



**DISCOVER
YOUR CITY**



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

**WELCOME TO
BORDEAUX**





YOUR ARRIVAL IN BORDEAUX /

◆ Students at Université de Bordeaux

• For students at Université de Bordeaux, the Bureaux de la Vie Étudiante (BVE), or Student Life Centers, are welcome and information centers.

At these centers, you will be greeted warmly and guided towards the proper university services (financial aid, scholarships, health, social, culture, sports, recreation) **on each campus, as a function of your course of study.**

Addresses:

- Bureau de la Vie Étudiante - Bordeaux

146 rue Léo Saignat, 33000 Bordeaux
Contact: 05 57 57 17 79 or
bve.bordeaux@u-bordeaux.fr

- Bureau de la Vie Étudiante - Talence

351 cours de la Libération, Building A22,
33400 Talence.

Contact: 05 40 00 64 02 / 05 40 00 84 84
or bve.talence@u-bordeaux.fr

- Bureau de la Vie Étudiante - Pessac

Avenue Léon Duguit, 33600 Pessac
Contact: 05 56 84 62 61 or
bve.pessac@u-bordeaux.fr

Learn more. Download the 2023/2024 Université de Bordeaux Welcome Guide, a comprehensive guide that includes all the contact details you will need, here: <https://www.u-bordeaux.fr> > international > venir à Bordeaux > étudiants internationaux

◆ For students of Bordeaux Montaigne University

For students of Bordeaux Montaigne University (which is not part of the University of Bordeaux), the International Welcome Desk supports the welcome and integration of international students, whether they are involved in an exchange programme or independently mobile.

This Welcome Desk allows international students to get their first bearings and offers them tailored support with any procedures related to their daily life.

Opening Hours, Address and Contacts:

- Mobility Office (for exchange students): Monday to Thursday from 1:30pm to 4:30pm and Friday from 9am to 12pm;

- International Welcome Desk: Monday to Thursday from 1:30pm to 4:30pm and Friday morning by appointment only.

Contact: incomingstudents@u-bordeaux-montaigne.fr (for exchange students only), intlwelcome-desk@u-bordeaux-montaigne.fr (for all international students) or 05 57 12 61 75;

Address: Direction des Relations Internationales, Bâtiment Accueil, 2^e étage (bureau 207) Domaine Universitaire, Esplanade des Antilles, 33607 Pessac.

For more information, visit the website:

<https://www.u-bordeaux-montaigne.fr/> > International > International Welcome Desk

◆ Welcome and orientation for researchers and doctoral students

• Université de Bordeaux has set up a Bureau d'Accueil pour les Chercheurs Internationaux (BACI), or International Researchers' Welcome Center.

This center helps researchers (doctoral candidates, post-docs, instructors/researchers) with their administrative procedures for entering and settling in France, as well as matters relating to everyday life. Contact: 05 56 33 80 88 or accueil.chercheurs@ubordeaux.fr

Learn more: <https://www.u-bordeaux.fr/> > Recherche > Intégration des chercheurs internationaux

• At Université Bordeaux Montaigne, contact the Direction des Relations Internationales:

https://www.u-bordeaux-montaigne.fr > International

◆ Buddy System

We offer several buddy programmes:

- a "tandem" programme between international students and volunteer French students at Bordeaux Montaigne University:

<https://www.u-bordeaux-montaigne.fr/fr/international/international-welcome-desk/parrainage.html>

• a buddy system at the Université de Bordeaux, with its own dedicated website:

<https://parrainage.u-bordeaux.fr/>

• the ESN association's Buddy System:

<https://www.facebook.com/ErasmusBdx/>

◆ Welcome and orientation in other institutions

If you are registered 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 in France:**

<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.

• **Université de Bordeaux** provides information and advice for students looking for accommodation: <https://www.u-bordeaux.fr/> > Campus > Vie pratique > Logement

• **The CRIJ** (Centre Régional d'Information Jeunesse, or Regional Youth Information Center) of **Nouvelle Aquitaine** offers free classified ads on its website: <http://logements.pourlesjeunes.com>

• **The City of Bordeaux** provides practical information about accommodations for young people and students: <http://www.bordeaux.fr/> > Bordeaux et vous > Jeunes et étudiants

A FEW TIPS

◆ Short-term housing:

• **The Bordeaux Youth Hostel**, located near the train station and the historic city center.
Address: 22 cours Barbey, 33000 Bordeaux
Contact: 05 56 33 00 70
Site: <http://www.auberge-jeunesse-bordeaux.com/>

- **For other types of temporary residences, use the search engine on the Bordeaux Tourist Office**, which includes all types of accommodations at all price levels:
<https://www.bordeaux-tourisme.com/> > Préparer son séjour > Hébergements

◆ Long-term housing

• **Bordeaux Aquitaine CROUS student housing** (Centre Local des Œuvres Universitaires).
Address: CROUS, 18 rue du Hamel, 33000 Bordeaux
Hours: Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm
Contact: 05 56 33 92 17
CROUS web site: <http://www.crous-bordeaux.fr/>
The website *Trouver un logement*: <https://trouverunlogement.lescrous.fr/>

• Private Housing Platforms

Most of the institutions of higher learning in Bordeaux belong to Studapart, a private accommodations platform: www.studapart.com

Other offers for student lodging, managed by private organisms, are also available in Bordeaux.

Try these sites:

- <https://www.adele.org/>
- <https://www.immojeune.com/>
- <https://www.location-etudiant.fr/>
- <https://housinganywhere.com>

• 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 Leases**: consult *La Carte des Colocs*, a national site for shared leases that's free and simple to use: <https://www.lacartedescolocs.fr/>



GETTING AROUND BORDEAUX



The easiest way to get to Bordeaux from Paris is to take the train: 2hrs by TGV (high-speed train).

To get to the Université de Bordeaux campus, consult the practical information on the web site: https://www.u-bordeaux.fr > Campus > Vie pratique

To get to the other institutions, you will find information on your host institution's web site.



If you arrive at Bordeaux international airport, take the 30-minute shuttle to Saint-Jean train station: <https://30direct.com/>



In the city and its surrounding areas, you are eligible for the student fare on public transport (trams, bus, river transport) of the TBM network, which manages public transport in the Bordeaux metropolitan area:

<https://www.infotbm.com/fr>

There are regional trains for getting around the Nouvelle-Aquitaine region:
<https://www.ter.sncf.com/nouvelle-aquitaine>
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

- national website: <https://www.blablacar.fr>
- regional website:
<http://covoiturage.transgironde.fr/>



To be more independent, **you can rent a bike from V3**, the Bordeaux bike-share system:
<https://www.infotbm.com/> > Titres et Tarifs > Les abonnements > Pass V³

• Other solutions available on the Campus France site: www.campusfrance.org > Getting Organized > Accommodation

◆ **Visale provides a free service for students who need** a co-signer (guarantor) to secure housing: 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

◆ **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).

At Université de Bordeaux, there is a special service known as **PHASE**, which offers personalized support: <https://www.u-bordeaux.fr/>

> Université > Université éthique > Handicap > Accompagnement des étudiants

◆ Confirm Registration

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

You must validate 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 Étrangers 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>

• 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>

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>

The following tutorial can help you with this procedure: <https://www.campusfrance.org/en/tutorials-to-help-international-students-in-their-application-process>

• 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>

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 /

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



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 Bordeaux.**

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.**

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 in Bordeaux, where a Service de Santé étudiante (SSE), or Student Health Service, has been set up in order to cater to students' healthcare needs.

Address: 22 avenue Pey-Berland, 33600 Pessac.
Contact: 05 33 51 42 00 or ese@u-bordeaux.fr
Website: <https://www.sante-etudiants-bdx.fr/>

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

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.

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: <https://ecolesdete.campusfrance.org/#/main>
- 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:

• the **Centre Régional d'Information Jeunesse** (Regional Youth Information Center) of Nouvelle Aquitaine posts classified ads on its website: <http://jobs.pourlesjeunes.com/>

• 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 BORDEAUX /

TAKE UP A SPORT

• In your institution, you may also have free access to sports facilities. Contact your Sports Department. **Université de Bordeaux** actively supports sports activities and the personal development of its students: <https://www.u-bordeaux.fr/>
> Campus > Sport

• In **Bordeaux**, you can also find a sports activity among the sports disciplines offered by the city, at the site: <http://www.bordeaux.fr/> > Découvrir et sortir > 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.

Learn more:

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

At Université de Bordeaux, the Bureau de la Vie Étudiante (Student Life Centre) manages all student associations that operate on the campuses: <https://www.u-bordeaux.fr/> > Campus > Vie associative

The ESN Bordeaux association (International Exchange Students) organizes events to promote the integration of international students: <https://www.facebook.com/ErasmusBdx/>

CULTURE AND NIGHTLIFE

• Bordeaux offers many ways to cultivate yourself or party. Movie theaters, concerts, theaters, operas, museums, exhibitions, and festivals are on the program and most of the time, at reduced cost for students: <http://www.bordeaux.fr/> > Découvrir et sortir > Culture

• **At Université de Bordeaux**, the Culture department publishes an annual guide and notably organizes cultural festivals throughout the year on Bordeaux campuses: <https://www.u-bordeaux.fr/>
> Campus > Culture

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

- a dozen movie theaters in the Bordeaux metropolitan area, including multiplexes (student rates, rewards cards) and two arthouse movie theaters: the Utopia in Bordeaux and Cinéma Jean-Eustache in Pessac.

- 11 major museums, including two scientific museums: the Musée de Bordeaux (Natural History Museum) and the Université Bordeaux Montaigne's Musée d'Ethnographie (Museum of Ethnography). In Bordeaux, the city's museums are free on the 1st Sunday of each month (excluding July and August). The **Pass'Musées** also allows you to visit museums at reduced rates:

<http://www.bordeaux.fr/> > Découvrir et sortir > Culture > Musées > Pass Musées Bordeaux

- about 30 auditoriums (Bordeaux Metro area), including the Grand Théâtre, one of the world's most beautiful theatres, opened in 1780:

<https://www.opera-bordeaux.com/> > L'Opéra > Les salles > Le Grand Théâtre de Bordeaux

- 15 bookshops, including Librairie Mollat, which is the largest independent bookshop in France, founded in 1896!

- a network of 8 municipal libraries and a portal of 60 media centers:

<http://www.bordeaux.fr/> > Découvrir et sortir > Culture > Lecture et bibliothèques

In Bordeaux, for going out or staying abreast of events, read **the leading regional daily paper**, Sud Ouest, available in newsstands or on the Internet: <https://www.sudouest.fr/>

You can also check out the cultural **agenda** of the Tourist Office: <https://www.bordeaux-tourisme.com>
> A voir à faire > Agenda des événements



TOP ATTRACTIONS /

Bordeaux's historic city center has been registered in the UNESCO World Heritage List since 2007.

• Old Bordeaux, an architectural ensemble of 18th century buildings.

• Quartier Saint-Pierre, in the historic city center, with its old picturesque streets.

• Place de la Bourse, a beautiful, horseshoe-shaped square, and the "Miroir d'Eau" or reflecting pool next to it.

• Quartier and Quai des Chartrons, the old district for Bordeaux's wine merchants along the River Garonne.

• Cité du Vin, housed in a futuristic building, for an interactive, sensorial journey through the world of wine (drink with moderation!).

• Musée d'Art Contemporain of Bordeaux (CAPC), or Contemporary Art Museum, housed in renovated warehouses.

• Saint-André Cathedral, with its separate bell tower, Tour Pey-Berland.

• Musée d'Aquitaine, or Aquitaine Museum, one of the largest regional history museums in France.

• Jardin Public, or Botanical Gardens, a green space in the heart of the city.

For more information, consult the Tourist Office website: <https://www.bordeaux-tourisme.com>

> Discover Bordeaux > Must See



IMPORTANT ANNUAL EVENTS /

MARCH

• Carnaval des Deux-rives, a fun, festive occasion.

APRIL

• **Journées des Arts et de la Culture (JACES)**, Art and Culture Days to highlight cultural and artistic accomplishments in higher learning.

• **Moissons d'avril**, a festival of student creations, organized by Université de Bordeaux: <https://www.u-bordeaux.fr/> > Actualités > Moissons d'avril 2019

• Bordeaux Marathon: 20,000 runners in the city center and neighboring vineyards.

MAY

• **Pint of Science**, a European initiative for learning about research in atypical venues.

• The Nuit Européenne des Musées (European Museum Night), an occasion to visit museums differently (and for free).

JUNE

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

• Bordeaux fête le vin (Bordeaux Wine Festival) / Bordeaux fête le fleuve (Bordeaux River Festival): these two festivals are organized in even and odd years, respectively, with a number of popular events and activities.

JULY - AUGUST

• Quai des Sports, free sports activities on the quays.

SEPTEMBER

• **Les Campulsations**, a student festival in September, organized by CROUS of Bordeaux Aquitaine: <http://www.crous-bordeaux.fr/> > Culture > Les Campulsations

• Les Journées du Patrimoine (Heritage days), free visits of cultural venues.

OCTOBER

• **Students of the World Night**, guided tours to different spots in the city, consulting and information with student associations.

• **Fête de la Science** in the University laboratories.

- **Erasmus Days**, the Europe-wide festival for exchange students that you won't want to miss.

• **FAB**, the Bordeaux International Arts Festival (theater, dance, performance art, circus acts, music and visual arts).



& SHARE PARTICIPATE

To stay informed and attuned to others and the world, to share and dialogue with students **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

Bordeaux Metropolitan area:

810,000 residents

City of Bordeaux:

260,000 residents

No. 1 CITY IN THE REGION

9th LARGEST CITY IN FRANCE

BORDEAUX,

SEAT OF THE GIRONDE

DEPARTMENT,

and capital city of the

Nouvelle Aquitaine Region,

the largest French Region

with 12 departments

**NOUVELLE-
AQUITAINE
REGION,**

6th FRENCH
REGION

in terms of hosting
foreign students
(24,500 international
students)



Bordeaux:

104,000

students

including **11%**
international students



BORDEAUX RANKED **16th** (out of 46) **AMONG FRENCH UNIVERSITY TOWNS AS A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE AND STUDY** (awarded by L'Étudiant magazine)

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/nouvelle-aquitaine-554>

CAMPUS FRANCE

28 rue de la Grange aux Belles, 75010 PARIS - 01 40 40 58 58 - www.campusfrance.org