

# Louvre

National Museum of France, one of the most visited museums in the world and the third largest in the world



The Louvre is one of the first museums in Europe. The museum is located in the heart of Paris on the right bank of the Seine.





The basis of the Louvre is the fortress of the king of France Philip II Augustus, built in the late 12th century. As the Louvre Museum opened for visit in 1793, during the French Revolution. The most famous masterpieces of the Louvre - Mona Lisa (Mona Lisa) by Leonardo da Vinci, ancient Greek sculpture Venus de Milo (Venus de Milo) and Nike of Samothrace (Victory of Samothrace).



Louvre exhibits are divided into eight collections: Ancient East (Near Eastern Antiquities), Ancient Egypt (Egyptian Antiquities), Greek, Etruscan and Roman antiquities (Greek, Etruscan, and Roman Antiquities), Islamic Art (Islamic Art), Sculpture (Sculptures), Decorative Arts (Decorative Arts), art (Paintings), prints and drawings (Prints and Drawings).

# History

One of the main purpose of the castle was monitored downstream of the Seine , one of the traditional ways of invasions and raids of the Viking Age . In 1317 , after the transfer of the property of the Templars Order of Malta , the royal treasury was transferred to the Louvre. Charles V makes the castle the royal residence .

Large old tower of the Louvre was destroyed by order of Francis I in 1528 , and in 1546 started turning the fortress into a magnificent royal residence . These works were carried out by Pierre Lescot and continued during the reign of Henry II and Charles IX. Two new wing was attached to the building. In 1594, Henry IV decides to join the Louvre with the Tuileries Palace , built at the request of Catherine de Medici . The square courtyard of the palace was created by architects Lemercier and then Louis the Left during the reign of Louis XIII and Louis XIV, the palace has increased fourfold. Design and decoration of the palace were led by artists such as Poussin, Le Brun and Romanelli . In 1667-1670 years. architect Claude Perrault on the eastern facade of the palace, overlooking the Louvre area , built colonnade of the Louvre .

After the revolution of the Louvre continued Napoleon I. Percy and his architects Fontaine began construction of the north wing along the Rue de Rivoli. This wing was completed in 1852 under Napoleon III, and the construction of the Louvre was completed . After the fire and destruction of the Tuileries , occurred during the siege of Paris Commune in May 1871 , the Louvre became a modern look. In 1989, in the center of the Napoleonic court was erected glass pyramid (architect Yo Ming Pei ) .

First museum doors were opened to the public August 10, 1793, during the French Revolution. When the museum was called the First Empire of Napoleon.



# Visiting the museum

Ticket to the permanent collections - € 12.

Ticket to visit the temporary exhibitions in the Hall Napoleon - € 13.

Dual ticket ( Louvre Museum + all temporary exhibitions in both the Louvre and the Museum Delacroix ) - € 16.

Pre- purchased tickets entitle pass the queue and have no expiration date .

Admission is free :

- Visitors under 18 years
- French for unemployed registered properly
- for French teachers with special permission and French teachers of Art History
- Art of French nationality , duly registered in the relevant administrative bodies
- for people with disabilities and their carers
- visitors for 18 - 25 years old, living in one of the countries of the European Economic Area
- for all in the first Sunday of every month and a revolutionary holiday July 14

# Hours of operation

Every day from 09:00 to 18:00, except Tuesdays and January 1.

Halls begin to close at 17:30.

On Wednesdays and Fridays, the museum is open until 21:45 (rooms start to close at 21:30). Also, in the evenings, some rooms do not work, you can find a list of them at the checkout and information desk.





# Interesting facts

- Louvre became the first museum opened in 1793 for the general public.
- throughout the route you'll see graphics that illustrate six major rules that must be followed during a visit to the museum. In the halls of the permanent exhibitions allowed to take pictures and shoot at the camera. Using flares and other lighting devices is prohibited.



Louvre – is a unique museum complex, one of the largest in the world.

