



# EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAYS

SEPTEMBER 21 AND 22  
2024



Contact: [jepsenat@senat.fr](mailto:jepsenat@senat.fr)  
Phone: +33 (0)1 42 34 45 45



80th anniversary of the liberation  
of the Senate :  
From the landing beaches  
to the Luxembourg Palace



**PALAIS DU LUXEMBOURG**

Place Paul Claudel - Porte Odéon du Jardin du Luxembourg 75006 PARIS

Welcome to the Senate where, on behalf of all 348 Senators, I am pleased to welcome you with these few words. We are delighted to be opening the doors of the Senate to you once again for the 41st European Heritage Days.

As you enter the Luxembourg Palace, you will be immersed in the history of France, but also in the current affairs of our country. The Senate is an institution that is more than ever an integral part of the life of our Republic, and it is responsible for the upkeep and development of this monument of our national heritage. Every day on these premises, the Senate votes on legislation and exercises oversight of the government, while representing metropolitan and overseas territories and French citizens living abroad. This is its fundamental role, as set out in Article 24 of our Constitution. Once again this year, it is perfectly in tune with the themes chosen for the European Heritage Days: the heritage of routes, networks and connections, and maritime heritage, all subjects that have their place in our work, our debates and our votes.

This weekend, you can visit places that epitomise different eras: the Queen's Chamber, where one of the episodes in the famous "Day of Dupes" under Louis XIII probably took place; the Staircase of Honour of the "Conservative Senate" during the Consulate and First Empire, designed by the architect Chalgrin, who also drew up the plans for the Arc de Triomphe on the Place de l'Etoile; the Chamber, where our sessions are held, which was built under the July Monarchy, and the Conference Room, converted under Napoleon III.

2024 also marks the eightieth anniversary of the Normandy landings, the liberation of France and victory. In association with "Mission Libération", we invite you to embark on an exceptional memorial trail in the Boffrand Salons of the Presidency, which will further enliven your visit.

We hope to welcome large numbers of visitors to our institution and the Luxembourg Garden, one of Europe's most beautiful gardens, as well as its glasshouses and their magnificent collection of orchids. Dating back to the mid-nineteenth century, it too is an integral part of our national heritage and a source of justifiable pride for our gardeners. They will help to offer you the best possible experience, alongside the entire Senate staff, whom I would like to thank for their commitment.

I wish you an excellent visit during these European Heritage Days.



GÉRARD LARCHER,  
PRÉSIDENT OF THE SENATE

Gérard Larcher  
President of the Senate

## THE LUXEMBOURG PALACE

**THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE LUXEMBOURG PALACE BEGAN IN 1615 AT THE BEHEST OF MARIE DE MEDICIS AND WAS COMPLETED AROUND 1630. MARIE DE MEDICIS TOOK UP RESIDENCE IN THE WEST WING OF THE PALACE AS OF 1625. SHE STAYED THERE UNTIL SHE HAD TO LEAVE FRANCE IN 1631, FORCED TO EXILE BY HER SON LOUIS XIII AFTER THE EVENTS KNOWN AS THE "DAY OF THE DUPES".**

The Palace remained a princely estate lived in successively by Louis XIII's brother, Gaston of Orleans (1642), then by his widow and his daughters among whom the Duchess of Montpensier known as the *Grande Mademoiselle* and the Duchess of Guise (1660), who offered it to Louis XIV in 1694.

In 1715, the Regent Philippe of Orleans inherited it before giving it up to his daughters, the Duchess of Berry and Louise Elisabeth of Orleans, former Queen of Spain. In 1778, Louis XVI gave the Palace to his brother the Count of Provence, who would later become King Louis XVIII. He fled the Revolution. The Luxembourg Palace became a prison before being assigned to the *Directoire* in 1795 and to the *Senate Conservateur* (Conservative Senate) at the end of 1799. It then underwent profound architectural changes under the direction of Jean-François-Thérèse Chalgrin (1739-1811) to better suit its new parliamentary function.

In 1814, under the *Restauration*, the Luxembourg Palace was allocated to the *Chambre des Pairs* (Chamber of Peers). During the July Monarchy, the increasing number of Peers of France led architect Alphonse de Gisors (1796-1866) to push the Palace's South-facing wall 30 meters forward into the Garden to allow for the construction of the current *Salle des Séances* (Senate Chamber)

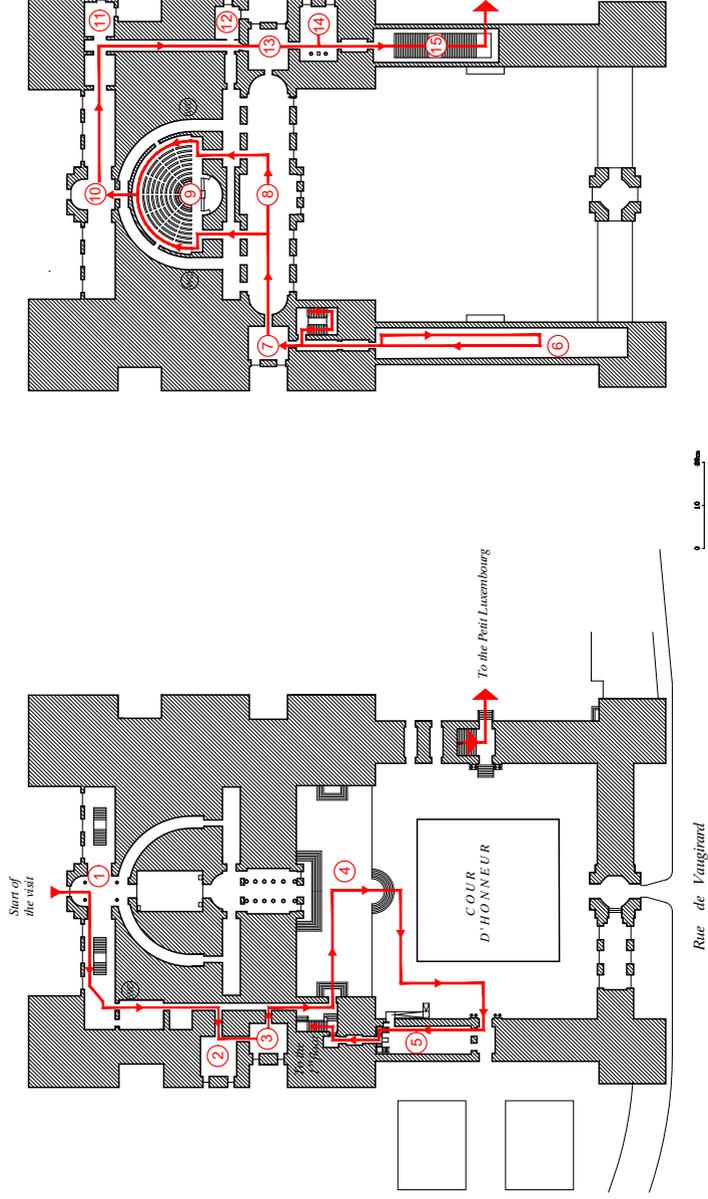
and Library. In 1852, he made the most of this enlargement by building the main gallery, then known as the *Salle du Trône* (Room of the Throne) and currently referred to as the *Salle des Conférences* (Conference Hall). The Palace was then allocated to the Senate of the Second Empire, after hosting the short-lived *Commission du gouvernement pour les travailleurs* (Workers governmental committee) of the Second Republic, in 1848.

Following the demise of the Second Empire, the Palace housed the Seine *Préfecture* and the meetings of the town council, after the Paris town hall had been set on fire during the Commune. In 1879, all seats of public offices were transferred from Versailles to Paris and the Luxembourg Palace was allocated to the Senate of the Third Republic until 1940, when it was then occupied by the *Luftwaffe* command staff for Western Europe.

In 1944, it became the seat of the provisional Consultative Assembly. The Higher Court of Justice held its meetings there in 1945 as well as the 1946 Peace Conference.

The Palace was allocated to the Council of the Republic at the end of 1946 before becoming home to the Senate of the Fifth Republic in 1958.

LUXEMBOURG PALACE  
EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAYS 2024

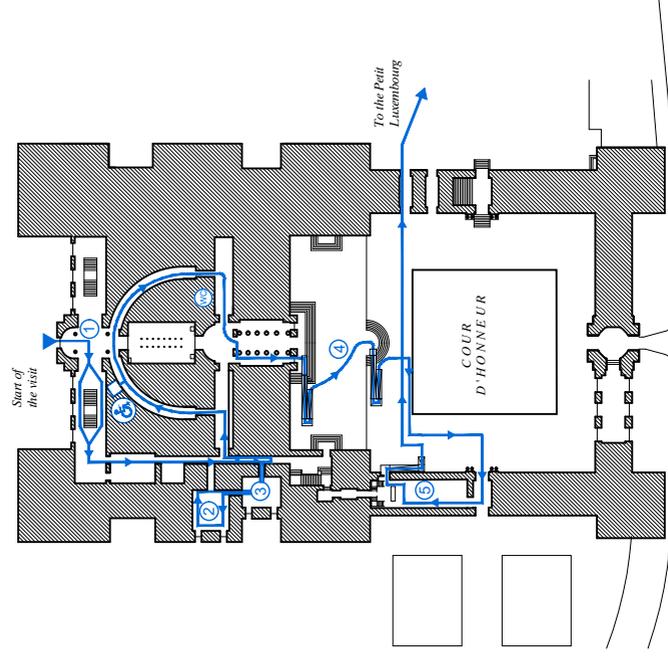


GROUND FLOOR PLAN

1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR PLAN

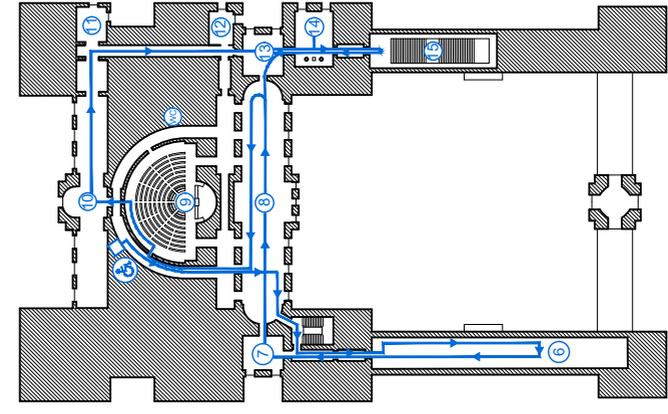
LUXEMBOURG PALACE  
EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAYS 2024

ROUTE FOR PEOPLE WITH REDUCED MOBILITY



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR PLAN



## ROOM 1

## GALLERY OF QUESTEURS

Designed by Alphonse de Gisors, it opens onto the garden, on the south side of the building.



## ROOM 2

## ROOM OF THE GOLDEN BOOK

Decorated in 1817 by architect Baraguey with painted wooden panels taken from the apartments of Queen Marie de Medicis at the Luxembourg Palace and wood panelling taken from the royal apartments of Queen Anne of Austria, at the Louvre.

## ROOM 3

## OFFICES OF A VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Former reading room of the Peers of France.

*These offices are shown to the public for their patrimonial relevance. They are not, however, the current senators' offices, which are for the most part located on 26 and 36 rue de Vaugirard and are much more functional and smaller in size.*

## ROOM 4

## MODULAR CONSTRUCTION AND THE COURT OF HONOUR

Before reaching the stairs, you will see a modular construction in the Court of Honour of the Luxembourg Palace. This building, set up in the spring of 2017, will be operational as of October 2017. Its 134 temporary offices spread on four floors will house some Senators and their assistants during the renovation works of the buildings located between 26 and 36 rue de Vaugirard.

## ROOM 5

## RENÉ MONORY HALL

A former chapel (1843-1905), this room still boasts several religious paintings made between 1844 and 1845 to adorn the Chapel of the French House of Peers. In 1905 this chapel was used as a meeting room. From 2016 to 2018, the Senate carried out major renovations to restore its interior decoration and transform this room into a modern multimedia facility equipped with an audiovisual recording system to enable the broadcasting of its meetings by video on demand. The Bureau of the Senate has named this room after René Monory, as a tribute to the Vienne Senator and former President of the Senate (1992-1998). It was inaugurated by the current President of the Senate, Mr Gérard Larcher, on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2018.



## ROOM 6

## LIBRARY ANNEX

The Great Gallery, now referred to as *the Annexe de la Bibliothèque* (Library Annex), was completed in 1630. Stretching along the whole length of the east wing of the building, it was originally designed to display 24 paintings of Rubens (1577-1640) in honour of Henri IV, but that project never came to fruition. This is where the first European painting museum open to the public was set up from 1750 to 1780. During the French Revolution, that part of the Palace was turned into a *maison nationale de sûreté* (national safety house). Another museum for contemporary art was established there from 1803 to 1815 and from 1818 to 1886. In 1886, the Luxembourg Museum took up its new quarters, managed by the Senate, in the rue de Vaugirard, opposite rue Férou. The former gallery became the Library Annex in 1887. Prison cells were fitted there during the trials of Paul Déroulède and other members of the League of Patriots, judged in 1899 by the Senate turned High Court of Justice. The vaulted ceiling, massively restored in 2010, features a series of paintings by Jacob Jordaens (1593-1678) representing the Twelve Signs of the Zodiac. This room also contains a bronze bust by American sculptor Jo Davidson (1883-1952) of Literature Nobel Prize winner Anatole France, who worked in the Library for a time.



## ROOM 7

## VICTOR HUGO LOUNGE

This room owes its name to the bust sculpted by Antonin Mercié in 1889 of illustrious writer and Parliamentarian Victor Hugo, who was a Peer of France from 1845 to 1848 and a senator during the Third Republic from 1876 until his death on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1885.



## ROOM 8

## CONFERENCE HALL

57 meters long, 10.60 meters wide and 11 meters high (15 meters under the dome), this room designed by Alphonse de Gisors, completed in 1854, was created by assembling three separate rooms from the original building. Its decoration is a very fine example of Second Empire style. At each end of the room, on the ceiling's covings, one can admire depictions of the History of France from its origins until Charlemagne (at the west end) as well as a fresco by Henri Lehmann (1814-1882) of the period running from the first Crusade to Louis XIV (at the east end). The ceiling features *L'Âge de la Paix* (The Age of Peace) and *L'Âge de la Victoire* (The Age of Victory) by Adolphe Brune. Eight tapestries from the Gobelins illustrating Ovid's *Metamorphoses* complete the decor.

## EXHIBITION OF BUSTS OF "MARIANNE"

A symbol of the French Republic, "Marianne" was portrayed in various ways since the Convention decided, in 1792, to associate the New Régime to the image of a woman wearing the Phrygian cap (liberty cap).

## GALLERY OF BUSTS

Built over the original terrace overlooking garden, this long corridor is named after the busts of statesmen it is lined with.



## ROOM 9

## SENATE CHAMBER

Made up of two facing semicircles, it was built from 1836 to 1841 following the plans of Alphonse de Gisors. The smaller semicircle's semi-dome is supported by eight stucco columns separated by seven statues of prestigious legislators. The paintings on the left and right sides of the smaller semicircle's vault, by Merry-Joseph Blondel (1781-1853), depict the crowning of Philippe le Long and Louis XII at the *États de Tours* in 1506. The alcoves contain statues of Charlemagne by Antoine Etex (1808-1888) and of Saint-Louis by Augustin Dumont (1801-1884).

The busts of four Marshals of the Empire (Masséna, Lannes, Mortier and Gouvion-Saint-Cyr) are located between the benches.

The vaulted ceiling in front of the benches is painted with allegories of Prudence (Caution), Truth and Protection by Théophile Vauchelet dating back to the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The room also features beautiful sculpted oak panelling by J.B. Klagmann, J.-J. Elshoëcht and H. de Triqueti. There are 348 seats, allocated in proportion to the number of members in every political group. Each senator has her or his own designated seat according to their party.

Fifteen desks display commemorative medallions of former senators Victor Hugo, Victor Schoelcher, Pierre Waldeck-Rousseau, Marcellin Berthelot, Émile Combes, Georges Clemenceau, Raymond Poincaré, René Coty, Gaston Monnerville, François Mitterrand, Michel Debré, Alain Poher, Edgar Faure, Maurice Schumann and Gaston Doumergue.

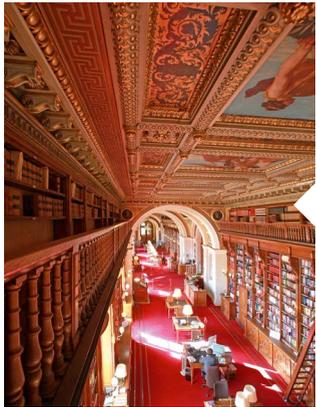


## → Did you know?

In the night of 27<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> October 1859, shortly after 1 am, a fire with unknown causes destroyed the roofing of the *Palais du Luxembourg* (Luxembourg Palace). This fire led to the creation of a fire station attached to the *Palais du Luxembourg* and the implementation of the night rounds.



Details of the dome



#### ROOM 10 LIBRARY

Completed by Alphonse de Gisors, with ceilings by Louis Antoine Riesener (1808-1878) and Camille Roqueplan (1802-1855). The dome features a painting by Delacroix (from 1841 to 1846) of the Limbo, described by Dante in *The Divine Comedy*, in Canto IV of the *Inferno*, representing the Great Men of ancient times. Still in the dome, four hexagonal medallions by the same artist evoke Theology (St Jerome), Philosophy (Aristotle's Muse), Poetry (Orpheus) and Eloquence (Cicero). Between the dome and the window, on the ceiling's coving, Delacroix painted Alexander after the Battle of Arbeles, asking for Homer's poems to be deposited in Darius' golden chest. One can notice this piece of furniture, specially designed by cabinetmaker Charles Morel to provide a copy of the "*Description of Egypt*" carried out during Napoléon Bonaparte's expedition.

#### ROOM 11 QUESTEUR'S OFFICE

This room, decorated by Alphonse de Gisors at the same period as the Library, used to be a study. It is now used for the weekly meetings of the Conseil de Questure, which comprises of three Questeurs elected by their colleagues to manage the Senate's administrative matters and run its budget.

#### ROOM 12 DEPARTURE CABINET

The former *cabinet doré* [gilded cabinet] or *mariages Medicis* [Cabinet of Medicis weddings], this is now the room the chairman of parliamentary sessions departs from in order to go to the *Salle des Séances* [Senate Chamber].

#### ROOM 13 MESSENGERS OF STATE LOUNGE

A former antechamber at the time of Marie de Medicis, this room was turned by Chalgrin into a lounge for the Empire's Messengers of State (who acted as intermediaries between the authorities, carrying bills and official documents).

#### ROOM 14 QUEEN'S BEDROOM

This was Marie de Medicis's ceremonial bedroom and may have been the room where the first act of the *Journée des Dupes* (Day of the Dupes) unfolded.

### THE "DAY OF THE DUPES"

This is the room where one of the most crucial days of French history, the "Day of the Dupes", may well have taken place. On 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> November 1630, two influential characters confronted each other under the arbitration of the young King Louis XIII: on the one hand, his mother the Queen, Regent until 1615, who wished to maintain peaceful relations with catholic powers; on the other hand, the Cardinal Richelieu who encouraged the King to support France's protestant adversaries regardless of family ties by waging a war against his father-in-law the King of Spain and his brother-in-law the Duke of Savoie.

Marie de Medicis summoned the King, asking him to dismiss Richelieu. However, the latter, informed by his agents, wormed his way into the Palace through a hidden door and managed to enter the room. The Queen reacted vividly but the Cardinal threw himself at her feet, assuring her of his loyalty. Louis XIII asked the Cardinal to leave and wait for his orders.

Marie had openly triumphed. Convinced he had lost, the Cardinal burnt his documents and had his most precious belongings sent over to The Havre. Meanwhile, Louis XIII went back to Versailles where he called in Richelieu and declared: "Sir, you have my entire trust. I am more obliged to my State than to my mother."

The Queen's partisans only realized what had just happened on the following day. They were moved away from power. Some of them, such as Louis de Marillac, were even executed. As to the Queen Marie, she was forced to exile.

#### ROOM 15 MAIN STAIRCASE

It was built by Chalgrin (between 1800 and 1803) at the expense of the gallery of Rubens whose 24 paintings on the life of Marie de Medicis are now exhibited at the Louvre. The vaulted ceiling is ornamented with roses and coffers. Above the doors, various Victories are represented on stone bas-reliefs, while the side walls are decorated with ten verdure tapestries.

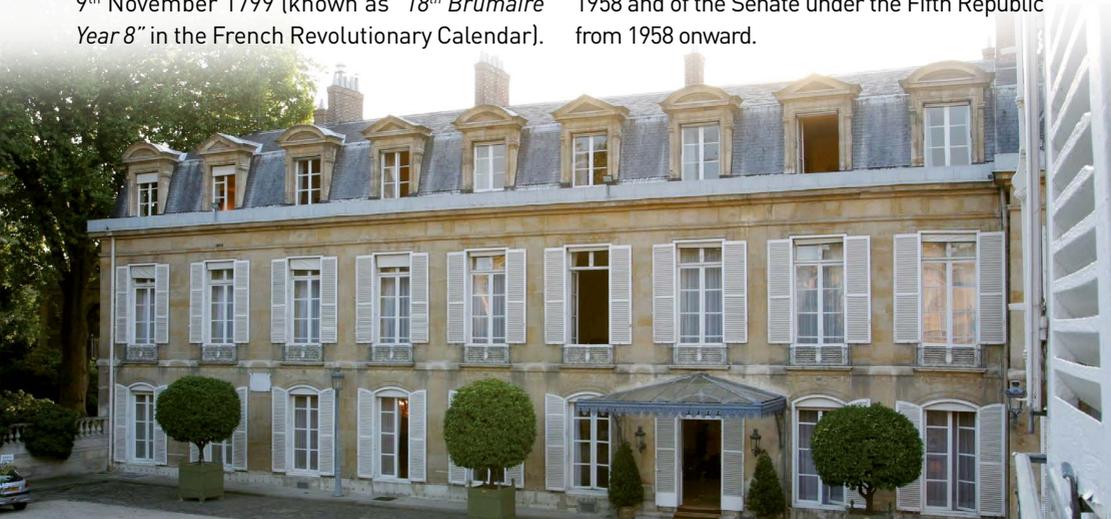


## THE PETIT LUXEMBOURG (RESIDENCE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE)

Built toward the middle of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, this mansion was purchased in 1570 by François de Luxembourg, Duke of Piney and Peer of France, before it was sold in 1612 to Queen Marie de Medicis, who had her Palace built nearby. Both buildings were named after the Duke François de Luxembourg. Since then, the former mansion has been called the *Petit Luxembourg* to avoid any confusion with the larger Palace. It was given in 1627 to the Cardinal de Richelieu, who bequeathed it to his niece in 1639.

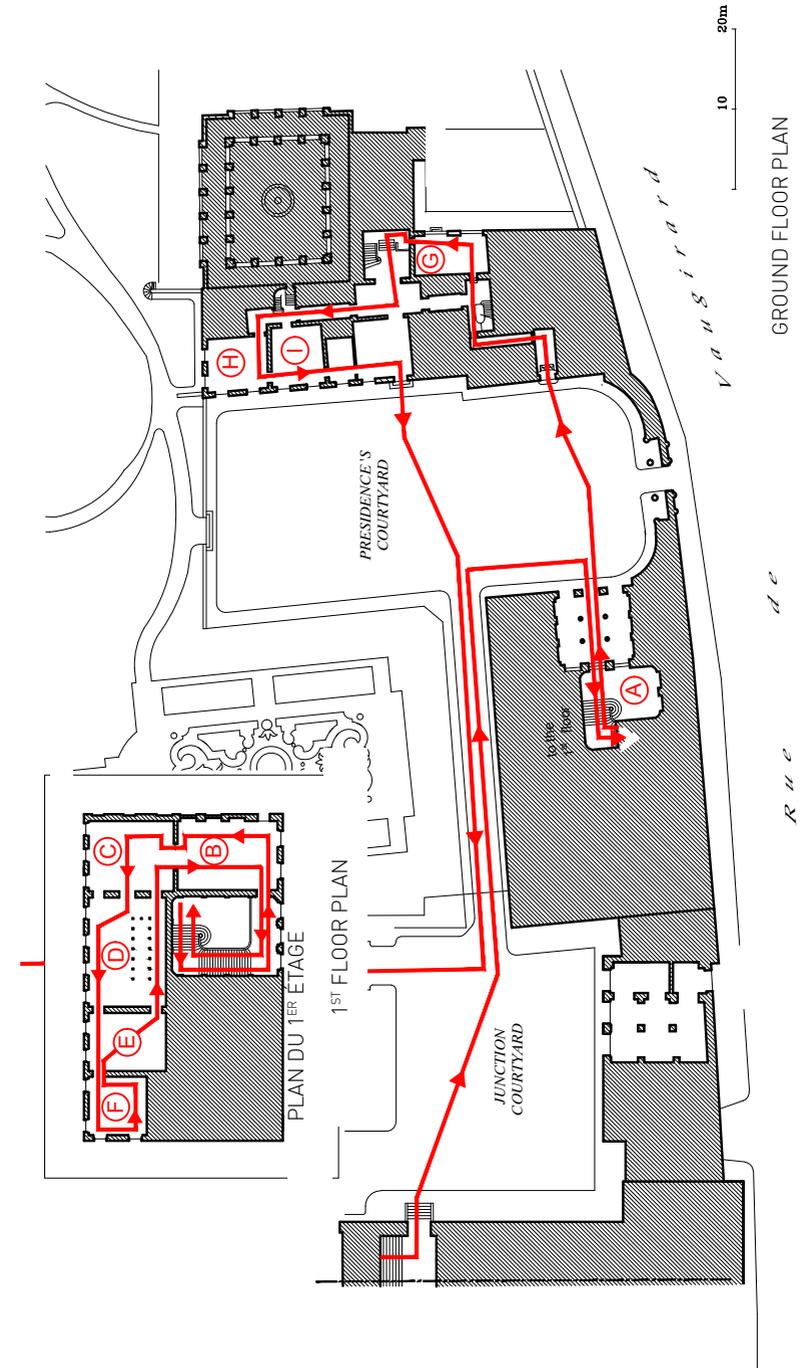
After it was inherited by the Condé family in 1674, the *Petit Luxembourg* was enlarged and redecored by Germain Boffrand between 1709 and 1713. Louis XVI's brother, the Count of Provence, who would later become King Louis XVIII, set up house there for a time. During the Directoire, it was occupied by four Directeurs among whom Sieyès, who hosted the group who planned the coup of the 9<sup>th</sup> November 1799 (known as "18<sup>th</sup> Brumaire Year 8" in the French Revolutionary Calendar).

Napoleon Bonaparte settled down there with his wife Josephine after the coup and this is where the Constitution of the Year VIII was drafted. The Conservative Senate subsequently held its meetings there from 1800 to 1804 before moving into the Luxembourg Palace. In 1825, the *Petit Luxembourg* was given to King Charles X and used to accommodate the President of the Chamber of Peers, a lower house of Parliament, set up in 1814. It has kept its parliamentary function up to this day, except for three historical periods: in 1848, when it served as the residence of the Vice-President of the Republic and accommodated the *Tribunal des Conflits* (Court of Conflicts); from 1871 to 1879, when it was lived in by the prefect of the Seine after the fire of the *Hôtel de Ville* (town hall); and from 1940 to 1944, when it was occupied by the *Luftwaffe* command staff for Western Europe. After the War, the *Petit Luxembourg* went back to being the residence of the President of the upper house, of the Council of the Republic from 1946 to 1958 and of the Senate under the Fifth Republic from 1958 onward.



### PETIT LUXEMBOURG (RESIDENCE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE)

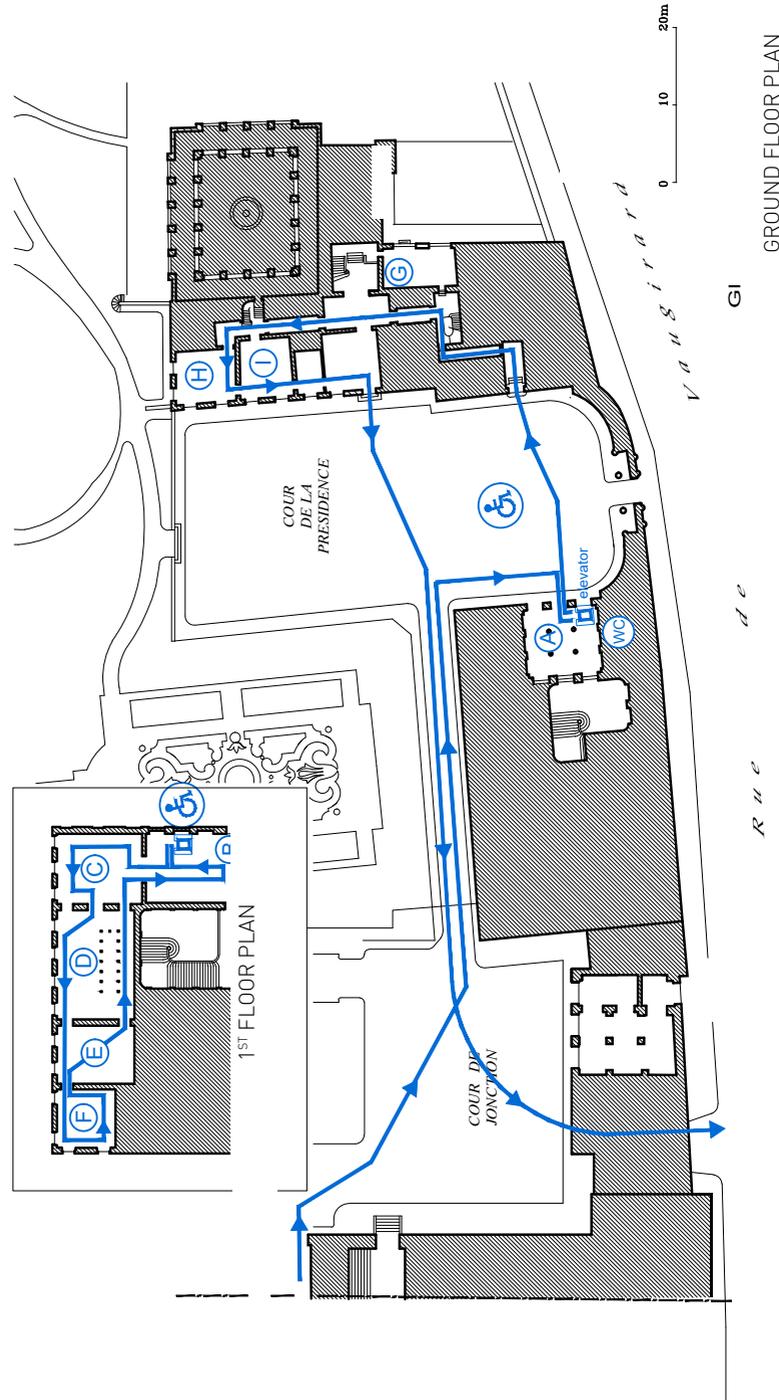
EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAYS 2024



**PETIT LUXEMBOURG  
(RESIDENCE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE)**

EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAYS 2024

— ROUTE FOR PEOPLE WITH REDUCED MOBILITY —



## RIGHT WING (EAST)

**THIS MANSION, PREVIOUSLY OWNED BY DUKE FRANÇOIS DE LUXEMBOURG. WAS REFURBISHED BY BOFFRAND (1667-1754). NOWADAYS, IT IS USED FOR OFFICIAL RECEPTIONS.**



**ROOM D  
STAIRWAY BY BOFFRAND**

A monumental stairway with a stone balustrade, the pattern of which is echoed in the mirror-covered archways above.

**ROOM E  
USHERS' LOUNGE**

A 20<sup>th</sup> century set by Jacques Despierre on the theme of "seasons in the garden" (spring, summer and autumn).

**ROOM F  
TAPESTRIES' LOUNGE**

The name of this room stems from the various tapestries that used to hang on its walls, including a tapestry of the Triomphes des Dieux ("Triumphs of the Gods") of which one copy remains. Three paintings by Jean-François Hue (1751-1823) depicting the port of Lorient, and the port and naval harbour of Brest, on deposit from the Louvre Museum.

**ROOM G  
GRAND SALON**

Decor by Boffrand restored in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The lower part of the vaulted ceiling is surrounded by a cornice ornamented with a frieze of arabesques. Above the doors, representations of the Four Seasons painted by Louis de Boullogne (1654-1733). 19<sup>th</sup> century furniture and chandeliers.

**ROOM H  
PURPLE LOUNGE**

Former bedroom of the Bourbon-Condé and of the Countess of Provence. Two portraits on deposit from Versailles, depicting Marshal Catinat, standing outdoors, by the painter Pierre-Jules Jolivet, and Count Dejean by Henry Serrur.

**ROOM I  
NAPOLEON LOUNGE**

Decor by Boffrand revived under the Second Empire. Portrait of Napoleon wearing his coronation costume. Against the wall, a letter written by Napoleon to the senators is reproduced on a marble table.

**Eightieth Anniversary of the Liberation:  
from the D-Day Landing Beaches to the  
Luxembourg Palace**

Grand Salon Boffrand : From the

**D** Normandy Landings to the Liberation of Paris, by Robert Capa

**E** Salon Pourpre :Liberation of the Senate on 25 August 1944

**F** Salon Napoleon :The Luxembourg Palace:From Devastation to Rebirth (25 August - 7 November 1944)

## 80th anniversary of the liberation of Paris and of the Senate !

### THE LIBERATION OF THE SENATE IS WORTHY OF COMMEMORATION

“The liberation of Paris was much more than revenge for the humiliation of June 1940, and although it was not strategically decisive, it was celebrated the world over. Politically, it reinforced the legitimacy of the Provisional Government of the French Republic, still based in Algiers. It also established the authority of its President, Charles de Gaulle, as he rallied for action to crush Nazism, always with his eye on restoring French greatness.

The Senate is generally omitted from accounts of the events experienced by Parisians on 24, 25 and 26 August. Other places surely seemed more symbolic: the Police Prefecture, an embodiment of sovereign authority where the uprising actually began, and the Hôtel de Ville, the cradle of revolutions in Paris where representatives of the French Resistance joined forces in the National Resistance Council (CNR).

Nevertheless, the liberation of the Senate is worthy of commemoration on account of two events: the fierce fighting that took place there and then, shortly afterwards, the installation in the Palace of the sole assembly of a Republic on its way to restoration: the Provisional Consultative Assembly.

### A FORTIFIED BASTION OF THE WEHRMACHT

The Luxembourg Palace had become one of the strongholds on which the commander-in-chief of Gross Paris, Dietrich von Choltitz, relied most heavily to maintain order and secure the route across the French capital for Wehrmacht forces retreating eastwards from Normandy.

Colonel Berg had 700 men at his disposal, including an SS detachment and several armoured vehicles. A lack of heavy weaponry had prevented armed resistance forces – the French Forces of the Interior (FFI) and Colonel Fabien’s Francs-Tireurs et Partisans (FTP) – from gaining the upper hand. The balance of power finally shifted, however, with the arrival of a company of the French 2nd Armoured Division on the morning of 25 August. The fighting was still raging when General von Choltitz signed the surrender agreement, although it would take more than two hours of negotiations for it to be accepted by the forces defending this Wehrmacht stronghold. Militarily speaking, this surrender was significant in that it prevented the German tanks held in reserve in the Luxembourg Garden from posing any further threat in counter-attacks against the French and Americans.

### THE SENATE’S ROLE IN RESTORING THE REPUBLIC

A few days later, General de Gaulle ordered the interior of the Luxembourg Palace to be sufficiently refurbished to house the Provisional Consultative Assembly, whose inaugural session had been held in Algeria on 3 November 1943.

This was the General’s way of showing the White House that he was not the ‘dictator’ that Roosevelt suspected him to be; at the same time, it signalled de Gaulle’s intention to give a prominent role to ‘la France Combattante’ comprising all the branches of the French Resistance, including the CNR, certain members of which made no secret of their ambitions to govern the country. In any case, it was certainly proof that de Gaulle remained the key political player as he urged the French, for the sake of the legitimacy of a nation still at war, to defend France’s standing, which had been diminished by the rout of its forces in 1940.

Text by Jean-Pierre Azéma

(Introduction to the exhibition of the Liberation of the Luxembourg Palace)



## LEFT WING (WEST)

**BUILT AND DESIGNED BY BOFFRAND IN PLACE OF 16<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY OUTBUILDINGS, IT NOW HOUSES THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICES.**

### ROOM G

#### QUEEN'S CHAPEL

In 1625, Marie de Medicis set up the congregation of the "Daughters of the Calvary" next to the Luxembourg Palace. Some of these buildings were destroyed in 1844.

From 1845 to 1854, architect Alphonse de Gisors recreated a baroque style chapel in one of the aisles of the former church.



### ROOM H

#### OFFICE OF MR GÉRARD LARCHER, PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

This is probably where Napoleon Bonaparte, then First Consul, had his study between 10<sup>th</sup> November 1799 and 19<sup>th</sup> February 1800. The decor dates back from the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

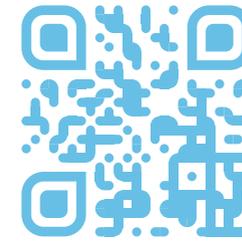
- "Empire" style furniture.
- Paintings: *Un prédicateur dans les ruines* (A preacher in the ruins) (1743) by Giovanni Paolo Pannini (1691-1765), on deposit from the Louvre Museum. *Le Champignon* (The Mushroom) nickname formerly given to the Luxembourg Garden's guardroom (1902) by Albert Marquet (1875-1947).



### ROOM I

#### OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE CABINET

This room contains three paintings, among which "A Water Fountain in the Tuileries" ("Jet d'eau aux Tuileries") by Gaston de La Touche, kept at the Musée d'Orsay.



Sign the guest book  
senate electronics  
#JEPSENAT



SÉNAT

# TOUR OF THE LUXEMBOURG GARDEN GREENHOUSES



The Luxembourg Garden is managed and maintained by the Senate. Since its creation by Marie de Medicis in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, it has featured collections of orangery plants and ancient fruit varieties accessible to the public all year round.

The greenhouses of the Luxembourg Garden have always enjoyed a worldwide reputation and been recognized for their know-how by the horticultural world. They contain collections of tropical plants, the most famous of which is the orchid collection dating back from the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and composed of more than 13,000 specimens. The nearby *in vitro* growing and multiplication laboratory ensures their continuity.

Within this orchid collection, the collection of *Paphiopedilums*, also called "Venus' slippers" or "fairy slippers", contains three quarters of listed species, all from South-East Asia, as well as 450 horticultural hybrids and is recognized as a National Collection by the Conservatory of Specialized Vegetal Collections (CCVS).

Due to the layout of the premises, access to the Senate's greenhouses is closed to the public, except on the European Heritage Days.

The Gardening Division is responsible for the Luxembourg School of Horticulture, which has been providing free public classes since 1809.

## RESTORATION OF THE MEDICI FOUNTAIN AND PONDS

The Senate is firmly committed to the conservation of its heritage, and commissioned the restoration of the famous Medici Fountain in the Jardin du Luxembourg in 2020 and 2021. After two years of major renovations, this landmark, which became a listed historical monument in 1889, and its two ponds, have been restored to their full splendour.

- Guided tour of the garden:  
[www.senat.fr/visite/jardin/infos\\_pratiques.html](http://www.senat.fr/visite/jardin/infos_pratiques.html)
- School of horticulture:  
[www.senat.fr/visite/jardin/index.html](http://www.senat.fr/visite/jardin/index.html)
- Central Apiculture Society:  
<https://www.la-sca.net/>

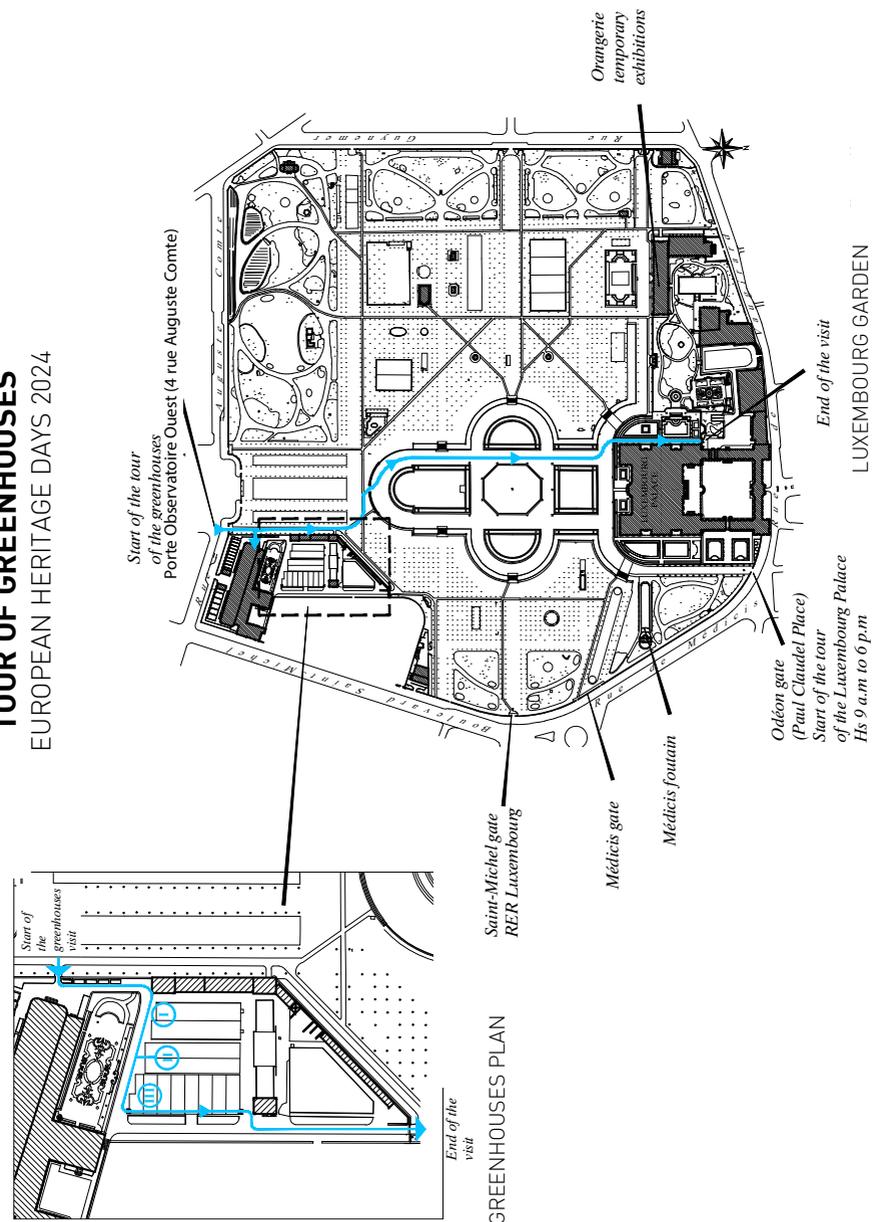
The greenhouses will open exceptionally on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2022 from 10 am to 6 pm last entry of the day.



MANAGED BY THE SENATE



## LUXEMBOURG GARDEN TOUR OF GREENHOUSES EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAYS 2024



GREENHOUSES PLAN

End of the visit  
LUXEMBOURG GARDEN  
Start of the tour  
of the Luxembourg Palace  
Hs 9 a.m to 6 p.m

## ANSWERS JUNIOR QUIZZ

### EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAYS

QUESTION 1 : Mr Gérard LARCHER

QUESTION 2 : The bust of Queen Marie de Medici

QUESTION 3 : There are 8 vice-presidents in the Senate

QUESTION 4 : René MONORY

QUESTION 5 : Madame Bovary (Flaubert)

QUESTION 6 : The Parliamentary Channel – National Assembly

QUESTION 7 : Jules Ferry

QUESTION 8 : See on the diagram (Speaker of the Senate = cross / officials of the minutes = square)

QUESTION 9 : Eugène Delacroix

QUESTION 10 : There are 3 Questeurs

QUESTION 11 : It is Napoleon II, known as l'Aiglon

QUESTION 12 : This room was the Queen's Chamber

QUESTION 13 : This is the Gobelins factory

QUESTION 14 : Six Nubian lions

*BONUS QUESTION 1* : It bears the name of the former owner: François de Luxembourg, duc de Piney.

*BONUS QUESTION 2* : The "back and forth" readings of a bill of law needed for deputies and senators to agree on a common text.

*BONUS QUESTION 3* : On Friday August 25, 1944, at 3:30 p.m., General Philippe Leclerc de Hauteclocque (43 years old) accepted in Paris, in front of Montparnasse station, the surrender of the German troops.

## THE SENATE

The Senate and the National Assembly form **the Parliament**.

Senators examine **government bills** submitted to them by the government. They may also submit and examine **parliamentary bills**.

They also **control the actions of the government** and make sure that the laws that were voted are indeed **enforced**.

The Senate ensures the representation of the territorial communities of the Republic.

The Senate ensures the institutions' **continuity**, since only **half** of the Senators are renewed every three years. Furthermore, unlike the National Assembly, **it cannot be dissolved**. Finally, the President of the Senate may be called upon to **replace** the President of the Republic when required.

### EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAYS AT THE SENATE

Join the Senate on :

<p><b>Facebook :</b> <a href="https://facebook.com/senat_fr">facebook.com/senat_fr</a></p>	<p><b>X</b> <a href="https://X.com/Senat">X.com/Senat</a></p>	<p><b>X Jardin</b> <a href="https://X.com/JardinLuco">X.com/JardinLuco</a></p>	<p><b>Instagram</b> <a href="https://instagram.com/jardinduluxembourg_">instagram.com/jardinduluxembourg_</a></p>
<p><b>Instagram</b> <a href="https://instagram.com/Senat_fr">instagram.com/Senat_fr</a></p>	<p><b>LinkedIn</b> <a href="https://linkedin.com/company/senat">linkedin.com/company/senat</a></p>	<p><b>YouTube :</b> <a href="https://youtube.com/senat">youtube.com/senat</a></p>	<p><b>Tik Tok :</b> <a href="https://tiktok.com/@senat_fr">tiktok.com/@senat_fr</a></p>

Share your most beautiful memories of the European Heritage Days at the Senate using the hash-word **#JEPSénat**

→ Visiting the Palais du Luxembourg and attending parliamentary debates at the Senate

<http://www.senat.fr/visite/index.html>

→ Staff at the Senate is recruited by competitive examination amongst civil servants with highly diversified profiles

<http://www.senat.fr/emploi/>

## SÉNAT

15 rue de Vaugirard

75291 Paris Cedex 06

Standard : +33 (0)1 42 34 20 00

<http://www.senat.fr>

