

lonely planet Hotels & Hostels

Want more Sleeping recommendations than we could ever pack into this little ol' book? Craving more detail – including extended reviews and photographs? Want to read reviews by other travellers and be able to post your own? Just make your way over to lonelyplanet.com/hotels and check out our thorough list of independent reviews, then reserve your room simply and securely.

SLEEPING

top picks

- Hôtel St-Merry (p337)
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SLEEPING

Paris has a very wide choice of accommodation options, counting some 76,500 beds in 1480 establishments that cater for all budgets throughout much of the city. There are four basic types: deluxe and top-end hotels, some of which count among the finest in the world; midrange hotels, many of which have personalities all of their own, and by and large offer very good value when compared with similarly priced places to stay in other European capitals; adequate but generally uninspiring budget hotels; and hostels, which run the gamut from cramped, airless cupboards to party places with bars worth a visit in their own right. In this chapter, accommodation options are listed according to the sections of the city as outlined in the Neighbourhoods chapter and appear in budget order, with the most expensive first. Prices are given for rooms with bathrooms unless otherwise noted.

The city of Paris levies a *taxe de séjour* (tourist tax) of between €0.20 (camp sites, 'NN' or unclassified hotels) and €1.50 (four-star hotels) per person per night on all forms of accommodation.

A note on the icons used in this chapter: Most hotels and hostels in Paris have some form of internet access available nowadays. We have included an internet icon (📶) only if the hotel has wi-fi (pronounced wee-fee in French) or allows guests to use a terminal in the lobby or reception area. Some establishments (usually hostels) charge their guests an access fee for this service, which we have usually noted in the review text.

Most hotels with two or more stars in Paris are equipped with a lift but not much more for those in wheelchairs. In this chapter most of the hotels marked with a wheelchair icon (♿) have one or two guestrooms fully equipped for disabled guests (bathrooms big enough for a wheelchair user to turn around in, access door on bath tubs, grip bars alongside toilets etc) though we've included a few with guestrooms on the *rez-de-chaussée* (ground floor) that can be accessed by anyone in a wheelchair and may serve at a pinch.

For information about the use of the non-smoking icon (🚭), see the boxed text, [below](#).

ACCOMMODATION STYLES

Apartments & Flats

If you are interested in renting a furnished flat for anything from a night to a month, consult one of the many agencies listed under the heading 'Furnished Rentals' in the 'Hotels & Accommodation' section of the [Paris Convention & Visitors Bureau](#) (www.parisinfo.com) website. Accom-

modation for students and organisations that arrange it are listed under 'Young Paris'.

Websites of commercial agencies that let studios and apartments to visitors, and have been recommended by both readers and Lonely Planet staff members, include the following half-dozen:

[A La Carte Paris Apartments](#) (www.alacarte-paris-apartments.com)

[Apartment in Paris](#) (www.an-apartment-in-paris.com)

[Lodgis.com](#) (www.lodgis.com)

[Paris Accommodation Service](#) (www.paris-accommodation-service.com)

[Paris Apartments Services](#) (www.paris-apts.com)

[Paris Attitude](#) (www.parisattitude.com)

[Paris Stay](#) (www.paristay.com)

For information about longer-term apartment and flat rentals in Paris, see [p334](#).

SERVICED APARTMENTS

Serviced apartments – like staying in a hotel without a lot of the extras – are an excellent option for those staying longer than a week,

APARTMENTS AT YOUR SERVICE

The following are among the three most popular chains of serviced apartments in Paris.

Apartment hotels Citadines (☎ 0 825 333 332, from abroad 01 41 05 79 05; www.citadines.com; 📶 📺 🚿) This fabulously successful (now international) chain has 17 properties in Paris, including those listed below. Prices vary depending on the season and the location but, in general, a small studio for two with fully equipped kitchen (fridge, microwave, dishwasher, crockery and cutlery) for just under a week costs from €103 to €289 per night and a one-bedroom flat sleeping four costs €175 to €462. For stays longer than six days there's a discount of 10% to 15%, and for 30 days or more about 20% to 25%. Central branches include: **Bastille Nation** (Map pp158–9; ☎ 01 40 04 43 50; bastillenation@citadines.com; 14–18 rue de Chaligny, 12e; 📍 Reuilly Diderot); **Les Halles** (Map p86; ☎ 01 40 39 26 50; leshalles@citadines.com; 4 rue des Innocents, 1er; 📍 Châtelet-Les Halles); **Maine Montparnasse** (Map pp124–5; ☎ 01 53 91 27 00; montparnasse@citadines.com; 67 av du Maine, 14e; 📍 Gaité); **Montmartre** (Map p169; ☎ 01 44 70 45 50; montmartre@citadines.com; 16 av Rachel, 18e; 📍 Blanche); **Opéra Grands Boulevards** (Map pp82–3; ☎ 01 40 15 14 00; operaboulevard@citadines.com; 18 rue Favart, 2e; 📍 Richelieu Drouot); **St-Germain des Prés** (Map pp116–17; ☎ 01 44 07 70 00; stgermain@citadines.com; 53ter quai des Grands Augustins, 6e; 📍 St-Michel); and **La Tour Eiffel** (Map pp166–7; ☎ 01 53 95 60 00; eiffel@citadines.com; 132 Blvd de Grenelle, 15e; 📍 La Motte Picquet Grenelle).

Residences FranceLoc (☎ 04 92 28 38 48; www.franceloc.fr; 📶) Formally known as France Location (France Rental), this chain has serviced apartments throughout France, including two in Paris. Daily prices quoted here are for up to seven nights' stay; there is a discount of 10% from eight to 27 nights and 20% after that. **Résidence Le St-Germain** (Map pp110–11; ☎ 01 46 34 22 33; reservation@france-location.fr; 16 rue Boutebrie, 5e; 2-person studio €93–119, 4-person apt €143–158; 📍 St-Michel) has 11 fully equipped studios and apartments for between two and six people measuring from 17 to 55 sq metres. **Résidence Passage Dubail** (Map pp152–3; ☎ 01 44 89 66 70; residence-dubail@franceloc.fr; 5–7 Passage Dubail, 10e; 2-person studio €89, 4-person apt €139; 📍 Gare de l'Est) has studios and apartments measuring 16 to 30 sq metres, accommodating up to four people.

Adagio City Aparthotel (☎ 0 825 040 608; www.adagio-city.com; 📶 📺 🚿) Called Résidences Pierre & Vacances until recently, Adagio counts some 10 properties in greater Paris, including the **Adagio Montmartre City Aparthotel** (Map p169; 10 place Charles Dullin, 18e; pam@adagio-city.com; 2/3/4 person studios €131/144/169, 1/2 bed apt €205/259; 📍 Abbesses), an attractive *résidence* at the end of a leafy street in the heart of Montmartre with 76 studios and apartments for between two and six people. There's a 10% discount on stays of eight nights or more, and 20% on stays of 28 days or more.

particularly if you're part of a small group, and don't feel like emptying the trash yourself. There are quite a few of them around Paris; for a partial listing see the boxed text, [above](#).

Hotels

Hotels in Paris are inspected by authorities at *département* (administrative division of France) level and classified into six categories – from no star to four-star 'L' (for *luxe*), the French equivalent of five stars. All hotels must display their rates, including TVA (VAT; value-added tax) both outside the hotel and in guests' rooms.

Paris may not be able to boast the number of budget hotels it did a decade or so ago, but the choice is still more than ample, especially in the Marais, around the Bastille, near the major train stations and off the Grands Boulevards. Places with one star and those with the designations 'HT' (Hôtel de Tourisme) or 'NN' (Nouvelle Norme), which signifies that a hotel is awaiting its rating but remains of a certain standard of comfort, are much of

a muchness. Remember: the overall consideration at these places is cost, never quality. Be advised that some budget hotels in Paris do not accept credit cards.

Breakfast – usually a simple continental affair of bread, croissants, butter, jam and coffee or tea, though American-style breakfast buffets are becoming more popular – is served at most hotels with two or more stars and usually costs around €8.

Some hotels in Paris have different rates according to the season and are noted as such throughout the chapter. The high season is (roughly) from April to September while the low season is from October to March. There are usually bargains to be had during the late autumn (say, November) and winter months (January and February).

Hostels

Paris is awash with hostels, but such budget accommodation isn't as cheap as it used to be here. Beds under €25 are increasingly

WHERE THERE'S SMOKE

The smoking ban that France put in place nationwide in January 2008 (p220) includes all public areas where people congregate – bars, restaurants, night clubs, hotel lobbies etc. It does *not* extend to hotel guestrooms in hotels, which are considered private rentals in France. Thus nonsmokers will continue to have to request smoke-free rooms. In this chapter the names of hotels bearing a nonsmoking icon (🚭) really do have at least a handful of rooms – in the case of several, entire floors – reserved for those who do not smoke. They are not just places that make claims to 'airing out our rooms thoroughly after guests' use'.

rare – especially in summer – so two people who don't mind sleeping in the same bed may find basic rooms in budget hotels a less-expensive proposition. Groups of three or four will save even more if they share two or three beds in a budget hotel.

Showers are always free at hostels in Paris, and rates include a simple breakfast. Internet access (from about €1 for 15 minutes) is available at almost all the hostels listed here. If you don't have your own sheet bag, sheets can be rented at most hostels for a one-off charge of around €3 (plus deposit).

Some of the more institutional hostels only allow guests to stay a maximum of three nights, particularly in summer. Places that have upper age limits (for example, 30 years old) tend not to enforce them except at the busiest of times. Only the official *auberges de jeunesse* (youth hostels), of which there are just two in all of Paris, require guests to present Hostelling International (HI) cards or their equivalent. Curfew – if enforced – is generally at 1am or 2am.

Homestays & B&Bs

Under an arrangement known as *hôtellerie payants* (literally 'paying guests') or *hébergement chez l'habitant* (lodging with the occupants of private homes), students, young people and tourists can stay with French families. In general you rent a room and, for an additional fee, have access to the family's kitchen in the evening. Half and full board is also usually available. For a list of homestay venues see [opposite](#). Some private language schools ([p398](#)) can arrange homestays for their students.

Bed-and-breakfast (B&B) accommodation – known as *chambres d'hôte* in French – has never been anywhere near as popular in Paris as it has been in, say, London but that is changing. The city of Paris has inaugurated a scheme called [Paris Quality Hosts](#) ([www.hqp.fr](#)) to encourage Parisians to rent out their spare rooms. The idea is not just to offer visitors an alternative choice of accommodation but to ease the isolation of some Parisians, half of whom apparently live alone. Expect to pay anything from €65 a double. Most hosts will expect you to stay a minimum of three or four nights.

The following B&Bs are all members of the Paris Quality Hosts initiative. At least two have been recommended by readers.

Alcôve & Agapes (Alcoves & Feasts; ☎ 01 44 85 06 05; [www.bed-and-breakfast-in-paris.com](#))

B&B Paris (☎ 01 47 34 01 50; [www.2binparis.com](#))

Fleurs de Soleil (Sunflower; ☎ 06 62 37 97 85; [www.fleursdesoleil.fr](#), in French)

Good Morning Paris (☎ 01 47 07 44 45; [www.goodmorningparis.fr](#))

Longer-term Rentals

Small (15 to 30 sq metres) studios with attached toilet in central Paris start at about €20 per sq metre per month; expect to pay from about €800 for a one-bedroom flat and €600 for a studio. The per-metre cost theoretically decreases the larger the place, the further away it is from the city centre and if it is a walk-up (ie does not have access to a lift).

Under €500 a month will get you a tiny garret room with a washbasin but no land-line telephone, proper cooking facilities or private toilet. There may not even be a communal shower. These rooms, often occupied by students, are usually converted *chambres de bonne* (maid's quarters) on the 6th or 7th floors of old apartment buildings without lifts, but in decent neighbourhoods.

The hardest time to find an apartment – especially a cheap one – in Paris is in September and October, when everyone is back from their summer holidays and students are searching for digs for the academic year. Moderately priced places are easiest to find towards the end of university semesters – ie between Christmas and early February and July to September.

If you've exhausted your word-of-mouth sources (expats, students, compatriots living temporarily in Paris), it's a good idea to check out the bulletin boards at the American Church ([p408](#)). People who advertise there are more likely to rent to foreigners, will usually speak at least some English and might be willing to offer a relatively short-term contract. *Fusac* ([p405](#)), a free periodical issued every two weeks, is another good source.

If you know some French (or someone who does), you'll be able to consult several periodicals available from newsagents: the weekly *De Particulier à Particulier* ([www.pap.fr](#); €2.95) appears on Thursday, while the biweeklies *À Vendre, à Louer* ([www.avendrealouer.fr](#), in French; €1.50) and *Se Loger* ([www.seloger.com](#); €2.30) come out on Monday and Thursday respectively. You'll have to do your calling in French, though. If you have access to a phone, you could place a want ad in *De Particulier à Particulier* and have people call you.

FAMILY AFFAIR

Popular with students learning French are *pensions de famille*, which are similar to B&Bs but more intimate. In 1970 there were some 400 scattered around the city; today there are a mere nine family guesthouses. Four that come recommended by the Paris tourist office are the following:

Pension au Palais Gourmand (Map [pp116–17](#); ☎ 01 45 48 24 15; [www.au-palais-gourmand.fr](#); 3rd fl, 120 blvd Raspail, 6e; s & d €72.50–82.50, tr €107; 📍 Vavin or Notre Dame des Champs) The promisingly named 'At the Gourmet Palace' is on a busy street between the Jardin du Luxembourg and Montparnasse and is convenient to everything. Lunch or dinner is €13. Breakfast is included.

Pension les Marronniers (Map [pp116–17](#); ☎ 01 43 26 37 71; [www.pension-marronniers.com](#); 78 rue d'Assas, 6e; s €40–67, d €74–84; 📍 Vavin or Notre Dame des Champs; 🚶) In a pretty building facing the Jardin du Luxembourg, it has monthly rates at 20% less. Vegetarian meals and ones for those on special diets are also available. Rates include breakfast, as well as the use of microwave, fridge, washing machine and wi-fi.

Résidence des Palais (Map [pp116–17](#); ☎ 01 43 26 79 32; [www.hotelresidenceupalais.com](#); 2nd fl, 78 rue d'Assas, 6e; s/d/tr/q €56/63/78/110; 📍 Vavin or Notre Dame des Champs) This luxurious place is in the same building as the Pension Les Marronniers. Rates are cheaper after four days and still cheaper after a week. Breakfast is included.

Résidence Cardinal (Map [pp148–9](#); ☎ 01 48 74 16 16; [http://pensioncardinal.free.fr](#), in French; 2nd fl, 4 rue Cardinal Mercier, 9e; s/d/t €40/55/75; 📍 Liège or Place de Clichy) This place is on a quiet street with an old fountain at the end of it. Doubles with shower and toilet are €10 pricier. Rates include breakfast.

Allô Logement Temporaire (Map [pp98–9](#); ☎ 01 42 72 00 06; [www.allo-logement-temporaire.asso.fr](#); 1st fl, 64 rue du Temple, 3e; 🕒 noon–8pm Mon–Fri; 📍 Rambuteau) is a nonprofit organisation that links property-owners and foreigners looking for furnished apartments for periods of one week to one year. Small furnished studios of 15 to 18 sq metres cost around €600 per month while double that size is about €800, depending on the location. October, when university classes resume, is the hardest month to find a place, but over summer and into September it's usually possible to rent something within a matter of days. Before any deals are signed, the company will arrange for you to talk to the owner by phone, assisted by an interpreter if necessary. There is a €55 annual membership fee and, in addition to the rent and one month's deposit (paid directly to the owner), you'll pay a charge of €35 for each month you rent.

RESERVATIONS

During periods of heavy domestic or foreign tourism – Christmas and New Year, the winter school holidays (February to March), Easter, July and August – a hotel reservation can mean the difference between a bed in a room and a bench in the park. For really popular places – think location and/or price – book several months ahead.

Many hotels, especially budget ones, accept reservations only if they are accompanied by *des arrhes* (a deposit). Some places, especially

those with two or more stars, don't ask for a deposit if you give them your credit card number or if you send them confirmation of your plans by letter, fax or email in French or clear, simple English.

Most independent hotels will hold a room only until a set hour, rarely later than 6pm or 7pm without prior arrangement. If you're arriving later than expected and you haven't prepaid or given the hotel your credit-card details, let the staff know or they might rent your room to someone else.

The **Paris Convention & Visitors Bureau** (Office de Tourisme et de Congrès de Paris), particularly the Gare du Nord branch ([p411](#)) can find you a place to stay for the night of the day you stop by and will make the booking for free. The only catch is that you have to use a credit card to reserve a room. Be warned: the queues can be very long in the high season.

ROOM RATES

When calculating accommodation costs, assume you'll spend from about a minimum of €40 for a washbasin-equipped double in a budget hotel (count on anything up to at least €70 if you want your own shower). Bear in mind that you may be charged extra (up to €3) to use communal showers in budget hotels. If you can't go without your daily ablutions, it can be a false economy staying at such places.

Midrange hotels in Paris offer some of the best value for money of any European capital city.

Hotels at this level always have bathroom facilities (showers or baths) unless noted otherwise. These hotels charge between €70 and €160 for a double and generally offer excellent value, especially at the higher end.

Top-end places run the gamut from tasteful and discreet boutique hotels to palaces with 100plus rooms and will cost two people €160 or more a night. And brace yourself at the very top end of the range; according to a comparison done by the *Wall Street Journal* of the price of a Saturday night in the most expensive suite of a five-star (in this case four-star 'L') hotel in eight cities around the world, Paris came out tops at €7600 (followed by New York at €6641, Tokyo at €5450 and London at €5334).

LOUVRE & LES HALLES

The area encompassing the Musée du Louvre and the Forum des Halles, effectively the 1er and a small slice of the 2e, is very central but don't expect to find tranquillity or many bargains here. But while it is more disposed to welcoming top-end travellers, there are some decent midrange places to choose from and the main branch of a popular hostel can also be found here.

Both airports are linked to nearby metro station Châtelet-Les Halles by the RER (Réseau Express Régional – regional train service).

HÔTEL MEURICE Map pp82–3 Hotel €€€

☎ 01 44 58 10 10; www.meuricehotel.com;
228 rue de Rivoli, 1er; s €620, d €730-910, ste from €990; **M** Tuileries; ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒

With 160 rooms, many of them facing the Jardin des Tuileries, the Meurice's gold leaf and Art Nouveau glass positively glisten, and its ground-floor restaurant, **Le Meurice**, is a mainstay of good taste (in more ways than one). The domed **Le Dali** restaurant with its astonishing canvas and whimsical furnishings, is a light-hearted addition to this otherwise bastion of tasteful reserve.

BOOK ACCOMMODATION ONLINE

For more accommodation reviews and recommendations by Lonely Planet authors, check out the online booking service at www.lonelyplanet.com. You'll find the true, insider lowdown on the best places to stay. Reviews are thorough and independent. Best of all, you can book online.

HÔTEL RITZ PARIS Map pp82–3 Hotel €€€

☎ 01 43 16 30 30; www.ritzparis.com;
15 place Vendôme, 1er; s & d €730-880, ste from €970; **M** Opéra; ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒

So famous it's lent its name to the English lexicon, the incomparable, the unmistakable Ritz has 161 sparkling rooms and suites. Its **L'Espadon** restaurant has a Michelin star and the **Hemingway Bar** (p285) is where the American author imbibed once he'd made a name for himself. It's equally celebrated for its cooking school (p398).

HÔTEL COSTES Map pp82–3 Hotel €€€

☎ 01 42 44 50 00; www.hotelcostes.com;
239 rue St-Honoré, 1er; s & d €400-850, ste from €1250; **M** Concorde; ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒

Jean-Louis Costes' eponymous caravanserai remains an 'extravagant luxury hotel popular with the jet-set' (or so says Michelin). Outfitted in the signature Second Empire colours of purple and gold with a Byzantine twist, this 82-room hotel is still very much a darling of the rich and famous. A delightful restaurant takes pride of place in the statue-strewn central courtyard in the warmer months; the basement pool, with Art Deco-ish lounge chairs and lighting, is gorgeous; and the bar and its groovy music compilations are legendary.

GRAND HÔTEL DE CHAMPAGNE Map p86 Hotel €€€

☎ 01 42 36 60 00; www.hotelchampaigneparis.com;
17 rue Jean Lantier, 1er; s €155-180, d & tw €189-235, tr €210-235; **M** Châtelet; ☒ ☒

This very comfortable, three-star hotel is housed in the former Hôtel des Tailleurs, a stonecutters' mansion built in 1562 on a quiet street between rue Rivoli and the Seine. Some of the 43 guestrooms (eg the Louis XIII-style room) are almost over the top but, well, this is Paris. Enjoy.

HÔTEL THÉRÈSE Map pp82–3 Hotel €€€

☎ 01 42 96 10 01; www.hoteltherese.com;
5-7 rue Thérèse, 1er; s €150, d & tw €180-250;
M Pyramides; ☒ ☒

From the same people who brought you the **Hôtel Vermeuil** (p350) the Thérèse also has chic individually decorated rooms – in this case 43 of them in eight basic colours. The décor is classic yet eclectic; larger rooms have tubs while smaller ones (and they are small) have showers. We love the linen panels on the windows that diffuse the light so nicely.

HÔTEL BRITANNIQUE Map p86 Hotel €€€

☎ 01 42 33 74 59; www.hotel-britannique.fr;
20 av Victoria, 1er; s €147, d €178-205; tr €233, ste €263-306; **M** Châtelet; ☒ ☒

With all the plaid here and the panelled, library-like lounge, you'd be excused for thinking you'd hopped over what the French called La Manche ('Sleeve', or English Channel). Still, the 39-room 'Britannic' remains a Gallic oasis above the brouhaha of Châtelet, and the rooms on the upper floors, some of which have balconies, look straight down to a row of plane trees. It's an excellent choice if you want to be near everything.

LE RELAIS DU LOUVRE Map p86 Hotel €€€

☎ 01 40 41 96 42; www.relaisdulouvre.com;
19 rue des Prêtres St-Germain l'Auxerrois, 1er; s €108, d & tw €165-198, tr €212, ste €237-430;
M Pont Neuf; ☒ ☒

If you are someone who likes style but in a traditional sense, choose this lovely 21-room hotel just west of the Louvre and south of the Église St-Germain l'Auxerrois. The 10 rooms facing the street and the church are on the petite side; if you are looking for something more spacious, ask for one of the five rooms ending in a '2' and looking onto the garden/patio. Room 2 itself has access to the garden.

HÔTEL ST-MERRY Map p86 Hotel €€

☎ 01 42 78 14 15; www.hotelmarais.com;
78 rue de la Verrerie, 4e; d & tw €160-230, tr €205-275, ste €335-407; **M** Châtelet; ☒

The interior of this 11-room hostelry, with beamed ceilings, church pews and wrought-iron candelabra, is a neogoth's wet dream; you have to see the architectural elements of room 9 (flying buttress over the bed) and the furnishings of 12 (choir-stall bed board) to believe them. On the downside there is no lift connecting the postage-stamp lobby with the four upper floors, and it has no mod cons to speak of except for recently introduced wi-fi.

HÔTEL VIVIENNE Map pp82–3 Hotel €€

☎ 01 42 33 13 26; www.hotel-vivienne.com;
40 rue Vivienne, 2e; s €60-114, d & tw €75-114;
M Grands Boulevards; ☒ ☒

This stylish hotel is amazingly good value for Paris. While the 45 rooms are not huge, they have all the modcons (some even boast little balconies), and the public areas are bright and cheery.

PRICE GUIDE

The symbols below indicate the cost per night of a standard double room in high season.

€	under €70
€€	€71-160
€€€	over €160

HÔTEL DE LILLE Map p86 Hotel €

☎ 01 42 33 33 42; www.heoteldeLille.net; 8 rue de Pélican, 1er; s €35-38, d €43-50, tr €65-75;
M Palais Royal-Musée du Louvre; ☒

This old-fashioned but spotlessly clean 13-room hotel is down a quiet side street in a 17th-century building. A half-dozen of the rooms have just a washbasin and bidet (communal showers cost €3), while the rest have en suite showers. The friendly and helpful manager speaks good English.

CENTRE INTERNATIONAL DE SÉJOUR BVJ PARIS-LOUVRE Map p86 Hostel €

☎ 01 53 00 90 90; www.bvjhotel.com; 20 rue Jean-Jacques Rousseau, 1er; per person dm €28, d €30;
M Louvre-Rivoli; ☒ ☒

This modern, 200-bed hostel run by the Bureau des Voyages de la Jeunesse (Youth Travel Bureau) has doubles and bunks in a single-sex room for four to 10 people with showers down the corridor. Guests should be aged 18 to 35. Rooms are accessible from 2.30pm on the day you arrive and all day after that. There are no kitchen facilities. There is usually space in the morning, even in summer, so stop by as early as you can. All rooms are nonsmoking and internet access is available for €1 for 10 minutes. The **Centre International de Séjour BVJ Paris-Quartier Latin** (Map pp110–11; ☎ 01 43 29 34 80; 44 rue des Bernardins, 5e; per person dm €28, s/d €42/32; **M** Maubert Mutualité), its sister-hostel on the Left Bank, has 100 beds in singles, doubles and single-sex dorm rooms for four to 10 people. All rooms have showers and telephones, and rates include breakfast.

MARAIS & BASTILLE

The Marais is one of the liveliest parts of the Right Bank and its top-end hostels are among the city's finest. Despite massive gentrification in recent years, there are also some less expensive hotels left and the choice of lower-priced one- and two-star hotels

top picks

BOUTIQUE HOTELS

- **Hôtel La Manufacture** (p356)
- **Le Général Hôtel** (right)
- **Mayet Hôtel** (p348)
- **Hôtel du Petit Moulin** (below)
- **Kube Hôtel** (p357)
- **Select Hôtel** (p343)

remains excellent. East of the Bastille, the relatively untouristy 11e is generally made up of unpretentious working-class areas and is a good way to see the 'real' Paris up close. Two-star comfort there is less expensive than in the Marais.

MURANO URBAN RESORT

Map pp92-3 Boutique Hotel €€€

☎ 01 42 71 20 00; www.muranoresort.com;
13 blvd du Temple, 3e; s €360, d €440-650, ste
€750-1200; M Filles du Calvaire; ☒ ☑ ☒ ☒

This 52-room 'urban resort' south of place de la République wears a classical 19th-century exterior but has the 21st century inside. And with public areas like a new spa with heated pool, a courtyard restaurant under glass, a cool jazz bar with DJ, and bedrooms that allow you to change their colour scheme, it might even be the 22nd.

HÔTEL DU BOURG TIBOURG

Map pp98-9 Boutique Hotel €€€

☎ 01 42 78 47 39; www.hoteldubourgtribourg.com;
19 du Bourg Tibourg, 4e; s €180, d €230-260, ste
€360; M Hôtel de Ville or St-Paul; ☒ ☒

This stunning 30-room boutique hotel is in the Hôtel Costes stable and was also done up by über-designer Jacques Garcia. The result is romantic 'French' neogothic combined with Orientalia. Be aware that this place is built more for romance than business; rooms are not particularly large, except for the one suite.

HÔTEL DU PETIT MOULIN

Map pp98-9 Boutique Hotel €€€

☎ 01 42 74 10 10; www.hoteldupetitmoulin.com;
29-31 rue du Poitou, 3e; r €180-280, ste €350;
M Filles du Calvaire; ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒

Oh, brave new world! This scrumptious boutique hotel (OK, we're impressed that

it was a bakery at the time of Henri IV) was designed from top to bottom by Christian Lacroix and features 17 completely different rooms. You can choose from medieval and rococo Marais sporting exposed beams and dressed in Toile de Jouy wallpaper, to a more modern *quartier* with contemporary murals and heart-shaped mirrors just this side of kitsch. 'The Little Mill' is a wonderful new addition to the northern end of the Marais and highly recommended.

LE GÉNÉRAL HÔTEL

Map pp94-5 Boutique Hotel €€€

☎ 01 47 00 41 57; www.legeneralhotel.com; 5-7
rue Rampon, 11e; s €143-163, d €173-203, tr €203-
233, ste €243-273; M République; ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒

This 48-room hotel is a symphony in white on the outside and bonbon box of cherry and chocolate tones within. The hotel's décor is fresh and fun, and the rooms are beautifully furnished. The light 'sculpture' in the bar off the lobby is memorable and amenities include a fitness centre and sauna.

CASTEX HÔTEL

Map pp92-3 Boutique Hotel €€€

☎ 01 42 72 31 52; www.castexhotel.com; 5 rue Cas-
tex, 4e; s/d €120/150, ste €220; M Bastille; ☒ ☒

Equidistant from the Bastille and the Marais, the 30-room Castex has modernised but managed to retain some of its 17th-century elements, including a vaulted stone cellar used as a breakfast room, terracotta tiles on the floor and Toile de Jouy wallpaper. Try to get one of the independent rooms (1 and 2) off the lovely patio; No 3 is a two-room suite or family room.

HÔTEL BASTILLE DE LAUNAY

Map pp94-5 Boutique Hotel €€€

☎ 01 47 00 88 11; www.paris-hotel-launay.com;
42 rue Amelot, 11e; s €110, d €140-160; M Chemin
Vert; ☒

This 36-room hotel offers good value due to its central location just up from place de la Bastille. Rooms are smallish and much of a muchness, with classic two-star furnishings and carpets. Rooms ending in '1' face quiet rue Amelot and the steps up to busy blvd Beaumarchais.

HÔTEL DU VIEUX SAULE

Map pp92-3 Boutique Hotel €€€

☎ 01 42 72 01 14; www.hotelvieuxsaule.com;
6 rue de Picardie, 3e; s €120, d €140-160, tr €180;
M Filles du Calvaire; ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒

This flower-bedecked 28-room hostelry in the northern Marais is something of a 'find' because of its slightly unusual location. The hotel has a small sauna, there is a tranquil little garden on full display behind glass off the lobby. Breakfast is served in the 16th-century vaulted cellar.

AUSTIN'S ARTS ET MÉTIERS

Hôtel Map pp92-3 Boutique Hotel €€€

☎ 01 42 77 17 61; www.hotelaustins.com;
6 rue Montgolfier, 3e; s/d €108/148; M Arts et
Métiers; ☒ ☒

This three-star hotel southwest of place de la République and hard by the *Musée des Arts et Métiers* (p97) stands out primarily for its warm welcome and excellent service. The 29 rooms are minimally furnished but attractively done up in reds, yellows and blues. The brightest rooms face the street, while the largest ones overlook the courtyard. Choose 12 if, like us, you like a bathroom with a window. There is a sister hotel, *Austin's St-Lazare Hôtel* (p353) opposite Gare St-Lazare.

HÔTEL BASTILLE SPÉRIA

Map pp94-5 Boutique Hotel €€€

☎ 01 42 72 04 01; www.hotelbastille-speria.com;
1 rue de la Bastille, 4e; s €103-131, d €135-160, tw
€152-170; M Bastille; ☒ ☒

This 42-room hotel is within spitting distance of place de la Bastille offers good value for its location. The rooms are nothing to write home about but some of them (103, for example) sit on the corner and boast two windows. Bathrooms are modern and relatively large.

HÔTEL CARON DE BEAUMARCHAIS

Map pp98-9 Boutique Hotel €€€

☎ 01 42 72 34 12; www.carondebeaumarchais.com;
12 rue Vieille du Temple, 4e; r €125-162;
M St-Paul; ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒

Decorated like an 18th-century private house contemporary with Beaumarchais, who wrote *Le Mariage de Figaro* (The Marriage of Figaro) at No 47 on this street, this award-winning themed hotel has to be seen to be believed. The small, museum-quality lobby, with its prized 18th-century piano-forte, gaming tables and original Beaumarchais manuscripts, sets the tone of the place. The 19 rooms aren't huge but are positively dripping in brocade, furniture decorated with tracery, and ormolu-framed mirrors. The welcome can verge on the scary.

HÔTEL DE LA BRETONNERIE

Map pp98-9 Boutique Hotel €€€

☎ 01 48 87 77 63; www.bretonnerie.com;
22 rue Ste-Croix de la Bretonnerie, 4e; s & d €125-
160, ste €185-210; M Hôtel de Ville; ☒

This is a very charming three-star hotel in the heart of the Marais nightlife area dating from the 17th century. The décor of each of the 22 rooms and seven suites is unique, and some rooms have four-poster and canopy beds. Three 'duplex' suites on two levels are huge and can easily accommodate three or four people.

GRAND HÔTEL MALHER

Map pp98-9 Boutique Hotel €€€

☎ 01 42 72 60 92; www.grandhotelmalher.com, in
French; 5 rue Malher, 4e; s €95-120, d €115-140, ste
€170-185; M St-Paul; ☒ ☒

This welcoming establishment run by the same family for three generations has nicely appointed rooms and a small but pretty courtyard at the back. The hotel's 31 bedrooms are a decent size, and the bathrooms are modern and relatively large; most are equipped with a bath and a few with a shower. Rooms 1 and 2 give on to the courtyard.

HÔTEL SAINTONGE MARAIS

Map pp98-9 Boutique Hotel €€€

☎ 01 42 77 91 13; www.hotelmarais.com; 16
rue Saintonge, 3e; s/d/tr €105/115/140, ste €170;
M Filles du Calvaire; ☒ ☒

This renovated 23-room hotel, with exposed beams, vaulted cellar and period furniture, is really more Oberkampf/République than the Marais. But with the *Musée Picasso* practically next door, let's not quibble. You'll get much better value for money here than in the more central parts of the Marais, including at the Saintonge's show-off sister property, the *Hôtel St-Merry* (p337).

HÔTEL ST-LOUIS MARAIS

Map pp92-3 Boutique Hotel €€€

☎ 01 48 87 87 04; www.saintlouismarais.com;
1 rue Charles V, 4e; s €99, d & tw €115-140, tr €150,
ste €160; M Sully Morland; ☒

This especially charming hotel built within a converted 17th-century convent is more Bastille than Marais, but still within easy walking distance of the latter. Wooden beams, terracotta tiles and heavy brocade drapes tend to darken the 19 renovated rooms, but certainly add to the

atmosphere. Be aware that this four-floor hotel has no lift.

HÔTEL BEAUMARCHAIS


Map pp94–5 Boutique Hotel €€

☎ 01 53 36 86 86; www.hotelbeaumarchais.com; 3 rue Oberkampf, 11e; s €75-90, d €110-130, tr €170-190;  Filles du Calvaire;  

This brighter-than-bright 31-room boutique hotel, with its emphasis on sunbursts and bold primary colours, is just this side of kitsch. But it certainly makes for a different Paris experience, and there are monthly art exhibitions to which guests are invited to the *vernissage* (opening night). The rooms are of a decent size and the best are Nos 2 and 3 – a triple and a double in the courtyard.

HÔTEL DE NICE

Map pp98–9 Hotel €€

☎ 01 42 78 55 29; www.hoteldenice.com; 42bis rue de Rivoli, 4e; s/d/tr €80/110/135;  Hôtel de Ville

This is an especially warm, family-run place with 23 comfortable rooms. Some have balconies high above busy rue de Rivoli. Reception is on the 1st floor. Every square inch of wall space is used to display old prints, and public areas and bedrooms are full of Second Empire-style furniture, Indian carpets and lamps with fringed shades.

HÔTEL DE LA PLACE DES VOSGES



Map pp98–9 Hotel €€

☎ 01 42 72 60 46; www.hotelplacedesvosges.com; 12 rue de Birague, 4e; s & d €90-95, ste €150;  Bastille; 

This superbly situated 17-room hotel is an oasis of tranquillity due south of sublime place des Vosges. The public areas are impressive and the rooms warm and cosy. A tiny lift serves the 1st to 4th floors but it's stairs only from the ground floor and to the 5th floor. A boon to families is the suite on the top floor with choice views that can accommodate up to four people comfortably.

HÔTEL DU 7E ART

Map pp92–3 Hotel €€

☎ 01 44 54 85 00; www.paris-hotel-7art.com; 20 rue St-Paul, 4e; s & d €85-145, tw €100-145;  St-Paul; 

This themed hotel on the south side of rue St-Antoine is a fun place for film buffs – *le septième art* (the seventh art) is what the French call cinema – and boasts a B&W-movie theme throughout, right down to the tiled floors and the bathrooms. The 23 rooms

over five floors – there is no lift – are sizeable and quite different from one another. A single with just a washbasin is €65. Go for room 41 or 42 on the 4th floor; they both have windows facing in two directions.

HÔTEL PARIS FRANCE

Map pp92–3 Hotel €€

☎ 01 42 78 00 04; www.paris-france-hotel.com; 72 rue de Turbigo, 3e; s €72-98, d €89-129, tw €89-159, tr €109-159;  Temple;  

This hotel with the inspired name first opened in 1910 but you wouldn't win any prizes locating vestiges of the Belle Époque here. Rooms are nicely proportioned but try to get one facing the rear as rue Turbigo is a very busy street and even the double-glazing is challenged by the din.

HÔTEL CROIX DE MALTE

Map pp94–5 Hotel €€

☎ 01 48 05 09 36; www.hotelcroixdemalte-paris.com; 5 rue de Malte, 11e; s €75-85, d €85-95;  Oberkampf;  

This cheery hotel will have you thinking you're in the tropics, not Paris. The breakfast room just off the lobby is bathed in light and looks out onto a tiny glassed-in courtyard with greenery and a giant jungle mural; Walasse Ting prints (of parrots mostly) complete the picture. The 40 rooms are in two little buildings, only one of which has a lift.

HÔTEL JEANNE D'ARC

Map pp98–9 Hotel €€

☎ 01 48 87 62 11; www.hoteljeannedarc.com; 3 rue de Jarente, 4e; s €60-97, d €84-97, tr €116, q €146;  St-Paul;  

This cosy 36-room hotel near lovely place du Marché Ste-Catherine is a great little base for your peregrinations among the museums, bars and restaurants of the Marais, and almost has a country feel to it (including heated towel rails). About the only thing wrong with this place is that everyone knows about it, so you'll have to book well in advance.

HÔTEL DAVAL

Map pp94–5 Hotel €€



☎ 01 47 00 51 23; www.hoteldaval.com; 21 rue Daval, 11e; s/d/tr/q €76/82/105/118;  Bastille;  

Always a favourite, this 23-room property is a very central option if you're looking for budget accommodation just off place de la Bastille. What's more, it's had a facelift that brings it up at least to the start of the 21st century. Rooms and bathrooms are on the

small side and if you're looking for some peace and quiet choose a back room (eg room 13).

HÔTEL PRATIC



Map pp98–9 Hotel €€

☎ 01 48 87 80 47; www.hotelpratic.com; 9 rue d'Ormesson, 4e; s €75-105, d €81-121, tr €93-145;  St-Paul; 

This 23-room hotel, which is opposite the delightful place du Marché Ste-Catherine, has been given another overhaul and the décor – exposed beams, gilt frames, half-timbered or stone walls – is almost too much. Rooms, dispersed over six floors, are rather pricey for what you get, though there are frequent promotions on their website. There's no lift here.

HÔTEL SÉVIGNÉ

Map pp98–9 Hotel €€

☎ 01 42 72 76 17; www.le-sevigne.com; 2 rue Malher, 4e; s €67, d & tw €80-91, tr €107;  St-Paul; 

This hotel in the heart of the Marais, and named after the celebrated 17th-century writer, the Marquise de Sévigné (whose letters give us such a wonderful insight into the Paris of her day) is excellent value for its location and price. The hotel's 29 rooms, spread over six floors and accessible by lift, are basic but comfortably furnished.

HÔTEL LYON MULHOUSE

Map pp94–5 Hotel €€

☎ 01 47 00 91 50; www.1-hotel-paris.com; 8 blvd Beaumarchais, 11e; s €65-90, d €78-110, tr €110-130;  Bastille;  

This former post house, from where carriages would set out for Lyon and Mulhouse, has been a hotel since the 1920s. The 40 rooms, though not particularly special, are comfortable, quiet and of a good size; opt for room 12 with a door leading to a courtyard. Place de la Bastille is just around the corner.

HÔTEL BAUDELAIRE BASTILLE

Map pp94–5 Hotel €

☎ 01 47 00 40 98; www.paris-hotel-bastille.com; 12 rue de Charonne, 11e; s €55-66, d €62-76, tr €71-89, q €89-108;  Bastille or Ledru Rollin; 

This independent one-star hotel is in an ancient building that is coy about showing its age except for the odd worm-chewed beam. The 46 rooms are of a decent size and spotless, though there is no lift. Rooms look out onto a quiet courtyard or the street but double-glazing more or less

keeps the noise where it belongs. Internet costs €2 for 15 minutes or €6 per hour.

GRAND HÔTEL DU LOIRET

Map pp98–9 Hotel €

☎ 01 48 87 77 00; hotelduloiret@hotmail.com; 8 rue des Mauvais Garçons, 4e; s €50-80, d €50-90, tr/q €100/110;  Hôtel de Ville or St-Paul; 

This 27-room budget hotel in the heart of gay Marais is very popular with young male travellers, not just because it is within easy walking distance of just about everything after dark, but because it sits – or does it lie? – on the 'Street of the Bad Boys'. Seven of the rooms have neither private shower nor bath or toilet but share facilities off the corridors. Those rooms are a steal at €50. Internet access costs a whopping €3/5/9 for 15/30/60 minutes.

HÔTEL DE LA HERSE D'OR



Map pp92–3 Hotel €

☎ 01 48 87 84 09; www.hotel-herse-dor.com; 20 rue St-Antoine, 4e; basic s/d €45/60, with shower d/tr €76/96;  Bastille; 

This friendly place east of place de la Bastille has 35 serviceable rooms off a long stone corridor lined with mirrors. It's very basic and cheap; the lower-priced rooms have washbasins only. Though there's wi-fi, those without laptops can check their emails at an internet terminal in the lobby for €2/6 for 15/60 minutes. And, in case you wondered, *herse* in French is not 'hearse' but 'portcullis'. So let's call it the 'Golden Gate Hotel'.

HÔTEL DE NEVERS


Map pp94–5 Hotel €

☎ 01 47 00 56 18; www.hoteldenevers.com; 53 rue de Malte, 11e; s €39, d €45-55, tr €75-87;  Oberkampf; 

This 32-room budget hotel around the corner from place de la République and within easy walking distance of the nightlife of Ménilmontant is under new management but remains excellent value. Hyper-allergenic may think twice about staying here, though: there are three cats on hand to greet you. Rooms at the low-end of the scale share bathing facilities.

HÔTEL RIVOLI

Map pp98–9 Hotel €

☎ 01 42 72 08 41; 44 rue de Rivoli & 2 rue des Mauvais Garçons, 4e; s €35-55, d €44-55, tr €70;  Hôtel de Ville

Long a Lonely Planet favourite (there's no pretending who we are – or are not – with

these guys), the Rivoli is forever cheery but not as dirt cheap as it once was, with 20 basic, somewhat noisy rooms. The cheaper singles and doubles have washbasins only, but use of the shower room in the hallway is free. Annoyingly – given that it is in the heart of the Marais nightlife area – the front door is locked from 2am to 7am. Reception is on the 1st floor.

MAISON INTERNATIONALE DE LA JEUNESSE ET DES ÉTUDIANTS

Map pp98–9 Hostel €

MIJE; ☎ 01 42 74 23 45; www.mije.com; per person dm €29, s/d/tr €47/34/30; ☒ ☑
The MIJE runs three hostels in attractively renovated 17th- and 18th-century *hôtels particuliers* (private mansions) in the heart of the Marais, and it's difficult to think of a better budget deal in Paris. Costs are the same for all three hostels, and include single-sex, shower-equipped dorms with four to eight beds per room as well as singles, twins and triples. Rooms are closed from noon to 3pm, and curfew is from 1am to 7am. The maximum stay is seven nights. Individuals can make reservations at any of the three MIJE hostels listed below by emailing (info@mije.com) or telephoning; reception will hold you a bed till noon. During summer and other busy periods, there may not be space after mid-morning. There's an annual membership fee of €2.50.

MIJE Le Fauconnier (Map pp92–3; 11 rue du Fauconnier, 4e; M St-Paul or Pont Marie) has 125 beds and is two blocks south of MIJE Le Fourcy.

MIJE Le Fourcy (Map pp98–9; 6 rue de Fourcy, 4e; M St-Paul), with 180 beds, is the largest of the three. There's a cheap eatery here called Le Restaurant, which offers a three-course fixed-price *menu* including a drink for €10.50.

MIJE Maubuisson (Map pp98–9; 12 rue des Barres, 4e; M Hôtel de Ville or Pont Marie) – the pick of the three, in our opinion – is half a block south of the *mairie* (town hall) of the 4e and has 99 beds.

AUBERGE DE JEUNESSE JULES FERRY

Map pp94–5 Hostel €

☎ 01 43 57 55 60; www.fuaj.fr; 8 blvd Jules Ferry, 11e; per person dm & d €21; M République or Goncourt; ☒ ☒ ☑

This official hostel three blocks east of place de la République is somewhat institutional and the rooms could use a refit,

but the atmosphere is fairly relaxed. The 99 beds are in two- to six-person rooms, which are locked between 10.30am and 2pm for housekeeping, but there is no curfew. You'll have to pay an extra €2.90 per night if you don't have an HI card or equivalent (€11/17 for those under/over 26).

AUBERGE INTERNATIONALE DES JEUNES

Map pp94–5 Hostel €

☎ 01 47 00 62 00; www.aijparis.com; 10 rue Trouseau, 11e; per person dm Jul & Aug €17, Mar-Jun & Sep-Oct €15, Nov-Feb €13; M Ledru Rollin
This clean, friendly hostel just 700m east of place de la Bastille attracts a young, international crowd and gets full in the summer. Beds in dorms are for two to four people; the largest ones have shower and toilet en suite. Rooms are closed for cleaning between 11am and 4pm but there's no curfew. Internet access costs €2 for 15 minutes.

ALSO RECOMMENDED

Hôtel Verlain (Map pp94–5; ☎ 01 43 57 44 88; www.verlain.com; 97 rue St-Maur, 11e; s/d €115/125; M Rue St-Maur; ☑) Good-value and more-than-functional 38-room midrange hotel overlooking busy blvd de la République.

Hôtel des Arts (Map pp94–5; ☎ 01 43 79 72 57; www.paris-hotel-desarts.com; 2 rue Godefroy Cavaignac, 11e; s/d/tr €90/99/120; M Charonne) Cosy hotel with 35 bright (and recently renovated) rooms convenient to the bars and restaurants of Bastille.

Garden Hôtel (Map pp94–5; ☎ 01 47 00 57 93; www.garden-hotel-paris.com; 1 rue du Général Blaise, 11e; s/d €60/78; M St-Ambroise) If you're looking for peace and quiet but want to be within easy walking distance of Bastille and Ménilmontant, choose this hotel with 42 rooms overlooking a large leafy square. We're also suckers for a glass Art Deco entranceway.

Hôtel Américain (Map pp92–3; ☎ 01 48 87 58 92; www.paris-hotel-americain.com; 72 rue Charlot, 3e; s €62, d €72, tw €86; M République) This cheapie facing a small square just off place de la République has 36 barebones rooms (singles with shower, doubles with bathtubs) and a lobby brightened up by a spot of modern art.

THE ISLANDS

The smaller of the two islands in the middle of the Seine, the Île St-Louis is by far the more romantic and has a string of excellent top-end

hotels. It's an easy walk from central Paris. Oddly enough, the only hotel of any sort on the Île de la Cité is a budget one.

HÔTEL DE LUTÈCE

Map p105 Hotel €€€
☎ 01 43 26 23 52; www.hotel-ile-saintlouis.com; 65 rue St-Louis en l'Île, 4e; s €150, d €170-189, tr €205-225; M Pont Marie; ☒ ☑

An exquisite 23-room hotel, the Lutèce has an enviable spot on delightful Île St-Louis. It received a complete makeover in 2006 and has both friendly and helpful management. The comfortable rooms are tastefully decorated and the location is one of the most desirable in the city. The lobby/salon, with its ancient fireplace, wood panelling, antique furnishings and terracotta tiles, sets the inviting tone of the whole place.

HÔTEL ST-LOUIS

Map p105 Hotel €€€
☎ 01 46 34 04 80; www.hotel-saint-louis.com; 75 rue St-Louis en l'Île, 4e; r €140-155, ste €220; M Pont Marie; ☒ ☒ ☑

One of several hotels lining posh rue St-Louis en l'Île, this hotel has 19 appealing but unspectacular rooms, though the public areas are lovely. The breakfast room in the basement dates from the early 17th century.

HÔTEL HENRI IV

Map p105 Hotel €
☎ 01 43 54 44 53; 25 place Dauphine, 1er; s & d €52-76, tr €76; M Pont Neuf or Cité; ☑

This decrepit place, with 15 worn rooms, is popular for its location, location and – above all else – location on the tip of the Île de la Cité. It would be impossible to find a hotel more romantically located at such a price in all of Paris – much less the Île de la Cité. While it's not the most salubrious of establishments, in its favour the rooms, all of which have showers, are large and the views over the square are wonderful. Book well in advance.

LATIN QUARTER & JARDIN DES PLANTES

There are dozens of attractive two- and three-star hotels in the Latin Quarter, including a cluster near the Sorbonne and another group along the lively rue des Écoles. Midrange hotels in the Latin Quarter are very popular with visiting academics, so rooms are hard-est to find when conferences and seminars are

scheduled (usually from March to June and in October). In general this area offers better value among top-end hotels than the better-heeled neighbouring 6e does. The Luxembourg and Port Royal RER stations are linked to both airports by RER and Orlyval.

The northern section of the 5e close to the Seine has been popular with students and young people since the Middle Ages. While truly budget places to stay are at a premium these days, there's at least a popular and well-maintained hostel to choose from.

HÔTEL HENRI IV RIVE GAUCHE

Map pp110–11 Hotel €€€

☎ 01 46 33 20 20; www.henri-paris-hotel.com; 9-11 rue St-Jacques, 5e; s/d/tr €157/175/198; M St-Michel Notre Dame or Cluny La Sorbonne; ☒ ☑ ☑

This three-star hotel with 23 rooms awash with antiques, old prints and fresh flowers is an oasis in the Latin Quarter just steps from Notre Dame and the Seine. It's part of the same group as the *Hôtel de Lutèce* (left) on the Île de St-Louis and exudes 'country chic'; the lobby with its 18th-century fireplace, terracotta tiles and portraits could almost be in a manor house in Normandy. Front rooms have stunning views of the Église St-Séverin and its buttresses.

HÔTEL DE NOTRE DAME MAÎTRE ALBERT

Map pp110–11 Hotel €€€

☎ 01 43 26 79 00; www.hotel-paris-notredame.com; 19 rue Maître Albert, 5e; s/d €155/165; M Maubert Mutualité; ☑

Hidden down a quiet side street of the Latin Quarter but just paces from the Seine, this hotel boasts some lovely public areas (we adore the tapestry in the lobby and the oriental carpets). However but the 34 rooms, most of which look out to rooftops and give off long narrow corridors, are less impressive. Still, room 27 is a decent size and very quiet.

SELECT HÔTEL

Map pp110–11 Boutique Hotel €€€

☎ 01 46 34 14 80; www.selecthotel.fr; 1 place de la Sorbonne, 5e; d €139-175, tw €155-175, tr €179-189, ste €212; M Cluny La Sorbonne; ☒ ☒ ☑
Smack dab in the studenty Sorbonne area, the Select is a very Parisian Art Deco mini-palace, with an atrium and cactus-strewn winter garden, an 18th-century vaulted breakfast room and 67 stylish bedrooms. The rooms are not always

top picks

HOTELS WITH A GARDEN

- Hôtel des Grandes Écoles (below)
- Hôtel des Marronniers (p347)
- Hôtel de Varenne (p350)
- Hôtel Eldorado (p353)
- Hôtel de Nesle (p349)
- Hôtel Relais Christine (p346)

as large as you'd hope for, but the design solutions are ingenious, making great use of a minimum of space. The 1920s-style cocktail bar with an attached 'library' just off the lobby is a delight.

HÔTEL ST-CHRISTOPHE

Map pp110-11 Hotel €€

☎ 01 43 31 81 54; www.charm-hotel-paris.com; 17 rue Lacépède, 5e; s €122-124, d €134-136; **M** Place Monge; ☒ **M** **L**

This classy small hotel is located on a quiet street between rue Monge in the Latin Quarter and the Jardin des Plantes. The 32 rooms are hardly what you would call spectacular, but they are well-equipped and there are five sizes and shapes to choose from. The welcome is always particularly warm at this Logis de France 'charm hotel'.

HÔTEL DU LEVANT

Map pp110-11 Hotel €€

☎ 01 46 34 11 00; www.hoteldulevant.com; 18 rue de la Harpe, 5e; s €100-120, d €118-145, tw €160, tr €175-215, q €235-255, ste €300-320; **M** Cluny La Sorbonne or St-Michel; ☒ **M**

It's hard to imagine anything more central than this 47-room hotel in the heart of the Latin Quarter; you'll never lack for a kebab day or night. The lobby, done up in yellows and reds, is warm and welcoming; the breakfast room is nicely decorated with a large *faux naïf* mural and lots of 19th-century fashion engravings. Rooms are of a decent size, with furnishings two steps beyond pure functional, and feature modern bathrooms.

HÔTEL DES GRANDES ÉCOLES

Map pp110-11 Hotel €€

☎ 01 43 26 79 23; www.hotel-grandes-ecoles.com; 75 rue du Cardinal Lemoine, 5e; s & d €110-135, tr €125-155; **M** Cardinal Lemoine or Place Monge; ☒ **L**

This wonderful, very welcoming 51-room hotel just north of place de la Contrescarpe has one of the loveliest situations in the Latin Quarter, tucked away in a courtyard off a medieval street with its own private garden. Choose a room in one of three buildings but our favourites are those in the garden annexe, especially the five that are on the ground floor and have direct access to the garden (rooms 29 to 33).

HÔTEL MINERVE

Map pp110-11 Hotel €€

☎ 01 43 26 26 04; www.parishotelminerve.com; 13 rue des Écoles, 5e; s €90-125, d €106-136, tr €156-158; **M** Cardinal Lemoine; ☒ **M**

We make no secret of our love affair with this 54-room hotel and the people (p348) who run it. Housed in two Haussman buildings and owned by the same family who run the *Familia Hôtel* (below) next door, the Minerve has a reception area kitted out in Oriental carpets and antique books, which the affable owner/manager collects, and some of the rooms have been enlarged. We like the frescoes of French monuments and reproduction 18th-century wallpaper. Some 10 rooms have small balconies, eight with views of Notre Dame and two have tiny courtyards that are swooningly romantic. Complimentary breakfast buffet is included.

HÔTEL ST-JACQUES

Map pp110-11 Hotel €€

☎ 01 44 07 45 45; www.hotel-saintjacques.com; 35 rue des Écoles, 5e; s €92, d €105-137, tr €168; **M** Maubert Mutualité; ☒ **M** **L**

This very stylish 38-room hotel has rooms with balconies overlooking the Panthéon. Audrey Hepburn and Cary Grant, who filmed some scenes of *Charade* here in the 1960s, would commend the mod cons that complement the original 19th-century details (trompe l'oeil ceilings that look like cloud-filled skies, an iron staircase and so on). The cabaret-themed breakfast room and comments book in the lobby is a welcome touch.

FAMILIA HÔTEL

Map pp110-11 Hotel €€

☎ 01 43 54 55 27; www.familiahotel.com; 11 rue des Écoles, 5e; s €86, d & tw €103-124, tr €161-173, q €184; **M** Cardinal Lemoine; ☒ **M**

This very welcoming and well-situated family run hotel has sepia murals of Parisian landmarks in most rooms and is one of the most attractive 'almost budget' options on this side of the Seine. Eight rooms have little bal-

conies, from which you can catch a glimpse of Notre Dame; the choicest rooms which carry a premium – are rooms 61, 62 and 65 (the last has a four-poster bed). We love the flower-bedecked window, the lovely parquet floors and the complimentary breakfast.

HÔTEL DU COLLÈGE DE FRANCE

Map pp110-11 Hotel €€

☎ 01 43 26 78 36; www.hotel-collegedefrance.com; 7 rue Thénard, 5e; s €89, d €99-135; **M** Maubert Mutualité; **L**

Close to its prestigious educational namesake, this hotel has 29 rooms that are basic and very similar; avoid the dark ones facing the courtyard and go for those overlooking the quiet street, especially the rooms with two windows. The lobby, with its fireplace, stained glass and statue of Joan of Arc (go figure – unless it's to remind visiting Brits of their dastardly deed) is welcoming.

HÔTEL DES 3 COLLÈGES

Map pp110-11 Hotel €€

☎ 01 43 54 67 30; www.3colleges.com; 16 rue Cujas, 5e; s €78-120, d €96-140, tr €130-160; **M** Luxembourg; ☒ **M** **L**

Under new (and enthusiastic) management, this 44-room hotel is a pleasant and reasonably priced place to located by the Sorbonne. Furnishings in the smallish rooms are simple – white with splashes of pastel – and some rooms share a WC. But we love the half-price (€4.50) express breakfast and room 63 with its beamed ceiling and – count 'em – three sun-splashed windows.

HÔTEL RÉSIDENCE HENRI IV

Map pp110-11 Hotel €€

☎ 01 44 41 31 81; www.residencehenri4.com; 50 rue des Bernardins, 5e; s & d €90-230, 1-/2-person apt €150-310, 3-/4-person apt €180-340; **M** Maubert Mutualité; ☒ **M** **L**

This exquisite late-19th-century hotel at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac near the Sorbonne has eight rooms and five two-room apartments – all with kitchenette (microwave, fridge, stove, crockery and cutlery). They are of a generous size – a minimum 17 sq metres for the rooms and 25 sq metres for the apartments – and all look out onto the street and leafy square, while the bathrooms all face a courtyard. Room 1 on the ground floor is wheelchair accessible. Rates vary widely; check the internet.

HÔTEL ESMERALDA

Map pp110-11 Hotel €€

☎ 01 43 54 19 20; fax 01 40 51 00 68; 4 rue St-Julien le Pauvre, 5e; s €35-95, d €85-95, tr/q €110/120; **M** St-Michel

Tucked away in a quiet street with million-dollar views of Notre Dame (choose room 12!), this no-frills place – always just about to be renovated – is about as central to the Latin Quarter as you're ever likely to get. Its charm is no secret though, so book well ahead. At these prices and location, the 19 rooms – the three cheapest singles have washbasin only – are no great shakes, so expect little beyond the picture-postcard view through the window. There's no lift and some rooms share a toilet.

HÔTEL DE L'ESPÉRANCE

Map pp110-11 Hotel €€

☎ 01 47 07 10 99; www.hoteldesesperance.fr; 15 rue Pascal, 5e; s €71-80, d €80-90; **M** Censier Daubenton; ☒ **M** **L**

Just a couple of minutes' walk south of lively rue Mouffetard is this quiet and immaculately kept 38-room hotel with *faux* antique furnishings and a warm welcome from a charming couple. Some of the larger rooms have two double beds.

HÔTEL CLUNY SORBONNE

Map pp110-11 Hotel €€

☎ 01 43 54 66 66; www.hotel-cluny.fr; 8 rue Victor Cousin, 5e; s & d €70-95, q €130-150; **M** Luxembourg; **L**

This hotel, surrounded by the prestigious buildings of the Sorbonne and where the poet Arthur Rimbaud dallied in 1872, has 23 rooms that could do with an upgrade, but the cheery yellow lobby and equally cheery staff make up for that. One of the choicest rooms is No 63 for four people, with memorable views of the college and the Panthéon.

HÔTEL GAY-LUSSAC

Map pp110-11 Hotel €

☎ 01 43 54 23 96; hotel.gay-lussac@club-internet.fr; 29 rue Gay Lussac, 5e; s/d with washbasin €50/60, s/d with shower €60/70, s/d/tr/q with shower & WC €65/78/98/110; **M** Luxembourg; **L** *Sacré bleu!* The Gay-Lussac, a 35-room threadbare hotel with a certain amount of character in the southern part of the Latin Quarter, has entered into the modern age with a website, wi-fi throughout and a lick of paint. Though the single rooms are small, the others are very large indeed and have high ceilings. Furnishings are very basic and

the whole place could use a more ambitious refit, but the staff are friendly and helpful.

PORT ROYAL HÔTEL Map pp110–11 Hotel €
☎ 01 43 31 70 06; www.hotelportroyal.fr; 8 blvd de Port Royal, 5e; s €41-89, d €53-89; M Les Gobelins; ♿

It's hard to imagine that this 46-room hotel, owned and managed by the same family since 1931, still only bears one star. The spotless and very quiet rooms overlook a small glassed-in courtyard (eg room 15) or the street (room 14) but we especially like room 11 with its colourful bed frame and pretty bathroom. Of course, this value-for-money place is no secret, so book ahead. Rooms at the lower end of the scale have washbasins only.

YOUNG & HAPPY HOSTEL

Map pp110–11 Hostel €
☎ 01 47 07 47 07; www.youngandhappy.fr; 80 rue Mouffetard, 5e; dm €23, d per person €26; M Place Monge; ☒ ♿

This is a friendly though slightly frayed place in the centre of the Latin Quarter. It's popular with a slightly older crowd than when it opened as Paris' first independent hostel some two decades ago. The hostel rooms are shut tight between 11am and 4pm but reception stays open and there is no curfew. Beds are in cramped rooms with washbasins, and accommodate three to 10 people. In summer, the best way to get a bed is to stop by at about 8am. Internet access costs €2 for 30 minutes.

ST-GERMAIN, ODÉON & LUXEMBOURG

St-Germain des Prés is a delightful area to stay and offers some excellent midrange hotels. The three-star hotels in this area are around St-Germain des Prés. Not surprisingly in this well-heeled *quartier*, there is a serious shortage of budget accommodation, but what you will find is competitively priced.

RELAIS CHRISTINE Map pp116–17 Hotel €€
☎ 01 40 51 60 80; www.relais-christine.com; 3 rue Christine, 6e; s & d €370-460, ste from €540; M Odéon; ☒ ♿

Part of the Small Luxury Hotels (SLH) association, the Relais Christine is a beautiful property housed in what was once a

Catholic college. Special features include an unforgettable courtyard entrance off a quiet street with a garden behind it, as well as a spa and fitness centre built in and around an original 13th-century cellar. The 51 rooms are spacious and (unusual for a hotel of this category) the décor is more modern than classic.

LA VILLA Map pp116–17 Boutique Hotel €€€
☎ 01 43 26 60 00; www.villa-saintgermain.com; 29 rue Jacob, 6e; s & d €265-335, ste €445; M St-Germain des Prés; ☒ ♿

This 31-room hotel helped set what has become almost a standard of the Parisian accommodation scene: small, minimalist, boutique. Fabrics, lighting and soft furnishings are all of the utmost quality and taste. Rooms are refreshingly modern (with a preference for chocolate browns, purples and burgundies) but subtly designed. Bathrooms are small but shimmering, and the lobby, with its popular bar, is large and bright.

RÉSIDENCE LE RÉGENT

Map pp116–17 Serviced Apartment €€€
☎ 01 56 24 19 21; www.residence-le-regent.com; 28 rue Monsieur le Prince, 5e; studio €265-295, 2-room apt €315-460, 3-room apt €525-610, 4-room apt €620-725; M Odéon; ☒ ♿

This stunner of a *résidence*, on a quiet street of the Latin Quarter, has 16 superb apartments all looking onto a peaceful inner courtyard. They range in size from studios for two people to a four-room duplex apartment for a family of six. All have fully equipped kitchenettes (did we spot a potato peeler?) and dining areas.

L'HÔTEL Map pp116–17 Boutique Hotel €€€
☎ 01 44 41 99 00; www.l-hotel.com; 13 rue des Beaux Arts, 6e; s & d €255-640, ste €540-740; M St-Germain des Prés; ☒ ☒ ♿

With 20 rooms and a location tucked away in a quiet quayside street, this award-winning hostelry with the most minimal of names is the stuff of romance, Parisian myths and urban legends. Rock- and film-star patrons alike fight to sleep in room 16 where Oscar Wilde died in 1900 and now decorated with a peacock motif, or in the Art Deco room (No 36) of legendary dancer Mistinguett, with its huge mirrored bed. Rooms lead off a large circular atrium. Other features include a fantastic bar and

restaurant under a glass canopy and, in the ancient cellar, a very modern swimming pool. Rates vary widely according to the seasons.

HÔTEL LE CLOS MÉDICIS

Map pp116–17 Hotel €€€
☎ 01 43 29 10 80; www.dosmedicis.com; 56 rue Monsieur le Prince, 6e; s €165, d & tw €205-255, tr €290, ste €490; M Luxembourg; ☒ ☒ ♿

Someone has taken an 18th-century building and pushed it into the 21st century, with tasteful greys, blacks and burgundies in the 38 bedrooms. History stays for the most part in the lobby, with its antique furnishings, convivial bar and, in winter, open fireplace. The inner courtyard is a delight for drinks and/or breakfast in the warmer months.

HÔTEL D'ANGLETERRE

Map pp116–17 Hotel €€€
☎ 01 42 60 34 72; www.hotel-dangleterre.com; 44 rue Jacob, 6e; s €100-255, d €200-265, ste €285-320; M St-Germain des Prés; ☒ ♿

The 'England Hotel' is a beautiful 27-room property in a quiet street close to busy blvd St-Germain and the Musée d'Orsay. The loyal guests take breakfast in the courtyard of this former British Embassy, where the Treaty of Paris ending the American Revolution was signed, and where Hemingway once lodged (see p193). Duplex suite 51 at the top has a beamed ceiling and room 12 a four-poster bed. Breakfast is included.

HÔTEL ST-GERMAIN DES PRÉS

Map pp116–17 Hotel €€€
☎ 01 43 26 00 19; www.hotel-paris-saint-germain.com; 36 rue Bonaparte, 6e; s & d €190-265, ste €325; M St-Germain des Prés; ☒ ♿

Situated just up from the cafés and hub-bub of place St-Germain des Prés, this is a tastefully appointed 30-room hotel. Rooms can be somewhat small; if you need more space, splurge on a 'superior' room (numbers ending in 4 and 5) or a 'deluxe' room (ending in 6) or even go for the suite (room 26) with the baronial four-poster bed. Many guests come to lay their head where Henry Miller did (p193).

HÔTEL DES MARRONNIERS

Map pp116–17 Hotel €€
☎ 01 43 25 30 60; www.hotel-marronniers.com; 21 rue Jacob, 6e; s €115-181, d & tw €161-181, tr €216, q €256; M St-Germain des Prés; ☒ ♿

At the end of a small courtyard 30m from the main street, this 37-room hotel has a delightful conservatory leading on to a magical garden – a true oasis in the heart of St-Germain. From the 3rd floor up, rooms ending in 1, 2 or 3 look on to the garden; the rooms on the two uppermost floors – the 5th and the 6th – have pretty views over the courtyard and the roofs of central Paris.

HÔTEL AVIATIC

Map pp116–17 Hotel €€
☎ 01 53 63 25 50; www.aviatic.fr; 105 rue de Valenciennes, 6e; r €149-270, ste €310-355; M Montparnasse Bienvenue; ☒ ☒ ♿

This 42-room hotel with charming, almost Laura Ashley-style décor and a delightful canopied Art Deco entrance has been around since 1856, so it must be doing something right. The tiny 'winter garden' is a breath of fresh air (literally). Some rooms face the street and a quieter courtyard. For more space choose a 'superior' or 'deluxe' room.

HÔTEL DANEMARK

Map pp116–17 Boutique Hotel €€
☎ 01 43 26 93 78; www.hoteldanemark.com; 21 rue Vavin, 6e; s & d €148-168; M Vavin; ☒ ☒ ♿

This positively scrumptious boutique hotel southwest of the Jardin du Luxembourg has 15 very tastefully furnished rooms and eclectic contemporary décor contrasting with ancient stone walls. Public areas such as the reception and its corner rooms are full of vibrantly coloured furniture and objects that match and contrast. The bedrooms are well soundproofed and of a generous size (minimum 20 sq metres) for a boutique hotel in central Paris, and all have bathtubs.

HÔTEL LA SAINTE-BEUVE

Map pp116–17 Hotel €€
☎ 01 45 48 20 07; www.hotel-sainte-beuve.fr; 9 rue Ste-Beuve, 6e; s & d €145-295, ste €295-345; M Rue Notre Dame des Champs; ☒ ♿

The lift is as slow as cold treacle in this three-star hotel southwest of the Jardin du Luxembourg but the rooms are stylish and very well proportioned; both rooms 18 and 20 are good choices and the former has an especially large bathroom. The neoclassical style of the lobby is clean and soothing, and recalls the life and times of its eponymous former resident, the literary critic Charles Augustin Sainte-Beuve (1804–69).

ERICH GAUCHERON

The son of hotelier parents, Erich Gaucheron owns and operates what many consider to be among the most welcoming and well-run hotels in Paris, the two-star *Familia* and, just next door, the three-star *Hôtel Minerve* (p344).

What's the worst thing about being a hotelier? Dealing with people's expectations... Guests sometimes expect things we just can't provide. In America, hotels have big guestrooms, for example; there's a lot of land there. Those who have travelled to Europe know that this is not the case here.

OK, and for the saints among the sinners out there, what's the best thing about your job? Learning from guests. Whether they're from Norway, New Zealand or China, my guests and I share ideas. Because I can't travel everywhere, I move with my guests.

Just how difficult can people be? People are a lot more demanding these days because life is so much faster. In fact, it's as fast as the internet. But in the end nothing is difficult, you just need to take your time. My ambition is to anticipate any problem a guest may have beforehand.

Any, err, particularly odd requests? Well, yes, the usual things. But there's always a way to refuse a request nicely. The key is discretion. A hotelier must above all be discreet. But it's become more and more difficult finding such people.

OK, the question we've all been wanting to ask: what's the shelf life for sheets and bedspreads? For sheets, 1½ to two years. For bedspreads, four to five years.

If there were no room at the inns *Familia* or *Minerve*, where would you stay? Probably the (four-star) *Hôtel de l'Abbaye Saint Germain* (opposite). I find some of the great five-star hotels overly serviced; they actually try to give too much. I prefer the feel of a local hotel.

On my perfect day, find me... Poking through old books and antiques at the *Marché aux Puces d'Aligre* (p216) or attending one of the auctions at the *Hôtel Drouot* (p215). I don't go just to collect for the hotels but for my own pleasure as well.

Interviewed by Steve Fallon

HÔTEL DES 2 CONTINENTS



Map pp116–17 Hotel €€

☎ 01 43 26 72 46; www.hoteldes2continents.com; 25 rue Jacob, 6e; s €125–152, d €145–167, tw €145–185, tr €175–215;  St-Germain des Prés;   

The 'Two Continents Hotel' – the name pays homage to the Treaty of Paris having been signed at the nearby *Hôtel d'Angleterre* (p347) – is a very pleasant establishment with 41 spacious rooms in a quiet street. The mural in the beamed breakfast room, viewed through parted drapes, is an early morning eye-opener. About half of the rooms are air-conditioned.

HÔTEL LE CLÉMENT




Map pp116–17 Hotel €€

☎ 01 43 26 53 60; www.clement-moliere-paris-hotel.com; 6 rue Clément, 6e; s & d €130–140, tr €155;  St-Germain des Prés;   

Excellent value for the style and tranquility it offers, the Clément has 28 stylish rooms, some of which overlook the *Marché St-Germain* (eg room 100). Note though that the rooms at the very top floor have sloping ceilings. The people who run the hotel clearly know what they're doing; it's been in the same family for over a century.

MAYET HÔTEL


Map pp116–17 Boutique Hotel €€

☎ 01 47 83 21 35; www.mayet.com; 3 rue Mayet, 6e; s €95–120, d €120–140, tr €160;  Duroc;  

Light-hearted and loads of fun, this 23-room boutique hotel with drippy murals and a penchant for oversized clocks and primary colours, has good sized rooms and bathrooms, most with tubs. It offers excellent value and free breakfast too.

HÔTEL DU LYS

Map pp116–17 Hotel €€

☎ 01 43 26 97 57; www.hotelduly.com; 23 rue Serpente, 6e; s/d/tr €100/120/140;  Odéon

Located in a 17th-century *hôtel particulier*, this 22-room midrange hotel has been in the same family for six decades. We love the beamed ceiling and the *chinoiserie* wallpaper in the lobby; rooms to go for include the blue-toned room 13 with its striped ceiling and two windows, or the darker (but more atmospheric) room 14 in terracotta and with rustic old furniture.

WELCOME HÔTEL

Map pp116–17 Hotel €€

☎ 01 46 34 24 80; www.welcomhotel-paris.com; 66 rue de Seine, 6e; s €76–97, d €105–115, tw €115–130;  *Mabillon*; 

The name says it all at this unpretentious 30-room hotel in the heart of St-Germain.

OK, rooms are not overly endowed in square metres and some of the ones at the uppermost levels have sloping roofs, but the price is right and the location couldn't be better.

HÔTEL DU GLOBE




Map pp116–17 Boutique Hotel €€

☎ 01 43 26 35 50; www.hotel-du-globe.fr; 15 rue des Quatre Vents, 6e; s €95–140, d €115–150, ste €180;  Odéon; 

This eclectic caravanserai has 14 small but nicely decorated rooms just south of the *blvd St-Germain*. Some of the rooms are verging on the miniscule, and there is no lift (but four floors to ascend via a very narrow staircase). Still, we're suckers for armour – there are at least two full sets here – and canopy beds (go for room 43).

HÔTEL DU DRAGON

Map pp116–17 Hotel €€

☎ 01 45 48 51 05; www.hoteldudragon.com; 36 rue du Dragon, 6e; s/d €95/115;  5-Germain des Prés or St-Sulpice;  

There's no lift at this five-storey hotel, just a rickety-looking old wooden staircase that leads to the 28 brightly coloured rooms. The bedside lamps are on the low-budget side and we could live without the *faux-fur* bed coverings, but the bathrooms are large and well maintained. The piano lounge and tiny back patio are just made for relaxing.

HÔTEL DE SÈVRES

Map pp116–17 Hotel €€

☎ 01 45 48 84 07; www.hoteldesevres.com; 22 rue de l'Abbé Grégoire, 6e; s €95–130, d €110–150, tr €140–160;  St-Placide;  

The deep kiss of a total makeover has turned a frog into a prince (or even princess). Well situated on a quiet street between *Montparnasse* and *St-Germain*, this 31-room hotel still offers some of the best value for money on the Left Bank. Rooms are of a decent size; deep browns, reds and yellows predominate, and the ones facing the courtyard are as bright as those on the street. We love the wrought iron bed frames as well as the friendly reception and its country/contemporary décor.

HÔTEL ST-ANDRÉ DES ARTS

Map pp116–17 Hotel €€


☎ 01 43 26 96 16; www.france-hotel-guide.com/h75006saintandredesarts.htm; 66 rue St-André des Arts, 6e; s/d/tw/tr/q €69/89/93/113/124;  Odéon

Located on a lively, restaurant-lined thoroughfare, this 31-room hotel is an excellent

choice if you're looking for reasonably priced, but, stylish accommodation in the centre of the action. The rooms are not particularly spectacular, but the public areas are very evocative of *vieux Paris* (old Paris), with their beamed ceilings, ancient stone walls and mock-Gothic chairs. Room rates include breakfast.

HÔTEL DE NESLE

Map pp116–17 Hotel €€

☎ 01 43 54 62 41; www.hoteldenlesleparis.com; 7 rue de Nesle, 6e; s €55–85, d €75–100;  Odéon or Mabillon


The Nesle, a relaxed, colourfully decorated hotel in a quiet street west of *place St-Michel*, is such a fun place to stay. Most of its 20 rooms are painted with brightly coloured naive murals inspired by French literature. But its greatest asset is the huge (by Parisian standards) garden – a back yard really – accessible from the 1st floor, with pathways, trellis and even a small fountain. For a garden-facing room choose room 12.

ALSO RECOMMENDED

Hôtel de l'Abbaye Saint Germain (Map pp116–17;

☎ 01 45 44 38 11; www.hotelabbaye.com; 10 rue Cassette, 6e; r €215–340, ste €395–480;  St-Sulpice) New to us, this four-star hotel southeast of *Église St-Sulpice* even impresses the experts (opposite).

Hôtel Le Petit Trianon (Map pp116–17; ☎ 01 43 54 94

64; 2 rue de l'ancienne Comédie, 6e; s €39, s with shower €50, d €60–65, tr €75;  Odéon) This old standby has 13 very basic rooms dispersed over six floors, with rooms 17 and 20 catching a fleeting glimpse of *Notre Dame*.

MONTPARNASSE

Located just to the east of *Gare Montparnasse* (the mammoth train station that also houses the *Montparnasse Bienvenue* metro station), there are several two- and three-star places situated on *rue Vandamme* and *rue de la Gaité* – though the latter is rife with sex shops and peep shows. *Gare Montparnasse* is served by *Air France* buses from both airports. *Place Denfert Rochereau* is also usefully linked to both airports by *Orlybus*, *Orlyval* and *RER*.

The budget places in the 14e don't usually see many foreign tourists because of the dearth of sights in the area, but that means the accommodation is usually better value for money.

HÔTEL DELAMBRE Map pp124–5 Hotel €€

☎ 01 43 20 66 31; www.hoteldelambre.com; 35 rue Delambre, 14e; s & d €80-115, ste €150-160; **M** Montparnasse Bienvenue; ♿

This very attractive 30-room hotel just east of Gare Montparnasse takes wrought iron as a theme and uses it both in functional pieces (bed frames, lamps, shelving) and decorative items throughout. Room 7 has its own little terrace while rooms 1 and 2 look onto a small private courtyard. The writer André Breton (1896–1966) lived here in the 1920s.

HÔTEL ODESSA Map pp124–5 Hotel €€

☎ 01 43 20 64 78; www.paris-hotel-odessa.com; 28 rue d'Odessa, 14e; s €75, d €90, tw €95, tr/q €110/120; **M** Montparnasse Bienvenue

This hotel on the street of crêperies (p258) has 42 unspectacular but bright and airy rooms. Double-glazing keeps out the racket of Montparnasse below, and the train station is a mere two minutes' away on foot.

HÔTEL DE L'ESPÉRANCE

Map pp124–5 Hotel €€

☎ 01 43 21 63 84; hotelesperance@yahoo.fr; 45 rue de la Gaité, 14e; s €55-70, d €85, tw €99; **M** Gaité This 15-room place, along a street lined with sex shops and other less-than-salubrious establishments one usually finds around train stations, has had a protracted (and rather superficial) refit but remains good value for what (and where) it is.

PETIT PALACE HÔTEL Map pp124–5 Hotel €€

☎ 01 43 22 05 25; www.paris-hotel-petit-palace.com; 131 av du Maine, 14e; s €60-69, d/q €79/99; **M** Gaité; ☒

This friendly (and rather ambitiously named) two-star hotel right on a main boulevard south of Montparnasse has been run by the same family for half a century. It has 41 smallish but spotless rooms, all of which have showers and toilets.

CELTIC HÔTEL Map pp124–5 Hotel €

☎ 01 43 20 93 53; hotelceltic@wanadoo.fr; 15 rue d'Odessa, 14e; s €45-56, d €63-70, tr €80; **M** Edgar Quinet

A cheapie of the old school and still resisting a website, this 29-room hotel is an old-fashioned place with a small lift and an up-to-date reception area with new furniture. The cheaper singles are pretty bare

and even the en suite doubles and triples are not exactly *tout confort* (with all the mod cons), but Gare Montparnasse is only 200m away.

HÔTEL DE BLOIS Map pp124–5 Hotel €

☎ 01 45 40 99 48; www.hoteldeblois.com; 5 rue des Plantes, 14e; s €55-75, d €59-80, tw €58-66, tr €70-85; **M** Mouton Duvernet; ☒

This 25-room establishment just off the av du Maine has been completely overhauled and is now a very pleasant and affordable one-star just south of Gare Montparnasse. Rooms, smallish but fully equipped, have a shower or bath but some share use of the toilet down the hall. Staff are very helpful and friendly.

FAUBOURG ST-GERMAIN & INVALIDES

The 7e is a lovely arrondissement in which to stay, but apart from the northeast section – the area east of Invalides and opposite the Louvre – it's fairly quiet here.

HÔTEL VERNEUIL Map pp128–9 Hotel €€€

☎ 01 42 60 82 14; www.hotelverneuil.com; 8 rue de Verneuil, 7e; s €140, d €170-220; **M** St-Germain des Prés; ♿

Chic and cosy, this lovely hotel is in a 17th-century building in a quiet street just off blvd St-Germain des Prés. It has 26 individually decorated rooms (half of which have air conditioning) and the décor tries hard to reflect this *quartier* full of galleries and antique shops, with engravings and original artwork on the walls throughout. The beamed salon off the lobby feels like a library in a private home and there is some lovely stained glass in the hallways.

HÔTEL DE VARENNE Map pp128–9 Hotel €€€

☎ 01 45 51 45 55; www.hoteldevarenne.com; 44 rue de Bourgogne, 7e; s & d €137-177, tr €167-187; **M** Varenne; ☒

Very refined, very classic and very quiet, this hotel tucked at the end of a courtyard garden with fountain has something of a country feel to it. Most of the two dozen rooms spread over four floors look into the courtyard and a very sizable choice is room 22. The Musée Rodin is within spitting distance.

HÔTEL ST-DOMINIQUE

Map pp128–9 Hotel €€

☎ 01 47 05 51 44; www.hotelstdominique.com; 62 rue St-Dominique, 7e; s €115, d €135-155; **M** Invalides; ☒

This hotel, with its beamed ceilings, ancient stone walls, and large and leafy back patio, where breakfast is served in fine weather, is located between Invalides and the Eiffel Tower. Only some of the 37 rooms have had a refit, so insist on one of those (eg room 2). A very quiet choice is room 10, which looks out onto the patio.

HÔTEL MUGUET Map pp128–9 Hotel €€

☎ 01 47 05 05 93; www.hotelmuguet.com; 11 rue Chevert, 7e; s/d/tr €103/135/180; **M** La Tour Maubourg; ☒

This hotel, strategically placed between Invalides and the Eiffel Tower, has 48 generous sized rooms that have been recently renovated. Room 63 is bathed in light and takes in the *Église du Dôme* (p127), while room 62 has a mansard ceiling but wins the lottery with views of the Eiffel Tower. The glassed in breakfast room has access to a delightful courtyard garden.

HÔTEL LENOX ST-GERMAIN

Map pp128–9 Hotel €€

☎ 01 42 96 10 95; www.lenoxsaintgermain.com; 9 rue de l'Université, 7e; s & d €130-220, ste €270-290; **M** Rue du Bac; ♿

This hotel has 34 simple, comfortable rooms and a late-opening 1930s-style bar called the Lenox Club that attracts a chic clientele. The Art Deco décor (burlwood panelling and glass tabletops) is a treat, and the fine leather armchairs in the lobby are more than comfortable.

HÔTEL LINDBERGH Map pp128–9 Hotel €€

☎ 01 45 48 35 53; www.hotellindbergh.com; 5 rue Chomel, 7e; s & d €98-160, tr €156-180, q €166-190; **M** Sèvres Babylone; ♿

We still haven't figured out why this *hotel de charme* is totally kitted out in Charles Lindbergh photos and memorabilia or named after him, but somehow it all works. The 26 guestrooms are done up in shades of chocolate and red, with silk fabric on the walls and rush matting on the floors. We like the room-number plates on the doors with little Paris landmarks, the ample-sized bathrooms and the very friendly staff.

GRAND HÔTEL LÉVÈQUE

Map pp128–9 Hotel €€

☎ 01 47 05 49 15; www.hotel-leveque.com; 29 rue Cler, 7e; s €60, d €90-115, tr €130; **M** École Militaire; ♿

This partially renovated 50-room hotel is recommended less for its charms than its *bon rapport qualité prix* (good value for money) and an excellent location overlooking rue Cler and its **market** (p231). Choose any room ending in 1, 2 or 3, all of which have two windows overlooking the market. For those travellers seeking silence, your best bet is one of the rooms facing the courtyard but they're darker and smaller (eg room 10). Singles here are miniscule.

HÔTEL DU CHAMP-DE-MARS

Map pp128–9 Hotel €€

☎ 01 45 51 52 30; www.hotelduchampdemars.com; 7 rue de Champ de Mars, 7e; s/d/tw/tr €84/90/94/112; **M** École Militaire; ☒

This charming 25-room hotel is on everyone's wish list so book a good month or two in advance if you want to wake up in the shadow of the Eiffel Tower. The attractive shop-front entrance leads into a colourful lobby done up in yellow and charcoal. Rooms on the lower floors can be downright cupboardlike, though; go up higher (in floors and price) and you might earn a glimpse of Mademoiselle Eiffel herself.

EIFFEL TOWER AREA & 16E ARRONDISSEMENT

Not surprisingly, these two very chic neighbourhoods are somewhat short on budget and midrange accommodation options.

HÔTEL SEZZ pp132–3 Boutique Hotel €€€

☎ 01 56 75 26 26; www.hotelsezz.com; 6 av Frémiet, 16e; s €280-335, d & tw €330-460, ste €440-660; **M** Passy; ☒ ♿

Punning on the number of the posh arrondissement – 16 (*seize* in French) – in which it finds itself, this boutique bonanza is heavy on design (think Christophe Pillet), technology and *l'esprit zen* (zen spirit). The 27 rooms, more than half of which are suites, are spacious and done up in reds and blacks, and lots of glass. There's a hammam, Jacuzzi and massage room, and the bar specialises in champagne. Each guest has their own personal assistant during their stay.

ÉTOILE & CHAMPS-ÉLYSÉES

Like the 1er, the 8e is for the most part home to deluxe hotels, though there are a few top-end favourites in the vicinity of place Charles de Gaulle.

HÔTEL DE CRILLON

Map pp140–1 Hotel €€

☎ 01 44 71 15 00; www.crillon.com; 10 place de la Concorde, 8e; s €750, d €750-930, ste from €1200; M Concorde; ☒ ☑ ♿

This colonnaded 200-year-old 'jewel in the heart of Paris', whose sparkling public areas (including Jean-François Piège's *Les Ambassadeurs* restaurant, with two Michelin stars) are sumptuously decorated with chandeliers, original sculptures, gilt mouldings, tapestries and inlaid furniture, is the epitome of French luxury. The 147 rooms are spacious with king-sized beds and have floor-to-ceiling marble bathrooms with separate shower and bath. And Le Crillon is not just a pretty face; in 1778 the treaty in which France recognised the independence of the new USA was signed here by Louis XVI and Benjamin Franklin.

HÔTEL LE A

Map pp140–1 Boutique Hotel €€

☎ 01 42 56 99 99; www.paris-hotel-a.com; 4 rue d'Artois, 8e; r €355-431, ste €485-640; M St-Philippe du Roule; ☒ ☑ ♿

The 26-room 'A' (think 'list') is an über-stylish minimalist hotel that doesn't have any of the attitude that generally goes with the concept. White, black and grey predominate and help 'frame' the fabulous contemporary art by painter Fabrice Hybert. The airy spaces (the breakfast area and bar are in a glassed-in courtyard), fireplace and real books (as opposed to decorative items) in the lobby for guests' use are as welcome as the nonsmoking floor, but rooms are on the petite side.

HÔTEL DES CHAMPS-ÉLYSÉES

Map pp140–1 Hotel €€

☎ 01 43 59 11 42; www.champselysees-paris-hotel.com; 2 rue d'Artois, 8e; s €105-115, d €117-130, tr €143-150; M St-Philippe du Roule; ☒ ♿ A lovely hotel on a quiet street just up from the brash avenue of the same name, the Champs-Élysées offers 35 rooms with their own custom-made wooden furniture and

renovated bathrooms done up in white tiles. We love the skylit lounge/study with the mural just off the lobby.

HÔTEL ALISON

Map pp140–1 Hotel €€

☎ 01 42 65 54 00; www.hotelalison.com; 21 rue de Surène, 8e; s €80-165, d €112-165, tw €135-145, tr €165, ste €204-290; M Madeleine; ♿

This excellent-value 34-room midrange hotel, just west of place de la Madeleine, attracts with the bold colours of its carpets and furnishings and modern art in the lobby. Prices depend on whether rooms have bath or shower and the view. Double room 37 (€112), for example, looks on to rue Surène, while room 31 (€145) overlooks a leafy patio.

HÔTEL DE SÈZE

Map pp140–1 Hotel €€

☎ 01 47 42 69 12; www.hoteldeseze.com; 16 rue de Sèze, 9e; s €107-110, d & tw €120-150, tr €140; M Madeleine

On no account to be confused with its *almost* namesake, the posh *Hôtel Sezz* (pp132–3) in the 16e, this 25-room no-frills establishment is excellent value for its location – it's so close to the place de la Madeleine you'll wake up smelling the coffee from *Fauchon* (p214). For a real treat, ask for the double with Jacuzzi.

CLICHY & GARE ST-LAZARE

These areas offer some excellent midrange and reasonably priced top-end hotels. The better deals are away from Gare St-Lazare but there are several places along rue d'Amsterdam beside the station worth checking out. Clichy offers a couple of very unusual places to stay in the budget category.

HÔTEL FAVART

Map pp82–3 Hotel €€

☎ 01 42 97 59 83; www.hotel-paris-favart.com; 5 rue Marivaux, 2e; s €100-130, d €130-160, tr €140-180, q €155-200; M Richelieu Drouot; ☒ ☑ ♿

This stylish Art Nouveau hotel with 37 rooms facing the Opéra Comique feels like it never let go of the *belle époque*. It's an excellent choice if you're interested in shopping, being within easy walking distance of the *grands magasins* on blvd Haussmann. We like the prints on the walls in the lobby and the dramatic wrought-iron staircase leading up to the 1st floor, but not the fake books.

AUSTIN'S ST-LAZARE

Map pp144–5 Hotel €€

☎ 01 48 74 48 71; www.hotelaustins.com; 26 rue d'Amsterdam, 9e; s/d €98/135; M St-Lazare This hotel, located conveniently opposite Gare St-Lazare, has 36 rooms. Just steps away are the department stores of the Grand Boulevards and the fine food shops of place de la Madeleine.

NEW ORIENT HÔTEL

Map pp140–1 Hotel €€

☎ 01 45 22 21 64; www.hotelneworient.com; 16 rue de Constantinople, 8e; s €89-115, d €106-115, tw €115-140, tr & q €150; M Europe; ☒ ☑ ♿

This delightful place is situated in a neighbourhood of the 8e north of Gare St-Lazare that seems to have only shops that sell musical instruments and/or sheet music. It has a lot of personality, especially in the public areas. The 30 guestrooms are not as nice, though several have Second Empire furnishings and decorative busts. Some, including twin room 7 and double room 8, even have little balconies.

HÔTEL BRITANNIA

Map pp144–5 Hotel €€

☎ 01 42 85 36 36; www.hotelbritannia.com; 24 rue d'Amsterdam, 9e; s/d/tr €79/89/105; M St-Lazare; ♿

This 46-room place with narrow hallways but pleasant, clean rooms is just opposite Gare St-Lazare and a quick walk to the *grands magasins* (department stores) on blvd Haussmann. The plaster reliefs of Roman citizens lining the entrance hall are from the Louvre and give the place something of a classical feel. Ask about the three-night packages.

HÔTEL AURORE MONTMARTRE

Map pp144–5 Hotel €€

☎ 01 48 74 85 56; www.montmartre-hotel-paris.com; 76 rue de Clichy, 9e; s €65-85, d €70-105, tr €99-140; M Place de Clichy; ♿

The lobby and the lift may both be pint-sized and Montmartre ain't exactly one street over, but some of the 24 rooms of this hotel between place de Clichy and the Gare St-Lazare have balconies (eg room 54) overlooking the street and quite striking black-and-white bathrooms. And the price is certainly right for the location.

HÔTEL EL Dorado

Map pp144–5 Hotel €

☎ 01 45 22 35 21; www.eldoradohotel.fr; 18 rue des Dames, 17e; s €35-57, d & tw €68-80, tr €80-90; M Place de Clichy

This bohemian place is one of Paris' greatest finds: a welcoming, reasonably well-run place with 23 colourfully decorated and (often) ethnically themed rooms in a main building on a quiet street and in an annexe with a private garden at the back. We love rooms 1 and 2 in the garden annexe; the choicest rooms in the main building are Nos 16 and 17 with their own terraces leading out into the garden. Cheaper-category singles have washbasin only. The hotel's excellent *Bistro des Dames* (p263) is a bonus.

OPÉRA & GRANDS BOULEVARDS

The avenues around blvd Montmartre are popular for their nightlife area and it's a lively area in which to stay. It's very convenient for shopping as this is where you'll find Paris' premium department stores (p215).

HÔTEL RÉSIDENCE DES 3 POUSSINS

Map pp148–9 Hotel €€

☎ 01 53 32 81 81; www.les3poussins.com; 15 rue Clauzel, 9e; s/d & tw €137/152, 1- or 2-person studio €187, 3- or 4-person studio €222; M St-Georges; ☒ ♿

A lovely hotel due south of place Pigalle, it has 40 rooms, half of which are small studios with their own cooking facilities. This place reeks of style – from the classical music in the lobby to the artistically designed lift up to the bedrooms – and the back patio is a delightful place in the warmer months for breakfast or a drink.

HÔTEL LANGLOIS

Map pp148–9 Hotel €€

☎ 01 48 74 78 24; www.hotel-langlois.com; 63 rue St-Lazare, 9e; s €105-120, d & tw €120-140, ste €180; M Trinité; ☒ ♿

Built in 1870, this 27-room hotel has kept its charming *belle époque* look. The rooms and suites (eg rooms 11 and 15) are large for a smallish hotel in Paris; most have sandstone fireplaces that, sadly, have been decommissioned, and many retain original bathroom fixtures and tiles. Room 64 has wonderful views of the rooftops of Montmartre.

HÔTEL DES ARTS

Map pp148–9 Hotel €€

☎ 01 42 46 73 30; hdag@free.fr; 7 Cité Bergère, 9e; s/d/tr €84/92/102; M Grands Boulevards; ♿

This quirky place with pink geraniums adorning each exterior window is in a quiet

little alley off rue du Faubourg Montmartre. It has 25 rooms recently redone in shades of plum and burgundy, and there seems to be a bird theme (vintage bird prints, caged parrot in the lobby) throughout.

HÔTEL PELETIER HAUSSMANN OPÉRA Map pp148–9 Hotel €€

☎ 01 42 46 79 53; www.peletieropera.com; 15 rue Le Peletier, 9e; s €70–90, d €80–100, tr €86–110;  Richelieu Drouot; 

This is a pleasant 26-room hotel just off Blvd Haussmann and close to the big department stores. Attractive packages are available at the weekend, depending on the season. Internet access here costs €2 for 15 minutes.

HÔTEL CHOPIN Map pp148–9 Hotel €€

☎ 01 47 70 58 10; www.hotelchopin.fr; 46 passage Jouffroy & 10 Blvd Montmartre, 9e; s €50–78, d €81–92, tr €109;  Grands Boulevards

Dating back to 1846, the Chopin is down one of Paris' most delightful 19th-century *passages couverts* (covered shopping arcades) and a great deal for its location right off the Grands Boulevards (entrance at 10 Blvd Montmartre). The sprawling 36-room hotel may be a little faded, but it's still enormously evocative of the *belle époque*. After 10pm, when the arcade closes, ring the *sonnette de nuit* (night doorbell).

HÔTEL VICTORIA Map pp148–9 Hotel €€

☎ 01 47 70 20 01; www.hotelvictoria.free.fr; 2bis Cité Bergère, 9e; s/d/tr €71/77/93;  Grands Boulevards

This 107-room old-style hotel in a quiet alleyway just off the Grands Boulevards is a good choice if you're looking for central budget accommodation on the Right Bank. The rooms are generally unexceptional but of a good size, and the welcome is warm.

WOODSTOCK HOSTEL Map pp148–9 Hostel €

☎ 01 48 78 87 76; www.woodstock.fr; 48 rue Rodier, 9e; per person dm/d Oct-Mar €19/22, Apr-Sep €22/25;  Anvers;  

This friendly hostel is just down the hill from raucous place Pigalle in a quiet residential quarter. Dorm beds are in rooms sleeping four to six people in bunk beds, and each room has washbasin only; showers and toilets are off the corridor. Rooms are shut from 11am to 3pm, and the (enforced) curfew is at 2am. The spanking eat-

in kitchen, situated down the steps from the patio has everything. Internet access is available for €2 for 30 minutes; wi-fi is free.

GARE DU NORD, GARE DE L'EST & RÉPUBLIQUE

The areas east and northeast of the Gare du Nord and Gare de l'Est have always had a more than ample selection of hotels; there are a few two- and three-star places around the train stations in the 10e that are convenient if you're catching an early train to London or want to crash immediately upon arrival. Place de la République is relatively convenient for the nightlife areas of Ménilmontant.

Gare du Nord is linked to Charles de Gaulle airport by RER and RATP (Régie Autonome des Transports Parisiens) bus 350, and to Orly airport by Orlyval. Bus 350 to/from Charles de Gaulle airport also stops right in front of the Gare de l'Est.

HÔTEL FRANÇAIS Map pp152–3 Hotel €€

☎ 01 40 35 94 14; www.hotelfrancais.com; 13 rue du 8 Mai 1945, 10e; s €94–101, d €99–106, tr €134–141;  Gare de l'Est;  

This two-star hotel facing the Gare de l'Est has 72 attractive, almost luxurious and very quiet rooms, some of which have balconies. The place has recently been freshened up; we love the new mock café breakfast area.

GRAND HÔTEL DE PARIS

Map pp152–3 Hotel €€

☎ 01 46 07 40 56; grand.hotel.de.paris@fofnet.com; 72 Blvd de Strasbourg, 10e; s/d/tr/q €80/86/105/122;  Gare de l'Est

The Grand Hôtel de Paris is a well-run establishment just south of Gare de l'Est on Blvd de Strasbourg. It has 49 soundproofed rooms and a tiny lift, and is a pleasant place to stay if you're in the area. The quads are especially spacious and suitable for a small family; try room 53, or room 33 which has a small balcony.



HÔTEL LA VIEILLE FRANCE

Map pp152–3 Hotel €€

☎ 01 45 26 42 37; la.vieille.france@wanadoo.fr; 151 rue La Fayette, 10e; s €48, d €75–85, tr €120;  Gare du Nord; 

This is an upbeat, 34-room place with relatively spacious and pleasant rooms, though with Gare du Nord so close it's bound to be somewhat noisy. Singles have washbasins only, but communal showers are free.

NORD-EST HÔTEL Map pp152–3 Hotel €

☎ 01 47 70 07 18; hotel.nord.est@wanadoo.fr; 12 rue des Petits Hôtels, 10e; s/d/tr/q €65/75/110/145;  Poissonnière; 

This unusual 30-room hotel is set away from the street and fronted by a small terrace. It is convenient to both Gare du Nord and Gare de l'Est. Internet access costs an extortionate €8/12 for 30/60 minutes.

SIBOUR HÔTEL Map pp152–3 Hotel €

☎ 01 46 07 20 74; www.hotel-sibour.com, in French; 4 rue Sibour, 10e; s €40–60, d €45–65, tr/q €80/110;  Gare de l'Est

This friendly place has 45 well-kept rooms, including some which are a bit old-fashioned (the cheapest singles and doubles) and have washbasins only. Communal showers cost €3. Some of the rooms look down on pretty Église de St-Laurent. We love the trompe l'oeil mural in the breakfast room.

HÔTEL LIBERTY Map pp152–3 Hotel €

☎ 01 42 08 60 58; www.libertyhotel.net; 16 rue de Nancy, 10e; s €35–47, d €42–55, tw €42–58, tr €70;  Château d'Eau

The Liberty is a 42-room hotel situated just south of Gare de l'Est with clean, partially renovated but very plain, functional rooms. The cheapest singles and doubles have washbasins only; communal showers cost €3.

PEACE AND LOVE HOSTEL

Map pp152–3 Hostel €

☎ 01 46 07 65 11; www.paris-hostels.com; 245 rue La Fayette, 10e; per person dm/d €25/30;  Jaurès or Louis Blanc; 

This modern-day hippy hangout is a groovy though chronically crowded hostel with beds in 21 smallish, shower-equipped rooms for two to four people. There's a great kitchen and eating area, but most of the action seems to revolve around the ground-floor bar (open till 2am), which boasts more than two dozen types of beer. Internet access costs from €1.

GARE DE LYON, NATION & BERCY

The development of Bercy Village, with its selection of restaurants and bars, has done much to resuscitate the 12e. The neighbourhood around Gare de Lyon has a few budget hotels and a popular independent hostel.

HÔTEL DU PRINTEMPS Map pp158–9 Hotel €

☎ 01 43 43 62 31; www.hotel-paris-primtemps.com; 80 Blvd de Picpus, 12e; s/d €50/60, tw €65–70, tr €75–80, q €88;  Picpus; 

It may not be in the centre of the action, but the 38-room 'Spring Hotel' offers excellent value for its standard and location, just steps from place de la Nation. What's more, there's an inhouse bar open day and night. Singles have showers but share a toilet; doubles have everything.

HÔTEL LE COSY Map pp158–9 Hotel €

☎ 01 43 43 10 02; www.hotel-cosy.com; 50 av de St-Mandé, 12e; s €40–65, d €50–99;  Picpus;  

This family-run budget hotel immediately southeast of place de la Nation positively oozes charm. The 28 rooms, though basic (the cheapest singles and doubles have washbasins only), are all different, decorated in warm pastels with original artwork by a young painter from Marseilles and have hardwood floors. If feeling flush, choose one of four 'VIP' rooms in the courtyard annexe, especially room 3 or 4 on the 1st floor.

HOSTEL BLUE PLANET Map pp158–9 Hostel €

☎ 01 43 42 06 18; www.hostelblueplanet.com; 5 rue Hector Malot, 12e; dm €21;  Gare de Lyon;  

This 43-room hostel is very close to Gare de Lyon – convenient if you're heading south or west at the crack of dawn or arriving in the wee hours. Dorm beds are in rooms for two to four people and the hostel closes between 11am and 3pm. There's no curfew. Internet access costs €3/6 for 30/60 minutes.

13E ARRONDISSEMENT & CHINATOWN

The 13e is where you'll find the Bibliothèque Nationale de France, as well as the *péniches* (barges) on the Seine fitted out with music

clubs and restaurants. The southern 13e is a happy hunting ground for budget hotels.

HÔTEL LA DEMEURE Map pp162-3 Hotel €€€
☎ 01 43 37 81 25; www.hotellademeureparis.com;
51 blvd St-Marcel, 13e; s/d €165/202, ste €290;
M Les Gobelins; ☒ ☑ ☒

This self-proclaimed *hotel de caractère*, owned and operated by a charming father-son team who always seem to be at hand, is a bit away from the action at the bottom of the 5e. But the refined elegance of its 43 rooms, the almost 'clubby' public areas in warm red and orange tones and the wrap-around balconies of the corner rooms make it worth going the extra distance. Famed for those extra touches, the suite has an iPod, and the modern red fireplace in the lobby actually works.

HÔTEL LA MANUFACTURE
Map pp162-3 Boutique Hotel €€€
☎ 01 45 35 45 25; www.hotel-la-manufacture.com; 8 rue Philippe de Champagne, 13e; s €120-145, d €165-195, tr €195-230, q €266-278; M Place d'Italie; ☒ ☑ ☒

The graceful, minimalist La Manufacture is located on the fringe of the Latin Quarter. The 57 individually decorated rooms adhere to clean lines and sport very bold plumage. Rooms on the top (7th) floor are the most spacious and coveted; room 71 boasts a view of the Panthéon while room 74 glimpses the Eiffel Tower. The lobby bar is a delight.

PARK & SUITES GRANDE BIBLIOTHÈQUE Map pp162-3 Serviced Apartment €€

☎ 01 53 61 62 00; www.mysuiteapparthotels.com; 15 rue de Tolbiac, 13e; ste with kitchenette for 1-/2-person €142, for 3-/4-person €151/158, €889/917/994 per week; M Bibliothèque; ☒

Close to the *Bibliothèque Nationale de France* (p161) these 70 fully equipped studios for up to four people are a good choice if you want to stay in the Bercy area. Rates drop to as low as €93/98/103 per night for longer stays.

GRAND HÔTEL DES GOBELINS
Map pp162-3 Hotel €€

☎ 01 43 31 79 89; www.hotel-des-gobelins.com;
57 blvd St-Marcel, 13e; s €90-100, d €105-150, tr €150-185; M Gobelins; ☒ ☑ ☒

This three-star Logis de France hotel may be a bit out of the way but rue Mouffetard and its market (p231) is just minutes away.

Both the 45 rooms and the public areas are particularly stylish; framed fragments of 18th-century Gobelin tapestry and the painter Maladir's *Atelier à St-Petersbourg* add warmth to the already cosy lobby. You'll pay more for the air-conditioned 'superior' rooms facing the back than you will for the noisy ones on the boulevard.

15E ARRONDISSEMENT

The 15e, some people's least favourite arrondissement in Paris, offers some decent accommodation options, especially when it comes to chain hotels.

The 15e is home to two hotels under the same management and very well known among backpackers and budget travellers: the Aloha Hostel (see below) and the Three Ducks Hostel. Based on feedback from readers, Lonely Planet no longer recommends the Three Ducks, but the Aloha still gets the thumbs up.

HÔTEL AMIRAL FONDARY
Map pp166-7 Hotel €€

☎ 01 45 75 14 75; www.amiral-fondary.com, in French; 30 rue Fondary, 15e; s €74-90, d & tw €85-90; M Av Émile Zola; ☒ ☑ ☒

This reasonably priced hotel in the far-flung (but well-served by metro) 15e is an excellent choice for the price. The 20 rooms are modest but well maintained; choose one looking onto the pretty (and very leafy) little courtyard that is such a delight in the warm weather.

HÔTEL CARLADEZ CAMBRONNE
Map pp166-7 Hotel €€

☎ 01 47 34 07 12; www.hotelcarladez.com; 3 pl du Généra Beuret, 15e; s €76-89, d €79-93, tw €83-95, ste €97-141; M Vaugirard; ☒

A small, very dynamic hotel overlooking an attractive square, the CC has 28 comfortable rooms that look onto a courtyard – the suite/apartment is in an annex which has direct access to it from the street. While the former rooms are quieter, the latter are larger. The public areas have that 'just in from Indonesia' look; the complimentary coffee- and tea-making facilities are a nice touch.

ALOHA HOSTEL Map pp166-7 Hotel €

☎ 01 42 73 03 03; www.aloha.fr; 1 rue Borromée, 15e; per person dm/d Nov-Mar €19/23, Apr-Oct €23/26; M Volontaires; ☒ ☒

The Aloha is a laid-back hostel north of rue de Vaugirard. The rooms, which have two to six beds and sometimes a shower en suite, are locked from 11am to 5pm (though reception remains open) and curfew is at 2am. Kitchen facilities are available. Internet access costs €2 for 30 minutes, but wi-fi is free.

MONTMARTRE & PIGALLE

Montmartre, encompassing the 18e and the northern part of the 9e, is one of the most charming neighbourhoods in Paris. There is a bunch of top-end hotels in the area, and the attractive two-star places on rue Aristide Bruant are generally less full in July and August than in the spring and autumn.

The flat area around the base of the Butte de Montmartre has some surprisingly good deals. The lively, ethnically mixed area east of Sacré Cœur can be a bit rough; some people say it's prudent to avoid Château Rouge metro station at night. Both the 9e and the 18e have fine and recommended hostels.

KUBE HÔTEL Map p169 Boutique Hotel €€€

☎ 01 42 05 20 00; www.kubehotel.com; 1-5 passage Ruelle, 18e; s €250, d €300-400, ste €500-750; M La Chapelle; ☒ ☑ ☒

The easternmost edge of the 18e, virtually the lap of Gare du Nord, is the last place in Paris you'd expect to find an über-trendy boutique hotel, but this 41-room hostelry manages to pull it off. The theme here is, of course, three dimensional square – from the glassed-in reception box in the entrance courtyard to the cube-shaped furnishings in the 41 guestrooms to the ice in the cocktails at the celebrated *Ice Kube* (p300) bar. The offspring of the stylish *Murano Urban Resort* (p338) the Kube might have been less open-handed with the fluorescent reds and *faux* fur, but if that's what it takes to get guests to trek all the way to La Chapelle, so be it.

TERRASS HÔTEL Map p169 Hotel €€€

☎ 01 46 06 72 85; www.terrace-hotel.com;
12 rue Joseph de Maistre, 18e; s & d €260-325, ste €355-375; M Blanche; ☒ ☑ ☒

This very sedate, stylish hotel at the south-eastern corner of Montparnasse Cemetery and due east of the Butte de Montmartre (Montmartre Hill) has 92 spacious and

top picks

BUDGET HOTELS

- Hôtel du Printemps (p355)
- Hôtel Bonséjour Montmartre (p358)
- Hôtel de Lille (p337)
- Hôtel Le Cosy (p355)
- Port Royal Hôtel (p346)
- Hôtel de Nevers (p341)

well-designed rooms and suites, an excellent restaurant and bar, and quite simply the best views in town. For the ultimate Parisian experience, choose double room 608 for stunning views of the Eiffel Tower and Panthéon or room 802, which boasts its own private terrace. The rooms on floors 4, 5 and 6 were designed by Kenzo.

HÔTEL DES ARTS Map p169 Hotel €€

☎ 01 46 06 30 52; www.arts-hotel-paris.com;
5 rue Tholozé, 18e; s €75-95, d & tw €95-105, tr €160; M Abbesses or Blanche; ☒

This friendly and attractive 50-room hotel, convenient to both place Pigalle and Montmartre, has gained another star and added a few euros to its rates. Towering over it is the old-style windmill Moulin de la Galette. The resident canine is very friendly indeed.

HÔTEL REGYN'S MONTMARTRE Map p169 Hotel €€

☎ 01 42 54 45 21; www.hotel-regyns-paris.com;
18 place des Abbesses, 18e; s €79-89, d & tw €91-111, tr €117-131; M Abbesses; ☒ ☒

This 22-room hotel is a good choice if you want to stay in old Montmartre and not break the bank. It's just opposite the Abbesses metro station, which happens to have one of the best preserved Art Nouveau entrance canopies designed by Hector Guimard (see p156), and outside the hotel is a lovely old plane tree. Some of the rooms have views out over Paris.

HÔTEL DU MOULIN Map p169 Hotel €€

☎ 01 42 64 33 33; www.hotelmoulin.com;
3 rue Aristide Bruant, 18e; s/d/tr €83/88/106;
M Abbesses or Blanche; ☒

This quiet little hotel has 27 good-sized rooms, with toilet and bath or a shower in both a main building and a garden annex.

The Korean family who own the place are very kind. Check out their fun website.

HÔTEL UTRILLO Map p169 Hotel €€

☎ 01 42 58 42 58; www.hotel-paris-utrillo.com; 7 rue Aristide Bruant, 18e; s €73, d & tw €83-88, tr €105;  Abbesses or Blanche;  


This friendly 30-room hotel, named after the 'painter of Montmartre' Maurice Utrillo (1883–1955) and decorated in primary colours, can boast a few extras such as a little courtyard and small sauna.

HÔTEL BONJOUR MONTMARTRE Map p169 Hotel €

☎ 01 42 54 22 53; www.hotel-bonjour-montmartre.fr; 11 rue Burq, 18e; s €33-40, d €44-55, tr €58-65;  Abbesses; 

At the top of a quiet street in Montmartre, this is a perennial budget favourite. It's a simple place to stay – no lift, linoleum or parquet floors – but welcoming, comfortable, very clean and getting a protracted (and much needed) facelift. Some rooms (eg Nos 14, 23, 33, 43 and 53) have little balconies attached and at least one room (No 55) offers a fleeting glimpse of Sacré Cœur. Communal showers cost €2.

STYLE HOTEL Map p169 Hotel €

☎ 01 45 22 37 59; fax 01 45 22 81 03; 8 rue Ganneron, 18e; s & d €35-50, tr/q €57/67;  La Fourche

This 36-room hotel just north of place de Clichy and west of Cimetière de Montmartre is a titch rough around the edges (ie rough wooden floors, old runner carpets in the hallways) but is loaded with character and the welcome is always charming. There's a lovely double glassed-in courtyard, but no lift. The cheapest singles and doubles are equipped with washbasin only.

LE VILLAGE HOSTEL Map p169 Hostel €

☎ 01 42 64 22 02; www.villagehostel.fr; 20 rue d'Orsel, 18e; per person dm/d/tr €20/24/30/27;  Anvers;  

A fine 25-room hostel with beamed ceilings, a lovely outside terrace and views of Sacré Cœur. Dormitory beds are in rooms for four to six people and all have shower and toilet. Kitchen facilities are available, and there's a popular bar too. Rooms are closed between 11am and 4pm for cleaning, but there is no curfew. Internet access is available for €1/3.50 for 15/60 minutes.

PRATIC HÔTEL Map p169 Hotel €

☎ 01 46 06 27 61; 31 rue Germain Pilon, 18e; s/d €18/24, d with shower €35;  Abbesses

As cheap as chips with almost the same *odeur*, this 33-room ultra-budget place has price, location and a warm welcome in its favour.

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