



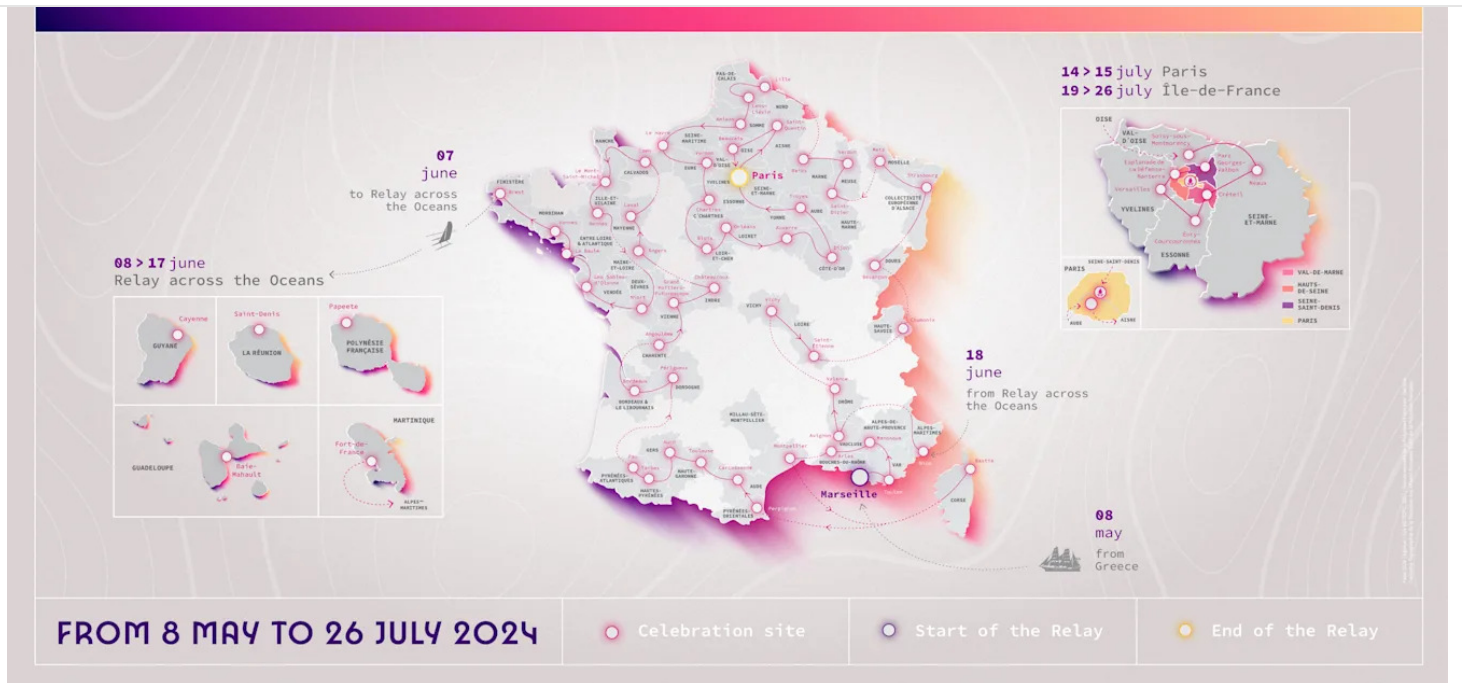
# Paris 2024 Olympic Torch Relay: Route unveiled

The Paris 2024 Olympic Torch Relay will start its journey in France on 8 May 2024 with the flame arriving in Marseille before 68 days of travel across the French territories.

 5 min

By Olympics.com

Updated on 29 June 2023 13:17 GMT-4



(Picture by Paris 2024)



On Friday 23 June, the Organising Committee for the **Olympic Games Paris 2024** unveiled the next Olympic Torch Relay route in a **historical and symbolic place**, at the Sorbonne University, where **Pierre de Coubertin** held the founding speech for the Modern Olympic Games. It will start in Olympia on **16 April 2024** with the arrival of the Olympic flame in **Marseille** on 8 May from Athens, Greece.

Its 68-day journey will then officially begin **taking in 65 French territories** courtesy of **10,000 Torch bearers** visiting some of the most iconic and historic places in the host nation.

Organised in close collaboration with the territories involved in the Relay and its Presenting partners for more than two months, the Olympic Torch Relay route will be a real journey across France, engaging the local population and creating excitement in the lead up to the Games.



announce the return of the Olympic Summer Games, 100 years after France last hosted the event.

“Today, we are proud to unveil the route of the Olympic Torch Relay, which will be more than a circuit around France in 68 days. It will showcase the incredible breadth of our country: Heritage, landscapes, museums, performing arts... And of course, its inhabitants!”, declared Tony Estanguet, President of Paris 2024.

When asked for three words to characterise the Torch Relay, Estanguet chose: "**Spectacular** – we want to make people dream, we want to show a France that shines. **National** – we’re lucky to have strong support from all regions. **Sporting** – it’s really important to celebrate sport in the whole country and make it more sporting."

Amélie Oudéa-Castera, Minister for Sport and the Olympic & Paralympic Games said: "It's going to be beautiful! For months and years, the local collectivities have been very involved in the organisation of these Games, which will run in seven regions and 11 departments. These are the most decentralised Games ever in history. And it was important to have the overseas territories covered. This part of the relay is also going to be wonderful."

Olympic gold medallist, swimmer Florent Manaudou, one of four French athletes chosen as leader for a relay said: "It's incredible to be captain. When you are a kid discovering the Games, you see the sporting part but also the Olympic torch, which is highly symbolic. I am very happy to showcase all the amazing landscapes we have in France."

Mayor of Paris, Anne Hidalgo, said: "Paris is shining. It's the symbol of a free city, a wonderful city, the most beautiful city in the world. I am very proud to have driven this bid and brought back the Games in Paris."

"The flame is the energy of a country, the will to be together. The Torch Relay is preparation for the Opening Ceremony, it's a national story telling, which brings us together. In this story telling, there are landscapes, territories, nature, the beauty of the sites and our diverse cultures."

[Facts and figures of Paris 2024 Olympic Torch Relay](#)

[The torchbearer selection process is about to begin](#)



Paris 2024 Olympic Torch relay across the Oceans will take place from 8 to 17 June 2024. (Paris 2024)

## French history and nature in the spotlight during the Paris 2024 Olympic Torch Relay

The Olympic Torch Relay will offer an opportunity to dive into the history of France.

The Olympic flame will visit the likes of **Lascaux** (south-west France), where parietal paintings cover cave walls, the medieval fortress of **Carcassonne** (Occitanie), the **Chateau de Versailles** and the **Chateaux of the Loire Valley**.

The Olympic flame will also illuminate architectural masterworks like churches and abbeys, including the iconic **Mont-Saint-Michel** in Normandy.



**Jeanne d'Arc**, hero of the Hundred Years' War, in Orléans (130km south of Paris)

**Robert Schuman**, one of the founders of the European Communities and the Council of Europe, in Scy-Chazelles (eastern France)

**Charles de Gaulle**, leader of the Free France during World War II and French president between 1959 and 1969, in Colombey-les-Deux-Eglises (East)

**Edith Piaf**, singer, in Paris

The Olympic Torch Relay also presents a unique opportunity to showcase the incredible biodiversity of France. The seas and oceans will not be forgotten with the flame arriving in France on the legendary three-masted ship *Belem* via the Mediterranean Sea.

The Olympic flame will also cross the Atlantic Ocean on the *Ultime Banque Populaire XI*, as well as the Indian and Pacific oceans for the 'Ocean's Relay', which will reach five overseas territories: Guadeloupe, French Guyane, Martinique, French Polynesia and the Réunion.

## Paris 2024 Olympic Torch Relay showcases France's expertise and emotions of sport, too

The Olympic Torch Relay will travel through the most famous and reputed vineyards such as **Saint-Emilion** (Bordeaux), **Chablis** (Bourgogne) and **Layon** (Loire), celebrating world-renowned terroirs and gastronomy. The **Millau Viaduct** (southern France), a feat of civil engineering, will also welcome the Torch Relay, which will then travel 7,000km further afield to the **Kourou Space Centre** in Guyane, a symbol of French and European aerospace excellence.

Along the route, federations and clubs will form group relays to honour their sport by surfing on the waves of **Biarritz** (southwestern France) and **Teahupo'o** (Tahiti), and by ascending **Mont Ventoux**, the legendary cycling climb in the French Alps.



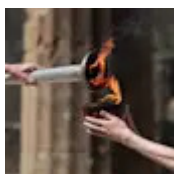
---

**du-Manoir** in Colombes.

Until 30 June, **Club Paris 2024** members can nominate someone they know who fits the selection criteria and 500 will be lucky enough to be chosen to carry the precious Olympic flame. Visit <https://www.paris2024.org/en/torchbearers/> to find out more about participation in the Olympic Torch Relay.

## Related content

---



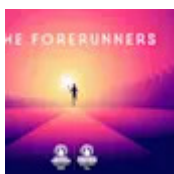
Paris 2024 Olympic Torch Relay: Facts and figures



Paris 2024 launches official hospitality program - open to the public today



500 days to go: From Paris 1924 to Paris 2024 in facts and figures



Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Torch Relay: The torchbearer selection process is about to begin