



PARIS, FRANCE HISTORIC TRAIL



FIELD GUIDE



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
TRANSATLANTIC COUNCIL

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This Field Guide contains information on the Paris Historical Trail designed by Eric Hian-Cheong of Troop 112, Paris as part of his Eagle Scout Project. The guide is intended to be a starting point in your endeavor to learn about the history of the sites on the trail. Remember, this may be the only time your Scouts visit Paris in their life so make it a great time!

While TAC tries to update these Field Guides when possible, it may be several years before the next revision. If you have comments or suggestions, please send them to Admin@tac-bsa.org or post them on the TAC Nation Facebook Group Page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/27951084309/>.

This guide can be printed as a 5½ x 4¼ inch pamphlet or read on a tablet or smart phone.



Front Over: Eiffel Tower

Front Cover Inset: Arc de Triomphe



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GETTING PREPARED

Just like with any hike (or any activity in Scouting), the Historic Trail program starts with **Being Prepared**.

1. Review this Field Guide in detail.
2. Check local conditions and weather.
3. Study and Practice with the map and compass.
4. Pack rain gear and other weather-appropriate gear.
5. Take plenty of water.
6. Make sure socks and hiking shoes or boots fit correctly and are broken in.
7. Pack a first aid kit, "just in case."
8. Discuss the day's activities, so there are no surprises; discuss safe hiking.
9. Ensure Two-Deep Leadership at all times.
10. Check the Quick Quiz and keep it with you on the trail.



WHAT IS THE HISTORIC TRAIL?

Paris is full of history, dating back to pre-Roman times. Vestiges of almost all eras and important historical events can still be discovered in the city. This booklet is a guide for an approximate 10-mile (or, about 17-Kilometer) hike through the heart of the city, from the Auteuil and Passy neighborhoods to the Picpus Cemetery near Place de la Nation, with stops along the way to look at sites relating to the long history of friendship between France and the United States of America—a friendship that started in 1776 and continues to this day.

The sites outlined in this booklet cover about 170 years of this nation-to-nation friendship, especially as the two nations struggle through revolutions and wars they had in common. Americans and French fought side-by-side for their shared beliefs and values—liberty, equality, and democracy. The sites generally have to do with one of these three wars: the American Revolutionary War (a.k.a. the American War of Independence) World War I, or World War II. (Note: Enthusiastic history buffs may also want to visit the Musée Carnavalet, the museum of Paris history; those interested specifically in military history will like the military museum housed in Les Invalides.)

Many other Americans made Paris part of their lives, too—from artists, journalists, writers, and entertainers to diplomats, statesmen, inventors, and scientists. You might want to bring along a guidebook covering some of these people, too. One suggestion is Brian Morton's "Americans in Paris, an Anecdotal Street Guide," (Olivia & Hill Press, 1984).

Bring a detailed Paris street map, because there is usually more than one way to get from point to point, and you may wish to take a few detours off the suggested track.

Bon Voyage! – Have a nice trip!



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HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

Hike

Where and How to Start

Take the Métro line 10 to the stop “Michel-Ange-Auteuil” to start the trail. Bring a pocket street atlas or a detailed map. The starting point is located at John Adams’ house at no. 45 Rue d’Auteuil.

Distance and Time

This hike measures about 17 km (10.5 mi) in distance. Experienced adult hikers completed the route in about 5 hours, stopping at each location to view the site. Younger and less-experienced hikers, and those who wish to take more time, will take longer, perhaps a half-day or more. To make a shorter hike, start at Stop 5, the de Grasse statue in the gardens of the Palais de Chaillot, and end at Stop 21, Place de la Bastille. There is an easy commute by the metro system from the Place de la Bastille to the “Nation” stop, from which you can walk the short distance to the entrance of the Picpus Cemetery. Take the time to learn and enjoy the hike. The goal is the trail, not the finish.

Along the suggested trail, including the “condensed” version, you will pass by a picture-perfect view of the Eiffel Tower from the Place du Trocadero; walk the length of the Champs-Élysées from the Arc de Triomphe in Place Charles de Gaulle/Etoile to the Egyptian obelisk installed in the Place de la Concorde; rest in the shady Tuileries Gardens adjacent to the Louvre; stroll the St. Germain des Pres and Latin Quarter neighborhoods; walk past the bouquinistes on the quays of the Seine River on the way to Notre Dame Cathedral; and cross the tip of the Ile St. Louis (perhaps taking a detour down the main street of the island in search of the very fine ice creams found here). Then you’ll find yourself in the Marais district, followed by the Jewish Quarter, passing by the Musée Carnavalet (the free museum of Paris history—a place worth discovering on another day!) walking through the shady Place des Vosges park, and into the Bastille neighborhood.



HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

START – John Adams' House

John Adams, 2nd President of the United States of America, was born October 30, 1735, and died July 4, 1826 (fifty years after July 4th, 1776, and on the same day as Thomas Jefferson!). Adams, a well-known Boston lawyer, became a supporter of colonial independence after the implementation of the Stamp Act in 1765. Many people found him stern and oftentimes condescending, yet he was appointed a representative of the First Continental Congress. After declaring independence, Congress sent him to France as a special envoy from the US Continental Congress to the court of King Louis XVI. He was first dispatched in 1777 but his first trip as diplomat was highly unproductive and he returned to America in mid-1779. After playing a vital role in drafting the Massachusetts Constitution, he was sent back to France as Minister Plenipotentiary charged with the mission of negotiating an official treaty with France. While being a powerhouse in the states, he was not well received by French officials and did not speak French very well. Nevertheless, he, along with Benjamin Franklin, John Jay, Henry Laurens and Thomas Jefferson worked together, and got the treaty forged. Adams later was assigned as Ambassador to the Netherlands, gaining their recognition of the United States in 1782, and as the first Ambassador to the Court of Saint James (England) in 1785. Adams was well known for his federalist views and served as the United States' first Vice-President, and as its second President.

A plaque attached to the **house** at 45 Rue d'Auteuil in the 16th arr., where he lived while in Paris, reads: En cet hôtel ont résidé, août 1784-mai 1785, John Adams, 2e président des Etats-Unis, 1797-1801, l'un des fondateurs de l'indépendance américaine et son fils John Quincy Adams, 6e président des Etats-Unis, 1825-1829.

48°50'52.0"N 2°15'54.3"E – 45 Rue d'Auteuil, 75016 Paris

Walk east toward the Seine River along Rue d'Auteuil. Turn left onto Ave. Théophile Gautier. Walk to the Place Paul-Beauregard. Turn right onto Rue de Rémusat and follow it until you reach the Seine, walking around the Place de Barcelone to the Pont Mirabeau. Turn left and follow the Seine River along the Quai Louis Blériot. From here you can see a small-scale replica of the Statue of Liberty.



HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

Checkpoint #2 – Statue of Liberty

This replica of the “**Statue of Liberty**,” on the tip of the l’Île aux Cygnes under the Pont de Grenelle, can be viewed along the Quai Louis Blériot, with the nicest view from the Pont Mirabeau. The larger statue, was a gift from the people of France to the people of the USA, made to commemorate the centennial of the US Declaration of Independence (1776). Sculpted by Frédéric A. Bartholdi, the copper-clad statue was dedicated in October 1886. (Funding troubles held up the desired dedication date by ten years!) The internal iron structure supporting the statue was engineered by Maurice Koechlin, the chief engineer and designer of Gustave Eiffel’s engineering company—Gustave Eiffel & his company also designed and engineered the Eiffel Tower. You can see the Eiffel Tower in the background; if you visit it, try to find Eiffel’s office at the top, in which a re-enactment of his lunch there in 1889 with the American inventor Thomas Edison is on display using wax figures. The official name of the statue is “Liberty Enlightening the World,” (French: La Liberté éclairant le monde). Bartholdi’s first model of the statue stands in the Jardin du Luxembourg.

48°51'00.0"N 2°16'46.8"E – Allée des Cygnes, 75015 Paris

When you reach Place Clémont-Ader, turn left down Rue de Boulainvilliers. Next, turn right down Rue Raynouard. Continue on this street for about 350 meters, to Rue Singer; you will now be able to see a tall plaque attached to (carved into) the corner of a building on the place where Benjamin Franklin’s house once stood.

Checkpoint #3 – Benjamin Franklin House

This tall plaque on the site where **Franklin** lived for almost ten years, at the corner of Rue Raynouard & Rue Singer in the Passy neighborhood, 16th arr., reads: “Here stood the Hôtel de Valentinois where Benjamin Franklin lived from 1777- 1785 and where he installed the first lightning rod made in France.”

48°51'17.4"N 2°16'46.3"E – 59 Rue Raynouard, 75016 Paris

Continue down Rue Raynouard for another 350 meters. On the building at no. 21 Rue Raynouard is the American Field Service Plaque..



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Checkpoint #4 – American Field Service Plaque

Although now known as AFS Intercultural Programs, an international youth exchange organization, the American Field Service started in 1914 as a service of volunteer American ambulance drivers who transported wounded soldiers in WWI from the front lines to the field hospitals—in 1914, “ambulance” was the French word for a temporary military hospital, somewhat similar to what the US Army might call a “MASH unit.” A “poilu” was a slang word for the soldiers in the trenches in WWI, and refers to the constant body lice infestations they had to endure there, among other hardships. Organizations started by American volunteers, such as the American Field Service begun in 1914, illustrate the American cultural value of giving voluntary service where it is needed most in a crisis. A memorial for the fallen volunteers is located in the Place des Etats-Unis.

The **plaque** reads: “Headquarters American Field Service, Champagne, 1914-1917, Somme Verdun—Yser Argonne—Alsace. Through the house that formerly stood here passed 2437 American volunteers who served under the French flags. Their ambulances carried more than 400,000 wounded “poilus” to safety and 127 gave their lives so that France might live.”

48°51'25.2"N 2°16'58.4"E – 21 Rue Raynourd, 75016 Paris

Continue until you reach the Place de Costa Rica. Follow Boulevard Delessert. After about 350 m, on the left is the De Grasse Statue in the grassy gardens of the Jardins du Trocadero around the Palais de Chaillot.

Checkpoint #5 – de Grasse Statue

Admiral **François-Joseph Paul de Grasse**, also called Comte de Grasse and Marquis de Tilly, commanded a fleet of 24 French navy ships with 1700 guns and 19,000 sailors when he engaged the British navy in open water at the entrance to Chesapeake Bay in September 1781. (continued on next page)



HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

Checkpoint #5 – de Grasse Statue (cont.)

By preventing the British from resupplying Lord Cornwallis, who was entrenched in Yorktown, de Grasse's blockade of Chesapeake allowed Washington's, Rochambeau's and Lafayette's combined forces to win this decisive battle of the war. Washington, Rochambeau, and Lafayette celebrated the victory with de Grasse aboard his flagship, the "Ville de Paris." De Grasse never set a foot on American soil.

48°51'35.6"N 2°17'17.0"E – Avenue des Nations Unies, 75116 Paris

Now make your way up the hill along the old, landscaped path around the southwest wing of the Palais de Chaillot (good view of the Eiffel Tower) and onto Rue Benjamin Franklin; follow this road north a short distance until you get to Square Yorktown (Stop 6) in which you will find the statue of a seated Benjamin Franklin.

Checkpoint #6 – Benjamin Franklin Statue

The most obvious feature in Square Yorktown, on the west side of Place du Trocadero, is a large statue of **Benjamin Franklin**. This square commemorates the Siege of Yorktown in 1781, the decisive battle in the American War of Independence (or American Revolutionary War). The battle involved Admiral de Grasse's naval warfare strategies and blockade of Chesapeake Bay and the combined forces of Lafayette, Rochambeau, and Washington. There is also a memorial plaque on a stone that lists all the French soldiers and officers who lost their lives at Yorktown, fighting for American independence. In all, about 2,500 Frenchmen lost their lives in the American War of Independence; noble French veterans of that war founded the French chapter of the Society of the Cincinnati in General Rochambeau's residence at 40 Rue du Cherche-Midi in 1784. (continued on next page)



HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

Checkpoint #6 – Benjamin Franklin Statue (cont.)

Benjamin Franklin (b. January 17, 1706, Boston; d. April 17, 1790, Philadelphia) was America's first ambassador to France. Often considered America's most brilliant Founding Father, he is credited with the invention of bi-focal spectacles, the lightning rod, the Franklin Stove; and he was a co-founder of the U.S. postal system, the first fire-fighting organization, and the University of Pennsylvania. Franklin, a printer by trade (the author of Poor Richard's Almanac) most notably served as de facto Governor of Pennsylvania, first Postmaster General, and first United States ambassador to France. In December 1776, Franklin was dispatched to France in an attempt to win French support in the American War of Independence. As ambassador, he resided not in the building off Place de la Concorde where the current embassy is located, but rather in a town called Passy, a short distance outside of Paris back then. Franklin was well known and well liked in the French royal court thanks to his witty charm and clever intellect; this led to him being the primary diplomat that negotiated the alliance between France and the, not yet formed, United States. In honor of his fame, his face is found on the hundred dollar bill, despite his never having been a President of the US.

48°51'42.4"N 2°17'10.9"E – Square de Yorktown, 75116 Paris

From here, walk along the Place du Trocadéro sidewalk heading northeast, and walk down Avenue du Président Wilson for about 500m to the statue of George Washington mounted on a horse on Place d'Iéna.

Checkpoint #7 – Washington Statue

Considered "The Father of the Country," **General George Washington** led the Continental Army through the American Revolutionary War and later served for eight years as the new country's first president. A plantation owner in Virginia, Washington, like Jefferson, did have slaves working on his estate; they were freed after his death in 1799. (Continued on next page)



HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

Checkpoint #7 – Washington Statue (cont.)

At first both amused and annoyed by the arrival of yet another brash young French aristocrat wanting a paid commission in the Continental Army, a sincere respect and admiration grew quickly between General Washington and the 19-yr-old Marquis de Lafayette. Lafayette named his son “George Washington Lafayette” in honor of his friend and mentor. Lafayette and all his descendants are honorary U.S. citizens.

48°51'53.0"N 2°17'37.8"E – Place d'Iéna, 75016 Paris

From here, walk down the Avenue Pierre-1er-de-Serbie for 200 meters; you will now be at the Rochambeau statue where Rue de Galliera and Rue de Chaillot meet.

Checkpoint #8 – Rochambeau Statue

Jean-Baptiste Donatien de Vimeur, Comte de Rochambeau (b. 1725; d. 1807), was sent to America in 1780 with over 5000 French troops to join Washington's Continental Army. After joining Washington, he led his forces during the Siege of Yorktown, where, combined with the Marquis de Lafayette's troops, they forced the British commander, Lord Cornwallis, to surrender on October 19, 1781, after days of bombardment. This decisive battle prompted the British government to eventually negotiate an end to the war.

Society of the Cincinnati---An organization formed in 1783 by officers who served together in the war for American independence, to perpetuate the memory and ideals of the American Revolutionary War. General George Washington was the society's first president, a post he held until his death in 1799. The French Chapter was founded in General Rochambeau's house in 1784. Read more about this society at: <http://www.societyofthecincinnati.org/history>.

48°51'58.7"N 2°17'48.1"E – Place Rochambeau, 75116 Paris

From here, turn northwest down Rue Freycinet until you reach Place des Etats-Unis and the Place de Grasse.



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Checkpoint #9 – Place de Grasse

Across the street from the Place des Etats-Unis is the tiny **Place de Grasse**. Find here the memorial to Admiral de Grasse, and Generals Rochambeau and Washington, the three main commanders at the Battle of Yorktown.

48°52'02.9"N 2°17'43.4"E – 1 Place de l'Amiral de Grasse, 75016 Paris

Just to the northwest of the Place de Grasse is the Place des Etats-Unis.

Checkpoint #10 – Place des Etats-Unis

Place des Etats-Unis (United States Plaza)—A must-see stop for anyone interested in American history, this little square holds a couple of monuments to Franco-American friendship and cooperation:

In this place you will also find a plaque on a concrete slab that marks a spot where a memorial remembering the WWI American General John J. Pershing was intended to be built in 1967 (it has not been erected yet!); the “Square Thomas Jefferson;” and just adjacent to it, in the tiny Place de Grasse, you will find a medallion-style plaque on a low base with an etching of Washington, Rochambeau and de Grasse-Tilly, the three “giants” most credited with winning the Battle of Yorktown, the decisive battle that finally forced the British to give up her American colonies.

Memorial to the American Volunteers--On July 4, 1923, the French dedicated a monument here to the Americans who had volunteered to fight in World War I in the service of France. The back of the monument says “Aux Volontaires Americains Morts Pour La France” and lists all the names of the Americans who died in WWI as members of the French Foreign Legion, the Escadrille Lafayette, and American Field Service.

Marie Joseph Paul Roch Yves Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette, is widely known as simply Lafayette. (continued on next page)



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Checkpoint #10 – Place des Etats-Unis (cont.)

A French noble (born 1757; died 1834), Lafayette served as a General Washington aide-de-camp at the beginning of the American War of Independence. He left France for America against the wishes of his family and the orders of the French government, who feared England might see the entrance of French aristocrats into the war as violating neutrality and provoking war. After fighting in many of the battles of the war, Lafayette returned to France in 1779; his crimes were pardoned and he rallied a further 6000 soldiers to aid the United States. Lafayette served as one of the commanders at the Battle of Yorktown, the decisive battle of the war.

Lafayette became a close friend of George Washington (naming his son after him) and was a friend to many of the diplomats sent to France such as Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. Lafayette also worked with the French revolutionaries and was one of the handful of nobles who survived "The Terror". In 1824, during a grand tour of the United States, Lafayette received an honorary citizenship presented to him by President Monroe. Lafayette is buried in Picpus Cemetery in soil he brought back with him from America; above his tomb flies an American flag, which has flown there continuously since his death, even throughout the Nazi occupation of Paris, 1940-1944.

48°52'04.1"N 2°17'41.2"E – 1 Place des États-Unis, 75116 Paris

At the "top" of the place, walk down the short Rue de Belloy, then immediately turn right onto Ave. Kléber. Continue to Place Charles de Gaulle, where you will see the Arc de Triomphe, and walk down the ave. des Champs-Élysées. About 500m down, on the left hand of the street, there is a plaque at no. 92 denoting the former location of Thomas Jefferson's house.



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Checkpoint #11 – Thomas Jefferson Plaque

A **plaque** on the building at 92 avenue des Champs-Élysées marks the site of the former Hôtel de Langeac, where Jefferson and his household stayed from 1785-1789, it reads, in part: “En ce lieu résida Thomas Jefferson, Ministre des Etats-Unis en France, 1785-1789, Président des Etats-Unis, 1801- 1809, auteur de la Déclaration de l'Indépendance, fondateur de l'Université de Virginie . . .” In English it says “In this place resided Thomas Jefferson, Minister of the United States in France, 1785-1798; President of the United States, 1801- 1809; Author of the Declaration of Independence, Founder of the University of Virginia...”

48°52'17.4"N 2°18'10.9"E – 92 Av. des Champs-Élysées, 75008 Paris

Follow the Champs-Élysées down to Place de la Concorde. Here is located the Hôtel de Coislin (Stop 12) at no. 4 Place de la Concorde and Rue Royale; and, nearby, is the American Embassy, too.

Checkpoint #12 – Place de la Concorde

Originally called Place Louis XV, then Place de la Revolution (when the guillotine stood here) and finally **Place de la Concorde**, this part of Paris has witnessed much bloodshed during social upheavals and wars. Both Louis XVI and his wife, Marie-Antoinette, were beheaded here before the guillotine was moved to Place de la Nation during The Terror. Many WWII photos show German tanks, trucks, barricades and soldiers here during the Occupation of 1940-1944. The Hôtel Meurice (former Nazi occupation headquarters) is a little up the Rue de Rivoli to the east; the US Embassy is a little ways down avenue Gabriel to the west. The main entrance to the Tuileries gardens (formerly part of the royal gardens of the Louvre palace before Louis XIV moved the court to Versailles) is here. In the turmoil leading up to the French Revolution, Thomas Paine, the American who had been elected to be a delegate to the French National Convention, met with the French revolutionary delegates to the Legislative Assemblies in the Tuileries gardens (adjacent to the Place de la Concorde). It is here in the gardens that Paine participated in the vote that created the Republic of France, on September 21, 1792. (continued on next page)



HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

Checkpoint #12 – Place de la Concorde (cont.)

Hôtel de Coislin (4, place de la Concorde, 8th arr., corner of Rue Royale and Place de la Concorde, called Place Louis XV in 1778)—On February 6, 1778, a small group of Frenchmen and Americans met in Silas Deane's apartment in the Hôtel de Coislin to sign the "Treaties of Friendship, Commerce and Alliance" by which France became the first nation to recognize the existence of the new, independent nation of the United States of America. Conrad Alexandre Gerard represented King Louis XVI of France, and Benjamin Franklin, Silas Deane and Arthur Lee represented the United States. A bi-lingual plaque on this building commemorates the event, the successful completion of Franklin's mission begun in 1776. In English, the plaque says: "In this building on February 6th 1778 Conrad A. Gerard, in the name of Louis XVI, King of France; Benjamin Franklin, Silas Deane, Arthur Lee on behalf of the United States signed the Treaties of Friendship, Commerce and Alliance, by which France, first of all nations, recognized the independence of the United States."

48°52'01.6"N 2°19'17.0"E – 4 Place de la Concorde, 75008 Paris

Now, walk east (actually a little southeast) down the Rue de Rivoli for about 300m. Here is the Hôtel de Meurice (Stop 13) at no. 228 Rue de Rivoli, used as the headquarters of the German occupying forces in 1940-1944.

Checkpoint #13 – Hôtel Meurice

Hôtel Meurice is located between the Louvre and Place de la Concorde on 228, Rue de Rivoli. The hotel is across from the Tuileries, where a carnival is held during the summer. Hôtel Meurice began at its present site in 1835. Many famous people have stayed there, including Tchaikovsky the great pianist, Salvador Dali the artist, and Queen Victoria. King Alphonse XIII stayed regularly in suite 106-8 and even brought in his own furniture! The emblem of Meurice is two greyhounds because during a 1905 renovation the workers took in a stray greyhound, and because it was so lonely they got another one! During WWII Paris was occupied by the Nazis and Hôtel Meurice was the headquarters of the Wehrmacht, the German army. (continued on next page)



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Checkpoint #13 – Hôtel Meurice (cont.)

The general in command was Dietrich von Choltitz. When the American army approached the city in 1944, Adolph Hitler commanded von Choltitz to burn Paris. But von Choltitz refused the order and surrendered Paris instead. The Hôtel Meurice was the last German headquarters in Paris, and some remaining German soldiers were captured and held in the main entry room. Pictures show them sitting on the ornate tile floor that we can still see today when we walk into the Hôtel. Near Hôtel Meurice there is an English book shop named W.H. Smith. During the occupation this shop was used to sell Nazi literature.

48°51'54.4"N 2°19'41.0"E – 228 Rue de Rivoli, 75001 Paris

Now, cross the Rue de Rivoli and enter into the Tuileries Gardens, at the entrance opposite the Rue de Castiglione. This is roughly the mid-point of the trail.

This shaded park, the Jardins des Tuileries, is a perfect place for a lunch break. There are clean public toilets near the main western entrance gates to the gardens at Place de la Concorde, and cafés in the gardens for refreshments.

After a rest, continue straight across the gardens to the Passerelle Solferino (a footbridge that crosses the Seine, connecting the gardens to the "left bank," or rive gauche, of the river). Across the river, at the end of the footbridge, on your right will be the Thomas Jefferson Statue, and across the street diagonally is the Hôtel de Salm an inspiration for the design of Jefferson's home at Monticello.

Checkpoint #14 – Thomas Jefferson Statue

Thomas Jefferson, (b. April 13, 1743; d. July 4, 1826) was one of our most influential Founding Fathers and the principal author of the Declaration of Independence (1776) Jefferson was the third President of the United States, Vice President under President John Adams, the first US Secretary of State, and a US Ambassador to France, succeeding Benjamin Franklin in that role. (continued on next page)



HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

Checkpoint #14 – Thomas Jefferson Statue (cont.)

A political philosopher and man of the Enlightenment, he was also a horticulturist, architect, inventor, violinist, and founder of the University of Virginia.

Hôtel de Salm--(now the Palais de la Legion d'Honneur). Across the street from the statue is the former Hôtel de Salm with its main entrance at 64 Rue de Lille, which Jefferson greatly admired. He made sure the French engineer and architect Major L'Enfant (who designed DC) heard about the Salm's design; and he took his protégés John Trumbull (who became "the" painter of the Revolutionary War) and the young architect Charles Bulfinch to see it. Inspirations from the Salm's rotunda and features of Les Invalides can be seen in Bulfinch's designs for the Capitol in Washington, DC, Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, and University Hall at Harvard. Trumbull's historical paintings are displayed in Bulfinch's rotunda in the Capitol. Jefferson's design for his home at Monticello include architectural features taken from the Salm—notably the domed rotunda with its columns.

48°51'40.4"N 2°19'27.1"E – Léopold Sedar Senghor, 75007 Paris

Follow the Quai Anatole France/Quai Voltaire (the same road changes name every few blocks) for about 750m, turning right onto Rue des Saint Péres. Then turn left onto Rue Jacob; almost immediately on your left will be the Hôtel d'York at no. 56 Rue Jacob.

Checkpoint #15 – Hôtel d'York

The Treaty of Paris (1783) in which England recognized the independence of the United States of America (her thirteen former colonies) was signed in this **building** on September 3, 1783. David Hartley and Richard Oswald signed for England; Benjamin Franklin, John Jay and John Adams signed for the USA. A key sentence in this treaty reads: "His Britannic Majesty acknowledges the United States of America to be free, sovereign and independent." (continued on next page)



HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

Checkpoint #15 – Hôtel d'York (cont.)

The English translation of the plaque here says: "In this building called the Hôtel D'York on September 3, 1783, David Hartkey in the name of the King of England, Benjamin Franklin, John Jay, John Adams, in the name of the United States of America signed the Definitive Treaty of Peace, recognizing the independence of the United States."

48°51'22.4"N 2°19'55.4"E – 56 Rue Jacob, 75006 Paris

Continue down Rue Jacob for 400m, turning right onto Rue de Seine, then immediately left across the street onto Rue de Buci. Turn right onto Rue de l'Ancienne Comedie and find Le Procope Café on your left at no. 13 Rue de l'Ancienne Comedie.

Checkpoint #16 – Le Procope Café

Paris's **oldest café**, opened in 1686, was a favorite café of late-18th century playwrights, intellectuals, "encyclopaedists," and revolutionaries of all stripes; it is known that Rousseau, Voltaire, Danton, Marat and Robespierre all ate and drank here, as did Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson and John Paul Jones. Exactly who were these "Encyclopedists?" They were a group of Frenchmen in the era of the Enlightenment, educated in the arts and sciences, who sought to create a multivolume dictionary of human knowledge in the arts and sciences. Historians agree that the publication of their collected articles in the encyclopedias contributed to the intellectual foundations that led to the start of the French Revolution. Stop by for lunch!

48°51'10.9"N 2°20'19.3"E – 13 Rue de l'Ancienne Comédie, 75006 Paris

Continue straight up and cross the Place Henri Mondor, then bear right and turn right onto Rue Saint-Sulpice. Turn left onto Rue de Tournon. On this street, about half way down and on the left, at no. 19, is the John Paul Jones House.



HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

Checkpoint #17 – John Paul Jones House

John Paul Jones, (b. July 6, 1747; d. July 18, 1792) was born John Paul in Scotland (he added the 'Jones' later in life); John Paul Jones started his naval career by the age of 12 or 13. Often called the "Father of the U.S. Navy", and reputed to have replied "I have not yet begun to fight!" when asked about surrender from the British captain of the HMS Serapis during its famous battle with Jones's ship the Bonhomme Richard in 1779, Jones served in both the Continental Navy (later to become the U.S. Navy) and the Imperial Russian Navy. Considered a war hero at the time, Marie-Antoinette received him at Versailles, and Louis XVI gave him a gold sword and the French Cross of Military Merit. Jones died in Paris in 1792, aged 45 years, in the house at 19 Rue de Tournon, 6th arr. He was buried in the old Saint Louis Protestant cemetery in a lead coffin filled with alcohol paid for by a French admirer, and was only exhumed in 1905 and brought back to America, where the coffin was installed in a hall in the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, in 1906, and finally re-interred in 1913 in the academy's chapel with a tributary speech given by President Theodore Roosevelt. The English translation of the text on the plaque reads: " 'I have not yet begun to fight.' John Paul Jones, Ship Captain of the United States Navy, Knight of the Order of Military Merit and one of the heroes of the War of American Independence died in this house the 18 of July, 1792."

48°51'01.2"N 2°20'14.3"E – 19 Rue de Tournon, 75006 Paris

At the top of the street, turn left at the Square Francis Poulenc and walk to Rue Rotrou. Take a left and walk through the Place de l'Odéon. Walk down the Rue de l'Odéon to find the Thomas Paine House at no. 10.

Checkpoint #18 – Thomas Paine House

Thomas Paine, (b. January 29, 1737, Thetford, Norfolk, Great Britain; d. June 8, 1809, New York City, NY) was born in England and immigrated to the British American Colonies in 1774, in time to be caught up in the American Revolution.
(continued on next page)



HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

Checkpoint #18 – Thomas Paine House (cont.)

A writer, inventor and intellectual, he is remembered especially for writing a widely-read pamphlet called *Common Sense* (1776) which advocated the American colonies' independence from the kingdom of Great Britain. He followed this with other writings, such as *The American Crisis* (1776- 1783) a pro-revolutionary series of pamphlets. And, later, in England, he published *The Rights of Man* (1791) which expressed Enlightenment ideas, and his support of the French Revolution, in its criticism of monarchies and other European social institutions. He took part in the heated intellectual debates of the French Revolution, was an American delegate elected to the National Convention even though he spoke no French, and was imprisoned in the Palais du Luxembourg when he found himself on the wrong side of the current group in power in 1793. Legend has it that he narrowly escaped the guillotine because the chalk mark made on the inside of his open cell door marking him for execution was not seen by the guard after the door was closed. The efforts in 1794 of the US Ambassador to France, James Monroe, finally secured his release. A rough translation of the plaque here is: Thomas Paine, 1737-1809, English by birth, American by adoption, French by decree, lived in this building from 1797 to 1802. He put his passion for liberty in the service of the French Revolution, was made a deputy of the Convention, and wrote "The Rights of Man."

48°51'03.8"N 2°20'19.2"E – 10 Rue de l'Odéon, 75006 Paris

Turn around and walk back up to the Place de l'Odéon and take a left, turning down the Rue Racine. Follow the road for 250m before turning north (left) along Boulevard Saint-Michel. Upon reaching Place Saint Michel, turn east toward Notre-Dame Cathedral and walk along the Quai Saint-Michel. Follow the quai until you reach the Pont au Double. Cross it and walk along the south side of the Notre Dame Cathedral, heading east to the tip of the island to find the Deportation Memorial (Le Mémorial des Martyrs de la Deportation) sunken into the ground; there are steps to go down.



HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

Checkpoint #19 – Deportation Memorial

Easy to overlook, but unforgettable once you've visited, this **memorial** to the roughly 200,000 French citizens, many of them of Jewish ancestry or faith, deported to the Nazi death camps is located at the eastern-most tip of the Ile de la Cité, behind Notre Dame Cathedral. Every organized tour of Paris with a WWII theme stops here to reflect on the horrors of war and why some wars may have to be fought to put a stop to atrocities such as The Holocaust. Thousands of American soldiers were among the Allied Forces who stormed the beaches of Normandy in June 1944, to begin the liberation of France from German occupation. Eventually, they helped liberate those still in the Nazi death camps near the end of the war; we include this stop on our trail because WWII is a part of American history and much of American participation in the war happened on French soil.

48°51'06.8"N 2°21'08.0"E – 7 Quai de l'Archevêché, 75004 Paris

After you have finished exploring the inside of the memorial, head east-northeast across the Pont Saint-Louis. Bear left onto Rue Jean du Bellay, then cross the Pont Louis-Phillipe. Continue on the Rue du Pont Louis-Phillipe straight onto Rue Vieille du Temple for half a kilometer. On your left will be the Silas Deane/Beaumarchais House at no. 47 Rue Vieille du Temple; there are a pair of old, striking Medusa heads carved on the wooden gates!

Checkpoint #20 – Silas Deane/Beaumarchais House

Silas Deane (b. 1737, Groton, CT; d. 1789, England, where he is buried) was sent by the American Continental Congress to Paris in 1776 to try to negotiate help from the French crown and the Comte de Vergennes, Louis XVI's Minister of Foreign Affairs. The French were reluctant to help the colonies openly, fearing war with England. Beaumarchais was instrumental in persuading them to finance the Americans secretly. He was supportive of the American cause and also saw potential trade opportunities that good relations with a new state might bring. Deane also recruited French officers for the war; the nineteen year-old, idealistic Marquis de Lafayette was one of his recruits. (continued on next page)



HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

Checkpoint #20 – Silas Deane/Beaumarchais House (cont.)

He met with Deane and discussed with him his plans to join the fight for American liberty; Deane gave him a letter of introduction that Lafayette later presented to Washington. Deane, Franklin and Arthur Lee all signed the Treaties of Friendship, Commerce and Alliance with France in 1778, in the Hôtel de Coislin. Deane fell from Congressional graces due to his sloppy record-keeping; he was suspected of personal gain during his work with Beaumarchais. Subsequently, these charges were shown to be unfounded; he was exonerated; and his heirs received some compensation from Congress for the damage done to his reputation.

Pierre-Auguste Caron de Beaumarchais, was instrumental in persuading the French king Louis XVI and the Comte de Vergennes, his foreign affairs minister, to support the American colonies in their struggle against England. While supportive of the American cause, he also saw potential trade opportunities that good relations with a new state might bring. To hide the king's involvement in helping to finance the Americans' war efforts, an act that could bring war with England, Beaumarchais created a fake company called Roderigue Hortalez & Cie., through which Louis XVI could channel money from the French treasury. From 1776 to 1778, Silas Deane & Beaumarchais worked together to use this money to fill a fleet of ships with necessary supplies, equipment, weapons, and ammunition to outfit an army of 30,000 soldiers—to be repaid by the American Congress at a later time. In 1782, Congress repaid part of what it owed Beaumarchais; paying more to his heirs in 1835, 36 years after his death. A successful playwright (the author of "The Barber of Seville," and "The Marriage of Figaro") Beaumarchais had invested most of his personal assets in the American cause.

48°51'29.4"N 2°21'29.2"E – 47 Rue Vieille du Temple, 75004 Paris

Continue on and turn right onto Rue des Francs Bourgeois. Walk down this street for about 700m before turning right onto Rue des Tournelles. Follow this road until you hit the Place de Beaumarchais. Here you will find Beaumarchais' statue. Turning left, you will now cross through the Place de la Bastille.



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Checkpoint #21 – Place de la Bastille

In a famous episode of the French Revolution, the **Bastille prison** fell during an uprising and attack on it by the population of Paris on July 14, 1789. Later, La Fayette gave a key to the Bastille to Thomas Paine to bring to George Washington; the key hangs in Mount Vernon (Washington's home in Virginia) to this day. The Bastille was a symbol of the oppressive and unresponsive French monarchy, and so the day the Bastille fell, July 14, is celebrated in France as her National Day, or "Bastille Day."

48°51'11.4"N 2°22'09.1"E – Place de la Bastille, 75011 Paris

Find Rue du Faubourg Saint-Antoine. Follow this road for two kilometers (2km) until you reach Place de la Nation. (Note: If you are getting too tired, you can take the Métro from "Bastille" to "Nation.") From here, take a right onto Rue Fabre d'Eglantine. Follow this short road, and then turn left onto Rue de Picpus. After about 200m you will find the gate into Picpus Cemetery (Cimetière de Picpus) on your left, at no. 35 Rue de Picpus. Enter here to see Lafayette's tomb; a nominal visitors' fee is charged at the guard house just inside the gate of this private cemetery. (Note: The cemetery has very limited public hours; call ahead.)

Checkpoint #22 – Picpus Cemetery

The Marquis de La Fayette was buried here in May 1834, in soil he brought back from America in 1824. Made an honorary U.S. citizen for his brave leadership in the military services during the American Revolutionary War, an American flag always flies over his tomb, and flew there even during the years of Nazi occupation, 1940-1944. Picpus Cemetery is also the resting place of over 1300 victims of The Terror, a particularly bloody period toward the end of the French Revolution. Brought here by the wagon load, the headless bodies of those executed by the guillotine installed nearby (where the Place de la Nation now exists) were piled in huge mass graves.

(continued on next page)



HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

Checkpoint #22 – Picpus Cemetery

The door by which these gruesome wagons entered is preserved; the grave pits are marked; descendants of the Terror's victims are still choosing to be buried in this small private cemetery; and a memorial chapel, containing inscriptions of the names, ages and occupations of all the victims carved on its interior walls, is here too. When the U.S. officially entered WWI in 1917, General John J. Pershing paid homage to Lafayette, visiting his tomb here on July 4, 1917. Pershing's deputy, Colonel Stanton, declared at the site, "Lafayette, we are here!" (see more information on General Pershing on the next page)

Check that **Picpus** is open for visiting before you go; it's usually open 2-6pm on Sundays. There's a nominal fee to visit; you'll get a guide sheet in English from the caretaker at the gate. Demonstrate the respect expected at this private cemetery (still in use) dedicated to the memory of the victims of The Terror (1794); quiet introspection is the norm here. Lafayette's tomb is in the far right corner as you walk through the remnants of the ancient convent gardens that used to stand here.

48°50'39.3"N 2°23'46.5"E – 35 Rue de Picpus, 75012 Paris

The trail ends here: You have just hiked approximately 16 kilometers (10 miles) through the heart of Paris and through over 170 years of history -- the long history of friendship between France and the United States.

Some additional places you may want to visit are located on the next several pages.



HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

General John J. Pershing, US Army

John Joseph Pershing was born in Laclede, Missouri on September 13, 1860 and died at Walter Reed Hospital on July 15, 1948. He lived on a farm and attended a school for especially intelligent children. In 1882 he passed the competitive examination and entered West Point. He was not a brilliant scholar but was an excellent leader and organizer. After graduating from West Point, he began his career as an army officer, first as a 2nd Lieutenant, then 1st Lieutenant, next Brevet Major of volunteer troops, and then Captain. He was promoted directly to Brigadier General, then Major General, General and finally General of the Armies, the highest rank ever achieved by anyone except George Washington.

Pershing commanded the 8th Brigade, the Mexican Expedition, the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) and the First Army. He was also Army Chief of Staff. He fought in the Spanish-American War, the Philippines, the Indian Wars, Mexico and World War I. While commander of the AEF, he insisted on having a separate American army under American command. He urged having one Supreme Commander of the Allied Armies rather than a war council, which was done. He set the pattern followed by the American Generals in World War II.

In May 1917, Pershing left for France from New York. He stopped in London and then crossed the channel to France. He disembarked at Boulogne and took the train to the Gare du Nord in Paris. From there he took a carriage down the Grands Boulevards to his temporary headquarters at the Hôtel Crillon (on the Place de la Concorde, next door to the Hôtel de Coislin) all the while being cheered by huge crowds. On July 4, 1917, the French had a great parade and Pershing marched with his men to Lafayette's tomb in Picpus Cemetery. At that moment Lt. Colonel Charles Stanton, Pershing's assistant, said, "Lafayette, we are here!" Pershing later moved his headquarters to Pershing Hall on Rue Pierre Charron. After the war it became American Legion Paris Post #1. It was inaugurated as a memorial in Pershing's presence in 1929. In a wall of Pershing Hall is a stone from the bridge captured by the Americans in 1917. Pershing Hall is now a luxury hotel.



HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

Optional Checkpoint #23 – Les Invalides

Not a stop on the main trail, but worth a visit on another day for military history buffs (and those wanting to see Napoléon Bonaparte's tomb) the **Hôtel des Invalides**, originally a combined veterans' hospital and retirement home, was completed in 1676 under Louis XIV. The building today also houses several museums, including the Musée de l'Armée—a museum covering military history from the Stone Age through World War II. In one of the courtyards you can find several Gribeauval cannons that were used at the Battle of Yorktown; and there are artifacts from the war and Rochambeau's career.

Upon learning of Washington's death (on Dec. 14, 1799) the French army held memorial ceremonies here. French officers wore mourning; flags flew at half staff; a funeral oration was given during a memorial service in the church; and General Napoleon Bonaparte read this to the troops, "Washington is dead. This great man fought against Tyranny. His memory will always be cherished by the French people as by all free men of the two worlds, and especially by the French soldiers, who, like him and the American soldiers, fought for equality and liberty."

48°51'15.3"N 2°18'44.9"E – Place des Invalides, 75007 Paris



HISTORIC TRAIL ROUTE

Optional Checkpoint #24 – Suresnes American Cemetery

Just 5 miles west of the center of Paris, in the town of Suresnes, is the **American Military Cemetery** and Memorial on Mont Valerien. Originally containing 1541 graves of American servicemen and -women who lost their lives in the Paris area during WWI (including a pair of brothers, a pair of sisters, and seven nurses) the cemetery now also holds the graves of 24 unknown soldiers, sailors and airmen from WWII.

This beautiful and peaceful site can be reached by public transport via the metro and suburban trains; the latter depart about every 15 minutes from the Gare St. Lazare to the Suresnes-Mont Valerien station. From the Suresnes station, it's about a 10-minute walk to the cemetery. A lovely panoramic view of Paris can be seen from the site, located high on the eastern slopes of Mont Valerien. A French memorial to the fallen French of WWII is on the other side of the hill, and worth a visit, too.

See more information at: <https://abmc.gov/cemeteries-memorials/europe/suresnes-american-cemetery>

48°52'19.1"N 2°13'07.8"E – 123 Boulevard Washington, 92150 Suresnes



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Optional Checkpoint #25 – l'Escadrille Lafayette Memorial

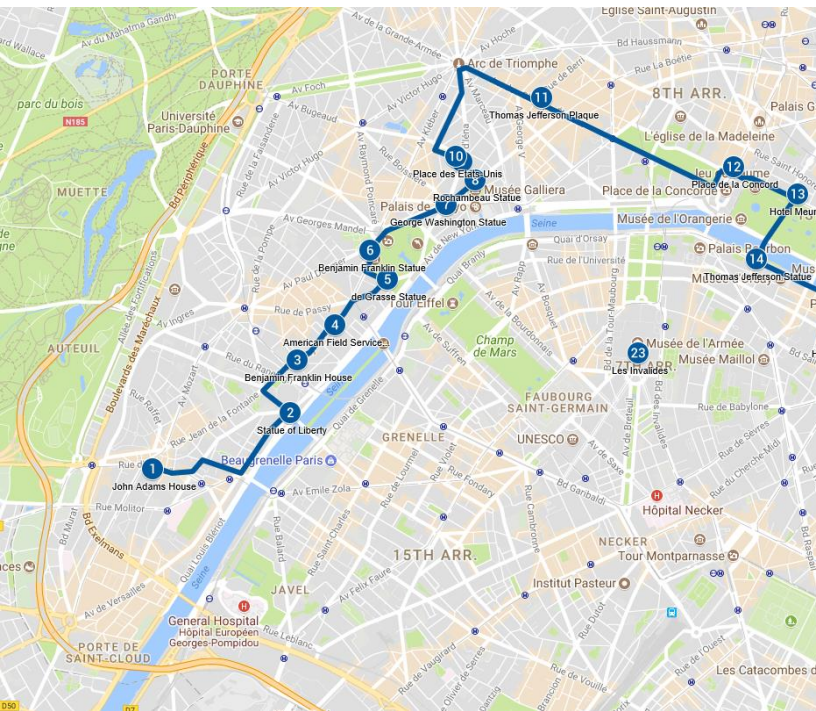
A large and beautifully-decorated, white stone **memorial** to the 68 brave, young American pilots of L'Escadrille Lafayette (the Lafayette Squadron) who volunteered and died with the French military air forces, mostly before the U.S. officially entered WWI, can be found in the Parc de St. Cloud, just a few miles west of Paris. Many Americans who felt strongly about the situation in Europe voluntarily went to France to fight for her freedom; in all, 265 American volunteers served in the various "Lafayette Flying Corps." Many other American volunteer pilots flew for the British air force units.

The Lafayette squadron carried out numerous successful missions along the frontlines; when the U.S. finally entered the war in April 1917, the squadron was eventually shifted to American control. There have been two fictional movies made about this squadron; the more recent one (in 2006) is called "Flyboys." Easy public transport by suburban train can take you there: Take a suburban train from the Gare St. Lazare to the Garches-Marnes la Coquette station and walk to the site's entrance at 5 Boulevard Raymond Poincaré.

More info can be found at <https://abmc.gov/cemeteries-memorials/europe/lafayette-escadrille-memorial-cemetery>

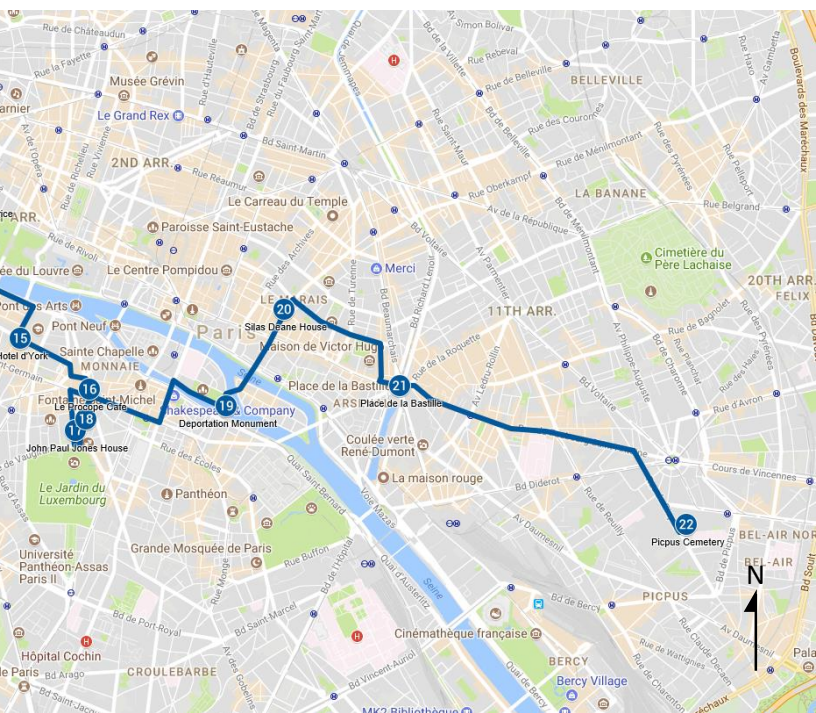
48°50'12.0"N 2°10'20.6"E – 5 Blvd Raymond Poincaré, 92430 Marnes-la-Coquette





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HIKE ROUTE MAP



PARIS, FRANCE
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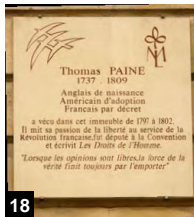
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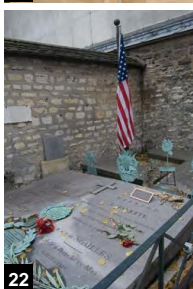
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HISTORIC TRAIL QUIZ

1. On what day did John Adams die? _____
2. Who sculpted the Statue of Liberty? _____
3. When did Benjamin Franklin live in Paris _____
4. What did volunteers of the American Field Service
drive in World War I to support front line troops? _____
5. Who celebrated with Admiral de Grasse on his flagship? _____
6. How old was the Marquis de Lafayette when
he met George Washington? _____
7. Where did Tomas Jefferson stay when he lived in Paris? _____
8. Where were the "Treaties of Friendship, Commerce and
Alliance" signed by representative of France and the USA? _____
9. Where was the Paris headquarters for the Wehrmacht
(German Army) in World War II? _____
10. When and where was the Treaty of Paris signed? _____
11. What is the oldest café in Paris and when did it open? _____
12. What is John Paul Jones famous for saying? _____
13. How many French citizens were deported by
the Nazi's in World War II? _____
14. What day did the Bastille fall? _____
15. What honorary U.S. citizen is buried at Picpus Cemetery? _____

Answers on page 39



PARIS, FRANCE
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BSA REQUIREMENTS

Completion of the Paris Historic Trail may complete the following Requirements:

Cub Scouts:

Tiger:

My Tiger Jungle
Tigers in the Wild
Tiger Tales

Req 1
Req 1, 2, 4
Req 7

Wolf:

Paws on the Path
Finding Your Way

Req 1-5
Req 4

Bear:

Fur, Feathers, and Ferns
Paws for Action

Req 1
Req 2B

Webelos:

Webelos Walkabout

Req 1-6



Scouts BSA:

Tenderfoot:

Req 4d, 5a, 5b, 5c

Second Class:

Req 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 6c

First Class:

Req 4a, 4b



*Note: Requirements for the Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, Hiking, Orienteering, and American Heritage Merit Badges and the Cub Scout Outdoor Activity Award can be earned by completing this hike and learning about sites found on this hike.



PARIS, FRANCE
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[illegible]

NOTES



[illegible]

NOTES

Quiz Answers: 1) July 4, 1826, 2) Frédéric A. Bartholdi, 3) 1777-1785, 4) Ambulances, 5) Washington and Rochambeau, 6) 19 years old, 7) 92 Avenue des Champs-Élysées, 8) Hôtel de Coislin, 9) Hôtel Meurice, 10) Hôtel d'York in 1783, 11) Le Procope Café in 1686, 12) "I have not yet begun to fight!", 13) Roughly 200,000 citizens, 14) July 14, 1789, 15) Marquis de Lafayette



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Additional Historic Trails in the Transatlantic Council area can be found at <http://tac-bsa.org> or by scanning the QR Code below.



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