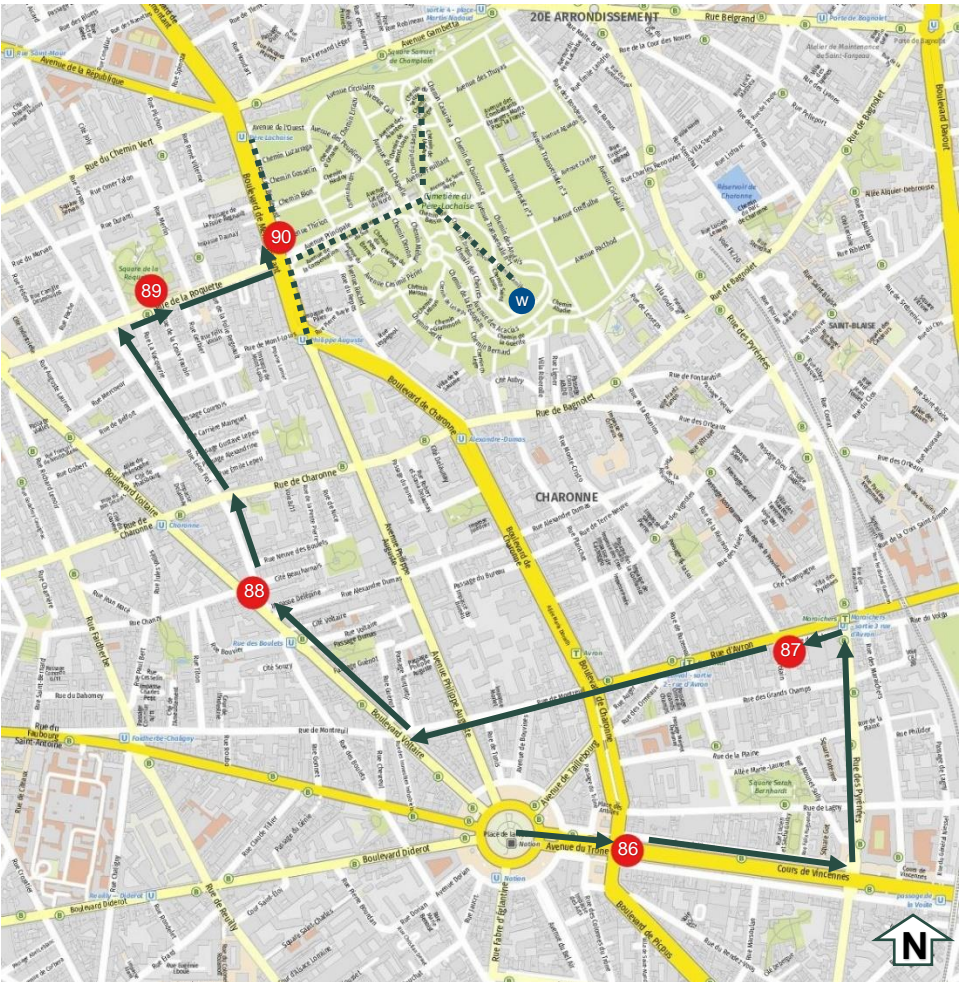


WALK 17 | Père Lachaise

Start – Metro Station, Nation
Lines 1, 2, 6, 9, RER A

Approximate Length: 4.25 km



= Underground Metro Station

..... = Optional Route

= Tomb of Sir Richard Wallace

After exiting the Metro or RER station, take in the impressive **Place de la Nation**. Then, proceed east on Avenue du Trône.

Pass through the **Barrière du Trône** and its two massive columns, one standing in the 11th and the other in the 12th arrondissement.

Next to the columns are twin customs houses. Continue walking east a very short distance to the beginning of Cours de Vincennes and the intersection of Boulevard Picpus.



Facing east, the fountain is on your right.

Fountain
2 Cours de Vincennes, 12th Arr.



This Wallace Fountain is located at the confluence of major traffic arteries and minor streets. At one time, Paris was surrounded by a wall with limited ports of entry. The primary

purpose was not to protect the population from possible invading enemies, but to make sure any goods entering the city were taxed and tariffs were paid. This location was a major entry point to the city from the east.

The two columns of the "Barrière du Trône" and the twin counting houses are notable. These barrier columns, built in 1787, are unique to Paris. They are 28 meters high and were designed by Claude Nicholas Ledoux. Later they were topped with statues of Philippe Auguste and Saint Louis, created by two different

sculptors. All in all, the columns and adjacent customs houses make a rather colossal sight.



Now, walk east on the north side of Cours de Vincennes and turned left on Rue des Pyrénées. As you walk along Rue des Pyrénées, you will pass by the massive **Ministry of the Interior**, with its modern design and red exterior.

Once you arrive at Rue d'Avron, turn left and the liveliness of the street increases with many shops selling cheap clothing, fast food and outdated merchandise. This is a very diverse area with the population on the street wearing native costumes from around the world and speaking many languages. After one block, Rue d'Avron intersects with Rue Tolain, where another Wallace Fountain can be found.

Fountain ⁸⁷ **Rue Tolain and Rue d'Avron, 20th Arr.**

This fountain stands in a small square on a busy commercial street. Two vintage lamp posts and one double-sided park bench are on the tiny public place that is paved with asphalt and imbedded with a



cobblestone mosaic. The cobblestone swirls lend a certain charm to the tiny square.

Proceed west along Rue d'Avron, which turns into Rue de Montreuil. Continue to Boulevard Voltaire and turn right. Walk northwest along Voltaire. You will find a Wallace Fountain where Voltaire intersects with Rue Léon Frot.

Fountain ⁸⁸ **197 Boulevard Voltaire, 11th Arr.**

On a Saturday afternoon, this fountain might be surrounded by an urban rummage sale on the



Paris streets. Here, people set up tables or simply lay tarps on the sidewalk to display items they hope to sell. Someone might hang bags of stuff on the fountain as people mill around looking for a treasure. Clothing, shoes and housewares are among items offered for sale and the flea market goes on for several blocks along Boulevard Voltaire.

Now, take Rue Léon Frot north and follow it to Rue de la Roquette. Turn right on Roquette and in front of the entrance to the green space, **Square M. Rajman**, you will find another Wallace Fountain.

Fountain 89
143 Rue de la Roquette, 11th Arr.



This fountain is located at an entrance to a garden park that has a play area for small children, basketball courts for older kids and boules courts for grownups. Because it is in a hilly part of Paris,

the park has a terraced garden with walkways and lush vegetation. It is a nice place for a rest.

At the entrance to the park, note the plaque commemorating Charles de Gaulle and the large pigeon coop perched on a pole and looking like an apartment complex for birds. This fountain provides welcome refreshment for kids running

around the park and others making their way up the hill to the entrance of Père Lachaise Cemetery, where the rich and famous are buried.



Proceed east on Roquette and cross Boulevard Ménilmontant and turn left. In a few steps near the entrance to the cemetery and by the bus stop is the last fountain of this walk.

Fountain 90
29 Boulevard Ménilmontant, 20th Arr.

At the entrance to the very famous **Père Lechaise Cemetery** stands this Wallace Fountain. On a nice day, crowds of visitors and tourists stream in and out of the huge historic



burial site where many notable people have found their final resting place, including Sir Richard Wallace himself who lies in the Hertford-Wallace tomb located in Division 28.



Here you can end the walk or continue with the option below.

End – Metro Station, Philippe Auguste, Line 2
Metro Station, Père Lachaise, Lines 2, 3

Option: Time and energy permitting, visit the cemetery. It is a fascinating place with much to say about French culture and social mores of the past. Some of the tombstones and monuments are works of art in themselves.



Exit the cemetery on Boulevard Ménilmontant. Go north to metro station Père Lachaise for Lines 2 and 3. Go south as short distance to metro station Philippe Auguste for line 2.

Post a comment about **Walk 17** and share a discovery or selfie on your social media.

Take the Challenge to find all the fountains and automatically become a Friend of the Fountains. Document the time and date you found each fountain on the **Chart** available to download from the website.

In addition to dispensing water, these fountains continue to remind humans to be kind and generous to one another and to cooperate with others for the common good. That is what Sir Richard Wallace intended, and that is what we should do to thank him.