

**Paris Musées**

**STEP 1: Plan the theme, set the goals**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Main theme of the exhibition:** | Paris Musées, or a network of 14 Parisian museums and heritage sites in the heart of Paris, all of which are an emblematic part of the capital’s history, and the history of the French nation. |
| **Educational goals of the exhibition:** | This exhibition aims to:  - show to the students the cultural heritage of Paris and France -present the resources created throughout the project (practical sheets that we’re talking about at the beginning, etc).  -to encourage them to discover French history on their own -to show them how digital tools and technology can be useful in art -to help them improve their knowledge on art and lesser-known museums and art objects in French history -to enrich students’ vocabulary \*The content of the exhibition can be quite flexible - it can either be based on the general idea of the 14 museums in the network, or on the specific temporary exhibitions shown in each of the museums - this blueprint was inspired by the general idea of how Paris is perceived by the tourists. To do so, a rich database of Paris Musées was used. As there are 14 museums in the PM network, the inspiration can change depending on the exhibition presented or the exhibition can be enriched if a corresponding exhibition or new information appears. |

**STEP 2: Develop sub-themes**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sub-sections (3)** | **Sub-themes (2-3)** |
| 1. Paris - the legendary city and its (not so) hidden gems | 1. Victor Hugo or the creator of Esmeralda’s love story and gargoyles 2. Coming down to the city of the dead - a visit in the Parisian catacombs |
| 1. The Parisian tormented artist myth | 1. Les Miz and sad Parisian life 2. Dark Romanticism, or about the fantastic, supernatural and mysterious aspects of the movement and the darkness that came after. |
| 1. Fall in love in/with Paris - Paris syndrome and Paris deception | 1. The repercussions of over-romanticising Parisian life. 2. Paris syndrome of Emily in Paris. |

**STEP 3: Create an object list**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Name of the object** | **Type** | **Sub-section** | **Creation** |
| **2.** | A copy of “The hunchback of Notre Dame’, photos of gargoyles and other creatures from Notre-Dame. + a QR code with some info on gargoyles | an object that needs to be bought or borrowed from the private collection + a visual printed object. Tangible + digital | 1. Paris - the legendary city and its (not so) hidden gems | yes |
| **3.** | A [video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3QCQwSssuf8) showing the catacombs of Paris + a fake skull | digital | 1. Paris - the legendary city and its (not so) hidden gems | yes |
| **4.** | A [poster](https://www.parismuseescollections.paris.fr/fr/maison-de-victor-hugo/oeuvres/les-miserables-affiche-pour-les-representations-theatrales-d-ete#infos-principales) from “Les Misérables” and an [excerpt](https://www.parismuseescollections.paris.fr/fr/maison-de-victor-hugo/oeuvres/livret-publicitaire-pour-l-edition-ollendorff-des-miserables#infos-principales) from the book (Les Misérables is translated in GR, PT, written in FR and available in EN, too) | visual printed object, tangible | 2.The Parisian tormented artist myth | yes |
| **5.** | A [photo](https://www.parismuseescollections.paris.fr/fr/musee-carnavalet/oeuvres/portrait-de-charles-baudelaire-1821-1867-poete#infos-principales) of Charles Baudelaire, a book of “Flowers of evil” and a [photo](https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edgar_Allan_Poe#/media/Fichier:Edgar_Allan_Poe,_circa_1849,_restored,_squared_off.jpg) of Edgar Allan Poe + one of his novellas (like “The Raven”). A pipe and a fake raven. | visual printed object + a tangible object | 2.The Parisian tormented artist myth | yes |
| **7.** | A publicity [poster](https://www.parismuseescollections.paris.fr/fr/musee-carnavalet/oeuvres/carte-publicitaire-pour-l-absinthe-joanne-55-et-57-quai-de-la-tournelle#infos-principales) + an absinthe glass | visual printed object | 2.The Parisian tormented artist myth | yes |
| **8.** | A [virtual visit](https://www.360images.fr/visites-virtuelles/paris/index.html) of Paris’ main monuments/touristic places (QR code or link if the exhibition is online). | digital | 3. Fall in love in/with Paris - Paris syndrome and Paris deception | yes |
| **9.** | A QR code leading to the “Paris syndrome”’s Wikipedia page (should be good with this one, we have many language versions of Wikipedia) | digital | 3. Fall in love in/with Paris - Paris syndrome and Paris deception | yes |
| **10.** | A beret | tangible | 3. Fall in love in/with Paris - Paris syndrome and Paris deception | no |

The objects are presented along a timeline of a fragment of French history (XIXth - XXth- XXIst centuries mostly).

**STEP 4: Design your exhibition**

Entry

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Sub-sections** | **Object arrangement** | **Object display** |
| 1. Paris - the legendary city and its (not so) hidden gems | 1. A copy of “The hunchback of Notre Dame’, photos of gargoyles of Eugène Viollet Le Duc. | Photos should be printed and hung on the wall, a copy of the book could be put in a plexiglass case, but just putting it on a table is ok, too. Depends whose is it - take into consideration that people will probably touch it a lot. |
|  | 1. A [video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3QCQwSssuf8) showing the catacombs of Paris | You can either put a QR code that leads to a video, or try to project it on a TV screen. Either way is ok, however a TV screen will definitely add a different visual aspect to the exhibition and diversify the sources. |
| 2. The Parisian tormented artist myth | 1. A [set of illustrations](https://www.parismuseescollections.paris.fr/fr/maison-de-victor-hugo/oeuvres/les-miserables-de-victor-hugo-0#infos-principales) from “Les Misérables” published in “L’illustration” magazine in 1862 | Download them (it’s a public domain) and print, then hang on the wall. |
|  | 1. A [photo](https://www.parismuseescollections.paris.fr/fr/musee-carnavalet/oeuvres/portrait-de-charles-baudelaire-1821-1867-poete#infos-principales) of Charles Baudelaire | Download them (it’s a public domain) and print, then hang on the wall. If you have a Baudelaire’s book (f.e. “The Flowers of Evil”), you can also present it open in a plexiglass case on one of the most known poems, like “A carcass”. |
|  | 1. A publicity [poster](https://www.parismuseescollections.paris.fr/fr/musee-carnavalet/oeuvres/carte-publicitaire-pour-l-absinthe-joanne-55-et-57-quai-de-la-tournelle#infos-principales) | Download them (it’s a public domain) and print, then hang on the wall. |
| 3. | 1. A beret | should be presented in plexiglass transparent case |
| 1. A QR code leading to the “Paris syndrome”’s Wikipedia page (should be good with this one, we have many language versions of Wikipedia) | Make a QR code that will lead to the visit. Depending whether the exhibition is online or offline, you can either print the QR code and hang it on the wall, or provide a link that you will put in the exhibition. You can also print a fragment of the definition from Wikipedia. |
| 1. A [virtual visit](https://www.360images.fr/visites-virtuelles/paris/index.html) of Paris’ main monuments/touristic places | Make a QR code that will lead to the visit. Depending whether the exhibition is online or offline, you can either print the QR code and hang it on the wall, or provide a link that you will put in the exhibition. |

**STEP 5: Develop texts**

**Panels**

Should be about an A5 size. Line height 1,5, title font size when (if) printed about 48, text font size about 16.

Paris musées,   
or how the Parisian myth was created

Paris musées is a network of 14 museums located in Paris. They tell a complicated story of this city - each of them is concentrated on its different aspect. To create this exhibition, we used Paris Musées’ online database and its rich resources. To know more, check out the Paris Musées practical sheet.

Paris - the legendary city and its (not so) hidden gems

Paris is an extremely important city full of history and monuments. Monuments equal architecture, and who better to tell the story of the Parisian monuments than Victor Hugo himself?

The Parisian tormented artist myth

What do we think of when we think of Paris in the past? Its poets with their white scarves, them smoking their cigarettes in a nonchalant way…? It wasn’t always like this - it’s only a part of the history. Before, the artists were, yes, tormented, but also, very often, poor, and Paris dirty and dangerous. Dive in in this part of the history and be miserable with us and Les Misérables!

Fall in love in/with Paris - Paris syndrome and Paris deception

Nowadays, Paris is a place full of illusions and dreams that not always come true. From literature through series to movies, Paris has been romanticised for a long time. Is life in Paris really so carefree? Is it really “la vie en rose”?

**Labels: Exhibit 1**

***The Hunchback of Notre-Dame*** (French: ***Notre-Dame de Paris***, lit. '*Our Lady of Paris*', originally titled ***Notre-Dame de Paris. 1482***) is a French Gothic novel by Victor Hugo, published in 1831. It tells the story of Quasimodo - the hunchback of Notre-Dame, the street dancer Esmeralda and Quasimodo's guardian Archdeacon Claude Frollo in 15th-century Paris. All its elements - Renaissance setting, impossible love affairs, marginalized characters—make the work a model of the literary themes of Romanticism.

The novel is an important French text. There are also movies, series and theatre plays based on the book. The one we all probably know is a 1996 Disney animated film.

**Exhibit 2**

The **Catacombs of Paris**are underground ossuaries in Paris, France, which hold the remains of more than six million people (!!!) in a small part of a tunnel network built to consolidate Paris's ancient stone quarries. Extending south from the Barrière d’Enfer (« Gate of Hell ») former city gate, this ossuary was created as part of the effort to eliminate the city's overflowing cemeteries. Preparations began shortly after a 1774 series of basement wall collapses around the Holy Innocents’ Cemetery, which added a sense of urgency to the cemetery-eliminating measure, and from 1786, nightly processions of covered wagons transferred remains from most of Paris's cemeteries to a mine shaft opened near the Rue de la Tombe-Issoire.

An urban legend has it that Philibert Aspairt died after getting lost in the underground maze of the Paris catacombs in 1793 — and his body wasn't found until eleven years after his death. (Sadly, close to an exit.)

**Exhibit 3**

**Les Misérables** is a French historical novel by Victor Hugo. First published in 1862, the book is considered one of the greatest novels of the 19th century. Beginning in 1815 and culminating in the 1832 June Rebellion in Paris, the novel follows the lives and interactions of several characters, particularly the struggles of ex-convict Jean Valjean and others. The book also tells the history of France, the architecture and urban design of Paris, politics, justice, religion, and the types and nature of love. There have been adaptations of the book - many movies, series and theatre plays. And a very successful musical!

Paris, as it is described in this book, doesn’t exist anymore. The dirt, unpleasant smells and collapsing buildings were replaced by beautiful Paris that we know now. This change was done by Byron Georges-Eugène Haussmann, commissioned by Napoleon III that wanted to make the city safer and more appealing.

**Exhibit 4**

**Dark Romanticism** was a literary sub-genre of very popular Romanticism. It showed fascination with the mysterious, the dark, the irrational and the demonic. Dark Romanticism focuses on human weakness, self-destruction, judgement, punishment, as well as the psychological effects of guilt and sin. In England, one of the most known authors of Dark Romanticism is Edgar Allan Poe, along with his many novellas, for example “**The Gold-Bug**”. In France, one of the most known authors of Dark Romanticism is Charles Baudelaire, who, funnily enough, also translated the books of Edgar Allan Poe in French. Charles Baudelaire’s most famous work, a book of lyric poetry titled **The Flowers of Evil**, expresses the changing nature of beauty in the rapidly industrializing Paris during the mid-19th century. During his lifetime he was hated by many, loved by a few. Now he is one of the most important French poets of XIXth century.

**Exhibit 5**

**Absinthe** is an alcohol made from several plants. It is very, very strong! Its characteristic green colour gave it the name of the “**green fairy**”**.** Its cultural impact on the cultural world on the XIXth century is very important. At the end of the XIXth century absinthe was the drink of choice for so many writers and artists in Paris that five o’clock was known as the Green Hour, a happy hour when cafes filled with drinkers sitting with glasses of green liquor. It created visions and dream-like states that filtered into artistic work. Baudelaire and many other artists were among scores of writers who were notorious absinthe drinkers. In the poem Poison, from his 1857 volume The Flowers of Evil, Baudelaire ranked absinthe ahead of wine and opium: “None of which equals the poison welling up in your eyes that show me my poor soul reversed, my dreams throng to drink at those green distorting pools."

The poets of this time created Bohemia, which is a dimension of literary sociality that became more visible around 1845. It is defined by a way of life that is rebellious to social constraints, free, communal, marginal and artistic. Absinthe and other drugs were a part of this lifestyle. Bohemia evolved into a myth of a tormented artist, that has been associated with Paris for a long time.

**Exhibit 6**

The legendary city of Paris has been rebuilt, but it still has some defaults! Normal people, not only celebrities, live there, buy their baguettes and go to work everyday. The idealised version of Paris is known to many tourists, who, after visiting this city, are disillusioned and disappointed, because the reality doesn’t correspond to their squeaky clean vision. The syndrome is characterized by a number of psychiatric symptoms such as delusional states, hallucinations, derealisation, depersonalization or anxiety.

**Exhibit 7**

**Paris,** the capital of France, is one of the most visited cities in Europe. It’s mainly thanks to its reputation of the artistic city and the capital of fashion. But it’s also because of the beautiful monuments! Paris was completely rebuilt in the XIXth century. Its streets became more narrow, cleaner and safer. Experience Paris by watching one (or all) of the virtual monument visits in 360°. You won’t regret it!

**Exhibit 8**

The famous **beret**! A beret is a soft, flat cap, usually made of wool, wool felt, or acrylic fibre. Mass production of berets began in 19th century France and Spain, and the beret remains associated with these countries. The beret is part of the long-standing stereotype of the intellectual, artist, poet, bohemian and beatnik. It is also worn by tourists who come to France from all over the world as a way to blend in. However, the fact that beret isn’t a very popular headgear in France only makes them stand out more. Berets are since associated with tourists… and with Emily in Paris!