



**DISCOVER
YOUR CITY**



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

WELCOME TO
ARRAS

AND ARTOIS
(BÉTHUNE - LENS - LIÉVIN - DOUAI)





YOUR ARRIVAL IN ARTOIS (BETHUNE, LENS, LIEVIN, DOUAI) /

◆ Welcome to the Université d'Artois campus

Université d'Artois has 5 campuses: Arras and 4 other cities, Béthune at 35km, Lens at 18km, Liévin at 18km and Douai at 26km.

Welcome and orientation for international students, based on their profile, is handled by both the Service de la Vie Etudiante and the Service des Relations Internationales regardless of the campus:

• **Free-mover student:** If you enrolled with Université d'Artois directly as a free-mover, you will be welcomed by the **Service de la Vie Etudiante**.

Address: Maison de l'Étudiant, Building M, Arras Campus.

Hours: Monday to Friday, 9am to 12:30pm and 1:30pm to 4:30pm.

Contact: 03 21 60 61 94 or viieetudiante@univ-artois.fr

Learn more:

- check out the dedicated pages on the **Université d'Artois website:** <http://www.univ-artois.fr>
> International > Venir étudier à l'Université d'Artois
> À titre individuel

- download the **mini-guide** for foreign students enrolled individually:

<http://www.univ-artois.fr> > Vie étudiante > Vie pratique (colonne de gauche)

• **Exchange student:** If you are an incoming exchange student to Université d'Artois from one of our partner institutions, you will be welcomed by the **Service des Relations Internationales**.

Address: Maison des Relations Internationales, Building H, Arras Campus.

Hours: Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 12pm and 1:30pm to 4:30pm.

Contact: 03 21 60 38 68 or incoming-exchange@univ-artois.fr

Further information: <http://www.univ-artois.fr> > International > Venir étudier à l'Université d'Artois > En programme d'échange

◆ A Buddy System at Université d'Artois

• Free-mover student:

Be welcomed by local students in Arras and Artois! Local students will provide personalized advice and support. Contact the Service de la Vie Étudiante before your arrival if you are interested: viieetudiante@univ-artois.fr

• Exchange student:

The Service des Relations Internationales recrutes student "buddies" to welcome you when you arrive and to help you with administrative procedures. The Service des Relations Internationales will put you in contact with your buddy in July.

◆ Welcome and orientation in other institutions

If you are enrolled in another institution, please consult the Campus France website for orientation. The site presents a series of **Information Sheets covering the different higher learning institutions:** <https://www.campusfrance.org> > Students > Documentary resources > Practical information for students and researchers > Reception arrangements in institutions

If you cannot find your school in this list, then go directly to their website.

◆ National Services:

- Students: 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.

• At Université d'Artois

- **For free-movers (non-exchange students),** the Service de la Vie Étudiante can assist you in reserving housing

- **For exchange students,** the Service des Relations Internationales will contact you in June with information about your housing.

- **Learn more:**
- **Consult the Logement page on the Université d'Artois site:** <http://www.univ-arts.fr> > Vie étudiante > Vie pratique > Logement
- **Download the Logement guide published by the CRIJ des Hauts-de-France (regional youth information center):** <http://www.crij-hdf.fr> > Nos publications
- **Other local leads**

Arras:

Plateforme Logement Jeunes

Address: 34 bis Grand-Place, 62000 Arras.

Contact: 03 21 71 92 97 or

plateformelogementjeunes@4aj.fr

Site: <http://plateformelogement.wixsite.com/jeunesarras>

For Lens and Liévin and surrounding area:

CLLAJ Lens-Liévin

Comité Local pour le Logement Autonome des Jeunes Lens-Liévin, the local committee for youth housing in Lens-Liévin

Contact: 03 21 74 98 15 or cclaj@ml-hensliévin.fr

Site: <http://jecliquepourmonlogement.fr>

Béthune:

Point Information Jeunesse (PIJ)

Place Clémenceau - 62400 Béthune

Contact: 07 71 37 63 63

A FEW TIPS

♦ Short-term housing

In Université d'Artois locations, you can find low-priced hotel listings on the **Tourist Office sites for Arras, Béthune, Douai, Lens and Liévin.**

♦ Long-term housing:

• **Student accommodation run by the CROUS** (Centre Régional des Œuvres Universitaires) in **Lille Nord - Pas-de-Calais, which includes Arras.**

Contact: 03 20 88 66 00

or service.international@crous-lille.fr

The website *Trouver un logement*:

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

• CROUS Student-Only Housing in Artois

- Arras: Résidence de l'Artois, Résidence de la Citadelle, Résidence des Templiers; Résidence Bernanos;

- Béthune: Résidence Gérard Philippe;

- Lens: Résidence Moreau;

- Liévin: Résidence Alice Milliat.

♦ Private Housing Platforms

For example, visit:

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

<https://housinganywhere.com>

• There is also a site **managed by the CROUS, Lokaviz**, which includes a listing of student accommodation in private homes: <https://www.lokaviz.fr/>

♦ Shared Leases

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

♦ Visale provides a free service for students needing a guarantor to secure housing:

www.visale.fr

♦ If you want to make an application for public housing funding (the APL "Aide Personnalisée au Logement"),

the CAF (Caisse des Allocations Familiales) can check your eligibility: 32 30 or www.caf.fr

♦ For accommodation with disabled access,

ask the CROUS social service for assistance.

Some establishments, such as **Université d'Artois**, have created a **Mission handicap, which welcomes and works with students with special needs.**

<http://www.univ-arts.fr> > Vie étudiante > Etude et handicap

GETTING AROUND ARRAS AND ARTOIS



Full details on transport options for getting to Arras and the Université d'Artois (by train or flight + train) can be found on the website:

<http://www.univ-arts.fr> > L'université > Venir à l'université



In the cities and surrounding areas, use the public transportation system to get around.

Further information: <http://www.univ-arts.fr> > Vie étudiante > Vie pratique > Transports



There are regional trains for getting around the region:

<https://www.ter.sncf.com/hauts-de-france>

Don't forget the bus for low-cost travelling:

<https://www.blablacar.fr/bus> or <https://www.flixbus.fr/>



For ride-sharing, refer to the collaborative websites, for example:

<https://www.blablacar.fr>

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.

- 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/#/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/#/particuliers/#/>

Please refer to the following tutorial for help with this procedure: 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 the area.**

In France, opening a bank account is a right: www.service-public.fr > Argent > Comptes bancaires > Droit au compte

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.**



FIRST THINGS FIRST /

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.

- Connect to <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/#/particuliers/#/>

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 centers where consultations are free, you will be greeted by a team of doctors and nurses who can give personalized advice about health and prevention.

This is the case at Université d'Artois which has a student health service (SSE)

Address: Arras Campus, Building N - first floor.

Contact: 03 21 60 60 29.

Site: <http://www.univ-artois.fr> > vie étudiante > santé

Medical services are also provided on our other campus sites:

- at the Béthune IUT (03 21 63 23 18);
- in Douai, on Thursdays at the Maison de l'étudiant (03 27 94 50 79);
- in Lens at the Faculté J.Perrin, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays (03 21 79 17 06) and at the IUT on Thursdays (03 21 79 32 34);
- in Liévin, on Tuesdays (03 21 45 84 83).

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 must take out personal liability insurance.

- Home Insurance

The "garantie risques locatifs" - rental risk guarantee - is housing insurance which you can subscribe with your bank or a private insurance company. Online subscription is also often possible

- Personal Liability Insurance:

This insurance, *assurance responsabilité civile privée* in French, covers non-intentional damages caused by yourself or third parties.

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 to be seized! 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 WORK EXPERIENCE PLACEMENT

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, 4 addresses:

- **The Carrière de l'Université d'Artois platform, Career Center**, gives you access to job and internship postings. You can create your personal space and upload your CV (résumé) which will be seen by the university's partner businesses. On your digital work space (ENT) >Emplois et Stages.
- **Université d'Artois** also offers student jobs within the institution's different departments. Consult the postings on your digital work space (ENT) >Offres d'Emplois de l'Université.
- **The Hauts-de-France CRIJ** (Centre Régional d'Information Jeunesse, or regional youth

information center) has a platform of job and internship offers: <http://www.crij-hdf.fr/>

- **the Jobaviz website, run by the CROUS**, can help you find a student job compatible with your studies: <http://www.jobaviz.fr>



THINGS TO DO IN ARRAS AND ARTOIS /

TAKE UP A SPORT

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

Université d'Artois has numerous sports and physical activities available for free: <http://www.univ-artois.fr> > Vie étudiante > Sport

City facilities also offer numerous recreational and sports activities:

- in Arras: <https://www.arras.fr> > mes loisirs > sport
- in Béthune: www.bethune.fr > Ma ville au quotidien > Sport
- in Lens: <https://villedelens.fr/> > Mes activités > Sport
- in Liévin: <https://lievin.fr/> > Mes loisirs > Sport
- in Douai: <http://www.ville-douai.fr/> > Vivante > Sports et Loisirs

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.

To learn more, **check with your school** (Service de la vie étudiante, Student Services) or **visit the following sites:** www.animafac.net ou www.letudiant.fr

At Université d'Artois, you can:

- View a full list of student associations: <http://www.univ-artois.fr> > Vie étudiante > Associations étudiantes > Guide des associations
- Join the **International Students Facebook group** for free-movers: Facebook "Etudiants Internationaux de l'Université d'Artois"
- Hang out in **collaborative spaces:**
 - **La Ruche**, an experimental and creative space: <http://www.univ-artois.fr> > vie étudiante > événements culturels > La Ruche
 - **La Cafet'**, a shared space next to La Ruche in the Maison de l'Etudiant, where consumers are

encouraged to play an active role.

- **The university libraries in Arras, Béthune, Douai, Lens and Liévin** also have coworking spaces available.

CULTURE AND NIGHTLIFE

There's lots to do in the cities of Artois (Arras, Béthune, Douai, Lens and Liévin) to cultivate yourself or party. Movie theaters, concerts, theaters, exhibitions, and festivals are on the program and most of the time, at reduced cost for students.

The Service Vie Culturelle et Associative at Université d'Artois organizes various events throughout the year: <http://www.univ-artois.fr> > vie étudiante > événements culturels

For entertainment or culture in each of these Artois cities, consult **the Tourist Office web sites:**

- Arras: <https://www.arraspaysdarts.com/>
- Béthune: <https://www.tourisme-bethune-bruay.fr/>
- Lens et Liévin: <http://www.tourisme-lenslievin.fr/>
- Douai: <http://www.douais-tourisme.fr/>

For going out and current events, **read the leading regional daily paper, La Voix du Nord**, available in newsstands or online: <http://www.lavoixdunord.fr>



TOP ATTRACTIONS /

In Arras:

- The Grand-Place is a magnificent square, lined with Flemish-style buildings.
- Place des Héros lies between the Grand-Place and the Hôtel de Ville and belfry, listed as a World Heritage site by UNESCO.
- Place Victor Hugo, a beautiful octagonal city square.
- Musée des Beaux-Arts, the fine arts museum.
- The Vauban Citadel, listed as a World Heritage site.
- The Boves tour, a series of passages forming a veritable underground network.
- Nemetacum, a site with the vestiges of an ancient Roman city.

In Béthune:

- Grand-Place and its Art Deco facades
- Beffroi, the belfry tower, classed a world heritage site by UNESCO.
- Labanque, located in the building which houses the Bank of France in Béthune. An astonishing museum with exhibitions, visits and workshops.
- Tour Saint-Ignace, the last vestige of Bethune's

fortifications.

- La Fabrique, a place for meeting and debate housed in Art Deco venues.

In Lens:

- The SNCF train station, an emblematic Art Deco structure
- Chemins de Mémoire, a remembrance trail through the Lens sector of World War I (1914-1918)
- Louvre-Lens, a building designed by Japanese architects which houses Louvre collections
- The current Faculté des Sciences Jean Perrin which formerly housed the Grands Bureaux de la Société des Mines, the headquarters of the Lens mining company.

In Liévin:

- Hôtel de Ville, the Reconstruction-era reinforced-concrete city hall building inaugurated in 1926.
- Bassin Minier, the mining basin classed a world heritage site by UNESCO.
- St Amé neighborhood with its headframe (or poppet or pit head), the large metallic tower built over a mine shaft.

In Douai:

- Arkeos, an archaeological museum-park.
- Beffroi. The belfry tower is a masterpiece of the Gothic art of the Middle Ages.
- Musée d'Art de la Chartreuse, installed in the former Chartusian convent.



IMPORTANT ANNUAL EVENTS /

JANUARY: the Nuits de la Lecture, in several towns in the Hauts-de-France including Arras and Liévin.

FEBRUARY: Liévin: Hauts-de-France/Pas-de-Calais track and field meet, an international event.

MARCH: Liévin: the Métal-Fest
Béthune: the Printemps portugais.

APRIL: Béthune: Carnaval, in the great tradition of the Pas-de-Calais carnivals. **Lens: PolarLens**, the detective novel fair.

MAY: European Night of Museums, the Musée des Beaux-Arts will be open late for the occasion (events and visit, free entry). **Béthune: Printemps de l'Art Deco** with visits, events and shows. **Béthune: Motarfois**, the big-bike motorcycle show with events and concerts. **Lens:** Route du Louvre Marathon, walk or run.

JUNE: Fête de la Musique: Music everywhere in town (free concerts). **Béthune: La Nature Dans Tous Les Sens**, a festival which spotlights agriculture and nature. **Liévin: Semaine de la Jeunesse**, a week for youth with the Color Run, a race that's high in color.

JULY: Arras: Main Square Festival, contemporary music at the Citadel. **Douai: Fêtes de Gayant**, a festival with the local "giants", street art and music.

AUGUST: Arras: Fête de l'Andouillette, a must-do regional event which celebrates the renown French sausage. A friendly and traditional festival with lots of free activities and the Courses d'Arras where you can discover the city as you run through the historic center. **Béthune: Béthune Rétro Festival** with concerts and car show.

SEPTEMBER: Journées du Patrimoine, free visits to cultural sites throughout the region. **Arras: La nuit des bassins** and the **Beer Potes Festival**.

OCTOBER: Arras: La Nuit des Etudiants du Monde – Students of the World Night. **Lens: Fête de la Science** in the University laboratories.

NOVEMBER: Arras Film Festival, celebrating French and European cinema (student discounts).

DECEMBER: Arras: Le village de Noël.



& 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 to take part in discussion groups on various subjects, take advantage of cultural outings, and consult job and internship offers.*



THINGS TO KNOW

Arras Urban Community:

108,000 residents

- **City of Arras: 42,000** residents
- **City of Béthune: 25,000** residents
- **City of Douai: 40,000** residents
- **City of Lens: 31,000** residents
- **City of Liévin: 30,000** residents

UNIVERSITÉ D'ARTOIS:

- **10** UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS
- **2** DOCTORAL SCHOOLS
- **17** RESEARCH LABORATORIES
- **192** DOCTORAL STUDENTS

ARRAS

ADMINISTRATIVE CAPITAL
OF THE PAS-DE-CALAIS

one of **5** departments
which form the
Hauts-de-France Region

Arras, Douai et Lens,
ranked among French
university towns **where it's
good to live and study**

(awarded by L'Étudiant magazine)

Université d'Artois,
multidisciplinary and multi-campus university
(Arras, Béthune, Douai, Lens, Liévin):



13,500
students

including 1,200 international
students, representing 76 different
nationalities

**HAUTS-DE-FRANCE REGION, 5th FRENCH REGION IN TERMS OF HOSTING
FOREIGN STUDENTS (24,000 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/hauts-de-france-555>

CAMPUS FRANCE PARIS

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