

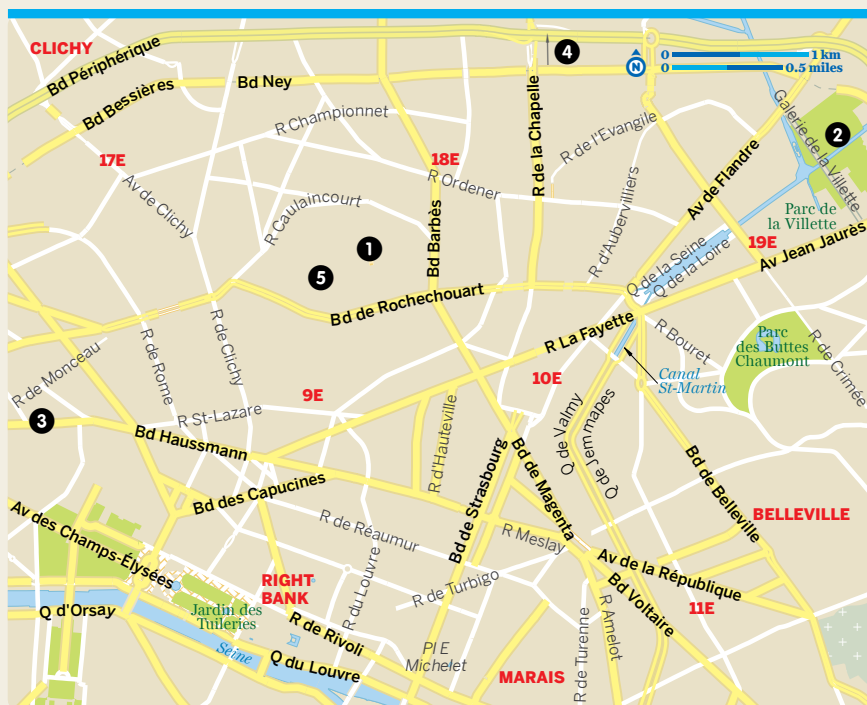
# Montmartre & Northern Paris

## Neighbourhood Top Five

- 1 Basilique du Sacré-Cœur** (p134) Hiking up the steps for panoramic city views and some of the city's finest street entertainers outside, and a glittering mosaic within.
- 2 Parc de la Villette** (p136) Treating the kids to a day in the capital's world-class science museum and

- enjoying a performance or exhibit at the city's largest cultural playground.
- 3 Musée Jacquemart-André** (p138) Stepping into opulent surrounds at this elegant art museum, a rare snapshot of 19th-century Parisian high society, climaxing with afternoon tea in the lavish tearoom.

- 4 Basilique de St-Denis** (p140) Discovering the tombs of French royalty in St-Denis.
- 5 Le Mur des je t'aime** (p142) Declaring 'I love you' to someone you love or learning how to say it in every language under the sun in a pretty city park in Montmartre.



For more detail of this area see Map p378, p382, p384 and p385 →

## Explore: Montmartre & Northern Paris

One of the wellsprings of Parisian myth, Montmartre has always stood apart. Bohemians, revolutionaries, artists, cancan girls and headless martyrs have all played a role in its story, and while it belongs to Paris today, vestiges of the original village – ivy-clad buildings, steep narrow streets – remain. Crowned by the white-domed Sacré-Cœur, dragged back to earth by red-light Pigalle, it has forever encompassed contrast and conflict.

An ideal place to base yourself, Montmartre is rich in sights, cuisine, shopping and entertainment. Most visitors spend half a day or more exploring the side streets, searching valiantly for that one perfect vista to snap a selfie looking out over the city.

After dark, night owls will enjoy drinking and dining in style in south Pigalle, or ‘SoPi’ as Parisian hipsters know it. This edgy but increasingly fashionable area bustles with local life in the shape of its sensational cocktail bars. For a taste of fully fledged, grown-up *bobo* (bourgeois bohemian) lifestyle, head east again to Canal St-Martin, a vibrant ‘hood that today has everything from all-day brunches and late-night drinks to casual shopping and romantic waterside strolls.

### Local Life

- ➔ **SoPi cocktails** Old girlie bars in trendy south Pigalle (SoPi) have morphed into some of the city’s most exciting cocktail bars: fashionistas start their crawl with Lulu White (p147) and Glass (p143) on rue Frochot, ending at the bar at the Grand Hôtel Pigalle (p285).
- ➔ **Neobistros** Canal St-Martin and south Pigalle are two of the most exciting places to dine and now a pocket of the 10e around rue du Faubourg St-Martin and rue du Faubourg St-Denis has joined in the party.
- ➔ **Canal lounging** On spring and summer weekends, it feels like the entire neighbourhood can be found around Canal St-Martin (p148).
- ➔ **Little Africa** Locals love the colourful, predominantly north African *quartier* of La Goutte d’Or for its craft-beer brewery Brasserie la Goutte d’Or (p139) and artisan coffee-bean roastery Café Lomi (p150).

### Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Metro** Lines 2 and 12 serve Montmartre; lines 5 and 7 serve northeastern Paris (Canal St-Martin and La Villette). Further west, Clichy can be accessed via line 2.
- ➔ **RER** RER B links Gare du Nord with central Paris.
- ➔ **Bicycle** There are quite a few stations along the Canal St-Martin, including place République and 8 place Jacques Bonsergent.

## Lonely Planet’s Top Tip

Although gritty, the neighbourhoods in the north and northeast of Paris are still fairly safe as far as big cities go, providing you behave sensibly. If there are places you really need to stay on your guard, it’s at the foot of the hill that leads up to Sacré-Cœur and also on Montmartre’s place du Tertre. It’s not unusual for pickpockets and con artists to work the crowds here.

### Best Places to Eat

- ➔ 52 Faubourg St-Denis (p140)
- ➔ La Bulle (p145)
- ➔ Matière à. (p145)
- ➔ Grand Amour Hôtel (p144)
- ➔ Le Verre Volé (p144)

For reviews, see p140. ➔

### Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Le Très Particulier (p149)
- ➔ CopperBay (p149)
- ➔ Gravity Bar (p147)
- ➔ Lulu White (p147)
- ➔ Hardware Société (p149)

For reviews, see p147. ➔

### Best Entertainment

- ➔ Philharmonie de Paris (p151)
- ➔ Le Divan du Monde (p151)
- ➔ Point Éphémère (p152)
- ➔ La Cigale (p151)
- ➔ Moulin Rouge (p151)

For reviews, see p151. ➔