



**PROUANT**

# Drouant

Tucked away in a quiet square at the heart of Paris lies a unique venue where culture thrives.

Steeped in history, Drouant has embraced the effervescence of every age throughout its journey, becoming heir to a cultural legacy.

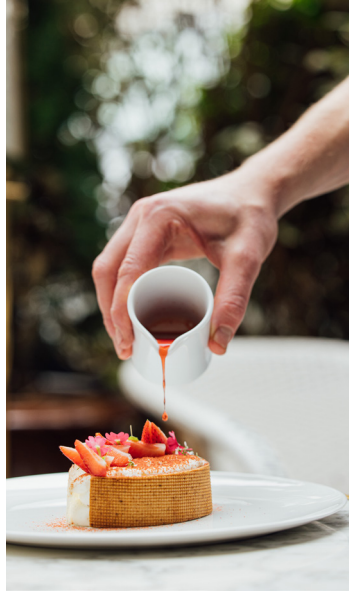
While it exalts its past, Drouant also steps gracefully into the present, navigating deftly between tradition and modern taste.

An institution, a restaurant, and so much more. At Drouant, we share, celebrate and savour life. Here, each instant has its own special aura...

...making every moment unforgettable.







## AN INSPIRED AND INSPIRING CHEF

At Drouant, Romain Van Thienen has found a home for his personal brand of expression. He brings with him a lifelong passion for cooking, and years of honing his skills alongside masters of French gastronomy such as Cyril Lignac, Yannick Alléno and Olivier Bellin.

This eclectic training was his passport to running the kitchens of this “great restaurant, with both a great legacy and reputation”, as he likes to say.

Embracing three centuries of history, this firm believer in local sourcing creates seasonal bourgeois cuisine, enhanced with delicate touches like edible flowers. His fresh finishing touches are sent with love from nature.

The Chef draws on history and the latest trends, filtering the great classics of French gastronomy through his personal prism, much to the delight of discerning gourmets.

Romain Van Thienen communicates his contagious good humour and enthusiasm to his team, who thrive on his playful, spontaneous approach. Unassuming, he gladly shares his storehouse of skills, vision of products and culinary techniques.

An open invitation to embark on a shared flavour journey.





## A PLACE YOU WANT TO CALL HOME

Place Gaillon is the epitome of Parisian charm. The majestic Gaillon fountain by architect Jean Beausire keeps watch over this oasis of calm amidst the whirlwind of city life.

Here, dressed in all its finery, Drouant reigns supreme. In the morning hours, a quiet breakfast is served as Paris awakens to a new day. The hours pass, business lunches mingle with snippets of breezy conversation from nonchalant groups, dishes come and go as the afternoon slips away, in step with the changing moods of the moment.

In summer, the terrace is an elegant haven offering fresh air and the pageant of city life throughout the day. Seat yourself in a wicker armchair by a marble table, surrounded by lush greenery... you've found it, the perfect spot for a relaxing moment.

As the sun sets, it's time for an aperitif. The terrace comes alive with tasteful background music, the sound track for animated conversation. Before a play or a night at the Opera, a memorable dinner at Drouant is a rite of passage, the culmination of your cultural outing.

A cosmopolitan venue brimming with beautiful people from morning to night, Drouant embodies the true Parisian spirit. Every instant is larger than life, every occasion unforgettable.







## AN EXCEPTIONAL WINE CELLAR BOOK

Drouant's wine cellar, hidden from prying eyes, is a treasure trove replete with slumbering secrets of Bacchus. Over 10,000 bottles are patiently awaiting the moment when, at long last, they will be able to fully express their fugue and character.

Here, novices and seasoned experts are united by a common passion: their love of wine. This immersive destination is an invitation to discovery and wonder. Let yourself be guided by the poetry of grands crus or by your curiosity to try something new. Each bottle has a story to tell, and the benevolent Drouant sommeliers guide each guest on their bespoke journey through the delights of French vineyards.

Among these treasures, Rhone Valley wines claim place of honour: over 1,000 different wines sing praises to both the northern and southern ends of this valley. This collection of Vallée de Rhône wines—the largest in Paris—is celebrated in its own dedicated wine cellar book. Beautifully bound in leather the colour of a dark Syrah and embossed with the golden outline of the Rhone Valley, this imposing tome is a work of art in and of itself. Its richly illustrated pages invite you to navigate this legendary river, discovering the many facets of its exceptional terroir along the way.

## WINEGROWERS DINNERS

Catering to epicureans, Drouant is proud to present Winegrowers Dinners. Throughout the evening, the very best bottles of French wine are paired with an infinite range of gastronomic emotions. Driven by an indefatigable passion for their profession, master wine makers willingly share their knowledge and love of wine. The Chef, meanwhile, deploys his talent and savoir-faire to enhance age-old vineyard terroirs, making these monthly evenings a peerless sensorial experience.







## A GATHERING PLACE

Drouant celebrates art in all its many forms. Members of the Cercle— influential people, artists, philosophers and writers—gather here for lively discussions, divulging their creative secrets and exchanging their latest ideas. These monthly gatherings of eminent intellectuals, under the enlightened direction of the philosopher Gérard Lemarié, provide a platform for compelling and thought-provoking debate.

Resonating with many Parisian scenes, this institution is also a magnet for the fashion world. It serves as a stage for exclusive shows, presentations of avant-garde collections and memorable Fashion Week parties. In fact, this iconic venue never ceases to fascinate by the diversity and depth of its artistic expressions.

At weekends, during brunch, creative workshops run by the artist Macha offer children a chance to unleash their imaginations. In private dining rooms, they pour their hearts into reproducing popular works of art, while their parents enjoy themselves at nearby tables.

A fun artistic atmosphere, and catalyst for creativity.



## THE HEIGHT OF ART DECO

One look at the majestic facade, at its period woodwork, and the journey begins. The building's graceful silhouette, witness to over 140 years of legend-making history, offers a glimpse into its soul.

The instant you cross the threshold, you are struck by a timeless elegance. The iconic codes of Art Deco have been subtly shifted with modern solar notes in the decoration by interior architect Fabrizio Casiraghi. Walnut panelling, travertine mosaic floors and armchairs modelled after period pieces, all speak of nobility and nostalgia. The legendary Cocteau ceiling has also had a facelift. Its delicate mouldings, inspired by aquatic motifs, provide the finishing touch, harking back to the golden age of Drouant.

And then, there it is: the staircase. An architectural gem. Designed by the master Jacques-Émile Ruhlmann, it rises gracefully to the floor above, ushering guests up its carpeted steps. Wrapping around an imposing crystal chandelier, it becomes the vibrant stage of the annual Goncourt prize, gathering an assembly of enlightened minds in an exhilarating ballet.







Tucked away on the first floor are the five cosy private dining rooms, each exuding timeless beauty and a ultimate nod to literature. The frescoes imagined by Roberto Ruspoli are an elegant tribute to freedom of the press and major works of the day, such as the novel “In the Shadow of Young Girls in Flower” which adorns the walls of the Salon Proust.

If these walls could talk, they would tell of countless literary events, and resonate with the animated deliberations of the Goncourt and the Renaudot Prize committees. Filling the majestic bookcase, original Goncourt editions infuse each moment with a note of French literary heritage.

These intimate settings are perfect for confidences, celebrations and meetings, where groups large or small can truly savour their time together.



# UN SIÈCLE DE DROUANT

Founded in Paris in 1880, by Charles Drouant, at the heart of the Belle Époque, this café quickly becomes a meeting place, reflecting the intellectual and artistic eminence of this affluent period.



In 1924, Jacques-Emile Ruhlmann, grand master of Art Déco, designed the iconic 'Ruhlmann' staircase, a masterpiece of this style which would deeply influence French decorative arts. Throughout the Roaring Twenties, a period of intense social, artistic and cultural activity, Drouant soaks up this effervescence to become a temple of gastronomy and culture.

In 2020, interior designer Fabrizio Casiraghi was entrusted with the task of restoring the restaurant to its original splendour. In a savvy blend of heritage and contemporary style, these renovations have revived a feeling of historical accuracy.



# 1880

# 1924

# 2020

# 1920

# 1945



In 1920, despite the ravages of the war, Paris remains a capital of art de vivre and once more celebrates life around festive meals. A tribute to fine dining and quality French products.

In this context, Drouant takes on a new role as the sanctuary of literary prize deliberations: as of 1914, it hosts the Académie Goncourt, and the Renaudot Prize as of 1920. Its historic salons welcome the day's artistic elite, such as Renoir and Colette, marking a pivotal moment in the restaurant's history. From this point on, it will be at the forefront of the Parisian literary scene.

The prosperous post-war decades carved out a privileged role for Drouant: Parisian intellectuals and gourmets flocked to this legendary venue, located in a vibrant neighbourhood, home to economic and cultural activities, theatres and the Opera. The restaurant became a Right Bank rite of passage, offering both a thriving cultural scene and a quintessential Parisian dining experience.







GARDINIER

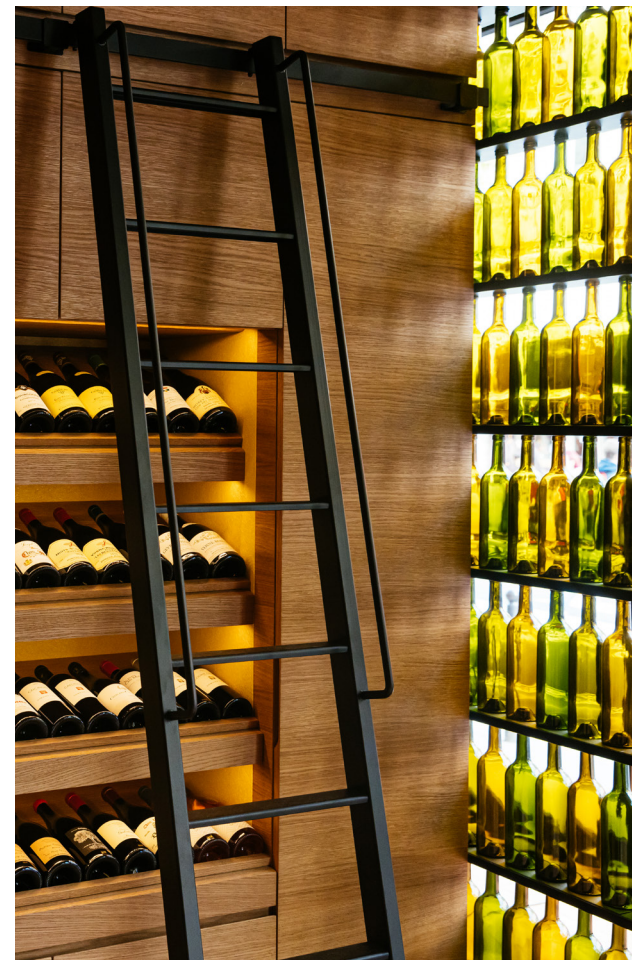
## THE GARDINIER GROUP

Nearly a century ago, Gardinier founded its entrepreneurial family business, and has been writing—and editing—its story ever since. Based on a solid triptych of fine dining, wine and hospitality, the group has carved a considerable niche for itself in the art of entertaining. Today, the family's third generation—three brothers Thierry, Stéphane and Laurent—oversee operations in France, England, the United States, Lebanon and Japan.

**"Our goal is to showcase, share, cultivate and transmit the living heritage of our Properties and usher them into the 21<sup>st</sup> century."**

Thierry, Stéphane et Laurent Gardinier

Today, the Group boasts a collection of four French properties including six restaurants, seven wine and caviar shops across the globe, two e-commerce sites and one hotel. Generating sales of over 55 million euros, it employs 480 people who share the simple, authentic values of respect, perseverance and sensibility, where every client is invited to "Experience Emotion" through unique moments imparted by its properties.



# The Gardinier Story

Founded in 1927, the family-run Gardinier Group has continually grown over several generations of entrepreneurs established in Europe and North America.





# DROUANT

## ADDRESS

16-18, Place GAILLON Paris 2<sup>ème</sup> ARR.

Métro Quatre Septembre  
Open 7/7 from 8am to 11pm

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