

Beat: Politics

LES CHAMPS-ELYSEES - THE MOST FAMOUS STREET IN PARIS SET FOR MAJOR MAKEOVER

PEDESTRIAN-FRIENDLY SPACE BY 2025

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USPA NEWS - The most famous street in Paris, if not the world, is to get a major face lift, with plans underway for a greener and more pedestrian-friendly space by 2025. The planning phase will be carried out together with the Paris Town Hall and the Champs-Élysées committee, the president...

The most famous street in Paris, if not the world, is to get a major face lift, with plans underway for a greener and more pedestrian-friendly space by 2025. The planning phase will be carried out together with the Paris Town Hall and the Champs-Élysées committee, the president of which is an advocate for a more pedestrian friendly street.

The team at The Paris Urbanism Agency (APUR) has some major plans for the avenue that are expected to be finished by 2025, plans they've promised to reveal in detail by January.

From a Study produced by APUR, regarding the Champs-Élysées, we can expect two large green spaces in Paris : Champ de Mars and Champs-Élysées. These two much-visited green spaces which form part of world-famous tourist trails, are showing signs of deterioration and malfunction such that their intrinsic qualities and landscape profile are likely to be altered beyond repair.

Also, Paris plans to give the Champs-Élysées a makeover including New York-style roof terrace cafes, pedestrianised areas and fountains, amid complaints the 'world's most beautiful avenue' has lost its soul to big brands and bling bling.

Paris Town Hall asked an urban planning body to run a task force on changes that will be conducted over the next decade. Among its suggestions are to part pedestrianise the avenue and its side streets and create proper bike lanes. There are plans to open fountains around the Arc de Triomphe and a massive green area from the Arc to the Place de la Concorde.

Given the sky-high real estate prices along the avenue, the world's third most expensive, architects have proposed taking inspiration from New York, London and Tokyo to create rooftop bars and restaurants. They also suggest adding theatres, art galleries and cinemas.

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