WALK 2 | Jardin du Luxembourg

Start – Metro Station, Line 4 St-Germain-des-Prés

Approximate Length: 3.4 km



U = Underground Metro Station

••••• = Optional route

Emerging from the Metro station, you will be on Boulevard Saint Germain. Go to Place Saint Germain des Prés. Pass by the café Les Deux Magots, and in the middle of the plaza across from the church, you will find a Wallace Fountain.

Fountain 🔊 Place St. Germain des Prés, 6th Arr.



This fountain is near the entrance to the old abbey church, Saint Germain des Prés. In warm months, the fountain is surrounded by outdoor seating for nearby cafes and restaurants. One cafe is **Les Deux Magots**,

made famous by its former clientele - lost generation writers, surrealist artists, and existentialist philosophers. Today, the cafe

attracts tourists and those who want to feel they rubbed shoulders with the ghosts of long dead French intellectuals. Perhaps Hemingway or Sartre drank from this Wallace Fountain after they had too much to drink at Les Deux Magots.

Saint Germain des Prés is the oldest church in Paris with parts dating back to the sixth century. If you have time, look inside. Undergoing renovation, it is slowly being restored to its original glory.

Cross Boulevard St-Germain and walk south on Rue Bonaparte until you arrive at Place Saint-Sulpice. In the square and across the street from the town hall of the 6th arrondissement is a Wallace Fountain.

Fountain ⁶ Place Saint-Sulpice, 6th Arr.

At the southwest corner of the square stands the fountain. In the center of the square is the large and formidable **Fontaine des Quatre Points Cardinaux**, where the likeness of four aspiring church bishops are positioned at the four direction points of the compass. "Point" in French also can mean "never" and none of the four bishops ever became a Catholic Cardinal.



The classical church, **Saint Sulpice**, is in the background across the square from the Wallace Fountain. The church took 134 years to build, and the large and imposing structure has an unusual two-story front and bell towers that do not match. Free organ recitals are often given there on Sundays after morning mass.

Continue south on Rue Bonaparte to Rue de Vaugirard. Turn right and walk to Boulevard Raspail. Turn left onto Boulevard Raspail and walk south to Rue Notre Dame des Champs. Turn left onto the rue and follow it to Rue Vavin and turn right. Where Rue Vavin and Rue Brea intersect, there stands a Wallace Fountain.

Fountain <a>924 Rue Vavin, 6th Arr.



This fountain is located on a small plot of land that was recently renovated. The surrounding residential neighborhood is charming and

welcoming, with a lively atmosphere.

Next, turn back and follow Rue Vavin to Rue d'Assas. Cross the street and you will be at the **Jardin du Luxembourg**. If the corner gate is not open, go north on Rue Guynemer and walk a short way to another garden entrance. Go into the park.



Wander through the magnificent garden and make your way to the large octagonal pool, the **Grand Bassin** duck pond. Find an empty seat and rest your feet. Gaze at the Luxembourg Palace, originally the royal residence of the regent Marie de' Medici, the mother of Louis XIII of France. Today, the building serves as a legislative center and houses the French Senate of the Fifth Republic.



If children are about, you might take a moment to watch them float traditional toy sail boats on the pond, pushing them across the water with long sticks in the very same way delighted children have done for decades.



Now, walk directly east of the pond to make your way out of the park, existing at Place Edmond Rostand. Cross busy Boulevard Saint Michel and head toward the river a few steps until you reach Rue Soufflot. Turn right and you have a brief uphill climb to the

Panthéon.

Option: If you have the time and interest, the Panthéon is a magnificent structure worth a visit. Originally built as a church, it now serves as the final resting place for many of France's most distinguished citizens. On the pediment of the Panthéon is the motto: *Aux grands hommes, la patrie reconnaissante* ("To the great men, the grateful homeland").



Facing the front from the outside, begin to circle the Panthéon by going to your left. You will pass by the impressive **Bibliothèque**

Ste. Geneviève, then face the historic and famous church **St. Etienne du Mont**. The church is well worth a visit if you have time and it is open. Continue to circle the Panthéon onto Rue Clotilde and walk down this street until you reach Rue de l'Estrapade. Turn left on this street and you will soon discover another Wallace Fountain.

Fountain[®] 3 Rue de l'Estrapade, 5th Arr.



This fountain stands at a corner where the streets, sidewalks and landscaping are well defined by a tiny public place perfect for a fountain.

Continue walking on

Rue Thouin to Rue Mouffetard. Turn right onto Rue Mouffetard and follow it to Rue Ortolan. Turn left and it will take you to Place Monge and the end of this walk.

Option: Wander down and back up **Rue Mouffetard** to enjoy one of the liveliest and most authentic market streets in Paris.

End – Metro Station, Place Monge, Line 7

Post a comment about **Walk 2** 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.

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