

TRAVEL | FOOD & WINE | CULTURE | HISTORY

FRANCE

Britain's best-selling magazine about France

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Expert
award-winning
travel writers

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Catch the late summer sun with a spectacular trip from the Gorges du Verdon to the Côte d'Azur

25
of the best-kept
secrets
in Paris

PAULA RADCLIFFE

on life in Monaco
and the Pyrénées

THE SOMME

The land that bears
the scars of war

The tranquillity
of boating in
the Camargue

+ Lyon
The foodie
capital of
France



VAUCLUSE VIEW
The beautiful village
that needs no fanfare

GUILLAUME CANET
The film director makes
his Hollywood debut

THE LOIR BY BIKE
The *other* Loir (without
an e!) on two wheels



PARIS SECRETS

Millions of visitors throng the streets of Paris every year and, understandably, most make a beeline for the big attractions such as the Eiffel Tower, the Musée du Louvre and the Cathédrale Notre-Dame.

It might seem that there is nothing more to discover in the City of Light, but take a few steps away from the tourist hot spots and you will enter an exciting new world.

Our team of writers have used their insider knowledge of Paris to suggest 25 ideas for making your next trip

that little bit different, covering accommodation, restaurants, entertainment and places to visit.

Follow some of our ideas and you could be strolling through a 400-year-old market, sipping mint tea in a Moorish garden, eating in Paris's oldest restaurant and staying in a 1920s mansion. The choice is yours!

Carolyn Boyd, Editor

Contributors: Carolyn Boyd, Stephen Clarke, Carol Drinkwater, Régine Godfrey, Paul Lamara, Lynn McBride, Zsóé McIntyre

Our guide to the best-kept secrets in the rest of France (May 2014, Issue 188) can be accessed online by visiting <http://bit.ly/1p7eGrD>



WHERE TO STAY

7 TRIPLE CHANCE

At his beautiful bed and breakfast Les 3 Chambres, Laurent Rougier eases you into the day with a scrumptious breakfast served in the book-lined lounge of his 1830s house, between Montmartre and the *grands magasins*. The three luxury rooms are the epitome of elegance and comfort, marrying antique furniture, rich carpets and tasteful furnishings with modern trappings including flat-screen TV, Wi-Fi, iPod/iPhone deck and coffee machine. Rooms from €194 a night. **RG** Les 3 Chambres, 14 Rue Bleue, 75009 Paris
Tel: (Fr) 1 42 47 07 42
www.les3chambres-paris.com
Métro: Cadet

8 HOME FROM HOME

If you want a peaceful retreat in the capital, La Villa Paris is a bed and breakfast housed in a charming 1920s red-brick mansion tucked away between the *Butte aux Cailles* neighbourhood and Parc Montsouris. The affable hostess Marie offers three rooms with

TOP TIP
Avoid the queues at the Musée du Louvre by using the entrances at the Porte des Lions or Passage Richelieu

an en-suite shower and a fourth with a large marble bathroom and Jacuzzi. Luxurious king-size beds ensure a sound night's sleep and breakfast is a feast. Guests have access to a kettle and fridge in the communal kitchen and are given a key to the main door. Doubles from €125. **RG** La Villa Paris, 33 Rue de la Fontaine à Mulard, 75013 Paris
Tel: (Fr) 1 43 47 15 33
www.la-villa-paris.com
Métro: Maison Blanche

9 MONTMARTRE TREASURE

The Paris-Oasis guesthouse, run by Hélène and Jean-Louis Bignon, is an enchanting place to stay near the Basilique du Sacré-Coeur in Montmartre. The five fully furnished flats are of different sizes to accommodate singles, couples or families, and each has a bedroom, en-suite shower room, toilet and kitchenette. African masks, paintings and statues are scattered throughout the property, and other delights include a garden and indoor swimming pool. The one-person apartment

costs €90 a night and the other four apartments are from €140 for two (minimum stay three nights). **RG** Paris-Oasis, 14 Rue André-del-Sarte 75018 Paris
Tel: (Fr) 1 42 55 95 16
www.paris-oasis.com
Métro: Barbès-Rochecouart, Anvers

10 ARTISTIC STREAK

The Hôtel du Petit Moulin is a four-star boutique address in the Marais district, not far from the Centre Pompidou arts complex, and decorated throughout by the fashion designer Christian Lacroix. Combining two 17th-century buildings, the hotel has retained its 19th-century painted storefront – a nod to its past life as a *boulangerie* that included the writer Victor Hugo among its customers. Each of the 17 rooms is individually decorated with bold, clashing colours, lush fabrics, Venetian mirrors and 1960s furniture. Doubles from €195. **RG** Hôtel du Petit Moulin, 29 Rue de Poitou 75003 Paris
Tel: (Fr) 1 42 74 10 10
www.hotelpetitmoulinparis.com
Métro: Saint-Sébastien-Froissart, Filles du Calvaire