



# Forever Paris: 25 Walks in the Footsteps of the City's Most Illustrious Figures

*Christina Henry De Tesson*

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Take a stroll through Édith Piaf's Belleville, dine at Napoléon's favorite restaurant, and explore the late-night haunts of Ernest Hemingway, Josephine Baker, and Pablo Picasso. From the author of the best-selling City Walks: Paris deck, this lively collection of walking adventures follows in the footsteps of more than 25 of the city's iconic former residents. Throughout, Paris is seen from the intimate vantage point of those who loved it best, from the bars where authors penned classic works to the markets and patisseries where food lovers indulged. Including photos and full-color maps throughout, each walk in this book guides visitors and locals through the city that inspired some of the world's most famous artists, writers, chefs, musicians, politicians, and more.

## Forever Paris: 25 Walks in the Footsteps of the City's Most Illustrious Figures Details

Date : Published March 21st 2012 by Chronicle Books LLC (first published March 1st 2012)

ISBN : 9781452104881

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Format : Hardcover 108 pages

Genre : Travel, Nonfiction, Cultural, France, History

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# From Reader Review Forever Paris: 25 Walks in the Footsteps of the City's Most Illustrious Figures for online ebook

## Carolyn says

A short, light read through 25 famous Parisians, including where they lived and worked, and how to walk their favorite neighborhoods. I wish the biographical pages were more interesting -- they read a bit like an ad for Paris -- but I found the walking tours I used really added to our trip. I took pics of key pages w/my phone so I didn't have to carry the book around with us, and I added points I especially wanted to see to our city map so we could check them out if we happened to be nearby. The book is the perfect size to peruse on the flight there.

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## Kelley S. Kent says

“Paris ... helped these people find their calling. They used the city as their muse, drew inspiration from its beauty, exposed its underbelly, and ... were transformed and elevated by it. As a result, they went on to change the course of art, fashion, food, philosophy, politics, and beyond.” This quote encapsulates the book’s theme. Some of my favorite chapters profile the Parisian lifestyles of Julia Child, Auguste Rodin, Henri Cartier-Bresson, George Sand, Victor Hugo, Claude Monet, and Henry Matisse. Other nationalities and professions are included. The book was brief, which I like, but a bit wordy. Still, I’m grateful for the introductions to names I recognized but knew little about. Having seen *Impromptu* (1990), I want to learn more about Sand’s circle of friends.

What really impresses me about this book is the research, both the biographies and the walking tours. Quotes and photographs enhance each chapter profile. What I love about the French, and those who embrace them (e.g. Julia Child), is that they feel deeply – even when they’re wrong. Zeal for life and culture is their motto. See the quotes below for a sample. I wish I could say the same of the British, whom I studied in literature, film, and history for a decade. Vive La France!

Henry Matisse: “From the moment I held the box of colors in my hands, I knew this was my life. I threw myself into it like a beast that plunges toward the thing it loves.”

Author: “When Matisse’s *Woman with a Hat* was first exhibited at the annual Paris Salon in 1905, people were so outraged by the painting that they clawed at it with their fingernails.”

Victor Hugo’s *Les Miserables*: “On the day it came out, bookstores were mobbed, and thousands of copies sold out in a single day.”

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## Carol says

This is an excellent, small (5" x 7") book, that is packed with great information regarding Paris, and the famous people who lived there during the 19th century. It includes Picasso, Coco Chanel, Hemingway, Honore de Balzac, Josephine Baker, Simone de Beauvoir & Jean Paul Satre, Toulouse-Lautrec, Julia Child, Emile Zola, Rodin, Moliere, Cartier-Bresson, Napoleon Bonaparte, George Sand, Yves Saint Laurent,

Audrey Hepburn, Victor Hugo, Marie Antoinette, Henry Miller and Anais Nin, Monet, Matisse, and Colette. Each individual has 2 pages in the book that face each other. The first page is an overview of the individual's life their relationship to Paris. The next page is a detailed walking map with all the locations that individual's personal life (born, lived, etc.) as well as their own "personal walk ways" while living in Paris. I look forward to using this tiny book that I can carry with me as I walk in Paris this fall.

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### **Lune Lenore Violette says**

Forever Paris is unique among many books on Paris I have read; instead of giving a tourist's guide overview of the city, complete with flowery descriptions, this book delves into the lives of some extraordinary Parisians and what they loved about their city. My favorite part are the brief biographies of each person, detailing their favorite spots in the city; care to visit Ernest Hemmingway's favorite cafe? This book can tell you how to get there. Curious to see where Edith Piaf first crooned "La Vie en Rose?" Directions enclosed. Highly recommended for anyone with fernweh for the city of lights.

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### **Marie says**

A charming little read; walks themed by Paris personalities. Team this with John Baxter and a good Paris travel guide and you'll be all set.

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### **Amy says**

I did the Ernest Hemingway walk and loved it. The directions/map were accurate and (mostly) clear, with enough historical and anecdotal tidbits to provide some context for what you're looking at. There are so many other walks I'd love to try in the future. There's a tour in this book to interest everyone: literary (Balzac, Simone de Beauvoir & Jean-Paul Sartre, Emile Zola, Victor Hugo, Henry Miller & Anais Nin, Colette), artistic (Picasso, Toulouse-Lautrec, Rodin, Monet, Matisse), musical (Edith Piaf, Josephine Baker, Serge Gainsbourg), historical/political (Charles de Gaulle, Napoleon Bonaparte, Marie Antoinette), and "miscellaneous" (Coco Chanel, Audrey Hepburn, Julia Child). And more!

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### **Emily S. says**

I simply MUST take a trip to Paris just to take these walks. They're all laid out in great detail in the maps, so they'd be really easy to follow. I can't wait to take every one of these walks!

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### **Thu Hoài says**

I dream of Paris, of the stone pavement and grand designs. I saw the city map during French lessons but after reading "Forever Paris", each route and cafe started to have each own meaning. Hopefully, my dream of Paris will come to fruition soon enough.

I'm deeply interested in most people featured in the books, and completely ignorant of some (Serge Gainsbourg, Auguste Rodin), but nevertheless, it is a special guide for those who want to experience Paris in a historical, sensational and impactful way.

The book itself is beautifully designed from the cover to the maps and portraits.

Even when my map-reading is terrible, I would surely keep this book with me if I've ever gone to Paris.

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### **Barbara says**

A compact book that provides interesting info about how these 25 famous folks were enchanted & shaped by Paris. The maps & directions look very clear. Thanks to Tracie for giving this to me, so that I can walk the streets & sit in the same cafes as Hemingway, Picasso, Piaf, and others. The additional tidbits of wisdom, such as "the ultimate Monet showcase is the Musee Marmottan", are insights not found in other guides.

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### **Kiwi Begs2Differ \ says**

I liked this novel way of visiting the City of Light by retracing the steps of influential people who lived and loved Paris. The book is organised in mini chapters where a short biography and picture is followed by a walking tour, guiding the reader to the famous individual favourite spots. A good selection of artists (painters, singers, writers) as well as fashion icons, politicians and historical figures. A great armchair travel book. 3 ½ rounded up.

Favourite quotes:

*"Paris is always a good idea" - Audrey Hepburn*

*"Writing is like prostitution. First you do it for love, and then for a few close friends, and then for money." ? Molière*

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### **Deb (Readerbuzz) Nance says**

This is an excellent guide that anyone visiting Paris should pick up. Who wouldn't want to visit the places where Ernest Hemingway, Claude Monet, Julia Child, and more, walked and ate and lived?

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### **Lindsey Sparks says**

I love finding houses of authors and historical people when I'm traveling, and visiting the same restaurants and places they did. This book was packed with info on many of Paris's most famous residents and I pulled a ton of info from it.

One thing to note - the Museum of Letters and Manuscripts has closed since this book's publication and is mentioned a couple of times in this book.

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### **Melinda says**

I've walked in the footsteps of many of the "illustrious figures" featured in this book. Yet I also discovered many future additions to my strolls as well as new routes both direct and circuitous. I knew I'd love this book from the moment I read the first paragraph of the introduction. In fact, I shared it with a couple of friends with whom I've had the pleasure of helping discover/fall in love with Paris. One even questioned, "Are you sure YOU didn't write that?!"

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### **Bridget says**

I read this book before my trip to Paris, somewhat interestedly...I stayed with a friend's parents, and everyone spoke French, and had ideas on where to take me, so I didn't really need planned out walks like this. But when I got back, it was fascinating to reread it and think "I was there!" or "Huh, I didn't get there. I'll have to put that on the list for next time." I'm definitely a walker/eater sort of travelers, though, and this was a great match to that. It could have done more, but what it did was well-done.

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### **Kellie Horrocks says**

**From Napoleon to Hemingway to Chanel, you'll find a walk (or two) that'll make you feel like a Parisian.**

I'll admit, my reading of this book was more of a skim, but for those people that I have the most interest in: Audrey Hepburn, Julia Child, Monet, etc... I read their 'walks' in depth. I appreciated the formatting of the book. Each person has a short biography section, a description of their common stops, and a map that connects these places - giving the impression that this might have been the path they followed in the streets of Paris. I'm looking forward to visiting some of these sites during my visit there in a couple weeks.

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