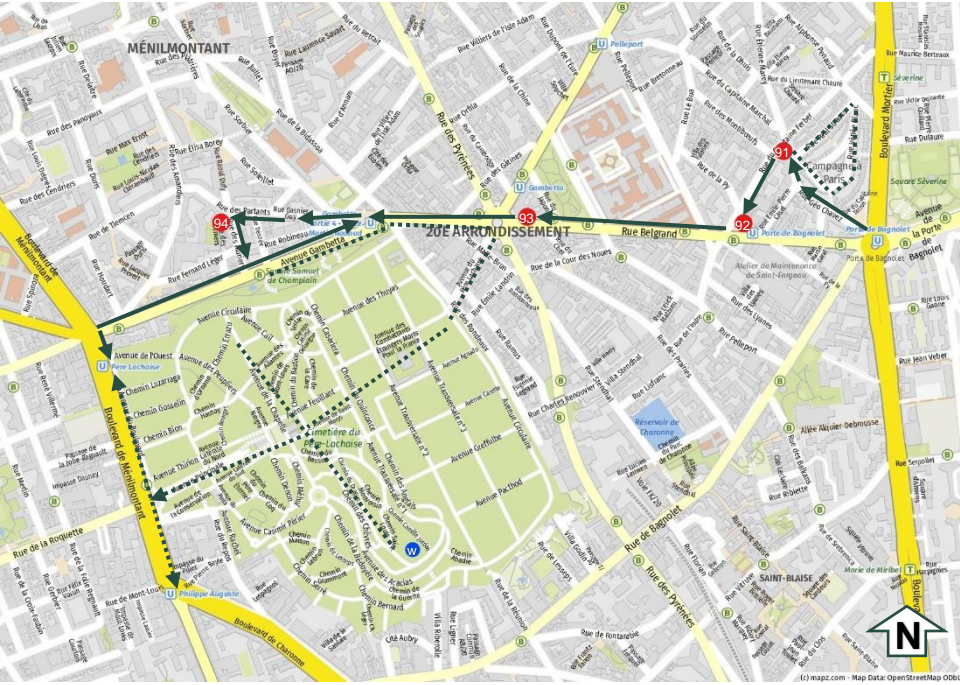


# WALK 18 | Gambetta

Start – Metro Station, Porte de Bagnolet  
Line 3, Tram T3b

Approximate Length: 2.2 km



**U** = Underground Metro Station

..... = Optional Routes

**W** = Tomb of Sir Richard Wallace

From Place de la Porte de Bagnolet take Rue Georges Chavez to Place Octave Chanute where you will find a Wallace Fountain.

**Fountain 91**  
**Place Octave Chanute, 20<sup>th</sup> Arr.**



This fountain is placed in a typical, small triangular square. There is nothing striking about the setting. However, behind the square and looking to the southeast, you will see a long staircase leading to the top of a hill. The steps are marked with a street sign, **Rue Mondonville**. The steps, of course, are not a street, road, or avenue. The French word “rue” can also, in limited use, mean pathway or thoroughfare, so this pathway made of steps has its own designation, Rue Mondonville.

**Option:** If time permits, it is worth the effort to climb the steps. At the top, you will discover a charming neighborhood of single-family houses. Each dwelling has its own design and character, and the tiny streets are hidden away in such a quiet area it must make a peaceful retreat for the inhabitants. Be sure to wander Rues Irénée Blanc, Jules Siegfried, and Paul Strauss for a glimpse of residential living not often seen in Paris.

From Place Octave Chanute, take Rue du Capitan Ferber to Rue Belgrand and Place Edith Piaf. There stands another Wallace Fountain.

### Fountain 92

Place Edith Piaf, 20<sup>th</sup> Arr.



This fountain stands in a public place shaped in a half-circle with curved risers that elevate it from street level. There is a Metro station here, along with lampposts, trees and a large

statue of **Edith Piaf (1915-1963)**.

The statue and square pay tribute to the chanteuse whose unique voice expressed the soul of Paris. She became popular worldwide, passionately singing Parisian cafe and cabaret music. Her songs, such as “La Vie en Rose,” are still beloved by romantics, and they are as easily recognized and associated with Paris as is the Eiffel Tower.



In this square also is a small, multi-colored brick building. On one of its walls is a relief plaque by the sculptor De Villiers honoring Edith Piaf. Roughly translated, the quotation on the plaque reads: “*She is inimitable. There never has been another Edith Piaf, there never will be.*” Jean Cocteau.

From Place Edith Piaf walk west on Rue Belgrand. Just before reaching Place Gambetta on the street along the side of the **Town Hall** of the 20<sup>th</sup> district you will find a Wallace Fountain.

### Fountain 93

1 Rue Belgrand, 20<sup>th</sup> Arr.

This fountain was moved from its original location at **Place Gambetta** to where it stands today on the sidewalk next to the city hall of the 20<sup>th</sup> arrondissement. A charming park behind city hall is a pleasant place to rest.



This fountain is in the open and should be easy to locate. Before it was painted red, you might walk past it without notice if you focus on the large, modern sculptural fountain spewing water in the traffic circle of the busy **Place Gambetta**. Now you cannot miss it.

## Place Gambetta



Now, cross Place Gambetta and take Avenue Gambetta to Place Martin Nadaud.

From there, take Rue Guy Gasnier until it merges with Rue des Partants and continue along to where it intersects with Rue des Mûriers. Here, at Place Joseph Epstein, you will find the last fountain of this walk.

### Fountain <sup>94</sup>

Place Joseph Epstein, 20<sup>th</sup> Arr.



This fountain, now painted yellow, is in a residential area, surrounded by buildings with no significant commercial activity to draw outsiders to the area. The fountain stands in a

common space and nearby is a little outdoor park with a playground for small children. A large building wall creates a boundary for the play area, and on it is painted a colorful mural.

This is one of the shorter walks of the series. You can end the walk by taking Rue des Mûriers to Avenue Gambetta and go right to the Metro at Père Lachaise or left to Metro Gambetta.

**End** - Metro Station, Père Lachaise, Lines 2, 3

**End** - Metro Station, Gambetta, Line 3

**Option:** If you have the time and energy, return to Place Gambetta to take a little rest at a cafe. Then, find your way to the back entrance of the cemetery by taking Avenue du Père Lachaise. Wander through this fascinating graveyard and perhaps find the burial site of Sir Richard Wallace located in Division 28.



By entering from the back, you can explore the cemetery going downhill, which makes the effort less tiring. Exit the cemetery at the main entrance on Boulevard de Ménilmontant and go left or right to the nearest Metro.

**End** – Metro Station, Philippe Auguste, Line 2

**End** – Metro Station, Père Lachaise, Lines 2, 3

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Post a comment about **Walk 18** 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.