

Celebs

Love

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Paris travel guide: where to stay, what to eat and fun things to do

The French capital has never looked (or tasted) so good...

Where to stay in Paris

The neighbourhood of Pigalle

There's never a dull moment in Pigalle. The former red-light district once had a bad rep for being seedy, but the area is transforming into a popular spot with hipster vibes akin to an East London neighbourhood. Of course, there's still a flurry of all-night sex shops and strip bars, but there's now enough clubs and cocktail bars, live music venues and chic boutique hotels to make you realise that you've discovered one of the hottest (and liveliest) areas in Paris.

Top tip: *While in Pigalle, take a trip down the authentically Parisian Rue des Martyrs, an old neighbourhood market street (a bit like London's Portobello Road). It's full of cute pâtisseries, boutique shops and cafes, so grab yourself a Nutella crepe and bag some treasure.*

Hôtel Rochechouart, Pigalle



Hotel Rochechouart

Part of the Orso group, this quintessential Parisian hotel has everything you could want from the City of Lights: just a short walk away from the Sacré-Coeur (visible from some rooms), it serves serious old school glamour with an art deco feel running throughout – and has happily affordable room rates. You can practically feel the history of the building pulsing throughout and rumour has it, it's just as popular with celebrities today (Lily Allen recently stayed there) as the site was back in the roaring twenties.

As for the rooms, Paris is known for its intimate bedroom sizes and the classic double rooms at Hotel Rochechouart could certainly be accused of falling into that bracket, but there was still ample space for our suitcases and the cosy vibe made it perfect for switching off after a long day of exploring. All the staff we chatted to were super friendly, speaking an array of languages – so fear not if your French is rusty – and were more than happy to recommend a great local spot for a drink, dance or bite to eat, too.

Elsewhere in the hotel, the restaurant (Maggie's) more than exceeded expectations. But there's more on that below with the rest of our foodie recommendations!

Rooms at Hotel Rochechouart start from £162 per night, find out more [here](#)