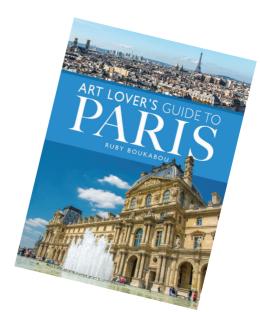
Paris

State of the ART

OVERWHELMED BY THE CHOICE OF **ART DESTINATIONS IN PARIS**? FEAR NOT – OUR LONGTIME CONTRIBUTOR, RUBY BOUKABOU, HAS JUST PENNED THE ULTIMATE GUIDE, COVERING LANDMARK ART MUSEUMS, STREET ART, SKETCH CLASSES AND MUCH IN BETWEEN.





ou don't have to look far to find art in Paris. It's everywhere – from the metro entrances to the architecture to the statues and installations in public gardens and squares, thanks to the legacy of over 400 years of leaders who have believed in the magic of art.

Visitors will even find that the city's dining spots are full of tasteful artworks. Paris' cafés and restaurants are where people meet, network, relax, write, gossip and graze – and it's been this way since the 17th century. Many establishments are magnificently decorated and like time capsules, while others are refreshingly inventive in design.

Below are just three of the iconic spots featured in Ruby's just-launched Art Lover's Guide to Paris, which navigates Paris' rich art history through to the vibrant present. Discover dozens of major and offbeat museums and galleries, then find tips on where to take a sketch class, buy an artwork, attend intriguing art events and meet the artists.



Left: author and arts doyenne, Ruby Boukabou in Paris (photo © Bob Hughes); Le Kong offers sensational views and a design aesthetic courtesy of Philippe Starck (photo © Le Kong).

LE TRAIN BLEU

Created for the 1900 Exposition Universelle, Le Train Bleu is an exquisite railway brasserie. Its decorations include canvas paintings portraying views from trains, travelling through Lyon, Monaco and beyond. www.le-train-bleu.com

CAFÉ DE LA PAIX

Located opposite the Opera Garnier, the Café de la Paix opened in 1862 and boasts a sumptuous interior with bronze, marble, leather and gold. It has been frequented by Émile Zola, Guy de Maupassant and the Prince of Wales. www.cafedelapaix.fr/en/

LE KONG

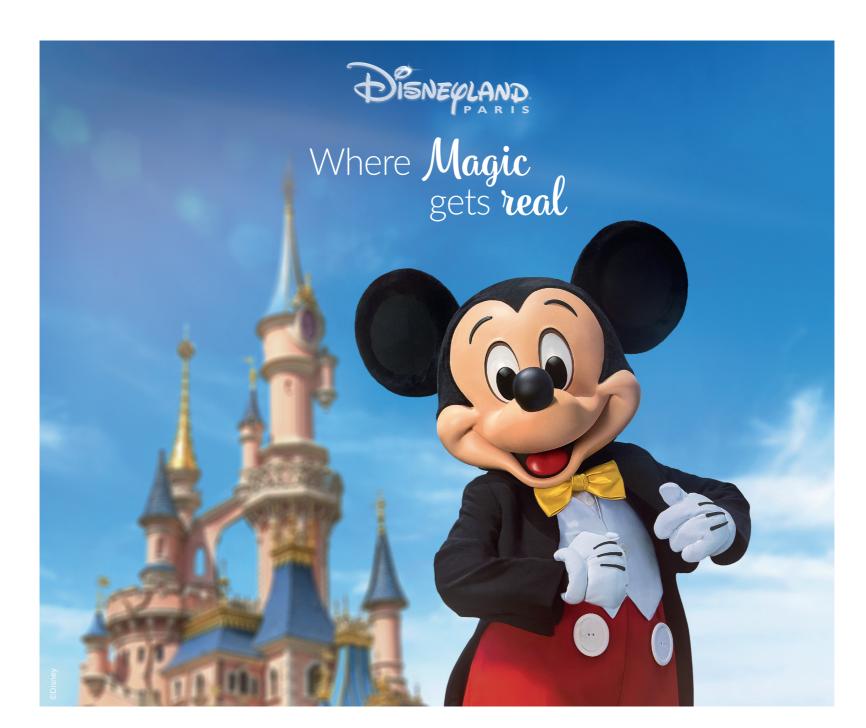
Elegant, chic and strikingly original, this top French-Asian fusion restaurant (snail dim sims, anyone?) offers sensational views of the Pont Neuf and Paris. With Philippe Starck in the design seat, expect an extravagant collision of colours, materials and prints. www.kong.fr

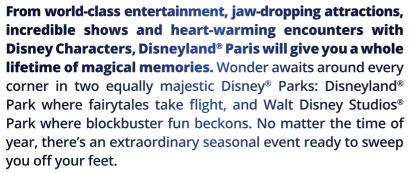
Further Information

Art Lover's Guide to Paris is available at bookshops worldwide. RRP \$39.99. www.pen-and-sword.co.uk

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Dumbo the Flying Elephant



Disney Stars on Parade

⁽¹⁾ Around 35 minutes from « Nation » station by regional train RER A.