27 june 2014

Location: France

Description

Visiting Paris and France with kids can be fun, and France holds the most important theme Parcs in Europe, as well as many attractions for kids; You will find here the main ones. You will find below a quick description of things that could be done with children, with links to my travel guide; This is the old version of my guide, and the new one will be very soon online. To register, you need to follow this link: www.friendschocies.com/joseph Paris: - The first day in Paris, you can take the double decker touristic bus, from which you can see all the monuments while listening to a Guide. In 3 hours, you have a great glance of Paris. You can also use this bus as a mean of transport for 48 hours, hopping from a monument to another. Every time a visit a city, I always take these buses to first days. - Notre Dame de Paris: the first friday of each month, at 15h00, the Knights of Jerusalem expose the most important christian reliqua, which is Jesus Crown d'épines. So in your schedule, it will be on Friday 5th of August. For your info, on the Holy friday, it is exposed from 10h to 17h, and you can touch it. - Bateau mouche: you can dine at a Bateau Mouche one night. It's a magical experience to see 90% of Paris monuments at night (totally different experience than in day light). The food usually is not fantastic, but it's a great experience to live once in a liftime. - Trocadéro Aquarium: The day you will visit the Eiffel Tower, you can visit the newly renovated Paris Aquarium, which used to be for a long time the biggest in Europe. It's 10 minutes walking from the Eiffel Tower, just below the Trocadéro. Outside of Paris: (times indicated are by car, with normal traffic conditions) - Versailles: 30 minutes ouest of Paris The most important insider tip to have is to avoid the gueue for the Palace entrance (one hour or two in the high season). When you're in front of the Palace main entrance, you go to the wing on your right and find the entrance for "Visite Conférence". It will cost just a few euros more than the normal entrance, and you will avoid the gueue. Usually you wait much less, inside enjoying AC and not being under the sun, and have the opportunity to visit with a guide the private Royal appartments (the only way to visit them). At the end of the visit (1h30 minutes), the guide will leave you inside the Palace to visit the Appartments d'Apparats. Count a hole day: in the morning the Palace visit, and in the afternoon, wonder in the parc. You can rent a Golf car to visit the parc, and a canoe to wonder on the laque and go from the main palace to the Petit Trianon Fontaineblau: 1 hour south of Paris Another great palace near Paris. What Versailles is for Louis the XIVth, Fontaineblau is for Napoleon. Worth the visit if you have time, but after Versailles. If you go there, you have lunch in Barbizon, a charming village nearby, famous for its painters. - Parc de Thoiry: 55 minutes Ouest of Paris A small palace with a huge parc which was transfromed into a Zoo and a Safari track. It's really a great thing to do for people who like wild animals. As soon as you arrive, check the hours of feeding for Lions and Tigers. You need to go there 30 minutes before and enjoy a great view of these animals from a glass tunnel inside their territory. The Safari track is also very nice where you can approach all types of wilde animals. - Vaux le Vicompte: 55 minutes south east of Paris This is where it all began! It's a small but beautiful Palace which was the draft of Versailles. It used to be the Palace of Fouquet, the Minister of Finance of France and the richest man in France at that time (richer that the King). Fouguet was an art lover full of taste and he made the dream team to build his Palace: Le Vaux, Le Notre and Le Brun. The new King, Louis the XIV, shocked and jealous from the beauty of Vaux Le Vicompte, imprisonned Fouquet the day after the Palace inauguration, and asked from the dream team to transform Versailles from a small hunting Palace to what we know today. Visit the Palace in the afternoon and stay until the night to enjoy the beautifully lit parc by thousands of candles. - Le Puy du Fou (4 hours driving south ouest of Paris) A 100% french theme parc in a beautiful forest, with great live shows. It's all about history and being able to see and touch how people used to live in France in different historic phases: Romans, 1000 AD, 1500, 1700, 1900. You need 2 days to be able to see the 9 shows. The best is to book in one of the three hotels of the parc to be able also to enjoy the night shows. Also, book in the La Halle Renaissance restaurant for Diner and enjoy a tournament between the King of France and England, and at the Relais de la Poste for Lunch. - Eurodisney (45 minutes east of Paris) Well, no need to describe Eurodisney. If you sleep there, you can spare a few hours to go shopping in Val d'Europe, the Biggest Mall in the Parisian Region, which is located near by. In addition to the mall, you have a factory outlet for luxury brands in a nice village in which each house is a shop. - Parc d'Astérix (50 minutes north of Paris) French theme Parc, with the attractions for high sensations, among which one of the biggest crazy train in Europe. - Futuroscope (4 hours) (2 hours drive from Le Puy du Fou) It has been a few years I didn't visit the Futuroscope. It's a theme parc for audiovisual effects, 3DS,... - France Miniature (40 minutes ouest of Paris) They recreated the most important monuments of France in small scale. It's a nice way to enjoy the beauty of France by walking around a beaiful parc. - Provins (1h 20 mn south east of Paris) A medieval city which kept most of its fortifications intact. They organize during the summer medieval and bird shows. A sort of mini, tiny, but authentic Le puy du fou.

Restaurants

Nos ancetres les Gaulois

39, rue Saint-Louis-en-l'Ile 75004 Paris, Paris, France

I don't know how to really qualify this place; The name says it all: Our ancestors the Gauls. The decor is medieval, a big part of the restaurant being truly old since it is in some of the oldest buil...

Activities

Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Paris

6 Parvis de Notre Dame, 7504, Paris, France

With the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame de Paris is definitly the most famous monument of the French Capital . Furthermore, Notre Dame is definitly the one which is the most associated to the city's history...

Musée du Louvre

Louvre Museum, Paris, Paris, France

It's difficult to introduce the Loure Museum and Palace, since it's the most famous museum in the world, or at least the most visited. Just a few figures to illustrate the incredible wealth of this ar...

Palais de la découverte

Palais de la decouverte, Avenue Franklin Roosevelt, Paris, France

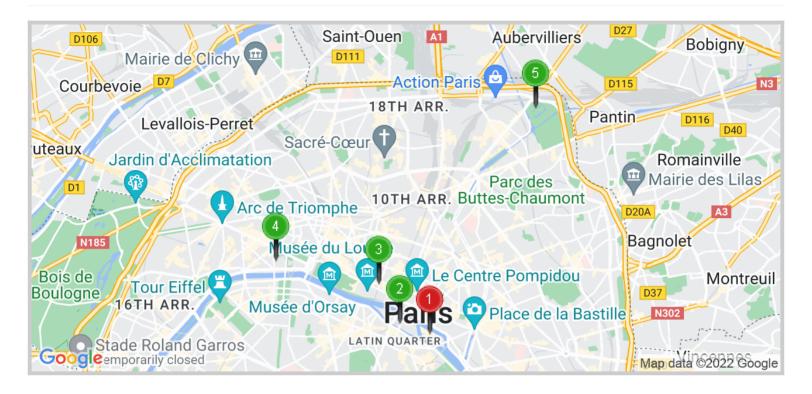
The Palais de la Découverte is located in the west wing of the Grand Palais in a beautiful building called Palais d'Antin. The 25000 m² exhibition halls let you understand in a fun and exciting ...

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Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie

30, avenue Corentin-Cariou - 75019, Paris, France

The Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie is complementary to the Palais de la Découverte, and is the biggest science museum in Europe located in Parc de la Villette in Paris. I particularly recommen...



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6 La Géode

26, avenue Corentin Cariou 75019, Paris, France

La geode is an iMax cinema with a 36m wide screen and 1000m² screen surface, being one of the biggest in the world. It is located just next to the Cité des Sciences et de l'Industries, and is now p...

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7 Le Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle

57, rue Cuvier 75005 Paris, Paris, France

The Natural Science Museum in Paris is the oldest one in the world along with its counterpart in London. King Louis XIII decided to create the Jardin Royal des plantes médicinales in 1653 which is cu...

Musée National de la Marine - Paris

17 Place du Trocadéro et du 11 Novembre 75116, Paris, France

The Navy Museum in Paris is a splendid place to visit for Navy and Ship lovers. They hold a beautiful collection of small scales of ships from different periods, as well as accessories, weaponnery use...

Eiffel Tower

Quai Branly, champs de Mars, 75007 Paris, Paris, France

Well, if there's a symbol which summarize France and Paris, it's definitly the Eiffel Tower. Besides the symbol, visiting the Eiffel Tower during your stay in Paris. In order to avoid to do an hour or...

o Le Puy Du Fou

Le Puy du Fou 85590 Les Epesses, Les Epesses, France

I discovered in 2011 le Puy du Fou after 22 years residing in Paris, although I visited all the others several times (eurodisney, parc astérix, futuroscope,...). I must admit I was bluffed with Le P...



Travel Tips

11 Walking tour: Notre Dame, Hotel de Ville, Le Marais

Paris, France

A- Start the Tour at Notre de Paris Cathedral on Ile de la Cité, on of the two islands on the Seine River in Paris. This considered to be the heart of Paris and the Kilometer 0 in France. Enjoy the C...

12 Road trip: La Rochelle - Futuroscope - Loire Castles

Paris, France

Here's a nice 4 days road trip from Paris, mixing cultural trourism, nature, historical, leisure for kids and one of the nicest cities in France, namely La Rochelle; Day 1: Visit Chambord and go to...

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A- start or finish the tour with a coffee in Le Flore or Les 2 magots, 2 of the most famous Cafés in Paris. As they are hyper famous, prices are pretty high. You'll find on Place Saint Germain the fa...

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14 Paris walking tour: montmartre

Paris, France

Montmartre is a village on a hill in Paris, which makes the walking visit a bit physiqual, since you will need to climb stairs and mounting streets. A-Place des Abbesses If you're coming by m...

15 Paris Museum Pass

Paris, France

If you're spending a week end or a few days in Paris and you're planning to visit its most famous museums such as the Louvre, Musée d'Orsay, Arc de Triomphe, Notre Dame Towers,... you definitly need ...



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Visiting Paris and France with Kids

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Paris, General information

Paris, France

Why the city of light – La ville Lumière? Is it because it had the first street public lighting in the 17th century installed to fight criminality? or is it in relation with the 18th century boomi...

17 Paris walking tour: Trocadéro, Eiffel Tower, Invalides, Rodin Museum

Paris, France

A- Start the tour at the Esplanade of the Trocadéro, in the center of both wings of the Caillot Palace where you can enjoy one of the most beautiful views on the Eiffel Tower. In the Passy wing (on y...

Taxi in Paris

Paris, France

There are around 17500 taxis in Paris, covering Paris and 3 suburban departments, which is almost the same number than 100 years ago and the Famous Taxi de la Marne. This number is consequently unadap...

19 Emergency Numbers in Paris

Paris France

Police emergency: 17 Emergency number from a mobile phone: 112 Fire brigade / ambulance: 18 Emergency medical assistance service (SAMU): 15 Lost or stolen credit card: 0 892 705 705 - ...

Paris Walking Tour: Champs Elysées, Louvre, Opéra

Paris, France

Here's a one day walking program in Paris, around the Champs Elysées, Louvre and Opéra districts. This tour will take around 4 hours without stopping and visiting the monuments from inside. Dependi...

Security advice in Paris

Paris, France

1- Safety: In general, safety went down in Paris in the last decade, depsite the efforts of the Police. The situation is still under control, and if precautions are taken, there should'nt be any prob...