

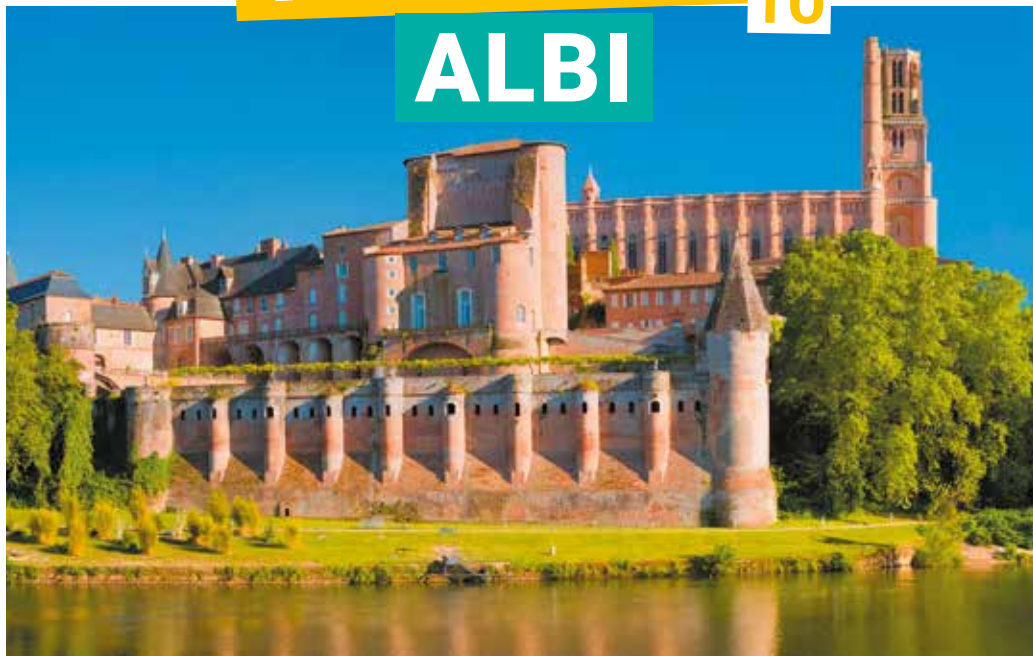


DISCOVER  
YOUR CITY



Campus France will guide  
you through your first steps  
in France and **exploring Albi,**  
**your new home.**

**WELCOME**  
**TO**  
**ALBI**





## YOUR ARRIVAL IN ALBI /

### ♦ A regional Welcome Desk

**The city of Albi is located 75km from Toulouse where the Welcome Desk, a comprehensive student reception center was created by the Université Fédérale de Toulouse Midi-Pyrénées which groups all the region's higher education institutions.**

**The Welcome Desk is for students and researchers, both French and foreign to help them in settling in and with their different administrative procedures.**

**A specialized multilingual team welcomes and guides students and researchers on housing, residence permits, day-to-day life, sports, recreation, culture and so much more.**

**Year round the different services of the Préfecture, Rectorat (Board of Education), CROUS and CAF will help you in setting up in Toulouse.**

**Foreign doctoral students and researchers may also use the Welcome Desk.**

**Address:** Welcome Desk, 41 allée Jules-Guesde, 31000 Toulouse.

**Hours:** Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.

**Contact:** [welcomedesk@univ-toulouse.fr](mailto:welcomedesk@univ-toulouse.fr)

**Reach all the welcome and orientation services in one click:** <https://welcomedesk.univ-toulouse.fr/>

**The Toul'Box is also available in Albi.** It's a personalized tool designed for students, doctoral students and researchers to help you get started, including orientation, assistance with housing and other administrative procedures and French lessons, etc.): <https://toulbox.univ-toulouse.fr/>

### ♦ Welcome and orientation in the institutions

**Albi has two higher education institutions:**

**- Institut National Universitaire (INU) Jean-François Champollion.**

**Address:** Place de Verdun, 81000 Albi.

**2 offices:**

**- Guichet Unique, a one-stop desk for general information in the Administrative building.**

**Contact:** 05 63 48 91 43 or [guichet.unique@univ-jfc.fr](mailto:guichet.unique@univ-jfc.fr)

**- Welcome and orientation for foreign students in the Service des Relations Internationales, every afternoon, from 2 pm to 4:30 pm.**

**Contact:** 05 63 48 19 66 or [ri-etudiants@univ-jfc.fr](mailto:ri-etudiants@univ-jfc.fr)

**- IMT Mines Albi-Carmaux.**

**Direction des Affaires Internationales (International Relations)**

**Address:** Jarlard Campus, 81000 Albi.

**General hours:** Monday to Friday, 8am to 12:30pm and 2pm to 6pm.

**Contact (switchboard):** 05 63 49 30 00 or [international@mines-albi.fr](mailto:international@mines-albi.fr)

### ♦ Buddy System

**You can be assisted by a local student in Albi!**

Some of our institutions offer a Buddy System to help you settle in to your new hometown.

**For more information:**

**- contact the International Albi association at INU Champollion Albi.**

**Contact:** [association.international.albi@gmail.com](mailto:association.international.albi@gmail.com)

**- consult the Welcome Desk site:**

<https://welcomedesk.univ-toulouse.fr/> > S'ouvrir à l'international > Parrainage d'étudiants étrangers

### ♦ National Services

**- students:** [www.etudiant.gouv.fr](http://www.etudiant.gouv.fr)

**- doctoral students, researchers:**

<http://www.euraxess.fr/fr>



Making you feel at home is a major concern for all French higher education institutions! The **Welcome to France label** is awarded to institutions that fulfil exacting criteria in the way they take care of their international students.



## ACCOMMODATION

**Finding somewhere to live is not always easy.**

Rents are often high, and landlords require financial guarantees (such as a deposit).

Nevertheless, there is a wide range of accommodation on offer: halls of residence that are exclusively reserved for students and managed by the CROUS, student halls and private lodgings, rooms in private homes, flatshares...

**The main thing is to start preparing for this as early as possible, before leaving your home country.**

**• You can consult the Housing pages on the Welcome Desk de Toulouse web site:**

<https://welcomedesk.univ-toulouse.fr/> > S'installer > infos pratiques > Logement

**• At the Institut National Universitaire Jean-**

## François Champollion, visit the one-stop Guichet Unique.

Address: Ground floor of the Administration Building, Place de Verdun, 81000 Albi.

Hours: Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 5pm.

Contact: 05 63 48 91 43 or 05 63 48 64 19.

### • IMT Mines d'Albi, reserves space in student housing for its students.

8 residences on 4 sites have sufficient capacity for all the international engineering and masters students.

Contact: 05 63 49 30 00 or

hebergement@mines-albi.fr

For more information: <https://www.imt-mines-albi.fr>

> Ecole > Le campus > Hébergement

## A FEW TIPS

### ♦ Short-term housing

#### • The Youth Hostel located near the old town center.

Address: Habitat des Jeunes en Albigeois, 50 rue Croix Verte, 81000 Albi.

Contact: 05 63 54 16 47.

#### They also offer other housing solutions.

Learn more: <http://www.habitat-jeunes-albi.fr>

> Logements > auberges de jeunesse

#### • You can also consult the Albi Tourist Office

which has a list featuring all the types of accommodation available:

<https://www.albi-tourisme.fr>

### ♦ Long-term housing

#### • CROUS

(Centre Régional des Œuvres Universitaires et Scolaires) **student housing for Toulouse - Occitanie.**

The CROUS has 3 university residences for

157 students in Albi.

Contacts:

- CROUS Albi, 05 63 48 16 92 or

contact.albi@crous-toulouse.fr

- CROUS Toulouse, 05 61 12 54 00 or 08 06 80 01 31.

Site: [www.crous-toulouse.fr](http://www.crous-toulouse.fr)

Trouver un Logement site

<https://trouverunlogement.lescrous.fr/>

### Other solutions:

#### • Public and youth housing

- **Tarn Habitat**, the main public housing body also offers student housing:

<http://www.tarnhabitat.fr/nos-offres-etudiants>

- **Tarn Youth Information network** (Information Jeunesse du Tarn) can also assist you in your search.

Fédération Léo Lagrange,

10 place de la Marne, 81000 Albi.

Contact: 05 63 56 22 54.

Site: <https://www.pourlesjeunestarnais.com/>

#### • Private accommodation

- Try these sites:

<https://www.immojeune.com>

<https://www.location-etudiant.fr> > Albi

<https://housinganywhere.com/fr/>

- There is also a **site managed by the CROUS,**

**Lokaviz**, which includes a listing of **student accommodations in private homes:**

<https://www.lokaviz.fr/>

#### • Shared housing

Consult *La Carte des Colocs*, a national site for shared leases that's free and simple to use:

<https://www.lacartedescolocs.fr/>

#### • Other solutions available on the Campus France

site: <https://www.campusfrance.org/fr> > Getting

Organized > Accommodation

### ♦ If you need a guarantor to secure your lodging

Visale is a new and free guarantor system:

[www.visale.fr](http://www.visale.fr)

### ♦ If you want to file an application for APL funds (Aide Personnalisée au Logement, or personalized housing aid),

CAF (Caisse des Allocations Familiales) can check your eligibility: 32 30 or [www.caf.fr](http://www.caf.fr)

### ♦ If you need housing adapted to your special needs

Contact the CROUS Social Services which will take action with your institution. Some establishments have specialized services for students with disabilities (assistance for housing, and also transportation and tuition).

**To learn more, consult the dedicated pages on the Welcome Desk site:**

<https://welcomedesk.univ-toulouse.fr/tags/handicap>

## The CROUS, at your service everywhere

**Do you need any help and/or advice, somewhere to eat or to live, a job - or do you just want to find out all there is to know about student life? Then the CROUS is what you need!**



The CROUS (Centre Régional des Œuvres Universitaires et Scolaires - Regional Centre of University and School Services) has branches in all major French university towns.

It manages university halls of residence and canteens, allows you to meet social workers, and offers cultural activities and job opportunities.



## FIRST THINGS FIRST /



## GETTING AROUND ALBI



**If you arrive by train** (<https://www.oui.sncf/>), the main Albi station is a 15 minute walk from the town center. Buses also leave from outside the station: lines R, L or K depending on your destination.



**Toulouse-Blagnac is the closest airport:**  
1 hour by car or 2 hours by train from Toulouse to Albi.



**Albibus** is the Greater Albi public bus service for getting around the town and surrounding area:  
<http://www.grand-albigeois.fr/361-transports.htm>



There are regional trains for getting around the region (reduced fares available):  
<https://www.ter.sncf.com/occitanie/>  
**SNCF and the Region have put 1€ tickets in place for local travel in Occitanie:**  
<https://www.ter.sncf.com> > tarifs et abonnements > EVASIO' 1€  
Buses are also an option for low-cost travel:  
<https://fr.ouibus.com/> or  
<https://www.flixbus.fr/>



**For ride-sharing, refer to the collaborative websites:**  
- local:  
<http://www.grand-albigeois.fr/376-covoiturage.htm>  
- national:  
<https://www.blablacar.fr/>



**For more independence, use the free bike service** provided by the Institut National Universitaire and the Greater Albi local authority.  
Learn more:  
<https://www.univ-jfc.fr/cyclochampo>  
**IMT Mines Albi** also has an association which loans bikes for free (Vemac):  
<https://vemaci2d.wixsite.com/vemac>

## ENROLLMENT IN YOUR INSTITUTION

### ◆ CVEC

**Before you can enroll in your institution, you must download proof of payment of the Contribution Vie Etudiante et de Campus (CVEC) – the student and campus life contribution fee.**

- **Log in at:** <https://cvec.etudiant.gouv.fr/>

- **For additional information and special cases:**  
<https://www.campusfrance.org> > Getting Organized > CVEC

### ◆ Confirm Registration

**Take note! Even if you have a pre-registration letter, you are not officially enrolled.**

You must confirm your enrollment with the institution's Service de la Scolarité (Admissions) as soon as you arrive.

## RESIDENCE PERMITS

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

• If you have just arrived in France on a long-term VLS-TS student visa: you must **validate it online as soon as you arrive in France**, on the ANEF (Administration numérique pour les Etrangers en France - Digital Administration for Foreigners in France) website. This validation must be carried out within the three months following your arrival: <https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/particuliers/#/>

• If you have Algerian citizenship or you are a student holding a "concours" visa or a visa bearing the mention "carte à solliciter dans les deux mois" ("card to be requested within two months"): your request for a residence permit must be carried out at the Préfecture.

• If you hold a "mineur scolarisé" ("minor in education") visa and you have since attained your majority, you must request a residence permit directly on the ANEF website or at the

**préfecture of your place of residence within the two months following your attaining the age of legal majority:** <https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/particuliers/#/>

Please note: if you wish to renew your residence permit or VLS-TS, you must make your request during the third month preceding the date of end of validity of your current residence permit, on the following website: <https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/particuliers/#/>

Please refer to the following tutorial for help with this procedure: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-iGha\\_yqN04](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-iGha_yqN04)

• Your institution's student support services can assist you in case of any difficulties.

To find out more about your rights and obligations: <https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/N110>



## PRACTICAL INFORMATION /

### OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT

If you stay in France for more than 3 months, it will be much easier day-to-day if you open a bank account, **online or in one of the bank agencies located in Albi.**

In France, opening a bank account is a right: [www.service-public.fr](http://www.service-public.fr) > Argent > Comptes bancaires > Droit au compte (> Finances > Bank Accounts > Right to Open an Account)

### ACCESSING HEALTHCARE

Accessing healthcare in France is almost free, but you must be insured. **You must therefore be registered with the national health insurance programme.**

Please go to the <https://etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr> website to register, understand your rights and to carry out the requisite procedures.

Learn more:

<https://www.campusfrance.org> > Getting Organized > Health

**As a student, you can also take advantage of the university medical services.** In these health services where consultations are free, you'll be greeted by a team of doctors, nurses, and social workers who can give personalized advice in terms of health and prevention.

**This is the case at Institut National Universitaire where a regular weekly service is provided by the Service Interuniversitaire de Médecine Préventive et de Prévention Santé (SIMPPS).**

SIMPPS Albi, Pascal Ambic building on the campus, Place de Verdun, 81000 Albi.

Contact: 05 63 48 64 41.

Site: <https://www.univ-jfc.fr> > vie étudiante > aides sociales et santé > Santé accueil et accompagnement

### TAKING OUT COMPLEMENTARY HEALTH INSURANCE ("MUTUELLE")

**We recommend you take out complementary health insurance in order to cover the totality of your healthcare costs, which are not all covered by the compulsory and free national health insurance programme.**

Please note: options and levels of insurance vary from one insurer to another. In order to choose the complementary insurance that is best adapted to your situation and your budget, you can access more information on a student "mutuelles" price comparison website.

### HOUSING INSURANCE

**In France, housing insurance is mandatory.**

You can sign up for housing insurance called "garantie risques locatifs" - rental risk guarantee - at your bank or a private insurance company. Online subscription is often possible.

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

**SAMU: Call 15** Emergency Medical Services

**Police emergency: Call 17** in the event of violence, theft, robbery.

**Fire Department: Call 18** in the event of fire, gas leak, water damage, natural catastrophe, or traffic accident.

**Call 112:** European emergency services number that's accessible from anywhere in the European Union in addition to the French numbers above.

## LEARNING FRENCH

Learning French is an opportunity that's not to be missed! Find what works best for you:

- by consulting the Campus France site or the Français Langue Etrangère (FLE) - French as a foreign language - centers and universities which offer courses at all levels year-round:

<http://ecolesdete.campusfrance.org>

- by asking in your institution, at city hall, or in your host city's Maison des Associations - community centers.

## FINDING A JOB OR AN INTERNSHIP

**It is important that you have sufficient financial resources to come and study in France.**

Working in France as a foreign student is possible within limits, namely for a maximum duration of 964 hours per year. This can therefore only be a way of earning **supplementary funds**.

Please note: to work in France, if you are not a citizen of the European Union, you must hold a valid **student residence permit**.

**To help you find a job or work experience placement, 2 addresses:**

- **CRIJ de Toulouse-Occitanie** (Centre Régional d'Information Jeunesse). The regional youth information center has a platform for job and internship offers available for young people:

<http://www.crij.org/fr/annonces/emploi/job.php>

- **the Jobaviz website**, run by the CROUS, can help you find a student job that's compatible with your studies: <http://www.jobaviz.fr/rechercher-un-job-etudiant/n:39>



## THINGS TO DO IN ALBI /

### TAKE UP A SPORT

In your institution, contact the Service des Sports for free access to sports facilities:

- Institut National Universitaire:

<https://www.univ-jfc.fr/vie-etudiante/sport>

- IMT Mines:

<https://www.imt-mines-albi.fr/fr/sports-et-loisirs-0>

Albi also has a large range of local public sports facilities and recreational activities:

<http://www.grand-albigeois.fr/> > vivre, se divertir > mes loisirs > faire du sport

## BE ACTIVE

Attend cultural and sporting events, or join a social or community group, through one of the numerous local or national student clubs and associations.

**Learn more:**

- ask for information at the student services (Service de la Vie Etudiante) of your institution or at the Welcome Desk: [vivre a toulouse et sa region](#) > s'engager

- visit the national sites:

[www.animafac.net](http://www.animafac.net) - [www.letudiant.fr](http://www.letudiant.fr)

- At Institut National Universitaire Jean-François Champollion, **the Internation'Albi association** provides orientation assistance for international students and aims to enhance dialogue and cultural exchange:

<https://www.univ-jfc.fr/associations/internationalbi>

- At IMT Mines d'Albi, the **EMACWorld association** also provides orientation for new international students: <http://bde.mines-albi.fr/asso.php?asso=6>

## CULTURE AND NIGHTLIFE

Albi offers many ways to cultivate yourself or party. Theaters, museums, movie theaters, exhibitions, and festivals are on the program and most of the time, at reduced cost for students.

**Learn more:**

- <http://www.mairie-albi.fr/la-culture>

- <https://www.albi-tourisme.fr/> > sortir

Your institution may also propose cultural activities free or with special student rates. Contact the Service Culture.

**More information:**

- University cultural activities: <https://www.univ-jfc.fr/culture/le-retour-du-jeudi>

- Bureau des Arts at IMT Mines Albi:

<http://bde.mines-albi.fr/asso.php?asso=3>

**For entertainment or to pick up some culture, you can choose from:**

- 3 multiplex movie theaters including an art house theater, Scène nationale d'Albi (student rates and rewards cards).

- 8 top museums, reduced rates for students.

- 7 major performance centers including the Grand Théâtre des Cordeliers with futuristic architecture.

- many bookshops.

- a network of 4 large multimedia libraries with free registration and membership for students:

<http://mediatheques.grand-albigeois.fr/>

For going out and current events in Albi, **read the leading regional daily paper, La Dépêche du Midi**, available in news stands or online:

<https://www.ladepeche.fr> > Albi

You can also check out the agenda on the Albi

Tourist Office site:  
<https://www.albi-tourisme.fr> > sortir > agenda

## TOP ATTRACTIONS /

**The town of Albi was listed as a World Heritage by UNESCO in 2010.**

- Toulouse-Lautrec museum, in the Palais de la Berbie, home to the largest collection of works by the Albi-born painter (student rate).
- Sainte-Cécile cathedral, a magnificent and impressive brick fortress.
- Pont Vieux bridge, one of France's oldest.
- Maison Enjalbert and Hôtel de Reynès, 16-century buildings with typical Albi architecture.
- The cultural Cordeliers neighborhood, between the old town center of Albi and the university.
- Lapérouse museum, collections from the round-the-world expedition by the famous Albi-born explorer (student rates).
- The Echappée Verte greenway, a walking trail through the town on the banks of the Tarn river.

**Learn (and see) more:**

<https://www.albi-tourisme.fr/fr>



## IMPORTANT ANNUAL EVENTS /

### FEBRUARY

- Albi carnival giant processions, festive parties, amusement park (free admission).

### APRIL

- **Complot sur le campus** organized by Institut National Universitaire and student associations with free activities, entertainment, circus arts and

concerts.

- **Acthélia**, an street art and music organized by IMT Mines d'Albi (student rates).

- **Cartel des Mines, annual sports event** with teams from all the European Écoles des Mines.

- The Albi marathon, 2 000 participants run through the center of the town.

### JUNE

- Fête de la Musique: Music everywhere in town (free concerts).

### JULY

- Pause Guitare: French music festival with rap, hip-hop, rock and more. Free concerts and special student rates.

### AUGUST

- Urban festival: 3 days of urban cultural events (reduced rates).

### SEPTEMBER

- **European Night of Researchers** (in 12 French cities including Albi).

- Journées du Patrimoine (heritage days), free visits of cultural venues.

### OCTOBER

- **Semaine de l'Étudiant 30 festive events:** cultural, sports, associations. Free for students.

- **Fête de la Science** in the Université laboratories.

### NOVEMBER

- Fêtes de la Sainte-Cécile, organ concerts (free).

- Albi French film festival with animated films, fiction, documentaries, screenings followed by conferences (reduced rates).



 **& SHARE**   
**PARTICIPATE**

To stay informed and attuned to others and the world, to share and dialogue with students, follow **social media** where Campus France has an especially strong presence!

*Don't forget to join the **France Alumni** network. Take part in discussion groups on various subjects, take advantage of cultural outings, and consult job and internship offers.*





# THINGS TO KNOW

## ALBI

IS THE CAPITAL  
OF TARN, one of the  
**13** departments in the  
Southern French region  
of OCCITANIE stretching  
from the Mediterranean  
to the Pyrénées

### GREATER ALBI:

**84,000** residents

### CITY OF ALBI:

**51,000** residents  
**8<sup>th</sup>** LARGEST  
CITY IN THE  
OCCITANIE REGION



**6,000** students

including **10%** international  
students



## OCCITANIE REGION,

**3<sup>rd</sup>** FRENCH  
REGION in terms of  
hosting foreign  
students (more than  
34,000 international  
students)

Most of the information presented in the Campus France City Information Sheets concerns all international students regardless of their institution.

In France, in each of the host cities, most foreign students study at universities. Accordingly, the City Information Sheets attach great importance to them without overlooking the other higher education institutions even if it is not possible to list them all here with their specific information.

For more information on the institutions' welcomes and orientations:  
<https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/recherche/categorie/occitanie-552>

### CAMPUS FRANCE IN TOULOUSE

41 allée Jules-Guesde - 31000 Toulouse

By appointment only, Monday to Friday, 9am to 12pm and 1pm to 3:30pm

Contact: 05 61 00 91 28 or [toulouse@campusfrance.org](mailto:toulouse@campusfrance.org)

### CAMPUS FRANCE

28 rue de la Grange aux Belles, 75010 PARIS - 01 40 40 58 58 - [www.campusfrance.org](http://www.campusfrance.org)