

## Louis XIV - The Sun King

- Louis XIV was born 5 September 1638
- Became King of France at age 5 (14 May 1643)
- Was proclaimed mature at age 13 (7 Sept 1651)
- Was sacred King at age 16 (7 June 1654)
- Married Maria Theresa of Spain at age 22 (7 June 1660) with whom he had 6 children
- Died at age 76 (1 Sept 1715)

He is the longest reigning Monarch of France.

His famous Mistresses:

- Louise de la Vallière (with whom he had 6 children; 1661-67)
- The Marquise de Montespan (with whom he had 7 children; 1667-80)
- Françoise d'Aubigné or the Marquise de Maintenon who became Louis XIV 2nd wife in 1683 or 1684



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## 1 - Saint Germain en Laye

Louis XIV was born in the new castle which has been destroyed. You can still visit the old castle which is now a museum.

Infos on: [www.saintgermainenlaye.fr](http://www.saintgermainenlaye.fr)

## 2 - Palais Royal

Louis XIV resided in the Palais Royal when he was made prisoner by the Fronde.

Infos on: [palais-royal.monuments-nationaux.fr](http://palais-royal.monuments-nationaux.fr)

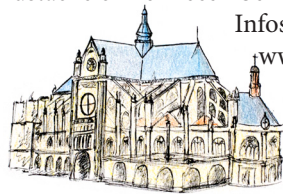


## 3 - Saint Eustache

Louis XIV first communion was held in Saint Eustache on 25 December 1649.

Infos on:

[www.saint-eustache.org](http://www.saint-eustache.org)



## 4 - Le Louvre

Like many other French Kings, Louis XIV resided frequently in the Louvre and ordered many transformation.

Infos on: [www.louvre.fr](http://www.louvre.fr)

## 5 - Vincennes

Vincennes was the 3rd Royal residence for Louis XIV. Louis le Vau, the first architect, was charged with the construction of private mansions there.

Infos on:

[en.chateau-vincennes.fr](http://en.chateau-vincennes.fr)



## 6 - Reims Cathedral

Louis XIV was sacred King on 7 June 1654, at age 16, in the Reims Cathedral.

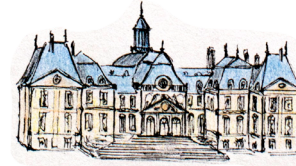
Infos on:

[www.cathedrale-reims.com](http://www.cathedrale-reims.com)



## 7 - Vaux le Vicomte

Louis XIV never stayed at Vaux le Vicomte but this is the castle that inspired Versailles.

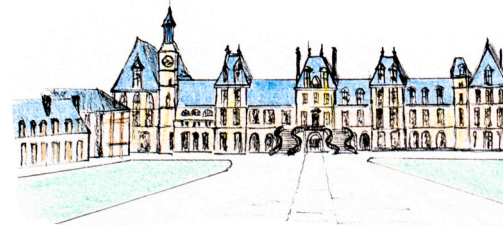


Infos on: [www.vaux-le-vicomte.com](http://www.vaux-le-vicomte.com)

## 8 - Fontainebleau

Louis XIV came to Fontainebleau often. This is where his first son was born and where he issued the Edict of Fontainebleau which revoked the Edict of Nantes (15 October 1685). Many other political decisions were taken there.

Infos on: [www.chateaufontainebleau.fr](http://www.chateaufontainebleau.fr)

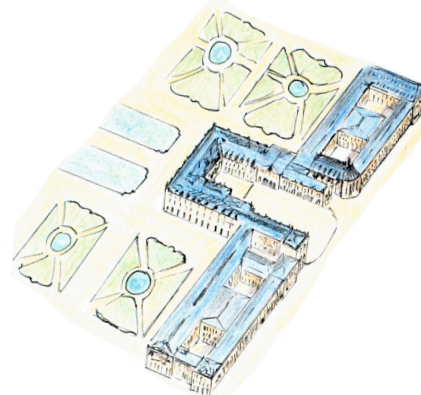


## 9 - Versailles

Although Louis XIV only moved to Versailles, late in his life, in 1682, the Palace is the symbol of his royal power and embodiment of classical French art.

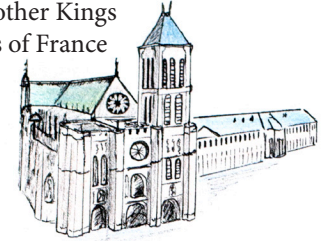
Louis le Vau, the first architect, Charles Le Brun, the first painter, and André Le Nôtre, the King's gardener, amongst others, transformed the former hunting lodge into the Royal Palace we know today.

Infos on: [www.chateauversailles.fr](http://www.chateauversailles.fr)



## 10 - Saint Denis Basilica

Louis XIV died 1st September 1715, 4 days before his 77th Birthday. He is buried with almost all the other Kings and Monarchs of France in the Saint Denis Basilica.



Infos on:

[saint-denis.monuments-nationaux.fr](http://saint-denis.monuments-nationaux.fr)

## Conclusion & notes

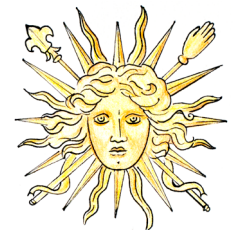
Since Louis XIV married Maria Theresa of Spain in Saint Jean de Luz (South West of France), it is not part of this tour.

Why not go back to Paris and finish this tour by admiring the various constructions Louis XIV commissioned during his reign like the Invalides, Saint Sulpice, the Paris Observatory, the Pont Royal, the Champs-Élysées...

A picnic in Saint Cloud is always nice!

## MINI POCKET MAP

### LOUIS XIV TOUR



# Louis XIV Tour

A Royal road trip itinerary around Paris, which will take you to all the important places in the life of Louis XIV. From his birth place, to where he became King of France and Navarre, this trip gives you the opportunity to visit all the Royal Residences like Vincennes, Fontainebleau and of course Versailles.

