Campus France will guide you through your first steps in France and exploring Pointe-à-Pitre and Guadeloupe, your new home.

Welcome to Pointe-à-Pitre and Guadeloupe
YOUR ARRIVAL IN POINTE-À-PITRE /

- Student Welcome at Université des Antilles

At Université des Antilles, Pôle Guadeloupe, a small, friendly university, your main contact is the Bureau des Relations Internationales (BRI). The BRI is responsible for the administrative management and supervision of international students’ mobility. Pedagogical support is provided by professors appointed to managing students’ international mobility within their department. In September, a centralised welcome desk bringing together various organisations is provided on campus to welcome new students.

Address: Université des Antilles, Pôle Guadeloupe, Fouilloloe Campus, General Administration Building, 97110 Pointe-à-Pitre.
Hours: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, from 9 am to 1 pm.
Contact: animateurbri971@univ-antilles.fr or bri97@gmail.com

The Pôle Guadeloupe at Université des Antilles is also located in the town of St-Claude, on the Camp Jacob campus.

This site hosts the Département Pluridisciplinaire de Lettres et Sciences Humaines (DPLSH) and the IUT, as well as CROUS services (university restaurant, student halls).

Address: 166 rue des Officiers, 97120 Saint-Claude.
Contact: the Bureau des Relations Internationales is next to the Direction de l’Orientation, des Stages et Internationales:

http://bri.univ-antilles.fr/
https://www.facebook.com/driUAntilles/

- National Services

- students: www.etudiant.gouv.fr
- doctoral students, researchers: http://www.euraxess.fr/fr

Consult your institution’s web site for all practical information.

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 fulfill 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.

- The Agence Départementale d’Information Logement (Departmental Accommodation Information Agency, ADIL) in Guadeloupe provides advice on accommodation for young people: https://www.adil971.org
- The CLLAJ (Comité Local pour le Logement Autonome des Jeunes), the local committee for independent accommodation for young people in Guadeloupe, whose role is to help young people find accommodation, publishes classified ads on its website: http://www.asso-accors.org/
- The St-Claude town council also offers student accommodation: https://www.ville-saintclaude.fr/

- Service des Relations internationales (bureau d’accueil et d’orientation - welcome and orientation).
- the Service de la Scolarité (bureau des inscriptions et des démarches administratives enrollment and administrative procedures).

Consult your institution’s web site for all practical information.

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A FEW TIPS

- Short-term housing

- For all types of short-term accommodation, please use the search engine on the website set up by the Comité du tourisme des îles de Guadeloupe (Tourism Board):

- Long-term housing

- The Antilles et Guyane CROUS (Centre Régional des Étudiants Universitaires et Scolaires) offers student housing.
Address: Fouilloloe campus or Bergevin site, 97110 Pointe-à-Pitre.
Hours: Monday to Friday, 8am to 12pm.
Contact: 05 90 89 46 60.
Site: http://www.crous-antillesguyane.fr/
https://trouverunlogement.lescrous.fr/
- Private Housing Platforms

Other offers for student lodging, managed by private organisms, are also available in Guadeloupe.
Try these sites:
- https://www.cap-logement-etudiant.com
- https://www.immojeune.com
- https://housinganywhere.com

Don’t forget to check websites that republish ads from local real estate agents, for example: https://www.97immoc.com
- There is also a site managed by the CROUS, Lokaziv, which includes a listing of student accommodations in private homes: https://www.lokaziv.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 information is available on the Campus France website: https://www.campusfrance.org > Getting Organized > Accommodation.
- If you need a guarantor to secure your lodging

Visale is a new and free guarantor system: www.visale.fr
- If you want to file an application for APL funds (Aide Personnalise 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).

When travelling to Guadeloupe, depending on where you’re travelling from (Americas, Europe, Caribbean), you are likely to fly in directly to Guadeloupe-Pôle Caraibes international airport (Pointe-à-Pitre): http://www.guadeloupe.aeroport.fr/

Two different bus lines take you to Pointe-à-Pitre.
Reach the Jacob campus in St-Claude by bus in around one hour (around 40 miles from the main campus).
The KARULIS network of buses runs between a number of different towns (32 lines) on the island: https://www.karulis.com/The KARU’Campus card allows students to travel at a reduced rate.
For longer distances, you’ll need to go by one of the Seine shuttle buses (Pointe-à-Pitre to catch a bus (private companies). There are also shared taxis and ferry services to the other islands in the archipelago.
Further travel information can be found on the Tourism Board website: http://www.lesilesdeguadeloupe.com > Infos pratiques > Se nos liens > Se déplacer.
For ride-sharing see the collaborative site: https://www.blablacar.fr/
ENROLLMENT IN YOUR INSTITUTION

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

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/8/
- 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/8/

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 Pointe-à-Pitre.

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.

LEARNING FRENCH

Learning French is an opportunity that’s not to be missed!

FINDING A JOB OR WORK EXPERIENCE PLACEMENT

- Université des Antilles has set up a careers and employment platform PARI. It can be used to find temporary work or placements: http://pari.univ-ag.fr/
- The Jobaviz website, run by the CROUS, can help you find a student job that’s compatible with your studies: https://www.jobaviz.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. 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 and French overseas territories, in addition to the French numbers above.
**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 or www.letudiant.fr

At Université des Antilles in Guadeloupe, student clubs and associations ensure that campus life is never dull! http://www.univ-ag.fr > Vie des campus > Vie associative.

**CULTURE AND NIGHTLIFE**

Movie theaters, concerts, theatres, exhibitions, and festivals are on the program and most of the time, at reduced cost for students.

Check the Guadeloupe Region website for further information: https://www.regionguadeloupe.fr > Agenda.

The Service Culturel at the Université des Antilles in Guadeloupe contributes to artistic education and promoting culture among the student population: http://www.univ-antilles.fr > Vie des campus > Culture.

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

- 6 multiplex theaters in Guadeloupe (student rates, rewards card) and an art house theater, the Ciné-théâtre in Lamentin: http://villelamentin971.fr > Culture > Ciné-théâtre.
- around ten museums including a science museum, the Edgar-Clerc archaeological museum (free entry). Contact: 05 90 23 57 57.
- around 15 theater and concert venues, including the Centre des Arts de la Culture in Pointe-à-Pitre, a major concert hall and venue (currently being renovated).
- around 15 bookshops in Guadeloupe, including Librairie Générale Jasor and Librairie Antillaise.
- a network of libraries and multimedia libraries throughout the island and a digital multimedia library: https://guadeloupe.mediatheques.fr/, as well as the University Libraries run by Université des Antilles: http://bumartinique.univ-antilles.fr/

In Guadeloupe, for going out or staying abreast of events see:

- France-Antilles Guadeloupe, the island’s daily regional newspaper, available from newsagents or online: https://www.guadeloupe.franceantilles.fr/
- watch the Guadeloupe 1st TV channel and listen to Radio Caraïbe Internationale (RCI);
- You can also check out the Tourism Bureau agenda: http://www.leslesdegualoupe.com > Infos pratiques > Sur nos îles > Agenda.

**TOP ATTRACTIONS /**

In Guadeloupe, the towns of Basse-Terre and Pointe-à-Pitre have been recognized as “Towns of Art and History”, in 1995 and 2003.

- Pointe-à-Pitre old town, between Boulevard Chanzy and the sea.
- Mémorial ACTe, Caribbean center dedicated to the memory and history of slavery and the slave trade, from the earliest traces until the present day.
- St-John Perse Museum in Pointe-à-Pitre explores the life of St-John Perse, a diplomat, poet and Nobel prize-winner who was born in Guadeloupe. The museum is housed in a 19th century creole interior.
- Fort Delgrès in Basse-Terre, a key site in the fight against slavery.
- Grande-Anse Beach, Guadeloupe’s most iconic beach (white sand, turquoise sea and palm trees!).
- Carbet Waterfalls, which were described by Christopher Columbus back in the day!
- Maison du Café, at La Grivièrre plantation, an 18th century coffee estate.
- Maison de la Banane in Trois-Rivières, housed in a former planter’s house, with comprehensive information about bananas.
- Beausport, Pays de la Canne in Port Louis to learn the history of cane sugar.
- Rum Distilleries (Bologne, Damoiseau, for example), to be enjoyed in moderation.
- La Soufrière, an active volcano at the southern end of the island, should not be missed, keen walkers will enjoy climbing the volcano on foot.
- The Coursteau Reserve in the Parc National de Guadeloupe, an ideal diving spot.
- Marie-Galante island, to the East of Guadeloupe, lovely beaches and peaceful villages.
- Les Saintes, a small archipelago of 9 islands, with Fort Napoléon and the Botanic Gardens on Terre-de-Haut.

To find out (and see) check out the Tourism Board website for the Islands of Guadeloupe: http://www.leslesdegualoupe.com/

**IMPORTANT ANNUAL EVENTS /**

**JANUARY OR FEBRUARY (depending on the year)**

- Guadeloupe Carnival, very popular, this major traditional celebration lasts two months in Pointe-à-Pitre and other towns on the island.

**FEBRUARY**

- Prix de Court Festival, a festival of short films from Guadeloupe, Martinique and Guyane to promote and share local culture.

**MARCH**

- Terra Festival, a festival of documentary films on the environment and sustainable development, with conferences and debates.

**APRIL**

- Musiciennes en Guadeloupe Festival, very popular festival of classical and Caribbean music.
- Guadarun Raid Aventure, an island marathone covering around 100 miles on 6 different islands in the Guadeloupe archipelago.
- Mémorial ACTe, Caribbean center dedicated to the memory and history of slavery and the slave trade, from the earliest traces until the present day.
- Fête Victor-Schœlcher in Guadeloupe, July 21, paying tribute to Victor Schoelcher, under-secretary of state for Guadeloupe and his key role in the abolition of slavery.
- Fête de la St-Barthélemy (August 24), celebrated in all the islands of Guadeloupe with water-based activities, traditional celebrations and gastronomy.

**SEPTEMBER**

- Journée d’Accueil des Nouveaux Etudiants (JANE), organised by the university at the beginning of the month.
- Les Journées du Patrimoine (heritage days), free visits of cultural venues.

**OCTOBER**

- Volcano Trail, a major international trail run around La Soufrière.

**NOVEMBER**

- Science Festival, in science villages set up on the University campus.

**DECEMBER**

- Christmas celebrations in Guadeloupe, with the "Chanté Nwel", evenings of traditional Caribbean Christmas songs in churches and village squares, and more.

**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

GUADÉLOUPE, ARCHIPELAGO IN THE LESSER ANTILLES IN THE CARIBBEAN SEA, one of France’s overseas departments (DROM) and one of the outermost regions (OR) of the European Union.

UNIVERSITÉ DES ANTILLES is a multidisciplinary university with two distinct hubs or “pôles” in Guadeloupe and in Martinique.

GUADÉLOUPE
384,000 residents
9,000 students

POINTE-À-PITRE
16,000 residents
THE ISLAND’S MOST POPULATED CITY, SOUS-PRÉFECTURE FOR GUADÉLOUPE

Pôle Guadeloupe - Université des Antilles:
8,300 students including 5% international students

UNIVERSITÉ DES ANTILLES (MARTINIQUE & GUADÉLOUPE): 14,000 students, 25 research structures, 2 doctoral schools, 300 doctoral students, including 10% foreign students

POINTE-À-PITRE ranked among French cities where it’s good to live and study (awarded by L’Etudiant 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.