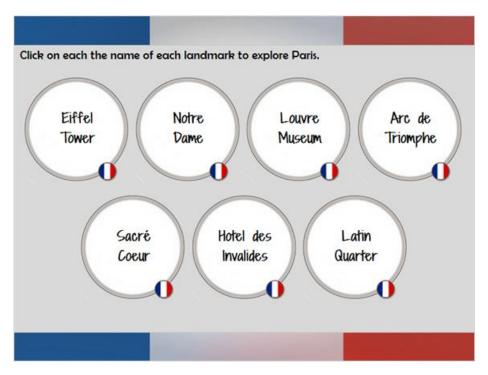
Introduction



Click the **NEXT** button to explore various landmarks that make Paris special.



Menu



Click on the name of each landmark to explore Paris. Then, click the back arrow to return to this menu.



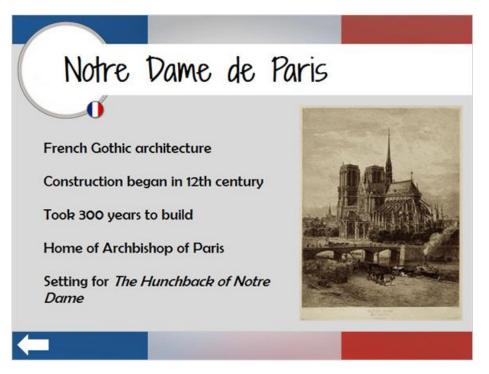
Eiffel Tower



Originally a celebration of science and engineering that was built to be the entrance to the 1889 World's Fair, the structure called the Eiffel Tower has become the most recognizable and enduring symbol of the French. Although many people objected to having the Eiffel Tower built in the middle of their beautiful city, eventually the people warmed to its presence. No one would ever have believed that it would become a beloved francophone symbol.



Notre Dame Cathedral



The Notre Dame Cathedral is considered one of the finest examples of French Gothic architecture in the world. Its construction began in the twelfth century, but was not completed until nearly three hundred years later. It is the official home of the Archbishop of Paris, but is most famous as the setting of Victor Hugo's famous novel, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*.



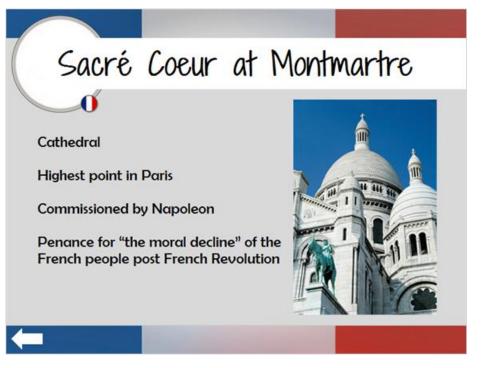
Louvre Museum



The Louvre is a French palace, and the national art museum of France. It houses more than 15,000 items, and is home to some of the world's most famous pieces of art or sculpture. Its most famous piece is Leonardo da Vinci's *Mona Lisa*.



Sacré Coeur at Montmartre



The Sacré Coeur Cathedral is located on the summit of Montmartre, the highest point in the city of Paris. It was originally commissioned by Napoleon, and was completed after the defeat of the French armies in 1871, as penance for "the moral decline" of the French people after the French Revolution.



Hotel des Invalides



The Hotel des Invalides is a complex of buildings containing museums, monuments, and tombs that relate to the French military, and its rich history. It is most famous for housing the tomb of Napoleon Bonaparte.



Latin Quarter



Located on the left bank of the Seine River, the Latin Quarter is considered to be the intellectual and artistic center of Paris. Famous tourist attractions such as the Sorbonne and the Panthéon, and many of the most famous restaurants in Paris, are located in the Latin Quarter. Over the years, people have tried to resurrect the artistic genius that once bloomed in this area of the city. Famous artists, philosophers, and writers such as Victor Hugo, Emile Zola, and Louis Braille resided there.



Arc de Triomphe



Napoleon's Triumphal Arch was built to commemorate his military victories. It stands at the end of the Champs-Elysées, in the middle of the Place Charles de Gaulle, a large circular traffic square from which no less than twelve streets emanate. Each of these streets is named for a French military leader.

