

2019

Press file
"Paris in
all seasons"

PARIS

Sport

PRESSE ●
PARISINFO
● COM

PARIS
Convention and
Visitors Bureau

PARIS 2024: EN ROUTE FOR THE OLYMPICS AND PARALYMPICS

‘It is 100 years since the Games were last held in Paris, and today marks a fantastic and very special moment. This is the outcome of a journey that has seen our entire team assemble an innovative Games plan. I am very proud and very moved to be bringing the Olympic and Paralympic Games back to Paris.’ These are the words of Paris mayor Anne Hidalgo¹. The City of Light is preparing to rekindle the Olympic flame. The countdown has already begun. In five years Paris will welcome the XXIII Olympic Games (26 July to 11 August) and the Paralympic Games (4 to 15 September), having previously hosted them in 1900 and 1924. This is a huge international sporting event. Furthermore, the year is highly symbolic: it marks exactly a century since the last Games in Paris.

The 2024 event will involve iconic Paris attractions such as the Eiffel Tower, the Champs-Élysées, the Château de Versailles and the Grand Palais. Paris is known as a capital of art, culture, fashion and gastronomy, but - as a leading sporting destination, staging major international championships and events each year - it is also a perfect setting for these historic Games. If you have a favourite sport, you can play it in Paris. If you have a favourite team, you can support them in Paris, at exciting fixtures in the city’s legendary, world-class venues.

The Games are ours!

206 countries. 10,500 athletes. 500,000 tourists expected to attend. In addition to the 28 traditional disciplines (fencing, swimming, judo, gymnastics, etc.), several new, highly original sports will be revealed in 2019. These include: boules, billiards, surfing, squash and water-skiing. The map of the 36 Olympic sites reveals the two main hubs of activity: Saint-Denis on the outskirts of Paris, with the imposing Stade de France playing host to swimming and athletics events, and the city centre, stretching from the banks of the Seine to the sites of some of the capital’s most prestigious monuments, part of Paris’s unique heritage. The Champ de Mars and the Eiffel Tower, emblematic venues where events of national significance are held, will function as a Live Site providing live coverage of the games. They will also host the beach volleyball, boccia, triathlon and open-water swimming events. The Grand Palais, originally designed by a group of architects for the 1900 Universal Exhibition (the same year as the very first Paris Olympics), will host the Olympic fencing and taekwondo events and the Paralympic wheelchair fencing. Various other central Paris sites are hosting Olympic events: archery at the Esplanade des Invalides, handball and table tennis at Paris Expo Porte de Versailles (Europe’s biggest trade fair grounds, with a total area of 228,000 m²), weightlifting at the Grande Halle de la Villette (a listed monument), and boxing at the legendary Zénith concert hall.

For residents of the Paris region (Ile-de-France), the 2024 Games herald a visible and enduring transformation of the French capital and its environs. They will entail the creation of three vast infrastructure projects: the Olympic and Paralympic Village (Saint-Denis), the Media Village (Le

¹ From Anne Hidalgo’s speech to the IOC. Lima, 13 September 2017.

Bourget) and an aquatics centre in Saint-Denis. Other Ile-de-France *départements* will also be hosting events: Yvelines (the golf course and the velodrome), Hauts-de-Seine (field hockey at the Stade Yves-du-Manoir; gymnastics and weightlifting at Paris La Défense Arena), and Seine et Marne (the Vaires-sur-Marne water sports centre).

The objective is to bequeath the Ile-de-France region an exemplary legacy of sustainably-built infrastructure - for the spirit of the 2024 Games is responsible, socially conscious and green.

Champ de Mars (beach volleyball and boccia). Parc du Champ de Mars. Quai Branly. Avenue de la Motte-Picquet, Paris 7th. Metro École Militaire. RER Champ de Mars-Tour Eiffel.
Eiffel Tower (triathlon and open-water swimming). www.tour-eiffel.fr.
Avenue des Champs Elysees (cycling). From the Arc de Triomphe to Place de la Concorde, Paris 8th. Metro / RER Charles de Gaulle-Etoile.
Grand Palais (fencing and taekwondo). www.grandpalais.fr
Esplanade des Invalides (archery). 1 rue Fabert, Paris 7th. Metro Invalides / Assemblée Nationale.
Paris Expo Porte de Versailles (handball and table tennis). www.paris-expoportedeversailles.com
Zenith de Paris (boxing, judo, taekwondo). www.le-zenith.com
Grande Halle de la Villette (weightlifting). <https://lavillette.com>

Venues and top spots for high-level sport in Paris

> For football fans

Even greater in number since France's victory in the 2018 World Cup, lovers of the beautiful game have plenty to whet their appetite in Paris. Two renowned venues - the Stade de France and the Parc des Princes - host major league matches. Designed by Jean Nouvel, twenty years ago, the Stade de France in northern Paris looks like a huge flying saucer. This is where the French national team plays its most important home matches. The stadium acquired the status of a national monument after France beat Brazil to win the 1998 World Cup. It is also the world's largest modular stadium, with a lower seating bowl that can be retracted to reveal the athletics track. Located less than 2 kilometres from the Olympic and Paralympic Village, the Stade de France will host the athletics competitions as well as the opening and closing ceremonies of the Olympic and Paralympic Games. It is possible that it may even house the cauldron where the Olympic flame burns. Between now and then, the Stade de France will undergo extensive work allowing it to meet the requirements for the 2024 Olympics. Then there is the Parc des Princes, a huge oval venue in the 16th arrondissement, right in the heart of the city. The home stadium of Paris Saint Germain, it hosts Europe's top clubs each year during the prestigious Champions League. A sizzling atmosphere reigns here on match days. This historical venue is one of Europe's most famous stadiums. As such, it will host the finals of the men's and women's football in 2024 and there are plans to increase its capacity from 49,691 to 60,000 seats.

Can't make it to a PSG or French national team match? Then take a guided backstage tour of the Stade de France or the Parc des Princes. Experience the spine-tingling magic of these legendary venues as you retrace the footsteps of some of the greatest names in French sport. Explore the

locker rooms used by the likes of Zinédine Zidane, Lilian Thuram, Thierry Henry and Zlatan Ibrahimović, and walk through the players' tunnel out onto the pitch.

Stade de France. Zac du Cornillon Nord 93200 Saint-Denis. RER B (station: La Plaine de France), RER D (station: Stade de France-Saint Denis), M° Saint-Denis Porte de Paris.

www.stadedefrance.com/en/tours

Parc des Princes. 24 rue du Commandant Guillbaud, Paris 16th. M° Porte d'Auteuil or Porte de Saint Cloud. www.psg.fr

> For tennis fans

Paris hosts two of the top international tennis events. Each year from end May to early June, the thwack of tennis balls can be heard on the ochre clay courts of Roland Garros as the French Open, one of the four Grand Slam tournaments, gets underway. Built in 1927 to host the Davis Cup final, the stadium has since become one of the most prestigious venues on the world tennis scene, hosting both men's and women's tournaments. It has two vast courts - the central court, Philippe Chatrier, and the Suzanne Lenglen court, with capacity for 15,000 and 10,000 spectators respectively.

Tennis legends such as Borg, Lendl, McEnroe, Noah, Federer, Nadal, Evert-Lloyd, Graf, Navratilova and Serena Williams have featured in the history of the French Open, which draws hundreds of thousands of spectators each year to the stadium's one-of-a-kind atmosphere. A trip to Roland Garros is more than a guarantee of watching spectacular tennis matches and feats by top players. Strolling through the pathways of the stadium is a uniquely Parisian experience, and an opportunity to rub shoulders with the city's stylish elite. Shops, a restaurant, a tennis museum and the thrill of autograph hunting outside the locker rooms give a visit added interest. A major renovation project is underway to modernize and expand the site to an area of more than 11 hectares by 2021. The Philippe-Chatrier court will be equipped with a roof that can be retracted in less than 15 minutes. By 2019 the new-look Roland Garros will boast an additional court accommodating 5,000 spectators, the highly anticipated Simone-Mathieu court, located in the garden of the Serres d'Auteuil and named in honour of the top French female player in the 1930s who played an important role in the French Résistance during World War II. The brand new 'number 18 court', classified as an 'arena' by Guy Forget will be capable of hosting 2,200 spectators in a unique ambience, with the players in close proximity. Another new feature will include the new Tennis Village, accommodating guests and players. At the top of the Village complex, a large terrace - the same height as the upper grandstands of the Philippe-Chatrier court - will offer spectators a breath-taking view. The new-look Roland Garros promises to be a high-tech setting in which Paris's legendary tennis history can continue to unfold, with a special and keenly-awaited chapter to be written during the 2024 Olympic Games.

Every year in November, the AccorHotels Arena in Bercy hosts the Masters 1000, the final tournament of the season, where the cream of men's tennis locks horns 15 days before another end-of-season event in London. The Paris event is a favourite with the world's top-seeded players. With

its frenzied atmosphere and a passionate, demanding and excitable public, the tournament is known to be one of the most gruelling ones on the circuit. If you enjoy spectacular tennis and high drama, then this event is a must-do.

This sports arena with capacity for 20,000 spectators also hosts concerts and many other top-level sporting events - more than 130 events per year. It was recently renovated and modernized, and now features among the world's top five arenas, alongside Madison Square Garden, the O2, the Staples Center and the Mercedes-Benz Arena. It is definitely worth visiting. Echoing the AccorHotels Arena, a brand-new, 7,500-seat multi-sport stadium called Arena 2 is one of the new permanent sites being constructed for the Olympic Games. With a large 20,000-m² hall and 2 gymnasiums, the stadium is located at the Porte de la Chapelle (18th arrondissement). Once the Games come to an end, the new venue will be used by a number of Parisian sports clubs and federations, and will host basketball and handball games.

Stade Roland Garros 2 avenue Gordon Bennett, Paris 16th - M° Porte d'Auteuil - www.fft.fr/roland-garros

Nouveau Roland Garros: <http://nouveaurolandgarros.com>

AccorHotels Arena 8 boulevard de Bercy, Paris 12th - M° Bercy / RER Gare de Lyon, Bibliothèque François Mitterrand - www.accorhotelsarena.com

Paris Arena II (Paralympic wrestling, basketball and football). Building site: Porte de la Chapelle - Gare des Mines, Paris 18th.

> For rugby fans

Rugby does not only thrive in south-west France. It is also an integral part of Paris's sporting identity. The city's venerable rugby union club, Stade Français, plays in the Top 14 league (the top tier in French rugby). Its home stadium Jean Bouin, located right next to the Parc des Princes, boasts superb and very innovative architecture following a renovation a few years ago by the architect Rudy Ricciotti. And every year, the Stade de France hosts fixtures of the historic Six Nations championship, with England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland and Italy taking on the French national team. There is nothing quite like hearing the crowd roar as a player unleashes a tackle on an opponent or a solitary winger runs with the ball. Because Paris has so many rugby fans, Stade Français play some of their bigger matches in the larger-capacity Stade de France, which can accommodate up to 80,000 fans - who flock here to celebrate their passion for the game in a friendly, festive atmosphere.

The October 2017 inauguration of the Paris La Défense Arena, the largest multi-use stadium in Europe and the second-largest in the world, has given rugby a supersize venue. The home stadium of the Racing Metro 92 rugby team, it is located in the heart of Paris's business district, La Défense. The ambitious Paris La Défense Arena project has been designed by the French architect Christian de Portzamparc. A stadium and concert venue in one, the Paris La Défense Arena amphitheatre has capacity for 30,000 spectators in its rugby configuration. The stadium seats up to 40,000

concertgoers and boasts a 1,600-m² screen (the world's biggest). It will host the gymnastics and weightlifting events at the 2024 Olympic Games.

Stade Jean Bouin: 20-40 avenue du Général-Sarrail, Paris 16th. M° Porte d'Auteuil or Porte de Saint Cloud. www.stade.fr
Paris La Défense Arena: 99 Jardins de l'Arche, 92000 Nanterre. www.parisladefense-arena.com

> For cycling fans

Paris is the place to watch the finish of the world's greatest cycling race - the Tour de France. After their gruelling climb across the high passes of the Alps and the Pyrénées, the dogged riders sprint several laps around the Champs Elysées in the now-iconic final stage. The ceremonial procession around the most beautiful monuments in Paris (the Louvre, the Arc de Triomphe and the Eiffel Tower) is an amazing show. In a nod to the famous race, the Olympic cycling event will finish on the Champs-Elysées and a timed race will take place in the heart of Paris. One can just imagine the cyclists speeding through the streets and boulevards of the capital along a route studded with jewels of Paris's architectural heritage.

Between now and 2020, Paris will become the 'cycling capital of the world' with the completion of the Plan Vélo (Bike Plan), the aim of which is to privilege eco-friendly forms of transport in a capital dedicated to reducing its carbon footprint. Yet another step towards the Green Games. A cycle path is already under construction along the world's most beautiful avenue and will become part of the 1,000 kilometres of cycle paths planned between now and 2020.

Arrival of the Tour de France: www.letour.fr

> For horse racing fans

Paris offers plenty of opportunities to back a horse and get caught up in the excitement of a race. Watch with bated breath as your chosen horse and jockey thunder past on the racecourse - at Auteuil, Longchamp, Vincennes or Chantilly. Each of the three Paris racecourses organizes a specific type of race, and these events are internationally renowned (harness racing at Vincennes, steeplechasing at Auteuil and gallops at Longchamp). Paris has a long-standing tradition of horse racing dating back over a century, and the key events on the calendar (Prix d'Amérique, Grand steeple chase, Prix du Président de la République etc.) are extremely popular with enthusiasts as well as the merely curious. Following two years of construction work under the supervision of Dominique Perrault, the new Longchamp racecourse has reopened its doors. This architectural gem inspired by the movement of a galloping thoroughbred is modern, equipped with the latest technology and eco-friendly. In the heart of the Bois de Boulogne, this famous site has been renamed ParisLongchamp. From now on, the races can be enjoyed from the grandstands offering a 180-degree panoramic view. The 500-m² rooftop lounge, the stylish open-air café-bar and outdoor concert stage offer an exciting festive and sporting programme: night races, after-work events and

concerts, allowing the public to discover the universe of top-class racing. In fact, ParisLongchamp traditionally hosts the biggest and most famous race in the world, watched by almost a billion TV viewers, the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. Stylishly attired men and women in eye-catching ensembles and hats give the event an absolutely unique atmosphere.

If you can't attend the most exceptional events on the racing calendar, never fear: you can experience the excitement of a horse race practically every day of the week at one Paris racecourse or another. The Vincennes racecourse, for example: inaugurated in 1863, can accommodate up to 35,000 people. It hosts the biggest harness races (more than a thousand races each year), including the prestigious Prix d'Amérique. If you don't care for horse racing, but your children love horses, take a look at the Vincennes events calendar: the evening activities and 'Super Sunday' events make for a great family outing. The restaurant has a panoramic view, so you can have dinner while enjoying the spectacle of horses galloping around the racetrack.

ParisLongchamp. 2 route des Tribunes - Paris 16th - M° Porte Maillot or Pont de Neuilly - www.nouveaulongchamp.com

Hippodrome de Vincennes. 2 route de la Ferme - Paris 12th - M° Château de Vincennes - www.vincennes-hippodrome.com and www.vincennes-hippodrome.com/fr/evenements/

Hippodrome d'Auteuil. Route d'Auteuil aux Lacs, Paris 16th - M° Porte d'Auteuil - www.france-galop.com/fr/hippodromeauteuil

Hippodrome de Chantilly, Avenue de la Plaine des Aigles, 60500 Chantilly - www.france-galop.com/fr/hippodromechantilly

www.france-galop.com

Championship-winning clubs

Stade Français Paris Rugby, Paris Volley, Paris Saint-Germain Handball, Paris Judo: Paris's professional sports clubs always offer supporters a memorable experience, hosting exciting tournaments at which emotions run high. The city's football club Paris-Saint-Germain (the French football champion and reigning French League Cup winner), has gained international renown since it was founded in 1970.

Paris Saint-Germain Handball - Sport: handball - Level: Division 1 - Club HQ: 82 avenue Georges Lafont, Paris 16th - Tel. +33 (0) 1 40 50 99 13 - www.psg.fr - Match venues: Stade Pierre de Coubertin - 82 avenue Georges Lafont, Paris 16th - Metro Porte de Saint-Cloud / Halle Georges Carpentier - 81 boulevard Masséna, Paris 13th - Metro and T3 Porte de Choisy

Paris Saint-Germain - Sport: football - Level: Division 1 - Club HQ: 24 rue du Commandant Guilbaud, Paris 16th - Tel. +33 (0) 1 47 43 71 71 - www.psg.fr - Match venue: Parc des Princes, Paris 16th - Metro Porte de Saint-Cloud

Stade français Paris - Sport: rugby - Level: top 14 - Club HQ: 26 avenue du Général Sarrail, Paris 16th - Tel. +33 (0) 1 40 71 71 00 - www.stade.fr - Match venue: Stade Jean Bouin - 26 avenue du Général Sarrail, Paris 16th - Metro Porte d'Auteuil, Michel Ange Molitor, Exelmans, Porte de Saint Cloud

Paris Volley - Sport: volleyball - Level: pro A - Club HQ: 17 avenue Pierre de Coubertin, Paris 13th - Tel. +33 (0) 1 49 70 65 43 - www.parisvolley.com - Match venue: Salle Pierre Charpy - Stade Charléty - 17 avenue Pierre de Coubertin, Paris 13th - RER Cité Universitaire / T3 Stade Charléty

PARIS, THE ULTIMATE SPORTING CITY: CALENDAR OF EXCEPTIONAL UPCOMING EVENTS

Paris is a great place for sports fans, hosting a vast and varied number of events: football, rugby, ice skating, martial arts, car and motorcycle races, cycling races etc. The Paris sporting calendar features top-notch events all year round, whether international (Roland Garros, i.e. the French Open, the Paris Marathon and the Tour de France), national (the French championship, the finals of the French league) or local. Paris also occasionally hosts exceptional events such as European championships (European athletics championship in 2020) and world championships (FIFA Women's World Cup in 2019). Rugby will also be offer with the 20th edition of the World Rugby Sevens Series (31 May to 1 June 2019), the international rugby sevens competition, as well as the 2023 Rugby World Cup. Mark your calendars - don't miss out on these great events!

27 January 2019: Paris Indoor Athletics. The stars of French athletics can be seen at the AccorHotels Arena de Bercy. Enjoy the 60 metres, 60 metre hurdles, pole vault and triple jump. A remarkable spectacle! AccorHotels Arena, 8 boulevard de Bercy - Paris 12th - www.accorhotelsarena.com

27 January 2019: **Grand Prix d'Amérique 2019**. The Vincennes racecourse welcomes the 9th edition of this prestigious competition, considered to be the world trotting championships, and held on a track measuring 2,700 m. The proceeds from admissions go to the SOS Autisme France Association. Vincennes Hippodrome de Paris, 2 route de la ferme – Paris 12th.

16 and 17 February 2019: **Finals of the French Ice Hockey Cup**. Enjoy the finals of the fastest team sport in the world at the AccorHotels Arena! This year is the 19th edition of the event and guarantees spectators a memorable experience. Semi-finals take place on Saturday, 16 February with the grand finale the following day. AccorHotels Arena, 8 boulevard de Bercy - Paris 12th - www.accorhotelsarena.com

1 February - 16 March 2019: **Six Nations Championship 2019**. The longstanding Six Nations Championship brings together the top rugby-playing nations in Europe. England, Wales, Ireland, Scotland, Italy and France will face off over five weeks. The tournament winner will be named European champion, with bonus points awarded for a Grand Slam after defeating all the other teams. If a team loses all its matches, it will receive the wooden spoon. The opening match of this 125th edition sees France take on Wales on 1 February 2019 at the Stade de France. Consortium Stade de France - ZAC Cornillon Nord - 93216 Saint-Denis La Plaine.

10 and 11 May 2019: **Finals of the French Basketball Cup**. Two days devoted entirely to basketball in the big hall of the AccorHotels Arena. The first day will feature the national final of the wheelchair basketball (Handibasket) championship and the amateur men's and women's trophy finals. 16,000 fans are expected to attend this basketball extravaganza. Expect plenty of action on the courts and in the grandstands! AccorHotels Arena, 8 boulevard de Bercy - Paris 12th - www.accorhotelsarena.com

10 March 2019: **Harmonie Mutuelle Semi de Paris**. The second largest race after the Paris Marathon, attracting over 40,000 participants every year, the Paris half-marathon is held on a circuit stretching a little over 21 km, to the east of the city, and finishes on the esplanade of the Château de Vincennes. This popular sporting event allows runners to take over the streets of the capital and enjoy a memorable sporting experience with family or friends, whatever their level.
<http://www.harmoniemukuellemideparis.com/fr/course/presentation>

14 April 2019: **Marathon de Paris**. The Paris Marathon is flagged off every year from Avenue des Champs-Élysées. Nearly 50,000 participants are expected to set off this year to run the distance of 42.195 km to the finish line. Runners head along Rue de Rivoli and the Seine quaysides as thousands of spectators watch from the sidelines, cheering on not just their loved ones but also all the people who take up this tough physical challenge. Participants and onlookers alike admire the Paris monuments along the route - one of the prettiest on the worldwide city marathon circuit.
<http://www.schneiderelectricparismarathon.com/fr>

26 May - 9 June 2019: **French Open**. One of the Grand Slam international tournaments, the French Open will once again provide tennis fans in Paris with edge-of-seat suspense. From 26 May to 9 June, reigning champions Rafael Nadal and Simona Halep will defend their titles on the legendary beaten earth that makes up the courts at Roland Garros. Once again, a new page of tennis history will be written during the men's and women's finals, held respectively on the Philippe Chatrier and Suzanne Lenglen courts. www.fft.fr/roland-garros

7 June - 7 July 2019: **FIFA Women's World Cup**. The Parc des Princes has the honour of hosting the opening ceremony for the 8th edition of the FIFA Women's World Cup. This event provides a unique opportunity to discover the world's 24 best football teams. In total, seven 16-round and quarter final matches will take place in Paris. Parc des Princes, 24, rue du Commandant Guibaud - Paris 16th.

More events on parisinfo.com

GET FIT WHILE EXPLORING PARIS

Pedal, skate, walk ... take a breather!

Why not combine sport and sightseeing in Paris? Running, cycling and skating are excellent alternative ways to explore the city: you'll get off the beaten track and stumble upon hidden corners of the French capital. Set off to discover the Paris of Parisians as you travel the city's districts, squares, and streets under your own steam.

There are neighbourhood sporting facilities throughout the French capital (outdoor gyms, small football pitches, table tennis, street basketball, fitness trails, swimming pools etc.) - so much so that by the time the 2024 Olympic Games come around, all Parisians will have a cost-free way to get fit within 5 minutes' distance of where they live! The best-known outdoor fitness trail is the one on Ile aux Cygnes, in the 16th arrondissement. Famous for its 16-metre-high replica of the Statue of Liberty, this artificial island created in 1827 in the middle of the Seine is one long greenery-lined stretch with a selection of muscle-building equipment, a climbing wall and a children's play area - a relaxed way for the whole family to get some outdoor exercise!

If you enjoy running, you'll find it's a great way to admire the beauty and variety of Paris parks and gardens. Go for a run from the Louvre via the obelisk in Place de la Concorde to the Jardin des Tuileries; jog around the French-style gardens at the 'Luco', as Parisians call the Luxembourg gardens behind the Palais du Sénat; explore the hilly slopes, hanging bridge, caves and waterfalls at the Parc des Buttes-Chaumont, and admire the magnificent trees and green spaces in the Parc Monceau and the Parc Montsouris.

If you're a competitive runner, or simply wish to set yourself a challenge, Paris hosts the queen of races - the marathon - every year in April. Classed among the top five races, alongside the New York, London, Berlin and Chicago marathons, the Paris marathon is one of the most prestigious races in the world. Created in 1976, it now draws more than 50,000 participants, who run a distance of 42.195 km through the capital's historic streets (Avenue des Champs-Élysées, Rue de Rivoli, Place de la Bastille etc.) and forest trails (in the Bois de Vincennes and Bois de Boulogne) to get to the finish line at the foot of the Arc de Triomphe. The Paris half-marathon in March and the famous Paris-Versailles race (16 km, from the Eiffel Tower to the chateau of the Sun King in September each year - reputed to be a tough course, with a substantial climb up the Côte des Gardes), are also good ways to visit the city or to do practice runs for the Paris marathon. Several 10K races are also organized in most Paris arrondissements, so you can run all year round while exploring every district of the city.

Official website of the Paris marathon: <http://www.schneiderelectricparismarathon.com/fr>

Website of the Paris half-marathon: <http://www.fitbitsemideparis.com/fr>

Website of the Paris-Versailles race: <http://www.parisversailles.com/>

Paris race and running news: <http://www.parisrunningtour.com/>

If you enjoy cycling, Paris has hundreds of kilometres of cycling paths, so you can explore every inch of the city. With 1,800 docking stations dotted around the city, the self-service ‘Velib’ Métropole’ bike rental scheme lets you easily find a bike anytime you need one. Today 30% of bikes are electric-assist models with a range of 50 km and capable of going at up to 25 km/h. A valuable asset when cycling up some of the capital’s steeper slopes and an ideal way to explore lesser-known parts of Paris. If you’re up for some climbing, pedal your way to Belleville and take the Rue Piat (20th). You’ll be rewarded by one of the most spectacular (and least-known) views of Paris, with the city’s monuments spread out beneath your gaze. If you’d rather ride a flat stretch, cycle alongside the Canal Saint-Martin. Pass the Hôtel du Nord, where Arletty played her famous scene in the eponymous French film, then continue on to the vast expanse of the Parc de la Villette. For some fast riding, head to the Bois de Boulogne or the Bois de Vincennes, where you’ll find hundreds of determined and enthusiastic amateur cyclists training every day amid the trees, far from the traffic and bustle of the city.

If you’d simply like to go on a bike tour with a friendly group of people, the association Paris Rando Vélo organizes night-time rides on Fridays and daytime rides on Sundays: a great way to explore Paris in all safety, at a moderate pace.

If you enjoy skating, the pedestrianized quays of the Seine are ideal spots for rollerblading. If you want to skate with a group, or get a free lesson, join one of the outings organized by Roller Squad Institut on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Anyone can take part. The association Pari Roller organizes a ‘Paris by night’ outing once a week for experienced skaters: a fast, exciting 30-km tour. Skaters of all skill levels are welcome at the ‘Rollers et coquillages’ association, which organizes leisurely skating tours to be enjoyed with friends or family every Sunday: a wonderful, free-wheeling way to admire the sights. But if you’d rather skate on an ice rink than the road, head to the rink at the Accorhotels Arena.

If you simply want to take a breather, then tai-chi-chuan and qi gong, two popular slow-moving forms of exercise from China, might be just what you’re looking for. Done on your own or with a group, in Paris squares and gardens (the Buttes Chaumont, the Jardin du Luxembourg, Parc André Citroën, etc.), tai-chi-chuan and qi gong help you to relax through a series of long, slow movements aimed at creating harmony between the mind and body by focusing on specific poses, breathing techniques and concentration.

If you’re still unsure of what sport you want to do, why not try one of the trial classes offered by most of the capital’s sporting clubs and associations? Salons or fairs are also a good way of discovering new sports and the latest sporting equipment on the market. Some dates to note for 2019:

11-14 January 2019. Diving Salon. More than a salon, this is a veritable diving event. In addition to the latest materials and equipment, ecological diving will be one of the main themes of this year's edition. Parc des Expositions, Porte de Versailles - 1 place de la Porte de Versailles, Paris 15th.

14-17 March 2019. Nature Fair. This outdoor sports salon is an unmissable event for lovers of the great outdoors. Discover the latest equipment and hiking trends. Parc des Expositions, Porte de Versailles - 1 place de la Porte de Versailles, Paris 15th.

15-17 March 2019. International Body Fitness Salon. The 32nd edition will take place at the Parc des Expositions in Paris, Porte de Versailles. This fair is a dream event for body fitness fans eager to try out and discover the latest trends. Some one hundred exhibitors and two hundred brands will be present in the 17,000-m² space. Parc des Expositions, Porte de Versailles - 1 place de la Porte de Versailles, Paris 15th.

Cycling. www.velib.paris. www.parisrandovelo.fr; www.parisbiketour.net; www.parisvelosympas.com; www.freescoot.com; www.legrandhuit.eu/fr/. Full list of addresses on parisinfo.com.

Rollerblading. www.rsi.asso.fr. www.pari-roller.com. www.rollers-coquillages.org

Ice skating. <http://www.accorhotelsarena.com/fr/arena/la-patinoire>

Tai-chi-chuan and qi gong. <https://www.evous.fr/Guide-de-la-gym-douce-cultiver-son-esprit-et-son-corps-gratuitement-pendant-l,1177253.html>

The Berges de Seine: a place for lazing, strolling or playing sport

In New York, there's the High Line along the Hudson River. Paris has its Berges de Seine: the quays, which are on Unesco's list of world heritage sites. After visiting the Musée d'Orsay, why not go for a romantic stroll along the Seine quayside? Or take the kids along, so they have a chance to run around. Just go down a few steps to reach the banks of the river, where you can walk, run, cycle or rollerblade along a 2.3-km pedestrian promenade alongside the Seine, all the way to the Eiffel Tower. Take a leisurely stroll to admire the beauty of Paris and its monuments, or to work up a sweat on the sports trail. Featuring a suspended ladder, an acceleration lane, a climbing wall and an athletics track where you can time yourself doing the 100 metres, the trail is popular with weekend exercisers as well as fitness fanatics. It's an entertaining, sporty way to be out and about in Paris with the family. Don't miss the opportunity to get some exercise in this evocative and sought-after spot with views of major monuments such as the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre and Place de la Concorde.

Water based fun

If you enjoy swimming, Paris has some truly exceptional places where you can do a few lengths or improve your front crawl technique. At the 50-m Piscine Keller in the 15th arrondissement, the roof is opened up six months of the year, so you can enjoy an open-air swim as well as a superb view of the buildings along the Seine. Housed in a giant barge and protected in winter by a glass roof which

is opened up in summer, the Josephine Baker swimming pool on the quayside in the 13th arrondissement overlooks the river and the boats chugging along it - you almost feel like you're bathing in the Seine, right in the heart of Paris. The floating bars and clubs next door, including the Batofar, a veritable Paris institution, are perfect for relaxing after all your hard work in the pool.

The City of Paris is now taking things further with its incredibly ambitious project of giving the Seine 'back' to Parisians by making the river swimmable in time for the Olympic Games. Three or four sections of the river within Paris proper will be made fit for swimming. The relevant City of Paris divisions have joined forces to improve water quality by reducing bacterial levels. The Bassin de la Villette (19th) is one of the capital's main open-water swimming areas. A 100-m² long floating structure marks the swimming zone. In total, the site boasts four basins of varying depths (2x40 cm, 1.2m and 2m) that can welcome up to 300 bathers at any one time. The site places a particular emphasis on safety: 26 lifeguards and a swimming area limited to 2,300 people per day in order to ensure the water quality. Furthermore, the quality of the water is constantly monitored. It can be accessed by people with reduced mobility and the Affluences app provides real-time information on crowd conditions.

In 2019 a mobile summer pool will be installed in the 12th arrondissement, at the Pelouse de Reuilly; a new initiative that is part of the 'Nager Paris' (Swim Paris) project. Also in the works: the construction of an Olympic Aquatics Centre, at La Plaine Saulnier near the Stade de France, with capacity for 15,000 spectators. The venue will host the swimming, diving and synchronized swimming competitions at both the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Paris swimming pools: www.paris.fr/piscines. www.nageurs.com/piscines-Paris
Hôtel Molitor Paris - Mgallery www.mltr.fr
More information about the future Aquatics Centre (in French): <http://paris2024.org/fr/article/le-futur-centre-aquatique-sera-voisin-du-stade-de-france>

Offbeat ways to experience Paris and get some exercise

If you're looking to wind down, relax and enjoy some quiet time after a busy day sightseeing and shopping, the association 'Yoga on top' may be exactly what you need. They organize yoga lessons in some of the most beautiful and unusual spots in Paris. Check out the association's website to find the perfect location for your yoga lesson: on a rooftop terrace, inside a park, in a covered market, in a luxury hotel, etc. www.yoga-on-top.fr

In search of a really unusual experience? Read on!

Are you keen on watersports? Get into a wetsuit and jump into the Seine for some water-skiing or wakeboarding! Several clubs also initiate visitors into stand-up paddle boarding on the Seine.

Want to test your head for heights? Play at being Tarzan and Jane with the treetop adventure course at the Parc Floral, in the Bois de Vincennes, a five-minute walk from the metro station.

Suspension bridges, tightropes, zip lines and other high-flying challenges over four courses make for an entertaining adventure among the treetops in the park.

Looking for a dance workout? Every summer, people are encouraged to come dancing on the banks of the Seine. Hundreds of dancers gather spontaneously at the Jardin Tino Rossi just below the Institut du Monde Arabe every evening from June until the end of August. Salsa, tango, traditional Breton dancing, rock: there's something to suit all tastes. And, if you've always secretly wanted to become a cabaret dancer, you can learn how to dance the French cancan at the Paradis Latin. Everything is taken care of - from your hairstyle to your makeup and a costume complete with spangles. And, with help from real dancers at the Paradis Latin, you'll soon know everything there is to know about the cancan and Paris popular culture.

Want to take a swing at a ball? You can play golf at the Longchamp racecourse, or learn to play Basque pelota, which essentially consists of pounding a ball against a concrete wall, at the Trinquet in the 16th arrondissement. In Paris, you can also have a game of 'padel' (the tennis-squash hybrid that is hugely popular in Argentina) or go roller skiing. This equivalent to cross-country skiing can be enjoyed on the city's pavements. If you prefer a simple, relaxing and sociable game, head to one of the lively bars in the 11th arrondissement, where you can play ping-pong, boules or mini bowls in a friendly atmosphere!

Are you a Star Wars fan? Then you'll be pleased to hear that Paris has its very own lightsabre academy - the biggest one in France. A blend of fencing, French sword cane and Japanese sword fighting (kendo), the sport has its official federation, which sets out specific rules, and seven different styles of combat.

Are you a Harry Potter fan? Why not try your hand at quidditch: the famous sport practised at schools for witches and wizards! Believe it or not, this magical game invented by J.K Rowling for her fantasy book series now has its own federation in France, and several teams exist in Paris. Just like the book you can choose your position: chaser, beater, keeper and seeker. An exciting combination of rugby, handball and dodgeball.

Sport where and when you feel like it? A range of new apps have been developed allowing you to practise the sport you like, without membership or subscriptions, at the time that suits you best. Gymlib tracks available gyms with a vast choice of classes open to non-members. Anybuddy focuses on tennis, padel and badminton, and offers the first tennis à la carte service online! In just a few clicks, you can reserve a court at some of the best clubs, without being a member. Municipal tennis courts can be booked on the digital service Paris Tennis; access to practice walls is free and no reservations are needed.

Paris Tennis - via Mon compte parisien -
<https://moncompte.paris.fr/moncompte/jsp/site/Portal.jsp?page=myluteceusergu&view=createAccount>
Gymlib - <https://www.gymlib.com>
Anybuddy - <https://anybuddyapp.com>

Festival des danses sur Seine <https://fr-fr.facebook.com/PARISDANSESENEINE>
Fédération du Quidditch français : <http://www.quidditch.fr>
Light sabre combat academy 46 rue du Faubourg Saint-Martin, Paris 10th - M° Château d'Eau - www.sportsaberleague.com
Play ping-pong in a bar Gossima ping-pong bar, 4 rue Victor Gelez, Paris 11th - M° Ménilmontant - www.gossima.fr
Play boules in a bar Les Niçois, 7 rue Lacharrière, Paris 11th - M° Saint-Maur - www.lesnicois.com
Go bowling in a bar La Quille 111 rue Saint-Maur, Paris 11th - M° Parmentier - www.laquille.net
Accrobranche Parc Floral, Route de la Pyramide, Paris 12th - M° Château de Vincennes - <http://parcfloral.evasion-verte.fr>
Play baseball Mortemart or Pershing baseball diamonds, Corner of Avenue du Tremblay, Paris 12th, Bois de Vincennes.
Golfing Route de Sèvres à Neuilly, Paris 16th - www.golfduboisdeboulogne.fr
Play Basque belota Le Trinquet 8 quai Saint-Exupéry, Paris 16th - RER Pont du Garigliano - www.austrinquet.com
Unusual yoga locations www.yoga-on-top.fr
Water sports Club nautique du 19^e - 28 avenue Simon Bolivar, Paris 19th - M° Ourcq - www.cn19.fr;
Ski nautique club de Paris: at the foot of the Passerelle de l'Avre in the Bois de Boulogne, between Pont de Saint-Cloud and Pont de Suresnes - www.skinautiqueclubdeparis.com; **Stand Up Paddle**: <http://bbsup.fr/inscription-club-boulogne-billancourt-stand-up-paddle/>
Padel Club Padel Horizon 38 rue Roger Salengro, 94120 Fontenay-sous-bois - www.padel-horizon.com
Rollerski 201 rue du 8 mai 1945, 78360 Montesson - www.biathlonclubmontesson.unblog.fr
Original and offbeat sports and activities in Paris www.quefaire.paris.fr

Go fast alone, go further together!

Traditionally the 23 June is the occasion to celebrate the Olympic Games. Olympic Day is now an important date for Parisians who, along with the sporting champions, will be the actors of the 2024 Olympic Games. This popular event that attracts over one million visitors every year is a foretaste of the Games. Events include demonstrations and introductions to various sports at the Parc Rives de Seine, in the presence of numerous French athletes. Some thirty Olympic and Paralympic disciplines are presented over 250,000 m², along the banks of the Seine. The forecourt of the Hôtel de Ville de Paris will also welcome no less than eight Olympic and Paralympic disciplines. And an event that's not to be missed: a 2,024-m night race from the Pont Alexandre III to the Eiffel Tower.

The town hall of each arrondissement will organize its own Olympic and Paralympic Sports Day on 20 June.

Olympic Day allows Parisians and tourists alike to become ambassadors and actors of the 2024 Games.

Olympic Day: <http://journeeolympique.fr/journeeolympique/>

GREATER PARIS: FUTURE SPORTS AND OLYMPIC VENUES

Paris is on the way to becoming one of the world's biggest metropolitan areas. The city's expansion into Greater Paris has already begun - notably in terms of public transit with the Grand Paris Express, Europe's largest and the world's fourth-largest civil engineering project, which will carry 2 million travellers per day when complete. The 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games will benefit from the ongoing transformation of Paris and its region into the Greater Paris metropolitan area. The map of Olympic sites will be officially released in 2020. In preparation for the capital's role as host of the Olympics, Paris is already equipping itself with top-notch sports infrastructure: a boon for professional athletes and amateur sportspeople alike. Paris's Olympic dream will create an enduring sporting heritage for all users. A look at some of the new venues:

> [Water Polo Centre, Marville](#). The Marville swimming pool in Seine Saint-Denis to the north of Paris will undergo renovation to become a Games venue. It is located inside a fully-fledged family-friendly sports centre near the Parc Georges-Valbon, the biggest urban green space in the Ile-de-France region, which extends over a 415-hectare area in the vicinity of the famous Saint-Denis Basilica. After renovations, the new sports complex will have two Olympic-size swimming pools, one indoor and one outdoor. It will host the water-polo training sessions for the 2024 Games.

> [Stade Yves-du-Manoir, Colombes](#). This was the main stadium of the 1924 Olympic Games, and also hosted the 1938 Football World Cup. Some of the greatest sportspeople of the 20th century have played at this well-known sports arena. A reminder of Paris's Olympic past, the stadium will be the field hockey venue at the 2024 Paris Games. Work is currently underway to design and build the headquarters of the French Hockey Federation on site, together with top-class training facilities.

> [Water sports centre, Vaires-sur-Marne](#). A former sand quarry to the east of Paris, this site has been transformed into a water sports centre and now welcomes more than 500,000 visitors each year. A major ongoing renovation slated for completion in 2018 will see the construction of a white-water centre featuring a 250-metre slalom course and a 2,200-metre-long rowing lake. The venue will host all the rowing and canoe/kayak races at the 2024 Olympics and Paralympics.

<http://vaires-torcy.iledeloisirs.fr/sejours/activite/aviron/?qp=OFFRE:vairés>

> [Château de Versailles](#). The world-famous palace of the Sun King - the first-ever French monument to be included on Unesco's list of world heritage sites - will play host to the finest international horse riders. All the dressage, eventing and jumping competitions of the 2024 Games will take place in the magnificent gardens - designed in the French formal style - of the château, spreading over a vast 800-hectare expanse. What could possibly be a more beautiful setting for the Olympic equestrian sports? <http://en.chateauversailles.fr/>

> **Vélodrome national, Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines.** Built to support Paris's bid to host the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, the Vélodrome National opened in 2014. It is the headquarters of the French Cycling Federation and the training ground of the French national team. A covered and floodlit BMX track - the first of its kind in Europe - will round off the Vélodrome's 5,000 m² of multi-sport outdoor space. In the run-up to the Olympic Games, why not take advantage of the venue's excellent facilities for a number of sports: badminton, track cycling, BMX, fitness and combat sports. <http://www.velodrome-national.com/>

> **Elancourt Hill.** This artificial hill located between the towns of Elancourt and Trappes offers a sweeping view - extending to the Eiffel Tower - from the top. The 231-metre hill is the highest point in the Ile-de-France region. This beautiful green space serving an urban community is well worth the climb. You'll be able to see the Saint-Quentin outdoor activities centre and lake at the bottom of the hill, the Château de Versailles a little further on and Paris spreading out before your eyes in the distance. The venue will host some of the extreme sports - specifically, the mountain biking competition - at the 2024 Games. <http://saint-quentin-en-yvelines.iledeloisirs.fr/>

> **Golf national, Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines.** Opened in 1991, this is one of the finest golf courses in Europe. Owned and managed by the French Golf Federation, it is the permanent home of the French Open tournament, and a national training facility. Golf National has long implemented sustainable practices, regularly collaborating with organizations such as Paris's natural history museum and the French environment ministry to undertake environmental stewardship of the site and preserve its natural heritage. It has been partially redeveloped to host the 2018 Ryder Cup, and will of course be the venue for the Olympic golf competition in 2024. Meanwhile, you can go along and practice your swing on one of its three stunning courses (respectively named Albatros, Aigle and Oiselet). There is also a golf school for children aged 6 and above. www.golf-national.com

Map of the 2024 Olympic Games sites: <https://paris2024.org/fr/concept>

CHEERING YOUR TEAM IN THE CITY'S BARS AND CAFÉS

Crowds spilling out onto the pavement, shouts of encouragement, laughter and a lively atmosphere: hundreds of bars and cafés in the city come alive each time there is a major international sporting event. Scotsmen in kilts pub-hopping during the Six Nations tournament, British fans bellowing 'God Save the Queen' in bars on the 'Rue de la Soif' (street of thirst), Portuguese supporters driving along the Champs-Élysées honking their horns, Parisians parading around with their faces painted blue, white and red when the French national team is playing ... these festive moments of collective enthusiasm are an essential part of Paris's identity. Why not experience this aspect of the city and be part of the excitement by getting people together for an evening of football or rugby-watching in one of the French capital's numerous bars? Whatever the establishment you choose - a British-style pub, a bar with new-generation big-screen televisions, a traditional brasserie or a small Parisian

café - you'll find that the following selection of bars has everything you need to enjoy watching a good match. There are bars in every district, to suit all pockets. And since Paris is bursting with bars of every description, you'll probably discover many other places of your own to add to this list.

- **Mc Brides Irish Pub.** A classic Irish pub: beer, billiards and a laid-back atmosphere. Packed on match evenings. 54 rue Saint Denis, Paris 1st. M° Les Halles. <https://mcbrides-irish-pub.business.site>
- **Hide Pub Club Châtelet.** A shrine to sport, with 7 giant screens. There's a pub with a dance floor in the 12th-century cellar, and some of the cheapest beer in Paris. 46 rue des Lombards, Paris 1st. M° Les Halles. www.hide-pubs.com
- **Le Cristal.** A popular spot with students, this bar is known for its reasonable happy-hour prices. 163 avenue de Suffren, Paris 15th. M° Sèvres Lecourbe. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Cafe/Le-Cristal-225762447486891/>
- **Le RPR, Repaire de Charonne.** A modern yet cosy cocktail bar with matches shown on weekdays from 5pm and weekends from 11am. 114 rue de Charonne, Paris 11th. M° Charonne. <https://lerepairedecharonne.com/>
- **Au dernier métro.** A cosy Parisian bar/bistro with colourful, vintage decor and Basque-style cuisine. Three large screens. 70 boulevard de Grenelle, Paris 15th. M° Duplex. <http://au-dernier-metro.lafourchette.rest>.
- **The Celtic Corner.** A traditional Irish pub in the heart of Paris where you can enjoy watching rugby games. Extensive beer menu on offer. 88 rue de la Croix-Nivert, Paris 15th, M° Commerce. https://www.facebook.com/pg/CELTIC-CORNER-Paris-15ème-IRISH-PUB-Rugby-Concerts-Quiz-248750251374/photos/?ref=page_internal
- **Aux Sports.** A small neighbourhood café usually filled with locals for matches. The regular clientele and sports fans make for a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. 2 rue des Morillons, Paris 15th. <http://www.allomatch.com/bar-sportif/paris/aux-sports.html>
- **Le Gotham.** Near the Café Aux Sports, enjoy another ambience in this cocktail and burger bar, known for its menu. 55 rue Olivier de Serres, Paris 15th. M° Convention
- **Le Kanon.** A trendy sports bar, open 7 days a week, close to the Arc de Triomphe. 9 Rue du Général Lanrezac, Paris 17th, M° Ternes. <http://www.kanon-pub.fr>

- **O P'tit Paris.** Owned by a Kurdish family, this bar offers very affordable prices. Sports events broadcast in a relaxed atmosphere. 8 Cour des Petites Ecuries, Paris 10th, M° Château d'Eau. <https://o-pti-paris.business.site>
- **Le Balrock.** If you don't want to miss a single moment of a football match, this bar near the Grands Boulevards is the place to be. It has no fewer than 30 HD screens over three floors. During the Champions League or other championships, you can keep an eye on several matches at the same time. 161 rue Montmartre, Paris 2nd. M° Grands Boulevards. www.balrock.fr
- **The Auld Alliance.** A taste of Scotland in Paris, with 8 screens, happy hours and a menu boasting an incomparable selection of whiskies. Courageous diners can sample Scotland's best-known speciality, haggis (stuffed sheep stomach). 80 rue François Miron, Paris 4th. M° Saint-Paul. www.theauldalliance.com
- **Corcoran's.** An Irish pub on the Grands Boulevards. Guinness, billiards, and 6 big-screen televisions. The pub sometimes celebrates French goals with happy hours. 23 boulevard Poissonnière, Paris 2nd. M° Grands Boulevards. The pub has branches in Bastille, Montmartre and Saint-Michel, among other locations. <https://www.corcoransirishpubs.com>
- **The Frog and Rosbif.** The amusing name is a nod to Franco-British friendship. This is a very popular pub with a good reputation, known for its craft beers. There are several branches in Paris, where you can watch other games too - American soccer at the Saint Germain des Prés or Bastille branches, for example. 116 rue Saint Denis, Paris 2nd. M° Etienne Marcel. www.frogpubs.com
- **Le Truskel Microclub.** A real rockers' pub, which also welcomes football fans. Four screens broadcast matches when major football events are on. 12 rue Feydeau, Paris 2nd. M° Grands Boulevards. www.truskel.com
- **James Hetfeeld's Pub.** Several televisions, a giant screen and cheap beer: this roomy pub with a friendly atmosphere is a good place to watch a match with a group of friends. 17 boulevard Poissonnière, Paris 2nd. M° Grands Boulevards. www.facebook.com/JamesHetfeeldsPub/
- **The Klein Holland.** One of the few Dutch pubs in Paris: giant screens, all-round football mania and a great atmosphere. 36 rue du Roi de Sicile, Paris 4th. M° Saint Paul. www.facebook.com/KleinHolland
- **La Taverne des Korrigans.** A bar for serious rugby fans. The owner is a rugby man, and all the customers are rugby mad. 42 rue Cardinal Lemoine, Paris 5th. M° Cardinal Lemoine. <https://www.facebook.com/tavernekorrigans/>
- **The Local.** This usually quiet bar is packed on match days when crowds of fans pour in for a drink and a glimpse of the action on the giant screen. 54 rue de la clef, Paris 5th. M° Jussieu or Place Monge.

- **The Long Hop.** This large three-storey pub a stone's throw from Notre Dame Cathedral has an outside terrace, televisions and giant screens. It is very popular with the student crowd in the Latin Quarter. 25 rue Frédéric Sauton, Paris 5th. M° Maubert-Mutualité. www.the-long-hop.com
- **The Fifth Bar.** This sports bar in the middle of busy Rue Mouffetard mainly draws Brits and students. With two floors and four screens, it packs in large numbers of football fans. 62 rue Mouffetard, Paris 5th. M° Place Monge. www.facebook.com/FifthBar/
- **Aux Marsouins.** A traditional Paris brasserie with several screens, including one on the terrace. It is the favourite hangout of neighbourhood sports fans. 50 boulevard de Port Royal, Paris 5th. M° Les Gobelins. www.facebook.com/pages/Aux-Marsouins/237184399628797
- **The Bombardier Pub.** Located on the same square as the Pantheon, this quintessential British pub is a magnet for neighbourhood students, who come here to enjoy a pint and watch TV sport fixtures. 2 place du Panthéon, Paris 5th. M° Cardinal Lemoine. www.bombardierpub.fr
- **Little Temple Bar.** In the heart of the area locally known as 'Rue de la Soif', i.e. 'street of thirst' because it is lined with watering holes, this crowded Irish pub that every self-respecting rugby fan in Paris knows about shows matches on several giant screens. 12 rue Princesse, Paris 6th. M° Mabillon/Saint-Sulpice. www.littletemplebar.fr
- **The Moosehead.** A Canadian bar, the Moosehead is true to the spirit of a traditional Canadian pub. It shows all the major North American sporting events - in English - on several televisions. 16 rue des Quatre Vents, Paris 6th. M° Odéon. www.mooseparis.com
- **Café Oz Grand Boulevards.** An Australian bar devoted to partying, clubbing and sports broadcasts, showing several matches a day. 8 Boulevard Montmartre, Paris 9th. M° Grands Boulevards. www.cafe-oz.com
- **French Flair Bar rugby.** A proper Parisian bar in the Pigalle district, where you can join other rugby fans to celebrate the French flair of the national team. Behind the unremarkable facade is a bar with carefully thought-out decor and two giant screens, so you'll never miss a try. No burgers or bagels here: they serve traditional French fare like platters of charcuterie and cheese to nibble while watching your rugby match. 75 Bis Boulevard de Clichy, Paris 9th. M° Blanche. www.facebook.com/FrenchFlairBar/
- **The Coq and Bulldog.** This pub shows all the matches, but they are die-hard Manchester United fans. 64 rue de Clichy, Paris 9th. M° Place de Clichy. www.facebook.com/The-Coq-Bulldog-Pub-226637367401560/
- **Bambolina Caffè.** This is the Paris café where Napoli supporters get together. A warm and authentic atmosphere. 13 rue Rougemont, Paris 9th. M° Grands Boulevards. <https://fr-fr.facebook.com/Bambolina-Caffe-466097786756848/>

- **Le Mansart.** Spur-of-the-moment table football games with fiercely competitive players are a staple feature at this 1950s-style bar. Both traditional and trendy, it is one of the most popular spots of the moment in South Pigalle. 1 rue Mansart, Paris 9th. M° Blanche. www.facebook.com/LE-MANSART-284247198271658/
- **Le Mauri7.** Lively table football games, reasonable prices and a friendly, laid-back atmosphere in this little bar on Faubourg Saint Denis. 46 rue du Faubourg Saint Denis, Paris 10th. M° Strasbourg Saint-Denis. www.facebook.com/Le-Mauri-7-380748391972307/
- **The Cork and Cavan Pub.** Two flat screens showing games on match days and a large room at the back with a dart board to keep you busy at half-time. An authentic Irish pub popular with Paris hipsters. On sunny days, you can sip your drink sitting out on the pavement along the Canal Saint Martin. 70 quai de Jemmapes, Paris 10th. M° Goncourt. www.facebook.com/The-Cork-Cavan-178301132279896/
- **Rush Bar.** This English pub is the headquarters of Liverpool fans in Paris. There is a frenzied but good-natured atmosphere during big matches. 32 rue St Sébastien, Paris 11th. M° Saint Sébastien Froissart. www.rushbarparis.com
- **Sans-Gêne.** Located in the heart of the festive, trendy Oberkampf district, is a bar with a convivial atmosphere. Run by a group of friends, it is popular with young Parisians. The vaulted cellar-like premises are an attractive setting in which to watch sporting events. 122 rue Oberkampf, Paris 11th. M° Parmentier. <https://fr-fr.facebook.com/SansGeneParis/>
- **Le Magellan.** Tucked away in a small street, this is an ideal, and totally Parisian, hideout for people in search of a warm, cosy atmosphere with no crowds. Most of the customers at this bar are regulars and locals, who settle down on the comfortable red leather sofas to watch matches. 12 rue des Goncourt, Paris 11th. M° Goncourt. www.facebook.com/Le-Magellan-BAR-565721333485327/
- **La Pirada.** Tapas and paella are served in this bar near Bastille, where everybody cheers for Real Madrid. 7 rue de Lappe, Paris 11th. M° Bastille. www.pirada.com
- **The Lions.** This traditional English pub - a Paris institution - has recently moved to the 13th arrondissement. The Lions is a firm favourite with football and rugby fans, and beer lovers often drop in for a pint after work. It is a spacious place with several televisions. 153 rue du Chevaleret, Paris 13th. M° Chevaleret. www.thelionsparis.fr
- **Havane Café.** Despite the name, there's nothing Cuban about this bar, which serves regional specialities from the Auvergne to sample while watching a variety of sporting events. 70 Boulevard Auguste Blanqui, Paris 13th. M° Corvisart.

- **La Belette qui tête.** A friendly, discreet local bar known for its affordable prices, where people come to watch major matches. 17 Boulevard Arago, Paris 13th. M° Les Gobelins. www.lebelettequitete.fr
- **Le Losserand Café.** A convivial Paris brasserie with stylish decor where football fans get together to watch matches in a cosy lounge atmosphere. 77 rue Raymond Losserand, Paris 14th. M° Pernety.
- **Au Métro 14.** A traditional Paris bistro serving regional French dishes, where sporting events are shown all year round. The bar is a favourite haunt of PSG supporters. 66 rue Raymond Losserand, Paris 14th. M° Pernety. www.aumetro.fr
- **L'HeureSup'.** A cocktail and tapas bar with three HD screens and a good atmosphere. 299 Rue Lecourbe, Paris 15th. M° Lourmel - www.heuresup.fr
- **Le Comptoir.** A lively, affordable neighbourhood rugby bar with a loyal clientele. It has a big circular bar and a pleasant terrace. 354 rue de Vaugirard, Paris 15th. M° Convention. www.le-comptoir-rugby-bar.com
- **Play Off Wagram.** Halfway between an English pub and American sports bar, the Playoff Wagram has everything it takes for a good night out: beer, friends and sport. 58 avenue de Wagram, Paris 17th. M° Ternes. www.playoff.fr
- **Le Progrès.** An authentic old-fashioned bar at the foot of Montmartre. A place for Parisians in the know. The perfect place to watch a match in peace and quiet. 7 rue des trois frères, Paris 18th. M° Abbesses.
- **Le Supercoin.** With a focus on craft beer and pop culture, the Supercoin is an affordable, no-frills bar - a friendly, lively place to have a good time, listen to music and watch football matches. 3 rue Baudelique, Paris 18th. M° Jules Joffrin/Simplon. <http://supercoin.net/>
- **The Harp.** Home to the Celtic supporters' club, on the edges of Pigalle. The green flag on the ceiling is a touch of Glasgow in Paris. 118 Boulevard de Clichy, Paris 18th. M° Blanche/Place de Clichy. <http://harp.paris/>
- **Les Tontons Bringueurs.** Located on a street in Menilmontant with more than its fair share of trendy bars (such as the Bellevilloise), the Tontons Bringueurs is a friendly neighbourhood bistro which pays tribute to cheeky Parisian humour and Audiard films. Football matches are shown on the giant screen. If you want to get away from the traditional pub atmosphere, this gem of a place is your best bet. 1 rue Boyer, Paris 20th. M° Gambetta. www.facebook.com/LesTontonsBringueurs/
- **Belushi's.** Young visitors should head to Belushi's, a favourite with students and young people in Paris. This youth hostel has a buzzing bar/restaurant with a cosmopolitan vibe. The two Belushi's in Paris - along the Canal de l'Ourcq and next to the Gare du Nord respectively - show football, rugby

and baseball matches on multiple screens. The one in the Villette district has a terrace overlooking the canal, while the one near Gare du Nord has a stage above the bar and a crazy atmosphere. 5 rue de Dunkerque, Paris 10th - M° Gare du Nord / 159 rue de Crimée, Paris 19th - M° Crimée. www.belushis.com/bars/paris

DINING AT A MAJOR SPORTING VENUE

If you'd like to really soak up the atmosphere of a great sporting venue, it's possible to have lunch or dinner - both during events and at other times of year - in the Stade de France, Roland-Garros, the AccorHotels Arena and the Vincennes racecourse.

Perched on the eighth floor of the Stade de France, the restaurant Le Club, owned by the Lenôtre group, offers a sweeping view over the stands and the pitch. Serving traditional French gastronomic cuisine, it is the perfect place to organize a business lunch. **Le Club** Stade de France 93200 Saint-Denis, France - M° Stade de France - www.stadefrance.com/en/practical-information/dining-catering

A short distance from the Philippe Chatrier court at Roland Garros, you can enjoy brunch, lunch or dinner on a shady, flower-bedecked terrace in the heart of the stadium: a peaceful haven far from the bustle of the city, and a great place to relax on a summer's day in Paris. **Le Roland-Garros** 2 avenue Gordon Bennett, Paris 16th - M° Porte d'Auteuil.

Located inside the new AccorHotels Arena, the new-look Showtime is a bar-restaurant that is an ode to the famous sports media group, L'Equipe. The venue boasts a neo-bistro menu and fresh produce with every meal, and nine screens are devoted to broadcasting sports events. Visitors can even consult sporting data, free-of-charge, on tablets using L'Equipe app. A 'sports bar' experience but with all the comforts and pleasures of a restaurant. **Le Showtime L'Equipe** 8 Boulevard de Bercy, Paris 12th - M° Bercy - www.accorhotelsarena.com/fr/arena/showtime

Open in the daytime and in the evening on race days, the Panoramique restaurant inside the Vincennes racecourse puts the focus on 'bistronomy' - upscale bistro cooking. As its name indicates, it offers a spectacular view of the racetrack and the racecourse. Its Premium area allows visitors to enjoy a unique experience overlooking the finish line. **Le Panoramique Hippodrome de Vincennes** 2 route de la Ferme, Paris 12th - RER Joinville-le-Pont - www.restaurant-hippodrome.com

At ParisLongchamp, the Panorama is well worth a visit. Hidden away on the last floor of the racecourse complex, this restaurant, fully fitted with floor-to-ceiling windows and an outdoor rooftop area measuring 500 m², offers unrivalled views. Admire the forest skyline of the nearby Bois de Boulogne and the urban architecture of La Défense. With Michelin-starred chef Jean Imbert in charge of the kitchen, the menu is both refined and innovative. Open daily during races and for

private events. Hippodrome de ParisLongchamp, 2, route des Tribunes, Paris 16th.
<http://www.parislongchamp.com/fr/restauration>

+33 (0) 1 49 52 53 27 - press@parisinfo.com

This press file has been produced in collaboration with the journalist Samuel Jequier. Updated for 2017 by Maïlys de Seze. 2018 and 2019 update by Delphine Atillah.