. Inside, you'll find an incredible collection of autochrome images, capturing moments from around the world in vivid color. It's like a

passport to the past, and the museum's enchanting gardens are a breathtaking backdrop that brings it all to life. So, if you're in Paris and seeking a dose of captivating vision, trust me, this is where you want to be. This hidden gem will take you on a journey beyond borders and give you a deeper appreciation of the world's diverse beauty. Par vincent desjardins from Paris, France ? BnF / Bibli

Let me share one of my cherished discoveries in Paris ? the Bibliothèque-Musée de l'Opéra. Tucked away amidst the grandeur of the Palais Garnier, this place is like a treasure chest of opera's history and charm, and I'm thrilled to unveil it to you. If you're tired of the usual tourist spots and crave a taste of Paris' dramatic and artistic heart, follow me to this hidden gem. As I entered this hallowed space, I felt like I'd stumbled upon a secret world of luxury and drama. The Bibliothèque-Musée de l'Opéra is not just a museum; it's a portal into the captivating universe of opera. Its vast collection of costumes, props, and scores makes it a haven for opera enthusiasts like me. I roamed its hallowed halls, ogling at the intricate details of costumes gracing legendary performances. They even have an array of exquisite masks, and trust me; you'll be tempted to stage your phantom-like escapades. Plus, the library holds centuries of musical history within its walls, waiting to be discovered by curious minds. Par Caroline Léna Becker ? Travail personnel, CC BY 3.0 Prepare to have your mind blown! Tucked away in the 11th arrondissement, the Atelier des Lumières is a true masterpiece of immersive art, and I can't wait to share my mind-bending experience with you. So, here's the scoop: as I stepped into the Atelier des Lumières, I was instantly transported to a realm where art comes to life most extraordinarily. Picture this ? massive, floor-to-ceiling projections of iconic paintings spanning the walls, the floor, and the ceiling. It's like the Mona Lisa decided to have a dance party with Starry Night. I found myself wandering through a living, breathing canvas, entirely enchanted by the interplay of light and sound. And they change the exhibitions regularly, so there's always something new to discover. Trust me, the Atelier des Lumières is not just a hidden gem in Paris; it's a mind-bending, soul-nourishing experience you won't want to miss. I'm letting you know one of my favorite hidden gems in this magical city - Étienne du Mont. This charming spot is like a tranquil sanctuary hiding amidst the lively streets of Paris. I know that when you think of Paris, you might imagine famous churches like Notre Dame, but Étienne du Mont is a different kind of treasure. This

hidden gem is nestled next to the Panthéon, yet it often escapes the radar of many tourists. As you step inside, you'll be surrounded by a serene and peaceful atmosphere, away from the bustling crowds. It's a secret spot that locals like me cherish for its tranquility and stunning interior. It is adorned with intricate stained glass windows that bathe the church in a kaleidoscope of colors. But here's the real kicker ? climb the narrow spiral staircase to the top, and you'll be rewarded with one of the most breathtaking views of Paris. It's my go-to secret spot for a unique perspective on the city.

So, head over to Étienne du Mont. It's a hidden sanctuary that'll make you feel like you've uncovered one of the city's best-kept secrets, and you'll leave with a sense of calm and a newfound admiration for the lesser-known gems of Paris. I'm whisking you away to one of my favorite historic neighborhoods in Paris - Le Marais. It's a place where every cobblestone has a story to tell and where the past and present coexist in perfect harmony. As I stroll through its winding streets, I'm surrounded by centuries of history. Le Marais boasts the elegant Place des Vosges, where I can sit on a bench and imagine myself amid the French Revolution's drama. But it's not just about history; Le Marais is also a vibrant hub of modern art and culture. I can explore contemporary galleries tucked away like Modus Gallery and stumble upon charming boutiques and cafes, such as Boutique Ephémère Marais and Le Peloton Café, that locals like me adore. It's a place where the past and present blend seamlessly, creating an atmosphere enchanting visitors and those who call Le Marais home. So, if you're in Paris and looking to indulge in a bit of my historic reverie, trust me, Le Marais is where you'll want to be. It's the most charming area in Paris. This hidden gem has it all - from secret spots to historic monuments, and it's a slice of Paris that will leave you enchanted and inspired.

Here's a hidden gem in Paris close to my book-loving heart ? Square René Viviani. Nestled right in the heart of the Latin Quarter, this place is like a literary time capsule, and I'm here to share the page-turning details with you. So picture this: I'm wandering the cobblestone streets of the Latin Quarter, and suddenly, I stumble upon Square René Viviani, a charming little park with a view that could rival any postcard. But here's the twist ? it's also home to the oldest tree in Paris, a majestic plane tree standing tall for centuries. This place is a haven for bookworms, as it's right next to the Shakespeare and Company bookstore, where aspiring Hemingways and Fitzgeralds often gather.

Grab a book, find a cozy spot in the park, and you'll be living the dream of every literature enthusiast. Step into this secret haven of words and wonder ? Square René Viviani, one of the best-hidden gems in Paris, is waiting to share its literary legacy with you. I'm uncorking one of my cherished secrets - the Wine Museum, where every bottle has a tale to tell, and the stories are as intoxicating as the vintages. When I think of Paris, wine country might not be the first thing that comes to mind, but trust me, this hidden gem tucked away in the heart of Le Marais is a must-visit for wine lovers and curious souls alike. As you enter the museum, you'll be greeted by the rich aroma of centuries-old wine traditions. It's a place dedicated to the art of winemaking, and it's a journey that reveals how the French have elevated this nectar of the gods to an art form. But here's what separates this place - it's not just about looking at dusty bottles behind glass cases. You can taste some vintage treasures in the museum's wine cellar. It's a vintage chronicle waiting to be discovered, and you'll leave with a deeper appreciation for the elixir of life that has been cherished for centuries.

Hidden in the heart of Paris, Moonshiner is where history and cocktails intertwine in the most captivating way. This clandestine speakeasy takes you straight into the heart of the Prohibition era, where jazz rhythms and the clinking of glasses fill the air. To find it, you'll need to pass through the façade of a quaint pizzeria (one of the best places to eat in Paris) and enter a world that feels like a secret from a bygone time. Inside, Moonshiner is all about the ambiance. It is dimly lit with vintage décor, where locals and visitors come to savor craft cocktails that pay homage to the past. Their mixologists are true artists, and each drink is a masterpiece of flavor and history. If you're looking for a taste of the clandestine, trust me, Moonshiner is where you'll want to be. This Paris hidden gem is a spirited journey back in time, and it's the perfect spot to raise a glass to the mysteries and delights of the past.

By Peter Poradisich - Peter Poradisich (Drfine); own phot Père Lachaise Cemetery is not your typical tourist spot, but its eerie gravestones contain tales of love, artistry, and legends that have captivated me, wanderers, and locals alike. As I wander its winding paths, I encounter centuries-old tombs adorned with intricate sculptures and overgrown, forgotten corners where nature has taken its course. But what makes Père Lachaise remarkable are the famous residents who call it their final resting place. From iconic artists like Oscar Wilde and Edith

Piaf to writers like Marcel Proust and Jim Morrison, each grave has its own story. It's a place where history comes to life, and the whispers of the past linger in the air. So, if you're in Paris and craving a dose of eerie beauty and legends, trust me, Père Lachaise Cemetery is where you'll find them. Par

DRAGANCESTIC ? Travail personnel, CC BY-SA 4.0, htt Nestled discreetly amidst the charming streets of the Marais district, this place is a treasure trove of captivating visuals, and it's high time I shared my insider scoop with you. If you've had enough of the usual touristy spots and want a taste of authentic Paris, trust me, this little gem is your ticket to a world of captured moments. As you step inside, it's like diving headfirst into a photographer's dream. My first visit made me feel like I'd encountered a secret society of visual storytellers. The Maison de la Photographie hosts an ever-changing collection of stunning exhibitions showcasing the work of both renowned photographers and hidden talents. Wander through its charmingly cluttered rooms, and you'll uncover a kaleidoscope of emotions, cultures, and perspectives, all cleverly captured in each frame. Whether you're a photography enthusiast or just someone who appreciates art, this place has my approval. So, ditch the predictable sights and unearth this Parisian secret for an unforgettable experience that will truly capture your heart and imagination. By APK - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikime>

Let me whisk you away to a hidden gem in Paris that's both peaceful and intriguing ? the Montparnasse Cemetery. Tucked amidst the charming streets of Montparnasse, this place is more than just a resting place; it's an artistic journey I stumbled upon, and I'm excited to share my extraordinary discovery with you. As I wandered through the Montparnasse Cemetery, it felt like I was strolling through a garden of artistic souls. This place is home to the final resting sites of some of the most brilliant minds in history, from poets to painters and philosophers to musicians. The tombstones are like art pieces, each telling a story of creativity and passion. I couldn't help but marvel at the elaborate sculptures and poetic inscriptions adorn the graves. And if you're a fan of mysteries, you'll find the final resting place of the enigmatic philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre and the iconic Simone de Beauvoir. It's a fascinating place where art, history, and culture converge, and trust me, it's a hidden gem in Paris that will leave you both enlightened and entertained. Well, our journey through the hidden gems of Paris has ended, but fear not, for the treasures we've unearthed

will stay with us forever. Beyond the Eiffel Tower's towering presence, we've delved into the depths of a Paris less traveled and emerged with a trove of unforgettable experiences. From the cobblestone alleys of Rue de l'Abreuvoir to the serene beauty of Bois de Vincennes, we've roamed the secret spots, sipped coffee in hidden cafés, and embraced the city's quieter charms. We've uncovered the mysteries of Île de la Cité, strolled through the medieval marvels of Musée de Cluny, and reveled in the artistic wonders of Musée de Montmartre. As you say goodbye to the city, remember that Paris isn't just about its iconic landmarks. It's a tapestry of hidden gems, a town where every cobblestone street whispers stories, every corner reveals a secret, and every glass roof twinkles with magic. So, whether you're off to explore Notre Dame's mysteries or wander the historic streets of Palais Royal, may you forever be enchanted by the hidden charms of Paris. And who knows, perhaps our paths will cross again on the quest for more hidden treasures in this city that never ceases to amaze. Hey curious traveler, visiting Paris soon?

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Top 10 Hidden Gems to Visit in France Other Than Paris - The List | The Travel Insider

Bonjour! Not sure where to go for your next vacation? How about taking a trip to France? Apart from the tourist attractions like the Eiffel Tower or the Louvre in Paris, why not take a step further to explore places that are less raved about, yet equally, if not more, beautiful? Here are 10 hidden gems to visit in France that are just waiting to be discovered! Image credit: Mike Slone

It is no wonder that many flock to Provence in order to catch a glimpse of the gorgeous lavender fields. The fragrant, purple flowers grace the fields every July to August during the flowering season. Plus, it's the perfect backdrop for tons of photo opportunities! However, did you know that besides lavender blooms, Provence is also famed for saffron, as well as freshly picked truffles! Image credit: Edsel Little

Yes, although real-life truffles look like black rocks, they certainly taste and smell heavenly! During truffle season, which typically happens around mid-November, you can purchase truffles and truffle oils, participate in the truffle parade or even go on a truffle hunt with professionals! Other interesting harvest seasons around the year-end include blackcurrant and chestnuts as well ? why not check them out for a whole new gourmet experience? Image credit: Iso Brown FR

Did you know that you can visit Venice while in France? This picturesque little town in Colmar is called La Petite Venise (Little Venice) and it is definitely a sight for tired eyes! Located in the Alsace region, Colmar is situated in the north-east of France. Here in La Petite Venise, colourful houses and cute little shrubbery line the waterway, making it a wonderful backdrop for photos. You can even take a motorized rowboat ride down the waterway, just like the iconic gondola boat rides they have in Venice! However, we suggest that you take your time to stroll through the charming neighbourhood instead. Visit the local market and have yourself a piping hot pretzel ? the perfect accompaniment while you take in all the sights and sounds of this quaint little town. Image credit: Attrap Reves Facebook

Nestled deep in the pine forests of Allauch, lie quirky clear plastic orbs, which upon closer examination, are actually bubble hotels! An example of glamping, aka glamorous camping, these unassuming little orbs are actually private rooms fitted with luxurious amenities such as a

plush queen sized bed and an open-air jacuzzi! For a magical night, enjoy a glass of bubbly as you watch the stars from the comfort of your bubble room ? such an enchanting and once-in-a-lifetime experience indeed! Located in other areas such as La Bouilladisse, Puget-Ville and Montagnac-Montpezat, there are different types of bubble hotels catered to suit different environments and occasions. Set within pastoral settings that let you feel at one with nature, yet comfortable and luxurious at the same time? These bubble hotels really take camping to a whole new level! Image credit: Lynn Rainard Surely you would have watched Beauty and the Beast by now, or at least know how this beloved fairy tale goes. If you loved the fairytale, here?s another fantastic reason to visit France ? step into the ?little town? that inspired the opening scene of Beauty and the Beast! Image credit: Phillip Capper Welcome to Conques! It is just the most adorable little village ever, complete with winding cobblestone pathways and cute little cottages with shutters and walls lined with creepers. You will not be disappointed as you amble through these charming streets. Why not go ahead and film your own rendition of Belle singing as she strolls into town? The picturesque houses and rustic charm definitely makes for the perfect dreamy backdrop for photos, and lasting memories that can be your very own tale as old as time! Calanques are narrow, steep-walled inlets developed in limestone or dolomite and are often found along the Mediterranean coast. They are usually formed via erosion or from the collapse of a cave that had subsequently become partially submerged by the rise in sea level. Interesting, huh? The Calanques of Marseille and Cassis promise you spectacular panoramas of the majestic white limestone cliffs and alluring azure blues as far as the eye can see. Image credit: Akunamatata One can choose to hike around the cliffs or take a boat ride through the inlet. You could also go for a little dip in the sea, or even snorkel around the sheltered coves that guarantee views of different marine life in the crystal clear waters! Just don?t forget to bring your swimsuits and a towel! Embellished with accents of gold around numerous classical paintings that adorn the ceilings, the magnificent Palace of Versailles is definitely a place you do not want to miss! Once a royal palace that was extended by Louis XIV, the palace today is used as a museum, where guests can roam through gigantic corridors and long hallways. From towering marble columns, to elaborate chandeliers and the intricately painted

ceilings of the great halls, one could spend the whole day marvelling at French architecture. Prepare to be stunned when you wander through the splendid Hall of Mirrors or take a peek into the queen's bedroom, which glistens in gold. Image credit: MJM Photography Another grand feature of Versailles is the vast garden grounds which is situated to the west of the palace. The carefully manicured gardens are as impressive as the palace itself. Spend your afternoon getting lost in the mazes or if you're bored of walking around, you could even rent a boat and row around the lake at the end of the palace grounds! Image credit: GabboT Cannes is famous for the Cannes Film Festival, but did you know that it also has some of the most ravishing beaches in the world? Imagine sinking your feet into fine, soft mounds of sand. As you slowly make your way to the shore, you are greeted with cool waves that lap gently at your feet ? how amazing does that sound? The young and old alike will undoubtedly have a ball of a time frolicking around in the sea and building an endless fort of sandcastles. If you just want to sit back and unwind, why not enjoy a picnic lunch by the sea with your loved ones or lie back and treat yourself to a nice tan! Just make sure to slap on that sunscreen before you go. There's just so much more to explore in France than we ever imagined! But the most irresistible part is?. Chamonix-Mont-Blanc is truly the embodiment of sublime. These splendid mountains are located in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region in the southeast of France, and was the site of the first Winter Olympics way back in 1924! You can experience the best of this snowy winter wonderland with a myriad of winter sports such as skiing, snowboarding, winter paragliding and even dog sledging! How exhilarating does that sound? For those not into winter sports, why not savour the awesome views via the highest cable car in Europe? The cable cars take you 3,842 metres above sea level, into a whole new world at the peak of the Alps! Have some lunch at the cafe or a steaming mug of coffee to warm you up as you sit back and admire the pristine snowy scenery. Image credit: Falstaf History buffs will surely appreciate a visit to Carcassonne, a fortified French town in Aude, within the region of Occitanie. Carcassonne was added to the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites in 1997. You could hire an audio guide to help you navigate through the castle and provide you with information about its history or simply stomp through the grand, castle walls at your own pace. Scale the outer ramparts to the inner chambers and feel as if

you've travelled through time, right back to the medieval era! One would surely fall in love with medieval architecture as you also discover the many hidden vantage points, that will provide you with stunning panoramas for perfect photo opportunities! Image credit: Jean-Baptiste Bellet

The coolest part? Every summer, the Festival de Carcassonne is held right here at this UNESCO Heritage Site! It's definitely an unparalleled festival experience for sure. Throughout the month of July, 120 shows are held in this ancient theatre, ranging from opera to theatre, dance, classical music, and concerts by national and international artists. Time your visit wisely so you can get a taste of this unique festival ground! Image credit: Roberto Lumbreras

Got the wild spirit of adventure in you? Then you would, without a doubt, relish the opportunity to go canyoning in one of the most gorgeous places ever. Most people don't associate water activities with France, but who knew that you could actually go canyoning amongst natural landforms such as limestone gorges, waterfalls and rock pools right here in Nice? Image credit: Riviera Bar Crawl

From abseiling to swimming, and even cliff jumping, there's no better way to explore the beauty of France's natural wonders than canyoning. So if you're looking for your next outdoor adrenaline fix, this is definitely the activity you should sign up for. Take that thrilling plunge into the crystal clear waters today and you'll never look back! Ready to go forth and have a grand adventure in France? Take the first step to planning that dream vacation, by booking your trip to France with your UOB CARD today! Au revoir, for now!

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Hidden Gems in Paris | Original Travel Blog - Original Travel

The landmarks of Paris are so iconic that it might seem impossible to plan a visit that detours from the tourist trail. However, there are still plenty of lesser-known locations to discover during a day trip to Paris or long weekend. While it's hard to entirely escape the crowds when visiting the French capital, these hidden gems in Paris are some of the city's best-kept secrets. From a tower tourists often miss to an opulent chateau that isn't Versailles, explore our favourite places to pretend we're Parisian.

Tower views with shorter queues While tourists flock to the Eiffel Tower, another our favourite lofty spot that's well worth a visit in Paris is the Montparnasse Tower. Day or night, the panoramic views from the observation deck are a delight. And since no snap of the Paris skyline is complete without its most famous landmark, this is the premier place to photograph the city in all its glory – the Eiffel Tower la tour Eiffel included. Further up the Montparnasse Tower, there's an outdoor terrace which offers a 360-degree vista of the city; look out for the Louvre museum, the Arc de Triomphe and the Basilica of Sacré Coeur. But the best bit is simply savouring the sights of Paris from above; the tree-lined avenues, the romantic rooftops, the glow of the limestone buildings in golden hour. And the hours you save not queuing for the Eiffel Tower equal more time to enjoy the other hidden gems in Paris on our list..

Move over Mona Lisa Visit the Louvre museum and you may find yourself caught in a cultural conga line dancing hastily towards the Mona Lisa. Many visitors speedily skip whole galleries to reach Leonardo da Vinci's famous muse with her beguiling smile. But there's so much more to see in the Louvre, including another of Leonardo's ladies. Portrait of a Lady from the Court of Milan (also known as La Belle Ferronnière) is considered one of Leonardo da Vinci's most accomplished portraits. And while she's less well-known than the lovely Lisa, her expression is equally intriguing. Is she smiling? Or is she giving someone some serious side eye? Stop by to say hello next time you're in town and decide for yourself.

Goodbye to Versailles Immense, iconic and intricately -gilded, the Palace of Versailles is popular for a reason. But while the lavish living quarters of Marie Antoinette are a firm fixture on the tourist trail, there's another grand historical abode that remains under the radar. Ornate, opulent and perfectly

preserved, the Chateau de Malmaison was once home to the French Emperor Napoleon and his wife Josephine. And although not quite on the same scale as Versailles, the chateau and its gardens are a time capsule of the Paris of the past. Bought and furnished by Josephine for her husband (legend has it he wasn't impressed by how much money she spent on the house), the Chateau de Malmaison is one of the best-kept secrets in the city. Take a guided tour to journey back through time without the crowds of Versailles.

Lounge with the locals

The uniquely French verb *flâner* (meaning 'to wander aimlessly through a city') has no English equivalent. And there's no place quite like Paris to indulge in this pastime. The formal jardins (gardens) of the city are its most famous outdoor spaces; the Jardin des Tuileries and the Jardin du Luxembourg are two top spots for *une flânerie* (one of those aimless wanders). Yet our pick of places to stroll without a sense of direction is the Parc des Buttes-Chaumont. It's often overlooked by city breakers and long weekenders, but it's one of our favourite hidden gems in Paris. A gorgeous expanse of greenery complete with meandering walking trails, this pretty park is the perfect place to embrace the laid-back pace of a *flâneur*. Get your saunter spot on and you might even fool the locals into believing you're a true Parisian.

Notre-Dame

It's not Currently closed to visitors following a devastating fire in 2019, Notre-Dame remains an icon of Paris. While the cathedral undergoes extensive restoration, other churches have emerged from the shadow of Notre-Dame to enjoy a spell in the spotlight. Our favourite is Église de Saint Germain des Prés, the oldest in Paris. It was the main place of worship in the city until the birth of Notre-Dame, so it seems fitting to return here while its more famous friend is under repair. The highlight of the church are the frescoes that embellish the walls; restoration of these was completed in 2019, so each piece is recently refreshed and ready to impress. If you're here on the last Sunday of the month, a free organ concert is held in the early afternoon, while ticketed concerts take place on Thursdays and Fridays – a great way to enjoy the glory of the church with an equally-glorious soundtrack.

Secret shopping

The grand old Galeries Lafayette is as much a tourist attraction as it is a department store, with its luxury fashions, gourmet food and Art Nouveau architecture drawing both shoppers and sightseers alike. But for serious shopping (or a spot of window shopping), we prefer Galerie Vivienne. Built in 1823, this is an

architectural wonder as well as a place to spend your euros; a luxurious, mosaic-tiled arcade beneath a gorgeous glass roof. Old bookshops, wine merchants, purveyors of Parisian delicacies, elegant tea rooms ? they're all here in Galerie Vivienne. Almost impossible to believe that in the 1970s this hidden gem was in danger of being demolished. We're very glad it wasn't. [Read the article](#)

[Read the article](#) Our team of destination experts will get to know you and your unique requirements for your holiday We work with you to build an ultra-personalised holiday itinerary with your choice of accommodation, experiences and activities All of our holidays include little extras designed to make a big difference to your trip, from fast-tracking you through airport check-in and security to our network of local Concierges + 44 (0) 20 3958 6120

Paris Hidden Gems - 20 Paris best-kept secrets

10% discount for every new customer [Learn more](#) We are offering 10% discount on all products Promotions, new products and sales. [Directly to your inbox.](#) Cart Your cart is empty Are you ready to discover something truly unique in the City of Lights? From secret gardens and hidden courtyards to hole-in-the-wall cafés and quirky shops, there is so much out there for intrepid travelers to explore in Paris! Here are 20 of our favorite Paris Hidden Gems & best-kept secrets, guaranteed to make your stay even more special. Are you ready to discover something truly unique in the City of Lights? Forget the Postcard Eiffel Tower, Musee d'Orsay, and Notre Dame - exploration doesn't get any better than when you're off the beaten path. From secret gardens and hidden courtyards to hole-in-the-wall cafés and quirky shops, there is so much out there for intrepid travelers to explore in Paris! Here are 20 of our favorite Paris Hidden Gems & best-kept secrets, guaranteed to make your stay even more special. Paris is a destination known for its iconic sights, but one of the city's most inspiring hidden gems can be discovered at the stunning Marche des Enfants Rouges. Located in the 3rd arrondissement, this Parisian market has served Parisians since 1615 and is today home to a vibrant atmosphere of delicious food, exotic flowers, and renowned local arts and crafts. With its charming historic buildings and the ambiance of Parisians shopping together each day, visitors to Marche des Enfants Rouges feel like they're connecting with the very heart and soul of Paris. Those looking for a truly unique Parisian experience won't want to miss out on this magical spot!

Source: Wikimedia Commons; Author: besopha; License: [License details](#) Paris is a city that oozes elegance and sophistication with its many famous attractions, such as the Eiffel Tower, Louvre Museum, and Notre Dame Cathedral. However, Paris also has many hidden gems tucked away in its less-visited areas waiting to be discovered - like the beautiful Parc des Buttes-Chaumont. Located in the 19th arrondissement of Paris, this stunning public park is adorned with grand staircases, cascading waterfalls, and a scenic lake nestled between steep hills. Whether you are going for a picnic or simply enjoying some peace away from the hustle & bustle of Parisian life, Parc des Buttes-Chaumont is well worth a visit for anyone looking for an inspiring experience in one of

Paris' hidden gems. Source: Flickr ; Author: Tom Hilton; License: License details

Historians and movie fans alike should add Grand Rex Cinema in Paris to their list of Paris' hidden gems. Built back in 1932, it is the largest cinema theater in Paris, consisting of two auditoria with a total seating capacity of over 2,800 people! Not only does the beautiful Art Deco decor transport one back to Paris of the 1930s but also puts on an impressive lineup of films that covers all genres, from old classics to modern independent movies. Grand Rex Cinema is truly an ode to Paris' rich cinematic and artistic heritage that shouldn't be missed! Source: Wikimedia Commons; Author: A.hellmann; License: License details

Paris is a city well-known for its iconic attractions, but there are many hidden gems tucked away awaiting your discovery. One such example is the Église de Saint Germain des Prés. This Grecian-style church was built in the 6th century and has served Paris as a spiritual home throughout the centuries. From its candlelit crypt where kings and nobles are laid to rest, to its nearly 30 stained glass windows reflecting centuries of faith and beauty, Église de Saint Germain des Prés is truly an inspiring Parisian hidden gem that captures the grandeur of Paris' past and present. Source: Flickr; Author: Luc Mercelis; License: License details

Paris is known as one of the most romantic cities in the world. It is home to some of the greatest architectural and cultural masterpieces, including hidden gems like the Montparnasse Tower Panoramic Observation Deck. Located atop the granddaddy of Paris skyscrapers, this observation deck gives the feeling of Paris from a bird's eye view. Step out onto the outdoor terrace and witness breathtaking views that sweep across Paris from multiple angles, showcasing its beauty and magnificence from countless perspectives. To make your experience even more special, peer through one of Paris' only 360-degree panoramic telescopes for an up-close look at this unique city and its surrounding countryside. From here, vistas like Sacre Coeur or Notre Dame appear as beautiful miniature models amidst an ocean of rooftops and the Eiffel Tower that sparkles in the sunlight. Source: Wikimedia Commons; Author: ?????? ??????????; License: License details

Canal Saint-Martin is Paris' hidden gem, offering a picturesque escape from the hustle and bustle of the City of Lights. Those seeking Paris' authentic charm can take a stroll along its banks, watching the barges float by and stopping for drinks or bites in one of Paris's quaint cafes. Additionally, visitors can marvel at

some of Paris's stunning architecture, such as St-Martin church, or experience Parisian culture through independent galleries and artist lofts that line many streets adjacent to the canal. Taking a stroll along this Parisian canal will transport you to an enchanted world, with the beautiful Haussmann architecture reflecting in the quiet water. Paris is full of hidden gems, like the graffiti and street art found throughout Belleville. This Parisian neighborhood has become a popular destination and attraction for art lovers, who find expression in the vivid colors of its walls. Vandalism is frowned upon in Paris; instead, local authorities and businesses partner with talented artists to give life to the streets of Belleville. The quality of each piece speaks for itself, captivating eyes from all around the world with its unique and creative designs. As Paris's artistic capital continues to grow along with it, you can experience something special within this Parisian neighborhood. Source: Flickr; Author: Oscar Tornier; License: License details Paris is a city with no shortage of famous landmarks, but it holds many hidden gems as well. Take the Statue of Liberty in the Jardins du Luxembourg, for example. This incredible replica stands 25 feet tall and has served as an inspiration for Parisians for over one hundred years. Dedicated to Americans living in Paris as a symbol of friendship between France and America, it never fails to evoke feelings of patriotism and hope every time visitors see it standing proudly in its lush green surroundings. It reminds us that Paris is not only known for iconic tourist attractions but also for its meaningful mementos that can live on forever! Source: Wikimedia Commons; Author: Yair Haklai; License: License details We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that we have decks of different editions of challenges for you to do during your vacation. As such, this is one of the random challenges that may appear in the Original Edition of the Travel Challenges deck: Paris is known for its many stunning attractions, but few people know about the hidden gem that is Parc la Villette's Open-Air Cinema Session! This unique, free event allows Parisians and tourists alike to experience Paris in a fun and exciting way. With classic films playing on a giant inflatable screen for everyone to enjoy, this cinema session provides the perfect opportunity for relaxation and cultural exploration. What better way to explore Paris than by enjoying some of the world's best films under Paris' incredible night sky? So whether you call Paris home or are just visiting, be sure to check out the Open-Air Cinema Session at Parc la Villette ? it will

become one of your favorite Paris activities. Source: Wikimedia Commons; Author: Guilhem Vellut; License: License details Paris is the city of lights and romance but it also holds many hidden gems for those lucky enough to find them. One such gem is the Covered Book Market at Parc Georges Brassens near Montparnasse, which provides an old-fashioned Parisian experience like no other. Here, Parisians come every Saturday morning to pore through piles of secondhand books that have been collected from people all over Paris. The atmosphere when visiting this market is one of reverence and harmony; people take a break from life's hustle and bustle to find something remarkable in a stack of dusty paperbacks. It offers a truly special Paris experience, uncovering stories and secrets along the way, that no other Paris attraction could give you. Source: Wikimedia Commons; Author: Myrabella; License: License details Have you ever wanted to experience a Parisian flea market as an insider? Look no further than Porte de Vanves in Paris! This tucked-away Parisian gem is often overlooked by tourists in Paris, but for Parisians, it's a well-known destination on the weekend. You'll find a variety of Parisian hidden gems from furniture to antiques, unique art, and fashion items. It's truly an unforgettable Paris experience that is sure to inspire anyone. Whether you're just browsing or are looking for a specific item, the carefully curated selection at Porte de Vanves will undoubtedly have something that steals your heart away. Source: Wikimedia Commons; Author: Photo Claude TRUONG-NGOC; License: License details The Grande Mosque of Paris is truly a hidden gem in the Paris landscape. As Paris's largest mosque, it stands majestically in the city and serves as a wondrous reminder of its cultural richness. Built in 1926, it is considered one of Paris' most sacred sights and has rightly earned its title of "Paris Jewel". The exquisite architecture of this attraction creates an ambiance that feels both homely and grandiose, with its intricate floral motifs and creamy pastel hues. Inside are five prayer halls for Muslims to utilize for worship, as well as beautiful Islamic art for visitors to admire. Source: Wikimedia Commons; Author: LPLT; License: License details Paris is a magical city known for its iconic attractions, but hidden beneath the cobblestone streets lies a Parisian secret - Paris' covered passages and galleries. These unique historic arcades contain some of Paris' finest hidden gems, including boutiques, restaurants, and art galleries. Many travelers flock to Paris's Galerie Vivienne, located in

the second arrondissement of Paris. This pretty passage is filled with antique shops, art galleries, and several eateries where customers can enjoy budget-friendly quick bites. Other Paris Passages include Passage Jouffroy which was recently renovated as well as Passage des Panoramas - the oldest passage in Paris. Exploring these Parisian gems offer visitors a chance to experience 19th-century Paris in all of its grandeur. Source: Flickr; Author:Carl Campbell; License: License details Paris is home to many incredible hidden gems, and the Circus Museum: Musée des Arts Forains is one of them. This unique Paris destination offers visitors a fascinating view of Parisian history, culture, and entertainment. Located within a 19th-century hall in Paris's 12th arrondissement, this special collection contains over 400 objects from the 18th and 19th centuries, as well as interactive displays that invite you to not just look but explore and experience the wonders of pre-industrial Parisian circus shows. Whether you're interested in Paris' old-fashioned fairgrounds, vintage carousels, or even Parisian carnivals, Musée des Arts Forains is sure to delight, enchant and inspire those wanting a glimpse into Paris' past. Source: Wikimedia Commons; Author:Laika ac; License: License details Paris is a city of hidden gems, and the Berges de Seine is a prime example. Berges de Seine is a beautiful park/promenade alongside the river, with delightful pathways and paths that offer visitors opportunities to explore Paris' unique landscape. From the charming promenade to magnificent views of Paris in the distance, it's easy to fall in love with Paris all over again when visiting this wonderful destination. There are plenty of activities to take part in here too; from jogging or cycling, to simply soaking up Paris' culture by passing through its many galleries and sculptures. The real beauty comes when strolling along the banks of the Seine in twilight or at night; watching nightfall gently blanket Paris as you enjoy unforgettable views of Paris' iconic monuments from a peaceful vantage point on the riverbank. This is a true Parisian paradise waiting for you to explore! Source: Flickr; Author:PreteMoiParis; License: License details Paris has long been regarded as one of the most beautiful, vibrant, and historically important cities in the world. Nestled in Paris' 12th arrondissement is a hidden street known as Rue Crémieux. This Parisian secret adds even more vibrance and charm to the French capital with its pastel-colored small houses and cobble-stoned paths. If you find yourself seeking out Paris' hidden gems, look no

further- Rue Crémieux is a must-see! After the hustle and bustle of the Paris streets, venture down this peaceful alleyway to be inspired by its cheery colors perfectly complemented by flower boxes overflowing with dazzling blooms. Whether you decide to take a trip down Rue Crémieux or simply gaze at photos from afar, this Paris hideaway will spark creativity and imagination within all who experience it. Source: Flickr; Author: Sharon VanderKaay; License: License details

Paris is known for its beautiful architectural wonders, museums, and art galleries. But there is a gem Paris has been keeping hidden from the world - Le Dernier Bar Avant la Fin du Monde. Here you will have the opportunity to play board games with good friends while sipping on delicious local drinks and snacks. Not only will you receive advice on various Parisian secrets, but also meet friendly Parisians that enjoy spending their leisure time doing fun activities - such as playing classic or modern board games - in a cozy atmosphere. Take your pick among puzzles, card games, and trivia competitions. Source: Flickr; Author: Rafael Lopez; License: License details

Paris Plage is one of Paris's hidden gems, transforming a section of the usually bustling Seine River into an oasis of tranquility in Paris. Every summer, Paris Plage turns a part of Paris' coastline into a beach with golden sand, providing Parisians and tourists alike with paradise-like scenery. This temporary beach provides swim areas, restaurants, shopping kiosks, cocktail bars, and more - a perfect opportunity to relax and appreciate nature in the heart of Paris. If you're ever looking for a Parisian beach getaway without even having to leave the city limits, Paris Plage should be on your list! Source: Wikimedia Commons; Author: Guilhem Vellut; License: License details

Paris is one of the most incredible cities in the world and finding hidden gems like the Bon Marché, a Parisian department store renowned for its exquisite range of chocolates and stunningly inventive devices, only adds to its enchanted atmosphere. With an array of delectable treats, prices that won't break the bank, excellent customer service, and a perfect Parisian ambiance, the Bon Marché offers Parisians and tourists alike a chance to brighten their day with some indulgent shopping. Take a trip down one of Paris's secret passageways and find your way to the Bon Marché - you won't be disappointed. Source: Wikimedia Commons; Author: Guilhem Vellut; License: License details

Paris is a city like no other full of secrets and hidden gems just waiting to be explored. Whether it's checking out the street art in Belleville,

stopping for lunch at one of its unique bistros, or watching the sunset from a rooftop patio, there are endless possibilities for a thrilling and unforgettable experience in the City of Light. The more you get acquainted with Paris, the more fun and exciting new places your visit there can be. So don't waste any time - start planning your travels now! And if you want some inspiration on how to make the most of your trip to Paris then why not get one of our decks of cards with 50 amazing ideas? You never know what kind of surprise or adventure they may take you on while you explore this truly incredible city. Bon voyage! Leave a comment All comments are moderated before being published. This site is protected by hCaptcha and the hCaptcha Privacy Policy and Terms of Service apply. [Main menu](#) [Support](#) [Newsletter](#) [Promotions](#), new products and sales. Directly to your inbox. [Follow us](#)

7 Hidden Gems in Paris Beyond the Eiffel Tower and Louvre

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Heritage Weekend 2023: Unearthing Paris's Hidden Gems - Paris For Dreamers

Inspiring Your Dream Parisian Experience There are many reasons to love Paris in September. It's the month of that slate-cleaning, forwards-looking, stationery-buying, wardrobe-polishing time known as la rentrée, for one. It's also the first month of autumn/fall, when the turning leaves let you see the city in a whole, golden new light. And, as the temperature starts its steady descent to winter, it's the time for rediscovering such slow-living joys of sipping chocolat chaud in cosy terraces. What's more, September in Paris is for history lovers, because the third weekend sees the annual Journées du Patrimoine. During these Heritage Days, monuments, museums, and mansions in all arrondissements open their often-guarded doors for a celebration of art and architecture, in the form of exhibitions, installations, and guided tours. This year's Journées du Patrimoine (16-17 September) offer a wealth of head-spinning options – so many, in fact, that you'll wish you could clone yourself fivefold (at least) in order to take it all in. You can peruse the programme [here](#). If you're having trouble whittling down your wishlist, go for particularly history-rich addresses that rarely open to the public. (Just be aware that many require online registration or reservation.) Read on for some of this year's highlights – Hôtel de Sully Two of the Heritage Weekend's most action-packed arrondissements are the third and fourth, for they contain the Marais, one of the city's most historic districts. You could, in fact, quite easily base yourself here all weekend, but if you prefer to cherry-pick, one of the loveliest of the area's offerings is a visit to the Hôtel de Sully (main photo, above). Dating from the 1620s, it's one of the city's finest Baroque townhouses and the first-floor apartments, which belonged to the second Duchesse de Sully to live here (and are part of the tour), are immaculately preserved. Also open is the rear yard's exquisite orangerie (above), thought to be the city's oldest standing greenhouse. Another fun fact: the front courtyard of the Hôtel de Sully stars in the 1988 movie *Dangerous Liaisons*. Hôtel de Rohan Staying in the Marais, but fast-forwarding a little in time – The Hôtel de Rohan is one of the most spectacular of eighteenth-century Parisian palaces. It has been under wraps for a few years now, as a team of

restorers have worked to, among various projects, refit its ground floor with a series of rooms from another stunning eighteenth-century townhouse, the Chancellerie d'Orléans, which was demolished in 1923. This weekend is a chance for a sneak peek at the results, in advance of the public opening (the timing of which is still to be confirmed). The Chancellerie d'Orléans interiors (above), dating from a time when Neoclassical was nudging out Rococo, had been cut up and placed in storage, and their rebirth comes after years of campaigning by French heritage groups and figures, as well as a mammoth jigsaw puzzle of a job for restorers, who had to put back together 10,000+ pieces of cornices, consoles, freizes, garlands, and so on. The tour also takes in a succession of upstairs rooms, which date back to the era of the cardinals of Rohan, and happily revel in Rococo glamour. Photographed above are the famous Cabinet des Singes and Cabinet des Fables, which are surely all the more exquisite in person.

Banque de France One of the reasons for the demolition of the aforementioned Chancellerie d'Orléans was to make way for the ever-spreading Banque de France complex. (By the way, in a happy example of architectural karma, the restoration of those Chancellerie rooms was funded by the Banque de France, along with the World Monuments Fund and the French Ministry of Culture.) Much of the land that now holds the Paris headquarters of the Banque de France is covered with an architectural hodge-podge, tweaked over time, but the garden wing of the seventeenth-century townhouse, the Hôtel de Toulouse, remains, and its usually-private Galerie Dorée – another example of Rococo exuberance like only Paris knows how to do – is open for Heritage Weekend (along with some other rooms). It's a must-visit for all who forever walk around this city's streets, dreaming of the gorgeousness that lies behind the beige walls.

Hôtel de Talleyrand Continuing the theme of Rococo – the Hôtel de Talleyrand, rarely open to the public these days, is also rolling out the figurative red carpet. The one-time townhouse was built in the 1760s – and is a perfect example of Louis XV style – but is named after a later inhabitant, the famous diplomat Charles-Maurice de Talleyrand-Perigord. As you roam about the gilded rooms, where you can easily imagine how the power of soft diplomacy played out in the past, thrill to the knowledge that this was where the Marshall Plan – the post-war American initiative to stimulate the economies of a devastated Europe – was nipped out. Since 1947, this sublime building has been

owned by the United States government, which financed the restoration, along with the World Monument Fund, of the glittering rooms now collectively known as the George C. Marshall Center, returning them back to their original colour scheme, an eye-pleasing palette of white, gold, and grey.

Palais-Royal One of the most exciting aspects of the Journées du Patrimoine is that they give you the chance to walk Paris's halls of power. That's certainly the case for the Palais-Royal listing this year. Since its original incarnation – Cardinal Richelieu began work on his city palace in 1634 – the Palais-Royal has been re-imagined and renovated many times. It is no longer a palace, of course; as with most royal and aristocratic buildings, this is a government property, housing the Ministry of Culture, Council of State, and Constitutional Council. There are numerous activities, including exhibitions, on offer in the Palais-Royal complex for the Heritage Days, but highly recommended is the Ministry of Culture visit, which reveals the former palace's inner extravagance. Keep a lookout for the Conseil d'État's Salle du Tribunal des Conflits (above) – this oval-shaped salon, all a-glamour in marble, gold, and trompe-l'œil, is one of the oldest rooms, having been originally designed in the 1750s as the Duchesse d'Orléans' dining room.

Palais du Luxembourg & Petit Luxembourg Heading over to the Left Bank – The Jardin du Luxembourg is home to Marie de Medici's grand old digs, now the Upper House of the French Parliament and, as such, usually out of bounds to snoopers. So the Heritage Weekend is your chance to finally see what's inside. Most of the queen's vision is long gone, but much of the interior, reworked in the first half of the nineteenth century, is stunning nevertheless – the glossy library that was painted by Delacroix, no less, and the Salle des Conférences (above), an extravaganza of red and gold that set the tone for the opulent Second Empire era. You'll also get to wander through neighbouring Petit Luxembourg (above), a townhouse that can trace its story back to 1550. Again, not much from then remains, but you can see remnants of a convent Marie installed here in 1622: the cloister, now a Winter Garden, and the Queen's Chapel. You'll also be able to admire the pretty early-seventeenth-century rooms of one of France's most lauded Rococo designers, Gabriel Germain Boffrand (who, incidentally, was the man behind the Chancellerie d'Orléans), along with his grand swoop of a staircase, beautifully and classically rendered in stone.

Institut de France The Institute is one of the city's most awe-inspiring

addresses, partly due to its imposing Baroque-style architecture, but also because it's the home of the Académie Française, the legendary long-time custodians of the French language. You can visit here on a weekday, but only for access to the Bibliothèque Mazarine, a glorious seventeenth-century library complete with soaring shelves of leather-bound books and shiny, squeaky parquet floorboards. This weekend, you'll not only be able to swoon over the library and various other historic rooms, but you'll even be able to ascend to the pinnacle that is la Coupole (above) – the dome-topped space where the fabled académiciens meet to debate various linguistic issues.

École des Beaux-Arts There are all sorts of architectural delights to be found across the two-hectare site of Paris's prestigious School of Fine Arts. While guards often allow non-students to roam around some of the complex all year round, the Heritage Weekend's tours give access to areas usually limited to students and staff. Particularly exciting: a glimpse into the Chapelle des Petits Augustins (above), the church within the convent established by Queen Marguerite de Valois (La Reine Margot) when she lived on a swathe of the Left Bank in the early seventeenth century. The lovely one-time cloister now called the Cour du Mûrier, with its central mulberry tree, pretty fountain, and tranquil atmosphere, also dates from this era. After the revolution, some of the old convent buildings became home to the Musée des Monuments Français, which rescued various treasures from vandalised châteaux and churches. Most fragments were returned to owners or rehomed to other museums on the closing of the Musée des Monuments, but as you wander about the grounds, you'll see that some historic treasures remain dotted about, including a façade from the Château d'Anet, the mid-sixteenth-century home of royal mistress Diane de Poitiers. In this time-travelling trip, you'll also come to appreciate how the land developed into an arts school from 1816, by exploring its celebrated Palais des Études and its elegant glass-covered courtyard (above), and the glamorous Amphithéâtre d'Honneur. It's an absolutely fabulous rabbit-hole experience – as only Paris's Heritage Days can deliver.

Tags: Journées du Patrimoine, Old Paris, Paris Architecture, Paris History, Secret Paris

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Comment * Name * Email * Website – Katrina is an erstwhile beauty journalist who lives in Sydney, Australia – but regularly escapes to Paris, her soul city. She has written two books on her favourite

subject, and launched this site to connect with other Paris dreamers around the world. Do you always find yourself dreaming of Paris? Join the club! Sign up to hear about future news and promotions.

Paris Hidden Gems - Must-see Museums & Exhibitions

Diesen Blogartikel gibt es auch auf Deutsch Everyone has heard about the most famous and most visited Paris museum: the Musée du Louvre, with the famous Mona Lisa. However, there are numerous other museums and exhibitions in Paris that are most certainly worth visiting as well! Paris visitors who are particularly interested in museums and monuments might want to consider purchasing the Paris Museum Pass. It is available for 2, 4 and 6 days. Which museums and monuments are included in the Paris Museum Pass can be found in the pass description on the official website and the ticket itself. Depending how many museums and monuments you're planning to visit the pass might offer great savings. Also, with the ticket there is usually either a separate (shorter) line or even access to the "skip-the-line" entry. When we used the pass in spring, we never had to wait more than 5 -10 minutes and most of the time not at all. The best part about some of these hidden gems however is that they are free! Yes, free! And not just on the first Sunday of the month or to Europeans under 25 ? they're free all the time. Only temporary exhibitions might require purchasing a ticket. But more on this as well as locations and opening times of the museums and exhibitions below. The Petit Palais is across the street from the Grand Palais, not as imposing but with a beautiful one-of-a-kind Art Nouveau door. It looks much larger once inside as one would imagine seeing the museum from the outside. Also hidden from sight is the interior garden complete with a fountain and outdoor patio with access to the Café. The permanent collections as well as the courtyard are always free to visit and only the smaller temporary exhibitions require a ticket (prices vary by exhibition). The permanent collection is home to the City of Paris Museum of Fine Arts. Official website (and ticket shop): <https://www.petitpalais.paris.fr> The Beaux-Arts architecture of the Petit Palais is stunning, particularly the wrought iron banisters of the staircases in the rotundas, designed by Charles Girault in the Art Nouveau style of the time. The Petit Palais was built for the 1900 Universal Exhibition and became a museum in 1902. This little museum reached Instagram fame because of its super picturesque staircase. However, it is still not crowded and is a bit of a secret hidden gem. It is located in the 9th Arrondissement and easily reachable by metro lines 2 and

12. The entrance fee is 7? / 9? (depending on the exhibition) and entry is free every first Sunday of the month. It is mandatory to make a reservation online. Official website (with ticket shop): <https://musee-moreau.fr> The museum is dedicated to the works of Symbolist painter Gustave Moreau (1826?1898) and Moreau used to live here. He turned the ground floor into his studio and a museum in 1885 and continued to live on the first floor. Here visitors can see his apartment including his bedroom, the family dining room, and the den as well as an office/library. The second floor was used as his studio and is now together with the third floor the main art gallery. The complete collection of the museum is extensive and includes drawings, sculptures, watercolors, and paintings. Most noticeably works of art: ?Jupiter and Semele? (1895), ?Chimera? (1884), and ?The Return of the Argonauts? (1891?97). This is hands down our favorite little museum. It is literally a hidden gem as the entrance is very unassuming in a small street in the 9th Arrondissement. It is only an 8-minute walk away from Musée national Gustave Moreau and it?s great to combine these two. The hôtel particulier (mansion) where the main museum is located is flanked by a greenhouse which is now a wonderful tea house, a courtyard, and a rose garden as well as two studios that house the temporary exhibitions. Build in 1830, the mansion was home to Dutch-born painter Ary Scheffer (1795?1858) and stayed in the family until the 1980s when it became one of the City of Paris Museums. The museum kept its original charm and furnishings, and on the first floor the mementos from the romantic literary figure George Sand ? the pen name of Amantine Lucile Aurore Dupin, French novelist, and journalist ? can be admired. She is known as one of the most notable writers of the European Romantic era. On the second floor, a number of Romantic canvases, art objects, and sculptures can be admired. We would highly recommend visiting right at opening time and first stopping at the enchanting little tea house in the old greenhouse for a delicious cup of coffee and homemade cake or pastries for breakfast. The tea selection is of course also excellent. On a warm day, take a seat in the courtyard surrounded by roses. As the mansion isn?t very large, you won?t need more than 1 hour (or less) to see everything. Unfortunately, the house is not suitable for wheelchairs as there is a small spiral staircase. Entry to the museum is always free, only the temporary exhibitions are 5?. Official website: <https://museevieromantique.paris.fr/fr> The Musée

Rodin in Paris was opened in 1919 and is primarily dedicated to the works of the sculptor Auguste Rodin. One of his most famous sculptures, "The Thinker", can be found in the lovely rose garden of the Musée Rodin. The Paris location at Hôtel Biron was built between 1727 and 1732 and was used by Rodin as his workshop starting in 1908, and under the condition that the buildings would be turned into a museum, dedicated to his works, he donated Hôtel Biron to the French State together with his entire collection which also included paintings from fellow artists Vincent van Gogh, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, and Claude Monet. The Museum is centrally located close to the metro station Varenne (line 13). In addition to the permanent exhibition, temporary exhibitions are also organized. As the museum also has a wonderful large garden with additional sculptures and a Café, we would recommend planning at least 1 - 2 hours for your visit. Admission is 13€ and tickets to skip the line are available online at the official website: <https://www.musee-rodin.fr/en> This little gem is also one of our favorites. This art gallery is located in the Tuileries Garden next to Place de la Concorde and across the Seine from Musée de Orsay. It is best known as the home of Claude Monet's large water lilies murals. The focus of the art gallery is on impressionist and post-impressionist paintings and therefore works by Henri Matisse, Paul Cézanne, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Pablo Picasso, and others can be found here as well. In 1852, Napoleon III ordered the building of the Orangerie to store the citrus trees of the Tuileries garden there during the winter. After the fall of the second empire, the Orangerie became the property of the State and continued to be used in its original function as well as for events. Claude Monet (1840 - 1926) was commissioned by the State to paint the Water Lilies series and eventually, they came to an agreement that the paintings will be placed in the Orangerie. Monet assisted the architect in properly designing the space for the optimal display of his paintings. The large murals and oval-shaped rooms are extraordinary and I could sit there forever and take it in. While the Musée de l'Orangerie is quite famous, and during peak time in summer it can get a bit crowded, many skip it still. It is covered with the Paris Museum Pass and combination tickets with the Musée de Orsay are also available. Regular admission is 12,50€ and tickets are available online at the official website: <https://www.musee-orangerie.fr/en> The Bourse de Commerce - Pinault Collection opened in the fall

of 2021 and is a "must-see" for us when visiting Paris. The gorgeous building was originally used as the trade center for grain and other commodities, and later it was used by the Paris Chamber of Commerce. In 2016, the mayor of Paris offered the Bourse de Commerce to François Pinault for a 50-year lease! He renovated the historic monument for \$195 million! Since its opening, exhibitions so far have featured the works of Charles Ray, Bertrand Lavier, Kerry James Marshall, and Marlene Dumas amongst others as well as in-situ works by several artists, installed inside and outside the Bourse de Commerce to create a dialogue between architecture and exhibits (one example is the little mouse). It's an absolutely incredible experience! For art enthusiasts, there are also workshops and guided tours. Admission is 16€ and tickets can be purchased directly via the official website: <https://www.pinaultcollection.com/en/boursedecommerce> This museum has a prime location on Rue de Rivoli in the northwest wing of the Louvre Palace and is dedicated to the preservation and exhibition of the decorative arts. Founded in 1905, the museum is home to furniture, religious paintings, altarpieces, objets d'arts, interior design, tapestries, ceramics and other items dating back to the 13th century. The museum has permanent and temporary exhibitions, information regarding the current exhibition as well as tickets (14€) are available on the official website: <https://madparis.fr/en> L'Atelier des Lumières opened its doors in 2018 and is a digital art center with a unique concept. The immersive exhibitions found a home in a building that was previously used as a steel foundry, and with this architecture perfectly suited for large-scale digitized artworks and images. The images are turned into animated videos that tell a story, supported by a great soundtrack and sound system, and visitors see the artworks come to life. It's an exceptional experience for visitors of any age! The exhibitions change every couple of months and so far have covered, amongst others, Klimt, Cezanne, Van Gogh, and Dali. Tickets can be purchased directly via the official website: <https://www.atelier-lumieres.com/en/home> and are 16€. We're happy to assist with further recommendations for museum visits and other activities in Paris. There are over 130 museums, numerous monuments, and endless activities in Paris, and of course, our list wasn't exhaustive. Hopefully, we were able to inspire you to add these museums and exhibitions to your next Paris itinerary! If you need more tips for off-the-beaten-path activities in Paris, head over to our

blog about the famous Marchè aux Puces. If you?ve enjoyed reading this blog article, why not share it with your network? © 2021 Voyageur Bohème

30 Disneyland Paris Park Secrets and Hidden Gems: The Ultimate Guide!

Last Updated: April 26, 2021 *FYI - this post may contain affiliate links, which means we earn a commission at no extra cost to you if you purchase from them. Also, as an Amazon Associate I earn from qualifying purchases. Check out our Privacy Policy and Disclosure. for more info. Looking for hidden gems around Disneyland Paris? This guide dishes out on all sorts of wonderful little secrets you don't want to miss! Over the years, a lot of things have changed in my life. For one, I've begun complaining about joint pain. For another, I find it increasingly intolerable to be around 'youths'?. and from time to time, I'm even convinced I might be experiencing early-onset menopause. BUT, no matter how many years pass by, and how quickly I evolve into an angry grandma, one childish thing about me will simply never change: I'll always be down for a jaunt to Disneyland Paris. Disneyland Paris is, after all, the park I've frequented most in my life. 5 years ago, I braved my 1st visit in an obnoxious red polka dot skirt that I spent an entire day in Paris shopping for. 2 years later, I celebrated my birthday there, trampling countless ~ actual ~ kids, and of course, most recently, last month I returned, boyfriend in tow, as we bulldozed through mobs of children to take selfies with Goofy. And as I've grown older (though not any more mature), what I've begun to really appreciate about Disneyland Paris is its relentless attention to detail. Every visit, I've uncovered something new, which is an excuse I will now hold onto when people judge me for going again as a full-grown childless adult. Save this post for later on Pinterest: Here's the most magical thing about Disneyland Paris: it is filled to the brim with awesome hidden gems, stories and secrets. And this past visit, I was smart enough to make sure I wrote everything down. So, if you want to make sure you don't miss anything, or simply want to dazzle your fellow park dwellers with terrifyingly specific Disney knowledge, here are some of my favourite hidden gems and secrets from Disneyland Paris. Enjoy! PS: You might also like my master list of Disneyland Paris tips. Read my full guide on how to plan the perfect Disneyland day trip from Paris! The wonderful hidden gems start as soon as you walk into the park. Thanks to its abundance of unique shops and buildings, I'm sure it won't

surprise you that Main Street USA is crawling with incredible little secrets to discover. Here are some of my favourites, but you can [click here](#) for a full guide to this land. The Disneyland Paris Storybook Store (located next to the City Hall along Main Street USA) is a charming yet frequently missed boutique perched near the entrance of Disneyland Park. And if you're a pathological stationary hoarder like I am, trust me when I say this shop will ruin you. Inside, you'll find all sorts of wonderful goodies including Disney themed notebooks and pens, along with Disney books in a variety of languages. My personal favourite touch however is the old school Tigger Audio Animatronic which now sits as a decorative welcome piece to the shop. While you're in here, don't forget to look up ? you'll see all sorts of adorable studios versions of your favourite Disney characters. PS: Bonus points if you can spot the adorable mouse, Jaq, from Cinderella. He's pretty well hidden! Another hidden gem of the Storybook Store, tucked away in the back of the shop literally next to the employee door, is a framed Disneyland Paris map from the 90s! Kind of fun to see how the park has changed over the years (but not actually by too much). Can you spot your favourite attraction? The City Hall at Disneyland Paris is a common go-to for guests in need of some kind of help, but even if you aren't in need of an annual pass bump-up, or attempting to flag down your lost spawn, the City Hall has quite a few historical treasures to delight any Disney fan. For instance, at the front entrance, you'll be able to find Walt Disney's Legion of Honour medal, framed and displayed with the official decree. And inside, you'll also find the original concept art for Disneyland Paris (then known as Euro Disney). As many visitors often say, the beauty of Disneyland Paris is really in the details, and I wholeheartedly agree. Disneyland Park really is planned to perfection, not only visually, but in the soundscape throughout the park as well. Particularly on Main Street USA, if you keep your ears open, you'll hear all sorts of surprising and delightful audio details that turn shuffling down this main drag into a fun magical activity in itself. For instance? Above Victoria's Home Style Restaurant, you can hear a man brushing his teeth and messing with the taps in his bathroom. If you see the sign for Piano Lessons, keep your ears open and you might just hear an aspiring pianist working their way through the keys. Next to the Discovery Arcade, look for the neighbourhood dentist and relish in the sounds of the drills? and the fact that you're at Disney and

not the dentist right now. While the Christmas store located in the Disneyland Paris castle (La Boutique du Château) is far from a secret, there is a lesser known Disney-themed Christmas shop tucked away on Main Street USA, right next to the entrance of the Discovery Arcade. Just look for the Ribbons and Bows Hat Shop (or the Bixby Brothers Shop) and step inside to uncover a magical Christmas wonderland? where you?ll be making it snow dollar bills. I always love popping into Disney & Co anytime I?m at Disneyland Paris. With its adorable vintage feel, it?s easily one of my favourite shops on Main Street USA. On my most recent trip though, I noticed something I?d never seen before? this shop has wonky fun mirrors! ? How do I look? Harrington?s Fine China and Porcelains is THE Disney shop to visit if you?re feeling especially bougie and want to fill your home with all sorts of Disney-themed fanciness. Regardless of whether you want to lug a crystal Mickey home or not, you should definitely take the time to pop into this shop because its dome ceiling is absolutely stunning. Supposedly, it also has magical acoustic properties, and if two people stand at opposite ends of the dome and whisper, they can still hear each other crystal clear as if they were side by side. I didn?t get to test this because I stumbled into this shop feeling spendey and alone, so one of you will have to test it and let me know! As the largest shop at Disneyland Paris, odds are you?ll end up inside Main Street USA?s Emporium at some point. As always with Disneyland Paris though, don?t forget to look up! One ceiling decoration is especially lovely ? a stained glass tribute to famous inventors including Nikola Tesla, Alexander Graham Bell and Henry Ford. Walt Disney was a big admirer of inventors, so this is a fitting tribute. Tucked away in a corner of Disneyland Paris? busy Emporium shop, you?ll find the entrance to Dapper Dan?s, an actual barber shop decorated with authentic pieces from an actual Chicago barber (who was apparently closing up shop as Disneyland Paris was being built). Think this is bizarre? There?s actually a very sweet reason: Walt Disney?s father was a barber himself. The Statue of Liberty plays a starring (and unsubtle) role in Disneyland Paris? Liberty Arcade, but those who pass by quickly may easily miss the hidden passageway behind the Statue of Liberty tableau. Concealed behind some red velvet curtains is a darkened passage which houses a scene from the statue?s inauguration, complete with figures and fireworks! It?s a small attraction that won?t take more than a minute to see, but it?s a cool secretive

detour missed by many. Ah, Fantasyland? land of princesses and dreams. The Fantasyland in Disneyland Paris is a lovely place to explore after walking down Main Street USA, and it's filled with quite a few fun Easter eggs as well. Here are a few to look out for, but you can [click here](#) for a full guide to this land. While I admit this should be filed under the "worst kept secrets" category, it's nonetheless something that many first timers miss (like me, my first 2 visits) so I figured I should include it. If you didn't know already, lurking underneath Disneyland Paris' Sleeping Beauty Castle is an animatronic dragon, making this castle the only one of all the Disney parks to have its own dragon! You can access it by following a path to the left of the castle - just look for a sign that reads "La Tanière du Dragon". Read my full article about the Disneyland Paris Castle for more secrets and cool facts. Seeing as how Disneyland Paris is home to the Sleeping Beauty Castle, it only makes sense that the castle also has sleeping guards. So, when you're exploring the inside of the Sleeping Beauty Castle in the upper floor, see if you can hear the gentle snoring coming from the guards (whose sleepy eyes are luckily concealed under their armour). One of the great things about Disneyland Paris is the amount of sweet but subtle nods to the park's Frenchness, and what better addition to the parkscape than a heaping portion of escargot? Yup, if you look closely at the golden spires of the Disneyland Paris Sleeping Beauty Castle, you'll see little protrusions which are actually snails! Legend has it they're up there running away from a French chef? Hidden mickeys are a well-known Disney parks secret, but if you haven't heard of them yet, let me clue you in: scattered around Disney parks around the world are hidden Mickey Mouse shapes which are thoughtfully and sneakily embedded into the park's decor. While they are deceptively difficult to spot at first, I'll help you warm up with an easy one: see if you can spot the Mickey shaped gears at the It's A Small World in Disneyland Paris! Meeting the famous Disney princesses at Disneyland Paris can be a lengthy and time-consuming affair, but what if I told you there was a special spot where you can see various princesses and characters without a long line-up? I first caught onto this secret spot on my first Disneyland Paris visit. After seeing the 2 hour wait time for the Princess Pavilion, I began dejectedly walking away from Fantasyland when lo and behold - Snow White herself emerged from the pavilion and started walking off (I assume to the break room, to dodge

hardcore stalkers like me). I realized then that I had found a mini loophole in seeing characters and princesses ? just catch them as they catch their ?commutes? through the park. Since that first visit, I?ve read a few different articles touting the virtues of this hidden spot, including this article which says that it?s a favourite for many UK holidaymakers eager to see a large quantity of characters in a short time span, all without the long wait. To access this hidden spot, walk through the castle into Fantasyland and turn right. You?ll pass a gate (and Cinderella?s carriage). Then, look for another gate/fence and this is the spot commonly used as a getaway and entrance for characters. It?s quite easy to assume that the old wooden windmill in Fantasyland is simply a whimsical architectural addition (after all, the park is filled with those), but did you know ?the Old Mill? (as the stand is called) is actually an old school Disney cartoon from the 30s? I was pretty mindblown when I learned that ? I think it shows to the huge depth of detail that went into the planning of this park! Anyways, if it tickles your fancy, stop by the Old Mill? or at the very least take keep an eye out for the hidden Mickey located nearby ? The Toad Hall Restaurant is one of the many food options available on site at Disneyland Paris, but a quirky hidden secret is concealed behind the walls of this stately English manor dishing out classics like fish and chips: the portraits of Mr. Toad inside are both hilariously narcissistic and wonderful! So, if you are interested in taking a look at paintings of Mr Toad as Vincent Van Gogh or as the famous Mona Lisa, be sure to take a step inside. It?s a counter service restaurant anyway, so no need to feel awkward about coming in just for a peek. PS: While here, you might want to take a look at the restaurant?s sassy Latin slogan: ?No Consumus Froglagus?, perhaps a dig at the French who consume frog legs as a delicacy? Discoveryland has seen quite a few changes at Disneyland Paris over the years, with the addition of a few Star Wars attractions and possibly more to come, but regardless of the changes, one thing that remains consistent is that Jules Verne inspired charm. Here are some of my favourite hidden spots and secrets around Discoveryland, but you can [click here](#) for a full guide to this land. I often consider WALL-E to be an underrated Disney character who doesn?t get nearly as much love as he should around the parks. Imagine my surprise when I found some cute WALL-E and EVE representation in Discoveryland, tucked away outside of Videopolis! Be sure to stop by and give them some love. While Star Wars

Galaxy's Edge hasn't yet made its way over to Disneyland Paris, there are still quite a few Star Wars inspired attractions that are starting to take hold, including Star Tours and the Star Wars Hyperspace Mountain. While these rides are certainly no secret, one wonderful hidden gem that you'll find inside the Star Wars themed gift shops (like Star Traders) is the ability to build your own souvenir droid or lightsaber, an easy-to-miss feature of the park. Like all other things Disney, the prices are fairly steep, but checking these little stations out is a must visit for any Star Wars geek! I know what you're thinking: how can a vending machine be considered a hidden gem? Well, one of my favourite things about Disneyland Paris is the attention to detail, so I was thrilled to discover this very on-theme vending machine located inside Videopolis, just outside of the line-up area for Cafe Hyperion. I guess you can say I'm easily impressed. *IT'S A TRAP!* Except, no, this time it's not! While waiting in line for Star Tours, there are all sorts of delightful little details for you to gawk at, but one that's very easy to miss are the Mon Calamari up there in the control room. Be sure to look up every so often while you're waiting in line and see if you can spot them! If you're a weird cult follower of Admiral Akbar (as I am), this will be an unexpected surprise that will take your mind off the long line-up. Adventureland at Disneyland Paris is home to a lot of famous DLP attractions, including Pirates of the Caribbean and the Indiana Jones ride. Being the epicentre of adventure at the park, you might expect this land to have some secrets up its sleeve too? Well you're right! Here are some fun secret spots to discover in Adventureland, but you can [click here](#) for a full guide to this land. Up is one of my favourite Pixar movies of all time, so seeing some representation from Russell and Mr. Fredricksen in Adventureland was a happy surprise for me. You'll find them enjoying the scenery by the water at Adventure Isle. The best way to scope a close-up peek though is from the Swiss Family Treehouse, which has some binoculars in the upper level that you can use to get a close-up look at the scene! Everybody knows about the Swiss Family Treehouse at Disneyland Paris, but did you know that there are actually some caverns and caves to explore beneath the treehouse in *'Le Ventre de la Terre'*? So, if getting caught in a tangle of dark tree roots and tunnels while awkwardly grazing against strangers is your idea of fun, be sure to take some time to get lost here. You might even stumble upon some hidden treasure! Adventure Isle is a fun place to get lost

at Disneyland Paris, and for those who have zero fear of the dark, I recommend mucking around for a while in search of the secret glittering treasure that lurks within one of the caverns. Full disclosure? I have zero sense of direction and so ended up going in circles and aimlessly ramming into people so I have not yet, to date, found this mystical treasure, although I have been assured that it does in fact exist. The Moroccan/Arabian inspired bits of Adventure Isle are my favourite, and in my opinion, Aladdin's Enchanted Passage is one of the most underrated walkthrough attractions in the entire park. Not only is visiting this part of Adventureland like being transported to Morocco, this little attraction showcases various scenes from Aladdin (one of my favourite Disney movies ever) in cool showcase windows. Definitely worth a quick stop, because lots of people miss it! Fancy a trip to the Wild Wild West? The Frontierland at Disneyland Paris is incredibly unique thanks to its elaborate backstory and attention to detail. Here are some of my favourite secrets of this fun land, and you can [click here](#) for a full guide to this land. I'll be honest: of all the lands at Disneyland Paris, Frontierland was always my least favourite. I always had trouble 'getting' it. SO, imagine my surprise when I learned that there is actually one full cohesive narrative that binds together different elements of the land like the Phantom Manor and the Thunder Mountain rollercoaster! It's kind of an extensive story, so much that the Phantom Manor even has its own unofficial fansite here, but I'll try to quickly sum it up. The (fictional) backstory of Frontierland goes like this: Once upon a time, in the American West, there was a beautiful valley known as Big Thunder Mountain. According to legends, this mountain was protected by a great deity known as the Thunderbird, who would punish anyone who dared disrupt the precious mountain. All was well until settlers arrived and began drilling into the mountain in search of minerals and gold, which they soon found. The discovery turned Thunder Mesa into a thriving gold rush town, with Henry Ravenswood (owner of the mine) creating the Big Thunder Mining Company and becoming filthy rich because of it. Yes, that's Ravenswood? as in the same Ravenswoods of Haunted Manor! With all his riches, Henry built a beautiful manor overlooking Thunder Mesa, where he lived with his family and (most notably) his beautiful daughter, Melanie. The town continued to thrive and develop, with businesses opening up (seen around Frontierland as the Silver Spur Steakhouse, the Lucky Nugget Saloon, the various

shops, etc.) And as Melanie grew up, she attracted the attention of many suitors. As is the nightmare of any parent, she soon became engaged much to the chagrin of her father, who fought hard to prevent the wedding? But something far more terrible than a controlling father was soon to hit Melanie?s life. In 1860, a giant earthquake struck Thunder Mesa (work of the angry Thunderbird perhaps?!), killing both Henry and his wife (AKA Melanie?s mother and father). I mean, that?s sad and all, but the silver lining was that with Henry out of the picture, Melanie?s wedding could continue. Tragically however, on the day of Melanie?s wedding, her fiancé never showed up. She waited, and waited, as days, weeks and years passed, still wearing her dress, overwhelmed by grief but still holding onto hope that one day her love would return. Little did she know, a mysterious phantom had appeared in the manor on the day of her wedding, killing her fiancé and haunting the halls thereafter. The ghost of Henry Ravenswood perhaps? *cue eerie music* Thus tying into the whole storyline at Phantom Manor! Anyways, because I?m a sucker for stories, I now see Frontierland with new eyes. Keep this story and history in mind as you explore this section and I promise you?ll enjoy it so much more! Less of hidden gem, and more of a fun shortcut/convenience thing, but if you want a nice, undercover way to get to the Peter Pan ride from Main Street USA, go through the Liberty Arcade then turn left as you exit and follow this path! It?s a great way to dodge the rain or searing heat, and just a cool ninja way to navigate the park. The attention to detail at the Phantom Manor in Disneyland Paris is (in my opinion) what makes it one of the coolest attractions in the park? And while the ride itself is good fun, many visitors miss an additional easter egg before they leave the area: Boot Hill Cemetery, the final resting place of the Ravenswoodseseseses (I?m always bad at pluralizing last names) and many other residents of Thunder Mesa. So, after visiting the Phantom Manor, don?t forget to explore the Boot Hill Cemetery right next door for a variety of fun grave names and epitaphs?. Some say you might even be able to hear a heartbeat coming from one of the stones. Melanie?s, perhaps? *evil cackle* No but seriously, go check out the epitaphs. They?re hilarious. Last but not least, it?s worth noting that there are other parts of Disneyland Paris outside of these lands. Specifically, Disney Village is a cool place to hang out after the park closes, as several of the shops are open a bit later than the park. Here are some secret spots to check out:

The LEGO Store in Disney Village is such a fun treat for those who love LEGO as much as they love Disney! Here, you can gawk at awesome Disney scenes constructed out of LEGO, and even take home some fun kits for yourself, although I don't think my pudgy thumbs would be capable of this kind of LEGO sorcery: Last but not least, if you haven't depleted your savings account enough, be sure to make a final stop at the Disney Gallery, a paradise for collectors and Disney megafans alike. Don't miss the chance to visit and marvel at collectible items and artwork that will have you emptying your pockets while happily sobbing?! In all seriousness though, if you're feeling especially swishy, this is a great place to grab a souvenir to take home. Here's a great video tour of what the Disney Gallery has to offer: Let me know in the comments! I hope you enjoyed this guide to secret spots around Disneyland Paris and that my nerding out didn't freak you out too much. Have a magical trip, and safe travels! ? Eagle Creek: My favourite packing cubes ? Wise: For FREE travel friendly credit cards ? Airalo: My go-to eSIM ? Booking.com: For searching hotels ? Sony A7IV: My (amazing) camera ?? Google Flights: For finding flight deals ? WorldNomads: For travel insurance ? GetYourGuide: For booking activities OH thats a childhood dream come true!

I would s o be in heaven if I got to see that, and especially the Star Wars part ? Wow..It is simply fun?I wish to always go there and planning to go there in my next weekend!! Really enjoyed all of your blogs and vlogs. Bali is a dream place for me, I hope I will travel soon. Giethoorn, Holland's water village is another great place you can visit, <https://youtu.be/5LfP4Hw76us> These photos are beautiful! I never knew about all of the details in DLP. What camera/ lenses did you use please? Hi! I use a Sony A7III and these were all just taken with a 28-70mm kit lens ? How beautiful photos. Keep it up. Thank you! Next to Boot Hill Cemetery and the Phantom Manor is a skeleton of a T-Rex plus a geiser that spews hot water approximately every half hour. And if you look across to Big Thunder Mountain you see/Heat on top of the rocks (to your left) a wolf or a thin dog howling. One little hidden gem I found in my last trip was in Fantasyland, to the left of the castle. I can't exactly remember which shop it was, but I saw an exit and went through, and ended up in a passageway that had a pool in it, with the animals from Snow White surrounding it in the 'Whistle While You Work' poses! It's a little dark but I got a decent picture using the flash on my phone! That's so

cool! Thank you for sharing. Will have to keep an eye out for that the next time I visit! what a beautiful picture Parc Disneyland is definitely the most beautiful Magic kingdom style park and you have done such an amazing job of capturing it! Thank you for sharing. Keep it up. Very Nice article Thank you so much for sharing. Keep it Up Did you know that if you look at the dome at Emporium, not only do you see the inventors you mentioned, but also some Hidden Mickeys? They're in the gatework, you can see it in your photo! Very comprehensive and informative! I think these tips and advice are much helpful. Thank you for such detailed description of the destination. I would love to visit this amazing place. Nice Article? Comment By using this form you agree with the storage and handling of your data by this website.

* Welcome! My name is Christina and I'm a clumsy Canadian who is obsessed with seeing the world. When I'm not frolicking abroad, you'll likely find me faceplanting into burrito bowls & doing important work in my Monsters Inc onesie. New to the blog and my very lame jokes? Click here to visit my Start Here page! Subscribe below to become part of #TeamSmartie and gain access to my exclusive VIP library full of resources like checklists, guidebooks and more: As an Amazon Associate I earn from qualifying purchases.

Hidden Gems In Paris That Leaves Visitors In Awe

Blog Thank You! You will be redirected to your dashboard shortly. We will also call you back in 24 hrs. Paris, the capital of France and home to the architectural marvel Eiffel Tower, is a dream destination. Packed with bountiful monuments, historic palaces, and fascinating museums, it is a perfect escape to enjoy a luxurious holiday with royal treatment. Along with flaunting its fashionista and sightseeing charm, numerous hidden gems in Paris are yet to be unfolded by vacation lovers. If you are curious to unlock the well-kept secrets of this stunning city, gear up on this enchanting tour where we are revealing wonderful places of Paris one by one. Get ready to prepare the most exciting itinerary on your next Paris tour by referring to the below-mentioned places. Renowned as one of the glitzy metropolises of the world, myriad hidden gems in Paris await your exploration. Set off on a captivating visual tour where we unlock the best-kept secrets of this fascinating city: Image Source: Shutterstock Welcoming tourists to enjoy wine sipping with the majestic river view, Canal St Martin is among the best-hidden gems in Paris worth visiting. Spread over a 4.6 Km area, the place is dotted with numerous bars and restaurants where you can enjoy exquisite meals and hand them out with your loved ones. Whether on your honeymoon or a friend's trip, Canal St Martin is a perfect escape to explore Paris uniquely. Those on the hunt for romantic spots to visit in Paris should save an extra day in their itinerary to stroll around this gorgeous place. Location: 47 Quai de Valmy, 75010 Paris, France

Entry Fee: 22 Euros for adults and 14 Euros for children Must Read: 15 Best Things To Do In Paris Image Source: Shutterstock Nestled in the artsy Montmartre neighbourhood, Wall Of Love is one of the must-visit places from the Paris hidden treasures. This incredible wall delights visitors by featuring 612 squares of enamelled lava over which you can see 'I Love You' written 311 times in 250 languages. Along with this, there are several heart pieces spread over the wall which if put together will form a complete heart. There are many stories behind this Wall Of Love which mesmerised visitors and stole their hearts. Symbolizing the significance of love and togetherness, this place is among the wonderful hidden gems in Paris. Location: Square Jehan Rictus, Pl. des

Abbeesses, 75018 Paris, France

Entry Fee: Free Image Source: Shutterstock Perched at the Park Andre Citroen, Balloon De Paris is one of the hidden gems in Paris that enchants visitors with a majestic bird-eye view of Paris. Providing a great opportunity to admire the Paris skyline and Eiffel Tower from 984 feet in the air, this place welcomes visitors to enjoy an incredible experience away from the crowded city. The ticket price for this majestic balloon ride is very affordable so that anyone can witness these panoramic vistas of the city. As far as weather allows, the balloon rides start every day at 9 am.

Location: Parc André Citroën, 75015 Paris, France

Entry Fee: 18 Euros for adults and 12 Euros for children Suggested Read: A Guide To Public Transportation In Paris Image Source: Shutterstock Counted among the prettiest river crossings in the world, the Pont Alexandre III Bridge is one of the wonderful hidden gems in Europe. The main purpose of the development of this bridge was the Exposition Universelle of 1900, however, now serves as one of the wonderful places to visit in Paris. Establishing a majestic connection between the Eiffel Tower to the Champs-Elysees area, Pont Alexandre III Bridge is embellished with glided statues and decorations which are worth witnessing on your next trip here. Location: Pont Alexandre III, 75008 Paris, France

Entry Fee: NA Image Source: Shutterstock Exhibiting the historical artefacts of the Middle Ages, Musee De Cluny Museum surely deserves a spot in the list of hidden places to visit in Paris. For history buffs and people with curious minds, the place serves as a paradise where they can dive into the region's interesting past and get the best retreat for their senses. The main attraction of the museum is the Lady and the Unicorn which depicts the series of six senses tapestries from the middle ages. This incredible experience is worth witnessing during your next trip to Paris which is known for leaving visitors in Awe. It is suggested to make for reservation for a hassle-free tour to Musee De Cluny. Location: 28 Rue du Sommerard, 75005 Paris, France

Entry Fee: 9 Euros Suggested Read: Paris In December Image Source: Shutterstock Hold the dignity of being the most vibrant street in Paris, Rue Cremieux is a cobblestone street packed with pedestrians and 35 pastel-coloured houses. The place captures the attention of visitors with its

glorious splash of colours where you can spend quality time with your loved ones, as well as click countless Instaworthy pictures. Although it is a residential area and unpleasant noises are not allowed still the locals are so kind and welcome visitors with warm hospitality. Rue Cremieux offers a completely unique experience and is known as one of the wonderful hidden gems in Paris. Location: Rue Crémieux, 75012 Paris, France

Entry Fee: NA Image Source: Shutterstock Are you aware that Paris also has its own Statue of Liberty? Yes, the Paris Statue of Liberty is one of the amazing hidden gems in Paris gifted by the Americans in 1889. It is a replica statue located on the banks of the Seine River. Holding a special significance in the history of the region, it plays an important role in the alliance of France and the United States. Paris Statue of Liberty is one of the wonderful spots in Paris that you shouldn't miss during your Paris trip. Location: Pont de Grenelle, Paris, 75015 France

Entry Fee: NA Further Read: 10 Incredibly Romantic Places In Paris For Couples Beckoning the fashionistas and vacationers from all over the world, Paris is truly a paradise that can be found on the wish list of every traveller. Many hidden gems in Paris add an extra dose of charm and excitement to your tour. On your next trip to Paris, don't forget to add these above-mentioned destinations for an unforgettable experience. For our editorial codes of conduct and copyright disclaimer, please click [here](#). Cover Image Source: Shutterstock What is Paris famous for? Packed with branded shopping centres, historic monuments and holy sites, Paris is the capital of city of France. The city is also renowned as the world's major hub of fashion and commerce. The main attraction of the city is the Eiffel Tower. What is the best time to visit Paris? The ideal time to plan your Paris trip is during March to May when you can witness enchanting flora. You can also plan your trip from February to April when you can enjoy sightseeing and other outdoor activities in the pleasant weather. What are the 3 interesting facts about Paris? Here are some interesting facts about Paris that you must know: What is the must-try food in Paris? Coq Au Vin is the must-try food that you can't miss during your trip to Paris. Other foods that you can have on your plate are Macaron, Parisian honey, Onion Soup, Baguette and Cheese. What are the best shopping places in Paris? The best places for a delightful shopping experience in Paris are as follows: What are the

hidden gems of restaurants in Paris? Some of the best places to have delicious meals in Paris are as follows: People Also Read: Hidden Gems In Tokyo Hidden Gems In Italy Hidden Gems In Scotland Get ready to wander the world through amazing visual tours that we provide via our blogs and stories. As a content writer, I love sharing incredible travel experiences that inspire readers to plan their own adventures and create unforgettable memories. From planning to execution, everything has already been served in these amusing tales. Let's explore the world together, one destination at a time! Top 10 Christmas Market In Dubai 2024 2024 ??? ??????? ??? ??????? ????? ?? ??? ?? ??????? ????? Discover Top 10 Haunted Places In Gujarat That Are Spine Chilling In 2024 9 Haunted Places In Las Vegas That Will Give You A Fright Your Complete Guide To The Historical Marvel Of Deverakonda Fort In 2024 Your Complete Guide To Explore Bhongir Fort On Your 2024 Telangana Trip 20 Mysterious Places In India To Visit In 2024 More Bizarre Than The Bermuda Triangle 10 Scariest Roads In India That Are A Driver's Nightmare 108 Best Places To Visit In India Before You Turn 30 In 2024 35 Exotic Places To Visit In December In India 2024 To Enjoy A Surreal Vacation 64 Top Honeymoon Destinations In India In 2024 95 Best Honeymoon Destinations In The World In 2024 For A Romantic Escape! Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Corporate Office Holiday Triangle Travel Private Limited Address: Plot No - 52 , 3rd Floor, Batra House , Sector 32, Gurugram -122001,Haryana Landline: 1800 123 5555 All rights reserved © 2024

Uncover Hidden Gems in Paris' 19th Arrondissement - Explore the Charms of the City ? Ticketeaser

Explore the vibrant 19th arrondissement of Paris and uncover its hidden gems. From picturesque parks and canals to unique street art and charming local markets, this district has a lot to offer. Discover the lesser-known attractions and immerse yourself in the authentic Parisian atmosphere. Get ready for an unforgettable adventure in the heart of the City of Light. Paris, the capital of France, is known for its iconic landmarks, rich history, and vibrant culture. While many visitors flock to the famous attractions like the Eiffel Tower and the Louvre Museum, there are hidden gems waiting to be discovered in the lesser-known neighborhoods of the city. One such neighborhood is the 19th arrondissement, a district that offers a unique blend of history, art, and natural beauty. In this article, we will explore the charms of the 19th arrondissement and uncover some of its hidden gems. Tucked away in the 19th arrondissement is the Parc des Buttes-Chaumont, a true hidden gem and a favorite among locals. This beautiful park is a haven of lush greenery, meandering paths, and serene lakes, a stark contrast to the hustle and bustle of the city. The park's centerpiece is a towering hill featuring a picturesque temple perched on top, providing breathtaking views of the surrounding area. Take a leisurely stroll, have a picnic by the lake, or simply relax and enjoy the tranquility of this urban oasis. Adjacent to the Parc des Buttes-Chaumont is La Villette, a vibrant cultural hub that offers a diverse range of activities for visitors of all ages. One of the highlights of La Villette is the Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie, the largest science museum in Europe. Here, you can embark on a journey through the wonders of science, explore interactive exhibits, and participate in hands-on experiments. Be sure to check out the Géode, a unique spherical cinema that showcases immersive films on a giant screen. The 19th arrondissement is traversed by two picturesque canals, the Canal de l'Ourcq and the Canal Saint-Martin, which offer a delightful change of scenery from the busy streets of Paris. Along the canals, you'll find charming cafes, trendy bars, and quaint lock bridges. Take a leisurely walk along the water's edge, rent a paddleboat, or simply sit back and enjoy the peaceful ambiance. In the summer months, the banks of the canals come

alive with open-air cinemas, concerts, and lively street markets. Le Centquatre, located in the heart of the 19th arrondissement, is a vibrant cultural center that showcases contemporary art, music, and performance. Housed in a former funeral parlor, this unconventional space has been transformed into a thriving cultural hub, hosting exhibitions, workshops, and live performances. Be sure to check their calendar for upcoming events, as there's always something interesting happening at Le Centquatre. Belleville, situated in the northeastern part of the 19th arrondissement, is a neighborhood known for its artistic flair and multicultural atmosphere. Once a working-class district, Belleville has become a hub for emerging artists and creative types. Explore the narrow streets lined with colorful street art, visit independent art galleries, and indulge in the vibrant food scene, offering a fusion of flavors from around the world. Don't miss the charming Parc de Belleville, which offers panoramic views of the city. One of the most intriguing aspects of the 19th arrondissement is its network of secret passageways, known as les passages secrets. These hidden treasures offer a glimpse into the past and allow visitors to discover lesser-known corners of the city. From hidden gardens to quaint courtyards, each passage has its own unique charm. Some of the notable passageways include Passage de la Moselle and Passage des Deux Soeurs. Spend an afternoon exploring these hidden gems and uncovering the stories they hold. The 19th arrondissement offers a plethora of charming boutiques, local markets, and diverse culinary experiences. Rue de Belleville is known for its exotic food stores and affordable eateries, providing a taste of international cuisine. For a unique shopping experience, head to the Marché aux Puces de la Porte de Montreuil, a bustling flea market where you can find vintage treasures and quirky artifacts. Explore the side streets to discover small, family-owned businesses and experience the local way of life. The 19th arrondissement of Paris is a district brimming with hidden gems waiting to be explored. From its serene parks and canals to its vibrant cultural centers and artistic neighborhoods, this lesser-known part of the city offers a unique and authentic experience. So, the next time you visit Paris, be sure to venture beyond the usual tourist spots and uncover the charms of the 19th arrondissement. You never know what hidden treasures you will discover.

Exploring the Hidden Gems of Paris: The Enchanting 12th Arrondissement - French Quarter Magazine

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by Isabelle Karamooz, Founder of FQM When it comes to Paris, the 12th arrondissement, also known as "Le douzième," may not be the first district that comes to mind for tourists. However, beneath its unassuming exterior lies a treasure trove of attractions waiting to be discovered. A visit to the 12th wouldn't be complete without a stop at the magnificent Bastille Opera House. Inaugurated in 1989, this modern architectural marvel may not resemble the iconic Opera Garnier, but it hosts performances that are equally captivating and awe-inspiring. Adjacent to the opera house lies one of the district's most enchanting attractions: La Coulee Verte, also known as the Promenade Plantée. This elevated walkway, built on a former railway line, offers a tranquil escape from the bustling city below. Meandering along this verdant path, you'll enjoy a fresh perspective of Paris, culminating in a connection to the sprawling Bois de Vincennes, one of the city's largest and most beautiful parks. With its lush greenery, race course, Paris Zoo, and charming flower gardens, the Bois de Vincennes is a haven of natural beauty. No exploration of the 12th would be complete without a visit to the renowned Marché d'Aligre, one of Paris' best markets. Divided into two sections—an indoor market with covered stalls and an outdoor market stretching along Rue d'Aligre—this vibrant marketplace offers a delightful array of fresh produce, local specialties, and even a semi-permanent Vide Grenier featuring household goods and antiques. While exploring the district, you'll come across the historic Gare de Lyon, one of France's busiest railway stations. Since the early 1900s, this architectural gem has served as a bustling hub for travelers. It was initially built for the 1900 Exposition Universelle. For a more in-depth look into the fascinating history of Gare de Lyon and its iconic restaurant, Le Train Bleu, which offers an unparalleled culinary experience, I recommend reading Mathieu François du Bertrand's captivating piece "Le Train Bleu (The Blue Train): When the French Art of Living Meets the Art of Traveling" in our new print edition 2023. You can easily have it delivered to your home by ordering through the following website at

<https://www.magcloud.com/browse/issue/2490433>. For those seeking a shopping adventure, Bercy Village is a must-visit destination. Once a wine marketplace, this vibrant area now boasts charming cobblestone streets lined with shops, restaurants, and galleries. Art lovers will be delighted by the nearby Musée des Arts Forains, dedicated to the enchanting world of spectacles. To satisfy your taste buds, venture into Olga, a delightful wine and cheese bar in the heart of the 12th. Founded by Camille Fourmont, the culinary mastermind behind the popular natural wine bar La Buvette, this gem offers a delectable selection of flavors that will leave you craving for more. Lastly, don't miss the opportunity to visit La Galcante, the ultimate store for unique Parisian souvenirs. From rare newspapers to vintage magazines dating back to the French Revolution, this quaint shop on Rue de Charenton is a treasure trove for history enthusiasts and the perfect place to find a special birthday gift. As you explore the enchanting 12th arrondissement, you'll come across even more hidden gems that add to its allure. Take a moment to discover:

- Jardin de Reuilly:** This charming garden oasis is a peaceful retreat with beautifully manicured lawns, tranquil ponds, and even a playground for children. It's the perfect spot to relax and soak in the serene atmosphere.
- Couvent des Récollets:** Step into this historic convent-turned-cultural center, which hosts art exhibitions, workshops, and events. Explore its beautiful courtyard and admire the stunning architecture that reflects the rich history of the district.
- Viaduc des Arts:** Walk along the Viaduc des Arts, a unique elevated promenade that stretches above Avenue Daumesnil. This former railway viaduct has been transformed into a vibrant hub for artisans and craftsmen, offering a fascinating glimpse into the world of traditional craftsmanship.
- Parc de Bercy:** Escape the hustle and bustle of the city in Parc de Bercy, a picturesque park that features beautifully landscaped gardens, shady groves, and charming vineyards. Take a leisurely stroll or enjoy a picnic surrounded by nature's tranquility.
- Promenade Plantée Extension:** While the Promenade Plantée is a well-known gem of the 12th arrondissement, make sure to explore its lesser-known extension. This hidden section of the elevated walkway offers a quieter and more secluded experience, allowing you to immerse yourself in the peaceful ambiance of the district.

For more information on these attractions and other exciting experiences in the 12th arrondissement, visit the following websites:

- Bastille Opera House:** www.operadeparis.fr
- La Coulee**

Verte (Promenade Plantée): www.parisinfo.com Bois de Vincennes: www.paris.fr Marché d'Aligre: www.marchedaligre.com Gare de Lyon: www.garesetconnexions.sncf Le Train Bleu: www.le-train-bleu.com Bercy Village: www.bercyvillage.com Musée des Arts Forains: www.arts-forains.com Olga Wine and Cheese Bar: www.olgabar.fr La Galcante: www.lagalcante.com These websites provide additional information and details to help you plan your

exploration of the 12th arrondissement. Whether you're interested in cultural experiences, delightful markets, historic landmarks, indulging in culinary delights, or discovering more hidden gems, the 12th has something to offer for everyone. So, grab your sense of adventure and embark on an unforgettable journey through the enchanting streets of the 12th arrondissement in Paris! Header

Photo Credit: Céline <https://www.pexels.com/photo/restaurant-art-paris-dark-12799588/> Isabelle Karamooz, Founder of FQM is originally from Versailles, France. Isabelle harbored a lifelong fascination with exploring the world. Her journey began at 17 when she seized the opportunity to study abroad in Rhonda, Spain, igniting a passion for travel that took her across continents. From vibrant Hong Kong to picturesque Ireland, from the historic streets of Italy to the enchanting landscapes of Morocco, she embraced diverse cultures and experiences, truly embodying the spirit of a global citizen.

After several years of exploration, Isabelle found a sense of home in Los Angeles, where she immersed herself in the vibrant cultural scene while working at the French Consulate. With a deep-seated love for the arts and history, she pursued her academic endeavors, earning a Bachelor's degree in History from the University of California, Berkeley. Furthering her dedication to education, she has studied to pursue a Master's program in teaching at the University of Southern California, eventually sharing her knowledge and passion as a French instructor for aspiring students at UNLV and CSN in Nevada.

Driven by her passion for storytelling and cultural exchange, Isabelle founded French Quarter Magazine, where she serves as the Editor-in-Chief. In this role, she orchestrates the publication's diverse content, from conducting interviews and pitching story ideas to capturing captivating moments through photography. Currently, she is channeling her creative energies into her first

English-language work, a novel that delves into the compelling life of Coco Chanel. Filled with adventure, intrigue, and a touch of romance, her debut novel promises to captivate readers with its rich tapestry of history and emotion. Your email address will not be published. Required fields are marked *

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My husband and I love visiting France and are interested in learning more about it. Merci pour votre commentaire intéressant, Annick ! Désolée pour la réponse tardive. Nous avons dû restructurer notre équipe. Nous sommes? Thank you for your continued support and for being a regular visitor to our website, Cameron! Sorry for the late? We hope you will enjoy the work of our photographer friends and we are looking forward to your feedback. You may share this page of our website with your friends and family. We appreciate your support. Make sure to leave us a comment and your feedback. Visit [Collection Art & Culture](#)[Fashion](#)[Gastronomy](#)[History](#)[Interviews](#)[Travel](#) [Correspondents](#) and [photographers](#)[Editors](#) and [translators](#)[Videographers](#) and more [Become a contributor](#) Wherever you live, if you are a francophile or French and you would like to join and volunteer to our team of contributing writers, editors, photographers then we would love to hear from you. ©2023 French Quarter Magazine Discover our new and improved website at www.frenchquartermagazine.com !

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22 Hidden gems in Paris only locals know

France Art & Culture Sightseeing Family Fun Madeleine Robertson | Live the World March 21, 2023

Paris is the second most visited city in the world, making the historical sites some of the most famous in the world. The Tour Eiffel and the Sacré Coeur are just some diamonds that Paris has to offer. While visiting the iconic sites can make you feel like a bumbling tourist, Paris has way more to offer than just grand buildings. Swap the Moulin rouge for the Musée de la Vie Romantique or the Louvre for the lesser-known Cognacq-Jay Museum. Trust me, returning from Paris having visited hidden delights that each come with their own interesting history makes for a better story. Paris may be all gold and Gladrags, but there is far more waiting to be uncovered in these cobbled streets.

Budget accommodations Hotel Luna Park - just a 10-minute walk away from the famous Place de la République, making it the perfect spot for short stay. The People - a hostel located just a stone's throw away from Gare du Lyon. The hotel is equipped with terrace, lounge and beautifully clean rooms. Hotel Sturdia - Located in Saint Germain, this hotel is the ideal location for wandering around Paris! **Mid-Range accommodations** Hôtel Albe Saint Michel - A contemporary boutique hotel which has everything you might need for a quick trip. Hotel Le Compostelle - A bonus being in the heart of Le Marais, this minimally chic hotel is the perfect place to take refuge after a busy day. Hotel France Albion - Choose this intimate hotel located at the base of Montmartre to avoid the crowds. **Luxury accommodations** Hotel Edgar & Achille - If you are looking to splurge on a bespoke hotel, then this is your Hotel! Each room is individually designed, and there is even a terrace to enjoy a drink! Hôtel du Vieux Marais - This eclectically decorated guest house is located just next to Centre Pompidou. Hotel Parc Saint-Servérin - This sleek hotel is just 550 metres away from the Notre-Dame - an easy walking distance to a true icon. Eau de Toilette and Parfum are synonymous with glamorous Paris. Why not treat yourself to a personalised fragrance at an innovative perfume workshop? Invigorate your senses by crafting your own personalised fragrance at a Parisian parfumerie. Not only will you learn about the interesting history of perfume intrinsically related to Paris, but you'll also be able to personalise your own bottle, making sure you won't forget this magical moment.

Book tickets here to secure your space in advance! ? Located in the student district of the 6th arrondissement is Un Regard Moderne, an independent bookshop. Founded by book dealer Henri-Jean Coudy in 1988, this bookshop has a wide array of exclusive art books and collectibles. The wide range of English language books make it a popular location amongst trendy anglophones visiting Paris! The shop itself is located in a 17th century villa in the heart of Paris, making it a beautiful destination for a quick shop. Pick up a limited edition art book in the rediest ship in Paris! ? Michelin-star restaurants are not something that Paris is lacking. However, enriching dishes with small portions may start to anger you after a few days in Paris. Embrace the local cuisine by taking part in a Market and Cooking class organised by local cooks. First, you will source your ingredients from the local market, shooting from the finest fresh vegetables and local meat. Then, transform your ingredients into a 3-course delight with the help of a professional chef. Book tickets to this local experience here! You?ll leave Paris feeling like a true Parisian. ? Swap the Champs Elysée or Rue de Layfayette for the quainter Passage des Panoramas. This passage was built at the beginning of the 18th century and was the former marketplace for Parisian merchants. The architecture displayed, whether that be through the beautifully crafted glass ceilings or the carefully posed tiles. The walkway today is now home to various boutiques, shops and restaurants, which you can enjoy. Walk back into the past by strolling through this delightful passage. ? Hidden in the left bank is an ancient roman amphitheatre known as Arènes de Lutèce. Built-in the 1st century, this arena was the spot for over 15,000 visitors to indulge in gladiator contests or other spectacles. Following the fall of the Roman emperor, the arena was forgotten about and rediscovered in the 19th century. Step back in time to Roman civilization by visiting this open-air amphitheatre l; located right in the heart of Paris. ? Built-in a former 19th-century mansion is the exquisite Musée Jacquemart-André. The building was the former home to art dealers Édouard André and his wife Nélie Jacquemart, hence the name. Here you will find the art world ranging from the 15th to 19th Century, all curated by the former owners themselves. As the collection is personal, there is an element of intimacy that other museums can simply not recreate. Once you wandered around the thoughtfully decorated rooms, order a café crème from the decadent salon in the museum. Book tickets here to secure your space!

? Located just across from the Palais Royal is Les Drapeaux de France, an odd little shop selling miniature figurines. The shop was established in 1949 and is one of the largest collections of toy figures in the world. Wander around the shop, admiring the various scenes from the French revolution to summer Parisian Fanfare. Leave the shops with an ionic souvenir or simply wander around this shop of curiosities.

? Petite Ceinture, meaning the little belt, is a railway line that used to encircle Paris. In the 19th century, the railway line used to run to various central stations in Paris, bringing people and goods with them. After Paris's infrastructure expanded, the Petut ceinture served little purpose. Now, the railway line is a walking and cycle path where cultural hot spots and graffiti artists have gathered. Escape central Paris and stroll along the wrought iron tracks, admiring this overgrown urban space.

? Paris is the birthplace of Haute couture and luxury fashion. The French Fashion tour will lead you around Rue Saint Honoré, the luxury shopping district of Paris. Stroll past the luxurious Louis Vuitton and the exclusive Hermès storefront, window shopping as you go. A guide will tell you about the history of the famous brands that are synonymous with Paris and the history of Haute Couture. Perhaps after your tour, you'll even be in the mood for a shop. Book tickets here and start learning about the fashion capital of Europe!

? ? Lying in the ground of Le Père Lachaise is the memorial of Victor Noir, a french political journalist who tragically died in a duel at the ripe age of 22. Despite not being a particularly prolific figure in French history, his memorial has become something of a spectacle for strange reasons. The crotch of the bronze statue has visibly been worn over time after visitors claim rubbing this region is good luck. Except over time, this fact has been misconstrued, and instead, the statue has become a symbol of fertility and youth.

? On Place de La Roquette, you will find the former location of the guillotine, used during the French Revolution. Here you will find a plaque that commemorates 27 people who were sentenced to death by guillotine. This gruesome method of murder was a popular choice in France and was the manner in which Marie Antoinette and King Louis XVI were killed. At this spot, you'll find indents in the street where the guillotine used to stand proudly, serving as a haunting reminiscent of France's brutal history.

? In the 9th arrondissement, you'll find the unusual Musée de la Vie Romantique. As the name suggests, the exhibition is dedicated to everything associated with the romanticism

movement. Inside you'll find beautiful paintings, decadent sculptures and even furniture all of which display the emotional and naturalistic characteristics of the romantic period. ? Hidden in the quaint streets of Montmartre, you will find the Le Chat Noir collection. As you wander around Paris, you will notice the various emblems dedicated to the chat noir. The cat was a symbol of the cabaret club and has since become synonymous with Parisian nightlife. The symbol is a reflection of Paris's buzzing nightlife from the 19th century until now. Visit the museum to discover vintage posters dedicated to the famous club and learn about the history of the cabaret itself. ? There's nothing new about the Eiffel Tower, however, many tourists are unaware of the secret apartment that hides in the building. Gustave Eiffel himself designed the apartment for the purpose of entertaining guests and having his own personal space. Located on the third floor, the apartment is kitted out with a bedroom, kitchen and bathroom, everything you might need for a stay in the Eiffel Tower. Gain an insight into the personal life of Gustave Eiffel himself by touring his own private quarters in the famous Eiffel Tower. ? In the heart of the Marais, you will find the luxurious Musée de Cognacq Jay. The Museum exhibits the private collection of Ernest Cognacq, a successful businessman known for founding the famous French store; Le Samaritaine. The 17th-century blonde sandstone building was a former hotel that was transformed to house the collection. Amongst the pieces, you find paintings, sculptures and furniture, all from the 18th century. Immerse yourself in French aristocracy by taking a wander in this private exhibition. ? Founded in 1761, La Mère de la Famille owns the title as the oldest confectionery shop in Paris. The shop itself is a time capsule, with wooden panels and antique green and gold signage outside, luring customers in. Marble counters and large sweetie jars are equally as enticing to customers. When stopping by, try a variety of different goods. Be sure to try the shop's very own Berlingot, a traditional candy that La Mère has been selling for centuries. ? In 1987, Charles Fournier, a painter and gilder, established his studio near the famous Arc De Triomphe. Fournier was the mastermind behind such buildings as the Rose Palace of Boni de Castellane avenue Foch and other famous French palaces. Fournier's work epitomises French decadence, providing aristocrats with the finest gold gilding and design during the Third Republic. However, it is his famous workshop which is the most spectacular. Inside, you will find panelling

from former French Palaces! ? Musée de l'Éventail, also known as the fan museum, provides visitors with an in-depth history of Fans and the craft behind them. Located in the heart of the Marais, the museum displays over 2,500 different fans made from a variety of luxurious materials such as pearls and silk. Not only were fans a display of beauty and decadence, but they were also used as a marker of wealth. If you are looking for hidden gems located right in the heart of Paris, this quirky museum is definitely the one to visit! ? Every Summer, Paris provides visitors and locals with a brief escape from the heat and stress of city life by setting up mini swimming pools and beaches. Located on the Banks of the Seine and Bassin de la Villette, you will find these little havens equipped with sun chairs and umbrellas. If you are looking for a quick escape from city life, Paris Plage is the perfect place. Top up on your tan and chill by the Seine just like a local. ? If you are looking to spend an evening dancing in a Rococo-inspired club, Le Carmen is your best option. With intricately carved ceilings and beautifully painted frescoes, this club is nothing as you've ever experienced before. Velvet fabric adorns the room, and gold cages dangle from the ceiling. As you look around the bar, it is easy to tell that this is where the coolest Parisians frequent. ? Located just a short walk away from Montparnasse, you will find this hidden gem. The theatre is the only Italian theatre in Paris and has a petite capacity of 100 people. From the exterior, the theatre lures you in with the powder blue panelling and gold decoration. The was a great success from its creation in the 16th century, it was even said to have inspired the plays of Molière. However, the theatre has changed hands many times, resulting in its inevitable downfall. Be sure to pass by this cultural icon and admire the famous exterior, imagining the various events that took place in this magnificent little place. ? If you're a history fanatic or film buff, The Cinema and Espionage Museum at the Cinémathèque Française is the place to go. Just a short walk from Gare du Lyon, you will find this unusual museum exhibiting everything related to espionage cinema, from James Bond to Jason Bourne. The exhibit aims to excite audiences with the unusual subject of espionage cinema. Channel your inner French spy and film star by stopping by this quirky museum. ? Create a personalized plan and share it with your friends Never run out of things to do! Sign up to our newsletter today, what are you waiting for?

The Best Hidden Gems in Paris: 25 Secret Spots & Hidden Treasures

Hidden gems in Paris are secret spots that are less well known to tourists. Typically, these are places that locals know and love. Hidden gems of Paris aren't typically found in guidebooks and require in depth research or local knowledge to find. I spent a year working for a French company, and while I was in Paris I made it a goal to learn all of the local hidden gems that are off the beaten path in Paris. I wanted to get a feel for the city that was more than the tourist crowds at the Eiffel Tower, so I did just that. By sharing these hidden gems of Paris, I hope to help others fall in love with the city ? the real Paris ? not the one the guidebooks show you. you'll find a list of 25 of the best hidden gems, secret spots, and hidden treasures of Paris. Visiting these hidden treasures in Paris makes for a perfect addition to any Paris itinerary, especially if you want to explore a bit off the beaten path! Get Lost in Wanderlust contains affiliate links. If you make a purchase using one of the links below, we may receive a very small compensation at no extra cost to you. We only recommend products and services we use and trust. Read our disclaimer for more information.

Located at 2 Rue de l'Abreuvoir, 75018 Paris, France La Maison Rose is a café on the picturesque cobblestone street of Rue de l'Abreuvoir. Located in the Montmartre neighborhood, La Masion Rose makes for a perfect stop for a cup of coffee in one prettiest neighborhoods and streets of Paris. La Masion Rose is one of the most Instagrammable spots in Paris, so what really makes this café a hidden gem in Paris is its beauty and interesting history behind its. Enter your email for a FREE guide to 10 hidden gem places to add to your Europe bucket list! We respect your privacy. Unsubscribe at any time. La Masion Rose is over 120 years old, and was purchased in 1905 by Laure Germaine and her husband. Laure Germaine was a French dancer and model, and had once been one of Picasso's muses and lovers. After a trip to Barcelona, Germaine was inspired by all the colors and came back to paint the café pink and rename it La Masion Rose. If you love the sound of this neighborhood, you might even want to consider staying in one of these charming boutique hotels in Montmartre. ??

Insider Tip: I highly recommend this Hidden Gems of Montmartre Walking Tour. Not only is this one of the most beautiful neighborhoods in Paris, but there are many unique places to explore here!

Located at 33 Av. du Maine, 75015 Paris, France Every year, millions of people go to Paris and go up the Eiffel Tower for a view of the city. The only problem with viewing the Paris skyline from the Eiffel Tower is that you don't see the Eiffel Tower! Montparnasse Viewing Deck solves this problem by giving you an amazing view of the Paris skyline with the Eiffel Tower! Located in the 15th arrondissement, the Montparnasse Tower has a wonderful outdoor viewing deck on the 56th floor of the building. The panoramic views of Paris are astonishing and you can even enjoy a glass of champagne from the café here. So, yes it may still be worth visiting the Eiffel Tower, but I can guarantee that the view will be better from Montparnasse Tower. Starting point located at 47 Quai de Valmy, 75010 Paris, France Everyone has heard of the Seine River, and while it is certainly beautiful it is also full of tourists.. So where do the local Parisians go to hang out and sip wine along a river? The answer is one of the best hidden treasures in Paris ? the Canal St Martin. Located in the trendy 10th arrondissement the Canal St Martin is nearby to several bars and restaurants. The Canal stretches for 4.6km. The sides of the canal are a popular spot amongst locals to bring drinks and hang out, especially in warm weather. If you visit Paris in the summer, I definitely recommend heading here to escape the tourist crowds and feel like a local Parisian! Located at 28 Rue du Sommerard, 75005 Paris, France The Cluny Museum is a museum focusing on the Middle Ages. This museum was reopened in 2022 after years of renovation and is home to important historical artifacts of the middle ages. This is a must see place in Paris for history lovers! The highlight of the Cluny Museum is the Lady and the Unicorn which is a series of six tapestries from the middle ages. The first five tapestries depict the five senses, and the sixth tapestry is thought to depict love as a sixth sense. ?? Insider Tip: For tickets to the Cluny Museum, check out the Paris Museum Pass. This pass gives you access to the Cluny Museum and many of the other top museums in Paris. Located at 11 rue Francois Miron, 75004 Paris France Located in Le Maris district, you will find some of the oldest houses in Paris. These half-timbered houses are strikingly different from the typical Haussmann style Parisian buildings. The ground floor of these two houses was built in the 14th century, with later additions in the 16th century. This makes these houses some of the oldest in all of Paris, and a great secret spot to check out for those that love history! Located at 77300

Fontainebleau, France Everyone has heard of the famous French Palace of Versailles, but why not avoid those crowds and visit a forgotten gem just outside of Paris? Built in 1137, Château de Fontainebleau has been the home to more French royalty than Versailles. In fact, 34 French kings and two emperors have claimed a residence here. So why isn't Château de Fontainebleau as popular as Versailles? It certainly isn't for the lack of history as Château de Fontainebleau is around 500 years older than Versailles. Additionally, while Versailles is massive and very beautiful, so is Château de Fontainebleau. Getting to Château de Fontainebleau is also quite easy. Located a mere 50 minutes outside of Paris, this hidden gem day trip can easily be reached using public transport or by car. To take public transport, simply take the train from Paris Gare de Lyon station to Fontainebleau-Avon station, and then take a short bus ride on line 1 to the Château stop. Located at Square Jehan Rictus, Pl. des Abbesses, 75018 Paris, France

When visiting one of the most romantic cities in the world, why not check out the Wall of Love? This hidden gem is located in the artsy Montmartre neighborhood. The Wall of Love is a permanent art installation that features 612 squares of enameled lava, on which the phrase "I love you" is written 311 times in 250 languages. There are several red marks across the art piece. These red marks symbolize a broken heart due to the lack of love people have for each other across the world. If you put all the red pieces together, it would form a complete heart. However the fact that the red pieces are scattered across the mural symbolizes how people from all around the world need to work together to rebuild and heal the world's broken heart. Located at 75006 Paris, France

Located in one of the prettiest and safest neighborhoods in Paris, the Luxembourg Gardens are a real Parisian treasure. Full of blooming flowers, beautiful statues and picturesque water fountains, these gardens are perfect for an afternoon stroll or picnic. Many people visit the Tuileries Gardens near the Louvre, and miss out on the Luxembourg Gardens completely. In my opinion, the Luxembourg Gardens is one of the most relaxing (not to mention beautiful) places in Paris. Located in Parc André Citroën, 75015 Paris, France

Looking for some great views of Paris? Look no further than Air Balloon de Paris! This hidden gem is located in the Park André Citroën in the 15th arrondissement of Paris. The balloon ride takes you up to 984 feet (300 meters) in the air. The balloon rides go everyday from 9am, as

long as the weather is decent. Tickets are also very affordable at only 15 Euros per adult or 8 Euros per child. This definitely makes for a unique and off the beaten path activity in Paris! It's also a great way to see the Paris skyline and Eiffel Tower. Located at Rue Crémieux, 75012 Paris, France

Located in the 12 arrondissement, you'll find a picturesque pedestrian only cobblestone street filled with pastel colored houses. Known as Rue Crémieux, this adorable street may just be the prettiest street in Paris. Rue Crémieux has become more well-known with the increasing amount of instagrammers and photographers seeking out one of Paris' prettiest streets. When visiting, keep in mind that this is a residential area so it's important to be respectful of those who live here. Located at 29 Rue de la Parcheminerie, 75005 Paris, France

Shakespeare and Company is the famous bookstore in the heart of the Latin Quarter. Lines to get in this bookshop can be super long, so why not visit a hidden gem bookshop in Paris instead? Abbey bookshop is similar to Shakespeare and Company and sells new, secondhand, and rare books, mostly in English. This is a great alternative to visiting Shakespeare and Company. Abbey Book Shop also encompasses historical significance as the street it is located on in the Latin Quarter was once called Rue des Escrivains after the medieval scribes who were the heart of the Parisian book trade, that is until parchment makers replaced them in the late Middle Ages. While you are in the 5th arrondissement, make sure to stop at some of the charming cafes and unique restaurants in the Latin Quarter. Located at 1 Rue Botzaris, 75019 Paris, France

Parc des Buttes-Chaumont is one of the hidden gems in Paris, frequently visited by locals. Located in the north-east part of Paris, Parc des Buttes-Chaumont offers an extensive 61 acres of green space. Parc des Buttes-Chaumont makes for the perfect spot for a Parisian picnic on the green space surrounding the lake. When visiting, check out the Temple de la Sibylle, a small replica famous ancient Roman Temple of Vesta. There is also a small waterfall in the grotto, which is a refreshing spot to visit on a hot summer day. Located at 40 Bd Haussmann, 75009 Paris, France

The Galeries Lafayette is a grand department store that is over a century old. It has over 2,000 brands and a number of cafés, bars, and restaurants and is famous for its Art Nouveau dome. The Galeries Lafayette is a very popular tourist site, but what you may not know is that Galeries Lafayette has a rooftop terrace that offers amazing panoramic views of Paris. Visiting

the rooftop terrace is especially great at sunset, as it has a magical sunset view of the Eiffel Tower and Paris skyline. Located along the Seine River A typical tourist activity in Paris is to take Seine River boat cruise, but why not ride a bike along the Seine instead like the local Parisians do? Along the banks of the Seine from the Eiffel Tower to the Notre Dame, you will find electric bikes and scooters. To rent a bike or scooter, you just download the app, scan the bike, and go! When you have finished your ride, you park it, click finish ride, and submit a photo. It is a super easy and fun way to see Paris! ?? Another option is this Hidden Gems Electric Bike Tour, which is led by a local guide and is a fun way to explore Paris! Located at Pont de Grenelle, Paris, 75015 France Everyone knows of the Statue of Liberty in New York, but did you know that Paris also has a Statue of Liberty?! While much smaller in size, there is a replica Statue of Liberty located amongst the banks of the Seine River. The statue is an important piece of history, and was gifted to Paris from the Americans in 1889 to commemorate the 100 years since the French Revolution. The gift was also because France had originally gifted the United States with the original Statue of Liberty that was placed in New York City. This statue symbolizes the alliance and respect between France and the United States. Located at 16, rue du Repos Paris, 75020 France The Père Lachaise Cemetery is home to the grave sites of several notable people. One of the most visited is that of Oscar Wilde. Fans of Wilde will leave love letters, flowers, and even kiss the gravestone while wearing lipstick. Another notable grave is Jim Morrison's, where you will likely see full bottles of Jim Bean and roses left in remembrance at the site. History lovers will want to stop by the tombstones for Abelard and Heloise, two famous star crossed lovers from the 12th century. The two had a love affair resulting in a child, but once found out Heloise was forced into the nunnery and Abelard was castrated. Their love was only allowed to live on through the letters they wrote each other. Located at Champ de Mars 5 Anatole France Ave Paris France The Eiffel Tower is the most famous monument in Paris, but did you know about the secret spot at the top? Gustave Eiffel created a hidden apartment at the top of the Eiffel Tower in order to entertain high society Parisians. While the apartment isn't open to the public, you can view it through a window if you purchase a ticket to the Eiffel Tower Summit. Located at Place Georges-Pompidou, 75004 Paris, France Everyone has heard of the Louvre, but

art lovers should also know about another hidden gem in Paris, the Centre Pompidou. The Centre Pompidou is home to the National Museum of Modern Art, and features art by famous artists such as Matisse, Picasso, Andy Warhol, and others. The building itself is also incredibly unique as it is designed as being inside out. ?? Insider Tip: Centre Pompidou is part of the Paris Museum Pass which gives you admission to many of the top museums in Paris. Check out more on the Paris Museum Pass [here](#). Located at 16 Rue Chaptal, 75009 Paris, France While in the City of Love, why not stop at the Museum of Romantic Life? This small museum is located in the romantic Montmartre district and is dedicated to the authors, artists, and literary works that prevailed during the romantic period. There is also a picturesque cobblestone alleyway and small garden, a great hidden gem for instagram photos. Located at 83 Boulevard Ornano, 75018 Paris La REcyclerie is a unique café located in a former train station. The idea behind La REcyclerie is sustainability and the food here is from freshly sourced ingredients. This eclectic café is a great spot to grab a Vegan or Vegetarian meal, or for coffee or drinks. A true hidden gem, La REcyclerie is a nice change of pace from the typical Parisian cafes. Located at 1 Rue Lamarck 75018 Paris, France Known as the Sinking House of Montmartre, this Parisian building appears to be sinking into the ground. However, the appearance is an Optical Illusion due to the hill (and turning a camera at a 45 degree angle) which give the building a "sinking" look. This hidden gem in Paris makes for a great photo opportunity! Located at Pont Alexandre III, 75008 Paris, France Pont Alexandre III Bridge connects the Eiffel Tower to the Champs-Élysées area. The bridge has ornate decorations and gilded statues, along with an impressive view of the Eiffel Tower. Known as one of the most beautiful bridges in the world, this is certainly worth a stop on your next trip to Paris. Located at Place de la République ? 75003 ? 75010 ? 75011 Paris Place de la Republique is a large square which marks where the 3rd, 10th, and 11th arrondissements meet. This is a popular meeting spot for Parisians, and is also a place where important protests may occur. In the middle of the square is a large statue with a girl named Marianne at the top. Marianne embodies the French Republic and holds an Olive branch in her right hand and a tablet of the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen in her left hand. The three statues below her symbolize liberty, equality, and fraternity, which are the values of the

French Republic. Located at Place des Vosges, 75004 Paris, France Located in the lively Le Marais district, Place des Vosges is a picturesque square. This square is one of the oldest in Paris, and was opened in the 1600's. It is a great starting point for exploring the charming and historical Le Marais neighborhood. Located at 59 Rue de Rivoli, 75001 Paris, France 59 Rivoli is a contemporary art gallery in Paris with a unique story. In 1999, it started out as an illegal artist squat house in an abandoned building. Today, 59 Rivoli is a art studio for 30 artists, a contemporary art gallery, and hosts concerts on Saturdays and Sundays. The contemporary art exhibit is free to visit, and truly is a secret spot in Paris! Paris is one of the most visited cities in the entire world, with millions of tourists coming each year to see the Eiffel Tower, Louvre Museum, and other famous sites. The crowds and touristy side of the city is what makes some people find Paris to be completely overrated. So, if you are planning a trip to France I highly recommend checking out these hidden gems in Paris. Not only will you escape the tourist crowds, but you'll get to feel like a local and explore some of the best hidden treasures and secret spots in the City of Lights. Amber is the owner and author of Get Lost in Wanderlust, a blog that helps travelers plan incredible trips across Europe from bucket list cities to charming hidden gems. She has a Bachelor's Degree in History and Psychology, and enjoys learning more about the culture and historical significance of each place she visits. When she isn't exploring Europe, she loves reading, writing, and planning her next adventure. [Read More Paris Zip Codes & Paris Postal Codes: A Guide & Map for 2025](#)[Continue Read More Safest Places to Stay in Paris in 2025 \[& Where to Avoid\]](#)[Continue Read More Is Paris Safe at Night? Safety Tips & Where to Avoid](#)[Continue Read More Best Time to Visit Paris \(& Which Month to Avoid\)](#)[Continue Read More Verizon in Paris: What to Know about Using your Phone in Europe](#)[Continue Read More Paris Alternatives: Best Places like Paris to Visit](#)[Continue](#) Hi, I'm Amber, author behind Get Lost in Wanderlust. I'm an avid reader, writer & traveler. I'm a Florida local, but my love for history & beautiful places has led me across Europe. I started Get Lost in Wanderlust to share information and resources about all the amazing places throughout Europe. [About Get Lost in Wanderlust](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Travel Resources](#) © 2024 Get Lost in Wanderlust - WordPress Theme by Kadence WP

What are some things that tourists don't know about Paris, France?

Are there any secrets or hidden gems in this city? - Quora

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Paris: your favourite off the beaten path places - Rick Steves Travel Forum

Bonjour mes amis! i have travelled to Paris at least 10 times and will return in November. I would love to hear about your favourite off the beaten path places, whether it be a park, a square, a shopping street, an overlook, anything goes! I love outdoor food markets and vide greniers. My favourite outdoor food markets are Grenelle (starts at the foot of the Grenelle Motte Piquet metro and goes towards the Seine under the elevated Metro and President Wilson marche. Other great ones are Monge and Bastille. I do like the indoor market at St Germain and I am staying in the 6th on this next trip. I found a website <https://vide-greniers.org/75-Paris> that shows "garage sales" or community yard sales which includes some antique sales. I will use that as I love wandering through the less pricy stalls for a hidden gem....like Pastis glasses and a small water jug. I will be searching out more markets in the outer arrondissements of the city this trip. Please add your favourite places that are off the beaten tourist track. Merci. One of my favorites I think is all but hidden in plain sight is the Museum of Decorative Arts. Beautiful displays in chronological order. It's next to the Louvre and also has a great shop. <https://madparis.fr/en> Here is a random selection! In terms of markets, the Marche St Quentin in the 10th is a very good covered market. So is the Marche Beauvau (indoor) next to the Marché d'Aligre outdoor, but that one is better known. It is closer to the 6th.

Boulevard Raspail has a big organic market on Sunday mornings. Regarding parks, not too far from the 6th arrondissement...

Jardin Catherine Labouré is a beautiful little park right behind the Bon Marché. Very peaceful, great for a sandwich lunch (you can buy good sandwiches at the Bon Marché grocery store, "la Grande Épicerie").

A bit better known, the Arènes de Lutèce in the 5th are worth passing through.

And have you been to the Jardin Alpin section of the Jardin des Plantes? It is well hidden, and really well-tended. As for cute neighborhoods, shopping streets, etc, I think La Butte aux Cailles is

interesting, a neighborhood of low buildings right off Place d'Italie with many bars and restaurants along Rue de la Butte aux Cailles and adjacent streets.

Rue Daguerre is a nice shopping street too, which combines well with Montparnasse cemetery, Catacombs or Cartier Foundation visits. In terms of museums, again staying in/close to the 6th, if you've been to the Rodin museum, try the Bourdelle museum. Great museum for a great sculptor. The small Zadkine museum, free, next to Luxembourg garden, is also worthwhile if you pass by. And Cartier Foundation, Luxembourg museum and Maillol museum can have great exhibitions; check what's on! Last but not least, viewpoints. Western tip of ile de la cité (Vert-Galant) is a classic, but it's easy to overlook. Further away, Parc de Belleville has great views over a good chunk of Paris. And there's a hot air balloon you can ride in Parc André Citroën in the 15th, with good views of the Eiffel Tower! Take a look at the Marche Notre Dame in Versailles. There is a large covered market, and on Tuesday and Fridays there is an open air market too. Take the Ligne L train from La Defense to the Versailles Rive Droite station that is about a block away. Have you visited the Potage de Roi? Depending on when you are there in November there may still be some plants to see. My favorite market is St Germain-en-laye. It's on Sundays and I think Wednesdays. It's around the Square and kind of spills out on Sundays on the other roads and you can sit up at a café on the steps of a building and look down on it which is just great. It's near the archaeological museum, and a great park with a great view of Paris. It's a little town that's basically a suburb of Paris. It's on the RER easy to get to and the town itself is adorable too. There's some museums / it's just a lot of fun. I grew up going to the marché in St Germain-en-Laye, where we lived, twice a week with my mom? :)? It is wonderful, as Carol said. But St Germain-en-Laye is an actual town in and of itself, not a suburb. It, and the chateau there, figures quite a lot in French history. St Germain-en-Laye is very easy to get to on the RER. Also, situated on the edge of St Germain-en-Laye and a town called Marly-le-Roi, is the chateau and gardens of Alexandre Dumas where he lived and wrote The Three Musketeers. It's lovely to visit and tour. You'd have to take a bus or taxi there. <https://www.chateau-monte-cristo.com/main/en/> I also love visiting Malmaison, the home of Josephine and Napoleon, just outside Paris. Easy to get to by bus from La Défense.

Thanks so much for the great ideas. A favourite Marche is Popincourt in the 11th. A favourite street is Rue des Martyrs for which there is a book written about it. Random places which I have enjoyed?not exactly off the beaten path, but not usually visited by first-time Paris tourists: Covered Passages. Any of them. Arènes de Lutèce. Very old Roman amphitheater in the 5th arr. Cimetière du Père-Lachaise. Or any of the other historic cemeteries, including the Passy Cemetery! Grave of Marquis De Lafayette. at the Cimetière de Picpus. Musée Marmottan Monet. Not the first or even second museum that most visitors go to, but a wonderful collection of Monets and other impressionists. Passy Covered Market. Pont de Bir-Hakeim. And its wonderful view of the Eiffel Tower. Walk to the end of the All. des Cygnes island to see the mini Statue of Liberty. La Promenade Plantée. Wonderful gardened walkway along an old elevated railway. The Vanves flea market is very enjoyable, i like it better than the huge St Ouen market. Vanves is not overwhelming and always has good stuff. <https://www.parisperfect.com/blog/2015/03/vanves-flea-market-paris/> I celebrate my birthday month of November in Europe for the month. Again it will be Paris. One of the best books I have is Markets of Paris by Long and Williams. Lists markets by arr, day of the week and especially those that are open on Sunday You haven't mentioned the passages? Fabulous. Venturing outside of Paris--I loved Chateau Chantilly, and I venture to all the small towns within 1 hour of the city. Concerts: lots of free ones. I love going in November as I catch the beginning of the Christmas season, decorations, markets, store windows and lights. Musée des Arts Forains museum in Bercy Village of carnival arts. Alfred Kahn Museum and Gardens. The gardens jam a half dozen different styles of garden: Japanese, English ramble, French formal etc into a small space. The museum has many of the photos and such that Alfred Kahn made around the turn of the 20th century to try to preserve a record of what he realized would soon be lost cultures as distant parts of the world modernized. The church created by the Jewish Bishop of Paris combining imagery from Judaism and Christianity. Notre Dame de l'Arche de Alliance. (Our Lady of the Ark of the Covenant) It is an interesting modern design located in the 15th not far from Gare Montparnasse. The Picpus Cemetery and the graves of those murdered in the terror and also Lafayette whose inlaws were murdered in the terror. (you have to be a descendent or relative of those condemned to

death during the revolution to be buried there). Lafayette's tomb is tended by a local ex-pat group and an American flag is always present. Musée des Arts Forains - their own website literally says "A museum off the beat track in Paris". It is a fascinating and beautiful museum dedicated to carnival and fairgrounds arts. Vintage games and rides -- some interactive. The venue is gorgeous. <https://arts-forains.com/en/visitors> I stumbled over this in a magazine years ago and tried several trips to visit, but "back then" you had to actually call on the phone to reserve and you could only get in if tagging along with an-already-reserved group. And they only spoke French (and I do not), so I didn't have much luck. But I tried every time I visited Paris and eventually, through email, was able to tag along with a group. It was so much fun and so interesting. Highly recommend. It is MUCH easier to book now. Following up on PharmerPhil's list, I recommend the Basilique de Saint-Denis (Metro line 13, Mo: Basilique de Saint-Denis). Not usually on anyone's must see list, the basilica contains the tombs of many of the kings & queens of France including Henri II & Catherine de' Medici, Louis XIV, & Louis XVI & Marie Antoinette. Fascinating history & walk-through of the burial sites. I concur with PharmerPhil's rec of La Promenade Plantée which my husband and I began from the Coulée Verte René-Dumont entrance. It is a most beautiful, lightly visited garden which is reminiscent of an English garden.

Montmartre Cemetery and Pere Lachaise Cemetery.

Marmottan Museum (many Monet paintings--many fewer visitors than Orsay, etc.)

Musée Nissim de Camondo--a beautiful mansion with lovely furnishings, again, sparsely frequented in the lovely Parc Monceau, a nice respite from crowds. Thanks so much for the great tips. I have not yet been to the Picpus cemetery or the Popincourt market. Nissim de Camondo, yes! Love it. Susan, I was just going to suggest Nissim de Camondo. It is my favorite museum in Paris -- small, antique furniture, artwork, history. And a walk through the adjoining park. We visited Picpus Cemetery based on a recommendation from someone on this forum. You might also be interested in these ?off the beaten path? military cemeteries we visited on a recent trip -

- Surennes American Cemetery

- Mémorial de L'Escadrille La Fayette Pere LaChaise was fascinating and definitely worth exploring.

You've probably already seen the Catacombs and Cluny Museum but if not, add them to your list! I think the St. Denis Basilica is the best often overlooked site in Paris, so agree with that rec.

In this list of Paris places with snapshots, you will see pictures of several of the things I and others recommended -- including Basilica St. Denis, Picpus cemetery, various churches, the Promenade Plantee, Albert Kahn Gardens, Musee Arts Forains etc.

<https://janettravels.wordpress.com/category/paris/>

It might help you narrow things down. If you decide to go to the Picpus Cemetery, be aware that the entrance is hard to find, and it is a private cemetery only open from 2-6pm, Monday through Saturday. We really enjoyed the Musee Curie, 1 Rue Pierre et Marie Curie, 75005. It's a small, well-curated museum about the lives and achievements of Marie and Pierre Curie. Very interesting! Free, but hours are limited. <https://musee.curie.fr/> Thanks for the wonderful suggestions and the details. The Marie Curie museum is on the list and I have added the Picpus cemetery. So many markets to visit. "...off the beaten tourist track." In Paris,,some of the favourites, the 13th Arrond, 14th Arrond. and the 20th, which I find culturally interesting and sociologically intriguing as I was exploring these areas, a lot of walking. I saw Lafayette's tomb some 20 years ago, a local showed it thinking I would be interested. Picpus Cemetery is at 35, rue de Picpus, Paris 75012. Big green door, across the street from a car dealer. horsewoofie, i agree, it's definitely one of my top favorites. But Lindy mentioned it first, i was just agreeing with her? :) There is also a lot of street art - unfortunately the quite wonderful murals in the Tuilleries Tunnel a year ago have been ruined by talentless tagger vandals who printed huge block letters across all the art -- but there are lot so professional murals in the 13th along line 6 of the metro -- the area between cheverolet and nationale metro stops contains about 25 of these amazing murals -- some are visible from the metro and others you have to wander around behind corners. There are also lots of murals deeper into Chinatown in the 13th. We've been to Paris three weeks ago and we went to some off-the-beaten path, in case you haven't been there in your 10x of travels. Just be careful, the Picpus cemetery has very limited opening days / hours. Be sure to find out before going. Yes, the Picpus cemetery is typically open from 2-5 or 6 PM only, and closed Sundays. It is very interesting and peaceful. If you

go, there is delicious ice cream and sorbets 5-10 min walk away at Raimo on Boulevard de Picpus. Not much else of note in the immediate vicinity. Thanks for the details. I will Check out some of the street art in the 13th. Thanks for asking the question. I love the suggestions. This topic has been automatically closed due to a period of inactivity. ©2024 Rick Steves' Europe, Inc. | CST# 2086743 | [Terms of Service](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

20 Best Hidden Gems In Paris, France

International Luxury Lifestyle Magazine International Luxury Lifestyle Magazine The city of Paris is one of the top tourist destinations in the world, however there are plenty of lesser known sights to explore. From secret spots to magnificent museums, it's easy to get off the beaten track in Paris. Here are some of the best hidden gems in Paris, together with nearby restaurants that Parisian locals love. If you're looking for a unique and off-the-beaten-path experience in the City of Lights, then be sure to check out some of the city's hidden gems. From quirky art galleries to picturesque gardens, there's something for everyone to explore. So grab your map and get ready to discover some of Paris' best-kept secrets! Head away from the main tourist sights like the Champs Elysees, the Arc de Triomphe and Louvre Museum and you'll find some amazing secret Paris spots. These are a few of our favorite hidden gems in Paris to visit. The Palais Royal is a 17th century palace located in central Paris near the Louvre. It was the former home of Cardinal Richelieu, followed by King Louis XIV up to the French revolution. These are actually the only gardens in Paris that are classified as a "Remarkable Garden" by the French Ministry of Culture. They were created by Victor Louis in 1731 and are a real sanctuary on a Summer's day. On one side there's a courtyard filled with black and white columns, designed by Daniel Buren in 1986. Flanked by contemporary and vintage fashion boutiques and stylish cafes, it's a lovely place for a stroll and one of the best Paris hidden gems. If you're lucky you might come across a mysterious birdman, as we did. This gentleman who attracted all the birds to him. He let us in on his secret, give them bread soaked in milk and they will eat out of your hand. We certainly had fun once we'd got used to them landing on us! Address: Jardin du Palais Royal, 2 Galerie de Montpensier, 75001 Paris, France The Marais is one of the most unspoiled areas in Paris and Place des Vosges is a magnificent square, built by Henry IV in 1605. Although the square itself is quite well-known, if you venture into the side streets you'll come across some lesser-known museums and parks that are really worth a visit. Under the vaulted arcades of the Place des Vosges, there are some interesting art galleries and restaurants. L'Ambroisie and Restaurant Anne are two of the most well known Place des Vosges restaurants.

Le Marais has some amazing museums including the Carnavalet Museum, which is all about the history of Paris, and the Picasso Museum. The Hotel de Soubise is one of the most charming Paris hidden gems, housing the Museum of French History and the National Archives Museum. We'd also recommend the Musée Cognacq-Jay which has a superb collection of decorative items and art from the 18th century. Robert et Louise is an unpretentious little steak house at rue Vielle du Temple in the Marais. You can sit at the communal table and tuck into delicious potatoes, wood-fire cooked meat and a tasty creme brulee to finish. Address: Robert et Louise, 64 Rue Vieille du Temple, 75003 Paris, France If you're looking for untouristy and more hidden things to do in Paris, then head to the passages. The city has numerous covered malls dating from the 18th and 19th centuries, known as passages. These days they house interesting shops and restaurants. One of our favourites is Galerie Vivienne, built in 1823 with mosaic floors and some great shops including Jean-Paul Gaultier. Nearby you can find the Passage du Grand Cerf in rue Saint Denis near the Chatelet les Halles shopping area. It was built in 1825 and is almost 12 metres tall, with an impressive glass roof. The Passage des Panoramas is the oldest covered passage in Paris and can be found in the 2nd arrondissement at 11 Bd Montmartre. The Galerie Vero-Dodat dates from 1826 and was one of the first passages to get gas lighting, in 1830. This shopping arcade houses two Christian Louboutin stores and the 'By Terry' renowned make-up range. A very cool option for a drink before or after dinner is Andy Wahloo on rue des Gravilliers. There's a hidden Paris courtyard with Moroccan inspired decor. It comes as no surprise that it's owned by the Mazouz brothers who are behind Sketch and Momo in London. A great place for dinner is Le Grand Colbert, which film buffs will recognize from the film 'Something's Gotta Give' with Jack Nicholson and Diane Keaton. It's a classic Parisian bistro serving up simple dishes like the roast chicken that Diane Keaton had in the film. The building itself dates from 1825 and became a restaurant in 1900. It's listed as a historical monument and has an impressive dining room with a mosaic floor as well as sculpted pillars in a Pompeian style. Address: Le Grand Colbert, 2 Rue Vivienne, 75002 Paris, France One of our favourite secret things to do in Paris, this raised park was built on a disused viaduct and soars above the streets. The walk starts behind Bastille Opera House, passes above avenue Daumesnil to

the Jardin de Reuilly and finishes at Porte Dorée near the Bois de Vincennes. Also known as the Coulée Verte René-Dumont, quite a few Parisians don't know of its existence. It's a pleasant 4.7 kilometer scenic walk, which was completed in 1993. This Parisian walkway was the inspiration behind the Highline in New York. The park is planted with many rosebushes, trees and climbing plants. You get a great view over the surrounding buildings like this Postmodernist masterpiece. Although this looks like an Art Deco era building, it was completed in 1991. Designed by Spanish architect Manolo Nuñez-Yanowsky, it houses a police station. Below the viaduct, there's a good selection of design shops and some good brunch spots like Brasserie L'Arrosoir on Avenue Daumesnil. Address: 1 Coulée verte René-Dumont, 75012 Paris, France

Whilst Montmartre can be extremely busy, especially the area around Sacre Coeur Basilica, there are some lesser known streets that are well worth seeking out. Rue de l'Abreuvoir is one of our favorite Montmartre hidden gems, with its cobbled paving stones and pretty pink houses. At the top of this picturesque Paris street, there's La Maison Rose, one of the most Instagrammable places in Paris. The restaurant was painted pink by its original owners, Laure Germaine and her husband Ramon. Several famous artists such as Pablo Picasso and Maurice Utrillo frequented this charming place. Address: Rue de l'Abreuvoir, 75018 Paris, France

Did you know that the only vineyard in Paris can also be found in Montmartre? Located on rue des Saules, La Vigne du Clos Montmartre vineyard holds an annual harvest festival, La Fete des Vendanges. You can only visit Montmartre Vineyard as part of a guided wine tasting tour, however you can buy their wine all year round at the Musée de Montmartre and at La Maison des Epicuriens, 46 rue Lamarck. Address: 18 Rue des Saules, 75018 Paris, France

Also in Montmartre, don't miss the incredible sinking house which you may have spotted on Instagram! You can find this building just next to the steps in front of Sacre Coeur. It's an optical illusion, but if you rotate your photos it certainly looks like it is disappearing into the grass! Address: 1 Rue Lamarck, 75018 Paris, France

One of the best hidden gems in Paris is the Buttes-Chaumont Park. Located in the 19th arrondissement in the North East of Paris, this is the fifth largest park in Paris. It opened in 1867 and has several impressive features, including a 1.5 hectare lake around the Île de la Belvédère, a rocky island. At the top, you'll spot the Temple de la Sibylle, a miniature copy of the

Roman Temple of Vesta in Tivoli, Italy. There is also a grotto inspired by English landscape gardens, and an artificial waterfall. Above the lake is a 63-meter suspension bridge designed by Gustave Eiffel, famous for the Eiffel Tower. Address: Parc des Buttes-Chaumont, 75019 Paris, France

This Instagrammable Paris street has cobbled paving stones and many colorful houses. Situated in the 12th arrondissement of Paris, it is named after lawyer and politician Adolphe Crémieux. Originally construction workers' houses, the properties on rue Crémieux are now highly covetable. However, the residents do have to contend with this popular spot having an influx of visitors taking photographs! Address: Rue Crémieux, 75012 Paris France

20 meters underground in the 14th arrondissement, lies a macabre secret ? the bones of millions of Parisians. Their remains were transferred there in the late 18th century due to public health concerns. From 1809 onwards, the Paris Catacombs were open to the public by appointment. These days, you can purchase an individual or group ticket to visit. There are 243 steps and a 1.5 km circuit so allow an hour and wear comfortable shoes. Address: 1 Avenue du Colonel Henri Rol-Tanguy, 75014 Paris, France

The Bercy District is a vast leisure area in the 12th arrondissement, with a public park and The Pavillons of Bercy, aka the Museum of Fairground Arts. Bercy Village has many good restaurants and boutiques housed in former wine cellars. Visitors can enjoy a drink at Café Oz Rooftop or head to the UGC Ciné Cité multiplex cinema. Address: 28 Rue François Truffaut, 75012 Paris, France

Experience Paris like a local in Rue Mouffetard in the 5th arrondissement. Originally a Roman road, this pedestrianized street in the 5th arrondissement has no airs and graces. A true hidden gem, you'll find many neighborhood cafes and specialty food stores in this area of Paris. Fromagerie Androet is a great cheese store, with a beautiful Renaissance fresco above it. Address: Rue Mouffetard, 75005 Paris, France

A great place to go for a stroll, the Canal Saint-Martin is popular with local Parisians who come here at the weekends. Located in the 10th arrondissement, it has appeared in movies such as Amélie and Mission Impossible: Fallout. You can also take a canal boat ride here or simply enjoy a drink in one of the many bistros and bars lining the route. One of these is the Hôtel du Nord, built in 1885 and immortalized in the film by Marcel Carné in 1938. The starting point of this unique Paris gem is Place de la Bataille-de-Stalingrad in the 19th district of Paris. The

finishing point is at Quai de la Rapée in the 12th district. One of the most beautiful museums in Paris, this hidden gem in the 8th arrondissement was formerly the home of Édouard André and Nélie Jacquemart. Avid collectors, they filled their home with treasures from their travels to Italy and the Orient. The Sculpture Gallery has some fine examples of 15th and 16th century sculptures. There's also a charming tea room with a terrace overlooking the courtyard. Address: 158 Boulevard Haussmann, 75008 Paris, France

Created in 1884 when two islands were joined to the Ile de la Cité, the Square du Vert-Galant is a perfect place to enjoy a picnic on a sunny day in Paris. You get great views of the river Seine, the Hôtel de la Monnaie and the Musée du Louvre here. Next to the famous Pont Neuf bridge, it's quite a small park so get there early to nab the best spot! Address: 15 Place du Pont Neuf, 75001 Paris, France

Less well known than Notre Dame Cathedral, La Sainte-Chapelle is an extraordinary royal chapel on the Île de la Cité. Work on this beautiful building started in 1238 and was completed in 1248. Designed in the Gothic style to house King Louis IX's relics of the passions collection, it has some of the best examples of 13th century stained glass windows in the world. Address: 10 Boulevard du Palais, 75001 Paris, France

Opened in 1989 by Canadian Brian Spence, The Abbey Bookshop is known for its cozy, inviting atmosphere. There are books stacked up to the ceiling and comforting reading nooks. Hidden away in the Latin Quarter, it has over 40,000 English titles in stock. This is one of the few remaining independent English bookstores in Paris, along with Shakespeare and Company. Address: 29 Rue de la Parcheminerie, 75005 Paris, France

La Grande Mosquée de Paris was built in the 1920s in Moorish style. The mosque complex is open to visitors Saturday to Thursday from 9am to noon and 2pm to 6pm. It is closed on Fridays for prayer services. The entrance fee is 3 euros and modest dress is advised. The Islamic-style gardens with fountains are lovely to stroll through. If you have time, book for tea, lunch or dinner at the Grand Mosque Restaurant. With its original 1920s tiled interior, this beautiful place is usually quite busy. The Hammam at the Grand Mosque is also a true hidden gem in Paris. Address: 2bis Place du Puits de l'Ermite, 75005 Paris, France

The Rodin Museum is an unmissable Paris attraction. It's housed in the Hôtel Biron in the upmarket 7th arrondissement. The Musée Rodin contains the largest collection of works by the French sculptor Auguste Rodin, including iconic

sculptures like The Thinker and The Kiss. Rodin donated his entire collection to the French state in 1908. This unique Paris museum is set amidst beautiful formal French gardens. The gardens house many of Rodin's famous outdoor sculptures like The Gates of Hell and the Monument to Balzac.

Address: 77 Rue de Varenne, 75007 Paris, France

This pretty street in the 7th arrondissement of Paris runs parallel to the Seine River. It offers a spectacular view of the Eiffel Tower, especially from the southern end of the street near Allée Paul Deschanel. Standing on Rue de l'Université near the intersection with Avenue de Suffren, you can see the Eiffel Tower perfectly framed at the eastern end of the street. Early morning and late afternoon are especially good times for photography from this vantage point, as the lighting illuminates the Eiffel Tower. If you're looking for a more off-the-beaten-path experience in Paris, be sure to check out some of these secret places. They're all great inclusions for your Paris itinerary. And after all that sightseeing, what about a bit of retail therapy in the 5 hottest Paris shopping districts? Our other France articles can help you plan your trip and make the most of your time in this beautiful country. We've rounded up the most famous French landmarks that you shouldn't miss. And if you're a fan of getting off the beaten path, you might want to check out our articles on hidden gems in Ibiza, London, Rome and Venice. You might also enjoy: Check out some more international hidden gems below. Like these hidden gems in Paris? Pin for later or share with friends. Looking for more travel hacks and tips? From hidden gems to unique experiences, we've got you covered. Join us on Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest and Twitter. Sharing is caring!

Suze and Paul are the founders of LuxuryColumnist, one of the leading luxury online magazines worldwide. Pingback: 5 hottest Paris shopping districts - Luxury Columnist

How cool. Paris is just full of surprises. You're right, for a smallish city, it certainly does have a lot of cool surprises That's really kind V, and I'm really glad that you managed to get into Paris after all ? I've had a few scary passport moments myself! I hope your niece gets to check out some of the places, we really had fun going off the beaten track! I went to Paris when I was a teenager on a class trip and I have always wanted to go back on my own and just explore. I am now dying to get over to The Marais! Thanks for sharing these hidden gems ? I am saving this for when I do get back to Paris! The Marais is my favourite part of Paris, many of the

other parts were standardised by Baron Haussman and they look lovely but the Marais is really quirky. Hope you get to go back soon! Thanks Laura, my hubbie did a great job capturing the birds ? they were moving around so much! I'll be in Paris in April, looking forward to seeing some of these favorite haunts again! Have fun Noel, and if you're ever in London, do let me know! Well I thought I had explored Paris having been a few times, clearly not this post has reinvigorated the want to visit. Le Marais District looks beautiful Lucy x Le Marais is so lovely, there's even more new parks and museums ? I really want to get to the Picasso Museum again L'Arrosier was great and the walk along the viaduct is great, so far away from any beeping horns! I loved my visit to Chicago by the way though was a good few years ago Hope you get to go there soon Kay, it's amazing how much you can cram in as it's such a compact city Place des Vosges is brilliant in Summertime, but it's very atmospheric in Winter wandering around under the arches! Hope you do get up there Lauren, must be quite quick on the TGV? Looking forward to reading about your trip I'm taking note of this! Thanks for sharing ? STYLE VANITY Thanks Alyssa, hope you get to visit Paris at some point The Palais Royal Gardens look gorgeous, great list! Thanks Becky, the gardens are indeed lovely and there's some really nice little cafes around the edges Thanks Camille, hope you have a fantastic time in Paris! A most excellent write-up of charming finds. I love the hidden passages; you're right, it's as though you're in on a secret. Now I have an entire list for our next visit. Terrific post! Thanks Betsy, that's very kind. Hope you have an amazing trip to Paris Thanks Emily, Pershing Hall is great and the cocktails are to die for Glad you liked it and hope you have fun on your next trip Ruby Thank you, I hope that you get to visit again soon! Spring is such a great time to visit I'm really glad you liked it Maria These are indeed hidden gems, I would love to see these places next time ? love the visuals Suze. Thanks Noel, Paris is so photogenic! I love the street with gold leaf carpet stretching. That's so romantic. Pingback: 15 Unmissable Hidden Gems In Paris, France ? TSBA

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Forget the usual tourist stops, what cool, secret, surprising or simply new places would you recommend in Paris? - Quora

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202 Cool and Unusual Things to Do in Paris - Atlas Obscura

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?? Make sure words are spelled correctly. Try searching for a travel destination. There is a secret apartment at the top of the Eiffel Tower, and that encapsulates Atlas Obscura?the hidden world within the one that we know. Paris is a city of history and beauty and light, and one of the best ways to experience it is by leaving the beaten path. andyhartsmith wants to go to

La Conciergerie kleineprijsvooreenwereldreis wants to go to

Catacombes de Paris kleineprijsvooreenwereldreis has been to

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5 Days in Paris - Hidden Gems, Must Sees & Tips - Rick Steves Travel Forum

I'm in the very early stages of planning our (hopefully...) Summer 2022 trip. We will have 5 full days in Paris at the end of our trip. Here's what I've sketched out so far. These days will be interchangeable as I don't have set travel dates yet. I'm trying to group things geographically and logically (is there anything that stands out to you as not working?). This will be at the end of a 2.5 week trip, so we won't need to worry about jet lag. I'll be traveling with my husband and two middle school children (they're good travelers). I know there are a million amazing art museums in Paris, but I think three is a good amount for our family. We won't be doing Versailles (I didn't just forget it). A couple of these days seem pretty full and one seems light - not sure if there are things that would make sense to switch around. We want to allow time for exploring neighborhoods, enjoying cafes, etc. My daughter will also want to shop places that a middle schooler can afford ;) Thoughts on Belleville, Canal St. Martin (I liked the idea of a couple of off the beaten path neighborhoods but?) Anything I'm leaving out? Any hidden gems near any of these that I should add in? Day 0 - Arrive from Normandy, check in and explore neighborhood (Hopefully St. Germain Des Pres)

Day 1 - Musee d'Orsay, Shop Rue Cler for picnic items, picnic on Champ Mars, Eiffel Tower (Trocadero for pics)

Day 2 - Notre Dame, Ste. Chapelle, Pantheon, Latin Quarter, Luxembourg Gardens, Catacombs (evening at Montparnasse Tower for view)

Day 3 - Belleville, lunch at Galleries Lafayette, Pompidou Center, Marais, evening cruise of Seine

Day 4 - Arc de Triomphe, Champs Elysees, Tuileries Gardens, Louvre

Day 5 - Pucés Flea Market, Sacre Couer, Montmartre, Canal St. Martin I like it. I started to say that Day 2 looked too full, but then I remembered that Notre Dame may not be open to the public yet. I like the walks and parks you've included. What kinds of things are your kids interested in? There are lots of small specialty museums that you might want to have tucked in your back pocket for rainy days. Hi Jane - Yes. Day 2 was the day that I was worried about being too full. Those things seem

to be close together though, so it made sense to lump them. Not sure if it's too much. Hmm, my kids are pretty flexible - they'll like just experiencing the city. My daughter will like exploring cute streets and shops. They like to ride subways and be in groups. It's hard to predict what will be a favorite- sometimes it's something they've studied in school. My son loves history - especially WWII and Roman history (we'll have already been to Normandy and Amsterdam before we get to Paris). I'll have them read up and watch movies set in Paris before the trip. Whoa. I think you're going to be hard pressed to accomplish all this and have time to explore neighborhoods, shop, and chill at a few cafes. You're moving in a group of four, and that slows you down. Take into account also that by the summer of 2022, lots of tourists will be back, and you really should factor in the crowds and waiting times at museums and churches when mapping out your days. Even on the Metro, getting from place to place takes time. Unless you're planning to zoom through each site, I doubt this itinerary would be truly satisfying. Can you sort out everyone's priorities? If you peel off in twos to do shopping vs museums vs churches, it might be more doable. The Pompidou and Louvre museums can be overwhelming. Alternatives might be the Rodin Museum (lots of outdoor exhibits), the Orangerie the Picasso and the Cluny museums. The Marmottan Museum has the world's largest collection of Monet paintings. I would consider skipping the Pantheon. A museum pass would allow you to make shorter visits to several locations. The Shakespeare and Company bookstore is fun. - day 2? Our favorite hotel in Paris, Le Citizen, is next to the Canal St. Martin - we last stayed there in 2019. We did little more in Belleville than walk through it, but it is a nice break from the "must see" areas of Paris. You might consider strolling to Pere Lachaise cemetery - it's a fascinating piece of Parisian history. Seconding Bob, the Cluny was a nice size and a fantastic Medieval collection. The brickwork at the exterior back of the building, dating back to Roman times, was a plus. While you're there in the Latin Quarter, the Pantheon can be skipped, but the Luxembourg Gardens make for a really nice stroll, and you can glimpse the Pantheon from there. Or just check out your state capitol building :) You have a few things on your list that are scheduled to be closed for remodeling: Centre Pompidou, Tour Montparnasse, and of course Notre Dame won't be open.

The Champ de Mars may be undergoing remodeling, too. You'll see if a picnic is possible.

I'd skip the Pantheon, too. I agree with Bob that good arguments can be made to go to the smaller gems instead of the large ones: the Rodin Museum, the Orangerie, and the Cluny. I'll throw in there the Jacquemart-André Museum, which is close to the Galeries Lafayette and Printemps department stores. It has a tea room in the former ball room, with a beautiful ceiling painted by Giovanni Domenico Tiepolo,. This is a favorite lunch spot or dessert stop for me. With middle schoolers, I'd definitely take a look at the Arts and Meters museum: France's national museum of scientific and industrial instruments. It's a favorite of mine and my now-grown offspring. Actually, I find it a real mind blower! <https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/musee-des-arts-et-metiers> And the Basilica of St. Denis will more than make up for the Pantheon, much more worthwhile. So if everything that is scheduled to be closed for remodeling is indeed under construction, that opens up time for other interesting things. The Paris museum pass for two or three days makes entries easy and no pressure to spend a lot of time at each place. Group these places for the time of your pass. For example-identify what you want to see each art museum then leave. Even the Orsay can eat up a half day, let alone the Louvre. We enjoyed the Rodin gardens and sculptures. The Orangerie with Monet's big lily pond paintings has a wonderful small collection of Impressionist paintings in the basement. It could be a replacement for the Orsay. Use the RS Paris or France book to see all the places covered by the pass. Check out the current safety and offerings at the Puce Flea Market. It seemed a little sketchy 7 years ago. Also the items for sale tend towards cheap house hold/clothing items. Just saying! Sunset on the steps of Sacre Coeur is an event. Have a drink, small picnic and grab a gelato on the way home. Watch all the performances and people. Definitely leave some free time for enjoying the parks. Bon voyage! You have obviously given this some thought and know where your primary interests are. Be prepared to spend some time with the bouquinistes on day two also. You might consider doing day four in the reverse order, tackling the Louvre when your feet are fresh. You can rejuvenate at a cafe along the Champs Elysees on the way to the Arc de Triomphe with insanely expensive drinks and snacks but great people watching. Give your priorities the morning, Paris wears you out and those cafe chairs have glue on them that make it difficult to move

as the day wears on. In Oct, RS has a new FR guidebook coming out which features good self-guided walking tours that will take you past the places you want to see.

I've been to Canal St. Martin and would leave that at the bottom of your list. Bets, the Arts et Metiers was what I was thinking of when I asked what the kids were interested in. We visited it when we were in Paris in 2019, and they finally ran us out so they could close! It was great. And I agree with Bob the the Cluny, Rodin, and Marmottan are all worth visiting, and not as exhausting as the Louvre. You might explore walking tour possibilities, though it will probably be difficult to find reliable information before things open up. A walking tour with a guide would be a good way to see nooks and crannies in a neighborhood you're interested in. Walking tours are usually reasonably priced unless you go with a very high-end company like Context. I've been trying to find time for Paris for several years. It hasn't happened yet, but I've been gathering information from this forum on sights related to World War II. I can't vouch for these personally, but they are on my list: Paris Walks has a couple of WWII-themed walking tours:

- ? Paris During the Occupation and Liberation

- ? The Resistance and the Occupation, Left Bank Circuit

I don't know how often those walks are offered. The company usually charges 20 euros per person (less for children and students), but I don't know how those two specific walks are priced. The Musée de la Libération de Paris/Musée du General Leclerc/Musée Jean Moulin is on Place Denfert-Rochereau. (Jean Moulin was a huge Resistance hero.) Part of the exhibit labels and part of the videos are English-accessible, but some are only in French Sign up to visit the underground bunkers; capacity is limited.

<https://www.museeliberation-leclerc-moulin.paris.fr/en/visit-museum/visit-colonel-rol-tanguys-command-post> Les Invalides has considerable Resistance/liberation content in the L'historial Charles de Gaulle exhibition. I know it would be hard to substitute a different sight for the Louvre, but the latter is humongous, crowded and rather expensive if you just plan a short visit (not that you said that). At the very least, I urge you to spend time on the museum's website and a guidebook or two to figure out what section(s) of the museum you most want to see and how you will navigate your way there.

It is easy in places like the Louvre to waste considerable time wandering around. The Marche aux Puces at Sant-Ouen is open to the public on weekend mornings only, I believe. I don't know whether there's a reason to prefer Saturday or Sunday. One of the forum posters has warned about shoddy merchandise on the edges of the market, pickpockets, etc. It might not be the best choice for a family (I haven't been there). The Marche aux Puces at Vanves, also weekend mornings only, is reportedly smaller and less crazy though still crowded. Just a reminder that the Louvre and the Musee d'Orsay are normally closed on Mondays and Tuesdays, or vice versa. Who knows what it'll be like post Covid And remember you have to have a Louvre Reservation even with a pass. There is no time here for 'hidden gems' -- you are barely scratching the surface of standard tourist spots and there is no time to chill or explore 'neighborhoods' Your itinerary looks pretty good to me, although even if they're good travelers, it's hard to manage a lot of mileage on short pre-teen legs, especially at the end of a 2.5 week trip. Like others, I'll also say that the interior of the Pantheon is rather underwhelming. On Day 1, while you're nearby on Rue Cler, your son may be interested in Les Invalides: The Army Museum and Napoleon's Tomb. On Day 2, if you don't hit the Catacombs first thing in the morning, you will have a ridiculously long wait, and if you're trying to tuck it in at the end of the day, it's likely you won't even get in. When I went a couple years ago, it was one of the few attractions without a skip-the-line pass, and the line can be daunting. You do not want to wait along a mostly unshaded traffic circle in the middle of summer. I know it's nice to find shopping areas that are affordable, especially on an allowance, but while in Paris, it may also be nice to gawk at some windows of the rich and famous on Ile St-Louis or near the Vendome. And now that the Louvre collection is online, it may be worth considering skipping the crowds and just viewing specific masterpieces at home. This is somewhat ambitious and especially day 5. The Louvre is easily an all day event.

Some of these can be checked off pretty quickly depending upon your interests. For example, the Arc has a very short access time and an inside tour offers some interesting access but the view from the top and of the Champs Elysees is the highlight unless you want to find your family name on the walls. It's right next to a subway station so can be checked off quickly.

The Eiffel Tower is much the same...and the time to access depends upon the lines. From there the walk to Notre Dame is literal minutes as are several other interesting highlights.

Point being, you can probably still do a bit more tweaking. The key to getting around and doing a lot in a short time is to use the subways. Try to locate your accommodations near subway access so that you don't lose time getting to and from your neighborhood.

Paris grows on you. You can never spend too much time there. You can spend too little. Make sure you have time to just down and enjoy things. That's a big part of a visit. I'm not sure if this is a hidden gem or not, but I wrote it down after an episode of Amazing Race <http://arts-forains.com/en> it describes itself as a Fairgrounds Museum with a unique collection of objects from the performing arts of the 19th and 20th centuries. It is a timeless getaway into the themes of curiosity cabinets, carnivals, incredible gardens and Belle Epoque funfairs. Yes, agree it is a unique gem, Allan. Musée des arts forains (too bad about the new-build bleak neighborhood). Not unique gems, but when we went we added a chocolate theme to the trip. Before going over I found a list of the supposed best chocolate shops in Paris. Believe there were 10 or 11. Then when we were in that part of the city, we stopped in for a treat. It started with 1 chocolate per shop, but by the end we were at 3 per shop. The only one on the list we didn't get to was Maison Chaudun, the one closest to our hotel. It was closed all three times we stopped by. Already mentioned is Pere Lachaise Cemetery. You can also walk to see the Statue of Liberty at the far end of Swan Island. There are a couple sculptures: Walking through walls sculpture and Dalida (Italian singer), but neither is a must see. We also enjoyed Napoleon's tomb and the army museum. A chocolate crawl is great. Be aware that good French chocolate is dark chocolate, which many kids and some adults find less tasty, though trying a few can change minds. Some of the chocolatiers also have wonderful macarons in many flavors, most are wonderful for all ages and tastes. It is not at all uncommon to buy chocolates and macarons by the piece. Paris Walks has a chocolate walk, usually only once a month, that is wonderful. They also have a food market tour that is excellent. Both of course include lots of tastings. They have lots of other tours that focus on neighborhoods with lots of history and interesting stories. Another great tour possibility is with Fat Tire Bikes, who have bike tours and

Segways (check the age restriction, though I think middle school would be okay). The guides are very good. With kids, I would concentrate on experiences rather than sights. As others have said, avoid the big museums, they are overwhelming and people of all ages can get bored and/or tuckered out before seeing all the highlights. Next to Sainte-Chapelle is the Palais de Justice (a functioning law court) that is usually open to the public and worth having a gander at. Once you're through security for the chapel visit, you should be able to access it without going through security again. And a few meters down from there (toward the river) is the Conciergerie, which was a Gothic palace and became a prison, its most famous "resident" was Marie-Antoinette. The real joy of a visit to Paris is walking and discovering: ancient churches, quaint buildings, odd shops, zigzagging streets, charming postage-stamp sized parks. On weekends much of the Marais quarter is closed off to vehicles and the streets are lined with trendy boutiques, quirky shops, small parks filled with sunbathers, picnickers and little kids, and lots of outdoor cafes. Just throwing this out there. I took my two oldest granddaughters to Paris a couple of summers ago. Granted they were both just graduating from high school so older than your kiddos, but they really, really enjoyed a ghost tour we took one evening. There are several offered in a google search and truthfully, I don't remember which one we took. Of course it was an evening tour and our guide told us some wonderful stories....and there was a mild scare or two or ten along the way. I enjoyed it, too! I took my twins when they were 12 so I thought I'd pass along what we did and what they liked.

Louvre - they liked staying long enough to be able to say they saw the Mona Lisa. Maybe an hour tops was all we spent there.

Pompidou - they didn't like at all

Army Museum - my daughter was real reluctant to go here because she didn't like any discussion about war but she ended up fascinated with the artistry associated with the medieval weaponry. My son enjoyed the entire museum.

Catacombs - the workers went on strike the day my son and husband were going to go so they spent their time at a cafe watching the strike itself (my son found it interesting)

Lafayette Galleries - I'm not a shopper but both my daughter and I enjoyed this place

The science museum - we seek out science museums in most cities - this one was fun and not too crowded

Tuileries - my daughter in particular liked these gardens

Eiffel Tower - they liked it

Our daily visit to the patisserie was loved by all

Picnicking - finding food in small neighborhood shops and eating on a park bench was great

Paris sewer tour - I thought this would be more interesting. I gave it a B- The kids did too. But it is different.

Wandering the city - the kids really liked the city

World Cup soccer was going on - so fun!

The Airbnb we stayed in gets rated an F by all family members. I may never live it down. ?

No matter what, you will have some good memories. For middle schooler shopping I recommend Monoprix, a budget-friendly department and grocery store chain with multiple locations all over the city. I would compare it to Target - cute, affordable fashion, accessories, paper goods and room decor - only French. We discovered it on our first family trip to Paris when our daughter was 9. Five trips to Paris and 17 years later, we always include a Monoprix shopping trip in our itinerary. If your kids are interested in arts and crafts, we also enjoy shopping for pens, paper, washi tapes and other unusual supplies in the arts and craft department of Bazar de l'Hotel de Ville or BHV. If I've hit on your shopping interests, let me know and I might be able to make more recommendations. Thanks everyone. Some great suggestions here. Looks like I can definitely skip the Pantheon and Canal St Martin. The Pompidou isn't supposed to start renovations until 2023, so hopefully that will work out as I haven't made it there on other trips. I love the idea of the Paris Walking tour and a ghost tour one evening. Les Invalides might be a good option for us. I love the Orsay, but maybe swapping that with the Orangerie would be an option, since that's one I haven't been to before. JenS - Monoprix sounds perfect for my daughter. Any more tips like those would be wonderful. Thank you! When we went with our kids 2 years ago they were 5th grade and 8th grade. Their favorite activity was a walking food tour. I can't remember the company, but we found it on line and it was great. You

might look into whether there are Louvre tours for children. Unless yours have received good art education, that experience is likely to be a rather boring blur. As a (retired) teacher, I have witnessed how a good guide can teach children how to view works of art, lessons that can carry over to future museum visits. Also, I think there are travel guides with titles like "Paris with Kids." Might be worth investigating. Paris has been overrun by tourists for so long that anything worth looking at was discovered long ago. I prefer to think of novel or unexpected "gems". One is the sewer museum, demonstrating ingenious 19th-century engineering. Its atmosphere is, uh, distinctive and not at all offensive. Another is the Hunting and Nature Museum, filled with portraits of rich and powerful citizens with their horses and dogs and bloody trophies, along with the essential firepower. It's a different window on upper-class life. <https://www.chassenature.org/informations-pratiques/> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paris_sewers The Cluny is glorious if you like medieval, but it's scheduled to be closed for renovations for quite a while. For everything, even next year, check & doublecheck; many destination places are making similar lemonade out of the pandemic lemons. But ohh, to travel! Plan on. I think you have a great plan in place! I'll only add a comment about the Louvre, since there were several comments addressing that. It is overwhelmingly enormous, but we followed Rick Steves audio guide tour twice (once with our elementary and middle school kids) and found it to be manageable. They were definitely more impressed with the Louvre than the Orsay, although the Orsay is my fav art museum. And how can you go to Paris and skip the Louvre?! I think we were there for 3 hrs tops, including security. At least seven months prior to taking our 16 year old nephew to Paris in 2015, my husband gave him a slim guide book (and some links to various websites), along with a request to follow up a month or two later to discuss his thoughts. Above all else, getting our nephew's input (he specifically requested smaller, less crowded sights & museums) was instrumental in making our trip a memorable and enjoyable experience. In the end, his favorite museums were the Musée de Cluny (due to reopen in early 2022) and the Musée Carnavalet (due to reopen very soon). Also known as "the History of Paris Museum", my nephew absolutely loved the Carnavalet. At one point, we split up for a short while and when we regrouped, he excitedly told me that he saw THE actual painting that was in his history book (can't remember which one) ... he

was blown away to see the original painting IN PERSON, that was reproduced in his history book at school. There were loads of interesting objects & exhibits, and because the museum is housed in former private mansion in the Marais, just walking through various rooms (and the beautiful gardens) was memorable. Moreover, all of the exhibits are translated into English, and according to the museum website, "10% of the works displayed have been installed at a child's height". For what it's worth, on each of my four visits, I've encountered small groups of French school children who were as enthusiastic as my nephew. Here's a link to the museum website: <https://www.carnavalet.paris.fr/musee-carnavalet> Afterwards, you can visit the nearby Place des Vosges - one of my favorite small parks in Paris (technically, it's the oldest planned square in Paris, built by Henri IV in 1612). On the food front, the Marais district is home to some of the best falafel in the world. These inexpensive and delicious Middle-Eastern sandwiches are composed of deep-fried round chickpea fritters, grated or chopped vegetables like cabbage, carrots and/or cucumbers, and sesame tahini and/or hummus. Several competing restaurants (with take-away options) are located along the Rue des Rosiers. As one who eats very little meat, I welcome the occasional falafel as a break from the typically rich cuisine normally found in Paris, and eating your take-away sandwich in the park makes for a lovely picnic. One other note regarding the Marais: as it was the old Jewish quarter, I think it's important to pay attention to, and pause momentarily at one of the moving plaques placed outside schools, which pay sad tribute to the more than 6,000 Parisian children sent to death camps during WWII - the vast majority of whom died. One such plaque is posted near the entrance to the school located on Rue des Hospitalières-Saint-Gervais, a pedestrian street just off of Rue des Rosiers. Here a link to a website with more info about these plaques: <http://www.alamemoireparis.com/overview.html> Also, do keep in mind that Paris gets brutally hot & humid in the summer. We were there with our nephew in June, and didn't cover nearly as much ground compared to when my husband and I normally visit in early spring. If you aren't used to that sort of weather, please understand that it can be exhausting - especially for kids. Obviously, be sure to drink plenty of water, but also beat the heat by trying the various ice cream shops - glaces in French - to find your favorite flavor. One last note: don't underestimate the sheer amount of walking

one does in Paris; even when using the Metro, you still clock a fair number of miles & steps. That, combined with heat & humidity, can cause some serious chaffing. Thank goodness for an anti-chaffing skin protectant product called "Glide" ... it literally saved our vacation. Here's a link for it at REI: <https://www.rei.com/product/745879/bodyglide-anti-chafe-formula-skin-protectant-15-oz>

Hope this helps. And I forgot to add my nephew's other favorite: the Rodin Museum - just the outdoor sculpture garden portion. Prior to seeing the famous Burghers of Calais, it helps to know the story being portrayed. You can read about it here:

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-art-history/late-europe-and-americas/modernity-ap/a/rodin-the-burghers-of-calais> This topic has been automatically closed due to a period of inactivity.

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Hidden gems you need to see in Paris | A Parisienne Life

Paris is a beautiful city with endless possibilities of things to see and do. Obviously you will want to see the Eiffel Tower and a few museums, wander through the Luxembourg gardens and the Tuileries but Paris has numerous delights to be found off the beaten path. If you are looking for a few things to do in order to experience Paris like a local, read on! A colorful piece of paradise in Paris, Rue Cremieux Paris is found in the 12th Arrondissement and is a place of pastel coloured houses and shutters. It is a quirky little street in the center of the city. Wandering along this street gives you the impression that you have ventured outside of Paris, somewhere like a small provincial town or a French seaside resort. It's a short, picturesque stroll, and I highly recommend it if you're in the area. Situated in the Bois de Boulogne in Paris' chic 16th arrondissement, Parc de Bagatelle is not to be missed. Few Parisian parks are as romantic as this. Through the teal and gold gates at the entry you will find a park full of wonder; waterfalls, hidden caves, grottos, little bridges and ponds, a rose garden, Chinese pagoda as well as a circular maze that runs up a hill. This is a perfect place for families with children as there is endless exploration and a new surprise around every corner. Created as the result of a wager in 1775 between Marie-Antoinette and her brother in law, the park was built in a mere 64 days. The Chateau and the Trion itself are beautiful, although unfortunately they are currently under renovation, but will be stunning when complete. This hidden gem is a perfect place to bring a picnic and enjoy a quiet day away from the crowds while still enjoying the beauty of Paris. During the 1800s and 1900s, covered passageways started to appear all over Paris. Long, tall, and imposing, these new walkways were often ornately decorated and featured hotels, restaurants, and boutique shops. These were the precursor to modern day shopping malls and today the passages make for a great walking spot during a rainy day in Paris. Inside Passage de Panoramas you can expect to find wrought-iron signs, tiled floor, and a beautiful stained glass ceiling. It is full of bars, restaurants, postcard shops and quirky boutiques. You will always find something unique here! Situated in the Marais, this lesser known museum, dedicated to the history of Paris itself, needs to be on your list. Set in two 16th and 17th century mansions, it

recreates the living spaces of 15- 19th century Parisian houses. Also featured are artifacts dating back from Roman time; everyday items related to the construction of Paris and a very interesting collection of memorabilia of the French Revolution. You won't want to miss the amazing Boutique Fouquet, an Art Nouveau shop, rebuilt inside the museum itself. Make sure you stop at the new café in the gardens for a bite after your tour. The garden is quiet and serene and makes a perfect break! Since admission is FREE (yes! you heard me right) make sure to book your ticket in advance on the website. Paris is undoubtedly famous for its pastries, and I love a fresh Pain au chocolat, but I have discovered another delicious treat that you must try! It will blow your mind. This little chocolate shop has been hiding his version of the Kougin Amman, which he calls Kouginettes. I can only describe them as a small rolled buttery croissant with your choice of filling, and topped with a gooey caramelized sugary topping. It is so good that they are mini, as you will want to eat more than one. I had the raspberry and caramel ones. I am dreaming of my next trip back! Treat yourself the next time you are in Paris! You won't be disappointed. If you are looking for more hidden gems, check out my Paris Guide [here](#). Subscribe to get your monthly dose of Paris style and travel tips delivered straight to your inbox! [Blog](#) [All Articles](#)[Fashion](#)[Beauty](#)[Lifestyle](#)[Travel](#) [Store](#) [Paris Essential Guide](#)

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6 Hidden Gems Paris | Blogger tips for your next trip to Paris

Paris, mon amour! How about a short trip to the city of love? Croissants and Café au lait for breakfast are the perfect start to a weekend full of culinary delights and savoir vivre. Stroll through the hustle and bustle of Montmartre, enjoy some culture (whether Louvre, Opera or Eiffel Tower) and admire the chic boutiques on the Champs-Élysées. In our travel guide you will find great things to do in Paris. Those who have already been to Paris a couple of times might have figured out that the coffee is, for the most part, pretty bad. BUT there are some places where you can find a fantastically delicious coffee. La Caféothèque offers plenty of different coffee flavors and roast the beans behind the bar. How about a flat white with matcha cake on the side? The atmosphere is also very nice as the interior is super cozy, and you feel like you're in a living room. Where: Pont Marie (closest Metro) La Caféothèque / © Instagram: mishviews Je t'aime, Jeg elsker dig, Ich liebe dich, Volim te? At the 'I love you wall' in Paris, you can find these magical words written in 311 languages. The whole wall covers 40 m² and is a work of art by Frédéric Baron and Claire Kito. It is definitely a must see for all the couples out there. A kissing photo in Paris in front of the I love you wall. What a cliché and how lovely! #couplegoals I love you Wall / © Instagram: anne.groza_ An oasis situated in the heart of the city. Here you will find a library, shops, a bakery, nice cafes and the biggest youth hostel in Paris. It's the perfect place to just stroll around for a bit. The building was also created with sustainability in mind: the facade is made entirely from wood and solar panels on the roof provide the building with electricity. Just go there and explore the covered garden! Halle Pajol / © Instagram: maleba01 No city trip is complete without an amazing view point. The Le Perchoir rooftop terrace has refreshing drinks, tasty snacks and a stunning 360-degree view. You might have to face a little queue to go up to the bar, but it is definitely worth it. Watching the sunset over Sacre-Coeur with a glass of wine and good music vibes? Sounds amazing, right? Le Perchoir Rooftop / © Instagram: clarasintre If you spend a couple of days in Paris and you can't stand a buttery croissant or crusty baguette for breakfast anymore, a great alternative might be porridge. You can choose between different toppings like banana, apple, nuts, sesame seeds, salted caramel,

nut butter and many others. They also offer a lunch menu with savory choices. The Bol Porridge Bar is located in the 10th arrondissement on the Rue du Faubourg Poissonnière. Bol Porridge Bar / © Instagram: thefrenchmunchie Paris has 82 food markets scattered all across the city. One of the must see's is "Marché d'Aligre," also called "Marché Beauvau," which is divided into two parts. Outside, stalls are set up all over the square and along rue d'Aligre. Here you can buy fruit, veggies and lots of second hand items for affordable prices. In the covered market, you will find gourmet stores with more pricey delicacies. Marché d'Aligre is located between Place de la Bastille and the Place de la Nation. Marché d'Aligre / © Instagram: yuriqcl Vacation rentals in Paris

The best hidden gem in every Paris arrondissement - The Earful Tower

The Earful Tower Paris and France by Oliver Gee So you've seen all the main Paris sights, and maybe even a few of the offbeat ones. But let's go deeper. Here are 20 truly hidden gems, one from every arrondissement, most of which we discovered during our Paris Countdown season. Listen below or wherever you get your podcasts. Scroll down for a look at some of the show's talking points.

At the western edge of the Square du Vert-Galant pass through a willow tree's branches to enjoy a private, unrivalled and unspoiled view of the Seine. Best to visit in the early morning, forget about having it to yourself at lunchtime or in the evenings. Address: 15 Pl. du Pont Neuf, 75001

The Passage du Grand Cerf. Each of the covered passages in the second arrondissement has its own personality, and this one offers something for the curiosity collector. It's a stunning passage too. Look at the light shining through that high glass ceiling. Address: 145 Rue Saint-Denis, 75002

The Musée des Archives Nationales. We absolutely love this museum here at the Earful Tower (so much so, it's a part of our Marais walking tour ? books yours here). Be sure to venture upstairs, where you'll find Napoleon's handwritten will and a letter from Marie Antoinette. The rooms downstairs are sublime. Address: 60 Rue des Francs Bourgeois, 75003

The Jardin des Rosiers Joseph Migneret not only features a big chunk of the Philippe Auguste Wall, but it's a perfectly peaceful place to escape the city's hustle and bustle. A significant portion of this quiet corner has been handed over to the cultivation of flowers, herbs and fruits. Long time podcast listeners will, no doubt, remember the time a prolific Paris writer told me to meet him under the fig tree in this park. Address: 10 Rue des Rosiers, 75004

The Grand Mosque of Paris. A great spot for a cup of mint tea, which we had chilled. Apparently it's a top spot for a massage too, but remember: they only treat women. The old movie Don't Look Now? We're Being Shot At filmed a scene at the spa here, watch it here. Address: 2bis Pl. du Puits de l'Ermite, 75005

Officine Universelle Buly. This perfumerie has only been here a handful of years, but the brand dates back centuries. The interior is nothing short of magical and a feast for all the senses. Address: 6 Rue Bonaparte, 75006

Deyrolle.

If you've never visited Deyrolle taxidermy shop, then you have been missing out. Its delightful collection includes stuffed animals and pinned butterflies. Part museum and part shop, it might be recognisable to movie-lovers, it features in the movie *Midnight in Paris*. Address: 46 Rue du Bac, 75007 Église Saint-Philippe-du-Roule. Paris is packed full of churches. The competition for the most beautiful is fierce. As a result, this church is not even remotely famous. In fact, I bet most Parisians have never even heard of it. But, this unknown gem boasts an interior so impressive that it would be the main attraction of almost any other town in the world. Address: 9 Rue de Courcelles, 75008 Cité Malesherbes. If you time it right you can sneak into this impressive gated community, which features some of the most impressive buildings in the area. The painted facade halfway down the street (pictured below), is simply breathtaking. Note: This is indeed a private road. Don't tell anyone I sent you! Address: Cité Malesherbes, 75009 NOTE: This museum has now closed down. We will replace this gem with another as soon as we find it. The fan museum: Atelier Anne Hoguet Eventails. Here's something way off the beaten track. The fan museum is a delight tucked away in what was once a huge Paris apartment. It's a functioning atelier too, meaning you might be lucky enough to see people making hand-held fans as you explore the museum. Address: 2 Bd de Strasbourg, 75010 Passage de l'Homme. The 11th is full of old alleyways which were once teeming with artisans. Furniture makers, frame fixers, handymen and more. Nowadays, the passages are still there, but it's often residents or office workers inside the buildings. If you know where to look, you'll find stunning oases of calm and sometimes an artisan from today plying their trade. A good one to start at is Passage de l'Homme. We ended up visiting about ten of them with our photographer. Here are our full findings and many more pictures. If you're a Patreon member, here's your invite to watch my Walk Show video showcasing these passages. Musée des Arts Forains. This fairground museum is excellent. If you've seen *Midnight in Paris* you'll recognise one of the rooms, where Owen Wilson is dancing near the carousels. There is so much to take in here that you'd be justified in making multiple visits. It's amazing that it's not better known. Address: 53 Av. des Terroirs de France, 75012 If you head into the François-Mitterrand Library you can find the enormous globes of Coronelli, seemingly suspended in a dark room. Each is about four metres in diameter (over 13

feet). One shows the Earth as far as it had been explored in the 17th century, the other shows celestial star formations. The globes were a gift to Louis XIV. [Learn more about these globes here.](#)

Address: Quai François Mauriac, 75706 Église Notre-Dame-du-Travail. Have you ever seen this much metal inside a church? The steel framework was stripped from the 1855 Universal Exposition and re-purposed in the construction of this unique and intriguing church. Address: 59 Rue Vercingétorix, 75014 The Île aux Cygnes. Many people know and have visited the Île de la Cité and Île Saint Louis, but few have heard of the Île aux Cygnes. This tiny artificial island boasts amazing views of the Seine and the Eiffel Tower. Be sure to walk all the way to the western edge for a closer look at the biggest Statue of Liberty in Paris ? [here's](#) how to find the other seven. [Learn more about the Île aux Cygnes here.](#) Address: Île aux Cygnes, 75015 Mosaics on Rue Jasmin. Dotted around the 16th are some of the finest lobbies you'll find in France. These are private residences, so if you're tempted to seek them out, please do so with respect and, perhaps, discretion. [Here's](#) a sneak peek at one we found that got me so overwhelmed that I had to sit down. Here are all the pictures and the addresses from our mosaic explorations. These domes (or coupolas) are an architectural delight and they're dotted around this arrondissement. If you want to see inside one, here are some pics from when we visited someone who lives inside one of them. Top points to whoever finds the most domes in this neighbourhood! Terrass? Hotel bar. Very easily the best view from a bar/restaurant in the whole district. So many people don't seem to know about this place. And you're in luck, because this view is not just for hotel guests, this is for anyone looking for a classy cocktail in the 18th arrondissement. Get up there! Address: 12 Rue Joseph de Maistre, 75018 It's called the Péniche L'Eau Et Les Rêves (the barge of water and dreams) and it specializes in books about gardening and plants. There's also a very charming cafe/restaurant in the hull. [Click here to learn more about this magical place](#) Address: 9 Quai de l'Oise, 75019 Visit Le Vieux Belleville for a nostalgic Edith Piaf singalong, though remember this is only on Tuesday nights. Other nights are other themes. This is unique for an unforgettable evening out, [learn more about the experience here.](#) Address: 12 Rue des Envierges, 75020 That's all for now! Happy hunting! Below, again, is the podcast episode ? enjoy! And if you like what you hear, please

consider becoming a Patreon member on the link below. Become a Patreon member of The Earful Tower to support this show and get extras. Become a Patreon It's here and updated for 2024! After 14 seasons of making The Earful Tower podcast, featuring hundreds of expert guests, I've thoroughly updated my ultimate guide to Paris. There are 150 tips spread over 100 pages, arranged by arrondissement. You'll find our choices for best restaurants, cafes, hidden treats, parks and museums. All of them? Photos: Augusta Sagnelli. Additional reporting: Charlotte Pleasants. Oliver: Thanks for sharing these hidden gems! How lucky are you???? VERY. Love the exquisite details that you give us about these locations-they define Paris as the jewel of Europe!! LOVE IT!

jeanie This site uses Akismet to reduce spam. [Learn how your comment data is processed.](#) The Earful Tower is a channel about Paris and France, hosted by Oliver Gee. It has 200,000 followers and 100,000 podcast listeners. The New York Times calls the Earful Tower one of the world's most transportive podcasts. We share Paris via walking tours, videos, blog posts, and social media. We even make Paris-themed children's books. Welcome to The Earful Tower's official website, where we share it all. Why not start with the latest YouTube video below? Here's The Earful Tower's 2024 PDF guide to Paris. All the tips you need for a visit to the City of Light. Buy it now for \$19.99 and you'll get it automatically in an email. [Click here to purchase the PDF guide.](#) If you like what you see, but are itching for more, become a Patron and get all the bonus content, including our PDF guide to Paris. Check it all out on Patreon here. Here are all our books, Animal Games in Paris, Grace the Giraffe, Roger the Liger, Kylie the Crocodile, and Paris On Air. [Click here for your copy.](#) Connect your Patreon to see more [here](#) Enter your email here for a notification when we add a new blog post to this site. Email Address Follow Subscribe now to keep reading and get access to the full archive. Type your email? [Subscribe](#) [Continue reading](#)

Paris Hidden Gems - Beyond the touristy facade

Paris Hidden Gems : When people think of Paris, they imagine the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre, and the bustling Champs-Élysées. But there's so much more to the City of Lights than its typical tourist attractions. For those who crave a deeper, more intimate experience, PARIS BY EMY offers exclusive private tours that take you beyond the tourist hotspots. PARIS BY EMY is not your average tour company. We specialize in personalized private tours, tailored to your individual preferences and interests. Whether you're an art lover, a history buff, or someone seeking the authentic Parisian lifestyle, PARIS BY EMY crafts an itinerary just for you. Unlike already-made private tours, our private tours allow for exclusive experiences and insider knowledge that typical guides won't offer. When you think of a typical tourist private tour, you have an already-made tour that you book online, tight schedules, and generic stops. That's where private tours with PARIS BY EMY stand apart. Our private tours offer flexibility, are personalized, allowing you to stop for a leisurely lunch at a local spot or spend more time at a boutique you discovered along the way. Optional private driver. No rushing, no fixed schedule, just the Paris you want to explore. Paris is made up of countless unique neighborhoods, each with its own charm and history. Sure, Montmartre and the Eiffel Tower are famous, but what about the true Parisian streets, bistros, and the unusual Paris ? These areas offer a glimpse into the everyday life of Parisians, with charming boutiques, local bakeries, and picturesque districts. PARIS BY EMY ensures that your journey includes these often-overlooked areas, making you feel like a true local. Forget the overpriced, tourist-filled restaurants near major landmarks. With PARIS BY EMY, you'll be introduced to the authentic Parisian food scene. Picture yourself strolling through a local market, sampling fresh baguettes, artisan cheeses, and delicious pastries. Whether you're visiting a hidden bistro or a cozy cafe, the food on your tour is guaranteed to be authentic and flavorful, just like the locals enjoy. Paris may be famous for its museums, but its vibrant art scene is much broader than the Louvre. PARIS BY EMY takes you to lesser-known museums or art galleries, studios, and cultural spaces. Here, you'll discover modern artists, explore Paris' underground art scene, and even meet local creators. This

side of Paris is often missed by standard tourists but is full of inspiration and creativity. Paris is rich with history, and some of its most fascinating stories are hidden in plain sight. Instead of sticking to the major monuments, why not explore the forgotten historical sites of Paris? With PARIS BY EMY, you can enjoy walking tours that take you through places like old passageways, historic homes, and even abandoned structures that carry untold stories. Paris is known for its beauty, and what better way to enjoy it than through its outdoor spaces? From serene parks and gardens to quieter spots along the Seine, PARIS BY EMY offers peaceful outdoor experiences that let you take in the city's charm away from the hustle and bustle. Whether you want to relax in the Luxembourg Gardens or discover a hidden corner of Paris' green spaces, they have you covered. Want to connect with real Parisians? PARIS BY EMY provides opportunities to engage with locals, whether it's through exclusive events, private dinners, or cultural activities. These are not the commercialized 'meet-the-locals' experiences; instead, you get to join genuine Parisian gatherings and feel like part of the community. France is known for its charming villages and stunning landscapes, many of which lie just outside its capital, Paris. Venturing beyond the city will take you to a world of medieval towns, serene countryside, and natural beauty. Explore Normandy, the region of Champagne. Known as the place where Vincent van Gogh spent his last days, Auvers-sur-Oise is a charming village with a strong connection to art. Not sure where to start? PARIS BY EMY helps you with recommendations to customize your private tours. Indeed, the tours will fit your travel style and goals. Whether you want a food tour, a historical walk, or a deep dive into Parisian culture, we guide you through the process of crafting the perfect itinerary. Your tour is shaped around what excites you most. Choosing a private tour with PARIS BY EMY means you're in control. Flexibility, exclusivity, and personalization are key benefits that typical tours just don't offer. From picking your preferred times to deciding how much time to spend at each location, a private tour guide ensures that your Paris experience is uniquely yours. Imagine starting your day at a local cafe, sipping coffee and eating croissants. Then, you explore a hidden art museum, and enjoy lunch at a tucked-away bistro. In the afternoon, you wander through a quiet historical neighborhood and wrap up the day with a private wine tasting. This is what a day on a PARIS BY EMY tour could look like, where every

moment is curated to your preferences. Sure, visiting iconic landmarks like Notre-Dame or the Arc de Triomphe is great, but there's something magical about exploring the real Paris. When you venture off the beaten path, you'll see how Parisians truly live. Picture yourself sipping coffee at a quiet cafe in a lesser-known arrondissement, or strolling through a quaint neighborhood where the locals outnumber the tourists. With PARIS BY EMY, you can dive into the hidden parts of the city that most visitors never see. Paris has so much more to offer than what's on the surface. By choosing PARIS BY EMY, you open yourself up to discovering the city's hidden gems. Whether it's through exclusive experiences, authentic food, or personal interactions with locals, their Paris private tours provide an in-depth and unique look at Paris that goes beyond the touristy facade. So, step outside the box, and let PARIS BY EMY show you a side of Paris you'll never forget. Email contact@parisbyemy.com Tel/WhatsApp +33767389625 Please, give me detailed information in order to send you a first adequate quotation. Once the final quote has been validated, the booking is made by credit card or bank transfer. Thank you for your request. By sending your email and in accordance with Article 5 of the GDPR, you expressly consent to the use of your personal data for the purpose of being contacted for a Paris trip project. For more information, see the privacy policy.

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Hidden Gems In Paris | 43 Off the Beaten Path Secrets - Dreamer at Heart |

Dreamer at Heart | Last Updated: October 3, 2024 By Alison Browne 32 Comments Welcome to the City of Lights, where the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame Cathedral, and Louvre Museum often steal the spotlight. But beyond these iconic landmarks lies a treasure trove of hidden gems in Paris waiting to be discovered. From secret gardens and ancient monuments tucked away in cobblestone alleyways to lesser-known museums showcasing exquisite art collections, Paris has a wealth of surprises for those willing to venture off the beaten path. In this article, we'll find some of Paris' best-kept secrets, unveiling a side of the city that even locals may not know about. So pack your curiosity and let's embark on an enchanting journey through the captivating hidden gems in Paris. Did you know there are vineyards in various places in Paris? The most well-known (and not really a secret of Paris) is the Clos de Montmartre (Montmartre vineyard) which has been in operation since the 12th century when nuns and monks were in charge of making wine. Every year, the Montmartre vineyard produces a small amount of wine that is auctioned off for charity. The yearly wine festival in early October is very popular and looks like great fun! Add it to your list. [Read More](#) | [Discover 20 amazing things to do in Montmartre](#) Location: rue des Saules; 18th arrondissement Metro: Abbesses, Anvers, Lamarck-Caulaincourt But what about this vineyard? A true hidden gem in Paris. Head on over to Butte Bergeyre and what you will discover is a quiet little oasis in Paris. Do you know that village feel? Secret Paris is right here. Growing on a steep hillside is a terraced vineyard with lovely views over the city. You have to be on a mission to find this hidden gem in Paris as it is easily missed! Here are 5 Great Reasons to Visit Butte Bergeyre. Location: 76 rue Georges Lardennois; 19th arrondissement Metro: Colonel Fabien Orient yourself in Paris with my detailed guide to the arrondissements of Paris. This boutique hotel is built on the site of a 17th-century convent, and this small luxury hotel is right by Place des Vosges. [Read my article on 11 Best Boutique Hotels in the Marais](#). Fancy staying in an apartment in le Marais? This stylish apartment sleeps up to 6 people right in the heart of le Marais. This one-bedroom apartment is in the perfect

location for exploring le Marais. Check out these [13 Affordable Hotels in Paris](#) and [21 Hotels with Eiffel Tower views](#). In the 19th century, Baron Haussmann redesigned Paris and still today the architectural style is recognizable worldwide. Stone buildings with wrought iron railings line the boulevards in Paris. Quintessential Paris. Tucked away are also many unique streets and rue Crémieux is one of those hidden gems in Paris. Located near the Gare de Lyon, rue Crémieux has become popular with Instagrammers so go early and enjoy this colourful, cobblestone street in Paris. Residents are tired of all the action on their street and have requested gates at both ends. Visit this not-so-hidden Paris spot soon. [Read More](#) | [The 12th Arrondissement of Paris: 13 Great Things To Do](#) Location: between rue de Lyon and rue de Bercy; 12th arrondissement Metro: Gare de Lyon, Quai de la Rapée [Read More](#) | [25 Key Travel Tips For Paris](#). Here are the best Paris experiences to have. Only have a short time in Paris? Try this [One Day in Paris Itinerary](#). If you want to find the charms of secret Paris, find them in my eBook, [Paris for the Curious Stroller](#). Stroll along the gorgeous mosaic floors of Galerie Vivienne, one of my favourite hidden spots in Paris, and transport yourself back to 1823 when this covered passageway was filled with Parisians socializing and meeting up at cafés. Today it is possible to do the same! With natural light streaming along the hallway of Galerie Vivienne, the boutiques, stores and cafés are worth exploring or, at the very least, engaging in a window-shopping expedition. This hidden gem of Paris is one of the remaining and restored covered passageways that were common in Paris in the 1800s. Visit all of the remaining ?passages couverts? in Paris, but be sure to start with the elegant Galerie Vivienne. Location: 4 rue des Petits-Champs; 2nd arrondissement Metro: Bourse, Pyramides [Hidden Gems in Paris](#) Tip: If you love the covered passageways in Paris, the Passage des Panoramas is another favourite secret spot in Paris. Planning your trip to Paris? Book timed entry tickets in advance: This one-hour Seine cruise is unforgettable but so is the evening Seine cruise. It's a hard choice! This skip-the-line admission to the Arc de Triomphe Rooftop or the timed entry to the Louvre and reserved access to the Musée d'Orsay can maximize your time. Get to the top of the Eiffel Tower with direct access to the summit by elevator. A day trip to Versailles with access to the Palace and Gardens with an audio guide is always a good idea. Parc Monceau is secret Paris at its best! Find the Roman

columns facing the pond and for a moment you might wonder where you are. It's quiet and slightly overgrown in Parc Monceau, a perfect place for a respite from sightseeing. Walking paths wind carelessly under blooming trees and amidst statues. Parc Monceau, one of Paris's hidden gems and smallest parks, is charming, chill and a great place to try and blend in like a local. Go at lunchtime, find a bench and picnic like the Parisians. Location: 35 Boulevard de Courcelles; 8th arrondissement Metro: Monceau [Read More](#) | Discover 19 more gems in the French countryside. 19 of Les Plus Beaux Villages. This is one of the best-kept secrets in Paris. Les Arènes de Lutèce (Arenas of Lutetia) is the real deal. A real Roman arena dating from the first century AD hidden away in the Latin Quarter of Paris. Roman gladiators fought here. Imagine that. Right in Paris. And why the name Lutèce? Aeons ago, the capital of France was called Lutece or Lutetia and was occupied by the Romans. Ahh, Paris! Never a dull moment. Come and sit in an ancient Roman arena where 15000 spectators used to cheer. Hidden gems in Paris? Definitely! [Read More](#) | 15 Highlights of the Latin Quarter and an Insider's Guide to the Latin Quarter Location: 47 rue Monge (5th arrondissement) When you enter from rue Monge, look for the gladiator watching over the doorway. Metro: Cardinal Lemoine It's hard to believe that windmills exist in a city like Paris. Searching for these hidden gems in Paris is a thrill. The Moulin Rouge is the most famous and obvious of the Parisian windmills. Up the hill though, are two more remaining wooden windmills from another century. Montmartre Hill used to be a rural area dotted with windmills that ground flour and pressed grapes. Impressionist painters such as Utrillo, Renoir and Van Gogh immortalized the existence of Parisian windmills in a bucolic setting. Curious that wooden windmills still exist in Paris? I am obsessed with hidden Paris and went exploring in bohemian Montmartre. One of the windmills is on private property and only visible in the winter or early spring. The other stands proudly above a restaurant, Le Moulin de la Galette at 83 rue Lepic. Did you see Renoir's painting at the Musée d'Orsay entitled Le Bal de la Moulin de la Galette? It's a throwback- you're standing right where Renoir stood! Location: 83 rue Lepic; 18th arrondissement Metro: Maison Blanche; Abbesses From the top of the Centre Pompidou, the views of Paris include the Eiffel Tower, Sacre-Coeur and the classic rooftops of the city. Gazing out across the city feels like one of the best kept secrets of

Paris. Ride the funky exterior escalators and head up to the top-floor balcony for ?3. If you are an admirer of modern art enjoy the National Museum of Modern Art?s renowned permanent collection and then head to the top floor for the magnificent views of Paris. Get your skip-the-line ticket [here](#).
[Read More](#) | Love museums? Here?s a guide to 15 museums in Paris. Where will you go first?

Location: Place Georges Pompidou; 4th arrondissement Metro: Rambuteau Hidden gems in Paris are often tucked away on tiny streets. Rue Férou holds one of these secrets of Paris. Who doesn?t like a poem written on a wall in elegant calligraphy? On rue Férou between L?Église Saint-Sulpice and the Jardin du Luxembourg, Arthur Rimbaud?s poem *Le Bateau Ivre* (The Drunken Boat) is inscribed for all to see. Rimbaud, a French poet, wrote this poem about a sea voyage in 1871 at the age of 16. He first recited *Le Bateau Ivre* in a café close to rue Férou. Location: rue Férou; 6th arrondissement Metro: Saint-Sulpice [Read More](#) | Don?t miss all these fabulous things to do in Saint Germain des Prés (6th arrondissement) Atelier des Lumières opened in Paris in April 2018. Its first multimedia sound and light exhibition featured Gustav Klimt?s artwork. The immersive experience just blew my mind! Atelier des Lumières? second exhibition in Paris opened in Feb 2019 with a show featuring Vincent Van Gogh?s work. Imagine walking through Van Gogh?s paintings that are deconstructed and recreated on 10-metre-high walls. Atelier des Lumières continues to have dynamic exhibitions: Until January 7, 2024: *Ocean Odyssey* February 9, 2024, to January 5, 2025: *The Egypt of the Pharaohs and The Orientalists* (Ingres, Delacroix, Gérôme?) Hidden gems in Paris? Atelier des Lumières might have moved from a hidden gem of Paris to a popular spot! Location: 38 rue Saint-Maur; 11th arrondissement Metro: Voltaire, Saint-Ambroise, Père Lachaise, rue Saint-Maur [Read More](#) | Atelier des Lumières showcased Klimt?s work in 2018. Watch my video [here](#). Read about 13 great things to do in the 11th arrondissement. Hector Guimard, a French architect and designer, is well known for his Art Nouveau entrances to the Paris metro. Those in themselves are some of the best hidden gems of Paris. But Guimard also designed many houses in Paris in the Art Nouveau style, a far cry from the look-alike Haussmann buildings that line Paris?s boulevards. Castel Béranger was the first solo project for Hector Guimard for which he became famous. In 1898, Castel Béranger won Paris?s first ?façade competition.? Keep an eagle eye out for

the ornate details that Guimard used on the doorways, railings and downspouts. Standing in front of Castel Béranger, you can't help but feel that you have discovered secret Paris. [Read More | Discover hidden treasures of Art Nouveau Paris in the residential 16th arrondissement with Castel Béranger as its star!](#) Location: 14 rue de la Fontaine; 16th arrondissement Metro: Ranelagh, Mirabeau, Église d'Auteuil

Bike Tours of Secret Paris: One of my favourite ways to explore Paris is by bicycle. Here are three guided bike tours to discover Paris. This electric bike tour shows you hidden gems, this bike tour covers Paris highlights and secrets and this bike tour is of charming nooks and crannies. Which will you choose?

Walking Tours: Why not try a walking tour of the iconic neighbourhoods of Paris? Pick your area and get to know the hidden gems and stories in the quartier!

Père Lachaise is the largest cemetery in Paris and therefore not technically a hidden gem of Paris. But, what unique gravestones uncovering the secrets of Paris can you discover among the average citizen and the greats? Search for Chopin. Usually, a sonata playing will draw you to his gravesite. And of course, Jim Morrison's tombstone is no secret. The final resting place of Oscar Wilde, the famous Irish writer, draws women to place a red lipstick kiss on the effigy (not really allowed). But what about Victor Noir? This reporter was shot to death by a member of the emperor's family over a century ago. For about 50 years now myth has it that if women rub his bulging crotch and kiss his lips, fertility and a wonderful sex life will follow. Did you think hidden gems in Paris would be this exciting? Looks like it is a story that has captured a wide audience? non?! You could also pop a flower in his upturned top hat! [Read More | How To Visit Père Lachaise Cemetery and whose tombs to look for!](#) Location: Père Lachaise Cemetery; 20th arrondissement Metro: Gambetta, Père Lachaise

Guided Tour of Père Lachaise: If you don't have time to discover the iconic gravesites of Père Lachaise yourself, book a guided tour. That is how I first familiarized myself with one of the most visited gravesites in the world.

Hidden Gems in Paris Tip: If you enter close to the Gambetta station you will be walking downhill towards the main entrance. No maps are available at this entrance. I love it when the best-kept secrets of Paris are an oasis to relax. This gorgeous hidden Paris gem is minutes away from the hustle and bustle of Canal St Martin. It is the perfect place for a summer picnic or a quiet refuge to rejuvenate away from the crowds. Talk about

one of the hidden gems in Paris. Getting a weird ?déjà vu? feeling? This square was also commissioned by Henri IV and has the same architectural style as Place des Vosges in Le Marais. If you are in the Canal Saint Martin area, find out all the things to do. And? where to grab a bite at a nearby restaurant or pick up picnic supplies. Location: 1 Avenue Claude Vellefaux; 10th arrondissement Metro: Goncourt or Colonel Fabien or walk from the Quai de Jemmapes Is there anything more romantic than dancing the tango by the Seine? Well, there might be, but this ranks right up there with the hidden gems in Paris. Head on over to the Jardin Tino-Rossi. This secret Paris evening is a winner. Watch partners move across the dance floor, or even bravely partake in this delightful Paris experience. [Read More | Tango by the Seine ? Does life in Paris get any better than this?](#) Location: Garden Tino-Rossi at 2 Quai Saint-Bernard; 5th arrondissement Metro: Sully-Morland or Gare-d'Austerlitz

Hidden gems in Paris? Look no further than Avenue Junot. Find the gate at #23 and press the buzzer to enter this paradise. You will feel immediately that you are entering secret Paris. Wander past the massive rock and find the second gate on the left. Buzz again? Et voilà, the Hôtel Particulier. Come for tea, dinner, a cocktail or splurge and stay in one of their rooms. This is really a taste of unique places in Paris. And did I mention the view of the Eiffel Tower from the passageway? It?s one of the best hidden places in Paris. Location: 23 Avenue Junot; 18th arrondissement Metro: Blanche or Lamarck-Caulaincourt

Hidden gems of Paris sometimes look like an entire neighbourhood! La Butte aux Cailles is truly a hidden place to visit in Paris. Walk the streets in La Butte aux Cailles and feel like you are wandering in a village. Explore the area and find Rue Daviel. Here you?ll find houses built in the style of eastern France in the Alsace region. Facing these homes is Villa Daviel, a quiet street that will transport you momentarily to the countryside. A true best-kept secret in Paris. [Read More | Discover this hidden gem in Paris-](#)

the neighbourhood la Butte aux Cailles. Location: Rue Daviel; 13th arrondissement Metro: Corvisart or Place d'Italie

Hidden gems in Paris that are clues to her long history fascinate me. Tucked away in the 4th arrondissement in le Marais is the largest surviving section of the King Philippe Auguste Wall from 1190. Paris was at one time fortified and surrounded by a stone wall with 77 semi-cylindrical towers. It is great fun spotting traces of the ancient wall in Paris. Location: Rue des

Jardins Saint-Paul; 4th arrondissement Metro: Saint Paul [Read More](#) | Discover 21 treasures of Le Marais in Paris and this interview has a local from Le Marais share her insider tips. Stroll along Paris's ancient and abandoned railway line, La Coulée Verte, that inspired New York's Highline. You'll pass interesting architecture, rose gardens, parks perfect for a picnic, and street art. Walk all the way from the 12th arrondissement of Paris to the Bois de Vincennes for a wonderful adventure. It's definitely one of the non-touristy things to do in Paris. La Coulée Verte, also known as La Promenade Plantée, is a true hidden gem of Paris. Location: la Coulée Verte runs above Avenue Daumesnil.; 12th arrondissement Metro: Reuilly-Diderot; Montgallet [Read More](#) | Wonder what Paris is like in the different seasons? Here is Paris in the Spring, Paris in the Summer, and Paris in the Fall... Head on over to the Bois de Boulogne and take a stroll through the Parc de Bagatelle. This gorgeous green space is one of the best hidden places to visit in Paris. Roses galore and peacocks fanning their tail feathers are the perfect taste of the country in Paris. Read all about how the Parc de Bagatelle came to be because of a bet between Marie Antoinette and her brother-in-law. Location: Bois de Boulogne Metro: Pont de Neuilly and then Bus # 43 or #93 Église Notre-Dame du Travail in the 14th arrondissement is truly one of the best hidden places to visit in Paris. Many Parisians I've met haven't been here. It truly is one of a kind! At least in the interior. I wandered in and immediately thought of the Eiffel Tower. Finished in 1902, the nave of Église Notre-Dame du Travail is built of steel and iron inviting the residents, at the time, in this working-class neighbourhood to join in worship together. Be sure to check out this hidden gem in Paris. [Read More](#) | Tons of fabulous things to do in and around Montparnasse. Location: 59 rue Vercingétorix, 14th arrondissement Métro: Pernety The Luxembourg Gardens are well known in Paris. Sitting by the Medici Fountain, one of the prettiest in Paris, or sailing a boat across the Grand Bassin are iconic experiences in this famous Jardin in Paris. But, did you know that there are 20 hidden gems in Paris watching over you? Find the 20 graceful, marble statues of Saints and Queens, all women positioned near the Grand Bassin. The statues were commissioned by King Louis-Philippe who reigned from 1830 ? 1848. My favourite of the lovely statues is Saint-Genevieve (422-512), the Patron Saint of Paris. Location: 6th arrondissement Métro: Odéon One of the hidden gems in Paris

that keeps one of the most enduring love stories of all time alive is on Ile de la Cité. Héloïse and Abélard met at 11 Quai aux Fleurs on Ile de la Cité in 1118. Pierre Abélard, a brilliant philosopher and theologian, was teaching in Paris at Nôtre-Dame and was invited to teach Héloïse who was a gifted student. They fell in love, got pregnant and the star-crossed lovers were secretly married. Héloïse was sent to a convent for safety and Abélard returned to Paris. Héloïse's outraged uncle, Canon Fulbert, got his revenge and sent a troupe of men in the dark of night to castrate Abélard. What a story. Is it myth or truth? Abélard became a monk and the two wrote each other letters but never spoke in person again. Location: Close to Ile Saint-Louis on Ile de la Cité. Métro: Hotel de Ville

The first time I discovered the Bassin de l'Arsenal I knew I had stumbled upon a Paris hidden gem. Stand at the lock where Canal Saint-Martin empties into the Seine River, peruse the boats in the marina, explore the gardens, and best of all sit in the bustling Le Grand Bleu with its unobstructed views over the water. Stop by the Port de l'Arsenal for an apéro after exploring the 12th arrondissement. Métro: Bastille

Bouillons in Paris are a fabulous way to eat a traditional French meal at affordable prices. Hidden gems in Paris? Definitely! Bouillon Julien, a historic monument, opened its doors in 1906, having been constructed by the French architect Edouard Fournier. Top Art Nouveau artisans of the day were used to design the sumptuous and elegant interior. I couldn't take my eyes off the sea-green walls, the mirrors, the lights, and the glassworks of four nymphs representing the seasons nor the peacock panels which symbolize eternity and paradise. Oh.. and the food? Dining at this Bouillon Paris restaurant is simply a must. [Read More](#) | [Read all about bouillons restaurants in Paris](#)

There are plenty of tiny, surprising, and slightly hidden streets in Paris. In the 11th arrondissement of Paris, Cour Damoye is a quiet cobbled lane lined with ateliers. You'll feel like you have stumbled across one of the best kept secrets in Paris as you wander down Cour Damoye. It's the perfect place for a photoshoot! Head to the 19th arrondissement in Paris and find the Parc des Buttes Chaumont. Hidden gems in Paris? This park has many, but my favourite is the lovely Temple de la Sibylle. Perched on a rocky cliff of 50 metres (164 feet), the Temple de la Sibylle has a fantastic view of Sacre Coeur in the distance. Inspired by the Temple of Vesta in Tivoli, Italy, the temple in Parc des Buttes-Chaumont looks out over the park's artificial lake. One of the

delights of wandering in Parc des Buttes Chaumont is finding the best views to photograph the Temple de la Sibylle. [Read More](#) | All the best things to do in Parc des Buttes Chaumont. Opening in 2022, La Galerie Dior situated right by the Christian Dior flagship store recounts the personal and creative history of Christian Dior and his six successive designers. And why is this one of the best museums in Paris? If you like fashion, history, and magical ultra-modern displays, this museum is for you. Here is what I found at the Galerie Dior. This Paris museum's website: [Galerie Dior](#)

Location: 11 Rue François 1er,. Paris, 8th arrondissement Métro: Franklin D. Roosevelt, Alma Marceau Although Le Marché aux Puces de Saint-Ouen is legendary, it is still one of the best hidden gems in Paris. Why? Because it is just full of hidden gems! This Paris flea market is the perfect place to find a treasure to bring home. It is a massive market and requires time to stroll, explore, and ponder which treasures will fit in your suitcase. Just walking past the stalls and observing the vendors is in itself an unforgettable Paris experience. The enchanting Île aux Cygnes in Paris, a stone's throw from the Eiffel Tower, boasts its very own version of the iconic Statue of Liberty. Standing tall and proud against the backdrop of the Seine River, this masterpiece encapsulates both historical significance and an enduring symbol of freedom. The statue's history dates back to 1889 when it was gifted to France by American residents living in Paris. Modelled after its big sister in New York City, sculptor Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi carefully crafted this scaled-down replica as a gesture of friendship between France and the United States. Location: Ile aux Cygnes Métro: Bir-Hakeim, RER C It's cosy. It's iconic. It's one of the hidden gems in Paris. And even if you have never read a book by Ernest Hemingway, you can't help but get caught up in the fabulous atmosphere in this bar tucked away in The Ritz Hotel. One of Paris's best secrets comes with legendary cocktails! [Read more about the Hemingway Bar.](#) One of the great landmarks in the City of Light, the Arc de Triomphe is not one of the hidden gems of Paris. But did you know about these hidden gems of Paris that you can find at the Arc de Triomphe? First of all head to the very top of the Arc de Triomphe for one of the best places to see sweeping views over Paris, including the Eiffel Tower. Secondly, the flame that burns brightly by the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier has been reignited every day for 100 years. Even when Paris was occupied during WW II, the flame was lit.

Thirdly, every single day at 6:30 there is a ceremony to reignite this significant flame. It is a moving event to witness soldiers assemble and partake in the solemn ceremony. Métro: Charles de Gaulle-Étoile It's so much fun exploring the hidden streets of Paris. Charming market streets abound in Paris. Why not take a stroll down lively rue Mouffetard, one of the oldest market streets of Paris, hailing from Roman times? Given its lifespan, rue Mouffetard has a long and intriguing history but today it is lined with grocers, butchers, cheese shops, cafés and crêperies. Take note of the lovely façade, designed by Italian painter Eldi Gueri, across from église Saint-Médard. It's the perfect place to pick up picnic supplies and head down to the Seine River and enjoy a picnic facing Ile Saint-Louis. One of the hidden gems in Paris on Ile de la Cité, right at rue des Chantres and Quai des Fleurs, is the sign that displays the height to which the Seine River rose during the devastating flood of January 1910. Stop momentarily before the small metal plaque here. The scale is striking, with water reaching heights that seem almost unfathomable. Look around and imagine what would have been completely submerged. Location: Quai des Fleurs and rue des Chantres Spring in Paris is one of the most beautiful times of the year. When Paris is bursting with cherry blossoms, it is sublime and romantic, and the scent stops you short. The cherry blossom season in Paris is also a photographer's dream. Here are all the secret spots in Paris to find the best blossoms. Stunning. The perfect place to wander. Hidden gems Paris? A resounding yes. The Jardin des Plantes was founded in 1626 as a medicinal herb garden for Louis XIII. It's a huge botanical garden (24 hectares) and houses the Natural History Museum, a zoo, and incredible greenhouses (Les Grandes Serres) which have been in use since 1714. The Jardins des Plantes also has a Christmas light display during the Christmas Season with a biological bent! I love the Cluny Museum for it is situated on ancient Roman baths, reminding citizens of the 21st century that Paris was inhabited by the Romans for over 500 years. It's a pause for reflection. Although it doesn't seem like a museum would be one of the secret places in Paris, many people don't know about the tapestries. The series of six tapestries from 1500 entitled "The Lady and the Unicorn" is beyond breathtaking. [Read More](#) | 7 reasons to visit the Cluny Museum Museum website: The Cluny Museum Location: 29 rue Du Sommerard, the Latin Quarter Métro: Odéon, Maubert-Mutualité, Saint-Michel Notre-Dame One

of the very best ways to discover secret places in Paris is to take a walking tour led by an expert. I love to learn about off the beaten path Paris, historical anecdotes, and Paris secret spots! Here are 7 terrific walking tours to discover hidden gems in Paris. Calling all Harry Potter fans who also love discovering hidden gems in Paris! Perhaps you already know that J.K. Rowling did not invent the character Nicolas Flamel. Nicolas Flamel, born in 1330, was indeed a real person, an alchemist and a manuscript seller, experimenting with that elusive and magical elixir to obtain eternal life and change lead into gold. He and his wife Dame Pernelle opened this inn in le Marais, Paris to welcome the homeless. It is the oldest inn (auberge) in Paris and a historic monument. The facade is detailed and fun to examine. If you want the full experience, stay for a meal at the Auberge Nicolas Flamel. Location: 51 rue de Montmorency, 75003 Paris Métro: Rambuteau Opéra Garnier or Palais Garnier, we know of. And it is magnificent. But, the Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord, which opened in 1876, is one of the best hidden gems in Paris. Closed in 1952, due to its deteriorated state, it was slated for demolition. Luckily it was purchased and renovated (to some degree) and reopened in 1974. In 1993, the Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord was classified as a historic monument. To watch an opera in a theatre whose 3-tiered balconies soar to a stunning ceiling, paired with a rustic renovation is a truly unique experience in Paris. Location: 37 bis Boulevard de la Chapelle Métro: La Chapelle I can't decide if this is one of the best hidden gems in Paris or if everyone knows about it! Many people are familiar with the black and white columns, Les Deux Plateaux/ Les Colonnes du Buren, by artist Daniel Buren. This fun installation is perfect for photos and for watching how shadows fall. Wander further afield to find the garden of the Palais Royal, a tranquil spot right in the heart of Paris. Pull up a green chair by the fountain and ponder life, observe Parisians, chuckle at all the dogs, or simply read a book! Métro: Palais Royal- Musée du Louvre You may already know that tucked in the corner of one of the prettiest squares in Paris, Place de Fürstenberg, is the Musée Eugène Delacroix. Eugène Delacroix, one of France's most famous artists and the leader of France's Romantic movement, lived here during the last years of his life. Many of his works of art are found in his atelier there. But hidden gems in Paris abound when it comes to Delacroix! Find Delacroix masterpieces in these secret spots in Paris: You really can't write about secret spots in Paris

without mentioning the Eiffel Tower. Everyone knows the Eiffel Tower but where are the best hidden places to get a fine glimpse of the Iron Lady? One of the best hidden spots in Paris to see the Eiffel Tower is Avenue de Camoens. Walk down this elegant, quiet street not far from Trocadéro and soak up the magnificent views of the Eiffel Tower. The balustrade and stairs make it the perfect place for photographs. Métro: Trocadéro

Fabulous day trips from Paris abound but one that may not be on your radar is the Château de Fontainebleau, a majestic masterpiece nestled in the heart of France. With its rich history spanning over eight centuries, this extraordinary castle stands as a testament to the grandeur and elegance of French architecture. From housing French royalty to witnessing momentous events that shaped Europe's destiny, Fontainebleau holds within its walls countless stories waiting to be unravelled. Read how to plan your day trip to the Château de Fontainebleau.

Tucked away in the Latin Quarter, in central Paris, this charming little park is home to Paris's oldest tree. The Black Locust was planted here in 1602 by Jean Robin, a Royal gardener and still stands today. Square René Viviani blooms with roses in the spring and is the site of a Christmas Market in Paris. It's a great spot to start exploring the Latin Quarter which gets its name from the Latin language spoken here by students and professors up until the French Revolution. The best way to discover hidden gems in Paris is to flâner. Slow down. Stroll. Wander. Turn in the opposite direction from the crowd. Observe. Read the plaques. Smell the roses. You'll be sure to discover your own hidden gems in Paris. Paris is a city brimming with hidden gems waiting to be discovered by intrepid travellers. From charming neighbourhoods and secret gardens to lesser-known museums and off-the-beaten-path cafés, there is always something new and exciting to uncover in the City of Light. So next time you find yourself strolling along its picturesque streets or gazing at its iconic landmarks, take a moment to venture beyond the tourist hotspots and explore the enchanting hidden corners that make Paris truly magical. I hope you enjoy these 43 hidden gems in Paris as much as I do! Until next time, All my Paris resources are right here on this page. Practical Paris: How to ride the Paris Metro like a pro? Read the low down right here. After discovering these 43 hidden gems in Paris, it's time to explore Paris's villages Montmartre feels just like a small village. This post on Montmartre leads you to the most popular sites as well as some lesser-known

places on the hill. Le Marais is one of the oldest areas of Paris. Once marshland, it is hopping with boutiques, cafés, gorgeous old mansions and museums. Read my full guide to le Marais and also insider Marais tips from a local. Ile Saint-Louis is still one of my favourite spots in Paris. On Pont Saint-Louis, you'll almost always find some street music. And Montparnasse. Most people think of the tall black tower looming over the Paris skyline or the train station. This guide on Montparnasse uncovers some marvellous things to discover in the 14th arrondissement. If you are looking for food suggestions, read about where to find the best croissants in Paris. And, if you have a sweet tooth like me, check out these best pâtisseries to try. There are also plenty of café suggestions for the Marais area in this post: Tips from a Local. And if you are exploring the area around Canal Saint-Martin, here are the best places to stop for a bite or to find the fixings for a picnic. Filed Under: Europe Tagged With: Paris, Things To Do Creator and Founder of Dreamer at Heart

Alison, a Francophile from a young age, is following a long-held dream and has been living in Paris since 2020.

Her passion for uncovering Paris and discovering the regions of France has resulted in an expertise about France that she loves to share in her articles. Also a solo traveller, Alison shares her experiences of solo travel to many corners of the world. Alison helps over 65000 readers a month plan their trips. Robin Browne says April 4, 2019 at 9:59 am oooh so many wonderful hidden gems! Definitely want to check out the wooden windmill, and the Parc Monceau- But it all looks amazing! Alison Browne says April 4, 2019 at 11:18 am Oh Yes!!! Let's do BOTH!! Sinjana says April 6, 2019 at 10:12 pm These are really offbeat and quirky destinations in Paris which I never found on the official guides. Alison Browne says April 7, 2019 at 2:32 pm So glad you think so! Hope you can get out and discover a few of them! Kristina says April 7, 2019 at 10:35 am I love Paris so much. Every time I go I see new things and yet, here are more for me to check out. Great post! Alison Browne says April 7, 2019 at 2:34 pm Ohhhh ? so happy there are a few new ones on there for you to discover! Enjoy! Paris is always a delight ? non?! Paula Morgan says April 7, 2019 at 3:42 pm A hidden gems article with things that really are hidden gems. I have spent weeks in Paris and have

not seen most of these. Thanks, I have a few new ones to add to my list esp Parc Monceau and that Roman arena ? Alison Browne says April 8, 2019 at 7:40 am I am so glad that even to someone who has spent a lot of time in Paris there are many places on this list that you haven't seen. It's exactly what I love about Paris ? it's full of surprises and tucked away gems! Enjoy! Let me know which ones you love the most! whereivebeentravel says April 7, 2019 at 3:44 pm What an incredible list! I can't wait to go back to Paris and visit some of these. Thank you! Alison Browne says April 8, 2019 at 7:38 am You are so welcome. Let me know which ones you love the most! tayaramuse says April 7, 2019 at 8:00 pm Paris is one of the cities where you can never really see everything, this is such a wonderful post truly highlighting hidden gems in the city. Thank you so much for putting this together, saving for later! Alison Browne says April 8, 2019 at 7:37 am OH so glad you are saving this! Yes, Paris is full of gems and surprises. Even the locals will say they haven't seen it all! Sabrina says April 7, 2019 at 9:28 pm I have a friend going to Paris later this month, I will share this with her Alison Browne says April 8, 2019 at 7:36 am That's great! I hope she can enjoy a few of the hidden gems! An Indian Traveler says April 8, 2019 at 7:28 am I wish I had read this blog before my visit to Paris. I always look for offbeat places/hidden gems whenever I visit a new place. This post is full of them. Beautifully captured pictures. Alison Browne says April 8, 2019 at 7:35 am I am glad you liked the photographs! Just tuck this away until your next visit to Paris! Glad you enjoyed it! Nic says April 9, 2019 at 1:04 am It's been a while since I visited Paris and I am dying to go back!! Though I am interested to see the main places again after such a while this time I am looking to see some more off the beaten track places so this is perfect!! Alison Browne says April 10, 2019 at 9:06 pm It always surprises me how visiting the main attractions years later is still a thrill and a completely different experience to the initial visit. So glad you will check out some of my hidden gems! Nitin Singhal says April 9, 2019 at 7:23 am Paris is my bucket list destination. I have compiled the list of places I would like to visit and none of these places are in the list because I had never heard or read about them before. I found Parc Monceau, Oscar and Victor the most fascinating. These 2 things are definitely added on my list. Alison Browne says April 10, 2019 at 9:04 pm I love how you are keeping a list of marvellous things to do in Paris for when you get there! So happy that

you have added 2 of my hidden gems to your list! ENJOY! Candy says April 9, 2019 at 1:58 pm I love visiting these lesser known areas especially since there are fewer crowds/tourists. I studied a little bit of ancient Rome in college and would love to visit Les Arènes de Lutèce. The history of the Roman gladiators has always been fascinating to me. Alison Browne says April 10, 2019 at 9:07 pm It is so cool to find this arena tucked away and sit and imagine gladiators in action! ENJOY! Yukti says April 11, 2019 at 11:17 am I love hidden gems instead of very crowded touristic places. I never knew about rue Crémieux when I visited Paris as this would be my favorite point because of colorful houses. Thanks for sharing great post as I have to plan for Paris again. Alison Browne says April 11, 2019 at 11:38 am It is such a lovely little street but has gotten quite popular in recent years. It is so unlike other streets in Paris that it is totally worth searching it out! Enjoy Paris! sunsetsandrollercoasters says April 11, 2019 at 4:12 pm This is such a great list! We've visited Paris twice now and other than the vineyards and windmills of Montmartre and the view from Centre Pompidou we haven't seen any of the locations. I'd love to visit Rue Cremeux. Those colourful houses are amazing. Alison Browne says April 15, 2019 at 4:09 pm Rue Crémieux is really unique! It is getting quite popular so go early! Paris is one of those cities where you can just keep discovering tucked away treasures every visit! Sandy N Vyjay says April 11, 2019 at 7:24 pm This is such a fascinating list of hidden gems of Paris. We have been to Paris only once and due to a short trip had to stick to the main attractions only. Hope to get back and explore the hidden gems of Paris. It would be really great to visit the resting place of Oscar Wilde, one of my favourite writers. Alison Browne says April 15, 2019 at 4:14 pm Oscar Wilde's tombstone is very worthy of a visit. He is surrounded in red kisses and these words. "And alien tears will fill for him pity's long broken urn. For his mourners will all be outcast men, and outcasts always mourn." Carmen Edelson says April 12, 2019 at 4:14 am Wow, I really had no idea about those vineyards! Paris is one of those places that I can visit over and over again but there will always be more to discover. I'm adding all of these places to my ever growing list! Alison Browne says April 15, 2019 at 4:15 pm I went on a mission last summer to find the hidden vineyards of Paris! Still have some to discover! Pam says May 27, 2019 at 12:48 pm A mother-daughter trip exploring rural France! Very special ? Alison Browne says

May 29, 2019 at 1:33 am It was so special, Pam! Stories and photos coming soon (ish!). Your email address will not be published. Required fields are marked * Comment * Name * Email * Website Save my name, email, and website in this browser for the next time I comment. ? Welcome to Dreamer at Heart. Are you a dreamer like me? I'm Alison, a Canadian, who spent years travelling the world and then chose to live in Paris. Dreamer at Heart showcases the magic of Paris and France highlighting hidden gems, itineraries, and travel guides to help make your travels to France exceptional. The eBook, Paris For The Curious Stroller, is a delightful stroll through Paris soaking up extraordinary ?bite-sized jewels.? It showcases the extraordinary side of Paris. Have Paris travel questions? France? Solo travel? Contact me at dreameratheart75@gmail.com Dreamer at Heart is a participant in the Amazon Services LLC Associates Program, an affiliate advertising program designed to provide a means for sites to earn advertising fees by advertising and linking to Amazon.ca and affiliated sites. Amazon and the Amazon logo are trademarks of Amazon.com, Inc, or its affiliates. [Privacy Policy](#) | [Disclaimer](#) | [Terms and Conditions](#) | [Contact](#)

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Top 20 Hidden Gems in Paris

If you think you have seen everything that Paris has to offer, think again. The City of Light is full of surprises and secrets that are waiting to be uncovered by curious travelers. In this article, we will reveal 20 of the best hidden gems in Paris that will make you fall in love with this city all over again.

Paris's Hidden Gems | THE FINE CIRCLE

Romantic Palatial Characteristic

10 Hidden Gems In Paris: The Ultimate Travel Guide - A Vagabond Life

Paris is world-renowned for its iconic landmarks like the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame, and the Louvre. But beyond these tourist hotspots lie lesser-known treasures that only the savvy traveler may stumble upon. In this guide, we'll explore 10 Hidden Gems in Paris that will allow you to experience the city's more intimate, charming side. From hidden gardens to secret museums, let's uncover the real soul of the French capital.

Located in the charming neighborhood of Montmartre, Musée de la Vie Romantique is one of the 10 Hidden Gems in Paris that offers an intimate look into 19th-century Parisian life. This small museum is tucked away in a cobbled courtyard, far from the crowds, and once belonged to the famous French painter Ary Scheffer. Today, it showcases works of art and memorabilia associated with the Romantic period, including pieces by George Sand and Chopin. The hidden gem doesn't stop with the artwork – the museum also boasts a tranquil garden and a cozy café where you can unwind after a cultural journey. If you're looking for a quiet escape from the busy streets of Paris, this museum is a must-visit. It feels like you've stepped into another era, making it a perfect secret spot to add to your itinerary. Don't miss this hidden gem on your next trip to Paris!

One of the most unique hidden gems in Paris is the Promenade Plantée, an elevated park built on an old railway line. Stretching 4.7 kilometers from Bastille to the Bois de Vincennes, it predates New York City's famous High Line and offers a peaceful stroll through lush gardens and tree-lined walkways. As one of the 10 Hidden Gems in Paris, this park gives you a bird's-eye view of the city's charming streets and rooftops while staying far removed from the typical tourist crowds. Wander through the hidden paths, find secluded benches, and take in views you wouldn't expect in a bustling city like Paris. It's the perfect place for a morning jog or a serene afternoon walk. Whether you're a nature lover or just in search of some tranquility, this secret garden in the sky will give you a new perspective on Paris.

La Campagne à Paris is a true hidden gem, offering a slice of the French countryside right in the heart of the city. Nestled in the 20th arrondissement, this small residential area is a peaceful haven of quaint houses and narrow, tree-lined streets. It's one of the

10 Hidden Gems in Paris where you can experience the charm of a French village without leaving the city limits. Take a leisurely stroll through this area to admire the ivy-covered homes, blossoming flowers, and quiet ambiance. It's a world away from the busy boulevards, yet still only a metro ride away from central Paris. If you're searching for Paris secret spots that make you feel as though you've escaped the urban chaos, La Campagne à Paris is a delightful find. If you're on the hunt for Instagram-worthy locations, Rue Crémieux is one of the 10 Hidden Gems in Paris you cannot miss. This colorful cobblestone street in the 12th arrondissement is lined with pastel-colored houses, each uniquely painted in vibrant hues. It's a hidden street that offers a completely different vibe compared to the typical Parisian architecture. Despite being in the heart of the city, Rue Crémieux feels like a step into a fairytale. Stroll along this charming road to capture stunning photos or simply enjoy the tranquil atmosphere. Since it's not well-known to tourists, you'll often have the street to yourself, making it one of Paris' best-kept secrets. Square des Peupliers is a quiet, residential cul-de-sac that feels like a hidden village within the city. Located in the 13th arrondissement, it's one of the 10 Hidden Gems in Paris that even many locals don't know about. This picturesque corner is lined with charming houses, each surrounded by flowering plants and trees that give the area a countryside feel. Stroll through this serene square to find a spot where time seems to slow down. Its secluded nature makes it perfect for a peaceful afternoon walk. Though it's far from the tourist trail, this secret spot offers a glimpse into the quieter, more intimate side of Paris. Tucked away in the Marais, Le Marché des Enfants Rouges is a foodie paradise and one of the 10 Hidden Gems in Paris. Dating back to 1615, this is the oldest covered market in the city and remains a beloved spot for both locals and visitors who are in the know. You'll find a diverse array of stalls selling fresh produce, flowers, cheeses, and prepared foods from around the world, including Moroccan, Italian, and Japanese cuisines. Grab a seat at one of the small tables, order something delicious, and watch the market come alive. Whether you're looking for a quick bite or a leisurely meal, this market is a culinary hidden gem that's worth seeking out during your stay in Paris. The Montmartre Vineyards, located in the historic heart of Montmartre, is one of the 10 Hidden Gems in Paris that combines history, culture, and a taste of rural life. These vineyards have been around for

centuries, though few tourists venture here. Each year, the grapes are harvested to make a small batch of wine, which is auctioned off for charity during the annual Fête des Vendanges festival. While the vineyards are small, the charm and tranquility they offer are unparalleled. Stroll through the surrounding streets, enjoy a glass of wine at a nearby café, and soak in the bohemian atmosphere that Montmartre is famous for. This secret spot is a true delight for wine lovers and history buffs alike.

Hidden in the Latin Quarter, the Arènes de Lutèce is one of the 10 Hidden Gems in Paris that transports you back to the city's ancient Roman past. This well-preserved amphitheater dates back to the 1st century AD and was once used for gladiatorial combat and theatrical performances. Today, it's a peaceful public park where locals come to play pétanque or relax in the sun. Despite its historical significance, the Arènes de Lutèce remains one of Paris' lesser-known attractions. Wander through the ancient ruins and imagine what life was like in Roman Gaul. This secret spot offers a quiet escape from the bustling streets of the Latin Quarter and is a must-visit for history lovers.

For panoramic views of Paris without the crowds, head to Parc de Belleville, one of the 10 Hidden Gems in Paris that offers a breathtaking overlook of the city. Located in the 20th arrondissement, this park is less frequented by tourists compared to Montmartre or the Eiffel Tower, making it a serene place to enjoy stunning cityscapes. Climb the park's winding paths and terraces to reach the top, where you'll be rewarded with a sweeping view of the Paris skyline, including the Eiffel Tower in the distance. Bring a picnic, relax on the grass, and take in the scenery from one of the city's most underappreciated vantage points.

One of the oldest covered passages in Paris, the Passage des Panoramas is one of the 10 Hidden Gems in Paris where history and shopping collide. Dating back to 1799, this narrow arcade in the 2nd arrondissement is lined with antique shops, stamp dealers, and old-fashioned bistros that transport you to a bygone era. Wander through the passage to discover unique treasures, sample fine chocolates, or enjoy a coffee at one of the cozy cafés. The Passage des Panoramas offers a glimpse into Paris' past while still being a vibrant, bustling spot for those who seek out its charm. It's the perfect hidden gem for anyone looking to explore Paris beyond the usual tourist traps.

Disclaimer: While every effort has been made to provide accurate and up-to-date information about these hidden gems in Paris, it is always a good

idea to double-check opening hours, availability, and any changes in admission before planning your visit. · © 2024 A Vagabond Life · Powered by · Designed with the Customizr Theme ·

7 hidden gems in Paris (that won't break the bank) | GO Blog | EF United States

Home Programs Offices About us Careers Home Programs Offices About us Careers Ah, Paris! There's nothing more sophisticated than strolling through ancient streets lined with swanky boutique shops and more fancy hair salons than you can shake a pair of curling irons at. But what if you're in search of a more chilled experience? Something that won't break the bank? I asked a few Parisian student for their favorite hidden haunts and compiled this exclusive list for your reading and visiting pleasure. Oh, and hurry – these hidden gems aren't likely to remain hidden for much longer. (Just don't tell anyone I told you!) The term "rosbif" is a Frenchified version of "roast beef", one of the UK's signature dishes, and a colloquial term for people from England. Combined with France's international moniker of "frogs" (presumably from their love of eating frog's legs), the name of this relaxed pub fairly accurately describes the vibe you can expect: friendly, unique and idiosyncratic. No wonder it's a hit with students from France and overseas. Long ago, the Bercy district used to be a huge wine market with historical features to make even the most prestigious arrondissements jealous. Today it's a cute shopping area that's taken on a village-esque life of its own – the ideal place to hang out with friends and enjoy an ice cream in the sun. Although Saint-Michel has long held the crown for authentically Parisian al fresco socializing, fierce rival Bastille is fast stealing its crown. Here you can enjoy refreshments on the cobbles surrounding one of the city's iconic roundabouts, with the streets leading off of it awash with cafés and restaurants to suit all tastes and budgets. Head north to the edge of the 19th arrondissement and you'll find the expansive Parc de la Villette, home to the City of Science and Industry as well as an open-air cinema, restaurants and lots of wide open space to relax in. Stroll through this jaw-dropping park and you might have to remind yourself you're in the middle of Paris! The centerpiece of this stunning outdoor space is a hill in the middle of a lake with a tower on top. Very fairy tale indeed. It's a popular spot for picnics, chilling with friends and enjoying the summer sun. Need to cool off in the summer? Rendezvous with your

friends at Piscine Josephine Baker, one of the best public pools in Paris. Not only does it have a sliding roof that turns it into an outdoor pool in the summer, it's actually floating on the River Seine! The name of an area just north of the Seine that's home to an intriguing-looking shopping center of the same name, Les Halles is one of the top meeting places for Parisian cool kids. Shop, dine or sit with a coffee and just people-watch for hours. (Paris at its best!) Image by Zylenia, Flickr / Creative Commons

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**20 Best Hidden Gems in Paris, France | Paris, Vacation france, Paris
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Ultimate Paris: Insider Tips, Hidden Gems, and Stunning Views

Growing up as a June baby, my summer holidays climaxed in May, and come June, it was time to stock up on textbooks for the next academic year and prepare for the monsoon season. The temperament of June hasn't changed much since then—still hot and dreary until the monsoons finally creep in around the 12th. Regardless of the weather gods, in 2016, I made a resolution to celebrate my birthday in a new country each year, if possible. That year, Bhutan was the destination of choice. By August 2017, I found myself in the UK, so naturally, June 2018 was celebrated in the United Kingdom. My first European birthday took place in Greece in 2019. Unfortunately, COVID-19 put a two-year halt on all my plans, though I do wish it had paused the aging process as well. For 2023, I decided to venture back to the European continent, planning a trip through France, UK, and Italy. This blog post is dedicated solely to Paris, and its warm embrace on June 12th. Unlike the usual knowledge on things to do in Paris, I have used the perspective of history and the Parisian life that I encountered during my visit. Here's an easy outline for you: Paris's history stretches back over 2,000 years, evolving from a Roman settlement Lutetia and into the city that we know today. It built seven fortification walls to protect itself as a commerce port. The city's journey as a capital started in 508 AD with King Clovis, although it wasn't until King Philippe Auguste's reign that Paris firmly established its status as the capital. During World War I, French authorities constructed a dummy city on the northern outskirts to deceive German bombers. This fake Paris featured replica streets and landmarks, including the Eiffel Tower and Gare du Nord. However, the decoy was not completed before the last German air raid in September 1918 and was dismantled after the war. During World War II, the capital moved from Paris to Vichy from 1940 to 1944 under German occupation. A plaque marks the memorial honoring the 200,000 people who were deported from France to German concentration camps during World War II. Gothic Towers and Guillotines The Conciergerie, the oldest part of the Palais de la Cité, was built during the reign of King Philippe Le Bel and features Gothic architecture and turrets that has served various roles- from royal residence to a state prison. The name 'Conciergerie' derives from the 'Concierge,' a high-ranking official

appointed by the king to maintain order and oversee the police and prison registry. Despite its grandeur, the prison's proximity to the Seine River often led to flooding, resulting in uncomfortable conditions for commoners who slept on damp straw. During the French Revolution, the Revolutionary Tribunal operated from the Conciergerie, sentencing over 2,500 people to death by guillotine within its walls. The most famous prisoner was Queen Marie-Antoinette, who spent her last 76 days in the Conciergerie before her execution in 1793. The Conciergerie also houses one of Paris's oldest public clocks, commissioned by King Charles V in 1371, which has regulated Parisian activities for over 650 years. A Latin inscription is found below the clock: "MACHINA QUAE BIS SEX TAM JUSTE DIVIDIT HORAS, JUSTITIAM SERVARE MONET LEGESQUE TUERI" which is translated in English as: "This mechanism which divides time into perfectly equal twelve hours helps you to protect justice and defend the law".

The Ghastly Glamour of the Morgue

When you see compare the cause of why tourists seek Paris today, it's hard to believe that in the past, a completely different kind of attraction drew crowds: the Morgue of Paris. The term "morgue" actually originated in 16th century France, where bodies were "morgued," or scrutinized disdainfully by jailers before imprisonment. Initially, corpses were kept at the Châtelet prison, where they were displayed for identification through a window. Sounds simple right? Unfortunately no! In 1868, a new morgue opened behind Notre-Dame, designed as a public exhibition space where bodies were displayed on slanted marble tables behind glass. Up to 40,000 people visited daily, including tourists, workers, and even murderers. At a time, 50 would crowd around large windows to gawk and gossip about the dead bodies. The morgue was a mix of curiosity and macabre entertainment, reflecting Paris's evolving social scene. As the morgue was not refrigerated until 1882, cold water would drip from the ceiling constantly, giving the skin of the dead a bloated and puffy appearance. The dead would usually have to be removed after three days due to decomposition, at which point a photograph or a wax cast would take their place. The morgue operated as a spectacle until 1907, when it closed to the public for moral reasons.

L'Inconnue de la Seine: A Mysterious Icon

Notably, the morgue housed the body of L'Inconnue de la Seine, a young woman who was reportedly fished out of the Seine in the 1880s after a successful suicide attempt. Arriving at the morgue with a

?Mona Lisa? smile on her face, an assistant was so taken with her beauty that a cast was taken of her face. Rather than drift into obscurity, that cast spurred a fascination that peaked in the 1920s and 1930s, with many households owning the death mask. In the 1960s her allure continued when she inspired the face of the first CPR dummy, Resusci Anne. Since we are talking about CPR dummy, it makes sense to mention the hospital Hôtel-Dieu. Not only is it the oldest hospital in Paris, but it is also the oldest in the world. Founded in 651 AD by Saint Landry as a refugee for the poor and the sick, it has transformed over the centuries. The current Roman-inspired structure, built in the 19th century, replaced the original Gothic building destroyed by fire in 1772.

Grave Matters: Cimetière des Innocents Exploring the darker aspects of Paris, we encounter the Cimetière des Innocents, or Saint Innocents? Cemetery. This cemetery played a vital role in the daily life of Parisians, containing a church, mass graves, a fountain, and two reclusoirs?small cells where recluses were immured. For almost a millennium, it served as the burial ground for approximately two million Parisians which included individuals from 22 parishes, victims of the Black Death, patients from Hôtel-Dieu hospital, and unidentified bodies from the Seine or public streets. Initially comprising individual sepulchers, it later transformed into a site for mass graves, each pit capable of holding about 1,500 bodies, with new pits being opened only when the previous ones were filled. By 18th century, the cemetery had become dangerously overcrowded and unhealthy, with the ground level rising 2.5 meters above surrounding streets. A pivotal event in 1780?when a partition gave way, spilling corpses into a nearby restaurant?s cellar?led to its closure. By 1786, the remaining bodies were moved to the Catacombs of Paris. Today, only the Fontaine des Innocents, originally part of the cemetery, still stands as a testament to this grim chapter in Paris?s history.

A Tale of Traffic Paris has a rich history of social unrest and power struggles, notably during the Middle Ages, religious wars, and the revolutions of 1789, 1830, and 1848. The urban landscape, chaotic and driven by economic interests, grappled with rising health issues and crime rates. A prime example of this chaos would be the tragic fate of King Henri IV who was assassinated in broad daylight by François Ravaillac in Paris?s bustling Les Halles neighborhood, while his coach was stuck in traffic. Henri IV?s father-in-law had unsuccessfully attempted to widen the narrow street in this busy

marketplace area back in 1554. If he had succeeded, the traffic jam that aided Ravallac's attack might have been avoided. Ravallac was captured, tortured, and executed by being drawn and quartered at Place de Grève in front of L'Hôtel de Ville. Henri IV, also known as le bon Roi or "good king," left his mark on Paris, but his untimely demise is marked by a simple stone on Rue de la Ferronnerie, that reads: "Henri IV, XIV Mai MDCX"(Henri IV, May 14, 1610) Haussmann's Transformation Napoleon III had big dreams for Paris, wanting it to be a stunning symbol of power and order. To make this happen, he brought in Georges-Eugène Haussmann in 1853. Haussmann's task was monumental: to modernize and beautify Paris while addressing health concerns and improving infrastructure. Together with Napoleon III, Haussmann envisioned wide avenues that would facilitate troop movement and police control during uprisings. His first move was adding more land to Paris by joining nearby towns, making the city 40% bigger. Then, he split Paris into 20 sections, changing how the city was run and making old neighborhoods less strong. The 20 arrondissements of Paris, established on January 1st, 1860, form a spiral starting from the city's center and expanding outward like a snail, or "escargot." Before this, Paris had only 12 arrondissements and was smaller in size. The symmetry of this arrangement likely led to its nickname "Le 75," as it corresponds to Paris's postcode. All Paris postcodes start with 75000, so the 1st arrondissement would be 75001, while the 20th would be 75020. But why the spiral shape? When the well-off residents of Passy and Auteuil learned they would be part of the new city, they were unhappy to find themselves in a new 13th district. It wasn't because of superstitions about the number 13, but rather a saying, "se marier à la mairie du 13e" (getting married in the 13th), which meant living together without marriage when there were only 12 districts. To avoid this association, the mayor of Passy suggested the spiral layout. The idea caught on, and the number 13 was given to a less affluent southeastern area, preserving the dignity of the western neighborhoods. Haussmann's vision unified Paris with wide, accessible avenues, grand boulevards radiating from five major train stations, and consistent architectural styles, giving the city much of its modern charm and character. He also expanded the sewer network and developed a drinking water supply system, resulting in numerous public fountains. But his restructuring had another interesting consequence,

that will speak about soon. Rues of Paris: Portals to History There are 6,100 rues ? or streets ? in Paris; the shortest one, Rue des Degrés, is just 5.75 metres long and can be found in the 2nd arrondissement. Rue Portalis, is a street named after Jean-Etienne-Marie Portalis (1746-1807), a prominent French lawyer and politician, who played a pivotal role in shaping the Napoleonic Code, the foundation of the French legal system. As one of the chief draftsmen, Portalis penned key articles on marriage and property succession, infusing the code with the principles of Roman law. Enacted on March 21, 1804, the Napoleonic Code remains a cornerstone of French law and has profoundly influenced the civil codes of many countries in Europe and Latin America.

Ville d'Amour or Sex in the City? In the Paris of the Third Empire, marital relationships were not centered on carnal desire. Husbands often sought pleasure elsewhere, frequenting prostitutes known as ?asphalteuses,? ?lorettes,? and ?pierreuses.? There was a distinct separation between respectable wives, who were treated like dolls, and prostitutes, who were seen as sources of sexual pleasure. Haussmann's redevelopment displaced many prostitutes, who moved to the newly created boulevards. Cafes and restaurants doubled as places for culinary tourism and prostitution. The influx of single migrants, soldiers, students, and workers, attracted by Haussmann's public works projects, further fueled the demand for prostitution. This high demand for ?love? contributed to Paris's reputation as the ?City of Love.? Prominent brothels, known as ?maisons closes,? included Le Chabonais, La Fleur Blanche, and L'Étoile de Kléber. These establishments catered to various clientele, from the affluent to the masses and the clergy, with some brothels servicing up to 100 clients a day. I wonder if this is how the term French Disease for STIs came into existence! During major events like the World Fairs, Paris became a hub for sex tourism, earning the moniker ?the brothel of Europe.? In 1878, there were 2,650 registered prostitutes in Paris, a number that grew to 6,000 by 1900. This period also saw the emergence of ?prostitution guidebooks? for men, detailing places of pleasure in multiple languages. The French openness towards sex and sensuality, along with public displays of both, set them apart from more conservative societies such as the Victorian England. This unrestrained attitude contributed to the term ?French kiss,? denoting passionate and adventurous kissing practices. In 2013, the term ?galocher,? meaning to kiss with tongues, was

officially added to the Petit Robert French dictionary. Movies have had a significant impact on Paris's romantic image. As a fan of chick flicks, one can't help but hold high expectations after recalling the romantic scenes from "Before Sunset" and "One Day". However, films like "Inception" and "The Da Vinci Code" also offer a different perspective on Paris in my vivid imagination. A post shared by Pocket Scripture (@pocket.scripture) In 2006, the Italian film "Io Voglio di Te" ("I Want You") featured a scene where two lovers write their names on a lock, attach it to Rome's Ponte Milvo bridge, and throw the key into the river. While Ponte Milvo did not gain much attention, Paris's Pont des Arts did. By 2015, an estimated 700,000 padlocks, weighing as much as 20 elephants, adorned the bridge, causing part of it to collapse. Today, smaller segments of these love locks can be found throughout Paris. This particular section was located in front of Sacre Coeur. Unfortunately for the City of Love, it's not always a happy ending. Pont de l'Alma is also known for a tragedy - the 1997 car accident that claimed Princess Diana's life in the tunnel between the bridge and Place de l'Alma. Near the site stands a replica of the Statue of Liberty's flame, donated by the American newspaper Herald Tribune in 1897 to commemorate Franco-American friendship. This monument has become a place where admirers of Princess Diana come to pay their respects daily. Glamour of Third Empire Haussmann's renovation included the creation of Avenue de l'Opéra, a direct route from the emperor's residence to the opera house, with no trees to obstruct the view. This grand avenue enhances the Palais Garnier's majesty, reinforcing its palace-like appearance. In 1858, Emperor Napoleon III and his wife experienced a failed assassination attempt at the Rue Le Peletier Opera House. This led to the decision to build a new, safer opera house. The project was entrusted to a then-unknown architect, Charles Garnier, who won a contest in 1860 to create an "imperial academy for music and dance." Empress Eugénie was initially skeptical of his design, questioning its style, to which Garnier famously replied, "This is Napoleon III!" I guess it could be another reason why Palais Garnier has the signature of this unknown architect on its very walls. Construction of the Palais Garnier began in 1861 but faced significant challenges, including a wet construction site that required a large cement reservoir to manage excess water. The project continued despite interruptions, including the Prussian War,

during which the unfinished building served as a storage camp. The building's main façade was completed in 1867, and the entire opera house opened to the public in 1875, costing over 20 million gold francs, making it the most expensive building of its time. Renowned for its Neo-Baroque architecture and lavish decorations including 30 types of marble from various countries, Garnier's design incorporated elements of a princely palace, hence the name "Palais Garnier." The building also made history by installing a small power plant in 1883, making it the first opera house to use electricity, with lighting provided by bulbs from Thomas Edison. The Opera Garnier was not just about music but also a show of class! Season ticket holders went to the opera 2-3 times a week, not because there were different performances or were opera fans, but to show off and socialize! The Grand Escalier, a triumphal entrance, surrounded by balconies over four floors, allowed guests to see and be seen, with shallow steps designed to reveal just a glimpse of women's ankles. The Emperor's box in the Auditorium, prominently placed to the left of the stage, was designed for visibility rather than optimal viewing or acoustics. During the show, the lights remained lit in order to facilitate the popular activity of people-watching. Finally, the Grand Foyer, inspired by Versailles' Hall of Mirrors, was designed for spectators to socialize during intermissions. One of the most striking features of the opera house is its 7-ton chandelier, designed by Garnier himself. Though magnificent, it was unpopular with some as it obstructed views. Tragically, in 1896, the chandelier's counterweight burst through the ceiling during a performance, killing a member of the audience. This incident inspired Gaston Leroux's novel, "The Phantom of the Opera," which also drew on other elements of the opera house's history such as the Phantom's box number 5. In Leroux's novel, a myth about phonographic recordings buried in the opera's cellars is mentioned. In 1907, the Gramophone Company indeed sealed 48 records in the cellars, opened 100 years later and digitized by EMI Classics as "Les Urnes de l'Opéra." No corpse was found, contrary to the novel's lore.

Parisian Woes In the harsh winter of 1870-71, during the Franco-Prussian War, German troops besieged Paris, cutting off all food supplies. With no other options, residents resorted to eating horses, cats, dogs, and even zoo animals. By the end of May, reportedly, there wasn't a single rat left in the city. After five months, Paris surrendered, but the aftermath brought the Commune

uprising which resulted in death of almost 30,000 people. The Catholics took it as a sign from God. The Sacred Heart monument was built as a representation of national penance for the supposed excesses of the Commune de Paris of 1871, and of the conservative moral order. The Basilica of the Sacred Heart (Sacre Coeur), designed by Paul Abadie, was constructed from 1875 to 1914 and officially completed in 1923. Its eclectic architectural style draws inspiration from Romanesque and Byzantine architecture, as well as the Saint-Front de Périgueux Cathedral. The façade features prominent equestrian statues of Joan of Arc and King Louis on horseback, with stone from Chateau-Landon used, similar to the Alexandre III bridge and the Arc de Triomphe. When rainwater comes into contact with the stone, it undergoes a chemical reaction, forming cullet, a thin white protective layer that naturally hardens in the sun. It boasts of two records. First, the largest bell in France, called la Savoyarde, is inside the Basilica and measures 3 meters in diameter, 9.60 meters in outer circumference and weighs 18,835 kg. It dates back to 1895 and was built in Annecy in the French Alps. Its installation required a team of 28 horses. The basilica's dome is the highest point in Paris after the Eiffel Tower. However, showstopper is the huge mosaic of Jesus Christ located above the altar. It is among the largest mosaics in the world (measuring 475 square meters) and was finished in 1922.

Rats, De Gaulle, and Pestilence Interestingly, 1872 saw the return of rats to Paris. During the 14th century's Black Death, flea-infested rats had caused a plague that killed about half the city's population. In the 1871 siege, starving Parisians turned to eating rats, making rat paté a temporary delicacy. Once food supplies resumed, Parisians reverted to their regular diets, and the rat population around Les Halles surged again due to market waste. During De Gaulle's presidency, the relocation of Les Halles market deprived rats of their food source, causing them to invade nearby apartments. This led to a massive extermination campaign led by Julien Aurouze, a dedicated rat exterminator. From the Palais de l'Élysée, De Gaulle noticed a sign reading "ATTILA, Fléau des Rats" (Attila, Scourge of Rats), which he took as a personal affront. Despite his efforts, the sign and the exterminator's business remained long after his presidency. Founded in 1872, Maison Aurouze specializes in pest control and famously displayed mummified rats. The shop's history highlights Paris's ongoing struggle with these pests, a quirky yet significant aspect of city

life. Urban Flooding Tales: The Watchman and Other Untold Stories Historic postcards capture the flooded City of Light in grainy black and white, depicting Parisians navigating the streets in wooden boats or along submerged sidewalks. The scenes, almost romantic in nature, evoke comparisons to Venice. However, these images don't reveal the harsh reality faced by most Parisians during the "flood of the century". The city grappled with the loss of electricity, gas lighting, heating, public transportation, communication, postal services, clean water, trash collection, and food provisions. Once a symbol of modernity, Paris found itself plunged into a medieval-like existence. At the peak of the flooding, 300 streets were submerged, and 20,000 homes flooded, despite efforts to erect sandbag barriers or brick up cellar entrances. The Rue Des Chantres is a narrow passageway with a dark history rivaling its haunted neighbors. In the early 1900s, an old hotel on this street served as a quarantine for sick children during a time when tuberculosis swept through Europe. To prevent the spread of illness, these children were locked away in the hotel's lower floors, hidden from the public eye. Tragedy struck during a great storm that caused the Seine River to flood its banks. The Rue Des Chantres, located near the river, was completely flooded. The floodwaters breached the old hotel, trapping and drowning the quarantined children inside. As we listened to the stories, a mark on the wall just below the street name oddly resembled a child standing there and watching. Locals often believe that the spirits of these children linger on the Rue Des Chantres. Visitors frequently report hearing eerie sounds of children whispering and playing, serving as a somber reminder of the young lives lost in this passageway. Etched into stone or displayed on green plaques, these flood markers offer a hidden glimpse into the city's history, often unnoticed by passersby. They signify the level reached by the Seine during the famous 1910. City dwellers have relied on one particular figure to warn them of rising water levels—the Zouave. This stone statue, created by French artist Georges Diebolt in 1856, has served as an informal flood marker since its installation on the Pont de l'Alma. The bridge, commemorating a Crimean War victory involving Zouave soldiers, originally featured four statues representing different infantrymen. Over time, the other statues were relocated, leaving only the Zouave. Standing at 5.2 meters tall and weighing eight tons, the Zouave plays a crucial role during floods, with water covering his feet indicating alert conditions in Paris. The

statue's significance grew during the Great Flood, when images of him submerged up to his waist became iconic. Through the years, he became a cultural icon of Paris, featured in dozens of songs and novels, including the Tintin tales, beloved by children of all ages. Although in *The Adventures of Tintin*, Captain Haddock uses the term "faire le Zouave" as an insult meaning "to act the fool." The Zouave's attire reflects North African styles of the early 1800s, depicted in paintings by artists like Van Gogh. The statue's influence even extends to fashion, with "Pantalone alla Zuava" referring to short trousers inspired by the Zouave's uniform. "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" film, serves as a familiar reference point for many outside France when it comes to the iconic cathedral. Inspired by Victor Hugo's 1831 novel "Notre-Dame de Paris," this Disney film sheds light on the cathedral's historical context. At the time of the book's release, Notre Dame was in a state of neglect, with damaged artwork, decapitated statues mistaken for French kings during the Revolution, and blackened stone from industrial pollution. Hugo's love for medieval architecture motivated him to write about Quasimodo, Esmeralda, and Frollo, aiming to highlight the cathedral's deterioration. The novel's success led King Louis Philippe to allocate over 2 million francs for its restoration. Architect Eugène Viollet-le-Duc led the 20-year project, costing 12 million francs, and added notable features like the 180-foot spire and famous gargoyles. Despite facing significant criticism, the restoration became iconic. After all, it cannot be denied that Notre-Dame, a symbol of French history and culture, has endured wars, revolutions, and natural disasters. Significant events, such as the crowning of Henry VI of England as King of France in 1431 and Napoleon Bonaparte's coronation as Emperor in 1804, have taken place within its walls. No legend can truly become L-E-G-E-N-D-A-R-Y unless there are ghost stories and other myths shadowing it. Two unknown women are frequently mentioned as ghosts, seen walking across Gothic architecture and gargoyles before vanishing. Rumors suggest they might have committed suicide by jumping from the cathedral's roof. During the construction of Notre Dame, the aim was to create the finest cathedral in Europe. Among the craftsmen was a Frenchman named Biscornet, who faced numerous rejections. And yet, at the time of unveiling, the finished cathedral door showcased intricate ironwork that was unprecedented, elegant, and perfect. A fact that even modern metal experts can't explain

how the ironwork was achieved with medieval tools. However, in the superstitious 1300s, the craftsmanship seemed too extraordinary to be human. Rumors spread that Biscornet had sold his soul to the devil for this masterwork. When the doors were installed, they wouldn't open, and Biscornet was found in his studio unconscious with the project mysteriously completed in record time. Priests claimed the locks only worked after being sprinkled with holy water, fanning the flames of suspicion. Despite insisting he was the sole artist, Biscornet couldn't shake the unholy accusations. He died soon after, reinforcing the belief that the devil had returned for his soul. Interestingly, the name Biscornet can be broken down into 'bis' (two) and 'cornet' (horn) in French, hinting at 'the two-horned one.' Nevertheless, rumors are afloat that homage to Satan appears hidden within the doors' design. Close inspection of the irons swirls on the door reveals swirls similar to the number 666. I guess that's the main reason why the door is known as the Devil's Door. The 2019 fire caused significant damage, particularly to the roof and spire. And guess who comes to the rescue? Virtual reality! Assassin's Creed Unity, a popular action-adventure video game developed by Ubisoft Montreal and released in 2014, is set in Paris during the French Revolution and features stunning recreations of iconic landmarks, including the Notre-Dame cathedral. Ubisoft's 3D model, created for Assassin's Creed Unity, is highly detailed and accurate, based on historical records, architectural plans, and photographs of the cathedral as it was after its renovation in the mid-1800s. After the fire, Ubisoft donated \$500,000 for restoration efforts and provided its detailed 3D model of the cathedral to aid architects and engineers. Strolling along rue Chanoinesse today, you'll find a charming street with views of Notre Dame Cathedral and one of the city's loveliest café bistros, Au Vieux Paris d'Arcole. The café is as old as its name suggests! Constructed in 1512, around the same time Notre Dame cathedral was completed, the building was once home to the Canon of the nearby cathedral. By the 18th century, it had been purchased by a private citizen and was turned into a wine bar. It has remained a place for Parisians to congregate to eat and drink ever since. However, this picturesque setting belies a darker history. Perhaps rather macabrely, the café is situated right next to a courtyard which is paved with repurposed gravestones, which were taken from a nearby church after it was pulled down in the 18th Century.

The street was once notorious for the Affaire de la rue des Marmousets, also known as the Affaire de la rue Chanoinesse after a later name change. The Pie Killers French cuisine is a high point for many tourists, which includes me as well! But I never expected to come across a darker fate of one of the most sought-after culinary delights! Lets meet the Pie Killers of Paris, a tale quite similar to Sweeney Todd, the fictional London barber who slit his customers' throats then gave the bodies to his lover to be cooked into pies and sold in her pie shop. In medieval Paris, meat was a luxury. Between 1384 and 1387, the butcher on rue des Marmousets became infamous for his delectable meat pies, renowned throughout France. However, for some, these pies were literally 'to die for.' The meat had a delicate flavour, quite unlike anything they had experienced before, and even King Charles VI was said to be a fan. The story goes that during the 14th century, a barber and a pastry chef on rue des Marmousets entered into a horrific pact. Students from the nearby Chapter of Notre-Dame began to disappear, often foreign students with no local ties. The barber would kidnap and butcher these unfortunate souls, passing their remains through a trap-door into the pastry shop's cellar, where the chef turned them into meat pies. This gruesome practice allegedly continued for years until a faithful dog exposed the crime. A German student named Alaric, one of the victims, had a loyal dog that wouldn't stop barking outside the barber's shop. This drew the constabulary's attention. Upon inspection, they discovered the macabre truth of the killing duo. Unfortunately while the duo were rumored to have killed over 2000 young men, they were found guilty for only 4. For their heinous crimes, the butcher and pastry chef were burned alive, and their shops were destroyed. Today, the location believed to be the site of these gruesome murders is, ironically now the headquarters of a Paris Police Department.

The French Bread Law After the freaky duo, there is a much need for some Parisian breads. But did you know according to the French Bread Law, a traditional Parisian baguettes have to be made on the premises they're sold and can only be made with four ingredients: wheat flour, water, salt and yeast. They can't be frozen at any stage or contain additives or preservatives, which also means they go stale within 24 hours. To be called a boulangerie, a French bakery has to make its bread on the premises. If this prized word doesn't feature in the name of the bakery or isn't plastered on the window it could be a plain

old dépôt de pain selling industrially-made bread. Each year, a bakery in Paris receives an award for crafting the best baguette in the city. The winner gets the honor of delivering fresh baguettes to the French President at the Élysée Palace for an entire year. As per the Parisian norm, croissant and coffee go hand-in-hand. I don't know about everybody, but it is definitely the impression I gathered after going through all the viral Instagram reels. Historians will agree with me ? The Parisian café evolved from a place for alcohol consumption to a social institution where revolutions were planned, and debates stirred. Jean de Thévenot introduced coffee to Paris in 1657. Although an earlier account suggests coffee was sold under the name ?cohove? or ?cahoue? during Louis XIII's reign, this lacks confirmation. Coffee officially became popular after a 1670 visit from an Ottoman delegation to King Louis XIV's court, introducing Turkish coffee to the French elite. This sparked a trend that led to the opening of numerous coffee houses. By 1720, Paris boasted nearly 300 cafés, growing to 1,000 by 1750 and almost 2,000 by the late 1700s. Cafés became hubs for artists and thinkers, fostering community, conversation, and creativity. Café Procope, established by Italian-born Francesco Procopio, stood out by offering patrons drinks in a luxurious setting, complete with porcelain cups, marble tables, gilded mirrors, and chandeliers. Located near the Comédie-Française theatre, it attracted famous patrons like Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Dennis Diderot, Voltaire, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and Napoleon. In other culinary news, France is famous for its love of escargot or snails. But did you know, every year, the French consume a whopping 25,000 tons of these little gastropods ? that's about 6.5 snails per person! This is roughly equivalent to the weight of 2.5 Eiffel Towers!

A Tale of Twin sisters

Unlike other major capitals with numerous sister cities, Paris shares a unique and exclusive bond with only one city?Rome. While New York boasts 13 twin cities, including Madrid, London, and Cairo, Paris and Rome have chosen to embrace a singular partnership. This special relationship was formalized in 1956 with a pact signed at the Hôtel de Ville, the City Hall of Paris. This agreement symbolizes the deep cultural and historical connections between the two cities. The mayors of Paris and Rome continue to honor this bond with regular visits, reinforcing their unique alliance. The sentiment behind their twinning is beautifully captured in the saying: ?Only Paris is worthy of Rome; and only

Rome is worthy of Paris.? The City Hall has been the seat of council since 1977. The building facade features 338 individual statues of illustrious Parisians along with other sculptural elements and figures. Since I had to pay city tax separately beyond my accommodation charges, I was very interested in the building that was responsible for this impact on my finances.

A Bridge Beyond Numbers

The charming stone bridge that leads you to the City Hall, known as Pont Neuf, holds a fascinating secret. Despite its name, which means "New Bridge," it has nothing to do with the number nine. Named by King Henry III in 1578, Pont Neuf was innovative for its time, being the first bridge in Paris without houses built upon it. With its modern design and paved surface, it quickly became a popular gathering spot for socializing. Today, Pont Neuf stands as the oldest surviving bridge in Paris, blending history and modernity to captivate visitors.

Ville-Lumière

Interestingly, the City of Light (Ville-Lumière) nickname has nothing to do with actual lights. It's a fun Paris fact that even though the French capital was one of the first in the world to install street lighting, the nickname has nothing to do with electricity. It derives from the large number of bright intellectuals that lived in Paris through the years. Some of the most notable ones include Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Gertrude Stein, T. S. Eliot, Claude Monet, Salvador Dali, Pablo Picasso, Claude Debussy, and Voltaire. In fact, the Montparnasse district in the 14th arrondissement was home to writers (like Hemingway) and artists in the 1920s and 30s.

La Belle Époque

Referencing the period between 1871 to 1914, La Belle Époque literally means "the beautiful era" in French. Following the relentless building and rebuilding in the city, Paris during La Belle Époque played host to two iconic international expositions, the World's Fair of 1889 and 1900 respectively. Many of the city's landmarks such as Petit Palais and the Pont Alexandre III were built for these two fairs and have continued to dazzle locals and tourists alike to this day.

Petit Palais Sparkling Eiffel

But perhaps the most remarkable of all was the Eiffel Tower, the beloved icon of the French capital. Nicknamed the Iron Lady, the Eiffel Tower was the highlight of the 1889 World's Fair and was the world's tallest structure, until the Chrysler building came in 1930. Nothing captures the essence of City of Light better than the sparkling Eiffel Tower. It was built in just two years by 132 workers and 50 engineers with a goal of showcasing France's industrial prowess, and received 2 million visitors during the

1889 exhibition. Initially criticized by Parisians, the Eiffel Tower was almost demolished in 1909 after its permit expired but was saved as a telecommunications tower. Standing at 324 meters (with antennas) and weighing 7,300 tons, the Eiffel Tower's pressure on the ground is equivalent to a seated man on a chair. Today, it attracts 7 million visitors annually and remains a self-sustaining icon. Gustave Eiffel's construction company won the project, but the design of the Eiffel Tower wasn't Gustave Eiffel's idea but that of his engineers, Émile Nouguier and Maurice Koechlin. Inspired by bridge piles the company built in Portugal and France, their proposal was selected among 107 projects for the 1889 Universal Exhibition. The construction involved 18,000 parts and 2.5 million rivets, with workers moving 48,000 cubic meters of earth to build the foundations. The Eiffel Tower features a unique design with hydraulic jacks and innovative scaffolding. Gustave Eiffel celebrated with workers in 1888 by abolishing a salary deduction for accident insurance. The tower was inaugurated on March 31, 1889, with Eiffel planting the French flag at the summit. It is said that Gustave Eiffel also built a private apartment at the top of the Eiffel Tower, which was used for entertaining illustrious guests like Thomas Edison. Though not open to the public, visitors can catch a glimpse through a viewing window.

Paris Metro Another key infrastructural breakthrough during La Belle Époque was the Parisian Métro, which is short for Métropolitain. Construction for this rapid transit system began in 1890, with established engineer Jean-Baptiste Berlier helming the overall design and planning. In operation since the turn of the 20th century, the Métro has been known for its unique entrances rich in Art Nouveau influences. Art Nouveau Much more than a staid school of 19th-century architecture, Art Nouveau was an entire aesthetic movement. From architecture and design to the decorative and fine arts, Art Nouveau, or "new art," was everywhere. It was first introduced in Paris by French architect Hector Guimard, who drew inspiration from Belgian architect Victor Horta. Guimard's signature metro entrances, with their glass roofs, railings, and "Métropolitain" signs, are iconic. These entrances, in the "dragonfly" style, exemplify the main principles of Art Nouveau: the use of metal, inspiration from flora and fauna, and fluid, curvilinear designs. Hôtel Deron-Levent and Hôtel Guimard are another examples of Art Nouveau designed by Hector Guimard. Another example would be the art nouveaux house located in Montmartre, that was

once occupied by artist Maurice Neumomt (1868 ? 1930). And let's not forget the most famous structure that exemplifies Art Nouveau ? Galeries Lafayette Haussmann. The ceiling, designed in 1912, showcases the Art Nouveau style of that era, crafted by Édouard Schenck, Jacques Grüber, and Louis Majorelle. In contrast, Art Deco (1910-1940) emerged as a reaction against Art Nouveau, favoring rectangular lines and stylized, almost flat floral elements.

Salon and Art Revolution

In the spirit of innovation and experimentation, La Belle Époque was also a time when art went through a great change. Prior to the 1870s, most artists remained conservative and adhered to the styles favored by the Académie des Beaux-Arts, an institute of patronage set up by Louis XIV in 1648 as a way of reinforcing his absolutist prowess. The annual Salon showed its preference of artworks that touched on traditional subject matter such as religious and historical topics. A post shared by !shita | ??????? ???? (@loonymane)

However, a group of artists rebelled against these rigid interpretations, pioneering a new approach that featured non-realistic brushwork and everyday scenes. This group, known as the Impressionists, included now-famous artists like Claude Monet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, and Camille Pissarro. Their revolutionary work laid the groundwork for later movements such as Post-Impressionism and Fauvism.

Montmartre, known for its vineyards since the Middle Ages, became a hub for famous artists like Renoir, Van Gogh, Lautrec, and Picasso, who immortalized Paris further. Paul Cézanne (left; seen at Abu Dhabi Louvre); Vincent Van Gogh (top right; Immersive experience held in Mumbai in 2023) and his painting (bottom right, taken from Google)

Bistros to Ballrooms: Icons Unleashed

As the vibrant artistic community led a cultural revolution, urban leisure and mass entertainment also flourished. Music halls, cabarets, cafes, and salons emerged across society. And so did many legends. For instance, the word bistro was invented at the Place du Tertre square's oldest restaurant, La Mère Catherine, in 1814 during the Russian occupation after the Battle of Paris. The story goes that Russian soldiers would enjoy their alcoholic beverages there, but often shout "bystro!" (meaning "quick" in Russian) to hurry their comrades to finish drinking to rejoin the ranks. One establishment that epitomized this vibrant lifestyle was the Moulin Rouge, a popular cabaret in Paris, founded in 1889 in Montmartre. Its iconic red windmill made it one of the world's most recognizable structures. Interestingly, both Moulin

Rouge and Eiffel Tower were unleashed on the French sensibilities in the year 1889. Unlike the sparkling status of the Eiffel today, Moulin Rouge was the first building to receive electricity. A hallmark of La Belle Époque, the Moulin Rouge is best remembered as the birthplace of the French Can-can, a lively dance featuring high kicks, splits, and cartwheels. In fact, the dance was accidentally invented while the girls were kicking the hyper-eager men. The windmills in Montmartre were originally used to grind flour and press local grapes. In 1809, the Debray family bought these mills. During the siege of Paris in 1814, miller Debray heroically defended the windmill against the Cossacks and was killed, his body nailed to the windmill's wings. By 1833, the last enterprising Debray brother opened an area for dancing, luring patrons with cheap wine and dancing. "Le Moulin de la Galette" was named after a type of bread made from the Debrays' flour and sold with local wine. Capitale de la Mode Fashion, at the nexus of art and consumerism, shapes and reflects our desires, bodies, and eras. At its heart lies Paris, a beacon of innovation and tradition in the fashion world. Fashion historian Valerie Steele encapsulates this allure in her book "Paris: Capital of Fashion," where she remarks: "The history of Paris fashion blurs inextricably into myth and legend." Understanding Paris as the capital of Fashion requires grasping the essence of couture. Often misused worldwide to signify quality, the term holds a regulated, complex meaning, especially in France. Protected by law, its use is overseen by the Fédération Française de la Couture, akin to champagne's strict criteria. A couturier, a designer crafting bespoke garments, is distinguished by the French Chambre Syndicale de la Haute Couture. Ateliers within couture houses specialize in soft dressmaking (atelier flou) and tailoring (atelier tailleur), each mastering distinct skills. To be recognized as haute couture, a fashion house must meet stringent criteria set by the Fédération Française which includes: These standards ensure that haute couture remains an exclusive and high-quality segment of the fashion industry. So why are we learning about these terms and terminologies? Haute Couture trace back to an Englishman once famed but now largely forgotten by the mainstream. Charles Frederick Worth—regarded by many fashion historians as "the father of haute couture" and "the first couturier"—established the first Couture House in Paris, thus championing exclusive luxury fashion for the upper-class woman. No one defines haute couture as

Marie Antoinette who left behind a lasting style legacy. From Luxury aprons to iconic pouf stylings, she was on top of her game. And it was all thanks to Rose Bertin, a milliner introduced to Marie Antoinette by the Duchess of Chartres, who later became a top designer in Paris. Known for her high charges and unique style, Bertin dressed the queen and others, breaking the norm of exclusive royal designers. This also prompted the thrifting trend among the wealthy, with Marie Antoinette's hand-me-downs frequently worn or sold. "Fashion is to France what gold mines are to the Spaniards." Jean-Baptiste Colbert, Louis XIV's minister for finance and economic affairs, on the impact that fabrics had on French economy While discussing his Queen, one cannot overlook the influence of our Sun King, Louis XIV. When he ascended the throne in 1643, Paris wasn't the fashion capital. Madrid held that title. Spain's flourishing Golden Age, supported by a vast global empire, boasted a rigid, predominantly black fashion symbolizing wealth and dignity. French aristocrats imported their fashion from Spain, tapestries from Brussels, lace and mirrors from Venice, and silk from Milan, as France did not produce luxury goods of comparable quality and lacked the clout to dictate fashions to other countries. Enter Louis XIV, the trendsetter! Louis XIV, renowned for his opulence, became a trendsetter, sporting red-heeled shoes and extravagant wigs, prioritizing fashion to bolster the economy. Known for his love of opulence, Louis XIV famously wore red-heeled shoes and ostentatious wigs. Under his rule, trade guilds, known as corporations were established, to set industry standards and provide structure. Every profession, from tailors to dressmakers to fan makers, had its own union, which offered organization and power. In a culture where the wealthy loved to flaunt their riches, Louis XIV implemented etiquette standards that required multiple costume changes throughout the day, further embedding fashion into French society. Additionally, the emergence of the fashion press in the 1670s propelled French fashion to new heights, making concepts like seasonal trends and style evolution accessible to a wider audience. However, the French Revolution ushered in an anti-fashion movement, advocating simplicity and modesty in contrast to the opulence of the monarchy. In 1800, a law was passed, making it illegal for women to wear trousers without police permission. The aim was to curb revolutionary women's demands for equality in jobs and clothing. Although this law went

unenforced for decades, France's Minister of Women's Rights Najat Vallaud-Belkacem officially repealed it on January 31, 2013, after 213 years. The late 19th and early 20th centuries saw the French fashion industry expand significantly, with haute couture, prêt-à-porter, and lingerie emerging as distinct styles. Haute couture, introduced as Paris vocabulary in 1908, featured leading couturiers like Jacques Doucet, Madeline Vionnet, Coco Chanel, and Elsa Schiaparelli. Post-World War II, Christian Dior's "New Look" revolutionized fashion with exaggerated silhouettes and deliberate femininity, while Yves Saint Laurent popularized prêt-à-porter, that is. mass-produced clothing for everyday wear. In 1921, L'Association de Protection des Industries Artistiques Saisonnnières (PAIS) was founded to protect designers' work from being copied and establish workforce regulations. Paris Fashion Week, inaugurated in 1973, set the stage for iconic events like the Battle of Versailles Fashion Show, showcasing French and American designers. But in the world of style, is there ever a clear winner? Paris maintains its enduring influence, from denim jeans, born in the French city of Nîmes and popularized by Levi Strauss among Californian gold miners, to the bikini, a creation of French designers Jacques Heim and Louis Réard in 1946. Even accessories tell stories of Parisian panache. The Panama hat, unveiled at the 1855 World's Fair in Paris, remains a symbol of timeless elegance. Despite its association with the failed Panama Canal project, it still retains its charm, adorning heads at events like the French Open at Roland Garros. The nickname "Paname" for Paris, once linked to a failed endeavor, remains a stylish emblem of the city's enduring allure. And speaking of innovation, it was the French army that pioneered camouflage during World War I in 1915, forever changing the landscape of military attire. And let's not overlook the beret! Originating from France, this chic headgear isn't just for military uniforms—it's a fashion statement beloved worldwide. The Parisian way of life was truly a revelation, especially when you marry the beauty of the city with all the heard and unheard stories from the yesteryear! Now the Pro tips: I utilized the day pass called Mobilis, priced at around 7.20 Euros, valid for Zones 1 and 2 in Paris. With a pack of 10 tickets, I had the flexibility to explore the city at my own pace. To combat jet lag, late check-in and maximize my time, I began my day early with a general city orientation, opting for a guided walk highlighting Paris's main attractions. I prefer to avoid crowded places and long queues, so I skipped

the Eiffel Tower viewing gallery. I don't see the point of paying for views that can be enjoyed for free. Instead, I took in a stunning city view, with the Eiffel Tower as part of the landscape, from the top of Galeries Lafayette. While exploring, I stumbled upon an interesting piece of memorabilia near a popular spot where tourists take photos with the Eiffel Tower. I believe this location is Pont d'Iéna, but I might be mistaken since I found it quite randomly. For an enchanting view of the Sparkling Eiffel, I suggest visiting Pont de Bir-Hakeim. The bridge offers a free and iconic view, but be sure to check the timings beforehand, as they vary with daylight savings. This detail often goes unnoticed in the influencer era. As for the Opera Garnier, I saved it for a special outing with my girlfriends. We all opted for an audio-guided tour to enhance our experience. As for the Dior Museum, booking tickets in advance is advisable due to queues. For a different perspective on Paris, I joined a Haunted and Crime Tour, exploring the city's darker side. I've included the links for your reference. Don't worry, I get no commission out of this! A post shared by Paris France ?? Travel | Hotels | Food | Tips (@paris.explore) Further Readings Recent (and not-so recent) Posts: France A medic with a maverick mind

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10 Historical Secrets Of Paris | Paris Insiders Guide

Paris, a city with more than 2000 years of history, is bound to have a few secrets. Sure, we all know about Notre Dame Cathedral, the Louvre, and the Eiffel Tower, but do you know about secret Paris, like the bronze plaque that marks the center of the city? Or a 14-meter-high statue honoring the patron saint of Paris? Or the Roman arena with space for 15,000 spectators? The next time you're here, do your own secret Paris tour to spot the hidden landmarks, statues, and little-known fountains. Get off the beaten path and search out these marvelous gems that set the city apart, and that make your visit that much more special. Paris will never look the same again. The Louvre's Greatest Masterpieces

Skip the lines make the most of your time in Paris with a whirlwind tour of the must-see works of art in the Louvre on this professionally-guided tour. The top choice.

[Check Availability?](#) Louvre Skip-the-Line Tour

Head straight to the front of the line, then journey through art history on a 3-hour private Louvre visit. On this complete tour, an expert guide reveals subtle details about the artwork.

[Check Availability?](#) The Louvre's Greatest Masterpieces

Skip the lines make the most of your time in Paris with a whirlwind tour of the must-see works of art in the Louvre on this professionally-guided tour. The top choice.

[Check Availability?](#) All distances in France are measured from this bronze compass star fixed in concrete in front of Notre Dame Cathedral. Throughout France, autoroute (highway) signs tell you how many kilometres you are from this exact point in Paris. Many pilgrims come here to pay their respect. It is, in fact, considered the official center of Paris. Written on a green metal plaque along Quai de Bethune are the words Crue Janvier 1910, along with a line marking the level the Seine reached during the Great Flood of Paris of 1910. Many streets became canals and rowboats were used to navigate the swollen waters. Surprisingly there were no deaths as the waters rose slowly, but thousands were evacuated from their homes. VIP Dinner Cruise with Bateaux Parisiens

This romantic dinner cruise includes champagne, wine & a classic meal. Choose the Service

Privilege option for the best seating, best meal, and the ultimate experience.

Reserve your table? Dinner Cruise by Maxim's of Paris

The legendary Parisian restaurant takes you on a dinner cruise complete with champagne and wine.

Choose the 2-hour cruise for a stellar evening in Paris.

Check Availability? VIP Dinner Cruise with Bateaux Parisiens

This romantic dinner cruise includes champagne, wine & a classic meal. Choose the Service Privilege option for the best seating, best meal, and the ultimate experience.

Reserve your table? She faces upriver, guarding the city as she has done since 451, when the prayers of Genevieve the virgin nun were credited with halting Attila the Hun's advances. In 464 as the city was under siege by the Franks, Genevieve is said to have smuggled boatloads of grain through enemy lines. 1,280 years after her death, fanatic revolutionaries burned her remains and cast the ashes into the river. Look for her on the Pont de la Tournelle, one of Paris' newest bridges (1928); here you will spot the 14-meter-high statue of the city's patron saint. The statue of Sainte Genevieve, by Paul Landowski (1875-1961), was completed the same year as the bridge. Landowski's most famous work is Christ the Redeemer above Rio de Janeiro. The emblem is everywhere ? on city schools, train stations, bridges, the Sorbonne, police badges, public buildings, and even the mayor's stationary. The image of a sailing vessel (known as La Nef Parisienne) has been on the city's coat of arms since about 1260 when Louis IX, AKA Saint Louis, appointed the Guild of the Watermen to help run the city. As you might expect, during the French Revolution all emblems were abolished. But the coat of arms soon resurfaced. Beneath the vessel you usually find the words, "fluctuat nec merigitur" ? "tossed by the waves but never sinking" ? the motto of Paris. The motto first appeared in the 16th century but was made official by none other than Baron Haussmann in 1853. The Louvre's Greatest Masterpieces

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More information? [The Louvre's Greatest Masterpieces](#)

Skip the lines and see a lot of art on this professionally guided tour. Choose from a private tour or semi-private (max 6 people.) The top choice.

Check Availability? Arenes de Lutece, photo Wikimedia Commons by shadowgate How do you hide an enormous first-century amphitheater in Paris? It's one of the city's most important Roman ruins (the other is the Roman Baths at the Musée de Cluny) and it was only accidentally discovered in 1869 when Rue Monge was built, cutting through the Latin Quarter, during the Haussmannian renovations of Paris. Famous folk like Victor Hugo successfully fought for its preservation. Excavation on the arena continued until the end of World War I. Constructed in the 1st century, the oval arena could hold 15,000 spectators and was used for gladiator combats. Today, with its surrounding gardens and benches, the arena is an oasis of tranquility for children to play, impromptu games of boules, and for urban flaneurs to stroll through. It is the perfect place for a picnic after loading up with baguettes, cheese and fruit from shops along the bountiful Rue Monge. By the way, our favorite Latin quarter hotel, Hotel Monge, backs onto the arena. The hotel elevator has a glass wall so you can view the Arenes de Lutece as you ascend to your room! Acting as France's national attic, the Mobilier National is crammed with treasures from Napoleon, Marie-Antoinette, and Louis XVI. Created in 1667 by French Minister of Finance, Jean-Baptiste Colbert, it was a royal storehouse used as he transformed the Gobelins Tapestry Factory. It's now responsible for furnishing government ministries and embassies with everything from doorstops to doorknobs. The institution also once housed the crown jewels and is part of the Gobelins Tapestry museum complex. The Mobilier National maintains and restores about 200,000 items of furniture, clocks, chandeliers, textiles and tapestries, and occasionally stages special exhibitions. Check the complete list of Paris hotels to find current sale prices on rooms in every arrondissement. Save 10%, 20%? or even more!

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Search for your hotel? Save on hotels in every arrondissement of Paris ? the Latin Quarter, Saint

Germain, the Right Bank, the Marais, near the Eiffel Tower. Save 10%, 20%? or even more!

Search for your hotel? In the early 18th century Saint-Germain-des-Prés was one of the wealthiest quartiers in Paris, but it was without a water supply. Sculptor Edme Bouchardon (royal sculptor of Louis XV) was commissioned to design a fountain to solve two problems ? to supply water and to solidify the king's benevolence to the people of Paris. It took Bouchardon seven years to complete the project with four distinct bas-reliefs representing the four seasons. Although the Ionic-pillared fountain is adorned with an abundance of decoration, it wasn't very functional; with only two little spouts water merely dribbled out. Voltaire widely criticized the project saying, "I have no doubt that Bouchardon will make of this fountain a fine piece of architecture; but what kind of fountain has only two faucets where the water porters will come to fill their buckets? This isn't the way fountains are built in Rome to beautify the city?" In a small park in Saint-Germain-des-Prés is a bronze bust by Pablo Picasso who gifted it to the city in 1958. The sculpture is in memory of his friend, the poet Guillaume Apollinaire, who died at the end of World War I from head injuries, compounded by the Spanish flu. Versailles with Priority Access + Gardens

Skip the long lines to experience the grandeur of Versailles on a guided tour. Stroll through the stunning gardens with your guide, then visit Marie Antoinette's estate.

More information? Half-Day, Skip-the-Line Tour of Versailles

If you don't have a full day, this popular half-day tour of Versailles includes priority access with an expert guide. The small-group ensures personal attention and includes transportation right from your hotel.

More information? Versailles with Priority Access + Gardens

Skip the long lines to experience the grandeur of Versailles on a guided tour. Stroll through the stunning gardens with your guide, then visit Marie Antoinette's estate.

More information? And speaking of Picasso, Rues des Grands-Augustins is where the great man lived and worked from 1936 to 1955, including during the Nazi occupation of Paris (1940 to 1944). This is where he painted Guernica in 1937 as well as many other somber works. In 2014, the studio was finally classified a French historical monument (after the current owners threatened to turn it

into a luxury hotel). Marais Food & Wine Tour

Walk through the historic Marais neighborhood with a food-expert guide to visit traditional food & wine shops, while tasting iconic Parisian foods.

Check Availability? Cheese & Wine Tasting in a Paris Cellar

In the cheese-aging cellar of a Paris fromagerie discover 7 classic French cheeses and the wines that pair with them. Lots of sampling!

Check Availability? Cheese & Wine Tasting in a Paris Cellar

In the cheese-aging cellar of a Paris fromagerie discover 7 classic French cheeses and the wines that pair with them. Lots of sampling!

Check Availability? This photo shows how Arc de Triomphe du Carrousel lines up with the obelisk and the Arc de Triomphe The triumphal marble arch with its pink pillars isn't really hidden, but here's a secret party trick to impress your friends. The arch can be used like a precise gun sight to line up the Tuileries Fountains, the Egyptian Obelisk of Luxor in the Place de la Concorde, the Champs-Élysées, and the Arc de Triomphe, more than two miles away. (And, if you could see that far, all the way to the Grande Arche at La Défense.) Napoleon built the monument in 1808 to celebrate Austerlitz and other military victories. It was once crowned with the bronze horses of San Marco plundered from Venice during one of Napoleon's military campaigns. Italy recovered the original horses in 1815 after Napoleon's defeat and copies were made to replace them. The arch is based on a model of the Roman Arch of Constantine. Copyright © 2010-2024 Voconces Culinary Ltd, all rights reserved. Original photos © Mark Craft, all rights reserved.

Parisian hidden gems ? Spoons on Trays | Katy Barrett

The Staircase at the Musée Gustave Moreau

These days, when I go abroad, I post on Twitter asking for recommendations of places to visit. I'm lucky enough to be followed by lots of interesting museum, arts and science people so I always get good recommendations. This week, visiting Paris, my tactic really paid off as we were able to visit a host of wonderful small museums, skipping the crowds at the larger institutions. First up was the extraordinary Musée de la Chasse et de la Nature (Museum of Hunting and Nature) housed in a 17th-century mansion. It is dedicated to the relationship between humans and the natural environment, particularly focused on the history of hunting and the animals that involved. Rooms are dedicated to specific animals ? boars, wolves, deer, dogs, birds of prey. There are also larger rooms focused on trophies, weapons or artworks. The displays are marvellous, mixing taxidermy, furniture, fine and decorative arts with contemporary commissions, all with a playful comment on how human-animal relationships have developed. They are equally visually and intellectually stimulating. A small permanent commission on the second floor by contemporary artist Mark Dion brings in the context of the museum's founders François and Jacqueline Sommer, keen hunters and conservationists, by re-imagining their hunting cabin. My readers know I love a house museum, so of course the Musée Gustave Moreau appealed instantly. Imagined and developed by the artist himself this is a wonderful combination of apartment, studio and museum which arguably creates a better legacy for the artist than his (proto-Symbolist) art deserves. The first floor maintains the apartment that he lived in, first with his family then alone, crammed full of furniture, memories and pictures. It is redolent of life and very claustrophobic. The impact is all the more, then, as you walk up to the second floor and emerge into an enormous, high-ceilinged, light-filled space, which Moreau had created, along with another on the floor above, to form his art museum, sacrificing his studio and the second storey of the house. A beautiful spiral staircase curls up from one floor of the museum to another. The walls are lined with Moreau's paintings ? hoarded and reworked in his last years ? large and small, finished and unfinished, almost all treating of biblical or mythological themes. A particular treat for the visitor are the cabinets

of hinged, framed prints under the windows, with inviting stools, for you to sit and look through. Larger but similarly off the tourist beaten track is the Musée des Arts et Métiers (Museum of Arts and Trades) attached to the Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers (National Conservatory of Arts and Industry) founded in 1794. It is essentially a museum of industrial design and is, in many ways, gloriously old fashioned for a science museum, still arranged by large disciplines ? energy, construction, communication, transport ? and featuring a host of models. The highlight is the former church of Saint Martin-des-Champs that forms part of the building and houses the museum's larger treasures in a glorious space filled with decorative paint and stained glass. There's an original version of Foucault's pendulum, the first model of the Statue of Liberty and the Blériot XI in which Louis Blériot first flew the Channel. Planes hang in the roof of the nave, and other large engines, cars and models are displayed on a towering scaffold down one side. Other highlights of the collection include Lavoisier's laboratory, early automaton, and the development of photography. I'm lucky enough to have been to Paris a number of times before, so also insisted that my husband and I go to the Musée de l'Orangerie for a small but ?immersive? Monet experience. I was obsessed with Monet as a child, and still find his large Nymphées paintings utterly captivating, evoking space, water, calm and glorious colour even in the bustle of the museum. Kind Tweeters also recommended many other places for which we didn't have time, so we will have to return. This will be my new tactic for all future excursions, ask for the gems off the beaten track, and revel in their magic. Made with Squarespace

Hidden Gems in Paris | Big Bus Tours

Black Friday Sale - 30% off selected combos! Black Friday Sale - 30% off selected combos! Tickets selected: This website uses cookies to improve your experience. Carry on browsing if you're happy with this. [Learn more.](#) Got it! Wandering the streets of Paris and losing yourself in this magical city is an enjoyable way to explore. But even then you'll be hard pushed to find its hidden gems and secret attractions. With its world-famous monuments, museums and galleries, you'll arrive with an already long list of things to do and see. Then when you've scaled the Eiffel Tower, shopped along the Champ-Élysées and marvelled at the Louvre Museum, head to one of these hidden gems for a more Paris off the beaten path experience: A Parisian park you've probably never heard of, Buttes-Chaumont is one of the city's biggest and most impressive green spaces. A haven to escape the hustle and bustle of the city. Because of its hilly nature, it's the perfect location to be spoilt for incredible views across the city. So pitch up and enjoy a picnic at this tranquil hidden gem in Paris. Then take a wander and discover its caves, waterfalls, suspended bridge and lake. Be sure to look out for the wildlife ? bird watchers will be in for a treat. Bliss. Once the road travelled by French Kings to enter the city after being crowned in the Cathedral of St. Denis, Rue du Faubourg-Saint-Denis has transformed over the years into a gourmet food hotspot. Turkish, Kurdish, African and Indian eateries line the streets, with terraces offering great people-watching opportunities while you eat. You know you're in the right place when the local newsagent serves up award winning falafel, a true hidden gem in Paris. And when you've eaten, be sure to spot the two stone arches of Port St. Martin and Porte St. Denis. Montmartre ? Blue Route, Stop: Gare du Nord If you're a fan of art, why not make it your mission to find the Banksy murals in Paris. A tribute to the May 1968 uprising, it's believed there are 12 works of art in total - although a couple are yet to be found. Browse Paris off the beaten path and see if you can discover them! We'll get you started with your first location: head to Rue du Mont Cenis (18th). On one of the city's most famous Montmartre staircases, Banksy has painted a rat being popped like a cork from a champagne bottle. Some say it symbolises the area's festive spirit, what do you think? For Rue du Mont

Cenis:Montmartre ? Blue Route, Stop: Gare du Nord Picture this: it's a balmy evening in the city of Paris, the river Seine is glistening, soft music is playing in the background and summer strollers begin to ballroom dance in the streets. Sound like movie set? Well you can be the star. From June through to the end of August you can join the fiesta any night of the week. Head to the Rosa Bonheur sur Seine, at Porte des Invalides, and perfect your salsa, tango, waltz or swing. A great way to also meet the locals. For Rosa Bonheur sur Seine:Classic Route ? Red, Stop: Grand Palais

The best bit about exploring Paris off the beaten path is experiencing this city in ways you won't necessarily find in the guide books. Getting away from the tourist hotspots and losing yourself for a few hours. Of course, you need to tick off the iconic sights and landmarks too, the not so hidden gems in Paris. Hop on a Big Bus tour and we'll take you to see all the best bits. For more inspiration on how to fill the rest of your time in this cosmopolitan city, check out our 2 Days in Paris itinerary. Spending just 48 hours in the city of love? Here's how to cram all the much-loved attractions into your trip, along with a dose of culture and a generous helping of French cuisine. When the sun sets in most places it's usually time to head home. The same can't be said for Paris. The city of love erupts into an electric atmosphere at night providing an experience that's completely different to the daytime. From iconic cabaret shows to late night river cruises and moonlight swimming. We've chosen the best places to experience all that the city has to offer after dark. We've rounded up where to find the best shopping in Paris ? now all you have to do is round up the funds? If you're only visiting for a short while, you might want to have some rainy day activities up your sleeve in case the weather turns. Here's how we think you can still enjoy Paris in the rain... Join thousands of our passengersSign up to our newsletter for exclusive info and offers JavaScript seems to be disabled in your browser.

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Ten Hidden Gems to Discover in Paris | Limitless

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24 July 2024 6 minutes

Most visitors to the City of Light dream of wandering the hallowed halls of the Louvre or spotting the twinkling lights on the Eiffel Tower after dark. But if you've got a few days to spend in the French capital, try to get to know the soul of the city. Dig a little deeper beyond its world-famous attractions to unearth hidden treasures in undiscovered corners of the city. Here's how to find some of the best hidden gems in Paris.

Amazed at the opulence of the Palace of Versailles? Now you can dodge the crowds to travel further back in time for guided tours of Château de Vincennes, a remarkably complete medieval castle with fortified walls encircled by a moat, and as unadorned as Versailles is glittering. Inside the castle courtyard, you can explore the bizarre, 52-metre tower that did a stint as a prison in 1777 ? the notorious Marquis de Sade was one of its inmates ? and its military museum. Opposite stands the lovely Gothic Sainte-Chapelle de Vincennes, bristling with lacy stonework; don't miss its plain, vaulted interior, awash with soft light ushered through gem-like stained-glass windows. Top tip: Bordering the château is Bois de Vincennes, itself a hidden gem of Paris where you can escape the city bustle to take leisurely lakeside strolls or watch summer concerts in the Parc Floral. Avenue de Paris, 94300 Vincennes. Métro line 1 to Château de Vincennes. Open daily 10am-6pm (10am-5pm in winter). Admission ?9.50.

So you've been enchanted by Claude Monet's gardens at Giverny? Now make a pilgrimage to Auvers-sur-Oise, where Vincent van Gogh briefly made his home in 1890, completing some of his most famous paintings. Follow the artist's final days from his simple bedroom in the Auberge

Ravoux to Notre-Dame-de-l'Assomption ? celebrated in gloriously luminous colour as The Church at Auvers. Visit the house of Vincent's mentor Dr Gachet, who was immortalised in the melancholy Portrait of Dr Gachet, and pay your respects to Van Gogh in the cemetery, where he lies next to his brother Theo. But Auvers isn't all about Van Gogh. Back in the 1860s this pretty little town was a lively hangout for renowned artists including Corot and Daumier; you can see their sublime murals adorning the walls of the Maison-Atelier Daubigny. Self-guided walking tours of this hidden gem of a town also lead you to spots where Cézanne and Pissarro painted masterpieces. North-west outskirts of Paris. Train from Gare du Nord to Pontoise; change there for Auvers-sur-Oise. Loved the Musée Rodin? Perhaps you'd like to get to know another artist, who ? unlike Rodin ? has been overlooked for decades. The name of Jean-Jacques Henner was once mentioned in the same breath as other French masters, and with the recent remodelling of a museum dedicated to his works, he's slowly creeping back into the public eye. So visit the splendid Musée National Jean-Jacques Henner soon, before the crowds arrive. It's housed in a majestic mansion ? a hôtel particulier ? close by if you're staying at luxury Le Royal Monceau - Raffles Paris. Displays include more than 2,000 examples of Henner's paintings, beautifully exhibited in opulent rooms decorated with period furnishings. Ethereal portraits follow on from mythical landscapes full of light and shade, set alongside many of his preparatory sketches and the delicate "nymph" paintings for which he was once so well known. And keep an eye out for the mysterious, titian-haired beauty Henner portrayed repeatedly during his career. 43 avenue de Villiers, 75017. Métro line 3 to Wagram or Malesherbes, or line 2 to Monceau. Open Wed-Mon 11am-6pm. Admission ?6. Bought books from Boul'Mich market in the Latin Quarter? Chase more bargains at lesser-known Marché aux Puces Porte de Vanves, the only flea market in central Paris. Held in the 14th arrondissement, it's a photogenic jumble of around 400 stalls sprawled over several streets ? rich pickings for lovers of brocantes who can forage to their heart's content among hidden gems from antiquarian books, 1950s retro furniture, piles of vinyl records, and silverware in need of a good polish. You may have to search hard to source genuine bargains like vintage YSL dresses, Limoges porcelain or perhaps a diamond ring ? but persevere, as hidden treasures can still be found! And should your flea-market

adventure leave you hungry, there are plenty of food stalls serving up delicious street snacks like crepes and falafels. Top tips: Most market traders don't accept cards so take cash with you if you're intending to buy, and remember that it's almost expected that you negotiate over the price of any purchases. 4 avenue Georges Lafenestre, 75014. Métro line 13 to Porte de Vanves. Open 7am-2pm Sat-Sun. Browsed the chic fashions at elegant department store Galeries Lafayette? It's time to explore Galerie Vivienne, a one-stop 19th-century shopping mall exuding Parisian glamour from its soaring glass roof to the swirling mosaic floor and ornate neoclassical frontages of its indie stores. Unknown to many tourists, the gallery is a chic melange of boutiques displaying the wares of up-and-coming designers, shoemakers, hatters and jewellers. It's also home to two historic stores: Librairie Jousseume has been selling antiquarian books for two hundred years, while Legrand Filles et Fils is the gourmet épicerie of choice for locally made foie gras, regional wines and artisan chocolate as souvenirs of your Paris trip. And when you've had your fill of high-end shopping, linger awhile with your beloved in this charming arcade to sip a glass of Champagne and refuel on classic French dishes at elegant Bistrot Vivienne. 4 rue des Petits Champs, 75002. Métro line 3 to Bourse. Open 8am-8:30pm daily. Have you taken a couples' selfie in front of the cute, pastel-hued houses on Rue Crémieux? Try for a unique shot in Rue des Thermopyles, a minuscule, cobbled treasure of a lane tucked away on the Left Bank in hidden Paris. This secret street of rustic cottages adorned with decorative wooden shutters, elaborate glass-panelled doors and minuscule wrought-iron balconies is an oasis of leafy peace way off the touristy beaten track. Magical to visit any time of year, it really comes into its own in spring and summer, when sinuous swathes of ivy, vines and wisteria cover all the façades and creep in arches across the lane. If you're lucky, you'll hit a day when the community garden, run by the local residents, is open to the public. Top tip: Whatever season you visit Rue des Thermopyles, look out for graffiti from street artists like Session 75, Miss.Tic and Les Gars Laxistes. Paris 75014. Métro line 13 to Pernety. Enjoyed a colourful and slightly risqué cabaret show at the Moulin Rouge? That's certainly the most famous windmill in Paris today, but there was a time when mills were the defining symbol of hilly Montmartre. Of the 30 or so that once dotted the district, only two remain. Stroll down Rue Lepic and you'll soon come

across Moulin Radet, one of the hidden gems in Montmartre with a wooden frame and white paddles. Originally a flour mill, it has now morphed into Le Moulin de la Galette, an upscale bistro that often flies under the tourist radar but makes a cosy spot for a romantic dinner à deux. Little-known fact: Steps away you can admire Radet's sister mill, Moulin Blute-Fin. It had its moment of fame in the 1870s, when an al fresco dance hall lay at its feet. It's enshrined forever in Renoir's joyful painting *Bal du Moulin de la Galette* ? you can check it out in the Musée d'Orsay. 83 rue Lepic, 75018. Métro line 12 to Abbesses. Restaurant open daily noon-10:15pm. Admired Paris laid out below you from atop the Eiffel Tower? Now it's time to see the city from a different perspective. An ascent to the Panoramic Observation Deck at Montparnasse Tower puts you 56 floors above the ground and reveals a road map of famous Parisian monuments: the spiky Eiffel Tower taking centre stage, the glistening gold dome of Les Invalides, the Sacré-Coeur Basilica perched on its Montmartre hilltop, Notre-Dame Cathedral? And all the way to the futuristic skyscrapers of La Défense. Kids love the chance to find their Paris hotel through powerful telescopes, and learn more about the city via the interactive exhibits. If you're all happy with heights, you can venture up to the open-air viewing terrace at 210 metres to take some Insta-worthy photos; time your trip for nightfall to get shots of Paris illuminated by a million dancing lights. 33 avenue du Maine, 75015. Métro lines 4, 6, 12 and 13 to Montparnasse-Bienvenue. Open 9:30am-10:30pm Sun-Thur; 9:30am-11pm Fri-Sat. Admission starts at ?19. Viewed Paris from the Ferris wheel in the Jardin des Tuileries? Now it's time to follow Parisian families and nip along to the Jardin d'Acclimatation, a quieter option for kids in the leafy Bois de Boulogne. There's masses for everyone to do, so you can easily spend a day there. Attractions include traditional carousels with gilded, intricately painted wooden horses, roller-coaster rides that offer sneak peeks of the Eiffel Tower, and splash parks for cooling down in summer. Toddlers can get around the park on the mini-train, and they're certain to adore hugging cuddly goats and donkeys at the petting farm. Top tip: When you've squeezed every last happy drop of fun out of the fair, you can replenish family energy levels in a choice of terrace restaurants serving classic burgers and pizzas. Carrefour des Sablons, Bois de Boulogne, 75116. Métro line 1 to Les Sablons or Pont de Neuilly. Open

10am-6pm Mon-Sat; 10am-7pm Sun. Admission starts at ?27. If you've enjoyed une balade in some of Paris's famous gardens like the Jardin du Luxembourg or Parc des Buttes-Chaumont, why not step into uncharted territory on the Promenade Plantée? Sometimes known as the Coulée Verte, this obscure delight runs above street level on a defunct railway line between the Opéra Bastille and the Bois de Vincennes. The garden was the inspiration for the High Line in New York City, but it remains surprisingly free of crowds. This gentle 5-kilometre family meander leads along an avenue of trees, among beautifully tended gardens festooned with roses, lavender, bamboo and wisteria. En route, you can check out the Viaduc des Arts, a series of brick archways now packed with the artisan workshops of perfumiers, jewellers and guitar makers, and be sure to look out for The Dying Slaves, a vast, art deco-style sculpture atop the local police station! 1 coulée Verte René-Dumont, 75012. Métro line 1 to Bastille. Open dawn-dusk. We hope you enjoyed our journey around the lesser-known attractions of Paris ? now it's time for you to go out and get exploring the hidden treasures of the city! If you're interested in architectural design, sustainable development, or you simply want to visit a unique hidden gem in England, add Container City to your list of things to do in London. The Catboat in Amsterdam is the world's only floating cat sanctuary. Since the 1960s, the organisation has provided the city's stray cats with food, shelter and medical care. See Amsterdam from the sky as you laugh, look and live a one-of-a-kind experience at A'DAM LOOKOUT Over The Edge - Europe's highest swing. Filled with memorials to world-famous individuals as well as Parisian citizens, Père-Lachaise Cemetery combines graveyard, historic site and memorial park in the city's largest green space. Explore the beauty of New Zealand and see why so many world-class directors decided to film their movies in this unique location. For shopping opportunities beyond department stores and chic boutiques, head to the best flea markets in Paris to seek out vintage fashions, hidden gems and endless antiques. Paris is known and loved as "The City of Light". But beneath the luminous metropolis lies a dark and ghoulish space filled with the bones of over six million people. Tempelhof, the gigantic Nazi-era airport that mutated into a huge park in the heart of the city, is one of Berlin's most singular and captivating locations. Teufelsberg, or "Devil's Mountain", is an abandoned Cold War-era listening

station-turned-street art haven in Grunewald National Forest, 13 kilometres outside of central Berlin.

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Best Hidden Gems and Secret Places in France - Europe's Best Destinations

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best price and discover the Best Secret Travel Destinations in France such as the cities of Saint Cirq Lapopie or Eze. Need more inspiration? Discover the Best Places to Visit in France, Best Things to do in France, Most Beautiful Beaches in France, Best Castles in France but also the Best Christmas Markets in

France and Best Ski Resorts in France. Alsace A 15-minute drive from Colmar and only a 1hour drive from Strasbourg, Eguisheim is one of of your Best Secret Places in

France. With its colourful facades, typical Alsatian houses and stork nests, Eguisheim is a destination straight out of a fairy tale. How to get there: Book your flights to Basel or Strasbourg (1h by car or train) as well as your accommodation and your tours and activities in Alsace, such as a "Half-day wine tour from

Strasbourg". Where to stay: "Hotel Restaurant L'Auberge Alsacienne" with modern rooms and a traditional restaurant. Giverny - Normandy Once in a while, the hand of man intervenes to create

a magnificent landscape and sublime gardens that is now seen as one of the most beautiful Secret Places in France. Without a penny in his pocket, the painter Claude Monet had to leave Paris and moved in as a single tenant in this house located in Normandy. The property underwent major landscaping work including the creation of a pond and the building of three greenhouses. Monet finally acquired the house after 7 years of tenancy. These gardens were

to inspire him with his most famous paintings including "Les Nymphéas". Come relax in this soothing and inspiring place just 1 hour's drive from Paris and book your flights and accommodation at the best price and your tours and activities in France such

as a "Half-day trip to Giverny

from Paris" and discover one of the Best Hidden Gems in France. How to get there: Book your flights to

Paris (1h by car). Where to stay: "Le Jardin des Plumes" located in Giverny. Monet's house and gardens are only 500 m

from the Hotel. Cote d'Azur Close to the border with Italy, Menton is one of the most colourful destinations in France and one of the Best

Secret Travel Destinations in France. Less famous than Nice or Cannes, Menton has nevertheless become one of the most famous

tourist resorts of the Côte d'Azur. Located just a 50 minutes' drive from Nice Airport, Menton is a perfect destination for a multi-day stay or a day trip. Book your flights but also your accommodation at the best price as well as your tours and activities in the

French Riviera such as the discovery of the city of Grasse and the possibility of making your own perfume at a Perfume Factory. How to get there: Book your flights to Nice Airport (50 min by car).

Where to stay: "Best Western Plus Hotel Prince de Galles" located in the seaside town of

Menton. Brittany Located an hour away by car from Saint-Brieuc airport and Rennes airport, Cancale is one of the Best Hidden Gems in France. This small town of 5 000 inhabitants is visited every year by travellers from all over the world who come to taste its wild oysters, enjoy its turquoise blue waters and its magnificent beaches. Cancale is only a 50 minutes' drive from le Mont

Saint-Michel. How to get there: Book your flights to Rennes (1h by car) and hotel at the best price. Where to stay: "La Mere Champlain" located in the heart of Cancale. Alsace Riquewihr is one of the most beautiful villages in Alsace and one of the best off-the-beaten-track places in France. The tourist success of this small village is largely due to its intact architectural heritage spared by the two world wars. How to get there: Book your flights to Strasbourg or Basel (1h by car), your accommodation at the best price and your tours and activities in Alsace, such

as a "full-day wine tour & tastings from Strasbourg". Where to stay: "Maison Rebleuthof" a luxury apartment in the heart of Riquewihr's Old Town. Golden Island - Var This imposing volcanic mountain massif is one of the most incredible natural wonders in France and one of the

Best Secret Places to Visit in France. The Massif de l'Esterel is located in the Var, a department known for the beauty of its landscapes and its beaches which have been elected as being among the best beaches in France. The best way to enjoy these landscapes is to hike. You may see deer, wild boar or turtles and be overwhelmed by the scents of thyme, rosemary, lavender and mimosa. How to get there: Book your flights to Nice (40 min by car) and your accommodation at the best price in the region. Where to stay: "Tiara Miramar Beach Hotel & Spa". This design hotel features a free onsite spa. Cote d'Azur This is one of the best hidden gems in France but also one of the most beautiful French villages. The village of Eze is located a few minutes from the very famous city of Nice and therefore only a 40 minutes? drive from Nice airport. Eze is a 13th century village hung on a rocky peak facing the Mediterranean. We come here for the beauty of the landscapes and for the authentic character of this small village and its medieval

houses. How to get there: Book your flights to Nice (25min by car), your accommodation at the best price in Nice and

your tours and activities in Nice

such as a ?Day trip to the Verdon Gorge from Nice?. Where to stay: "Eze Hermitage Hotel" offering panoramic views of the area and a beautiful swimming pool. Carantec - Morlaix - Brittany This magnificent and tiny island is one of the Best Secret Places to Visit in France. It is located in Carantec, Morlaix bay, in Brittany. The name of this island is not its first owner?s, Charles Cornic,

but his best friend's, Monsieur Louët. It is now possible to stay overnight on this tiny island managed by the Carantec tourist office, but the place is often fully booked; we advise you to keep that in mind and book in advance. Book your accommodation at the best price in Carantec or elsewhere in Brittany and discover one of the best hidden gems in

France. How to get there: Book your flights to Brest-Bretagne Airport (40 min by car). Where to stay: "Hôtel de Carantec" facing the beachfront. Alsace Colmar is not really a secret destination, nor is it unknown but it is full of hidden gems which you will

love. Over the years this beautiful city has become one of the most visited destinations in France. It is no coincidence that travellers from all

over the world book their holidays in Colmar. They also voted the city "Best Destination for Spring". We fell in love with Colmar and have published a small travel guide on the best things to do & see in Colmar. How to get there: Book your flights to Basel or Strasbourg (1h by car) and travel by train or by car to discover Colmar. Where to stay: "Hotel Le Colombier Suites". Dordogne Located in the Dordogne region, one of the most beautiful regions of France, La Roque Gageac is one of the best

off-the-beaten-track destinations in France. Enjoy your stay in the region to explore the most beautiful places of the Dordogne Valley such as the sacred city of Rocamadour, the village of Collonges-la-Rouge and many others. How to get there: Book your flights for Bergerac Dordogne Perigord airport 1h by car) and your accommodation at the best price. Where to stay: We advise you to book in the

guest house "Maison d'hôtes Anne Fouquet". Kerlouan - Brittany This is not really a village but rather a hamlet. Meneham located in Finistere in Brittany is one of the Best Secret Places to Visit in France. It is known for the house between

two rocks built to monitor the coast. The entire hamlet of Menham was renovated about ten years ago and today it welcomes travellers wishing to discover how life was at the seaside in the 18th century. If you are not passionate about history this is not a problem, you will be seduced by the beauty of the landscapes, the turquoise waters of the mer d'Iroise and the wilderness of this

Brittany

coast. How to get there: Book your flights to Brest (30 min by car) and your accommodation at the best price in Brittany. Where to stay: We recommend the hotel

"Relais du Silence Hotel de la Mer", an ecological hotel located on the

seafront. Occitanie One of the most beautiful villages in France is located just 1h30 from Toulon airport in the Lot department. Saint-Cirq-Lapopie is a small medieval village of 200 inhabitants. The village has also inspired artists like André Breton who lived there. Explore in his footsteps the narrow streets and medieval houses of one of the best hidden gems in France. How to get there: Book your flights to Toulon and your accommodation at the best price. Where to stay: Book at the "Charme et jardin c?ur St Cirq" highly rated for its location in the heart of

Saint-Cirq Lapopie. Arcachon - Occitanie With a height of 106 m and a length of 600 m, the Pilat Dune is the highest dune in Europe and one of the Best Hidden Gems in France. The largest dune in the world is still 5 times larger but the beauty of the Dune of Pilat is truly awesome. Size aside, its most impressive feature is its presence, right there amidst a beautiful

forest of pine trees. Go down at the foot of the dune and you will arrive on the basin of Arcachon, world famous for its oysters. A few steps from the dune you can eat at the restaurant "La Coorniche" renovated by the French designer Philippe Starck. You can also book your room at the best price at the 5-star hotel "La Coorniche". How to get there: Book your flights to Bordeaux (50 min by car). Where to stay: "La Coorniche" renovated by the French designer Philippe Starck.

Dordogne The Dordogne valley is a favourite destinations for travellers exploring France. You will fall in love with the villages of

Rocamadour, Carennac, Colonges-la-Rouge and Meyronne, ranked among the Best Secret Places in France. During your stay you will taste the best of French gastronomy and exceptional wines. There is also food for the spirit as the Dordogne Valley is rich in exceptional monuments, medieval castles and its famous half-timbered houses. Guided tours will take

you some of the most beautiful places in the Dordogne Valley. How to get there: Book your flights today for "Brive-Dordogne Valley" airport (40min) and your hotel, guesthouse or B&B, at the

best price in the Dordogne Valley. Where to stay: The guest house "Château de Maraval" is perfect for an unforgettable stay in this region of

France. Corsica You will find the small village of Nonza in the South of Corsica. Located only 1hour drive from Bastia airport, Nonza is considered one of the most beautiful villages in France. Come and enjoy the Mediterranean climate and discover one of the best hidden gems in France. Below the village you can enjoy the beach of Nonza. There is always room for sunbathing since Nonza has only 73 inhabitants. How to get there: Book your flights to Bastia Airport (1h by car), your accommodation at the best price and your tours & activities in Corsica,

such as a "Private tour of

Bastia with a local". Where to stay: If you want to stay in Nonza

we advise you to book at the "Hotel de la Corniche" with a clear view of the valley and the sea.

Corsica Bonifacio is certainly one of the most beautiful secret destinations in

France. The island of beauty, the other name for Corsica, is itself one of the most beautiful islands in Europe. Corsica is a welcoming and self-respecting destination. Nature is the main treasure of this island which counts among the most

beautiful beaches in France but also the best hiking trails of Europe. How to get there: Book your flights for the "Figari-South Corsica" airport (30 min by car) located in the south of Corsica and

discover Bonifacio but also the sublime islands of Lavezzi. Where to stay: "Solemare" offers views of the old port and the Citadel and you can enjoy its heated swimming

pool and air-conditioned rooms. Gordes - Luberon The Notre-Dame de Sénanque abbey is located in the town of Gordes, awarded as one of the most beautiful villages in France. You will be able to visit the two places, the Abbey Notre-Dame de Sénanque and the village of Gordes and its famous ?gories? on the same day. Come visit this place in spring and early summer when lavender is in bloom! How to get there: Book your flights to Avignon (30 min by car) or Marseille (50min)

Where to stay: Stay at "Hotel Les Bories & Spa" and pamper yourself like a star. Pyrénées Orientales Only a few km from the Spanish border, Collioure is one of the best hidden gems in France. Collioure is a peaceful destination where the 3,000 inhabitants among them many artists,

live in harmony with nature and the sea. How to get there: Book your flights to Perpignan (the airport is located 40 minutes by car from Collioure) as well as your accommodation at the best price.

Where to stay "Hotel Madeloc" located 10 minutes? walk from the seaside. Cotes d'Armor - Brittany Plougrescant is only a 50 minutes? drive from Saint-Brieuc airport. Located on the Côte de Granit Rose in the Côtes-d'Armor, Plougrescant is a coastal town ranked among the best hidden gems of France. This peninsula is known for this house wedged between two rocks but you can also see a house on a tiny island. How to get there: Book your flights to Saint-Brieuc Airport (50 min by car). Where to stay: Located a few minutes from

Plougrescant, stay at "Hotel des Rochers. Auvergne Rhône-Alpes - France The Saint-Michel rock on which culminates the church of Puy en Velay is one of the symbols of Puy En Velay, one of the best

hidden gems in France. A land of spirituality, Puy-en-Velay attracts pilgrims from all over the world but also lovers of lace, an ancestral know-how still mastered by a few lacemakers who create refined and 100%

artisanal lace. Passionate about history? Do not miss the Renaissance celebrations of the King of the Bird which take place every year in mid-September. How to get there: Book your flights to Lyon Airport (2h by car). Where to stay: "The House of Lake Fugeres". Situated in the best rated area in Le Puy en Velay. Plan your trip to France Hotels, Apartments, B&B... Fresh deals every single day Thousands reviews you can trust Discover France?s biggest collection of things to do and guided tours. Whatever you want to do you?ll find it here. Travelling to France. Explore France holidays and the best places to visit Best things to do in France Best beaches in France Best castles in France Best places to visit in France Best natural wonders in France Best ski resorts in France Best Christmas Markets Best Destinations 2024 Best Beaches 2024 Best Romantic Destinations Best ski resorts Best Christmas markets 2025 Best beaches in Europe Sustainable tourism in Europe About us Contact us EDEN Destinations Membership Download Press Subscribe to discover latest travel inspiration, tips and deals from European Best Destinations. Best in Europe. Your ultimate bucket list to travel in Europe Best destinations 2024 Most exclusive destinations Best

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10 Off-the-Beaten-Path Spots and Hidden Gems in Paris - InsideHook

With the 2024 Summer Olympic Games kicking off this week, Paris seems to be on the tip of everyone's tongue and an integral part of so many summer travel plans. While France's capital is used to the limelight, the projected tourism numbers promise to surge well above regular summer crowds and smash records left and right (*err gauche and droite* in French). Anyone visiting in the coming months should expect to contend with the masses. But that doesn't mean spending your entire holiday in a queue. Planning a trip to Paris this summer? Whether you're interested in going beyond the well-trodden, first-timer route (sorry, Eiffel Tower and Louvre) or just prefer to explore spots not overrun with the hordes of holiday goers, these insider-approved alternatives to big-name attractions and hidden gems reflect a different, less touristy side of the City of Light. For travelers looking for a more local and laid-back Parisian experience, Hugo Toro, an interior designer and Paris resident, suggests checking out Canal Saint-Martin. Located right by the Grands Boulevards, it's a charming area on the water's edge. The bistros, independent boutiques and bohemian ambiance give it tons of character. "The French Capital is a city of museums," Toto says. "My favorite, Musée de la Chasse et de la Nature, sits inside a superb 17th-century mansion, Hôtel de Guénégaud, designed by François Mansart. Displayed inside are a variety of paintings, sculptures, engravings and more that illustrate hunting through the ages and across cultures." The first elevated linear park of its kind, Promenade Plantée is a leafy walkway built on top of old railway tracks. It starts at Bastille and runs through the 12th arrondissement for three miles to the Bois de Vincennes. It's a nice place for a stroll and to enjoy the rooftop views over the city. Think of it as the Paris equivalent of the High Line, although this one came first. In a district as beloved and busy as Le Marais, you might be surprised to learn of the treasures concealed (almost) within plain sight. Square Georges-Cain is a peaceful best-kept-secret pocket park with greenery, sculptures and shade-giving trees. On a nice day, you'll see Parisians and in-the-know visitors sitting on a bench, eating falafel from the famous stands and taking a break in-between shopping and sightseeing. No doubt you've heard of Jardin des Tuileries, set between the Louvre and Place de la Concorde. But

how about Parc des Buttes Chaumont? Situated in a more off-the-beaten-path location in the 19th arrondissement of northeastern Paris, the fifth-largest park in Paris covers nearly 25 hectares of trees, lawns for picnics, waterfalls, scenic viewpoints, a lake and a suspension bridge. An Instagram hotspot in the making that thankfully hasn't gotten catapulted into the social media spotlight just yet, Rue Crémieux is a pretty-as-a-picture block in the 12th arrondissement that's lined with pastel-hued facades. If you're looking for a spot to pose for photos that's not so ?been there, done that,? give it a shot. Paris has many churches and chapels, some more famous and flocked to than others. Despite its location in the heart of Paris, Sainte-Chapelle is something of a hidden gem. Built at the behest of French king Louis IV, the ornate Gothic-style facade conceals an even more spectacular interior marked by beautiful stained glass windows and religious relics. Looking for something a bit macabre but mostly magnifique? One of the more unusual (and only slightly creepy) attractions, the Catacombs of Paris are underground ossuaries that snake below the city and contain the remains of several millions of people. Edgy Belleville doesn't look as pretty as its more polished counterparts. But the gritty, artsy vibe is all part of the appeal. From the graffiti-covered buildings to the international street food scene to Cimetière du Père-Lachaise ? the most visited necropolis in Paris and the final resting place of Jim Morrison, Oscar Wilde and Édith Piaf ? this vibrant neighborhood is definitely worth checking out. One of the most historic and authentic districts in the city, Saint-Germain-des-Prés used to be a playground for writers like Hemingway and Fitzgerald. Today, its timeless charm makes it one of the best places to stop for a glass of wine at a neighborhood sidewalk café and soak in the atmosphere. Lane Nieset, a Paris-based travel writer, suggests crossing off the classics before taking a seat somewhere more local and in-the-know like Au Sauvignon. This article was featured in the InsideHook newsletter. Sign up now. Subscribed? Log In. Log In. Suggested for you Join America's Fastest Growing Spirits Newsletter THE SPILL. Unlock all the reviews, recipes and revelry ? and get 15% off award-winning La Tierra de Acre Mezcal. Join America's Fastest Growing Spirits Newsletter THE SPILL. Unlock all the reviews, recipes and revelry ? and get 15% off award-winning La Tierra de Acre Mezcal. Sign up for InsideHook to get our best content delivered to your inbox every weekday. It's free. And awesome. Copyright © 2024

Secret Paris and hidden gems - The Good Life France

Everything You Want to Know About France and More... Paris. The City of Light. The City of Love. City of chocolate shops. The world's most visited city. Here you'll find some of the world's most visited attractions. But there is a secret Paris that's filled with hidden gems, fascinating and historic places where the past lingers in the present, places you might miss if you don't know they are there? In 2022, there were 44 million visitors to Paris. The Louvre Museum and the Eiffel Tower were the two most visited Parisian attractions, and the Versailles palace was the most visited destination in the region. But let's dive into the heart of Paris, beyond the guidebooks, postcards and the clichés. Explore the hidden gems of Paris ? those little nooks and crannies that make us fall in love with this city over and over again. So, grab a croissant, settle in, and let's take a whimsical stroll through the streets of Paris! Some say that Paris is a cliché, but like all great clichés, it lives up to the hype. The city is brimming with historic monuments whose tales fill us with wonder even after centuries. The ancient Louvre once a royal palace, now the world's most popular museum, the glittering Opera Garnier, like a miniature Palace of Versailles with gilded corridors and a magnificent staircase, plus a hidden pool where the Phantom of the Opera is said to live. The Arc de Triomphe, the great Gothic Cathedral of Notre Dame and of course the Eiffel Tower. There's just so much to love. The historic Marais district was in fact marshland until the 12th century (marais is a French word meaning marsh) when the Knights Templar, who had run out of Crusades to fight, cleared the land. Four hundred years on, the aristocracy began building their mansions here to be close to the Louvre, the preferred palace of royalty. This area is famous for its stunning architecture, but most people miss the Marché des Enfants Rouges, a covered market dating back to 1615. It's the oldest food market in Paris. The name 'Enfants Rouges' refers to the children who wore red clothes at the orphanage next to the market hundreds of years ago. Now it's a bustling, vibrant place to go shopping, enjoy street food, or put together a picnic to eat in the Place des Vosges, a lovely square at the heart of the Marais. It's very close to the Pompidou centre, and if you like markets and fabulous food, you'll love the Marché des Enfants Rouges. A cemetery may not sound like the most

fun way to spend a few hours getting to know Paris ? but I highly recommend the Père Lachaise Cemetery. It's fascinating, and gives an insight to the city and its past residents. It's in the east of Paris and it's the last resting place of more than a million people. A visit here makes for a very interesting cultural and heritage experience, there are even guided tours available. You'll find some seriously famous people buried here ? Maria Callas, Sarah Bernhardt, Edith Piaf, Frederic Chopin and Jim Morrison, whose tomb is one of the most visited. Marcel Proust lies here ? and people leave little madeleine cakes by his grave, they were his favourite. Oscar Wilde's tomb now has a clear plastic cover on because so many visitors kissed the stone, that it started to disintegrate. Parisians often go here for a Sunday stroll with the family. It feels like a park, in fact there are more than 5000 trees here; it's a labyrinth of tree-lined alleys, full of beautiful sculptures. If you want to go there, the nearest metro is Gambetta. By the way, here's a fun fact about Paris transport. You have the metro which is generally underground, and you have the RER which is underground but mostly overground. RER stands for Réseau Express Régional ? Regional Express network and it runs in Paris and to the suburbs. But when the idea for the RER first came up it was going to be called Metro Express Régional Défense-Etoile which would have been shortened to merde (which I am sure you all know what that means, polite word is poo if you don't). But it was changed at the very last moment! If you head to the Eiffel Tower and cross to the little Île aux Cygnes, which means the island of the swans, which was artificially created in the middle of the river Seine in 1827, you may think that you have been magically teleported to New York because here in Paris you will come face to face with the Statue of Liberty! But non, it's because Paris has its own, slightly more petite, Lady Liberty ? it's like finding a little piece of America, but with more baguettes and less baseball. The statue of liberty was a gift from France to America in 1886. Its interior was designed by Gustave Eiffel, and it was created by sculptor Bartholdi from Colmar, Alsace. The statue of Liberty's face is said to be based on Bartholdi's mother's face. There are in fact hundreds of replicas of the Statue of Liberty all around the world, but none are as big as the New York Liberty. The statue on the Paris island faces west towards her sister in New York. For our next Paris uncovered gem ? how about a quirky bookstore. A stone's throw from The great Gothic cathedral of Notre Dame is Shakespeare

and Company. It's like Narnia for book lovers. You might go in for a quick browse and come out hours later, wondering what year it is. One of my proudest moments was seeing my books on the shelves in this lovely book shop. And if you're a book shop fan, maybe head to Belle Hortense ? it has pretty much only French books, but it's the only book shop in Paris, maybe in all of France, that opens until 2 in the morning and has a wine cellar. It's near the Hotel de Ville ? the city's town hall. La Promenade Plantée also called the Coulée verte René-Dumont, is an elevated park built on an old railway line. You can walk along it and get a really unique perspective of the city. The railway line was built in the mid 1800s and ran above the streets of Paris. It was abandoned in 1969 as bigger trains were introduced and someone had the genius idea to turn these aerial tracks into a park ? in fact the Highline Park in Manhattan New York was inspired by the Paris project! The aerial walkways are quite wide, filled with trees and plants, ponds and benches and outdoor gyms. The track winds for 4.5km from Opera Bastille to Bois de Vincennes. Next on my list of favourites is also a green paradise ? the Square du Vert-Galant. It's a charming little park located at the western tip of the Île de la Cité, offering stunning views of the Seine. The square owes its name to King Henri IV born in 1553 and grandfather of Louis XIV. He was nicknamed the ?Vert-Galant? because of his numerous ? mistresses even as he got older. Apparently, people used to say of him ?he's always green despite his ?great? age though when he died in 1610, he was only 57 years old ? not really a great age, but I suppose for those days it was. The square is about 8m, (25 feet) below the ground floor of the Pont Neuf nearby ? it's the natural level of the land, so it floods easily. And it's overlooked by a statue of Henri IV, sitting on a horse. The square is filled with lots of trees and plants and wild birds ? ducks and moorhens for instance and Parisians love to come here for a romantic stroll and the fabulous views over the Seine with the Louvre in the background. Have you ever heard of Nicolas Flamel's house? It's slightly more famous now due to Harry Potter because Nicolas Flamel made an appearance in ?Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone? ? he made the Philosopher's stone, an object capable of turning metal into gold and granting immortality with its Elixir of Life. The house is a restaurant now and even has a ?Harry Potter menu?. This building, dating back to 1407, at 51 rue de Montmorency, is the oldest stone house in the city. Nicholas Flamel ? the real man lived here.

It's thought he was born in 1330 and he worked as a book seller and it's believed he was obsessed with an ancient book about alchemy, written in Hebrew. A legend developed that he translated the ancient manuscript and discovered the secret of immortality and the philosopher's stone! He lived to be 88 years old – pretty old for those days which probably influenced that story. As an additional piece of trivia, a street named for him, rue Nicolas Flamel near the Louvre, intersects with the rue Perenelle, named for his wife, who he married in 1368 – and who is also in the Harry Potter film! And talking of roads – here's a fun fact about Paris – there are no traffic stop signs in the city. There used to be a one in the 16th arrondissement, the French word for Paris districts. But it was removed in 2016, making Paris a rare case of a capital city without a single stop sign. And a bit of trivia – highways leaving Paris are numbered clockwise from 1 to 16 – for example the A1 goes to Lille in the north, the A6 to Lyon in the south, all the way round until you get to the A16 to Calais in a different part of the north! Paris has such a long rich history and you can find traces of it absolutely everywhere. There are plaques on the wall everywhere you go. For instance there are 'perimeter markers' from 1726. In an attempt to limit development in the city, King Louis XV established 294 plaques, saying, essentially that 'Paris Ends Here'. And if you look at the Hôtel de Sens, in the Marais district, actually it's the oldest mansion in the area and just one of three remaining medieval residences in Paris – is another piece of history. Hôtel in this instance, doesn't mean a hotel like you stay in as a guest, it means a residence of importance. And in this case, the Hôtel de Sens was once a palace for the Archbishops of Sens, a town in Burgundy. And in the wall is a reminder of three days of revolution in July 1830, as, when a cannonball lodged in the wall, it was decided to leave it in place, and erect a plaque with the date it struck. It's so odd in such a picturesque medieval building! But it's well worth a visit, it has a pretty little garden too which you can access for free. Most visitors are intent on entering the cathedral of Notre-Dame, and miss the incredible detailed ironwork on the side doors! There is a legend that when they were created in the 13th century by a locksmith called Biscornet, he was so overwhelmed by the task of designing and making the ornamentation for the doors that he had to sell his soul to the Devil to get help. Against all the odds, he managed to finish his amazing work in a very short time. The doors were called

?The Devil?s doors? and it was said that they were impossible to repair. In the 19th century, they did in fact need to be repaired and a very famous master blacksmith called Pierre Boulanger was chosen to do the work. It took him considerably longer ? 12 years to repair and reproduce the work of Biscornet. Once his work was done Boulanger signed his name on some of the panels on the back of the door to prove that the masterpiece was made by a human and not the Devil! And another Notre-Dame secret ? did you know that you can go underneath the Cathedral and there, in Europe?s biggest archaeological crypt, you will discover the old Roman city of Lutetia as Paris was then called ? it means ?near a swamp?. Hardly anyone ever goes there, but in the corner of the square of Notre Dame there is a staircase that looks like it leads to a car park with a pillar which is engraved with the word ?Crypte du Parvis.? Head down those stairs and be prepared to be amazed. Discovered in 1964 when someone decided it was a good idea to build a car park under the cathedral? hmmm? there are whole roads of ancient Paris, a unique timeline of the city from remains of the city?s very first port to Roman baths to 19th century streets! And talking of streets ? how about the shortest road in Paris? Rue Degrés (2nd arrondissement): 5.75 m, not much to see, but how quaint is that?! And the The oldest clock in Paris is on the corner of the Boulevard du Palais, Quai de l?Horloge near the Conciergerie building. The clock was commissioned by Charles V in 1370 and installed in 1371. And it still works! It was the first public clock in France. It?s set in a tower that was once a watchtower and part of a royal palace. Paris is visually rich but it?s also full of amazing sounds. Head to a café, and just soak up the experience ? people laughing, conversation, servers calling out ??une café allongee?, and depending where you are, the sounds of the locality, the bells of Notre Dame or another church, the hum of traffic and tour buses, the noise of a market or the metro passing beneath your feet, cars driving on cobbles? Paris is also about the little moments: finding a jazz band playing in a cosy café or in a cobblestone alley, the smell of fresh pastries from a boulangerie ? there are more than 1700 in Paris, so you?ve got a lot of choice ? or a sunset view from the bridges over the Seine. Paris really is a city where every street corner has a story. Janine Marsh is the author of several internationally best-selling books about France. Her latest book How to be French ? a celebration of the French lifestyle and art de vivre, is out now ? a

look at the French way of life. Find all books on her website janinemarsh.com Join The Perfect Paris Tour with Janine Marsh ? a week long adventure in the heart of Paris as you discover historic, cultural, gastronomic and dazzling Paris on this very special week-long, small group tour: tourwithabsolutely.com Discover more fabulous destinations in France with our free magazine The Good Life France All rights reserved. This article may not be published, broadcast, rewritten (including translated) or redistributed without written permission. Everything You want to know about france and more? The Good Life France is the leading independent website about all things French from travel to culture, gastronomy to property and practical guides & more?

Covered passages, the hidden gems of Paris | VisitParisRegion

Away from the frantic hustle and bustle, the covered passages of the city of Paris have a vintage charm that still operates even today. As symbols of luxury and elegance, these architectural gems offer the unique experience of being suspended in time. Created between 1820 and 1850 by the greatest Parisian architects, the covered passages are vestiges of 19th-century heritage that showcase the technical achievements of that period. The boutiques and studios that line these glass-covered passages are a delight for antique collectors, fashionistas, fine gourmets and fans of all kinds of oddities. Let the hidden gems of Paris take you on a journey. Your exploration begins with a long walk through the 2nd and 9th arrondissements. Plunge into the Belle Époque by visiting the galerie Vivienne, the passage des Panoramas and the passage Verdeau, all in succession. A stone's throw from the Palais Royal gardens, the Galerie Vivienne is one of Paris' most famous covered passages, attracting 6.4 million visitors each year. Beneath its beautiful glass roof, you may even be lucky enough to come across a film shoot or a fashion show. Hardly surprising in this idyllic setting of authentic mosaic floors, wrought-iron features and gilding, offering a fabulous trip back in time. The Galerie Vivienne's 176-metre covered walkway is a mixture of refined modernity and audacity where you'll find everything from a jeweller's selling ancient pieces to the studio of urban artist, Blase. For children, the boutique si tu veux(jouer) sells a range of educational toys and games. And if you're overcome by the irresistible urge to read, you'll find just what you need at the Jousseume bookshop, one of the oldest in Paris. Your visit continues in the Passage des Panoramas, which is equally elegant and beautiful. Close to the Musée Grévin and the Théâtre des Variétés, this is the oldest covered passage in Paris and one of the most remarkable. Built on the initiative of American ship-owner and developer, William Thayer, the Passage des Panoramas owes its name to the enormous 360° paintings that decorated the interior walls of the rotundas. Although these panoramic paintings were removed in 1831, the buildings have retained all their splendour. This 133-metre covered passage is 3 metres wide and has a very special atmosphere. It is a cabinet of curiosities that makes a great place to

stroll, as it has always been the haunt of collectors and philatelists from across the world. And it's a delight for anyone who loves good food. Besides the food shops that have built the reputation of the Passage des Panoramas, you'll also find plenty of restaurants said to be among the best in Paris. You'll finish your walk in the Passage Verdeau, a real treat for bargain hunters and collectors. Indeed, when this covered passage was built in 1846, it benefited from being near the famous Hôtel Drouot a famous Parisian auction house and became the haunt of antique collectors. Thus, the gallery, also known as the Passage Drouot, still attracts enthusiasts from all over the world. In addition, this vast cabinet of curiosities also features a multitude of art galleries and craft studios that you can admire along the way. A beautiful showcase that art & craft fans will appreciate. Tucked in the heart of the 1st arrondissement of Paris is one of the city's most secret passages. The galerie Véro-Dodat is not the most famous, despite being among the most elegant. The black-and-white marble floor tiles, the brass and cast-iron ornaments and the immaculate light that streams through the glass roof are sophistication itself. Created in 1826 by a pork butcher named Véro and the financier Dodat, the covered passage was intended as a link between Palais-Royal and Les Halles, two very popular districts. Boosted by its proximity with the Messageries Laffitte & Gaillard transport company, the gallery was an instant success and became highly popular, especially among travellers waiting for their vehicle to arrive. But with the Second French Empire and the disappearance of the transport company, the site gradually lost its appeal. Nowadays, its tranquillity only adds to the charm of this little peace haven. Away from the buzzing excitement of Paris, take advantage of the soothing atmosphere in this 80-metre walkway to enjoy a delicious lunch at the Véro-Dodat brasserie. This gallery is also home to the boutique and workshop of the Louboutin footwear brand. So go and admire their iconic stiletto range. Les passages couverts se suivent et ne se Among the succession of covered passages, no two are the same? In Paris's 9th arrondissement, the passage couvert Jouffroy stands out from the crowd. When it was built, in 1847, its structure of iron, glass and nothing else, and the fact that it was the first covered passage to be heated by the ground, made it a symbolic feat of technical innovation. It features all the boutiques typically found in the covered passages of Paris, selling old-fashioned

walking sticks, antiques or traditional toys. (Pop into the boutique Pain d'Épices, a real treasure chest for children). The Passage Jouffroy is also home to one of Paris's flagship museums, the musée Grévin. This unique venue offers a chance to rub shoulders with your favourite celebrities, not in the flesh but in a display of waxwork models. And what better way to round off your walk than by staying overnight at the Chopin hotel? A fabulous end to your trip beyond time? At Place de la Madeleine in the 8th arrondissement of Paris, you cannot help but notice the elegance of this square. Two examples are the Madeleine church and the nearby galerie de la Madeleine. Created in the same year, this discreet covered passage adds to the district's sophisticated charm, with its white inner arches, marble flooring and glass ceiling. Along this 53-metre walkway, fans of luxury items will find what they're looking for among the big names in fashion to be found here, such as Giambattista Valli. Nearby, you'll also find one of the oldest and most beautiful fine-food restaurants of Paris. Art Nouveau enthusiasts should book a table at the Lucas Carton restaurant, to enjoy lunch amid the magnificent wood panelling sculpted by Louis Majorelle. Time for an exotic change of scene! If you think you've seen all there is to see in the covered passages of Paris, try this one! With its shopfronts decorated in pink, yellow and red, the passage Brady, AKA Little India, is well worth a visit. So prepare for an alternative voyage through India and Pakistan. What makes this long walkway so different is that it was split into two to accommodate the Boulevard de Strasbourg, just a few years after it was built. Hence, you'll explore not one but two separate passages, one with a glass roof, the other uncovered. So make yourself comfortable at one of the many Indian restaurants in the covered passage Brady. The dahl, cheese nan and kulfi are truly exotic delights. And to prolong the pleasure even further, visit the grocery shops here to stock up on spices and other flavoursome specialities

Expired session

France's Exquisite Hidden Gems: Discover Elegance

France is home to some of the most iconic and popular holiday destinations in the world. But it's also a great place to venture off the beaten track, discover new and unexpected things, and create unique memories that will last a lifetime. We've put together a list of hidden gems in and around some of the major tourist spots to help you do just that. Paris is a great city to explore on foot, and one of the most intriguing ways to do this is by taking a tour of its beautiful 19th-century covered passages. You'll find everything from luxury goods to quirky antique stores and delicious pastry shops. As Paris is the city of love, the perfect museum to visit has to be the Musée de la vie Romantique where you can immerse yourself in the lives of Romantic era icons such as George Sand. Wondering where to eat during your stay in Paris? Get inspired by our selection of the best Michelin restaurants in Paris. And, if you prefer to be outside, the Jardin du Luxembourg is the ideal place for a nice walk. Our luxury apartments in Paris are the perfect base for exploring the hidden treasures of the most beautiful city in the world. Normandy truly has something for everyone, from bustling beach resorts and swooping limestone cliffs to picturesque villages, along with a rich culinary heritage that includes Camembert cheese, cider, and Calvados. Rouen, the region's historic capital, boasts mediaeval cobblestoned streets, half-timbered houses, and imposing gothic churches including the Cathedral of Notre-Dame, made famous by the painter Claude Monet. While there you can experience local cuisine at its finest at Michelin-starred Pottier Frères, or take a detour to Aux Delices Normands in nearby Franqueville-Saint-Pierre, recently voted the Best Bakery In France. Just over an hour's drive from Rouen, Deauville offers an ideal alternative, offering something for the whole family, from expansive beaches to gourmet dining. You can find out more about Deauville in our exclusive guide. After a day of exploring, return to one of our stunning Normandy villas and bask in luxury. While most people associate the French Riviera with glitzy destinations like Nice or Cannes, the region is also world-renowned for its astonishing natural beauty. Its coastline offers sweeping coastal cliffs, sublime sandy beaches, and secluded rocky inlets, along with sleepy fishing villages and winding coastal roads with breathtaking views over the

Mediterranean. A holiday in the region can take you from the famous beach clubs of Saint-Tropez to the old port and narrow streets of La Ciotat, and upwards to Saint Agnès - Europe's highest coastal village. A few kilometres outside Saint-Tropez, Gassin is a mediaeval village surrounded by vineyards, perched high on a hill 200m above the sea, which offers an ideal alternative to the larger resorts. Journey from the region's secluded spots to our exquisite homes on the French Riviera for the ultimate luxury experience. Marseille is a vibrant, bustling port city overlooking the Mediterranean that radiates all the warmth of the south of France. Soak up the charm of its oldest neighbourhood, Le Panier, with its colourful houses, narrow streets, and hidden squares, and head for the Jardin de Vestiges which combines a beautiful garden and the city's oldest remains. Rich in history dating back to Roman times, Aix-en-Provence, known for being the birthplace of painter Paul Cézanne, is only about 30 minutes from Marseille. Prepare for your trip by taking a peek at our article on the best things to do in Aix-en-Provence. You will love returning to our beautiful villas in Marseille after a day exploring the city. Alpilles is one of the most idyllic regions of France. If you're seeking a bit of tranquility near this highly sought-after massif, Saint-Rémy-de-Provence is the place for you. Other must-dos? Visit a family of beekeepers in the heart of the Alpilles to uncover the secrets of honey-making. Head to Pizza Brun to savour pizzas topped with surprising ingredients like truffle or bull sausage. You could also go hiking, mountain biking, or horseback riding in the midst of nature, and explore the region and its characterful villages. Let yourself be enchanted by the elegance and refinement of our luxury villas in the Alpilles. And for even more inspiration, discover our guide to the Alpilles. Situated on the majestic Garonne River, Bordeaux is world-renowned as a mecca for wine lovers. Château le Carmes Haut-Brion, the only wine estate located within the city limits, has a unique winery designed by Philippe Starck and the architect Luc Arsène-Henry, situated within beautiful gardens. If you have a sweet tooth then we suggest Maison Darricau for some awesome chocolates, or Pâtisserie San Nicolas for their delicious Canelés, the most famous pastry speciality of Bordeaux. If you're travelling with kids, don't miss Guignol Guérin, the oldest puppet theatre in France. And just an hour's drive from Bordeaux, don't miss the chance to discover Cap Ferret. A true oasis of greenery and serenity, this former fishing village is dotted

with oyster huts. With its family-friendly atmosphere, endless sandy beaches, and a multitude of activities, it is a must-visit for families. For those who wish to explore the region further, head south and discover Biarritz and the Basque Country, just a 2-hour drive away. Savour the secret delights of the city and then return to one of our luxury villas in the South West. France's hidden gems offer a unique glimpse into the country's rich culture, breathtaking landscapes, and vibrant local life, far from the bustling tourist trails. Each discovery, from secret Parisian passages to serene Provençal villages, promises an unforgettable journey filled with enchantment and personal moments of wonder. Embarking on this journey to explore France's lesser-known treasures is an invitation to create lasting memories and experience the true essence of French elegance and charm.

Provence is synonymous with the good life. But what does that really mean? Here's what luxury travel in Provence looks like. Provence's picture-perfect reputation exists in so many different, but equally stunning forms. Rocky mountains flatten into sweeping farmlands, eventually giving way to the dramatic and wild. We create your tailor-made holiday in our exceptional houses to rent. Welcome to our holiday magazine! [Click here](#) for our main website. [Click here](#). We'll answer as soon as possible!

Hidden gems in Paris: Offbeat study spots

Read and unlock hidden gems in Paris that promise a unique and enriching experience. Discover secret spots where students can immerse themselves in learning away from the crowds. Paris is often noisy, which makes it hard for students like you to find good places to study. The nearest Starbucks might seem like an option, but they're usually crowded and loud. While some cafes in Paris may not fully meet your expectations, there are plenty of wonderful options waiting to be discovered! From charming atmospheres to reasonable prices and top-notch equipment, you're sure to find a study spot that perfectly suits your preferences. If you worry about loud conversations, uncomfortable seats, no Wi-Fi, or not enough plugs for laptops. We have made a list of places to study in Paris where you won't have to deal with those problems. Whether you like studying in a library or a cosy cafe, you'll find the perfect spot on our list of the seven hidden gems in Paris.

The classic hidden gems in Paris: Libraries to study

The majority of students choose libraries to study and prepare for exams because they provide a quiet and comfortable ambience that helps them concentrate. Let's look at some of the best libraries for you to study in peace. Opened in 1995, this library in Paris holds the title of the largest in France and even has its own metro station (Grande Bibliothèque, Line 14)! Consequently, it provides ample study space and boasts one of the most comprehensive document collections. If you need further persuasion, the library includes its own cafeteria, making it worth enduring the often-lengthy queues to enter. Access requires payment of €3.50 per day (free after 5 pm) or €38 for an annual pass.

The Mazarine Library, constructed in the early 1640s, holds the title of France's oldest public library. Its elegant antique wooden décor makes it one of the country's most stunning libraries. Though it only has 140 seats, it boasts an impressive collection of rare books and literary works. It is open to readers and visitors Monday to Friday from 10 am to 6 pm.

In the centre of Paris, you'll find the Centre Pompidou Library, one of the city's most famous and modern libraries. It's divided into multiple spacious floors with study areas, computer zones and an extensive book collection. The entrance queue can be lengthy, but it typically moves quickly. The library is open from noon to 10 pm on weekdays and from 11 am to 10 pm on

weekends. Remember, it's closed on Tuesdays. Undoubtedly the most stylish choice, this library, often called BSG, is visually stunning. Its wooden arcades and green lamps will remind you of the décor of Harry Potter. Strategically situated in the Quartier Latin, near several academic institutions, it's common to find a wait in line before entering ? but this hidden gem in Paris is absolutely worth it.

Atypical classic hidden gems in Paris If you like studying in a relaxed environment where you can work in groups or chat with friends, unlike a library, then you should know about these places. If you enjoy quirky places, this spot is perfect for you. An old house has been transformed into seating areas in various rooms, including the kitchen, living room, bedroom and even the bathroom. If you've ever dreamed of studying in a bathtub, this is your chance! The Wi-Fi here is excellent, although it may have issues when crowded. If you're a student looking for a unique place to study in Paris, this could be the perfect spot for you! It opens at 10 am every morning and is located at 39 quai de la Loire, 75019 Paris. L'AntiCafé is a unique café where you pay for the time you spend there and enjoy unlimited coffee, snacks and Wi-Fi. It is one of the best cafes to work in Paris. The aim is to create a homely atmosphere, allowing guests to bring their own food or drinks. It's highly convenient for students, providing projectors, printers, scanners and board games. The vibe is more relaxed than a library, with spacious and comfy chairs and plenty of charging plugs for phones and laptops. To access their beverages and buffet (including juices, cakes, crackers, bread and fruit), you pay an hourly rate of ?5, with payment calculated pro rata after the first hour. For instance, if you stay for 1.5 hours, the fee would be ?7.50. Upon reaching the 5th hour, you'll automatically receive the day pass priced at ?24. The only drawback is its smaller capacity compared to a library, accommodating around 35 people max, so it's best to arrive early. If you're familiar with Regus, you won't be surprised to find it listed here as one of the unique places to study in Paris. While Regus is primarily known for office rentals, it also offers a lesser-known business lounge. This lounge provides a quiet and serene environment perfect for focused work and study, surpassing the typical café experience. You'll find chairs, Wi-Fi, printing services and unlimited coffee available here. Study in Paris with École de Management Appliqué (EMA) EMA is a well-known institution offering various academic degrees such as bachelor's, master's, MBA, DBA and PhD programmes in Applied

Management. They specialise in finance, law, economics and creative industries. Situated in central Paris, EMA offers programmes in both French and English. [Click here for further details.](#) Frequently asked questions about hidden gems in Paris

1. Are there any hidden gems in Paris where I can study in peace? There are a lot of hidden gems in Paris for you to study in peace. A few of them are:
2. Can you work from cafes in Paris? Yes, you can work from cafes in Paris.
3. Where can I find the best cafes to work in Paris? The best cafes to work in Paris include L'AntiCafe?, Le Grand Breguet, Nomade café and Columbus Café & Co, to name a few.
4. What are the best places to study in Paris? You can study at all the places mentioned in the blog and more. A few names include Deli-cieux, Comptoir Général and Jozi Café.
5. Where can I study in Paris? You can study with EMA. This well-known institution in Paris offers numerous academic degrees.

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Duration: 2,5 hrs door-to-door Captivating art, impressive history, stunning gardens! Enjoy this and even more with this special tour, visiting two of the most alluring places in France. Learn about Monet & the Impressionist art movement in Giverny then immerse in the life of the French Monarchs

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Duration: 4 hrs door-to-door Let us share our knowledge of France's history and heritage. Live the wonders of France as the royalty would. favorite ?My husband and I booked a private tour to Versailles with Paris To Versailles Privates Tours for a full day so that we could really experience the many special things beyond just the palace. Our day was beyond perfect, made more so by our fabulous guide Anna-Maria.

Not only was she extremely knowledgeable about Versailles, but her clear passion for what she does was infectious.

She was delightful to be with, and always mindful of how we were experiencing things. She endeavored to give us some more intimate experiences away from all the crowds which made it very special.? Nancy W, Missouri, USA, Oct 19th 2019 We know that the success of your visit to France depends on the ability to our tours guides and chauffeurs to immerge yourself into our country. Let your experience begin Book online by yourself your guided tours or contact us to customize your stay in Paris if you want the full experience (luxury hotel + restaurant + transport + tours). You are not convinced? Then, learn more about our skills: As the Versailles specialist, let us be your ambassadors to discover the castle and its secrets. Our private tours ? with your own licensed guide and chauffeur ? will enable you to fully appreciate Versailles from a different perspective, ensuring a visit you'll never forget. In addition to Hidden Gems? full range of private tours from Paris to Versailles, we can also arrange access for you to events and shows at the château, including masked balls and other costumed events, opera and concert performances, the fountain light shows

and more. We can organize your costume, make-up artist and everything else you'll need for a night to remember forever! We also offer bespoke corporate visits and private events at the castle, including cocktail receptions and dinners, with musicians, chefs and serving staff dressed in period costumes if requested. Stay up to date about exciting tours, unique trips, exclusive experiences, and the very best that France has to offer. ? © 2015-2022 Paris To Versailles Private Tours owned by Hidden Gems. All rights reserved. Made in Paris with favorite

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This little shop is stylish, friendly and provides hair and beard care for men, including waxing, facial treatments and relaxing steam baths for your face. By Hotel Lutetia is a luxurious place that saw all the "crazy years" of glamour pass by and hosted artists such as Ernest Hemingway during his time in Paris. By Cafe Joyeux employs people with disabilities as their main staff and offers them regular working conditions and salaries. And the coffee is great as well! By When you get in the shop, which does not look very special from the outside, all the items appear strange, and as brought back from a movie or something like that. By "Maison POS" in Paris is a fruit & veg seller is focused on organic fresh produce. It's a pleasure pantry where you can discover local tastes! By "Les Copains du Faubourg" with its English bulldog mascot makes a perfect egg & bacon roll that never fails to draw me in... By "La Kabane" in Paris is a go-to place of mine for citron, coconut, triple chocolate and granola cookies! I love their dog... By "Chez Antoine" in Paris is great any time of day! It's the kind of place they always remember my order - a Pizza Sicilienne usually... By "Refuge BD" in Paris is a local comic book or BD shop where I've been doing 'click & collect' during the lockdown... By "La Musardine" is the only erotic bookshop in Paris. It's off the beaten track, but it's a must-visit if you have a kinky side! Super helpful staff, too... By "The Swedish Institute of Paris" is a little piece of the Nordic country in the heart of the city. I like the modern environment in this classic district! By "Jardin de l'hotel Lamoignon" in Le Marais, Paris, is one of the best areas to spend a quiet moment. I just love relaxing in the shade & on the grass. By Our Spotters' Local Favorites Only. Skip the Tourist Traps. Find Nearby Spots and Navigate with Ease Save Your Favorites and See Them on the Map ? Full access to local favorites. Zero tourist highlights. Our local Spotters share personal tips and secrets about their city. Nothing sponsored! These unique insights can't be found in traditional guidebooks. Discover the city through the eyes of a local! We focus on hidden gems and unique

places that aren't crowded with tourists. Our Spotters' tips help you avoid the crowds and have truly special experiences, far from the tourist masses. By visiting our locals' favorites and lesser-known places, you contribute to a more sustainable way of traveling. You support the local economy and reduce the pressure on popular tourist spots. And in the end, those are the best places right? We are Spotted by Locals. An online travel community publishing city guides in 80+ cities. Our hand-picked local writers and photographers create all the content. Our 488 Spotters (and counting) live in the cities they write about, speak the local language, and regularly update their tips. Their insights help around 1.4 million travelers each year discover the hidden gems of cities. With insider advice from locals, we offer a unique, sustainable travel experience, allowing travelers to slow down and immerse themselves in the local culture, beyond the tourist hotspots. Europe Americas Asia Africa Amsterdam New York San Francisco Frankfurt Barcelona About Spotted by Locals Download our app Blog Contact us FAQs Become a Spotter Collaborations Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookies statement All continents Europe Americas Asia Amsterdam New York San Francisco Frankfurt Barcelona About Spotted by Locals Download our app Blog Contact us FAQs Become a Spotter ? Collaborations ©2024 spottedbylocals.com Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookies statement Enter the destination URL Or link to existing content

Paris ? Day 13 ? September 21st ? Emmanuel?s Hidden Gems! Musée du Luxembourg! La Closerie des Lilas! Montparnasse! Ciel de Paris! ? KEVIN CRAIG

KEVIN CRAIG Author of LGBTQ YA Fiction. Flâneur. Playwright. Poet. Pilgrim. We were close to the end. I could feel the inevitability of our flight as it loomed in the near future. But we still had so much to see and do! We started this day with a walk to the Latin Quarter where we were to meet Emmanuel for his Hidden Gems tour of the Quarter. There was a light rain falling and it was early enough that the city seemed to be just awakening from its slumber. You can read about the fascinating history of Paris?s famous bouguinistes here at WIKI. Another landmark we were constantly walking past on our way to and from other places was Notre-Dame. We met Emmanuel at the Odeon Theatre in the edge of the Latin Quarter. Not quite a part of our tour, but spotted nonetheless? Emily in Paris shooting locations! Yes, we have watched this series. For the location! Location is everything? This was our fourth and final EMMANUEL?S HIDDEN GEMS TOUR. Emmanuel has a Facebook group you can join here: EMMANUEL?S HIDDEN GEMS. The best way to contact Emmanuel is through his Facebook PAGE HERE. On his Facebook page, just click on the MESSAGE button near the top to get in touch with Emmanuel directly. You can book months in advance and you pay on the day of the tour. Like all his other tours, Emmanuel?s Latin Quarter Tour was incredible. We saw many hidden gems and famous iconic places. Take Emmanuel?s Tour to learn all about all the secrets of the Latin Quarter that he?s curated for it. Despite the rain, we had a wonderful time! After the tour, we had a time-slot booked for the new Gertrude Stein/Pablo Picasso exhibit at the Musée du Luxembourg. It was an excellent exhibit, but extremely short. It only took about twenty minutes to see all of it. I most loved the gender focused pieces. Our day was to end in Montparnasse, at the top of the tower in the famous Ciel de Paris restaurant with the incredible views of the city. So, after Luxembourg, we slowly made our way in that direction. We had not really planned on La Closerie de Lilas this trip, but it was always there? waiting. It was my 3rd trip to Paris and La Closerie still felt like a pilgrimage spot I had to visit at least once during every trip. We were

walking right past it! It was at the doorstep of the Montparnasse neighbourhood? just waiting for us. First, we walked up through Luxembourg Gardens. What?s a little rain when you?re walking about in one of the most beautiful cities in the world?! After the Gardens, there?s the big fountain? The fountain then leads to the statue of Marechal Ney. Hemingway mentions this statue in *A Moveable Feast*, his not fully true (but maybe true in his eyes as seen through the passage of time and bias) biography of his 1920s time in Paris. The statue is one of the last things between the walker and La Closerie des Lilas. Now, when I think about La Closerie des Lilas? I always think of Hemingway sitting at one of its tables scribbling in a notebook while sipping something warm on a cold fall day. But this was a mega-literary hangout! Fitzgerald, Verlaine, Apollinaire, Beckett, Man Ray, Sartre, Baudelaire, Cezanne, Modigliani, Oscar Wilde, Emile Zola, André Gide? these are just a few of the many literary patrons who have sought refuge from the streets of Paris inside the comfort of La Closerie des Lilas. They carried on conversations there, wrote their opuses there, made plans there, flirted there, got drunk there, talked their revolutions there. It is a place with a long history with literature. It?s a mecca for the literary pilgrim. Did we stop in for oysters and beer? You betcha! In one of the photos above, you can see the brass nameplate that marks Hemingway?s seat at the bar. Our own table marked the seats of Jean-Paul Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir. After our pit stop in Closerie des Lilas, we still had plenty of time to explore Montparnasse before supper in the tower. I love the history of Parisian cemeteries! And I had never been to the one in Montparnasse! We used Google Maps inside the cemetery walls to be directed from one grave to another. It?s such a great way to visit the tombstones on your list? I read many a Guy de Maupassant stories in my teens. One of the greatest short story writers! After the cemetery, we were still rather early for our dinner reservation at Ciel de Paris?but we were in the neighbourhood. This is one of those blocks of time we landed in where we had to wait around because even though we booked a full jam-packed day, there were empty slots of time with nothing to do but wait. We toured the Montparnasse neighbourhood and saw some of Paris?s most famous restaurants. All of the above restaurants were popular places among the famous of the 1920s and beyond. Ciel de Paris was one of the things we were looking most forward to. The food promised to be incredible, yes, but it was the view

we were dying to see. We reserved a window seat with a perfect view of the Eiffel Tower. After MUCH loitering in the neighbourhood, it was finally time for us to go! I understand the bittersweet feeling Parisians have toward Tour Montparnasse. It's a gorgeous highrise, but an eyesore in a city that prides itself on being low to the ground. And here was our promised view! Somewhere between our first glass of wine and our dessert, the city came to life in the darkness? The holiday was almost over. Two glorious weeks in Paris and its environs! So spectacular. And what a way to see the city, all lit up and from above it. If you're able to book a spot at Ciel de Paris, it is SO worth it! The food is excellent, and the view is to die for! Pro Tip: Always choose a view OF the Eiffel Tower over a view FROM the Eiffel Tower. So ends another glorious day in the City of Light. The Metro took us back to the hotel in no time. The next day was a free day and our last day! We had plans to see Montmartre on our own, and to wander the streets to say goodbye to it all! [Link to previous day](#). [Link to next day](#) Like Loading...

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Paris Hidden Gems | Must-See Secret Spots 2024

Home » Europe » France » 15 Magnificent Hidden Gems in Paris | MUST-SEE Spots! Famed for its enchanting vibe, Paris is everyone's mistress. The city seduces tourists with its historic buildings, alluring venues, and the poetic nostalgia that permeates the air. While it's rich in history, Paris also happens to be one of the swankiest capitals in the world. Let's not forget that the city plays host to the iconic Paris Fashion Week each year – so tangible, so glamorous. But forget the Louvre, the Arc de Triomphe, or even the Eiffel Tower. Today, we're ditching these overly touristy areas in favor of the REAL Paris. This isn't another traditional guide stuffed with Moulin Rouges and shopping on the Champs Elysee. Instead, we're going to tap right into those secret haunts, flea markets, and the kind of boho neighborhoods radiating with that classic Parisian *je ne sais quoi*! So, let's get on! Here's Paris beyond the postcards, unlocking those amazing hidden gems in Paris. Sign up for our newsletter and get the best travel tips delivered right to your inbox. – With that helpful PSA out of the way, you can approach exploring Paris as you should. Travelers should look to balance the epic sightseeing (yes, the list can be endless) with days lovingly mocking the French. By that, I mean, sitting and enjoy *la belle vie*. The crowds flock to the world-class sites from the Eiffel Tower to Notre Dame. I'm not saying you shouldn't follow. The Broke Backpacker is supported by you. Clicking through our links may earn us a small affiliate commission, and that's what allows us to keep producing free content – Learn more. But once you're done, you can start to experience what makes Paris magical. It's the days wandering the back streets and Dalida Square. The ability to go from A to B on foot without spending a dime. It's the evenings along the Seine, still strolling. And with the city slowly lighting up, some dangle in the trees, illuminating streetfront patios with that famously romantic Paris downlight. It's a place where the whole city takes a deep breath and leaves the day's trials behind. For you, fellow traveler, experiencing a balance of the headline acts and the regular, everyday experiences will have you feeling the magic of the city of love. Whether you're exploring on your own or taking one of the many tours and Airbnb experiences in Paris, you can easily discover a different side to the city of light. It's no secret that the French love their bikes. After

all, the Tour de France is easily the most prestigious and the oldest bike race in Europe! So really, there's no better way to find hidden gems in Paris than to bike your way across the city. Plenty of treasures beckon in this guided activity that'll take you through the kinds of spots tourists don't generally know about. One of the best things about exploring Paris by bike is that you'll get to avoid the notorious traffic – perfect for a relaxing day out! Kickstart this 3-hour tour with a visit to the 17th-century St. Louis Island which remained relatively unchanged. You'll also get to explore the River Seine's left bank before visiting the world's oldest company which is 1154 years old! Your guide will also explain the history of each place as you explore every nook and cranny of this magnificent city. It won't take you long to realize that the iconic Parisian baguette is practically an institution in the city. So much so, that a French Bread Law was even passed in 1993: bakeries must follow a set of rules for making a classic baguette! Now, while the French penchant for a good ol' crusty baguette isn't exactly a secret, very few tourists actually get a glimpse of how this delicacy is crafted. With this activity, you'll get to mosey around a hidden gem café while uncovering kitchen secrets from a proper French baker. During the workshop, you'll learn more about the various steps that go into making the crunchy, yet perfectly fluffy-centred stick. But before all of that, you'll be treated to a scrumptious French breakfast, complete with croissants and pain au chocolat. As far as magical places in Paris are concerned, this one is a real doozy! If you'd like to stroll through palatial grounds without pushing through the notorious crowds at Versailles, then I totally recommend this hidden gem in Paris. Located in Central Paris (close to the Louvre) the Palais Royal's Garden is actually the only green space in Paris recognized by the Ministry of Culture as a 'Remarkable Garden.' An absolute lung in the midst of bustling Paris, this space was originally created back in 1633 and redesigned in 1674. It was redesigned a third time when Duchess Henrietta decided to turn it into the most stunning ornamental gardens in the city. Offering an amazing setting in the afternoon, this space is home to over 500 trees, including red horse chestnuts and lime trees planted in the 1900s. Following your exploration, retreat to the comfort of Hôtel Molière, a boutique gem conveniently located just a 5-minute walk from the garden. We've tested countless backpacks over the years, but there's one that has always been the best and

remains the best buy for adventurers: the broke backpacker-approved Osprey Aether and Ariel series. Want more deetz on why these packs are so damn perfect? Then read our comprehensive review for the inside scoop! Paris may be known as the city of love, but not a lot of tourists know that it's got a pretty gruesome history. It actually a bigger dark tourism hotspot than you'd first think. For something different (and spine-chilling!), sign up for a guided tour of all those secret spots in Paris that contributed to mystical legends. Your guide will provide plenty of info about the historical murders and various tales surrounding each site, including an insider's knowledge about France's 'Evil Queen'. Cursed locations and public execution sites await – but that's not all! With this two-hour tour, you'll also discover The Templars which is a contemporary secret society that's deeply rooted in French history. Most tourists go to Montmartre to marvel at the Sacre Coeur or those legendary steps – two iconic areas that overshadow a less-popular spot known as Dalida Square. This underrated place to stay in Paris is named after Dalida, a super-successful Egyptian-born singer with top record success. In 1962, the singer purchased a 4-storey townhouse in Montmartre, just a short distance from the Radet Windmill. The house still stands today, complete with a commemorative plaque with an inscription dedicated to the singer. One of the highlights of the Place Dalida is the bronze, life-size bust of the singer. When exploring this Paris hideaway, you may wish to touch the statue – a tradition that's believed to bring good luck. There's no denying that the Place Dalida is one of the most charming nooks in Paris. The allure of the place is only punctuated by sweeping views of the Sacre Coeur and proximity to the popular Rue de l'Abreuvoir. You're probably wondering, why should you visit UNESCO Headquarters, of all the places? Well, wait until you see this place for yourself! A great venue for families looking for unique things to do in Paris, the UNESCO Headquarters is an absolute treasure that seamlessly combines modern architecture with classic artwork. Through the guided tour, view a unique collection of over 600 pieces from Calder to Giacometti or even Miro and Picasso. In addition, you'll learn more about UNESCO's missions and their impact on the world while visiting some of the headquarters' most iconic spaces including the only Japanese Garden in Paris! Here's another hidden gem in Paris for art lovers that very few tourists seem to know about! If you want to go off the beaten track and swap

The Louvre for smaller-scale museums, the Musee Rodin definitely is the place for you! This museum is housed in an 18th-century mansion. Featuring works by August Rodin, a famous French sculptor, this museum has quite a peaceful atmosphere ? mainly because it?s usually devoid of the massive crowds of people that flock to more popular places. Be sure to set aside some time to explore the museum?s exterior which holds quite a few treasures of its own, including a sculpture garden. I would suggest that you visit in spring so you can see the plants in full bloom. Nature lovers looking for magical places in Paris should absolutely check out this amazing spot! While locals usually go to the Parc des Buttes Chaumont to hike and picnic, it?s a spot that not a lot of tourists know about since it?s nowhere as popular as other green spaces like, say, the Jardin des Tuileries. In fact, most tourists stumble upon this place by accident since it rarely features in travel guidebooks. With hidden waterfalls, grottos, and even a Roman monument, this park is an absolute oasis smack in the middle of the city! Located in the 19th arrondissement, the park was created way back during the rule of Napoleon III. After hiking, picnicking, and admiring those gorgeous waterfalls, you can check out nearby treasures like the vineyard of Butte Bergeyre, a forgotten vineyard right at the heart of the city! Here at The Broke Backpacker, we love freedom! And there?s no freedom as sweet (and CHEAP) as camping around the world. We?ve been camping on our adventures for over 10 years, so take it from us: the MSR HUBBA HUBBA is the best damn tent for adventuring? Not only does this activity take you off the beaten track to uncover some of the best hidden gems in Paris ? but you?ll also get to do it in style in a classic French car! You?ll get the chance to explore heaps of unusual sites on this 2-hour tour. It?ll take you through those lush hidden quarters, including the Port de l?Arsenal, the Passage Sully, the Butte aux Cailles, and the Place des Vosges. While the car is convertible, rest assured that it?s fitted with a transparent roof. So no issues with rain. You?re not going to miss out on those glorious sights! I?m sure you must be surprised to see Versailles on a list of secret places in Paris. After all, this legendary place is everything but a secret ? which is probably why it?s always swarming with endless crowds of people! Head to Versailles after the crowd has died down though and it?s a whole other story that awaits. With this skip-the-line, last-entry ticket, you?ll be able to explore the palace as it was meant to be

experienced: away from the throngs of overly eager tourists. The atmosphere at Versailles is nothing short of regal, just like it used to be back in the golden days. Your guide will bring tales of France's royal past to life as you flit from one room to the other, marveling at the sheer opulence of the place. Best of all, you'll discover secret sites that most Versailles tours don't normally include, such as the Queen's Hamlet where Marie Antoinette used to play dress up. Okay, after all this sightseeing, I bet you're ready for some shopping! Now, you can always head to insanely popular boutiques like the Galeries Lafayette on the Champs Elysees. But if you're looking for something different, you may wish to check out the Marché aux Puces de Paris Saint-Ouen. One of the most underrated places in Paris, this flea market dates all the way back to 1885. The sprawling shopping site combines 13 different markets so there are heaps of stalls to browse through. At least 2,000 shops and stands await, all spread over nearly 8 hectares. Get haggling for old tools to archaeological artefacts, sporting goods, jewelry, bronzes, period clothes, books, and even furniture. Potterheads, rejoice! If you're a fan of the iconic series like me, then you really don't want to miss a visit to Nicolas Flamel's House. I know what you're thinking: Was Nicolas Flamel a real person? Well, he actually was, and yes, he too was an alchemist! London may be the epicenter of all things Harry Potter, but a little-known fact is that his house is the oldest in all of Paris. Built in 1407 on Montmorency Street, the house is apparently where Flamel used to conduct his alchemist experiences. After the death of his wife Pernelle, Nicolas had his house commissioned to provide shelter for the homeless. While this Paris hideaway has now been converted into a restaurant, the ancient façade still stands. It was actually recognized as a historic monument in 1911. The ground floor cornice still retains its original inscription written in Middle French. Another underrated place in Paris, the 59 Rivoli is a far cry from Paris' glamorous vibe but in my opinion, it's well worth a visit! This artistic squat originally started out as an abandoned, 6-storey building. After the building was evicted, a bunch of squatters moved in and they all happened to be artists! The government eventually supported them by allowing them to squat in the place and that's how this colorful, heavily graffitied place came to be. Located in the first arrondissement, 59 Rivoli is especially known for its brightly-hued spiral staircase and intricate murals. While this spot is steadily growing in popularity thanks to social media, plenty of travelers

still don't know about it yet ? perfect for travelers who want to do some digging around without large gaggles of tourists! Paris is full of quirky customs like drinking tea out of a bowl (only at breakfast) or greeting people by kissing them on each cheek. But did you know that another tradition is to place a foot right in the middle of Paris Point Zero? Visually speaking, Paris Point Zero is a pretty unremarkable secret in Paris: it's basically a plaque embedded in the square located right in front of the Notre Dame Cathedral. In fact, most tourists just ended up walking right over it when they used to visit Notre Dame prior to the devastating 2019 fires. When the square is packed with tourists (as it usually is!), the plaque can be hard to find, but keep your eyes peeled for a glint of bronze surrounded by an inscription that reads, Point Zéro Des Routes De France. Representing the exact center of Paris, this spot is shrouded in traditions. For example, placing one foot on the plaque is said to make your deepest wish come true. Others will tell you that kissing the love of your life on the marker is a sign of undying devotion. Let's wrap up this list of magical places in Paris with a place that can best be described as? sobering. Home to over 200 specimens, the Room of Endangered and Extinct Species (found in the Gallery of Evolution) sheds some light on the different species that were pushed to extinction or endangerment. Located in a wood-paneled room, this section of the museum is deliberately kept dark and cold, with the main light sources emanating mostly from the display cases. You'll see various extinct or endangered plants and animals like the Aye-Aye or the Sumatran Tiger. This is also a great opportunity for learning about lesser-known species like the Coelacanth fish or the Barbary lion which is now extinct in the wild. While this room is mostly devoted to natural history, you'll also see some interesting bits and pieces like a gold clock that used to belong to Marie Antoinette. Believe it or not, the clock still works today and you'll hear it chime through the room as you walk through the display cases! Paris is pretty safe as it goes. But that doesn't mean you don't need insurance. This covers you from all kinds of mishaps, so you make the best of this amazing experience! Month to month payments, no lock-in contracts, and no itineraries required: that's the exact kind of insurance digital nomads and long-term traveller types need. Cover yo? pretty little self while you live the DREAM! SafetyWing is cheap, easy, and admin-free: just sign up lickety-split so you can get back to work! Click the button below to learn

more about SafetyWing's setup or read our insider review for the full tasty scoop. There's still more to come. Here are more hidden treasures in Paris to put on your map. If you're staying in a hostel in Paris, ask the staff for the best local recommendations! For attractions, check out Dalida Square, the Palais Royal Courtyard, and the Marché aux Puces de Paris Saint-Ouen. They're completely free! Kids and adults will no doubt relish an adventure in a classic French convertible car. Uncover hidden gems like the Place des Vosges and the Port de L'Arsenal in a way you'll never forget. The Parc des Buttes Chaumont offers an undeniably romantic setting for a sunset stroll or a picnic right by the waterfall! Get a nice Airbnb and have someone good to rest when you get back. ? Paris looks absolutely amazing in the fall. From September to November, you get the most complimentary color changes. And there you have it ? a tantalizing taste of the City of Light away from that well-trodden tourist track! I'm sure by now you've realized that the city overflows with treasures that are just waiting to be discovered. Delightful surprises and cheap French wine beckon you to explore. Take your time to amble around. Don't hesitate to stray away from the usual tourist haunts. After all, you never know when you can stumble across yet another beautifully hidden gem in Paris! A couple of you lovely readers suggested we set up a tip jar for direct support as an alternative to booking through our links. So we created one! You can now buy The Broke Backpacker a coffee. If you like and use our content to plan your trips, it's a much appreciated way to show appreciation ? Share or save this post Your email address will not be published. Required fields are marked * Comment * Name * Email * Website Save my name, email, and website in this browser for the next time I comment. Notify me of followup comments via e-mail. ? ?

Discover the Hidden Gems of Paris: Exploring the 3rd Arrondissement ? Ticketeaser

Explore the timeless beauty of the City of Love. Immerse yourself in the enchanting streets of Paris, adorned with iconic landmarks like the Eiffel Tower, Louvre Museum, and Notre-Dame Cathedral. Indulge in French cuisine, stroll along the Seine River, and unveil the secrets of this captivating city. Unleash your wanderlust and discover the magic of Paris! Paris, the City of Lights, is known for its iconic landmarks like the Eiffel Tower, Louvre Museum, and Notre-Dame Cathedral. However, beyond the popular tourist attractions lies a hidden gem waiting to be discovered ? the 3rd arrondissement of Paris. Nestled in the heart of the city, this vibrant district offers a unique blend of history, culture, and charm. From quaint cobblestone streets to trendy shopping boutiques, the 3rd arrondissement has something for everyone. In this article, we will explore some of the not-to-be-missed attractions in this lesser-known but equally captivating part of Paris. Le Marais is undoubtedly one of the highlights of the 3rd arrondissement. This historic neighborhood, with its narrow alleys and well-preserved medieval architecture, is a treasure trove of cultural and artistic delights. One of the must-visit spots in Le Marais is the Place des Vosges, the oldest planned square in Paris. This serene and elegant square, surrounded by red-brick townhouses and adorned with beautiful gardens, provides a peaceful oasis in the bustling city. For art enthusiasts, the Museum of Arts and Crafts (Musee des Arts et Metiers) is a must-see. Housed in an impressive former priory, this museum showcases a fascinating collection of inventions and innovations throughout history. From mechanical devices to scientific instruments, visitors can explore the ingenuity of human creativity. The 3rd arrondissement is a paradise for shopaholics and food lovers alike. The Rue de Bretagne is a bustling street known for its eclectic mix of specialty food shops, gourmet supermarkets, and trendy cafes. Indulge your taste buds with delicious pastries, local produce, and international delicacies as you stroll along this vibrant street. Just a stone's throw away from Rue de Bretagne lies the Marche des Enfants Rouges, the oldest covered market in Paris. Here, you can immerse yourself in the sights and smells of a bustling market, and sample a

variety of cuisines from around the world. With its lively atmosphere and diverse food stalls, the Marche des Enfants Rouges is a culinary adventure waiting to be experienced. The 3rd arrondissement is home to several renowned art galleries and museums, each offering a unique glimpse into Parisian art and history. The National Picasso Museum (Musee National Picasso) is a must-visit destination for art lovers. Housed in the elegant Hotel Sale, this museum showcases an extensive collection of Picasso's works, spanning the different periods of his artistic career. If you have an interest in photography, make sure to visit the Maison Europeenne de la Photographie. This prestigious institution hosts rotating exhibitions featuring both established and emerging photographers, offering a diverse range of artistic perspectives captured through the lens. Escape the hustle and bustle of the city by discovering the hidden gardens and charming streets of the 3rd arrondissement. The Square du Temple is a peaceful oasis, perfect for a leisurely stroll or a picnic. This beautiful park is located on the site of the former Temple fortress, once home to the Knights Templar. For a taste of quintessential Parisian charm, explore the Rue de Francs Bourgeois. Lined with elegant townhouses, stylish boutiques, and quaint cafes, this picturesque street embodies the essence of Parisian chic. Take your time to meander through the cobblestone streets and discover hidden gems along the way. The 3rd arrondissement is steeped in history and is home to several significant cultural landmarks. The Carnavalet Museum (Musee Carnavalet) is a fascinating testament to the history of Paris. Housed in two magnificent mansions, this museum showcases a vast collection of artifacts, paintings, and sculptures that document the evolution of the city over the centuries. Another iconic landmark in the 3rd arrondissement is the National Archives (Archives Nationales). This massive complex houses the official archives of France and offers visitors a chance to delve into the rich history and heritage of the country. As the sun sets, the 3rd arrondissement comes alive with its vibrant nightlife and entertainment options. Experience the bohemian spirit of Paris at the Cafe Charlot, a popular haunt for locals and visitors alike. Enjoy a glass of wine or a cup of coffee while soaking in the lively atmosphere of this iconic Parisian cafe. For a night of live entertainment and music, head to the Cirque d'Hiver Bouglione. This historic circus, dating back to 1852, continues to enchant audiences with its breathtaking performances and

timeless charm. While Paris is renowned for its world-famous landmarks, the 3rd arrondissement offers a different perspective on the city. With its historic neighborhoods, trendy shops, and hidden gems, this district is a treasure waiting to be explored. So next time you visit Paris, be sure to venture beyond the tourist hotspots and discover the hidden gems of the 3rd arrondissement.

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