



Restaurant guides to help you make reservations now!



Gault & Millau  **BOTTIN GOURMAND**
La France qui régale



zenchef

In just over a month, you will be on your way to France!

Hopefully you have no reservations. Actually, I want to encourage you to have reservations – or I should say – make reservations for some great lunch experiences!

Needless to say, dining in *France* is THE national pastime. The running joke is that during breakfast the French will discuss what they will have for lunch, and during lunch they will discuss what they will have for dinner.

Therefore, restaurants are often very busy. We recommend making reservations in advance. Even small and casual bistros can fill up quickly.



Here is some valuable information about guides to assist in making reservations.

Each day of the week, you will be on your own for shopping, sightseeing and having lunch. Here are some helpful reminders about your free time schedule:

- 🇫🇷 Monday – *Reims* – you will have free time from approximately 12 noon to 2:30
- 🇫🇷 Tuesday – *Dijon* – you will have free time from approximately 12 noon to 2:30
- 🇫🇷 Wednesday – *Auxerre* – you will have free time from approximately 11:45 to 2:00
- 🇫🇷 Thursday – *Paris* – you will have free time from approximately 10:30 to 9:00 PM
- 🇫🇷 Friday – *Paris* – you will have free time from approximately 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Some of the restaurants in France will use reservation services such as *OpenTable*, and *Resy*. Others will have online reservations services that are unique to Europe.

Each of these directories will give you access to general information about restaurants, links to their websites and the ability to make an online reservation.

The Michelin Guide: <https://guide.michelin.com/us/en/grand-est/reims/restaurants?sort=distance>

Le Fooding: <https://lefooding.com/en>

Gault & Millau: <https://fr.gaultmillau.com/en/>

Le Bottin Gourmand: <https://www.bottingourmand.com/>

The Fork: <https://www.thefork.com/>

Zen Chef: <https://help.zenchef.com/hc/en-gb/categories/115000495565-Reservations>



Tips about restaurants and reservations:

- ▣ If you are considering a very famous restaurant, a popular restaurant and a *Michelin* restaurant you MUST make a reservation in advance.
- ▣ Many restaurants in *Paris* do not open until 7:00 PM Paris time (19H00), therefore you will NOT be able to dine at a very formal full-service restaurant for dinner on Thursday night.
- ▣ Having a extra special lunch on Thursday is certainly an option,



- ▣ You must rendezvous with the motor coach on the *Pont d'Iena* bridge, directly across the road from the *Eiffel Tower* at 9:00 PM Paris time (21H00).
- ▣ The *Eiffel Tower* management recommends 2 to 2 ½ hours to visit the tower, take the elevators to the top level and then return to the ground level. <https://www.toureiffel.paris/en/faq/getting-tower/how-long-does-visit-take>
- ▣ This means that you should be in line for the *Eiffel Tower* by at least 6:30 PM (18H30 Paris time) in order to meet the motor coach by 9:00 PM.

- ▣ The hotel for that evening is not in *Paris*. It is outside of the city. On a Friday evening the drive to the hotel will take approximately one hour. Rates for Uber will vary but expect the range to be \$80.00 (USD) to \$115.00 (USD)
- ▣ **You will also lose points if you do not meet the motor coach.**
- ▣ Plan on having a **casual bistro dinner early on Thursday evening.** There is very limited foodservice at the hotel for that evening.
- ▣ *Paris* is a world-class city with millions of visitors. In Paris restaurants, "*non-stop*" or "*service continu*" indicates that the restaurant serves meals throughout the day, without closing between the traditional lunch and dinner hours. This means you can find a place to eat even if it's outside the usual French dining times (typically 12-2 pm for lunch and 7-10 pm for dinner).
- ▣ This is especially helpful for tourists or anyone needing a meal during the late afternoon, as many traditional restaurants close during this time.



Pont d'Iena bridge, directly across the road from the *Eiffel Tower*.
Pont means "bridge"



Suggestions for bistros and cafes – some are near the Eiffel Tower, while others are located in various arrondissements, therefore check the locations and the distances to the Eiffel Tower carefully.

- 🇫🇷 The *Eiffel Tower* is in the 7th *arrondissement*.
- 🇫🇷 Remember to consider the *arrondissement* locations. The last two digits of a *Paris* zip code are the *arrondissement* numbers. If the last two number begin with zero – for example – 08 – that location is in the 8th *arrondissement*.
- 🇫🇷 *Paris* Food Guide - 5 Great *Paris* Bistros Where Locals Eat:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=7qkIA9EJT4Q>
- 🇫🇷 5 Bistros in *Paris* - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vW1gVfBdgGw>
- 🇫🇷 38 Bistros - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jl3rPZxXvGw>
- 🇫🇷 3 Restaurants near *Eiffel Tower* -
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=40swa_TQrU8
- 🇫🇷 5 Budget Friendly Restaurants in *Paris* -
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1VOGncgkjIo>
- 🇫🇷 10 Bistros in *Paris* - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=daNchtMb4_4

🇫🇷 French Brasseries - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0baiI5Lqi3w>

🇫🇷 OpenTable has 347 restaurants in Paris on their listing, however they are located all over the city, therefore check the locations carefully.
<https://www.opentable.com/>

