

THE "HÔTEL PARTICULIER" a Parisian ambition

OCTOBER 5, 2011 TO FEBRUARY 19, 2012



Hôtel de Camondo © Caroline Rose

The "hôtel particulier" is a key element of Paris' architectural landscape, one that can show us the history of the capital through its topographic evolution in the various quarters of Paris.

First seen in the Middle Ages, these Parisian mansions developed in the 16th Century when François 1st established Paris as the political capital where the monarchy and the state would be centralised: to be close to the court and the king would henceforth mean living in Paris. The golden age would continue from the 17th to the 19th Century.

The inter-war period saw the last mansions being constructed and would come to mark the end of a long history. However, they continued to be used and the "hôtel" still exists in 21st century Paris, housing museums, ministries and embassies.

This exhibition will expand on this history in three sections, its exhibits and its themes complementing and illuminating each other in order to unlock the secrets at the heart of the Parisian "hôtels".

In the first, vast section, the visitor will discover a reconstruction of a small "hôtel" from courtyard to garden, exploring its different rooms, all furnished like an inhabited home. Everyone is offered an intimate insight into the building, an appropriation of the object. This impression will be created not from an existing edifice, rather a general evocation, a synthesis of styles, with each space, 'exterior' and interior, being the subject of further discursive elements.

In the second part of the exhibition, visitors will explore the history of the "hôtel" via a chronological evocation from the middle ages to the golden age. This section will be brought to life in a vast open space, structured around a series of large-scale models of buildings selected for their iconic character - the Cluny, Lambert and Thélusson "hôtels", and finally the "Palais Rose" (the only building not still standing from the group) - with an additional interactive hub that will include richly-illustrated information on 300 buildings.

The final section will offer a thematic representation of the Parisian "hôtel", viewed as an architectural object. Three "alcoves" will show the relationship between the city and the buildings, from seduction to destruction. Another series of three rooms will focus again on the building itself, with an evocation of exterior architecture (courtyard and garden facades), interior decor, and lastly the garden and its layout. This approach will be complemented by a "multi-touch" display focused on the layout of the "hôtels" and their organisation, presented in a playful manner.

ADMISSION FEES

Exhibition - Full rate: 8€ / Group rate: 5€ / Under 12: free

Collections & Exhibition - Full rate: 10€ / Group rate: 7€

Group rate for a minimum of 10 tickets ordered

To order: lemailbilletterie@citechailot.fr

GROUPS

Guided tour (entrance included) – visit duration: 90 min

Languages: English, German, Italian, Spanish

10 to 14 people: 160€

15 to 19 people: 200€

20 to 30 people: 250€

Unguided tour

No authorisation to guide required

Free booking

Group must book in advance by fax +33 (0)1 58 51 52 20

Information : groupe@citechailot.fr / tél. +33(0)1 58 51 50 19

CAFÉ CARLU

Packages for groups

Information & reservation : cafe-carlu@laffiche.fr

PRATICAL INFORMATIONS

Opening times

Everyday from 11am to 7pm, Thursdays from 11am to 9pm

Closed on Tuesdays, January 1, May 1, December 25

Access

Cité de l'architecture & du patrimoine

Palais de Chaillot - 1, place du Trocadéro - 75116 Paris - France

Metro: Trocadéro (lines 6 and 9)

Batobus: Tour Eiffel - Opentour: Trocadéro - Bus Stop: place du Trocadéro

Contact

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