



IS IT SAFE?

Paris

SOLO TRAVELER SAFETY GUIDE

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Solo Traveler Safety Guide

OVERALL SAFETY ASSESSMENT

RATING

Generally safe for solo travelers with normal precautions.

Paris is one of Europe's most visited cities — and one of its most misunderstood from a safety perspective. Petty theft and pickpocketing are the primary concerns, not violent crime. Solo travelers over 50 navigate Paris comfortably every day. Stay aware in tourist zones, and you'll find the city thoroughly welcoming.

The key to Paris safety is posture: look like you belong, and you usually will.

NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY AT A GLANCE

●●●●● = Very safe ●●●●■ = Safe ●●●■ = Use caution ●●■■■ = Avoid at night ●■■■■ = Avoid

AREA	RATING	NOTES
Marais (3rd & 4th)	●●●●●	Excellent. Walkable, well-lit, lively.
Montmartre (18th)	●●●■	Touristy at top; avoid edges after dark.
Saint-Germain (6th)	●●●●●	Classic, upscale, very safe.
Bastille (11th/12th)	●●●●■	Residential & relaxed. Low-key.
Pigalle (9th)	●●■■■	Red-light area. Avoid at night.
Gare du Nord area	●●■■■	High pickpocket risk. Be vigilant.
Champs-Élysées (8th)	●●●■	Heavy tourist traffic = pickpockets.
Oberkampf (11th)	●●●●■	Young, buzzy neighborhood. Safe.

Pickpockets work crowds, not dark alleys. Stay present in tourist zones.

GETTING AROUND SAFELY

AREA	RATING	NOTES
Metro	●●●■	Watch bags on Lines 1, 4, 13. Rush hours risky.
RER B (CDG Airport)	●●■■■	Pickpocket risk. Keep bags in front.
Taxi / G7 / Uber	●●●●●	Safe. Use licensed cabs or app.
Walking (daytime)	●●●●●	Fine in central arrondissements.
Night buses	●●●●■	Noctilien is reliable. Stay alert.

COMMON SCAMS & HOW TO AVOID THEM

Gold ring trick: Stranger "finds" a ring and asks for reward money.

Petition scam: Young people thrust clipboards — grab your wallet.

Friendship bracelet: Near Sacré-Cœur; tied on, then payment demanded.

Taxi overcharge: Always confirm meter on; use apps.

Fake police: Officers ask to "check" your wallet. Refuse.

HEALTH & MEDICAL

- 112 reaches all emergency services (EU standard).
- Pharmacies (green cross) are on every major street — excellent first stop.
- AP-HP hospitals have English-speaking staff in major facilities.
- Bring EHIC or travel insurance; EU citizens get reciprocal cover.
- Tap water is safe and free — ask for "une carafe d'eau" in restaurants.

SOLO WOMEN TRAVELERS

Paris is highly walkable and well-lit in central areas. Harassment exists but is concentrated in specific neighborhoods (avoid Pigalle/Barbès at night). Café culture makes it easy to sit alone without feeling conspicuous. Trust your instincts and move with confidence — the French respect that.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Police (Police Nationale)	17
Ambulance (SAMU)	15
Fire / All Emergencies	112
US Embassy Paris	+33 1 43 12 22 22
SOS Médecins (house calls)	3600