

Where to Watch the Bastille Day Fireworks

5 July 2021 by Margaret Kemp @ 90



By Margaret Kemp

Joyeux 14 Juillet: Liberty, Equality, Fraternity...

Since 1880, La Fête Nationale (aka Bastille Day) includes an imposing military parade beginning at the Arc de Triomphe as troops march along the Champs-Élysées to Place de la Concorde. This year 5,000 participants, including 4,300 foot soldiers, are expected; the theme is "Winning the Future," inspired by the country's collective capacity to overcome difficulties linked to the health crisis.



14th of July in Paris. (C) Shutterstock

Add 200 Garde Républicaine horses, 221 tanks and vehicles, 71 planes, and 25 helicopters. At nightfall, a free concert on the Champ de Mars is followed by a noisy and fabulously choreographed fireworks display, launched from the Eiffel Tower and the Trocadéro Gardens.

Here are some ideas to eat, drink, and celebrate.



Le Pley Rooftop Terrace

Chic hangout for music lovers to chill in this recently opened hotel close to Salle Pleyel concert hall at no. 252 rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré. The terrace could be the coolest space you've never heard of. The menu's based on products from "Mersea Street Food of the Sea" – perfect with Château Pampelonne, red, white or rosé wines + quirky cocktails.

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