

# STRASBOURG

## THE GUIDE

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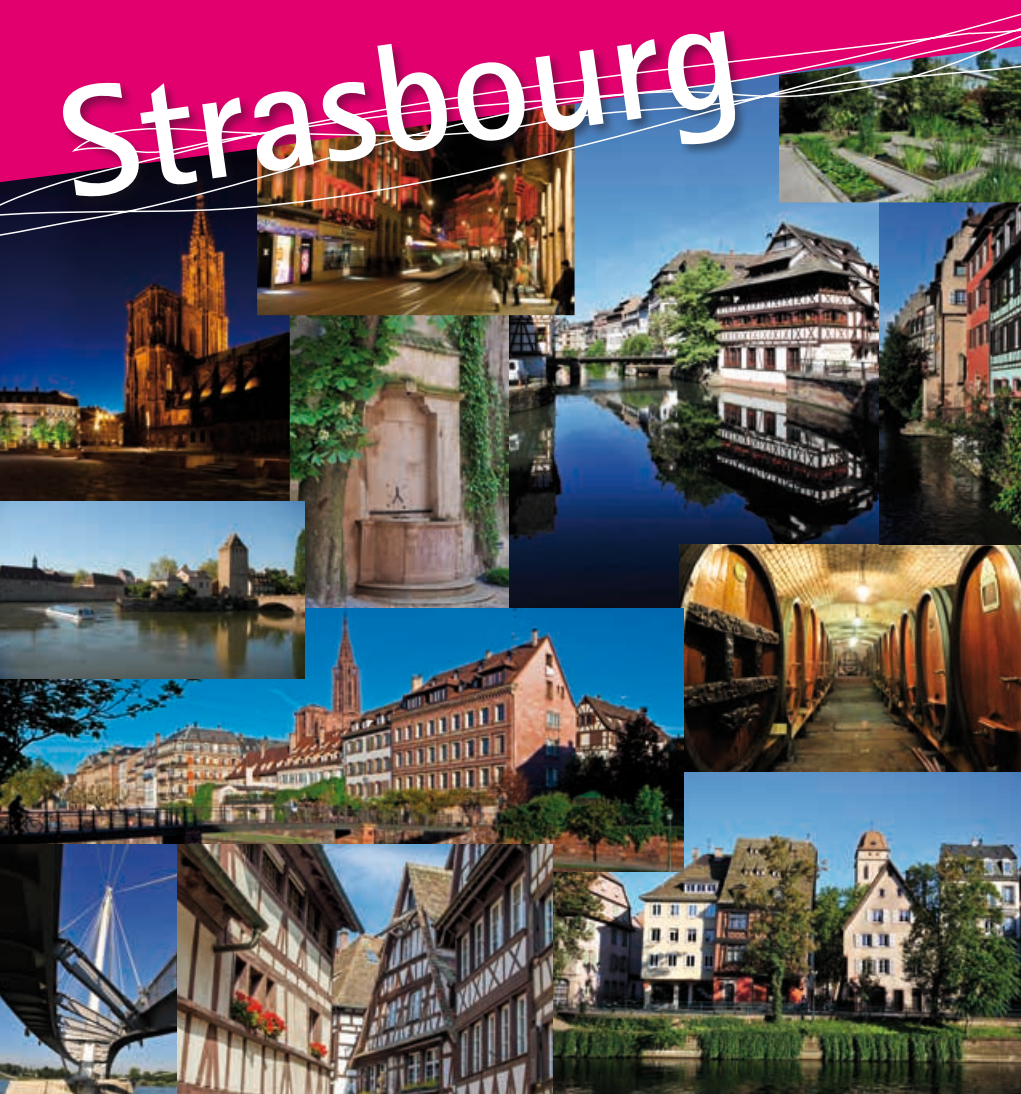
# FOREWORD

Strasbourg is a unique city, to such an extent that it has been recognised as one of the finest cities on the "Old Continent". It belongs to the tightly closed circle of those few rare cities, which, once visited, leave a lasting impression that time cannot remove.

The city has an outstandingly rich heritage. The city's historical centre, the Grande-Île, is of such cultural value that it has figured since 1988 on Unesco's World Heritage List.

Throughout the centuries from the Middle Ages up to today, Strasbourg has forged its distinctive character, based on its two major influences - French and German. It has a unique, surprisingly diversified face. The purpose of this guidebook is to provide a simple means of discovering its main "wonders".

# Strasbourg





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Strasbourg Grande-Île: Map 4

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# ESSENTIAL places of interest

From the “jewel in the crown” of the cathedral to the amazing Petite France district, the imposing imperial district or the extremely modern European district, Strasbourg offers rare cultural diversity. All of its cultural riches are to be found within a limited area. It is easy to walk round the city on foot and this is definitely the best way to see and take in the city.

Follow the guide...





# Notre-Dame cathedral ①

Your first visit to this awe-inspiring cathedral cannot fail to make an impression. Just get as close as possible to it on the forecourt and look up at the single spire to realise how gigantic it is. The splendour of the building's pink sandstone construction is best displayed during summer sunsets. The relief of its numerous sculptures between the shade and the light is extraordinary.



The tympanum of the central porch

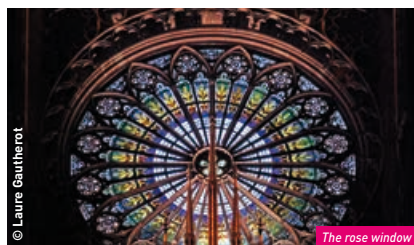
## Size and Outsize

Construction of this lacy masterpiece of Gothic art extended over slightly more than four centuries, from 1015 to 1439. The 142 metre-high cathedral remained the highest building in Christendom up till the end of the Nineteenth Century.

Its platform is built at a height of 66 metres and the spire is 132 metres high, topped by its 10 metre-high point. The upper part of the cathedral is therefore exactly the same height as the lower part (excluding the spire's point). Even from a distance this balance is not as clear as all that...

The platform is accessible via the 332 steps leading up to it. Those who venture upwards should be sure that they are fit to make the effort, which is considerable. The view from the platform is superb and extends across the whole city, particularly the typical traditional roofs in the centre, to the Alsace Plain, the Vosges and the Black Forest.

## A few of the amazing sights that are not to be missed...



© Laura Gautherot

The rose window

### The Western (main) Frontage

> **The three Doors.** Their sculptural richness is exceptional. The arch over the Central Door depicts the Passion of the Christ. The North Door depicts "virtues overcoming vices" (on the left hand side). The "wise virgins" and "foolish virgins" adorn the right hand side of the South Door.

> **The rose (Escutcheon).** Its decoration, featuring 32 ears of corn, symbolises the riches of the city during the Middle Ages. It is easier to grasp its dimensions (13.90 metres diameter) and beauty from inside the cathedral.

> **The "Apostles' Gallery".** This is located just above the rose and depicts the twelve disciples in a disciplined line.



The pulpit





### The Interior:



> **The Great Organ** (in the nave). Of "swallow's nest" construction, its distinctive features are its ornaments and three automata (at the foot of the organ), dating from the Fourteenth Century, which are still in working order.

> **The Pulpit.** An intricately woven stone construction. It is practically unsurpassed by any other flamboyant Gothic construction. A small dog may be seen lying in its entrance. It seems that it belonged to Geiler de Kaysersberg, the Fifteenth Century preacher. If you stroke it, your wish will be granted...

> **The Astronomical Clock** (to the right of the Choir Stalls). Its case has superb Renaissance decoration and dates from the Sixteenth Century. Jean-Baptiste Schwilgué renovated the Clock from 1838 to 1842. Its mechanism is unique in the world and was constructed as an application of a scientific theory. Its numerous dials are worth observing and supply a multitude of information. Every day at 12.30 p.m. its automata come to life in the fascinating "Apostle's Parade". The Astronomical Clock is a complete work of art, combining the talent of Renaissance artists with the genius of Schwilgué.

> **The "Angel Pillar"** (next to the Astronomical Clock). This work is considered a masterpiece of vertical construction. It was a technical prodigy of its day, presenting twelve magnificent sculptures, including that of Christ, enthroned at the top. A few traces of colour remain on some of the statues. To the left of the astronomical clock a man may be seen leaning on a balustrade. Legend has it that this man does not understand how the pillar is able to hold up the vault and is waiting for the whole thing to come down...

#### • Access to the Platform

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every day from 9.30 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
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- Closed on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1<sup>st</sup> May and 25<sup>th</sup>  
December.

**Ticket Prices:** €5 (reduced rate: 3.50)\*.

**Free** entrance on the first Sunday of every month.

#### • The Astronomical Clock and the «Apostles' Parade».

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41  
68  
05**



## The cathedral's surroundings

The cathedral holds many people's attention, but the heart of the city is also remarkable to visit. It contains many treasures, some of which are famous, others less so, but all of which are worthy of interest. Review of the Treasures and Curiosities...



Kammerzell House

### The Maison Kammerzell 2

A stone's throw from the cathedral, the most famous building in Strasbourg will amaze you. It is Renaissance in style and dates from the Fifteenth Century. Its steeply sloping roof will attract your attention, as will its beams, with their carvings of secular subjects, and its "bottleneck" windows and stone ground floor. It was formerly a merchant's house and is now a restaurant of renown. The restaurant's rooms on the different floors offer intimate surroundings and decors from another age with remarkable wooden features, vaults and frescoes.

### Through the streets and alleys...

Most of these narrow, friendly places are alive with commercial activities. Here you may discover the famous *winstubs*, or wine bars, where liqueurs and other equally excellent Alsatian specialities are served. The *winstubs* are known for their friendly atmosphere. Most of the tables are side by side, so contacts are quickly made between guests. The *winstubs* are a real institution that cannot be ignored by visitors to Strasbourg. As it happens, a few of this world's «great» citizens have stopped by there.

#### «Short walks» to share...

If you walk towards the left of the cathedral (on

the same side as the Maison Kammerzell), you will discover the shopping district. The *rues des Halbeardes, des Orfèvres, du Dôme* and *des Juifs* are mostly made up of shops. The **Place du Marché Gayot 3** is a good place to stop for refreshment, away from the city's noise, as it is closed to traffic. Its terraces overflow as soon as the fine weather arrives. This site is a meeting place for many residents of Strasbourg..



Gayot Market Square

If you walk towards the right of the cathedral (on the same side as the Post Office), you will be in a district with more tourist attractions. A visit to the **Place du Château 4** will let you discover the Palais Rohan and the building housing the Oeuvre Notre-Dame Works department (in charge of maintenance work on the cathedral, employing



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around forty masons and copy sculptors who work permanently on the building). Come back to the cathedral Square and go down the narrow rue du Maroquin, catching sight of the Oeuvre Notre-Dame garden in the middle of it. The street leads to the picturesque **Place du Marché-aux-Cochons-de-Lait** 5, where a fine group of half-timbered houses may be admired. The nearby Place du Marché-aux-Poissons and the Place de la Grande-Boucherie are also charming places to visit.



Place du Château

Kleber Square,  
the Aubette

## ... And squares.

**Gutenberg Square** 6 features a sumptuous building that is rigorously symmetrical. It dates from the end of the Sixteenth Century and today houses the Strasbourg and Lower Rhine Chamber of Commerce and Industry. This was the first building in Strasbourg to be built in dressed stone (apart from the cathedral), which was a daring choice at the time, since it stood out from the usual local architectural style (half-timber) and caused controversy. As you walk down the rue des Grandes-Arcades between Gutenberg Square and Kleber Square, you will notice number 33, a building that is representative of the Art Nouveau of the end of the Nineteenth and beginning of the Twentieth Centuries, with its glass and metal frontage (in the past a "department store" was housed in the building). Strasbourg had a total of 700 "Art Nouveau" buildings at the beginning of the Twentieth Century. Only around fifty of them remain, mainly in the imperial district.

**Kleber Square** 7, which is a city centre square par excellence, is surrounded by the Aubette building, built completely of pink sandstone... and completely longitudinally. This military building dates from the end of the Eighteenth Century and originally housed a corps of Guards.



Suckling Pig Square

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## La Petite France 8

The Petite France is without a doubt the most famous district in Strasbourg, revealing a unique architectural heritage. This is a haven of real peace and quiet, bathed in the waters of the Ill River, which wraps its five branches around it. Time seems to stand still here... A must for visitors!



*Benjamin-Zix Square, the Tanners house and the rue du Bain-aux-Plantes*

The history of the Petite France district is paradoxical. It was, in the past, a poor district, ignored by the residents of Strasbourg. Today it is one of the city's most frequently visited sites and is largely responsible for its reputation.

The origins of the Petite France district go back to the Middle-Ages, to the Fourteenth Century, to be precise. Three of the downward flowing Ill's branches (the downward drop is 1.8 metres) lead to considerable waterfalls, which gave rise to the construction of mills. Business activities were set up, first of all by flour millers, then tanners, who in turn filled the district, making their mark indelibly. The boom of the Petite France district was born out of this. The river, like a nursing mother, birthed the development of river trading. The district resembles a port... as barrels of wine from the Upper Alsace region and other such cargo is unloaded onto the docks. For centuries this was a labourers' area, full of foul stench, and so unattractive that not even a church could be established in it. The advent of the industrial age swept aside all former activities... From the second half of the Twentieth Century onwards, the booming tourist industry turned the spotlight on the Petite France district and highlighted its charms.

### Viewing points and other delightful sights

Such as the Saint-Martin Bridge, located to the left of the Rue des Dentelles, marking the entry point to the Petite France district, with a fine viewing point onto the river, raging as it tumbles downwards between its banks, lined with half-timbered buildings.



*St Martin's Bridge*

This is an enchanting place. The picturesque rue des Dentelles (don't hesitate to go into the open courtyards) takes us down to Benjamin-Zix Square at the heart of Petite France. The "jewel in the crown" of this square, the Tanners' House, can only be admired... The rue du Bain-aux-Plantes immediately attracts our eyes, leading on from the square. Houses with their timbers and white frontages line this street that has no equal, where the half-timbered houses outline the story of the past.

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The Ill River and the covered bridges

After a few steps we cross one of the branches of the river via the Pont du Faisan (a small revolving bridge allowing pedestrians and tour boats to pass alternately). This takes us to the long stretches of land between the water and we notice the three massive square watch

towers of the **Ponts-Couverts**. These are the last traces of the wall that surrounded the city in the Middle Ages (five towers remain). We stroll a few metres across the pavement. From the Ponts-Couverts we discover the Ill River, splitting into five branches here, like the fingers of a hand resting on the city, and Vauban's Dam, built during the reign of Louis Fourteenth by the most prolific of French military architects. The river flows peacefully under its thirteen arches. For information, the dam was built to strengthen the city's defences. When the arches were closed the river water was diverted to flood the land South of the town, causing enemy armies to flounder in it.

A short distance from the Petite France district, **Saint-Thomas' Church** 9 may be seen, along with the imposing and sumptuous **Mausoleum of the Marshall of Saxony**, an Eighteenth Century sculpture of major importance. The marble mausoleum, remarkable for its balance and energy, displays magnificent work on perspective by its architect, Jean-Baptiste Pigalle, a master sculptor of his era (a famous area of Paris bears his name).



Spit of land in the river Ill



The Marechal de Saxe Mausoleum



# The banks of the Ill River

The Ill River turns full circle around the heart of Strasbourg, forming the Grande-Île. The river is a delight for those who like walking along the water's edge. This is particularly so when walkers have interesting encounters along the river banks...



Barges on  
Fishermen's  
Walk

On leaving the Petite France district, it is possible to «catch» the river at the Saint-Martin Bridge or Saint-Thomas Church. It is also possible to walk along its banks, sometimes close to the water and sometimes on the quayside. Visitors will quickly come across the former **Customs House** 10 dating back to the Fourteenth Century. This building was almost entirely destroyed during the Second World War and identically rebuilt at the end of it. Its originality stems from its gabled walls. The building precedes the Pont du Corbeau, a place where intensely cruel practices plunged people into the water during the Middle-Ages (see the notice at the entrance). The magnificently vaulted

historic wine-cellar of the Strasbourg Hospital (see p. 39) is two minutes' walk away.

A visit to the **Cour du Corbeau** 11, a few metres away from the bridge, is a must. Enter via no. 1, Quai des Bateliers. A crow, perched on the corner of the frontage, marks the spot. After the Maison Kammerzell, the Cour du Corbeau is the finest set of Renaissance architecture in the city and dates from the Seventeenth Century. Its history is unique... For three centuries the Cour du Corbeau (Crow Court) served as a postal relay and hotel. Amongst its guests were the Marshall of Turenne, Frederick the Great, King of Prussia, Joseph the Second, Emperor of Austria and also Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Alexandre Dumas. From 1852 to 1982 it housed a glass business. During this period its acti-



Crow Court



The Old Customs House

vity slowly died away and led to its total abandon. From 1982 to 2007 it remained unoccupied and fell into serious decay, almost complete destruction. In 2007 the Crow Court was taken in hand and completely renovated to its former splendour ... and its former vocation, since it housed a prestigious (four-star) hotel. The building is remarkably consistent, with exceptional passageways featu-



ring wooden balustrades. A journey through time... On leaving the Crow Court, walk along the Quai des Bateliers for about 100 metres to discover the rear façade of the **Palais Rohan 12** (its entrance is on the Place du Château) - a living testimony to the princely lifestyle of the Eighteenth Century. Its subtly refined architecture is inspired by that of the grand Parisian hotels of the time. The rue Sainte-Madeleine, opposite, has always been particularly characterized by the highly original small shops lining it... A little further on, the Quai des Pêcheurs offers a fine viewing point, where the Ill River forms an attractive "crow's foot"! A few barges are moored here. Sip a glass of wine or have a snack on one of them. This very open, charming place is adorned by Saint Paul's Church, which resembles a small cathedral, the imposing neo-Classical style Esca Building, (with a rounded frontage) and weeping willows. We are on the edges of the Imperial District. For lovers of architecture, the **Higher Institution of Decorative Arts 13**, a stone's throw away, has an "Art Nouveau" façade made up of ceramic tiles portraying allegorical figures representing science, architecture, painting and sculpture, etc...



The school of Decorative arts

Extend your walk along the Quai Lezay-Marnesia, along which are scattered extremely fine houses... Follow the river to the Quai Schoepflin. The **Saint-Pierre-le-Jeune Church 14** is very close by. It is more than worth taking the trouble to visit it. This protestant church, built at the same time as the cathedral and probably the finest in Strasbourg, is an open book... displaying numerous frescos (Fourteenth Century) and paintings. Its choir screen is superb and the same may be said for its cloisters - a silent haven right in the heart of the city! Wonderful!



The Church of St Peter the Younger

## The Imperial district

After coming to power in 1870, the Reich decided to make Strasbourg a showcase for the Empire. In the space of less than half a century, the city boomed considerably, to the point where its surface area trebled! German influence was added to French, making Strasbourg a unique city...



République Square

### The place de la République...

This square is built around a circular garden (with superb Spring-flowering magnolias), containing important architectural symbols from the time of German reign. The different buildings lining the square are all in neo-classical style, displaying various influences. The Rhine Palace (1989) 15, a blend of neo-Renaissance Florentine and neo-baroque Berlin styles, is the most imposing building. This palace is an anachronism, having been built at great cost to receive the emperor and his imperial suite during his occasional short stays in Strasbourg... It was almost demolished during the Fifties.

Opposite the Palace the façade of the National University Library (1895) 16, built in Italian neo-Renaissance style, reveals medallions to the glory of illustrious European personalities in the world of literature and philosophy. The «BNU» (National University Library) contains 55 kilometres of shelves and over 3 million documents (it is the second largest library in France).



© Sébastien Hénissans

The National University Library

The Strasbourg National Theatre (1892) 17, next to the «BNU» has a massive, perfectly symmetrical façade with an «Italian-style» roof. The building originally housed the «Regional Delegation» (Landesausschuss). Today it is the only national theatre in the region. It houses auditoriums, a troupe of actors and a School of Dramatic Art.





The monument to the dead (inaugurated by Albert Lebrun, President of the Republic, in 1936) in the centre of the square, shows a mother crying (Strasbourg), holding her two dying children in her arms, one of whom had fought in French uniform and the other in German uniform, symbolizing the people of Alsace killed on the battle field for both countries. The monument contains one simple inscription "TO OUR DEAD". It is one of the very rare pacifist war memorials in France

### ... and neighbouring areas.

The Place de la République affords a few fine views across the avenues leading into it. One of them (avenue de la Liberté) leads to the **Palais Universitaire** (1884) **18**, a few hundred metres away. This Italian neo-Renaissance style building holds a superb amphitheatre, bordered along two of its edges by richly decorated arcades. This has been a University centre since its beginnings and has never lost its primary purpose, continuing to receive students in History, Archaeology and His-

tory of Art... A few metres before the Palais Universitaire, the spires of **Saint Paul's church** **19** (Late Nineteenth Century), originally a German garrison church, rise 76 metres towards the sky. It is the tallest church in Strasbourg, after the cathedral.



Broglie Square and the Opera

The **Opera** **20** building near to the **Place Broglie** was built in 1821 (in neo-classical style). It was restored and modified in 1888 after being partially destroyed by German bombs in 1870. Six iconic columns crowned with muses adorn its frontage. Since 1870 the famous "Christkindelsmärik" (there one of the Christmas market sites) has been held.



The University

## Europe at heart

When Europe was looking for a place to demonstrate its unification Strasbourg, as a city torn between France and Germany for decades, seemed an obvious choice. The city's European destiny was born in 1949, during the period when France and Germany forged closer links. The European district, which has grown continuously during the years, has different buildings with remarkable contemporary architecture.



The European Parliament

### The Palais de l'Europe 21

The Council of Europe sits here. The representatives of the 47 Member States meet here to work on defending human rights and strengthening political stability in Europe, but also looking for common solutions for societal problems (corruption, organized crime, terrorism, discrimination, etc...)

Built in 1977, it is one of the oldest great European buildings. Its architecture, representing a forming pyramid, is the symbol of the strength of unity... Its 64 000 sqm surface area is home to 1 000 offices, 17 meeting rooms and 600-seater chamber.



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## The Human Rights building 22

This architecturally daring building was built in 1995. Its two metal cylinders, "a clear-cut" architectural choice, symbolise the scales of justice. The façade at the entrance is made of glass, represen-



The Human Rights building N°22, seen from behind

ting the transparency of justice ... The building is the work of Sir Richard Rogers (who also has a number of leading projects to his credit, including the Pompidou Centre in Paris and the Millennium Dome in London). It radiates a real sense of power - vertically from the front and horizontally from the back and the sides and fits perfectly into the meander in the river.

The Human Rights Building has jurisdiction over

800 million Europeans. The 47 judges (one per Member State) sit in the Great Chamber of the European Court to hear the requests brought by Member States or individuals concerning violations of the civil and political rights laid down in the European Human Rights Convention. The Court issues an average 1 500 decrees per year. A stretch of the Berlin Wall, tagged with an unusual form of graffiti, may be seen at the entrance, in the gardens (which are open to the public).

## The European Parliament 23

Its construction was completed in 1998. The building, which, seen from the sky, looks like the prow of a liner ready to cut into the river, is made of glass, metal, sandstone and wood. Its elegance and vast dimensions are impressive. You fully grasp this as soon as you enter the heart of its unfurnished elliptical 60-metre tower, which is cut open on the side facing the cathedral. The total surface area of the Palace is 220 000 sqm!!! It includes a 750-seater chamber, 1 133 offices and 18 committee rooms used by the 751 European Deputies elected within the 28 Member States of the European Union. The European Parliament is the largest parliamentary assembly elected by direct universal suffrage in the world.



Access

Tram, (E line)  
stop "European  
Parliament" or  
"Human Rights"



## Parks and gardens

Strasbourg possesses several fine garden settings where you may take a breather ... or catch your breath. All of them have specific scientific, natural or cultural points of interest. Going green...



The Bary Glass house,  
the Botanical garden



The Botanical garden

### The Botanical garden 24

This garden, with its luxuriant vegetation, is a real haven of peace, opened in 1884 during the time of the German Empire. As soon as you go through the gates, you quickly forget that you are in the middle of the city. Only the few fine buildings around it betray this. The Botanical garden, whose surface covers 4 hectares, counts 500 trees, 1 500 shrubs and 6 000 species of plants from the entire world. At the heart of the garden is a very fine low 12-sided glasshouse, known as "Bary's" Glasshouse (a listed historical monument). It houses giant Amazonian Water Lilies in its 7-metre diameter heated pool. It is the only historic glasshouse remaining from the 1884 garden. The original large glasshouses were destroyed in 1963 after a violent hailstorm and replaced by the current glasshouses. Total change of scenery guaranteed...

### The Orangery park 25

This park, the oldest and largest park in Strasbourg (26 hectares) is the favourite place for the city's residents to take a stroll. It goes back to 1740 (or thereabouts). It was, at that time, a French-style classical garden with a grand "Allée Le Nôtre". In the Nineteenth Century the garden was integrated into an English-style park. Magnificent trees, centuries old, a lake with a romantic atmosphere, a zoo, mini-farm for small children and the "Josephine Pavilion" are all part of its attractiveness.

The "Josephine Pavilion" dates from the very beginning of the Eighteenth Century. In 1801 the State gave the city of Strasbourg a collection of 138 splendid orange trees from the grounds of Bouxwiller Castle. This collection had been confiscated by Republicans during the Revolution. The Pavilion, built as an orangery and as a royal residence, was dedicated to Empress Josephine in 1806, hence its name.

• Access Botanical garden:

Tram,  
stop "University"  
or "Observatory"  
(C, E, F lines).

• Access Orangerie park:

Tram,  
stop "Human Rights"  
(E line).

The Orangery Park is a stone's throw away, next to the Palais de l'Europe





© Yves Koto

## Pourtalès Park

This 24-hectare park is a little way from the city centre in the Robertsau district of North Eastern Strasbourg. The highly flowery surroundings make it a charming place. Here, we are a long way from the noisy city... The main point of interest in the park is Pourtalès Castle, dating back to the Eighteenth Century. To complete the story... In the Nineteenth Century the castle was the residence of Countess Melanie, organiser of grand receptions and wife of Count Edmond de Pourtalès. This period was the castle's time of glory and the elite and nobles of the whole of Europe visited it.



Pathway in the Deux Rives garden

## The Deux Rives garden

The Deux Rives garden is a cross-border initiative on the part of the cities of Strasbourg and Kehl. It was inaugurated in 2004 and symbolises Franco-German friendship. Its design is modern and it extends over an area covering both sides of the Rhine. The magnificent Deux Rives footbridge is a real work of art, allowing walkers and cyclists to cross the river via a rare viewing point. The crossing is an exceptional experience, as the majestic power of the Rhine unfolds beneath the bridge. Cultural events are organized on a regular basis in the garden.

- **Access Pourtalès park:**  
by bike or car (northeast of Strasbourg neighborhood of Robertsau).

- **Access Deux Rives garden:**  
- bus 2, towards the Rhine Bridge, stop: «Deux Rives garden». Bus from the tram station «Observatoire» (C, E, F lines).

- bus 21, towards Kehl Stadthalle, stop: «Jardin des Deux Rives», bus from the tram station «Jean Jaurès» (C, D lines).

- car : towards Kehl (Germany)

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The museum's records 500 years in the history by dealing : from geology to the techniques of extraction, the subjects developed in the museum show how important the site was at the beginning of the 20th century.

**Opening:** Until the end of June 2017 on Thursdays, Sundays and Holidays (14.30 - 18.00); Sep-Oct 2017 from Thursday to Sunday from 2:30 pm to 6:00 pm. **For 2018:** From April to October from Thursday to Sunday (14:30 - 18:00).

**Summertime:** July and August every afternoon Except Monday (14h30 - 18h).

Contact:  
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4 rue de l'École - 67250 Merckwiller-Pechelbronn  
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## Inner enrichment

The Strasbourg Philharmonic Orchestra, National Opera of the Rhine and Strasbourg National Theatre are largely responsible for the city's cultural reputation, which extends far beyond national frontiers. And there is more to come... Throughout the passing seasons concerts, stage performances, exhibitions and festivals, some of which, like «Musica» are famous, are a regular part of Strasbourg's cultural life. The city has 10 museums, containing a rich cultural heritage unrivalled in France outside of Paris.

Follow the guide...





# From museum to museum



The Museum  
of Modern and  
Contemporary ART

## The Alsatian Museum 1

23-25 quai Saint-Nicolas

This museum of local art and traditions unfolds the daily life of citizens in rural Alsace during the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries (costumes, furniture, pottery and toys...) The visit takes you through reconstructions of typical interiors and craft workshops on a journey through time...

## The Palais Rohan (Home to 3 museums) 2

2 place du Château

### • The Archaeological Museum (Basement)

This is one of the richest of its kind in the field of French "National Antiquities". Here, the far distant past of Alsace from the pre-historic period to the dawn of the Middle-Ages is revealed.

### • The Decorative Arts Museum (Ground floor)

Here, the visitor may stroll through the sumptuous apartments used by Rohan's Cardinals and discover Strasbourg's Decorative Arts collections over the period from 1681 to the middle of the Nineteenth Century (the internationally famous Han-nong Ceramics, furniture, sculptures and paintings, clocks, ironwork and silversmithing).

### • The Fine Art Museum (1st floor)

This museum presents a fascinating panorama of the history of painting in Europe from its beginnings in 1870 onwards: Italian and Flemish Primitive Art, Renaissance and Mannerism, Baroque, Naturalism and Classicism (from the Seventeenth to Nineteenth Centuries). An art lover's paradise for these genres...

## The Oeuvre Notre Dame Museum 3

3 place du Château

Take a stroll in an outstanding setting and discover seven centuries of art in Strasbourg and the

Upper Rhine region (housing rich Mediaeval and Renaissance collections). A number of statues - masterpieces from the cathedral may be seen here. Simply a must!

## Engraving and Drawing Office 4

5 place du Château

Discover an inestimable treasure - a fund consisting of 200 000 works in a great variety of fields and techniques. Some are extremely rare (silverwork, ornament, architecture). Strictly for informed enthusiasts...

## The Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art 5

1 place Hans-Jean-Arp

This was inaugurated in 1998. It presents collections from 1870 up to our era, enriched with several works placed here by institutions or individuals. Here you may admire works by Hans-Jean Arp (a considerable number), Braque, Monet, Gauguin, Dufy, Kupka, Kandinsky, Picasso, Ernst and Margritte... as well as a very large collection dealing with German contemporary art.

## The Strasbourg Historical Museum 6

2 rue du Vieux-Marché-aux-Poissons

This museum, located in the Ancienne Boucherie (1587), depicts the urban, political, economic and social history of Strasbourg throughout the period from the Middle Ages to the French Revolution, with rich collections of paintings and works of graphic art (the 1727 plan showing the city and surrounding country in 1/600 scale), arms and military uniforms, and objects from daily life... The Strasbourg of yesteryear!

## The Tomi Ungerer Museum – 7

### International Illustration Centre

Villa Greiner, 2 avenue de la Marseillaise  
 Tram station "République" **B C E n F lines!**

Tomi Ungerer, designer and illustrator, was born in 1931 in Strasbourg. This artist of worldwide renown donated all of his work to his hometown in a fund of several thousand drawings. This fund is on permanent display, by rotation (drawings for children's books, satirical books, advertising, erotic works...). Tomi Ungerer's view of the world is often incisive. This is magnificent, surprising, and sometimes humorous work. A visit is a must ...

## The Zoological Museum 8

29 boulevard de la Victoire

Tram station "University" **C E n F lines!**

This museum, built in the Eighteenth century on the basis of information from Jean Herman's (doctor and Alsace naturalist) Natural History Office, presents the complete range of animal diversity through a collection that is one of the richest in France. Total wonderment is the watchword, all along the vast galleries, particularly for children...

## Aubette 1928 9

Place Kléber

In 1922, André and Paul Horn, who were in demand respectively as architect and promoter in the context of urban renewal, hired the right wing of the Aubette building to make it into leisure complex. In 1926, they asked Theo Van Doesburg, Hans-Jean Arp and Sophie Taeuber-Arp to take on responsibility for decoration, furniture and basic design. The three artists created one of the major artistic works of the Twentieth Century. The decorations, which have been restored since 2006, having been partly destroyed before the Second World War, are surprisingly modern... Must be seen!

Open : Wednesday to Saturday from 2pm to 6pm

## The Planetarium 10

13 rue de l'Observatoire

Tram station "Observatoire" **C E n F lines!**

The Strasbourg Planetarium has three centres of interest. The first is a circular film screening room equipped to present a total reconstruction of the sky, whether past, present or... future! "Astronomy Mediators" accompany you throughout this voyage of discovery, to guide you through the universe... The second is the 34-ton dome sheltering the lens with 7-metre focal length and 487-millimetre diameter (the third largest in France).

It is still in use... The third is the "Star Crypt", where some fine astronomical instruments may be discovered, along with a very informative report on the cathedral's astronomical clock. The Planetarium, or one's head in the stars... For information visit: [www.planetarium.unistra.fr](http://www.planetarium.unistra.fr). Tel: +33 (0)3 68 85 24 50

Reservation necessary - Reopening during 2015

## Château Musée Vodou 11

4 rue de Koenigshoffen – Strasbourg

The Vodoo Museum is a cultural space in a former water tower (constructed in 1878 and registered on the Historic Monument List). It has been open to the general public since 10 January 2014.

At the museum, you can discover the Arbogast collection, constituting objects connected with the voodoo divinity traditions of western Africa, or used in religious practices: divination, veneration of the dead, witchcraft, and a number of ceremonies related to the stages of life.

In addition to the permanent exhibition where 220 objects are on display (just a selection from the 1000 which complete the collection), a creative and original programme is being developed.

For information visit: [www.musee-vodou.com](http://www.musee-vodou.com)

Tel: +33 (0)3 88 36 15 03

[www.chateau-vodou.com](http://www.chateau-vodou.com)

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**Free entrance to the municipal museums on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month.**  
**For all information on Strasbourg's museums visit:**  
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# Strasbourg, capital of christmas

Strasbourg's Christmas market is a leading, if not THE leading market of its kind. Its reputation knows no boundaries. It is the oldest Christmas market in Europe and dates from 1570. Every year the festival lasts a good month, as two million visitors hurry to discover this five-century old tradition.

The Christkindelsmärik (Market of the Infant Jesus) in Place Broglie was the only site for this enchanting event up to a few years ago, but things have really changed since then. Today its small wooden huts spread throughout the whole city, particularly across various squares, each of which represents a theme. In December Strasbourg is totally "nimbed" (haloed) and is the most illuminated city in Europe. This lighting not only gives the city a warm atmosphere, but also reveals its extraordinary architectural heritage.

Every street corner is enchanting, with hot wine stands and sparkling decorations everywhere. On the Place Kléber visitors discover not only the massive, majestic Christmas Tree (around 30 metres high!) but also choirs singing a cappella... You should know that the city organizes numerous spiritual and humanist events along the theme "Strasbourg, Capital of Christmas": concerts, animations, exhibitions, actions in favour of solidarity and meetings.

The Strasbourg Christmas market is a feast for the eyes and for the soul... It is unique!



Place Kléber, le grand sapin



Rue Mercière, place de la Cathédrale

## • The Christmas Market:

dates 2017:

please contact the Tourist Office.

To see the programme "Strasbourg, Capital of Christmas", visit:  
[www.noel.strasbourg.eu](http://www.noel.strasbourg.eu)

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## Seeing the city from another angle

A photograph showing three people sitting on a bench, looking out over a city. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter. The person on the left is pointing towards the right. The person in the middle is looking forward. The person on the right is looking towards the right. The background is a bright, hazy cityscape.

In terms of environmental conservation, Strasbourg has always been a step ahead... A vast pedestrian sector, a tram that serves the town from East to West and North to South, peripheral car parks (linked to the tram network) to avoid traffic congestion in the city itself and a cycling track network of rare density... An abundance of examples exist to describe the city's philosophy. Soft methods of transport are given increasing preference. Strasbourg is demonstrably one of the most pleasant cities to visit, since its town-centre is practically car free.

Follow the guide...





# On foot, by bike, or on a tram...

Although cars are not completely forbidden on the Grande-Île, they are mainly heading for ... the car park entrances! These are perfectly suitable for those wishing to visit for a few hours. For longer periods a tram is a better choice, using the relay car parks all round the edge of the town-centre. Let's get going...

## Seeing the city on foot

The Grande-Île, at the heart of the city, has the enormous advantage of being fairly concentrated. For those who are not afraid to walk, this is undoubtedly the best way of getting around. Strasbourg has set up a pedestrian plan guaranteeing space and safety... Why not take advantage of it!

## Seeing the city by bicycle... Hop on and Velhop!

There are a particularly large number of cycle tracks in Strasbourg - no less than 500 kilometres within the conurbation! Strasbourg is a pioneer city for this form of travel.

Velhop meets everyone's needs: long or short-term one-off or regular hire. Bicycles may be hired in shops or automatic stations (with the possibility of reserving on 09 69 39 36 37).

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Tel: +33 (0)9 60 17 74 63

#### • The Town-centre

3 rue d'Or

Tram station "Porte de l'Hôpital" (A et D lines).

Tel: +33 (0)9 65 27 97 25

#### • The University

23 boulevard de la Victoire.

Tram station "University" (C, E et F lines).

Tel: +33 (0)9 62 32 06 46

**Automatic stations and information**  
(operation and prices, etc...): [www.velhop.strasbourg.eu](http://www.velhop.strasbourg.eu)

**P Car Parking:** "Gare Vélos" (place de la Gare), open from Monday to Friday from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., and on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

## **P** The Town-Centre Car Parks

See city map

■ Parcus ■ Vinci ■ autres

- 1 - The Wodli Car Park (960 spaces)
- 2 - The Station Short Stay Car Park (188 spaces)
- 3 - The Halles P1 Marais Vert Car Park (820 spaces)
- 4 - The Halles P2 Sébastopol Car Park (560 spaces)
- 5 - The Halles P3 Wilson Car Park (1 270 spaces)
- 6 - The Kleber Homme de Fer Car Park (465 spaces)
- 7 - The Les Tanneurs Car Park (160 spaces)
- 8 - The Petite France Ste-Marguerite Car Park (1 000 spaces)
- 9 - The Ste-Aurélié Car Park (750 spaces)
- 10 - The St-Nicolas/Canal Car Park (550 spaces)
- 11 - The Rivetoile P1 Commerces Car Park (1 100 spaces)
- 12 - The Rivetoile P2 Cinema Car Park (540 spaces)
- 13 - The Austerlitz Car Park (500 spaces)
- 14 - The Bateliers Car Park (280 spaces)
- 15 - The Gutenberg Car Park (270 spaces)
- 16 - The Broglie Car Park (460 spaces)
- 17 - The Des Serres Car Park (150 spaces)

### Opening Hours:

- 1 - 2 - 4 - 6 - 7 - 9 - 13 - 15 - 16: open 24 hours, 7 days a week
- 3 - 5: open from Monday to Saturday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., closed on Sundays and bank holidays
- 8: Monday to Saturday from 7am to 11pm et on Sun days from 10am to 7 pm, closed on Bank Holidays
- 10: pen from Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., closed on Sundays and Bank Holidays
- 11: Open Monday to Saturday from 7.30am to 9pm
- 12: open from Monday to Saturday from 7.30 a.m. t 1 p.m. and Sundays and Bank Holidays from 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 14: Monday to Wednesday from 7 am to midnight Thursday to Saturday from 7am to 1am
- 17: open from Monday to Saturday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

### Information (services, prices...):

[www.parcus.com](http://www.parcus.com) • [www.vincipark.com](http://www.vincipark.com)

## Taxi

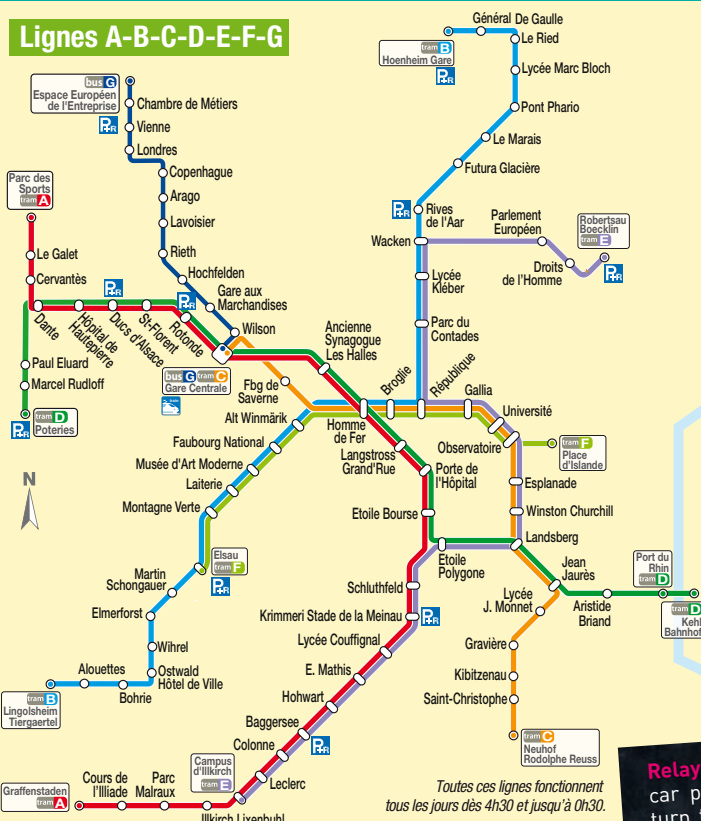
**Taxi 13** (24-hour service, 7 days a week)

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## The City by Tram

The tram network is the framework of the Strasbourg transport network and contains 6 lines and a high capacity bus line (line G). It is the leading French network and the first integrated transport network, including car parks to ensure that it is possible to combine use of a car and the bus and tram network for an extremely low cost.

### Lignes A-B-C-D-E-F-G



The Tram network runs every day from 4h30 am to 0h30 (Homme de Fer)

Toutes ces lignes fonctionnent tous les jours dès 4h30 et jusqu'à 0h30.

- > **The Relay Ducs d'Alsace Car Park (600 spaces), tram Line A**  
**Access:** from the A4 and A35 motorways, take the Kronenbourg exit and then direction Koenigshoffen.
- > **The Rotonde Relay Car Park (450 spaces), tram A, D Lines**  
**Access:** from the A4 and A35 motorways, take the Kronenbourg exit.
- > **The Baggersee Relay Car Park (460 spaces), tram A, E Lines**  
**Access:** from the A35 motorway, take the Baggersee exit.
- > **The Elsau Relay Car Park (800 spaces), tram B, F Lines**  
**Access:** from the A35 motorway, take the P+R Tram Elsau exit or the Montagne Verte exit.
- > **The Robertsau Boecklin Relay Car Park (150 spaces), tram E**  
**Access:** from the A35 motorway take the Wacken exit and follow European Institutions.



### The Relay Car Parks:

> **The Krimmeri Relay Car Park (250 spaces), tram A, E Lines**

**Access:** from the A35 motorway, take the Baggersee exit then take direction Centre/Stade de la Meinau via Avenue de Colmar.

> **The Rives de l'Aar Relay Car Park (570 spaces), tram Line B**

**Access:** from the A35 motorway, take the Wacken exit.

> **The Hoenheim Station Relay Car Park (680 spaces), tram Line B**

**Access:** from the A4 motorway, take the Hoenheim exit and follow P + R.

> **Poteries**

> **Espace Européen de l'Entreprise**

**Relay Car Park prices<sup>(1)</sup>:**  
 car parking for one day<sup>(2)</sup> + return ticket<sup>(3)</sup> by tram for all car passengers (up a maximum of 7 people):  
 €4,10 (all Relay Car Parks except Rotonde €4,60)

(1) Price at: 01/03/2015. (2) Cars may not be parked for longer than a day. (3) The return journey must be completed within the day.

### Relay Car Park Opening Hours:

Open 24/7

- Direct access to the trams and bus G from Monday to Saturday from 4.30 a.m. until 0.30 a.m., Sunday and holidays from 5.30 a.m. until 0.30 a.m. (regarding the effective timetables)
- Exit possible 24/7
- Payment at the pay machines when you enter the parking or before leaving.





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