



# The art of ordering coffee in Paris

There is nothing more enjoyable (or clichéd) than sitting at a Parisian café en Terrasse, sipping an espresso, and reading a well-thumbed novel, while people-watching. And, of course, there is an art to ordering coffee in Paris.

by Cindy-Lou Dale

**W**hen it comes to deciding what kind of coffee to order, you'll want to make sure you know what's on offer. Usually, when you only ask for a coffee, it will be assumed that you want an espresso, no milk. However, that doesn't mean that there aren't other options. You just need to know what to ask for.

- **Un espresso:** If you simply ask for "un café s'il vous plaît," then you'll probably be given an espresso. Short and to the point, sipping an espresso in an outdoor café in Paris is one of life's greatest pleasures. Prices of espresso vary around the city, depending on the arrondissement, usually ranging from €1, all the way up to €4.
- **Une Noisette:** No, although the word "noisette" in French means

A lot of visitors to Paris have a notion that they'd be eating their body weight in pastries while sipping on a cute little espresso. However, most sidewalk cafés don't serve coffee with pastries.

hazelnut, you are not going to be given some fancy hazelnut concoction. Instead, you'll get an espresso with a little steamed milk in it.

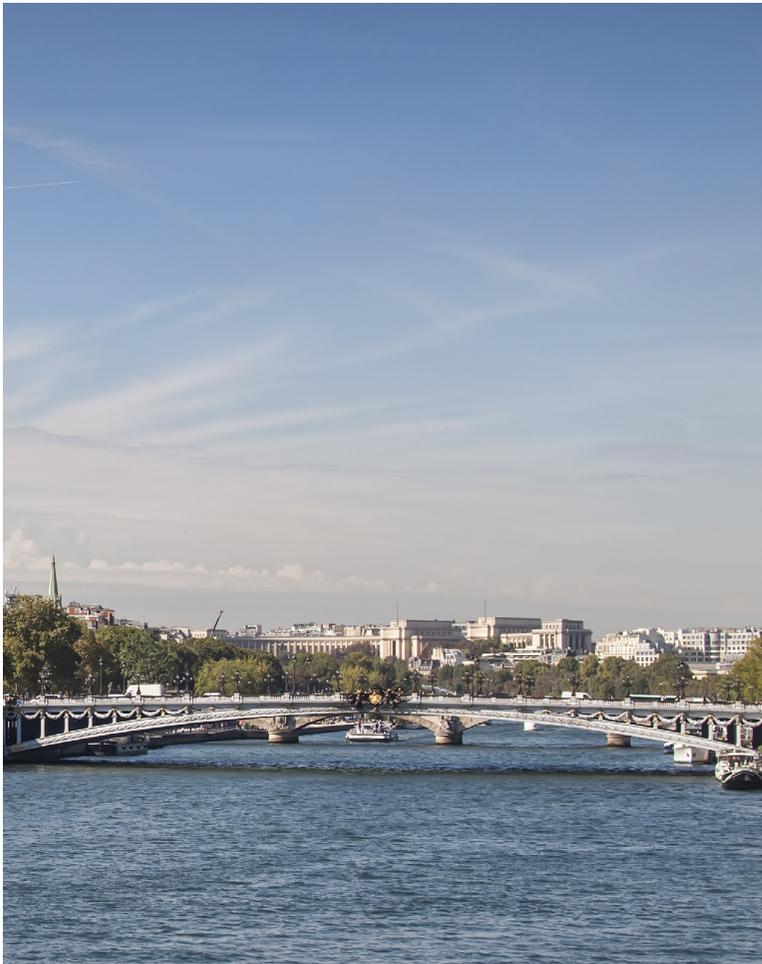
- **Café Americain:** This is your regular filter coffee with milk. However, not every café will offer an Americano, and so instead you need to order "un allongé."
- **Un allongé:** If you don't want something as strong, or as concentrated as an espresso, but still want coffee, then "un allongé" is the choice for you. The allongé typically has double the amount of water as an espresso, with the same amount of coffee.
- **Café crème:** A rich coffee base topped with frothy milk, this coffee is much like the standard latté or cappuccino, only French style.

## YOU SHOULD KNOW

A lot of visitors to Paris have a notion that they'd be eating their body weight in pastries while sipping on a cute little espresso. However, most sidewalk cafés don't serve coffee with pastries. Instead, there is sometimes the option of purchasing a croissant to go together with your hot drink. Coffee is almost always exclusively drunk on its own, without food. If you want to get a pastry, you'll have to go to a specialty café or visit a patisserie shop.

## MY PARISIAN COFFEE ADDRESS BOOK

**Café Oberkampf:** Situated on the trendy Rue Oberkampf, Café Oberkampf serves delicious food and great coffee. Here, you can try the house specialty, shakshuka, and opt for one of their more unusual drinks. I highly recommend ordering a



“dirty chai.” It’s like a cross between a chai tea, and latté, and is basically like heaven to drink.

**Café Kitsune:** Nestled in the very heart of Palais-Royal, Café Kitsuné is one of the best, and only, places in the city to find a matcha latté. If you’re looking for specialty hot drinks, then iced, chai, regular espressos and more are available in this classic Parisian café. I highly recommend getting your drink to take away (à emporter) and savoring it in the Palais Royal park.

**Au Vieux Paris d’Arcole:** Located on Rue Chanoinesse, which is absolutely full of history, Au Vieux Paris d’Arcole is probably the cutest café in all the city.



#### PARISIAN COFFEE VOCABULARY

Even if you don’t speak French, it’s still very much valued when you make a small effort. Here’s a little French Café vocabulary to help you when ordering coffee in Paris:

**An espresso, please:** “Un espresso, s’il vous plait.”

A jug of tap water, please: “Un carafe d’eau, s’il vous plait”

The bill/check please: “L’addition s’il vous plait.”

Eat in/ takeaway: “Sur Place / À Emporter”

#### ON “RUDE” PARISIANS IN CAFÉS

There is a gnawing misconception that Parisians are rude and offensive. Back home, narrow thinking got me believing that the French, Parisians especially, are snooty and discourteous to foreign visitors. Instead what I found to be disrespectful was over-generalizing a whole city. So, go to Parisian cafés, be polite (waiters do smile!), enjoy the setting and have your pick of all the different coffee combinations on offer.

Craving a great cup of coffee? WOW air offers cheap flights to Paris every day of the week, all year round. Find your flight at [wowair.com](http://wowair.com).

**WOW** Now that you know how to order coffee in Paris, you’ll be awake and alert and won’t miss out on anything this great city has to offer.



# THE ICELANDIC PENIS MUSEUM

We  Dicks!

**The Icelandic Phallogical Museum is one of the most informative, humorous, and unusual museums in the world.**

The world famous “Penis museum” in Reykjavik is the only museum in the world to contain a collection of phallic specimens belonging to all the various types of mammal found in a single country. The founder, Sigurður Hjartarson started the collection 40 years ago and made it first accessible to the public in 1997 with the opening of the museum. The Icelandic Phallogical Museum contains a collection of more than 220 penises and penile parts belonging to all the land and sea mammals that can be found in Iceland. There is also a foreign section that holds more than forty examples and a folklore section that has some twenty pieces on display. All in all, more than 380 biological examples. In addition to the biological section of the museum, visitors can view a collection of about 350 artistic oddments and practical utensils related to the museum’s chosen theme. The museum is in a 250 square meter location on the upper part of Reykjavik’s main shopping street, Laugavegur, only a 10 minutes walk from the city’s centre.

There is a souvenir corner with a small exclusive selection of things related to the museum’s theme.

**Seeing is believing!**

No pornography or offensive material in the museum.

Laugavegur 116 • 105 Reykjavík • Tel.: (+354) 561-6663 (+354) 690 3774 • [phallus@phallus.is](mailto:phallus@phallus.is) • [www.phallus.is](http://www.phallus.is)  
Opening hours: Summer: Daily from 10 am - 6 pm • Winter: Daily from 11 am - 6 pm • Next to Hlemmur bus station