



MUSÉE DE CLUNY
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PRESS RELEASE
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ON 1st MARCH, THE MUSÉE DE CLUNY WILL CLOSE FOR FOUR MONTHS OF RENOVATIONS

The Musée de Cluny - National Museum of the Middle Ages, including the Hôtel de Cluny and the Gallo-Roman baths, is undergoing works to restore its premises as well as its collections. Intended to make the museum more accessible, this vast project was launched in 2016 and is scheduled to be completed in 2020. The construction of a new reception area will enable better physical access to the site while redesigned tour routes will provide enhanced understanding of the site. Due to preliminary works, the entire museum will be closed to the public from the 1st of March to mid-July 2018.

In the meantime, certain rooms will be closed intermittently as of January.

As a result, all tickets will be sold at a reduced rate from 22nd January through 28th February.

From 19th January through 2nd February, the Notre-Dame room will be closed while surveys are conducted in preparation for the museum tour routes project.

As of 22nd January 2018, the Lady and the Unicorn tapestries will be undergoing conservation and will not be available to the public as it is important to verify the condition of the six tapestries following their restoration five years ago. They will then be sent to Sydney (Australia) for an exclusive exhibit at the Art Gallery of New South Wales from 10th February through 24th June 2018. The tapestries have left the Cluny Museum only twice in the last fifty years: for an exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York in 1973-1974 and for an exhibition in Japan in 2013 (the National Art Center in Tokyo and the National Museum of Art in Osaka). The closing of the museum offers a unique opportunity for the Australian public to discover these iconic symbols of European medieval art.

In mid-July 2018, the Musée de Cluny will inaugurate a new reception area, located close to the boulevard Saint-Michel. Designed by architect Bernard Desmoulin, this new construction will be discreet and understated to minimize impact and to respect the historic buildings.

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musee-moyenage.fr
[f](https://www.facebook.com/museecluny) [i](https://www.instagram.com/museecluny) [@museecluny](https://www.tumblr.com/museecluny)

By establishing a dialogue between the structures making up the museum, all built at various periods (antique thermal baths, the town house of the Abbots of Cluny and the 19th century Boeswillwald building), the architect encourages a historical reading of the site's different architectural strata. This reception area will make the museum accessible to all - including those with limited mobility - allowing visitors to enjoy treasures and recent acquisitions as well as the Lady and the Unicorn room, entirely renovated in 2013.

From mid-July 2018 through February 2019, a temporary exhibit, "Magical Unicorns", will provide insight into the two key periods in Western art history that focused on unicorns, around the 1500s and again in the 19th and 20th centuries.

A new comprehensive tour route through the thermal baths will also be opened to the public in mid-July, following on the restoration project started in 2016. These important vestiges of the Gallo-Roman period have been entirely reinforced and provided with protection against bad weather. This new route can be explored with a tour guide, starting in the *frigidarium* and leading through the so-called *salle des enduits*, which still bears traces of painted murals, and the "Roman annex", open for the very first time to the public.

Renovations calendar:

December 2017: end of restoration work on the antique thermal bath remains

1st March 2018: entire museum closes in preparation for partial reopening and the tour route redesign project

Mid-July 2018: opening of new reception area and reopening of sections of the museum

Autumn 2018: beginning of redesign work on tour routes

May 2020: reopening of the entire museum

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Practical information

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Hours:
Open every day,
except for Tuesday: from 9.15am to 5.45pm.
Registers close at 5.15pm.
Entire museum closed from 1st March to
mid-July 2018

Book store / Gift shop:
9.15am - 6pm, free entrance
T. +33 (0)1 53 73 78 22

Access:
Metro: Cluny-La-Sorbonne / Saint-Michel
/ Odéon
Bus: n° 21 - 27 - 38 - 63 - 85 - 86 - 87
RER lines B and C: Saint-Michel - Notre-
Dame

Tickets:
Not including temporary exhibits:
€8, reduced rate €6,
Free of charge for persons under 26 years
of age
(EU citizens or long-term residents in the EU)
and for everyone on the first Sunday of every
month.

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