

# PARIS

REDISCOVERED

CAROLINE DELABROY

Paris Rediscovered

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## HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

### Colour codes and maps

The colour symbols represent places and businesses mentioned in the book and are marked on the appropriate maps for ease of reference. For example, restaurants are shown as a green fork. Each neighbourhood is given a colour which is used for the tabs in the chapter devoted to it.

### Prices

The € symbols in this guide show the cost of a meal – main course, starter or dessert – for one person excluding alcoholic drinks.

€	< €16
€€	€16-30
€€€	€30-50
€€€€	> €50

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# THIS IS PARIS

How well do you know the Paris Île-de-France region? On your first visit, you are sure to have seen monuments, famous avenues and a wealth of timeless, unforgettable sights... which we're not going to repeat here! The aim of this guide is for you to rediscover the area. We will give you a more intimate picture of a city in motion where there is always something new to see.

From the cosmopolitan Canal Saint-Martin to the groundbreaking architecture of the 13th and the major new museums in the west of the capital to the burgeoning, creative northeast... Paris Île-de-France always has something different and sometimes completely unexpected to offer.

The Parc de la Villette and its surrounding areas provide visitors with a huge space for cultural activities or just relaxing with the family. The MAC/VAL puts on the best creative talent on the outskirts of the city and fashion designers of the moment display their wares in the Upper Marais, not far from the Rue Montorgueil with its shops and cafés.

Restaurants revamped by the big names in French design provide you with intimate places to meet or if you're in the mood to party, head to the bars and clubs in Belleville or Montreuil, which are a hit among Parisians.

All these great places have been listed in this guide. You will also find new ways of exploring this melting pot of cultures and trends and meet the men and women who live in the city and help to shape it. It's now up to you to go out and see this 'new Paris Île-de-France' for yourself!

**Photographs** All photographs: CRT Paris Île-de-France/Tripelon-Jarry, except p6, p8 (right), p10 (left) Lonely Planet Images/Olivier Cirendini; p8 left Lonely Planet Images/John Banagan; p9 left Lonely Planet Images/Jean-Bernard Carillet, right Lonely Planet Images/Izzet Keribar; p10 right Lonely Planet Images/Dan Herrick; p11 left Lonely Planet Images/Will Salter, right Lonely Planet Images/Jean-Bernard Carillet; p12 Lonely Planet Images/Elliot Daniel; p26 Lonely Planet Images/Anne Dowie; p29 Lonely Planet Images/Will Salter; p36 Lonely Planet Images/Russell Mountford; p53 Lonely Planet Images/John Elk III; p63 Miller; p85 Lonely Planet Images/Jean-Bernard Carillet; p90 Martin Argyroglo; p92 Lonely Planet Images/Oliver Strewé; p98 & p103 Lonely Planet Images/Will Salter; p123 Véronique Tarka Partouche; p150 Thierry Nava. **Cover photograph** Lonely Planet Images/Will Salter. All photographs are covered by the photographers' copyrights unless indicated otherwise.

## THE AUTHOR

### CAROLINE DELABROY

Caroline was born in the 13th arrondissement on the Paris Left Bank and grew up in a well-heeled suburb before returning to Paris as a student. Since her university days, she has crossed the Seine to live on the Right Bank behind the Butte Montmartre and has never gone back. She may do so one day, but for now Caroline has settled on this side of Paris which admittedly is not perfect, but boasts a whole host of regular haunts, quirky spots and hidden gems. Through her work for Lonely Planet, Caroline has combed the streets of Paris both on foot and by Vélib' hire bike in between trips to the Basque Country, Bordeaux and Québec. She has also written about trendy spots in Paris for other publications and interviewed entrepreneurs in the Île-de-France, whilst reporting on current affairs for the France 24 website. Caroline is still passionate about the capital.



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### CONTRIBUTOR

#### BÉNÉDICTE HOUDRÉ

When she's not writing a Lonely Planet guide, Bénédicte spends her time exploring Paris. From museums to alternative exhibitions, bars, concert halls, art galleries and theatres, she delves into the fashions of Paris, looking for that gem – a trendy boutique tucked away at the end of a side street, an art gallery in an unusual location or a bar with authentic charm. Not forgetting the pleasure she also gets from meeting people during her explorations.





# CONTENTS

<b>THIS IS PARIS</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>PARIS DIARY</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>SNAPSHOTS</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>NEIGHBOURHOODS</b>	<b>26</b>
> LES HALLES AND THE LOUVRE IN FULL SWING	28
> A NEW LOOK AT THE CHAMPS-ÉLYSÉES AND WESTERN PARIS	41
> THE CANAL SAINT-MARTIN AND THE GRANDS BOULEVARDS	52
> THE LEFT BANK: CHIC GALLERIES AND EXCLUSIVE SHOPS	64
> BERCY, LA GRANDE BIBLIOTHÈQUE, AND IVRY: PARIS OF THE FUTURE	75
> BASTILLE, NATION AND MONTREUIL: A CULTURAL REVOLUTION	84
> LE MARAIS: FASHION AND DESIGN AMID A THRIVING GAY SCENE	96
> BELLEVILLE AND MÉNILMONTANT: HOME TO A NEW WAVE OF BOHEMIANS	105
> MONTMARTRE, BARBÈS, SAINT-OUEN AND SAINT-DENIS: GRASS-ROOTS PARIS	116
> LA VILLETTE, PANTIN, AUBERVILLIERS AND BOBIGNY: BURSTING WITH CULTURE	130
<b>EXCURSIONS OUTSIDE PARIS</b>	<b>142</b>
<b>DIRECTORY</b>	<b>152</b>

## > PARIS DIARY

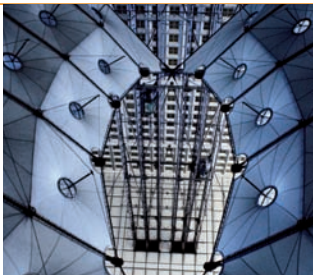




Go to Paris at any time of the year and there will always be something going on in the city or suburbs. Countless festivals take place throughout the year, peaking in spring and summer when concerts spring up in the street, parks and other unlikely locations. The Fête de la Musique (summer music festival) and other events such as the Nuit Blanche (all-night artfest), the Nuit des Musées (museum night) and Paris Plages (for beachlovers), catering to all, whether art lovers or party animals, have in recent years become hits among Parisians. We have only provided a selection of events here: there is plenty more to investigate. For up-to-date listings, check out the website [www.new-paris-idf.com](http://www.new-paris-idf.com). A full schedule of events also appears every Wednesday in *Parisclope* and *L'Officiel des Spectacles* sold in newsagents and news-stands.



Chinese New Year celebrations



Grande Arche, location for festival chorus

## JANUARY

### Chinese New Year

[www.paris.fr](http://www.paris.fr)

Between the end of January and the beginning of February, dragons swirl through the streets and Chinese lanterns are lit between the Place d'Italie and the Porte de Choisy in the 13th arrondissement, the main Chinese neighbourhood in Paris.

### Sales

On from January to February (and July to August), a rare chance to treat yourself to the creativity and savoir-faire of Parisian designers and brands at knockdown prices.

## FEBRUARY

### Carnaval de Paris

<http://carnavaldeparis.org>

At the beginning of February, a lively and colourful procession warms up the streets of Paris with medieval carnival spirit.

PARIS > 8

## MARCH

### Banlieues Bleues

[www.banlieuesbleues.org](http://www.banlieuesbleues.org)

In March and April, five weeks of jazz, blues, world, soul, funk and R'n'B concerts are organised in Saint-Denis and the surrounding area, where famous artists perform on stage or in the street.

### Festival Chorus

[www.chorus92.fr](http://www.chorus92.fr)

At the foot of the Grande Arche, *chanson* (French song) is performed live by famous artists and young talents. The festival village is set up at the foot of the Grande Arche in La Défense.

## APRIL

### Villette Sonique

[www.villetteonique.com](http://www.villetteonique.com)

Running from late May to early June, La Villette hosts a week of concerts and events celebrating rock, electro and other music.





La Géode, Parc de la Villette



Art installation in Orsay Museum

genres both in the Grande Halle and its surrounding gardens.

## MAY

### Les Puces du Design

[www.pucesdudesign.com](http://www.pucesdudesign.com)

In May and October, antique dealers use the Bassin de la Villette as a backdrop to their wares including furniture, accessories and clothes from the 1950s to the 1980s.

### La Nuit des Musées

[www.nuitdesmusees.culture.fr](http://www.nuitdesmusees.culture.fr)

From 7pm to 1am one Saturday in May, special lighting, musical performances, plays and readings are arranged to complement the permanent collections in Paris museums.

### La Force de l'Art

[www.forcedelart.culture.fr](http://www.forcedelart.culture.fr)

Running from May to June, this festival, taking place every three years, presents a

broad spectrum of French contemporary art. Over 200 artists exhibit work in the Nave of the Grand Palais. Organised alternate years with the *Monumenta* exhibition ([www.monumenta.com](http://www.monumenta.com), see p46).

### Open Studios

[www.ateliers-artistes-belleville.org](http://www.ateliers-artistes-belleville.org)

<http://les-frigos.com>

[www.ateliersdemenilmontant.org](http://www.ateliersdemenilmontant.org)

[www.anversauxabbesses.fr](http://www.anversauxabbesses.fr)

[www.montmartre-aux-artistes.org](http://www.montmartre-aux-artistes.org)

Belleville artists are the first to open their work space to the public, kicking off a season of open access to studios in the Frigos (May), Père Lachaise (May), Ménilmontant (September) and Montmartre (October to December).

### Rencontres Chorégraphiques Internationales de Seine-Saint-Denis

[www.rencontreschoregraphiques.com](http://www.rencontreschoregraphiques.com)

Performances from established or up-and-coming contemporary dance troupes. The



Marche des Fiertés (Gay Pride) parade

Centre National de la Danse (p136) in Pantin is one of the venues hosting the festival.

## JUNE

### Designer's Days

[www.designersdays.com](http://www.designersdays.com)

Discover the world of fashion over four days in temporary exhibitions at selected boutiques and showrooms around the city.

### Marche des Fiertés (Gay Pride)

<http://marche.inter-lgbt.org>

A lively procession proclaiming lesbian, gay, bisexual and transvestite pride, between Denfert-Rochereau and Bastille.

### Fête de la Musique

<http://fetedelamusique.culture.fr>

On 21 June, to mark the summer solstice, there are concerts in every town, taking place in streets, gardens, bars and cafés.

### Festival de Saint-Denis

[www.festival-saint-denis.com](http://www.festival-saint-denis.com)

A classical and world-music festival with more than 20 concerts in the Basilique de Saint-Denis and other venues around the town.



Soldiers, Bastille Day parade

### Solidays

[www.solidays.org](http://www.solidays.org)

Three days of concerts are held at the Paris-Longchamp racecourse to raise money for AIDS charities, with artists from across the musical spectrum.

### Paris Jazz Festival

[www.parisjazzfestival.net](http://www.parisjazzfestival.net)

Free live jazz at the Parc Floral every Saturday and Sunday afternoon in June and July.

## JULY

### Bastille Day (14 July)

Military parade from 8.30am on the Champs-Élysées and fireworks over the Champs-de-Mars at around 11pm. There are also dances held at fire-stations the night before.

### Paris Cinéma

[www.pariscinema.org](http://www.pariscinema.org)

This festival is a showcase for contemporary cinema in Paris and features 15 full-length films (fiction and documentary) as part of an international competition. The films are screened to invited audiences at various locations around Paris, both in cinemas and in the open-air.



Sunbathers, Paris Plages

## Paris Plages

[www.paris.fr](http://www.paris.fr) / [www.lefestivalfnac.com](http://www.lefestivalfnac.com)

From the end of July to the end of August, Parisians hit the beach on the Voie Georges Pompidou, the Quai de la Gare and the Bassin de la Villette. Free concerts are organised for the Indétendances festival.

## Cinéma en Plein Air

[www.villette.com](http://www.villette.com)

From mid-July to mid-August, films are shown outdoors daily in Parc de la Villette. All films are shown in original version with subtitles.

# AUGUST

## Paris Quartier d'Été

[www.quartierdete.com](http://www.quartierdete.com)

Dance, music, theatre, circus acts and other activities in parks, squares, avenues and around monuments from mid-July to August.

## Rock en Seine

[www.rockenseine.com](http://www.rockenseine.com)

At the end of August, rock music hits the Parc de Saint-Cloud with three days of concerts



Jazz musicians, Le Caveau de la Huchette

including a whole host of international headliners.

# SEPTEMBER

## Festival d'Automne

[www.festival-automne.com](http://www.festival-automne.com)

A dance, music, theatre and plastic arts festival which takes place throughout autumn in different locations around the capital.

## Jazz à la Villette

[www.citedelamusique.fr](http://www.citedelamusique.fr)

Jazz festival lasting around 10 days in the Parc de la Villette and the Cité de la Musique.

## Techno Parade

[www.technoparade.fr](http://www.technoparade.fr)

A parade devoted to house and electro culture.

## OCTOBER

### Nuit Blanche

[www.paris.fr](http://www.paris.fr)

At the beginning of October, contemporary art lovers can spend the whole night visiting various venues around Paris, absolutely free of charge.

### Foire Internationale d'Art Contemporain

[www.fiac.com](http://www.fiac.com)

At the end of October, you can get your fill of contemporary art in the Nave of the Grand Palais and in the Cour Carrée at the Louvre.

## NOVEMBER

### Mois de la Photo

[www.mep-fr.org](http://www.mep-fr.org)

Over 60 exhibitions on a common theme in galleries, museums and cultural centres. Takes place on even years (Photoquai, a two-yearly festival of photographs from around the world is staged on odd years). This event coincides with Paris Photo ([www.parisphoto.fr](http://www.parisphoto.fr)), an annual photography festival at the Carrousel du Louvre.

### Festival des Inrocks

<http://festival.lesinrocks.com>

This festival organised by the magazine *Les Inrockuptibles* features a line-up of up-and-coming artists from around the world.

Find out more about Paris Île-de-France's events on [www.new-paris-idf.com](http://www.new-paris-idf.com).



Le Passe Muraille by Jean Marais, rue Norvins

It takes place in various venues around Paris (La Cigale, La Boule Noire, Olympia, la Maroquinerie et le Point Éphémère).

## DECEMBER

### Africolor

[www.africolor.com](http://www.africolor.com)

Between mid-November and the end of December, this festival features urban music from Africa and the Indian Ocean. Takes place in a number of towns around Seine-Saint-Denis.

### Semaine du Fooding

[www.lefooding.com](http://www.lefooding.com)

A week of events on the theme of Fooding® (a blend of the words 'food' and 'feeling'), all in the aim of making food fun.