



## LAP OF LUXURY

Relais & Châteaux, an exclusive collection of upmarket hotels and restaurants, has just released its 2014 guide to help in planning your next holiday to France. The guide features three new French members: Auberge du Jeu de Paume (pictured above), in the Domaine de Chantilly in Picardy; Le Domaine de Verchant, a tranquil retreat just outside Montpellier; and Restaurant Thierry Drapeau in the village of Saint-Sulpice-le-Verdon in the Vendée. Relais & Châteaux celebrates its 60th anniversary this year and also has a new international president, Philippe Gombert, owner of the Château de la Treyne in the Dordogne, who succeeds Jaume Tàpies, who held the post for eight years. Tel: 00 800 200 000 02, [www.relaischateaux.com](http://www.relaischateaux.com)

“A walk about Paris will provide lessons in history, beauty, and in the point of life.”

Thomas Jefferson,  
third American President



## PARIS CALLING

New Yorker Kasia Dietz followed her heart to Paris, where she set up a handbag business. The hand-painted Paris tote bag collection pays homage to her adoptive homeland and comes in four designs: rive droite, rive gauche, I ♥ Paris and the capital's iconic postcodes, which numbers all 20 arrondissements. Price €75 each. [www.kasiadietz.com](http://www.kasiadietz.com)



## FAMILY FRIENDLY

Enjoy a trip to Paris *en famille* with the help of Family Twist, a new company organising bespoke holidays and activities in the City of Light. Family Twist can plan your whole break, from suggesting family-friendly accommodation and restaurants to arranging fast-track tickets to tourist attractions so you don't have to spend hours queuing with little ones. The company also offers a range of activities to keep children entertained, from treasure hunts in the Musée du Louvre to cooking classes including a visit to a French market. The website has a trip builder section which explains the options available for your itinerary of family fun in Paris. Tel: 0203 130 4853 [www.family-twist.com](http://www.family-twist.com)

## Events



### LONDON

#### The Sunflowers

25 January to 27 April

This exhibition at the National Gallery reunites two of Vincent van Gogh's iconic sunflower paintings in London for the first time in 65 years. The masterpieces are two of the five works that make up the Sunflower collection and will be displayed side by side to allow visitors to compare the paintings.

Tel: 0207 747 2885

[www.nationalgallery.org.uk](http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk)

### GLASGOW

#### Phoenix

10 February

Versailles alternative rock band Phoenix come to the UK on a short tour showcasing tracks from their new album, *Bankrupt*. The tour heads to Glasgow before a performance at the Manchester Academy on 11 February. Tickets £17.50, plus booking fee.

Tel: 0141 552 4601

[www.glasgow-barrowland.com](http://www.glasgow-barrowland.com)



### LONDON

#### Opus

18-22 February

The Lyon-based Debussy String Quartet performs music by Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich as acrobats perform around them in *Opus*, an exciting new production from contemporary circus troupe Circa. Tickets from £16-£30.

Tel: 0207 638 8891

[www.barbican.org.uk](http://www.barbican.org.uk)