

# PARIS

The City of Lights is one stop that you can't afford to miss on any trip to Europe. Paris lives up to every expectation- it's beautiful, romantic, chic, a food-lover's dream and packed full of enough sightseeing to keep travellers busy for weeks.

## Getting there:

- **Dublin** – Direct flights daily with Ryanair and Aerlingus
- **Cork** – Direct flights daily with Aerlingus
- **Shannon** - Direct flights daily with Ryanair
- **Belfast** – Direct flights daily with EastJet

## From the airport:

- **Beauvais** – Take the airport shuttle bus to Porte Maillot. It takes 1hr 15 mins and costs about €15.
- **Charles de Gaulle** – the RER train runs every 15 minutes. It takes about 50 mins to get into the city centre. Tickets cost €8.40.

## Where to stay:

Always book a place to stay in advance of any trip to Paris. Accommodation fills up fast all year round.

- **Hotel Esmeralda** – a great little find, tucked away in a great location. There's no lift so pack light! Search for it on [www.tripadvisor.com](http://www.tripadvisor.com)
- **Sibour Hotel** – this place has cheap single and double rooms. [www.hotel-sibour.com](http://www.hotel-sibour.com)
- **Le Village Hostel** – stay here for the lovely views of the Sacré Coeur. Kitchen facilities available. [www.villagehostel.fr](http://www.villagehostel.fr)

## Things to do:

- **Eiffel Tour** – Paris would not be Paris without it. Be brave and take the stairs up. It's cheaper and well worth it for the views.
- **Montmartre** – artists and writers have been coming here for years. Stroll around this hilly part of the city and have a budding Picasso draw you. A great souvenir! Walk up to the Sacré Coeur and marvel at the church's gleaming elegance.
- **Catacombes** – not one for those who scare easily, the Catacombes is a maze of underground graves stacked with skulls and bones. Worth seeing if you're brave enough.
- **Versailles** – the amazing palace is a must-see if you fancy a day trip out of the city.

## Nightlife:

- **Le Loir dans la Theiere** – A quirky bar with comfortable couches. Serves snacks during the day. 3, Rue des Rosiers
- **Le Piano Vache** – popular with students, head here for rock, reggae and pop. 5e Rue Laplace.
- **Le Pub St-Hilare** – full of students playing pool. There is always a great atmosphere in this popular spot. 2 Rue Valette.

## Top tips:

- It's cheaper to drink in a bar if you don't sit down.
- Picnic! Try a *baguette-frites* (chip sandwich) down by Notre Dame or take a shop bought feast and have a leisurely *midi* (lunch) in the Jardin du Luxembourg.
- If you can, fly to Charles de Galle.

