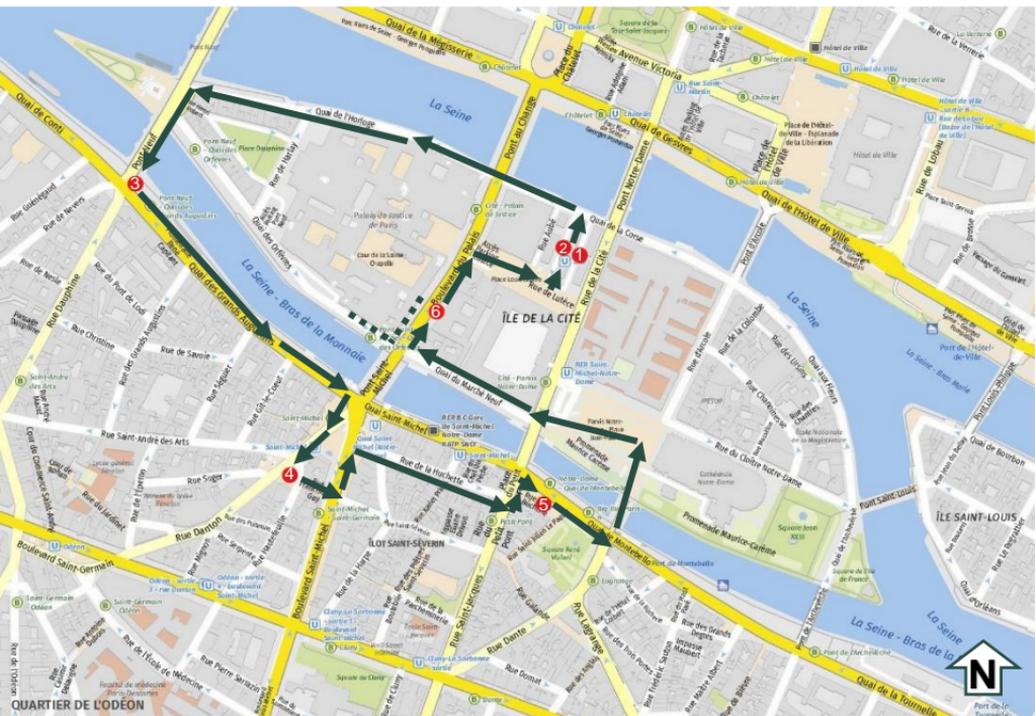


WALK 1 | City Center

Start – Metro Station, La Cité, Line 4

Approximate Length: 2.15 km



U = Underground Metro Station

..... = Optional route

As you emerge from the Metro station you will be facing **Le Marché aux Fleurs et aux Oiseaux** at Place Louis Lépine. Since 1808, this historic market has been open from morning to evening selling plants, flowers and related items in the very center of the city. On Sundays, the market also has a vast selection of common and rare pet birds for sale. Here in the market you will find two Wallace Fountains, the only two in Paris given National Heritage protection and designated as historic monuments.

Fountain 1 Place Louis Lépine, 4th Arr.

The first Wallace Fountain is in the median of Allée Célestin Hennion on the market side nearest to **Hôtel-Dieu de Paris**, the oldest hospital in Paris founded in the year 651 by Saint Landry. The fountain is almost hidden by the plant and flower stalls and by delivery vans that line the adjacent alley. It is close to the curb and the plant market seems to have grown around it.



Fountain 2 Place Louis Lépine, 4th Arr.



The second Wallace Fountain is on the other side of Allée Célestin Hennion. It too is almost hidden by the plant stalls. Surprisingly, it is a very short distance directly to the west of the first fountain.

After you have found these two fountains, enjoy a walk through the flower market and if you are there on a Sunday, take in the sights and sounds of the many beautiful, exotic birds. Exit the market on Quai de la Corse and turn left. Follow the quai west along the river. Before you cross Boulevard de Palais you will be facing the **Clock Tower of the Conciergerie**, a Gothic riverside fortress and a prison during the French Revolution. The impressive clock on the tower wall is the first public clock in France and was put there in 1371.





Quai de la Corse

Proceed downstream along Quai de l'Horloge to **Pont Neuf**, the oldest standing bridge in Paris crossing the Seine and connecting Ile de la Cité with the right and left banks. Staying on the island, turn left walking toward the statue of **Henry IV** on horseback. If you wish, take the steps down to **Square du Vert Galant** to enjoy the park at the end of Ile de la Cité or to watch tourists board the sightseeing boats. Then, cross Pont Neuf to the left bank using the east side of the bridge. When you reach the left bank, you will be in front of another Wallace Fountain.

Fountain 3
57 Quai des Grands Augustins, 6th Arr.



This fountain stands on the left bank at the end of the famous Pont Neuf. Each grand model Wallace Fountain stands almost nine feet tall, weighs more than 1,300 pounds, and is made from 80 cast iron parts.

Turn left and walk upstream along Quai des Grandes Augustins, passing the bookstalls, to



Boulevard Saint Michel. Turn right and cross the street to Place Saint Michel. Walk past the famous, massive **Fountain of Saint Michel** staying to the right of the monument.

Keep walking south until you arrive at Place Saint-André des Arts. On the left you will find a Wallace Fountain. If it is winter, the fountain will be clearly visible in the square. At other times of the year, it will be surrounded by the seasonal, outdoor seating of an adjacent cafe and not easy to find.

Fountain 4
Place Saint-André-des-Arts, 6th Arr.

This Wallace Fountain can be difficult to spot during the season when it is in the middle of a cafe's outdoor seating. When the area is full of customers and scurrying service staff, one might not think to look in the pathway for the fountain.



After finding this fountain, go east to Boulevard Saint Michel and walk toward the river until you come to Rue de la Huchette, a pedestrian passageway on your right. This area is a place to grab an inexpensive snack if you are hungry. At the end of the passageway you will be on Rue Saint Jacques, one of the oldest roads in

Paris. Cross the street, turn left and head toward the river until you come to Rue la Bûcherie. Turn right and proceed until you are in front of the famous bookstore, Shakespeare & Company. There you will find a Wallace Fountain.

Fountain 5
37 Rue de la Bûcherie, 5th Arr.



Right in front of **Shakespeare & Company**, the most charming bookstore for English titles in the world, this fountain gets its share of attention just because of its

location. It's on the left bank of the Seine, directly across the river from the Cathedral of Notre Dame. The bookstore is a must stop for English speakers with a literary bent. Thus, the fountain in front of the store also receives attention from new generations of book lovers in awe of Paris when Sylvia Beach's original Shakespeare & Company bookstore was frequented by the Lost Generation of great writers that included Hemingway, Fitzgerald, Elliot and Joyce.



Today, many hope to get a glimpse of contemporary literary artists who still frequent, and sometimes inhabit, this storied bookstore named in Beach's honor. If you are ready for a break, stop for a coffee at the bookstore's coffee bar next door, an addition established in 2015.

Now, head east walking past **Viviani Square**. At the back of the square, close to the church **Saint-Julien-le-Pauvre**, is the **oldest planted tree in Paris**, a locust tree believed to be planted in 1601. Take a left and cross the river on the pedestrian bridge. You soon will find yourself in front of the **Cathédral Notre Dame de Paris**.



Cathedral of Notre Dame

After locating the plaque in the square marking ground zero of Paris and giving a salute to



the glorious **statue of Charlemagne**, head toward the southwest corner of the square.

Staying on the island, follow the river west and downstream until you arrive at Boulevard du

Palais. Take a right and remain on the east side of the street opposite the **Palais de Justice**. Directly across from the entrance to **Sainte-Chapelle** is the last Wallace Fountain on this walk.

Fountain 6
7 Boulevard du Palais, 4th Arr.



Because of its location, lots of tourists constantly walk past this fountain. It can be easy to miss when the area is crowded with visitors and the sidewalk is congested.

Option: If time is available, return to Quai des Orfèvres to view the **south façade of the Palace of Justice**, with its four statues representing truth, rights, eloquence and clemency. You also will see numerous bullet holes made by Resistance fighters on the first day of the battle to liberate Paris from the Nazis in August 1944. When the exterior was renovated, the bullet holes were left to serve as visible reminders of the fight for freedom.



To end the walk, travel north on Boulevard du Palais until you reach Rue du Lutèce. Turn right and after a short distance on the pedestrian passageway you will be back at the Metro station where you began this walk.

End – Metro Station, La Cité, Line 4

Post a comment about **Walk 1** 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.