

WALK 20 | Buttes Chaumont

Start – Metro Station, Porte des Lilas
Line 11, Tram 3b

Approximate Length: 3.45 km



 = Underground Metro Station

From the Metro station or tram stop, follow Boulevard Sérurier a short distance to where it intersects with Passage des Mauxins. Here you will find a Wallace Fountain.

Fountain 
19 Boulevard Sérurier, 19th Arr.



The **Archives of Paris** and a very large sports field are across the boulevard from the location of this fountain, which is surrounded by apartment buildings. Boulevard Sérurier is a busy roadway with

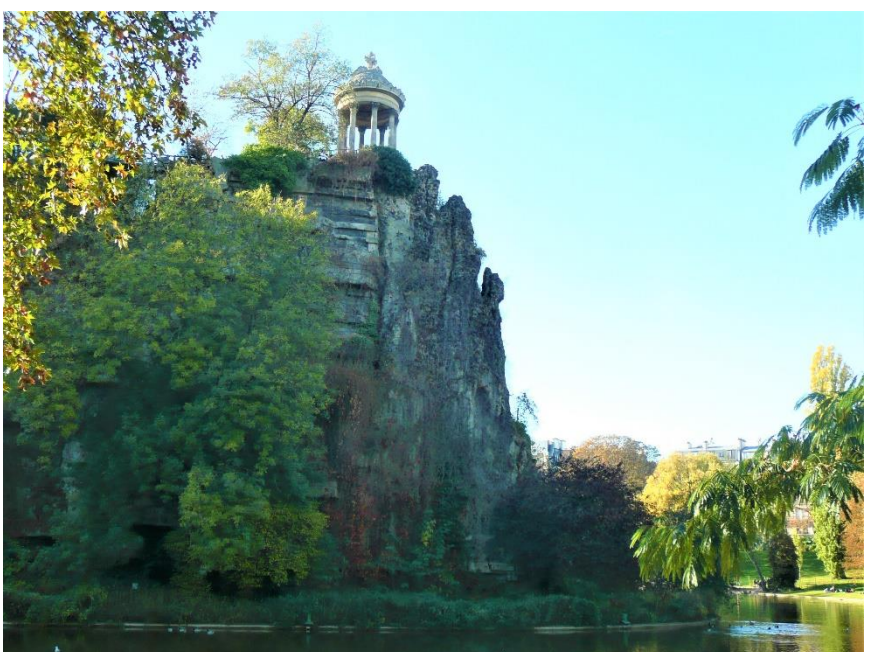
a green grass median down the middle on which tracks are laid for the tram route.

After visiting the fountain, head northwest on Boulevard Sérurier staying to the left. Veer left onto Rue de Mouzaïa. Take a leisurely stroll down Rue de Mouzaïa to Botzaris.



This area is full of little streets with charming townhouses, each of a different design. Some have fenced front gardens with entrance archways covered with vines. It is an enchanting, very quiet area where, it seems, only longtime residents saunter along the street.

At Rue Botzaris you will be at an entrance to **Parc des Buttes Chaumont**. Enter the park and spend some time exploring its wonders or simply follow its walkway south to the exit at the opposite end of the park.



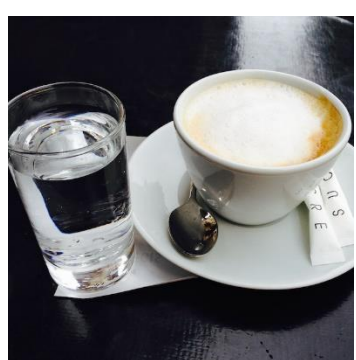
The 61-acre park opened in 1867, and was built by Jean-Charles Alphand, who created all the major parks of the Napoleon III era. Jean-Charles Alphand managed to change an old quarry and waste dump into an artificial,



perfectly manicured nature oasis inside a major European city. This park is completely man-made. Taking a few years to complete, the land was terraced, the buttes shaped with dynamite, and the lake excavated. A train was

used to bring in necessary top soil and every tree, bush and flower bed was hand planted. Parc des Buttes Chaumont is an extraordinary attempt to mimic nature in the heart of an urban area. The park has almost five miles of roads and pathways. The most famous feature of the park is the *Temple de la Sibylle*. It is perched at the top of a cliff fifty meters above the waters of an artificial lake and is said to be inspired by the Temple of Vesta in Tivoli, Italy. A grotto, waterfalls and bridges are also of interest.

Exit the park where Rue Botzaris and Avenue Simon Bolivar intersect. Stop for a coffee in the area if you need a rest. Then, go west on Avenue Simon Bolivar a short



distance. You will see a Wallace Fountain where the avenue intersects with Rue Manin.

Fountain ¹⁰¹
51 Avenue Simon Bolivar, 19th Arr.



This fountain is across the street from the south side of the beautiful and interesting 19th century creation, Parc des Buttes Chaumont.

Now, take Rue Simon Bolivar west and turn left on Rue Henri Turot. Follow this zig zag street to Boulevard de la Villette. Cross the boulevard and veer left a few steps, then turn right onto Rue Vicq d'Azir. Continue along this street until it intersects with Rue Juliette Dodu and Rue de la Grange aux Belles. In a small public space stands a Wallace Fountain.

Fountain ¹⁰²

31 Rue Juliette Dodu, 10th Arr.

This fountain stands at its original location, a small patch of paved public land with two park benches and several trees. Across Rue Juliette Dodu is a little cafe aptly name La Fontaine.



There are many medical clinics in the area and this fountain is near **Hospital Saint Louis**, a large, public assistance hospital complex on Rue de la Grange aux Belles. The earliest buildings in the medical complex were constructed in the 17th century at the request of King Henry IV.

Now, cross the street and take Rue des Ecluses St-Martin. In a short distance on the right side of the street you will come to the pedestrian passageway, Rue Boy Zelenski. Follow this passageway around the edge of a park until you arrive at Place Robert Desnos where you will find the last Wallace Fountain of this walk.

Fountain ¹⁰³

16 Place Robert Desnos, 10th Arr.



This fountain stands in a quiet common area, a small circle surrounded by mid-rise apartment buildings and a sports park with basketball and tennis courts and play areas for small children.

From Place Robert Desnos, take Rue Albert Camus to Place du Colonel Fabien. The Metro station is on the other side of Place du Colonel Fabien on Boulevard de la Villette.

End – Metro Station, Colonel Fabien Line 2

Post a comment about **Walk 20** 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.