

Description of Fences

Description des obstacles

Fence 1 – Mascot

Blue, white and red

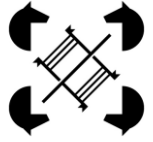


The mascot of the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games bears the name of Olympic Phryge, inspired by the classic small Phrygian caps (bonnet phrygien).

These hats can be seen on the iconic figure of Marianne in town halls across the country, and even on everyday objects such as coins and stamps. The Phrygian cap, also known as the "freedom cap", transcends borders as an international symbol of the ideal of freedom. Historically, they were worn by freed slaves during Roman times and have endured in various emblems in both North and South America.

The mascots feature the colors of the French flag, red, white and blue, and the gold Paris 2024 logo on the chest.

The choice of the name and design was based on symbolizing freedom and personifying allegorical figures representative of the Republic of France, as well as demonstrating that sport can change lives.



Fence 2 – Statue de la Liberté
Green and grey



The Statue of Liberty is one of the most iconic attractions in the United States, a universal symbol of freedom and democracy, and its image is recognized around the world.

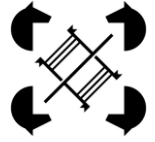
It was a gift from the French people to the United States to commemorate the centennial of their independence from the U.S. and to symbolize the friendship between the two countries. The statue was designed by the French sculptor Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi and its internal structure, initially designed by Viollet Le Duc, was developed by the young engineer Gustave Eiffel, after his untimely death.

The Statue of Liberty was unveiled on October 28, 1886, ten years after the centennial, due to the delay in the work to prepare the base. It is located on Liberty Island in New York Harbor. A visit to the statue and the Island, located nearby, is an important experience for visitors and a reminder of New York's role as a gateway for millions of immigrants who came to the United States in search of a better life.

The statue represents Libertas, the Roman goddess of liberty, and its design includes symbolic elements such as the raised torch, symbolizing the light of freedom, and the tablet with the date of U.S. independence (July 4, 1776) held in her left hand.

Paris also has a replica of the Statue of Liberty, on a smaller scale, which looks like its big sister in New York. It is located at the end of the Ile de Grenelle, in the middle of the Seine River.

The United States returned the favor to the French and gave them on the first centenary of the French Revolution a copy of the Statue of Liberty on a scale four times smaller than the one that stands in the Big Apple. Paris placed it on Swan Island, looking in the direction of its big sister, in a clear and very spiritual New York-Paris connection.



Fence 3 – Haute couture
Pink



French haute couture is the ultimate expression of personalized and exclusive fashion. This art of tailoring involves the creation of made-to-measure garments that stand out for their unique quality and meticulous attention to detail.

Exceptional craftsmanship is a hallmark of haute couture, where highly skilled artisans work with the finest materials, from luxurious fabrics to elaborate details such as lace and embroidery.

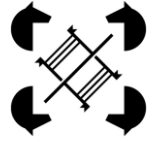
Haute couture designers are known for their creativity and unique vision, presenting innovative collections. These exclusive creations are carried out in the ateliers of fashion houses, specialized workshops that are an integral part of the production process.

Haute couture fashion shows, held during Paris Fashion Week, are prestigious events that showcase the unique creations of designers. Their shows turn the city into a hotbed of trends every season, with events everywhere, and an undisputed and lavish world reference. What Paris says in this regard is law.

The exclusivity and prestige associated with haute couture make it a status symbol. Strict regulation by the Chambre Syndicale de la Haute Couture ensures that only fashion houses that meet rigorous criteria can carry the distinction of haute couture. In other words, French haute couture fuses artistic creativity with impeccable craftsmanship, standing out in the fashion world and contributing to the prestige of Paris as the fashion capital of the world.

The passion for fashion as we know it today began in Versailles under the shadow of Louis XIV, the Sun King. His powerful minister Colbert said that fashion was to France what the gold mines of Peru were to Spain.

Marie Antoinette was the world's first top model and the precursor of the seasonal change of attire, her portraits inspired half of Europe when it came to choosing dresses and setting trends. Since then, Paris has been the capital of fashion and savoir faire, with its high point during fashion week, which, although it has no fixed starting date, some speak of 1914 and a show rather than a fashion week.

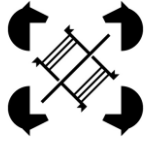


Fence 4a – Bir-Hakeim
Grey



The Bir-Hakeim Bridge crosses the Seine River and connects the 15th arrondissement with Swan Island. Built between 1903 and 1905, its metallic design features ornate arches and pillars, characteristic of the art deco style. Named in memory of the Battle of Bir-Hakeim, which allowed the French to sign the treaty of free passage after defeating General Rommel and his armored army over the Libyan desert (1942), the bridge pays tribute to the bravery of the French forces in that battle.

This two-level bridge serves as a thoroughfare for vehicles and pedestrians on its upper level, while the lower-level houses line 6 of the Parisian metro. In addition to its practical function, the Bir-Hakeim Bridge offers spectacular views of the Eiffel Tower and the Seine River, making it a popular sight for residents and tourists alike.

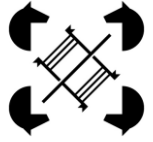


Fence 4b – Alexandre III
Grey



The Alexandre III Bridge, built in 1900 for the Universal Exposition in Paris, stands out as one of the most elegant and ornate bridges in the city. Named in honor of the Russian Tsar Alexander III, who died in 1894, so he could not get to know the bridge, and it was his son, Tsar Nicholas II who laid the foundation stone of the bridge in 1896. The bridge symbolizes the union in the Franco-Russian alliance and stands as a historical and artistic monument. Its Art Nouveau design includes elaborately decorated bronze lanterns, golden Pegasus statues and other ornamentation that contribute to its unique aesthetics. This bridge is not only a convenient crossing over the Seine River, but also a special place that offers panoramic views of Paris, including the Eiffel Tower and the Invalides.

The Alexandre III Bridge not only serves as an important link between the Champs Elysees and the Grand Palais, but also represents an architectural landmark commemorating the friendship between nations. The statues of Pegasus at the ends of the bridge, along with the intricate decorations and details, contribute to its grandeur and historical significance. This bridge remains an essential landmark in Paris, where engineering combines with artistic elegance to create a visual and cultural experience, now considered a World Heritage Site, within the Seine Riverbanks ensemble.



Fence 5 – Dune du Pilat
Blue and beige



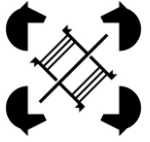
The "Dune du Pilat" is an impressive sand dune located on the southwest coast of France, near the town of Arcachon. It is the largest and highest sand dune in Europe and is part of the Landes region of Gascony. It is located at the entrance of the bay of Arcachon and offers unique and spectacular views of the Atlantic Ocean, the bay and the surrounding forests.

Its origin spans thousands of years, due to geological and climatic processes in the Landes region of Gascony. During periods of climate change and fluctuating sea levels, marine sediments, including sand, were deposited in the area. Over time, the prevailing winds transported the sand inland, gradually forming a dune. Vegetation, especially maritime pines, played a crucial role in stabilizing the dune by anchoring the sand with their roots.

The city of Arcachon, meanwhile, is a popular seaside destination known for its elegant architecture and charming atmosphere. The city is famous for its beach, its harbor, and its oysters, which are a local specialty.

Arcachon is known for its natural beauty and pleasant climate.

And the "Dune du Pilat" is an outstanding natural site in France, which in turn is known for its coastal charm and tourist attractions, all over the world.



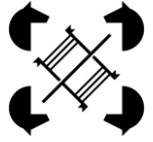
Fence 6 – Arc de Triomphe
Grey



The history of ballet in Paris began in the 17th century, when Jean-Baptiste Lully and Pierre Beauchamp laid the foundations at the court of Louis XIV. The creation of the Académie Royale de Danse in 1661 and the inauguration of the Paris Opera in 1875 marked fundamental milestones. These events contributed to the formalization of dance techniques and consolidated Paris as a world epicenter of classical ballet.

In the 20th century, the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo, directed by Serge Diaghilev, played a leading role on the Parisian stage, introducing innovations. After World War II, ballet experienced a resurgence, and the arrival of Rudolf Nureyev in 1960 as director of the Paris Opera ballet marked a golden era. His collaboration with Margot Fonteyn contributed to the international prestige of the Parisian ballet.

Today, Paris remains a vibrant cultural center for ballet, where classical tradition merges with contemporary experimentation. From the Académie Royale de Danse to current explorations, the history of ballet in Paris reflects a rich artistic evolution that has left an indelible mark on the world dance scene.



Fence 7 – Tour Eiffel
Grey and black

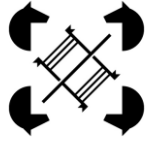


The Eiffel Tower, an architectural masterpiece designed by Gustave Eiffel, is in the heart of Paris and is one of the most recognized icons in the world. It was built over a period of about two years for the Universal Exposition of 1889, celebrating the centenary of the French Revolution. The construction of the tower was initially full of controversy, received a multitude of criticisms, but quickly gained global appreciation and became a distinctive symbol of the City of Light.

The 324-meter-high iron lattice structure offers an unparalleled panoramic view of Paris from its three publicly accessible levels. Visitors from around the world ascend in elevators or take the stairs to enjoy the observation decks, each offering a unique perspective of the city, its iconic monuments, its wide boulevards and the Seine River meandering through the metropolis.

At night, it is spectacularly illuminated, the Eiffel Tower becomes a dazzling spectacle of flashing lights, adding a magical dimension to its visual impact. Not only is it a historical monument, but it also serves a practical function by housing transmission antennas and offers gastronomic experiences in its restaurants on the upper levels. With its timeless elegance and ability to evoke awe, the Eiffel Tower remains a magnet for lovers of architecture, history and the beauty of Paris.

The variable height of the Eiffel Tower should be contrasted every day, because depending on the temperature the Eiffel Tower measures a little more or a little less, as a metal structure that is, it experiences a reaction to temperatures that causes the steel to expand in summer and contract in winter. Gustave Eiffel designed it taking into account this phenomenon and calculated for it a ratio of 70 cm of oscillation (35 cm of expansion and 35 cm of contraction), a point that has never been reached, the maximum heights being: 18 centimetres of expansion during a heat wave in 1976 and 13 centimeters of contraction during a storm in 1999.



Fence 8 – Notre Dame
Blue, purple and beige



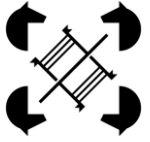
Notre-Dame Cathedral, located on the Île de la Cité, is a masterpiece of Gothic architecture that has played a central role in the history of France. Its construction began in 1163 and was completed in the 14th century, making it the most visited French monument. Designed by Bishop Maurice de Sully, the cathedral was conceived as an impressive testimony to the Catholic faith and a symbol of the greatness of Paris.

Over the centuries, Notre-Dame has witnessed significant historical events. During the French Revolution, the cathedral suffered damages and transformations, and some of its religious elements were destroyed. However, it was restored in the 19th century under the direction of architect Eugène Viollet-le-Duc, who added decorative details and rebuilt parts of the structure.

The cathedral achieved worldwide fame thanks to the novel "Our Lady of Paris" by Victor Hugo, published in 1831, which led to a renewed appreciation for its architecture. In addition, road distances from Paris in France are calculated from point 0 in the cathedral courtyard.

Unfortunately, on April 15, 2019, a devastating fire that rocked the world destroyed the central spire and part of the roof, although the main structure survived.

Restoration efforts since then have been aimed at restoring Notre-Dame to its splendor and preserving its architectural and cultural legacy for future generations.

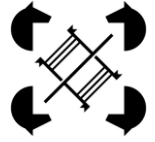


Fence 9 – Jardin à la Française
Green and beige



The "jardins à la française" are French gardens designed in the 17th and 18th centuries, known for their rigorous symmetry, raised flower beds with intricate geometric designs, and a combination of architectural and landscape elements. These gardens reflect the influence of classical art and Italian Renaissance architecture, noted for their elegance and order. Characterized by central axes, linear perspectives, statuary, and symbolic elements, French gardens are a testament to the sophistication and aesthetic refinement that defined the era.

A paradigmatic example of this style is the Garden of Versailles, created by André Le Nôtre for the Palace of Versailles during the reign of Louis XIV. This iconic garden, with its tree-lined avenues, elaborate parterres and allegorical symbolism, has left a lasting mark on garden design worldwide, influencing contemporary appreciation of formal beauty and landscape planning.



Fence 10a – Cinema
Black, yellow and black



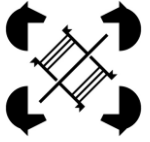
The first forays into cinema took place in the 19th century in the United States and France, but it was in 1892 that the Frenchman Emile Reynaud introduced the fundamental concept of cinema: projecting films on a giant screen for the public to appreciate. At that time, films consisted mainly of animated images, marking the beginning of cinematic cartoons.

The Lumière brothers, Auguste and Louis, pioneers in the history of cinema, in 1895 triggered a revolution in presenting a series of animated photographs and later ventured into video recording with actors, giving rise to the first short films, each lasting less than a minute. Finally, in 1899, they projected the film "Cendrillon" with a duration of 6 minutes, a breakthrough for the time.

Until that time, French cinema remained in the realm of silent films, but in 1929, technological progress allowed the arrival of sound films, greatly increasing the expectation in theaters, marking a new era in film history.

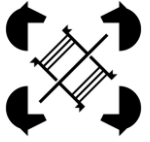
Jacques Tati, the prominent French filmmaker and actor born in 1907, left an indelible mark on the history of cinema with his distinctive approach to visual comedy. Known for his recurring character, Monsieur Hulot, a bumbling but well-meaning man, Tati was noted for his ability to generate humor through everyday situations and his meticulous attention to visual detail. In his work, "Mon Oncle, the plot follows Hulot as he interacts with his nephew, who lives in an ultra-modern house. The film highlights the contrast between Hulot's charming and chaotic world and the rigidity of modern life. Recognized for its visual wit, the film won the Academy Award for Best Foreign Film in 1959, cementing Tati's position as an innovator in film comedy, and his works are highly influential in film comedy worldwide.

French cinema today remains relevant with leading directors such as Olivier Assayas and Céline Sciamma, while the Cannes Film Festival and the César Awards are key events that celebrate and recognize excellence in the industry. Cannes, one of the most prestigious festivals, awards the coveted Palme d'Or, while the César, the most prominent awards in France, cover several categories. In addition, the Lumière Awards and the French Film Critics' Syndicate Awards also contribute to the recognition of French cinema nationally and internationally, consolidating its position as a continuous source of innovation and cinematographic excellence.



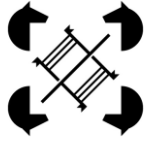
Fence 10b – Cinema
Black and white





Fence 10c – Cinema
Black, yellow and black





Fence 11 – Lavande
Pur

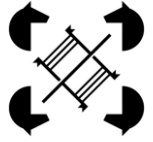


The Provence region, located in the southeast of France, is famous, among other things, for its extensive lavender fields. These fields are an iconic feature of Provence, attracting visitors from all over the world with their vibrant colors and fragrant landscapes.

The lavender season generally reaches its peak in the summer, especially in the months of June and July. In addition to being visually stunning, lavender fields are also prized for their distinctive aroma. Visitors often enjoy strolling through the fields, and their unique fragrance emanating from the lavender flowers, making them a major tourist attraction in the area.

The transformation of the landscape of Provence's lavender fields offers spectacular views, with expanses of purple lavender stretching as far as the eye can see, creating an unforgettable visual spectacle.

Some outstanding areas to experience the beauty of lavender fields include the Luberon Regional Natural Park region, the Plateau de Valensole and the Sault region



Fence 12 – Cabines de plage
Multicolor

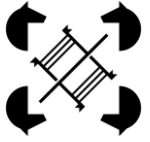


The history of beach cabins is closely linked to the history of sea bathing, which started to become fashionable in the 19th century. These wooden (or cloth) cabins were at first mobile, placed on top of horse-drawn carts. Their purpose was to allow bathers to change without being seen, to store deck chairs, umbrellas, towels and beach equipment, or to protect themselves from the wind.

White or colored, single-colored or striped, private or public, the cabins are part of the image of Normandy's seaside vacations.

There are many specimens that make the landscape of the Normandy coastline unique:

- in the dunes of Gouville, the 70 cabins with multicolored roofs are part of the postcard of this seaside village, destroyed during the Second World War.
- the cabins on the beach of Yport have a very harmonious marine look, white with black and blue stripes, among the most beautiful of the Alabaster coast.
- Deauville has 450 Art Deco-style bathing cabins, designed by the architect Charles Adda, who, in the 1920s, imagined the "Pompeian baths". Inspired by the Roman baths.
- Trouville with its beach cabins, which date back to 1939 has retained the image of a resort town.
- the 700 beach cabins in Le Havre that regained their initial 100% white appearance, painted in color between 2017 and 2021 by Dutch artist Karel Martens.



Fence 13a – Parfums
Blue



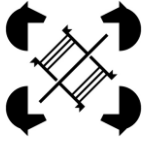
The Frenchman René Lalique, born in 1860, excelled as a jeweler and master glassmaker, being a leading exponent of the Art Nouveau movement. His talent led him to the creation of innovative jewelry and glass objects. In the late nineteenth century, Lalique ventured into perfumery, collaborating with François Coty in fragrances whose bottles designed by himself became works of art.

This milestone marked the beginning of his unique contribution to the fusion of glass art and perfumery in France, reflecting the distinctive elegance and craftsmanship of Lalique's work. His legacy lives on in the world of luxury and perfumery, upholding the tradition of exquisite design and quality craftsmanship.

René Lalique left his mark on the history of art, jewelry and perfumery with his innovative vision by fusing aesthetics with function in his creations.

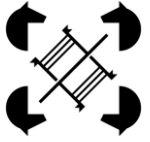
French perfumes have played a crucial role in the global fragrance industry, with France being the cradle of luxury perfumery. The importance lies in the long tradition of master craftsmanship and expertise in the creation of fragrances that has characterized this country. French perfume houses have set exceptional standards in the quality and complexity of perfumes and bottle design, excelling in sophistication and elegance.

The ability of French perfume houses to adapt to changing trends, while maintaining the tradition of the art of perfumery, has contributed significantly to France's leading position in the industry, being a benchmark in the world of high-quality perfumes.



Fence 13b – Parfums
White and black





Fence 14 – Vinification
Brown and purple



Originating in the Near East, wine arrived in France with the Greek colonization and gained momentum after the Roman conquest, beginning in the 1st century AD.

This process begins with the grape harvest, where the best moment is carefully selected to obtain a perfect balance of sugars and acidity in the grapes. After destemming and pressing, the resulting must undergo fermentation, a critical step where yeasts transform the sugars, giving rise to the wine. This process can vary in containers such as stainless- steel tanks or oak barrels, depending on the type of wine being produced.

Barrel aging is a common stage in French winemaking, adding complexity and nuances to the wine. Some regions practice the art of blending, mixing grape varieties to achieve complex and balanced wines. Once the optimum point is reached, the wine is bottled.

What distinguishes winemaking in France is regional diversity. From the elegance of Burgundy wines to the complexity of Bordeaux reds, each wine region has its own characteristics, practices and regulations. This unique approach and the influence of terroir result in some of the most renowned and appreciated wines in the world, cementing France's position as a wine powerhouse.