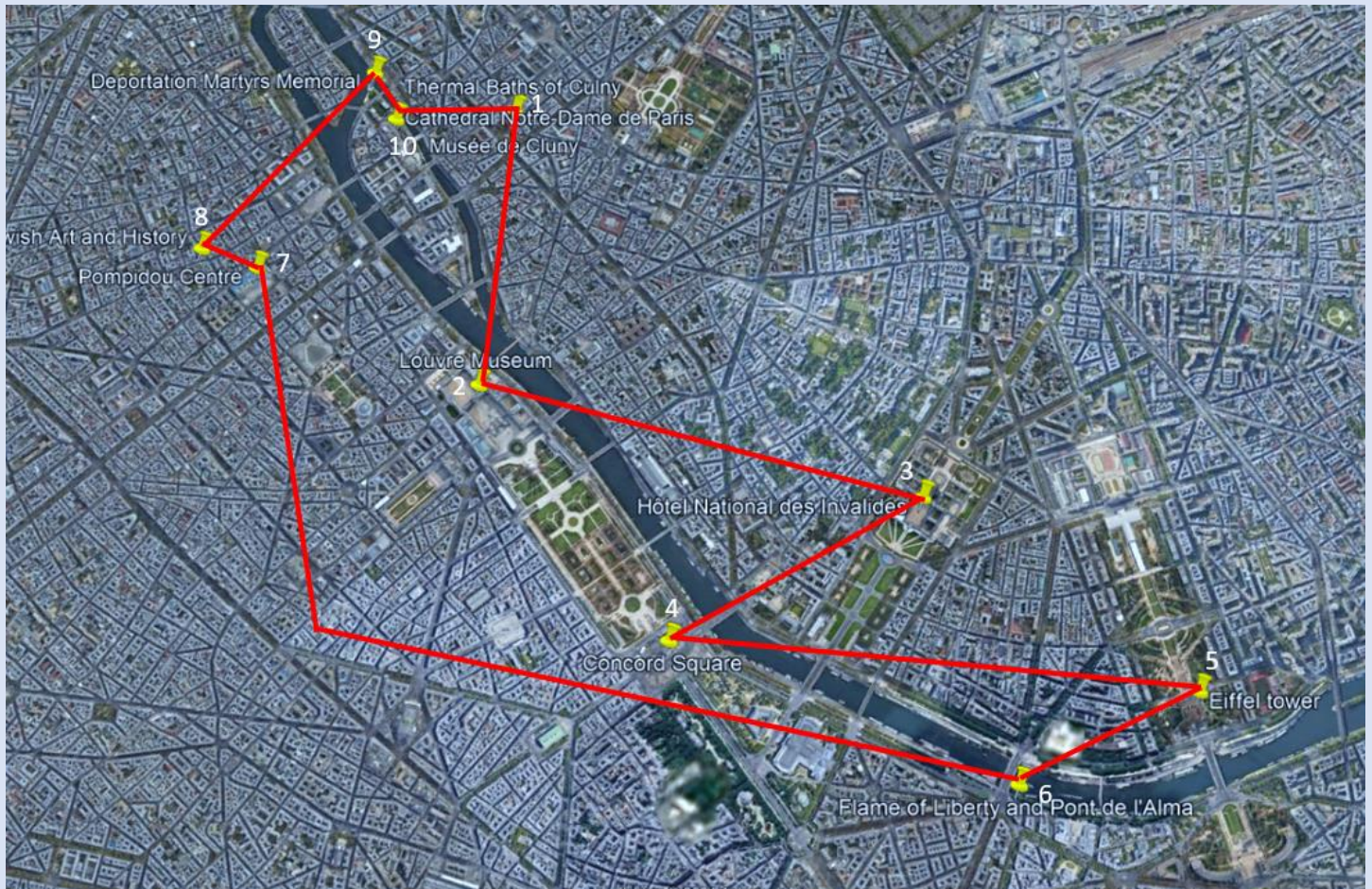


Time Travel Through Paris

Presented by Sébastien Expeditions



Embark on a journey through the enchanting streets of the City of Lights, where the past seamlessly intertwines with the present. Traverse the historical gems of this iconic city, from the majestic Eiffel Tower to the Gothic architecture of Notre-Dame Cathedral. Explore the halls of the Louvre Museum and pay homage at the Hotel National des Invalides, steeped in tales of warfare. Indulge in the culinary delights of Parisian bistros, explore charming boulevards, and witness modern artistry at the Pompidou Centre. This Expedition promises an immersive experience for history and culture enthusiasts. Step into the heart of Paris and let its rich history unfold before your eyes!



1. Thermal baths of Cluny – Step back in time to the 1st-3rd centuries during the Gallo-Roman period at the Thermal Baths of Cluny, where you can immerse yourself in the ancient world's luxurious spa culture.

2. Museum of the Louvre – Originally a fortress dating back to 1190, this iconic museum was transformed into the most well-known museum in the world in 1793, housing masterpieces like the Mona Lisa, Venus de Milo and the Louvre Pyramid

3. Hotel National des Invalides – Explore the rich history of this monumental complex, built from 1671-1678 by Louis XIV as hospital for wounded soldiers, and now serving as the final resting place of Napoleon Bonaparte.

4. Place de la Concorde – Discover this historic square, dating back to 1755-1772, known for its great Egyptian obelisk and connections to French royals and revolutionaries like Maximilien Robespierre and Marie Antoinette, where she was decapitated along with Louis XIV during the French revolution.

5. Eiffel Tower – Ascend the iconic symbol of Paris, constructed between 1887-1889 for the World's Exhibition, offering breath-taking views of the cityscape and a testament to Gustave Eiffel's engineering prowess from the most popular tower on Earth.

6. Flame of Liberty at the Bridge of Alma – Witness the eternal flame, a symbol of freedom and friendship, gifted by the International Herald Tribune in 1989 and famously associated with Princess Diana's tragic passing in a car accident under the Bridge of Alma.

7. Pompidou Centre – Marvel at the futuristic architecture of the Pompidou Centre, established from 1971-1977, showcasing contemporary art and design while paying homage to former French President Georges Pompidou.

8. Museum of Jewish Art and History - Explore the vibrant heritage of Jewish culture at this museum established in 1998, showcasing a diverse collection of art, artifacts, and stories spanning centuries and exposing their horrific persecution.

9. Deportation Martyrs Memorial – Pay tribute to the victims of the Holocaust at this poignant memorial erected in 1962, honoring the memory of those who perished in Nazi concentration camps during World War II.

10. Cathedral Notre-Dame de Paris – Witness the restoration of this medieval masterpiece, under construction from 1163-1345, which suffered a devastating fire in 2019 but continues to stand as a symbol of hope and history in the heart of the French, who raised 850 million euros for its cause

c.250bc – 52bc: Birth of the city by the Parisii: Paris was founded in the 3rd century B.C. by a community of Celts called the **Parisii**. These were a group of tribal fishermen who took advantage of the land's fertility and the ideal temperature after being pushed to the banks of the **Seine** by emigration. At the time, the Parisii's settlement were divided into seven islands, namely **Ile Saint-Louis** and **Ile de la Cité** who both gathered three islets, and **Ile Louviers**. The name of Lutetia was given to the habitations that were constructed on the islands, particularly on Ile de la Cité, the name coming from the Celtic word Loulouchezi which signified "habitation in the middle of the waters".



Ile de la Cité

Thermal Baths of Cluny



1190 – 1500: The Middle Ages: From the 10th century until 1358, the French Kings had their Palace on Ile de la Cité, its remains being kept in the modern **Conciergerie** before moving to the **Louvres** which was a defensive fortress at the time. Cathedral and churches were built by monks, namely **Saint-Denis**, **Notre-Dame Cathedral** and the **Sainte-Chapelle** and the **Sorbonne** was constructed in 1253 as a prominent university. With 200 000 inhabitants in 1328, Paris, was the most populous city of Europe and these initiatives accelerated commercial activity and the growth of the population even more.

52bc – 987: Gallo-Roman Period: In the year 52 BC, Lutetia fell to one of **Julius Caesar's** lieutenants, **Proconsul Labienus** and the name of Paris was finally adopted in the 5th century, as the city was occupied by the Gauls. Paris was fortified and began to expand on to the left bank of the Seine, building the first Roman baths, specifically the **Thermal baths of Cluny**. Paris became an industrial center for the **Roman Empire** and in the 3rd century they became Christians. A barbarian invasion was avoided in 451 and in the middle ages, Paris was seized by **King Clovis** who migrated from the East and made it the capital of the Kingdom of the Franks in 508. In 861, Paris became part of the Capetians' land, becoming the rulers of France when **Hugues Capet** took the throne in 987 and expanding the kingdom by making other lords follow their rules.

Hôtel des Invalides



1789 – 1821: The French Revolution and Napoleon: The French revolution started when **La Bastille prison** was taken on July 14th, 1789 and consequently demolished. This ignited a wave of revolutionary passion and led to the fall of the monarchy in 1792, created new rights for the French population, but also caused wars, mass executions and the beheading of **King Louis XVI** and **Marie Antoinette** on **Place de la Concorde** in 1793. **Napoleon Bonaparte**, a talented military leader, seized power in France after this event. He crowned himself Emperor in a ceremony at **Notre Dame Cathedral** in Paris in 1804 and showed ambitious public works projects in the city, including the construction of **Arc de Triomphe** and the **Vendôme Column**. His reign brought stability to France but also saw imperial expansion and costly wars, namely the Peninsular War and French invasion of Russia among others. Nonetheless, he was exiled on the Island of Elba in 1814 after the appalling battle of Lipsia and died in 1821.



Museum of the Louvres

1500 – 1789: XVIIth century: Under **Louis XIV** ("the Sun King"), Paris extended itself to **Le Marais** and **l'Hôtel National des Invalides** and Louis XIV built the **Versailles Palace** near Paris to express his glory and power, making Paris appear as the city of luxury, fashion, fine food and wine. A huge fire in London in September 1666 destroyed nearly 13,000 houses in the space of a few days which made Parisian authorities aware of the danger their city could run. In fact, the houses in the working-class districts were built in a timber meaning a fire could spread from house to house without much action being able to be done. It was therefore decided to ban the construction of wooden houses and old ones were covered with plaster to better resist fire.



Place de la Concorde

Eiffel Tower



1900 – 1939: World War One and “the Roaring Twenties”: As the capital of France, Paris became a political and military centre during World War One, but the city suffered the many consequences of war despite its distance from the front lines. The city was the target of German air raids and shelling, namely in March 1918, when the German “Paris Gun” began bombing the city from over 120 kilometres away. These attacks caused panic and destruction, which was emphasized by food shortages. With many men at the front, women took on new roles in factories, offices, and public services. From 1918 to 1939, Paris experienced a period of recovery and cultural flourishing, which is often referred to as “the Roaring Twenties” and saw victory parades and gatherings to celebrate the triumph of the Allies. However, in the 1930s the Great Depression brought economic hardship and political instability, the country being on the verge of another crisis before World War Two

Pompidou Centre



1945 – 1980: Recovery Period: Emerging from the devastation of World War Two, Paris faced the immense challenge of rebuilding its infrastructure and economy under the leadership of General Charles de Gaulle, as many buildings had been damaged and the population was weary from years of hardship. The city hosted the grand parade on the Champs-Élysées in 1945, marking the recovery over Nazi Germany and reconstruction efforts were aimed at modernizing Paris, addressing the housing shortage and repairing war damage. During the 1950s and 1960s, Paris regained its status as global cultural capital, attracting artists, writers, intellectuals and filmmakers from around the world with figures such as Simone de Beauvoir and François Truffaut. In 1968, the city witnessed a massive wave of student strikes, sparked by demands for university reforms and broader social change. This quickly escalated into clashes between students, workers, and police and the president decided to dissolve the assembly and make reforms for a new election. In 1977, the Pompidou Centre was conceived by George Pompidou and the architects Renzo Piano and Richard Rogers and became a symbol of modern architecture.

Notre-Dame Cathedral



1866 – 1900: The World Exhibitions: In 1866, the rapid rise of population led Baron Haussmann to undertake massive town planning between 1852 and 1870, cutting across old districts to create large boulevards. The Eiffel Tower was designed for the 1889 World exhibition to celebrate the progress of technology and was built in just two years by 132 workers and 50 engineers. The Tower was criticized by Parisians when it was built and was planned to be demolished in 1909, however it was saved at the last moment as it could be turned into a telecommunication tower. In 1900 another World Exhibition took place to mark the progress in electricity, introducing the Grand Palais, Musée d'Orsay and Pont Alexandre III. It was the last to be organized in Paris after that of 1855, 1867, 1878 and 1889. In 212 days of opening, it welcomed 50 million visitors and almost 83,000 exhibitors. Paris became the heart of modern art in the world with Picasso, Monet, Modigliani, Van Gogh, Toulouse-Lautrec among others



Deportation Martyrs Memorial

1939 – 1945: World War Two: During World War II, Paris was occupied by the Germans from June 14th, 1940 until August 25th, 1944, the date of its liberation by French and American troops. Hitler had indeed no intention of preserving the city and the German General von Choltitz, the last military governor of occupied Paris, received orders declaring "Paris is to be transformed into a heap of ruins. The general must defend the city to the last man and will perish if necessary, under the rubble." However, Von Choltitz refused to follow orders as ravaging the capital would have been costly in human lives and hindering to the movement of the Reich soldiers withdrawing from Normandy. The Allies, worried about the destruction of the city threatened Von Choltitz to bring him before a war tribunal. His participation in the destruction of Rotterdam and Sevastopol and in the extermination of the Jews meant his reputation was ruined. The Battle of Normandy was lost, the German troops fell back, the soldiers evacuated the city. In 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted in Paris by the United Nations.

1980 – today: Cultural and Political development: Under President François Mitterrand, who was elected in 1981, Paris underwent a series of ambitious urban renewal projects, known as the "Grands Projets." These included the construction of the Louvre Pyramid, designed by architect I.M. Pei the Grande Arche de la Défense, the Bastille Opera House and the National Library of France. During this period, Paris also witnessed significant social and political developments with the appearance of Simone Veil, a Holocaust survivor and pioneering politician who championed women's rights and human rights. In 1995, Paris became the site of the first major international protest against globalization, with demonstrations against the World Trade Organization. In 2019 a fire occurred at Notre-Dame Cathedral and caused severe damage, destroying the spire and much of the wooden roof. The disaster prompted a massive international response, with donations pouring in for its restoration.