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02 Classic Trail
  Length: 2h
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If there is only one day to visit and you want to visit different types of collections, including antiquities, sculptures, paintings or other artworks, we recommend you follow the classic tour, which is mainly in Sully Wing and Denon Wing.

If there are 2-3 days or more, you can visit the collections by category. You may also bring a guidebook to help better explore the museum and understand the artworks.

P.S. Teacher of art, art history and the applied arts and artists affiliated to the Maison des Artistes or the AIAP can enjoy free admission without queuing for a ticket.

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|         | Near Eastern  
|         | Islamic        | Far Eastern  
|         | Near Eastern  
|         | Islamic        | French (14C—17C)  
|         |                | Germany  
|         |                | Nederland  
|         |                | Flanders  
|         |                | Others        |
| Sully  | Near Eastern & Egyptian -  
|         | Great Sphinx of Tanis  
|         | Greek           
|         | Etruscan        
|         | Roman           | Greek - *Venus de Milos*  
|         |                | Etruscan  
|         |                | Roman  
|         |                | Others        |
| Denon  | Europe - *The Dying Slave, The Rebellious Slave*  
|         | Greek           
|         | Etruscan        
|         | Roman           | France (17C—19C) - *The Raft of the Medusa, Liberty Leading the People*  
|         |                | Italy - *Mona Lisa*  
|         |                | Spain  

PARIS LOUVRE DUTY FREE - KAMS1960
# LOUVRE VISIT GUIDE

## Layout Plan-by Location

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<th>Floor</th>
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| -1 | • The Petite Galerie  
• Sculptures / France (1600-1700) | • Rotonde Sully (Exhibitions)  
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• Near Eastern and Egyptian Art (30 BC-AD 1800)  
• Islamic Arts (700-1800)  
• Sculptures / Europe (500-1600)  
• Touch Gallery |
| 0 | • Sculptures / France (500-1850)  
• Near Eastern Antiquities (7500 BC-AD 500) | • Near Eastern Antiquities (7500 BC-AD 500)  
• Egyptian Antiquities Ancient Egyptian Civilisation (4000-30 BC) - *Great Sphinx of Tanis*  
• Greek Antiquities (500-30 BC) - Venus de Milo, The Old Centaur | • Italic and Etruscan Antiquities (900-200 BC)  
• Roman Antiquities (100 BC-AD 500)  
• Sculptures / Europe (1500-1850) - *The Dying Slave, The Rebellious Slave*  
• Arts of Africa, Asia, Oceania and the Americas (700 BC-AD 1900) |
| 1 | • Decorative Arts / Europe (500-1850) | • Decorative Arts / Europe (500-1850)  
• Egyptian Antiquities Chronological Display (4000-30 BC)  
• Greek and Roman Antiquities (700 BC-AD 400)  
• Paintings (provisional presentation)  
• The Pavillon de l’Horloge | • Decorative Arts / Europe (1550-1850)  
• Paintings / France (1780-1850) - *The Oath of the Horatii, The Coronation of the Emperor Napoleon I, Odalisque*  
• The Raft of the Medusa, Liberty Leading the People  
• Paintings / Italy (1250-1800) - The Wedding Feast at Cana, Mona Lisa  
• Paintings / Great Britain / US (1550-1850)  
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| 2 | | • Paintings / Northern Europe (1350-1850)  
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LOUVRE VISIT GUIDE
CLASSIC TRAIL

TWO
Classic Trail of Louvre

the classic collections should not be missed

Length: 2h
Visitor: adults / students / families

Visiting Louvre Museum, especially for those who visit Louvre for the first time, the 3 most famous collections - Mona Lisa, Venus de Milo and The Winged Victory of Samothrace are should not miss.

Additionally, Liberty Leading the People, The Raft of the Medusa, etc. are also very well-known and typical.

Therefore, this classic trail is suitable for those who visit Louvre for the first time.

* some pictures are from Internet
Classic Trail of Louvre

1. The Pyramid
2. Remnants of the Moats Dug by Philip Augustus and Charles V
3. Great Sphinx of Tanis
4. Venus de Milos
5. The Old Centaur
6. The Dying Slave
7. The Rebellious Slave
8. The Winged Victory of Samothrace
9. The Oath of the Horatii
10. The Coronation of the Emperor Napoleon I
11. Odalisque
12. The Wedding Feast at Cana
13. Mona Lisa
14. The Raft of the Medusa
15. Liberty Leading the People

Sully Wing

Denon Wing
Classic Trail of Louvre

1- The Pyramid
Architect: Leoh Ming Pei (American of Chinese Ancestry)
Creating time: 1984-1989
Material: metal, glass

Description:
- The combination of ancient palaces and modern art galleries
The Pyramid is a landmark of Louvre Museum. The Pyramid consists of 673 pieces of glass and has a total weight of 200 tons. It is a fusion of modern art and modern technology. The metal and glass pyramid is not only beautiful, but also provides good lighting for the underground areas of the ancient palace. Unlike the stone pyramid, which is designed for the dead, the glass pyramid is built for the living.
- Great controversy in its early days
At the beginning of the construction of The Pyramid, it was opposed by the general French public. It was considered that this overly avant-garde design was not compatible with the classical Louvre. At that time, the culture minister even criticized the pyramid as an ugly diamond. However, Leoh Ming Pei resisted the pressure and conquered the masses with artistic charm. Today, The Pyramid is hailed as an unexpected jewel and together with the Eiffel Tower is recognized as a symbol of Paris.
2- Remnants of the Moats Dug by Philip Augustus and Charles V

Testimony of the evolution of the Louvre
Location: Behind the ticket counter, towards Sully Wing

Description

- The testimony of the development of the Louvre in 800 years - from the castle, the palace to the museum

This is a medieval moat site. At that time, the king of France, Philip Auguste II, was worried that the British would invade from Normandy. So, in 1200, a defensive fort was built outside the city walls of Paris, namely the Louvre.

Then, as the city expanded, during the reign of Charles V, a second rampart and the adjacent quadrangular tower were built. The Louvre was turned into a royal palace by its defensive function as it was within the new rampart.

In the 16th century, during the reign of Francis I, the old fortress was demolished and the moat was filled. However, the ruins of the city were preserved and opened to the public after the completion of the pyramid.
3- Great Sphinx of Tanis

Collection of French King Charles X
Location: Sully Wing-lower ground floor-Crypt of the Sphinx-Room 1
A lion with a king’s head: hidden mysteries in appearance and accessories

Description

- **The Great Sphinx of Tanis symbolized a king of ancient Egypt, according to 3 pieces of evidences**
  The headcloth of the sphinx is the typical “Nemes” headcloth worn by pharaohs; the cobra on the headcloth symbolizes the pharaohs’ protector; a French scholar Jean-François Champollion broke the ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs in 1822, and identified that the words written on the mustache of the Sphinx were the identification of a king.

  With the promotion of Jean-François Champollion, Charles X has collected a series of Egyptian Antiquities, including Great Sphinx of Tanis.

  The granite sphinx weighs 24 tons. The outstanding skill of sculpting such hard granite into lifelike artwork which has been lasting more than 4000 years, demonstrates the timeless charm of ancient Egyptian art.
4- Venus de Milos / Aphrodite

Creating time: 100 BC
Location: Sully Wing-Ground Floor-Parthenon Room-Room 7

Description

- **A bizarre birth: incarnate of the dick of Uranus (the primal Greek god personifying the sky)**

The statue of Venus was discovered in 1820 on the island of Melos, which was in the southwestern part of Archipelago (also known as Milos in Greece today). Venus is the love and beauty goddess in ancient Roman mythology. And during the period of Greek and Roman coexistence, the god of love was named Aphrodite in ancient Greek mythology. According to Roman mythology, Venus was transformed by the cut-off dick of Uranus, the primal Greek god who personifying the sky. And the son of Venus is known to everyone, Cupid, the god of desire, erotic love, attraction and affection. In ancient Rome, Venus was worshipped every April.

- **This statue of Venus shows the golden beauty of the human body.**

When the statue was found on the island of Melos, it had two arms. But in a multi-match scuffle, the arms of the statue were unfortunately cut off, damaged, and finally lost. Later, many artists put forward a lot of repair programs for the residual arm, but there is still no conclusion. Therefore, the statue still maintains a broken arm image and making its incomplete beauty bring people endless imagination.
Classic Trail of Louvre

5- The Old Centaur

Creating time: 2nd century BC
Roman reproduction
Location: Sully Wing-Ground Floor-Salle des Caryatides

Description

- **Centaur**: Gentle animal in Greek mythology.
- **Eros**: God of desire, erotic love, attraction and affection in Greek mythology, also known as Cupid in Roman mythology.

This statue was discovered in Italy in the 17th century and is a Roman reproduction. The child who is sitting on the back of the Centaur is Eros. The hands of Centaur were tied behind and it’s head turned back to look at the naughty Eros. Delicate muscle texture, curled hair, and vivid demeanour all show the exquisite carving skills of the artist.
Classic Trail of Louvre

6- The Dying Slave

Artist: Michelangelo (together with Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, called “three outstanding heroes of Renaissance)
Material: Marble
Style: Renaissance (Rome in Florence in the 14th century and prospered in the 16th century. In this period, the artworks have evolved from breaking of the theocracy and the ancient culture of Greco-Roman to realism. And oil painting and perspective techniques were invented and promoted.)
Location: Denon Wing-Ground Floor-Michelangelo gallery-Room 4

Description

- A cynical masterpiece of Michelangelo
With the famous sculpture David, it comes from the same master Michelangelo. This sculpture creates a handsome, well-balanced male figure. However, unlike our impression of a masculine, vigorous and energetic male sculpture, this male figure is physically fit but it feels exhausted and lifeless. Michelangelo’s creation of such a sculpture was inspired by his situation. He was forced to serve the pope and the ruler at the time, feeling depressed, painful and hopeless as dying slaves. This sculpture vents Michelangelo’s strong dissatisfaction with the pope and the ruler.
7- The Rebellious Slave

Artist: Michelangelo (together with Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, called “three outstanding heroes of Renaissance”)
Material: Marble
Style: Renaissance
Location: Denon Wing-Ground Floor-Michelangelo gallery-Room 4

Description

- Michelangelo’s resistance and struggle under oppression and dictatorship

This sculpture is also in the hands of Michelangelo. In the same creative background as Dying Slave, this sculpture also expresses Michelangelo’s repression, humiliation and dissatisfaction, as well as his desire for the freedom of creation. At that time, the rulers thought that erecting a slave statue in front of the tomb would show authority. Then Michelangelo made these two slave sculptures to decorate the mausoleum of the ruling class. He was full of resentment but could not resist in public, therefore, he deliberately created the slaves that were strong with an athletic body, instead of obedient and cowardly.
Classic Trail of Louvre

8- The Winged Victory of Samothrace

Character: Nike, the Greek goddess of victory
Creating time: 2nd century BC
Symbol: Battle, victory
Feature: Greek original statue
Location: Denon Wing-Ground Floor-Victory of Samothrace Staircase-Escalier Daru

Description

- One of the three treasures in Louvre
  A classic masterpiece that should not be missed. The artist’s sculpture skills were outstanding, it’s amazing that the vivid actions, the elegant shapes and the ethereal clothing were sculptured from hard stone.
- An artwork in memory of the Greek people who successfully defeat the foreign nations on the sea
  The sculpture The Winged Victory of Samothrace is one of the representative works of Hellenized sculpture. In 1863, it was discovered on the island of Samothrace in the northwestern of the Aegean Sea. According to the archaeologists, the sculpture was dedicated to the Greek people’s victory over the foreign nations on the sea. Along with the long history, the arms and the head have been lost, but this does not matter that the sculpture became one of the treasures of Louvre Museum.
Classic Trail of Louvre

9- The Oath of the Horatii

Artist: Jacques-Louis David (leader of the Neoclassical painting)
Style: Neoclassicism-Rose during the French Revolution. It was originated from the dissatisfaction of the grandiloquent and extravagant Baroque style and Rococo style, which were popular among the nobles. And it aimed to restore the simplicity and elegance of the ancient Greek and Roman art. However, instead of Classicism’s simple imitation of ancient Greek and Roman art, the artworks of Neoclassicism often with timely significances and rigorous and dignified style, it often used the past to attack the present.
Location: Denon Wing-1st Floor-Daru-Room 75

Description

- A painting that illustrated great heroism of the French Revolution by telling the story of ancient Roman wars
It’s a masterpiece of David. In the 7th century BC, war strategy had appeared in human history. Instead of making wars, Rome and its rivals made a battle by choosing 3 persons on its side to fight for their country. The Romans elected the 3 brothers of the Horatii. This painting depicts the scene in which they vowed to defeat the enemy of dying for the country before the battle, and the worries and tears of their family. It a symbolic embodiment of the Roman Republic era. And the artist David used it to illustrate the noble sentiment of French Revolution.
10- The Coronation of the Emperor Napoleon I

Artist: Jacques-Louis David (leader of the Neoclassical painting)
Style: Neoclassicism
Location: Denon Wing-1st Floor-Daru-Room 75

Description

- **The most brilliant moment in Napoleon’s life**
  Napoleon, who became a centralized power in the ten years after the French Revolution, not only relied on his unique military strategies and his recognition of the Enlightenment, but also depended on his faiths to make the Republic of France a fair and just, well-organized country.

- **In 1804, Napoleon became emperor and crowned in Notre Dame**
  Napoleon asked David to paint the brilliant moment of his coronation. The central composition is that Napoleon took the crown from the Pope and gave it to the queen. In the painting, Napoleon’s mother appeared, however, his mother did not attend the coronation ceremony actually.

- **The Pope was forced to coronate**
  Napoleon insisted on the concept of centralization and enlightenment thoughts, the main purpose of inviting the Pope was to consolidate his own political power by using the Pope’s influence rather than submit to the Pope. When the Pope was about to coronate him, Napoleon took the crown and placed in on his own head.
Classic Trail of Louvre

11- Odalisque

Artist: Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres (representative of neoclassical painting)
Style: Neoclassicism
Category: French painting
Location: Denon Wing-1st Floor-Daru-Room 75

Description

- The deliberately elongated female spine
  The soft figure of the palace maid caused huge dispute. Many scholars believed that Ingres deliberately added 2-5 vertebrae to stretch the spine of the palace maid, which reduced the dimensionality and particularly highlight the soft human body.
- Conflicts between the human physical construction and visual impact of aesthetics
  Controversy 1: Ingers, as a classical painter, was wrong to deliberately pursue the soft feeling without respecting the actual structure of the human body. Controversy 2: The creation of art should be free. It is such a change that makes audiences can pay attention in the first sight to the soft figure, which was the purpose for Ingers to create this painting. And this makes the painting a masterpiece.
Classic Trail of Louvre

12- The Wedding Feast at Cana

Artist: Paolo Caliari (known as Paolo Veronese)
Style: Renaissance
Category: Italian painting
Location: Denon Wing-1st Floor-Mona Lisa room-Room 6

Description

- A large-scale masterpiece depicting Jesus’ miracles
  The masterpiece is so huge that it almost covers an entire wall. It was created during the heyday of Renaissance. It depicts a biblical story about the wedding feast at Cana. Jesus was invited to attend the wedding and he exercised a miracle at the wedding that he turned the water into wine when the wine was insufficient, which made the wedding go on smoothly.
Classic Trail of Louvre

13- Mona Lisa

Artist: Leonardo da Vinci (one of the “three outstanding heroes of Renaissance”)
Style: Renaissance
Category: Italian painting
Location: Denon Wing-1st Floor-Mona Lisa-Room 6

Description

- **Mysterious smile**
  Gioconda is the Italian name of this painting, it means joy and happiness. Some scholars believe that the mysterious smile of Mona Lisa may convey a feeling of happiness.

- **Always look directly at the visitors’ eyes**
  Many visitors find that Mona Lisa always looks to themselves, no matter from which angle. And this also makes Mona Lisa mysterious.

- **Mysterious identity**
  Identity 1: wife of a rich Florentine businessman, the neighbour of Leonardo da Vinci
  Identity 2: mother of Leonardo da Vinci, a slave girl of a rich family
  Identity 3: Leonardo da Vinci himself, because of the similar contours and features of his self-portrait.
  Identity 4: boyfriend of Leonardo da Vinci, because of the high degree of similarity to the portrait of a student that Leonardo da Vinci painted.
Classic Trail of Louvre

14- The Raft of the Medusa
Artist: Théodore Géricault (pioneer of French Romantic painting)
Style: Romanticism
Location: Denon Wing-1st Floor-Molien-Room 77

Description
- A typical masterpiece which illustrates the transition from Classicism to Romanticism
In the 18th century, Industrial Revolution rose. During this period, the paintings began to focus more on the expression of emotions, the promotion of heroic personal achievements, and the promotion of artistic imagination.
- Reflection of a real, shocking French shipwreck tragedy
In July 1816, under the rule of Louis XVIII, the French government dispatched the cruiser Medusa, carrying more than 400 officers and soldiers and a few nobles to St. Louis Port. The leader of the fleet was a noble while lacked abilities and knew little about professional nautical knowledge. Due to his misconduct and negligence, the main ship accidentally ran aground and slowly sank. After deciding to abandon the ship, the captain, together with other nobles and officers took a lifeboat to escape. However, due to the limited position, the remaining people could only sit on the handmade raft that dragged by the lifeboat. Then the situation became worse and worse. The captain worried that those people on the raft would rebel, so he ordered to cut off the ropes and let the rafts float on the sea. At that time, more than 140 people were on the raft and after more than 10 days, there were only 10 survivors left.
15- Liberty Leading the People

Artist: Eugène Delacroix (representative of the Romantic painter)
Style: Romanticism
Subject: French July Revolution
Location: Denon Wing-1st Floor-Molien-Room 77

Description

- A heroine with bare upper body
  In the majority of artworks, the ancient Greek goddesses appear with a bare upper body and bare feet. Scholars believe that Delacroix was inspired by the Greek War of Independence and the Greek Freedom Goddess. In the painting, the young woman was added with the image of the Greek Freedom Goddess, implying Delacroix’s praise for the French July Revolution and his belief in victory.

- Delacroix himself is also in the painting
  On the left side of the painting, the man with a high-top hat, a loose trouser, a flannel scarf and holding a shotgun is Delacroix himself. Delacroix represented the bourgeoisie, he drew himself into the painting in order to call on all classes of the citizens to fight together for freedom, and also to express his belief in the victory of the revolution.
LOUVRE VISIT GUIDE
PRACTICAL INFORMATION
THREE
HOW TO BUY THE TICKET?

At the museum
- €15/per

Ticket advanced (online)
- €17/per
- gives access to the pyramid within half an hour of the time shown on the ticket
HOW TO GET TO LOUVRE MUSEUM?

**Metro**
- line 1 or line 7, Palais-Royal-musée du Louvre

**Bus**
- 21/24/27/39/48/68/69/72/81/95, Musée du Louvre (in front of the Pyramid)
- Paris Open Tour Bus (L’Open Tour): Musée du Louvre (in front of the Pyramid)

**Car (an underground parking garage)**
- Avenue du Général Lemonier. It is open from 7a.m. to 11p.m.
WHEN VISITING LOUVRE

TOILET
• few toilets in the reception area on -2nd floor, and it always full of people
• avoid going to the toilets near the famous artworks, you will find other toilets a few steps away from where have fewer people
• the largest number of the toilets are on -1st floor and 1st floor

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