



INSPIRATION



The Budget Traveler's Guide to Paris

By TripAdvisor

A city of luxury, Paris isn't exactly known as a super affordable destination, but we've got tips on how to explore the city on a budget and still enjoy its many delights, from culture to monuments to food.

Inspiration

Tips



Where to Wander

Walking is free, and there may be no better city in France (or even all of Europe) for strolling than Paris, where free highlights such as gardens, elegant architecture, and river views abound. On the [Right Bank](#) of the River Seine, explore the [Champs-Élysées](#) from the [Arc de Triomphe](#) to [Place de la Concorde](#), then cross the Seine to the [Left Bank](#) for a meander through the popular [Saint Germain des Pres](#) and [Latin Quarter](#) neighborhoods, where you don't want to miss the lovely [Luxembourg Gardens \(Jardin du Luxembourg\)](#), home to fountains, tree-lined paths, and even a palace. For a more informational experience with insider commentary, take a [walking tour](#) that won't break the bank, such as a [guided excursion through the Marais district](#). To stretch your legs indoors, head to a Paris museum like the [Louvre Museum \(Musée du Louvre\)](#), where admission is free on the first Sunday of each month from October to March. If you plan on visiting lots of major museums during your stay, a [Paris museum pass](#) can save you both time and money.



Luxembourg Gardens



33196 Reviews

What to See

Instead of waiting in line and battling crowds at the [Eiffel Tower](#), splurge on a [skip-the-line tour](#) or spend less at another worthy attraction such as the [Palais Garnier](#), where a [guided walking tour](#) introduces you to the opera house's history, plus its incredible architecture and design. If you're still looking for that aerial view of the city, though, head to [Basilica du Sacre-Coeur de Montmartre](#), where entry is free and the hilltop location provides a panorama of Paris, or to [the Notre Dame Cathedral](#), which is less expensive to enter than the Eiffel Tower and still provides a bird's-eye look at the city. Sightseeing enthusiasts planning to visit several landmarks in and around the City of Light (think the [Palace of Versailles](#) and the [Musée d'Orsay](#)) should consider purchasing a [Paris Pass](#) for admission to more than 60 sites, some with skip-the-line access, plus Metro and RER transportation.



Basilique du Sacre-Coeur de Montmartre

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35625 Reviews

Where to Eat

Paris can be an expensive city when it comes to dining. Save money on lunch by skipping a sit-down meal and putting together your own picnic. You can buy cheese, saucisson (dry sausage), and fruit at a grocery store or city market like [Carrefour](#), or hit up a bakery such as [Les Gourmandises D'Eiffel](#) for baked goods, then take your haul to [Les Jardins du Trocadero](#) or the base of the Eiffel Tower to eat in the fresh air with views of the Parisian icon. You can also combine lunch with a visit to the tower itself by eating at the first-level [58 Tour Eiffel](#) restaurant. It won't be the cheapest lunch in Paris, but bookings include a lift ticket, a prix fixe 3-course meal, one glass of beer or wine, and access to the tower's views and transparent glass floor. Afterward, take the stairs up to the second level for free.



Eiffel Tower



131384 Reviews

How to Get Around

Instead of spending money on taxis and Ubers or learning how to use public transport like the Metro, book a [hop-on hop-off tour](#) for affordable transportation all across Paris at one price with the added benefit of onboard commentary to learn about the sights as you go. Most buses are double-decker, so you can sit up top to take in the views, and with a focus on the city's most popular landmarks, you don't have to worry about how to get to the places you want to see. The idea even extends to the Seine, where a [hop-on hop-off cruise](#) is about the same price as a basic 1-hour sightseeing cruise but you can use it to your advantage to get to multiple waterfront destinations such as the Eiffel Tower, Musée d'Orsay, and Notre Dame Cathedral during the 1.5- to 2-hour loop.



Big Bus Paris



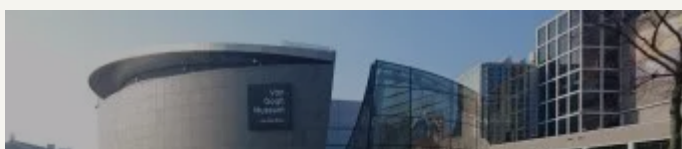
4843 Reviews

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