



# GUIDE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



Sep 2020



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# **1 MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGING DIRECTOR**

## **Welcome to ISEP!**

ISEP is a French Engineering Graduate School in Digital Technology known as a “Grande Ecole d'Ingénieurs” in France.

ISEP trains very high-level graduate engineers, who receive a thorough training in Electronics, Telecommunications & Networks, Software Engineering, Signal-Image Processing and Artificial Intelligence, providing them with the required knowledge and know-how to meet the needs of industry. ISEP has been offering, since 2008, the ISEP Engineering Master’s Degree Program which allows international students to obtain the Engineering Master’s degree.

Thanks to a strong partnership with the industry, this program includes an internship. Three MS specializations (Embedded Systems, Software Engineering, Wireless Telecommunications & IoT Systems) are taught entirely in English.

**Dieudonné ABBOUD**  
**ISEP General Managing Director**

## **2 About ISEP**

### **2.1 FAST FACTS**

- ISEP is an engineering graduate school, founded in 1955.
- ISEP is a member of the “Conference des Grandes Ecoles”, an association of the best and most prestigious higher educational institutions in France.
- ISEP has a strong partnership with industry: over 500 companies assist ISEP through programs, financial support, equipment, projects and internships.
- ISEP has two campuses: the first one is located in the very heart of Paris, in the immediate vicinity of all the best cultural amenities and the business community. The second one is located at the border of Paris at Issy-Les-Moulineaux, in the IT city.
- ISEP graduates are in high demand for positions in the top corporate institutions.

### **2.2 ISEP CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP**

Corporate partnership contributes largely to the school's life: ISEP faculty and researchers devote their energies to R/D projects and contracts established with industrial groups, computer service companies, university laboratories and government administrations.

ISEP graduate engineers enjoy an excellent reputation for their competences and motivations and are particularly appreciated by industrial firms for their abilities to become quickly operational and efficient. Large corporations such as:

- ACCENTURE
- AIR LIQUIDE
- ALCATEL-LUCENT
- ALSTOM
- AMADEUS FRANCE
- ATOS ORIGIN
- BOUYGUES TELECOM
- BULL
- CAP GEMINI
- DASSAULT SYSTEMS
- EADS
- ERICSSON
- IBM
- GALDERMA INTERNATIONAL
- LOGICA
- MDBA
- MICROSOFT
- ORANGE
- PSA
- RENAULT
- SFR
- SIEMENS

- ST MICROELECTRONICS
- THALES
- etc.

are members of the ISEP Board of Directors and Technical Advisors Committee.

## 2.3 PROGRAMS

ISEP offers programs leading to the ISEP Engineering Master's degree as well as programs for non-graduating students and exchange students.

### 2.3.1 ISEP ENGINEERING MASTER DEGREE PROGRAM

The ISEP Engineering Master's Degree (Diplôme d'Ingénieur) is a 5-year program after "Baccalauréat" (French high school degree) including a **2-year preparatory curriculum** mainly in mathematics and physics before a 3-year engineering cycle.

*Note: In order to avoid any confusion, the three years of the engineering program are called 3rd, 4th and 5th years (after "Baccalauréat") in this document.*

The objective of the **3<sup>rd</sup> year** of engineering studies is to provide basic technical and technological knowledge, preparing for a furthermore specialized engineering education. The syllabus includes Fundamental Sciences, Electronics, Software Engineering, Telecommunications, Signal-Image Processing and Managerial General Education.

The **4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> years** focus on in-depth learning with the objective of providing the future engineer with more methodology and skills than a specialization in a specific sector. During these two last years, ISEP students have the choice between more than 8 learning tracks in the fields of Software Engineering, Electronics, Signal-Image Processing and Telecommunications.

**Language of tuition:** French or English according to the selected learning track.

**Admission:**

- French students

Admission to ISEP is open to candidates who have completed a 2-year preparatory curriculum and is based on a competitive examination and a strict selection requiring a sound background in Mathematics and Physics.

- International students

Admission to the 3rd year (first year of engineering cycle) is open to candidates who have completed a 3-year university program in Science or Mathematics.

Admission to the 4th year is open to holders of a Bachelor of Science/ Engineering degree or equivalent.

More information at <https://en.isep.fr/studying-at-isep/isep-engineering-master-degree/>

### 2.3.2 NON-GRADUATING STUDENTS AND EXCHANGE STUDENTS PROGRAMS

ISEP offers programs tailored for non-graduating students and exchange students.

- Non-graduating students

International students who wish to take a semester or a one-year course may choose a set of modules in one learning track corresponding to their academic level; modules are picked out from the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> year syllabus.

- Exchange students

Exchange students coming on the international programs such as:

- Erasmus+
- MICEFA
- BCI-PEE
- LAE3 (Latin American-European Exchange in Engineering)
- ASE3 (Asian-European Exchange in Engineering)
- bilateral agreements,

may attend a set of modules as described above for non-graduating students or undertake a project in our laboratory, including learning French language.

**Language of tuition:** French or English

**Admission:** based on curriculum prerequisites and the candidate's academic background.





- NDL Campus



## 2.5 STUDENT FACILITIES AT ISEP

### 2.5.1 Computer facilities

Computer & Internet access: open until 10:00 p.m. (open on Saturdays)

Computer rooms with permanent video-projectors, printers.

Renewal of computers every 4 years

### 2.5.2 Email access

Every student gets an ISEP email address: [firstname.lastname@eleve.isep.fr](mailto:firstname.lastname@eleve.isep.fr) which can automatically be redirected to their personal email address (gmail, hotmail, etc.).

### 2.5.3 Extranet access

Every student is provided with a login and a password in order to access the extranet at [educ.isep.fr](http://educ.isep.fr)

You will find in the extranet all the information you may need concerning your courses, marks, exam dates etc. as well as job and internship offers from the companies.

### 2.5.4 Online access to your marks

Each student can have accessed to their marks by using their login and password on: [weberp.isep.fr](http://weberp.isep.fr)

### 2.5.5 WiFi

Free WIFI access inside the ISEP Campuses with your login and password.

### 2.5.6 Students' Associations

ISEPA is the main student association for international students ([www.isepa.fr](http://www.isepa.fr)). There are also many other dynamic clubs at ISEP: business, cultural, social, scientific activities, etc.

### 2.5.7 Sports

Contact the student association ISEPA

## 2.6 INTERNATIONAL STUDENT IDENTITY CARD

All students paying their tuition fees at ISEP (or staying at least 4 months) will receive an "ISIC Card". It offers many advantages: discounts on plane, train, car rental, hotels, restaurants, leisure activities, etc.

More information at <https://isic.fr/>

## 3 LIFE IN PARIS

### 3.1 ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

#### 3.1.1 Visa

Apply for a long-stay student visa at the French Embassy or Consulate with the following documents (please check exact list within your country):

- valid passport
- proof of pre-registration at ISEP
- proof of enough financial resources (650 € minimum per month)
- temporary health insurance

*Note:*

Students from the European Union, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland do not need a visa.

Starting June 1, 2009, the exchange students are now getting a visa worth a residence permit allowing unlimited entries to France during the period of validity (validity ranging from 4 to 12 months). This visa combined residence permit is called VLS-TS (« Visa Long Séjour Valant Titre de Séjour »).

#### 3.1.2 CVEC (Student and Campus Life Contribution) Payment

**CVEC is for "Contribution Vie Etudiante et de Campus" (Student and Campus Life Contribution)**

**Reference 1:** Campus France. (2018). *10 things you need to know about the CVEC | Campus France*. [online] Available at: <https://www.campusfrance.org/en/10-things-you-need-to-know-about-the-new-student-and-campus-life-contribution-cvec> [Accessed 23 Jul. 2018].

Students admitted to a French institution of higher education from the 2018 academic year onwards are subject to a new tax known as the CVEC, which helps to finance on-campus programs that enhance the student experience. The amount of the CVEC for the **2020/21 academic year is €92**. It will be reevaluated each year. All the students must register at the site [messervices.etudiant.gouv.fr](https://messervices.etudiant.gouv.fr) first, then connect to the dedicated CVEC site [cvec.etudiant.gouv.fr](https://cvec.etudiant.gouv.fr) for the payment.

There are two types of payment methods. The student can pay the CVEC annual fee online at [cvec.etudiant.gouv.fr](https://cvec.etudiant.gouv.fr), or the student can pay it in cash at a post office. For more payment details, please refer to the reference website above. (**Reference 1**)

**Attention: Please make sure to keep the payment proof. You will have to provide it during your registration at ISEP.**

Some students are not obliged to pay the CVEC contribution. They include

- Students receiving **need-based scholarships managed by CROUS** (recipients of scholarship grants from the ministries of higher education, culture, or agriculture), and students financed by one of France's regions to study in paramedical, health, and social programs
- Students who are **refugees**, student aliens who have been granted "**subsidiary protection**" (*protection subsidiaire*), and students **seeking asylum**.
- International exchange students (i.e. Erasmus+, bilateral agreements, )

Specifically **not exempt from the CVEC** are students in the following categories:

- Students receiving French government scholarships
- Students receiving foreign government scholarships
- Students receiving grants from private entities (such as a foundation).

For international students, if you have any difficulties for this CVEC payment, please check with the ISEP international office immediately.

### **3.1.3 Residence permit**

ISEP will provide all necessary academic documents requested for O.F.I.I form or for renewing your residence permit. You have to check the list of the documents requested for the renewal of the residence permit at the Police headquarters ("Préfecture de Police") where those residents' permits are issued.

## **3.2 HEALTHCARE INSURANCE<sup>1</sup>**

From 2018 onwards, the French government has changed the national healthcare insurance scheme for all the students.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.campusfrance.org/en/organise-arrival-France>

- **Non-European students**

You should do the online registration at <http://etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr/>. In this way, you are affiliated to the National Healthcare insurance. The registration fee is free. You must complete this online registration right after your institution registration and your residence permit validation.

This is a mandatory administrative procedure in France. You will be issued a "carte vitale" (French healthcare insurance card) for your medical reimbursements. You can also purchase a complementary healthcare insurance ("la mutuelle") for a better reimbursement rate of your medical expense.

- **European students (EU students and students from Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway or Switzerland)**

If you have a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), you do not need to register to the French healthcare insurance. You can use your own EHIC card in France.

#### **Medical centers near ISEP Campuses:**

Near ISEP NDC Campus:

**Institut Arthur Vernes**

36 rue d'Assas – 75006 Paris

Tel: 01 44 39 53 00

(Open: Mon. - Thurs.: 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. / Fridays: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. / Saturdays: 8:30 a.m. to noon)

Near ISEP NDJ Campus:

**Hôpital Suisse de Paris**

10 Rue Minard, 92130 Issy-les-Moulineaux

Tel : 01 41 33 11 00

Open : All days from 8 :00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

### **3.3 HOUSING**

Finding accommodation in Paris is as difficult for foreigners as it is for Parisians; patience, tenacity and energy are required!

The accommodation we recommend is not necessarily in the vicinity of ISEP.

#### **3.3.1 ISEP housing office**

ISEP will do its best to assist you in your search:

**Contact: [logement@isep.fr](mailto:logement@isep.fr)**

**Tel : 01 49 54 52 09 / 06 49 48 16 50**

We send you an “accommodation’s charter” to read and to return signed with a deposit.

***It is highly recommended to come to Paris one week before the beginning of the academic programs***

### **3.3.2 Others housing office**

Some addresses to help you to find accommodation:

- American church in Paris, 65, quai d’Orsay, 75007 Paris, Tel + 33 (0)1 40 62 05 00, Metro: Invalides (line 8)
- FUSAC, 26 rue Bénard, 75014 Paris, Tel + 33 (0)1 56 53 54 54, Metro: Pernety (line 13)
- Website: [www.seloger.fr](http://www.seloger.fr), [www.pap.fr](http://www.pap.fr), <http://www.adele.org>, etc.

### **3.3.3 Short-term lodging in Paris (To be booked before your arrival)**

Some associations and accommodation centers provide short-term lodging while you look for something else:

- B.V.J : 20 rue Jean-Jacques Rousseau - 75001 Paris

Tel : 33 (0)1 53 00 90 80

Metro : Louvre-Rivoli (line 1)

<http://www.bvjhotel.com>

Or 44, rue des Bernardins - 75005 Paris

Tel : 33 (0)1 43 29 34 80

Metro : Maubert Mutualité (line 10)

- F.I.A.P : 30 rue Cabanis - 75014 Paris

Tel : 33 (0)1 43 13 17 00

Metro : Glacière (line 6)

<http://www.fiap.asso.fr>

- « Foyers des clubs de l’Unesco », 43 rue de la Glacière - 75013 Paris

Tel : 33 (0)1 43 36 00 63

<https://www.ffpunesco.org/>

- MIJE : 6, rue de Fourcy – 75004 Paris

[www.mije.com](http://www.mije.com)

Metro: St Paul (line 1)

<http://www.mije.com/>

## **3.4 EVERYDAY LIFE AND LEISURE**

### **3.4.1 Living expenses**

You must plan on spending at least 800€ per month.

Expenses may vary greatly depending on students' lifestyle and willingness to seek out good deals and inexpensive shops.

*Approximate monthly budget:*

Accommodation: 500€ to 1000€

Food: 150€ to 250€

Transportation: 75.20€

Optional additional health insurance: starting from 25€

Other (phone, laundry, stationery, leisure etc...): 90€

### **3.4.2 Food**

In the basement of NDC Campus or at the ground floor of NDL Campus, automatic food dispensers are available.

There are many typical restaurants in the area, such as pizzerias, creperies, Chinese and Greek restaurants, bistros, etc.

(Menus start from around 10 €)

There are many "restaurants universitaires" in Paris where you can get a hot meal at bargain prices.

You'll need to purchase tickets, available at a counter in the lobby of each of these establishments. You must present your student card.

### **3.4.3 Cash, credit card or check?**

In France, all these means of payment are commonly used. Cash is normally used for expenses under 10€. Payments in cash can be made in euros only. Most shops accept checks and credit card for payments over 15€.

Students who are staying in France for more than six months are therefore advised to open a non-resident bank account.

The bank account and the check book are usually free of charge, but the credit card is chargeable.

ATM (cash dispenser) points are available everywhere in Paris. Withdrawals from one of your bank branches are free up to a certain amount (please see your contract terms).

On your first withdrawal, make sure your card is accepted by the cash point (so that it does not get swallowed by the machine).

### **3.4.4 Open a bank account**

For the international students who will stay in France for more than three months, you may need to open a French local bank account. Here are few banks near ISEP Campuses:

- **CREDIT MUTUEL**, 46, rue Saint Placide, 75006 Paris
- **CREDIT DU NORD**, 127, rue de Rennes, 75006 Paris
- **BNP PARIBAS**, 109, rue de Rennes, 75006 Paris
- **LCL**, 15 Boulevard Voltaire, 92130 Issy-les-Moulineaux
- **Crédit Agricole**, 16 Boulevard Voltaire, 92130 Issy-les-Moulineaux
- **Caisse d'épargne**, 42 Rue Ernest Renan, 92130 Issy-les-Moulineaux

To open a French local bank account, you are required to present following documents:

- **Valid passport**
- **Proof of local address:** monthly local telephone or electricity bill with your name on it, or your monthly rental fee receipt with your name, or “certificat d'hébergement” (An official document stating that you are staying at someone’s apartment/house), etc.

It will take approximately 10 days for opening the bank account.

Do not hesitate to compare bank offers on their website. **Some banks have special offers for students.**

Once your bank account is active, you will receive a **credit card**, a **cheque book** and a **banking information statement ("RIB")**. The **RIB number** is very useful in your daily life (e.g. medical reimbursement, phone bill payment, etc.).

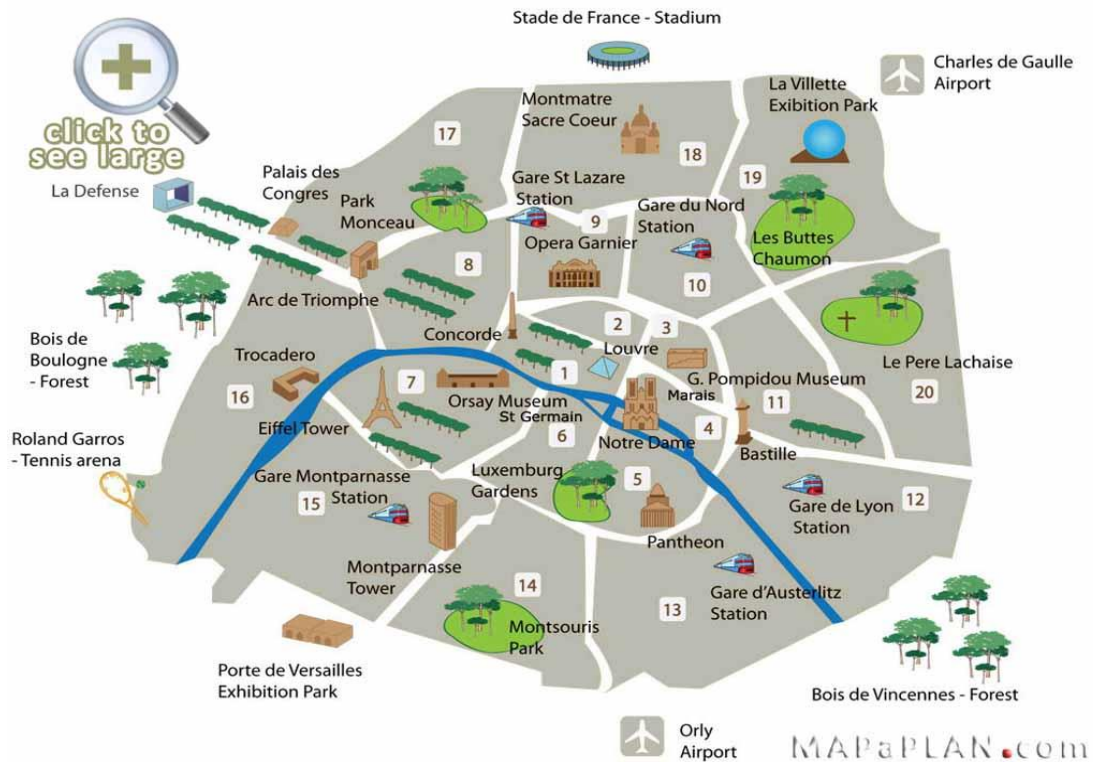
### 3.4.5 Important Note about passport and credit card

Please remember to keep a copy of your passport and a copy your credit card in a safe place for urgent needs.

### 3.4.6 University “restaurants”

RESTAURANTS	ADRESSES	METRO	HORAIRES D'OUVERTURE du lundi au vendredi		CAFETERIAS AU SEIN DU RESTAURANT
			MIDI	SOIR	
BICHAT	16, rue Henri Huchard - 18 <sup>ème</sup>	Porte de St Ouen	11h30 à 14h15		8h00 à 14h30
BOULOGNE	71, avenue E. Vaillant - 92100 Boulogne	Marcel-Sembat	11h30 à 14h00		9h00 à 16h00
BULLIER	39, avenue G. Bernanos - 5 <sup>ème</sup>	Port Royal	11h30 à 14h00	18h15 à 20h00	
CENSIER	31, rue G. Saint Hilaire - 5 <sup>ème</sup>	Censier Daubenton	11h30 à 14h00		
CHATELET	10, rue Jean Calvin - 5 <sup>ème</sup>	Censier Daubenton	Fermé pour travaux		11h30 à 14h00
CUVIER	8 bis, rue Cuvier - 5 <sup>ème</sup>	Jussieu	11h30 à 14h00		8h30 à 16h00
DAUPHINE	2, boulevard Lannes - 16 <sup>ème</sup>	Porte Dauphine	11h20 à 14h15		8h00 à 17h45
HALLE AUX FARINES	Université Paris 7 - Denis Diderot - 13 <sup>ème</sup>	Bibliothèque François Mitterrand	11h30 à 14h00		
IUT DESCARTES	143, avenue de Versailles - 16 <sup>ème</sup>	Boulevard Victor ou Exelmans	11h15 à 14h00		8h00 à 16h45
LA BARGE	2, quai port de la gare - 13 <sup>ème</sup>	Quai de la Gare-Bibliothèque F. Mitterrand	12h00 à 14h00		12h00-20h00
MABILLON	3, rue Mabillon - 6 <sup>ème</sup>	Mabillon	11h30 à 14h00	18h00 à 20h00	11h30-22h00
MAZET	5-5 bis, rue Mazet - 6 <sup>ème</sup>	Odéon	11h30 à 14h00		
RABELAIS	2, avenue Porte de Clignancourt - 18 <sup>ème</sup>	Clignancourt	11h15 à 14h00		11h15 à 14h00
SAINTS PERES	45, rue des Saints PÈres - 6 <sup>ème</sup>	Saint Germain des Près	11h30 à 14h00		
TOLBIAC	17, rue de Tolbiac - 13 <sup>ème</sup>	Bibliothèque François Mitterrand	11h30 à 14h00		





### 3.5 TRANSPORTATION

#### 3.5.1 The “Navigo”

The monthly bus and metro pass “navigo” is worth buying. You can take the bus and metro as many times as you like during the valid month. If you live in the Paris city limits. Please, do not forget to add your picture to the card and to write the card number on the coupon.

*The rates (starting from September 1<sup>st</sup> 2020):*

Zones 1-5 (Paris and its immediate vicinity): 75.20 €/month

#### 3.5.2 Imagine R Card

If you are under 26 and will stay in Paris for a year, the Imagine R card is worth buying. For one year, it will cost you 350€. You will be able to travel all around Île-de-France region.

#### 3.5.3 Metro and bus information

RATP: <https://www.ratp.fr/>

Tel: 3246 - Monday to Friday 07:00-21:00. Weekends 09:00-17:00. Recorded message (in French) outside these times.

RER: <https://www.transilien.com/>

#### 3.5.4 Taxis

Taxis bleus: 01 49 36 10 10 or 01 41 52 54 25

Taxis G7: 01 41 27 66 99 (English) or 36 07

Alpha Taxis: 01 45 85 85 85

Taxis can also be hailed on the street.

### 3.5.5 Train information

SNCF – [www.oui.sncf.com](http://www.oui.sncf.com)

## 3.6 POST OFFICES

- Near to NDC Campus  
\*22 rue Littré - 75006 Paris  
\*53 rue de Rennes - 75006 Paris
- Near to NDL Campus  
\*4 Passage Nicolas Stenon, 92130 Issy-les-Moulineaux

## 3.7 TELEPHONE

To call anywhere in France, you must dial 10 digits. In the greater Paris area, all numbers begin with the prefix “01”, mobile phones with “06” or “07”.

For the rest of France, consult the chart in the telephone book.

## 3.8 LIBRARIES

You will find below a list of the main libraries in Paris:

### **Gibert Joseph**

26 Boulevard Saint-Michel, 75006 Paris

Tel : 01 44 41 88 88

Métro : Saint-Michel

Website: <http://www.gibertjoseph.com>

### **Gibert Jeune**

5 Place Saint-Michel, 75006 Paris

Tel : 01 56 81 22 22

Métro : Saint-Michel

Website: <http://www.gibertjeune.fr>

### **Fnac Paris Montparnasse**

136 Rue de Rennes, 75006 Paris

Website: <http://www.fnac.com/>

### **André Malraux**

112, rue de Rennes, 75006 Paris

Tel: 01 45 44 53 85

Metro: Rennes, Saint Placide

### **Centre Pompidou**

Entrance: rue du Renard, 75004 Paris

Tel: 01 44 78 12 33  
Metro: line B: Châtelet les Halles  
Website: [www.bpi.fr](http://www.bpi.fr)

#### **American Library in Paris**

10, rue du Général Camou, 75007 Paris  
Tel: 01 53 59 12 60  
Metro: Ecole Militaire, Alma Marceau  
RER: Pont d'Alma  
Website: [www.americanlibraryinparis.org](http://www.americanlibraryinparis.org)

#### **Bibliothèque Nationale de France (B.N.F.)**

11, quai François Mauriac, 75013 Paris  
Tel: 01 53 79 59 59  
Metro: Quai de la Gare  
Website: [www.arts-programme.com](http://www.arts-programme.com)

#### **Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris - Librairie**

17, boulevard Jourdan, 75014 Paris  
Tel: 01 44 16 65 20  
RER – Tramway : Cité Universitaire  
Website: <http://www.ciup.fr/>

### **3.9 USEFUL WEBSITES TO GET TO KNOW PARIS AND FRANCE**

[en.parisinfo.com](http://en.parisinfo.com)  
<http://www.paris.fr/>  
[www.france.com](http://www.france.com)

### **3.10 EMERGENCY & USEFUL NUMBERS**

Police: dial 17  
Pompiers (fire): dial 18  
Samu (emergency squad): dial 15 or 01 45 67 50 50

SOS médecins : 01 47 07 77 77 or 01 43 37 77 77  
SOS dentaire : 01 43 37 51 00

Pharmacie 24H/24H Paris : 01 45 62 02 41 - Pharmacy open 24 hrs a day:  
84, Champs Elysées – 75008 Paris  
Metro Georges V

Bank card stolen: 0892 705 705  
Cheque book stolen: 0892 683 208

### 3.11 EMBASSIES

#### Argentina

6, rue Cimarosa, 75016 Paris  
Tel : 01 44 05 27 00

#### Brazil

34, cours Albert 1<sup>er</sup>, 75008 Paris  
Tel : 01 45 61 63 00

#### Chili

2, avenue La Motte Picquet , 75007 Paris  
Tel : 01 44 18 59 60

#### South Korea

125 Rue de Grenelle, 75007 Paris  
Tel : 01 47 53 01 01

#### China

11 avenue George V, 75008 Paris  
Tel: 01 49521950

#### Czech Republic

15, rue Charles Floquet, 75007 Paris  
Tel : 01 40 65 13 00

#### United Arab Emirates

2, bd de la Tour Maubourg, 75007 Paris  
Tel : 01 44 34 02 00

#### Germany

13, avenue F. Roosevelt, 75008 Paris  
Tel: 01 53 83 45 00

#### Great Britain

35, rue du Fg St Honoré, 75008 Paris  
Tel : 01 44 51 31 01

#### India

15, rue Alfred Dehodencq, 75016 Paris  
Tel : 01.40.50.70.70

#### Italy

51, rue de Varenne, 75007 Paris  
Tel: 01 49 54 03 00

#### Morocco

5, rue Le Tasse, 75016 Paris  
Tel: 01 45 20 69 35

#### Mexico

9, rue de Longchamp, 75116 Paris  
Tel: 01 53 70 27 70

#### Nigeria

173, avenue Victor Hugo, 75116 Paris  
Tel: 01 47 04 68 65

#### Pakistan

18, rue Lord Byron, 75008 Paris  
Tel: 01 49 62 23 32

#### Republic of Slovakia

125, rue Ranelagh, 75016 Paris  
Tel : 01 71 93 73 33

#### Russia

40-50, bd Lannes, 75016 Paris  
Tel : 01 45 04 05 50

#### Singapore

16, rue Murillo, 75008 Paris  
Tel : 01 56 79 68 00

#### Spain

22, avenue Marceau, 75008 Paris  
Tel : 01 44 43 18 00

#### Sweden

17, rue Barbet de Jouy, 75007 Paris  
Tel : 01 44 18 88 00

#### Bureau de Représentation de Taipei en France

78, rue de l'Université 75007 Paris  
Tel : 01 44 39 88 30

#### United States

2, avenue Gabriel, 75008 Paris  
Tel : 01 43 12 22

#### Venezuela

11, rue Copernic, 75116 Paris  
Tel : 01 45 53 29 98

#### Vietnam

62, rue Boileau, 75016 Paris  
Tel : 01 44 14 64 00

More embassies can be found at:

<http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/le-ministere-et-son-reseau/annuaires-et-adresses-du-maedi/ambassades-et-consulats-etrangers/>

### 3.12 OCCASIONS TO HAVE FUN

Here is a list of events and festivals not to be missed:

- “Printemps des Musées”: Free entrance in all the national museums in France every year on the first Sunday in May.
- 21<sup>st</sup> of June: “fête de la musique”: Free concerts are organised everywhere in France. Musicians play all sorts of music on the street.
- “Musique et Patrimoine”: One Sunday per month at 4pm
- Bastille Day: 14<sup>th</sup> of July: parades during the day; fireworks in the evening. Balls are organised everywhere, traditionally hosted by the local fire brigade.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of September: “Journées du Patrimoine”: famous monuments can be visited for free all weekend, including those are normally closed to the public. Programme of events available from September 10<sup>th</sup> on [www.culture.fr](http://www.culture.fr)
- July/August: open air cinema festival, Parc de la Villette.
- Autumn festival in Paris (contemporary art: opera, theatre, dance, music, plastic arts, cinema)

### 3.13 VISITING THE ILE DE FRANCE

The Ile de France gathers a wide variety of historic monuments. If you have some spare time, here are a few suggestions:

#### 3.13.1 Near Paris

Saint Denis: The basilica occupies a very important place in the evolution of the primary gothic style. The architects were Suger and Pierre de Montreuil. It houses the tombs of the kings of France.

[www.ville-saint-denis.fr](http://www.ville-saint-denis.fr)

Versailles: this is a must-see. It was built at the time of the apogee of the French Royalty, when French classicism reached its peak. The gardens are also beautiful.

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

Saint Germain en Laye: The castle still looks the same as it did when Francis 1st had it rebuilt. It houses the Museum of the National Antiquities. The park and the surrounding forest are very pleasant in the summer.

[www.ville-st-germain-en-laye.fr](http://www.ville-st-germain-en-laye.fr)

Fontainebleau: In the same way as Saint Germain, it was built by Chambiges for Francis 1<sup>st</sup> and was one of Napoleon 1's favourite residences; this is where he bade farewell to his Guard in 1814.

[www.musee-chateau-fontainebleau.fr](http://www.musee-chateau-fontainebleau.fr)

Chantilly: The name Chantilly, placed under the sign of elegance, evokes a castle, admirable collection of portraits, a park, a forest, as well as the world of horses and races.

[www.chateaudechantilly.com](http://www.chateaudechantilly.com)

Compiègne: This palace was built by Gabriel for Louis XV. 18<sup>th</sup> century and first Empire's interior decoration and furniture

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

### **3.13.2 Further away**

La Cathédrale de Chartres: Its dissimilar towers dominate the Beauce plain. It is a perfect illustration of gothic art. The porches, the harmonious nave, the stained-glass windows are a testimony of the mastery inspired by burning faith. Huysmans and Charles Péguy both celebrated it.

<http://cathedrale.chartres.free.fr>

Giverny: It is where Claude Monet, founder of impressionism, lived for 43 years; you can visit his house and garden, well known for its water-lilies. The American art museum also presents 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century paintings.

<http://giverny.org>

Château de Fontainebleau: The Château de Fontainebleau can proudly claim to have been a sovereign residence for eight centuries. Capétiens, Valois, Bourbons, Bonaparte and Orléans, all members of French ruling dynasties, have lived within these walls. Kings and queens, emperors and empresses have all striven to make their own improvements to the château built around the original keep. The estate quickly became a huge palace in which many momentous historical events have been played out.

<http://www.chateaudefontainebleau.fr>

Parc Astérix is a theme amusement park in France, based on the stories of Asterix (by Albert Uderzo and René Goscinny). Situated 35 km (22 mi) north of Paris and 20 km (12 mi) from the historic Château de Chantilly, in the city of Plailly, in the département of Oise. It is especially well known in France for its large variety of roller coasters (including a bobsled one), and has begun incorporating rides and themes from historic cultures such as the Gauls, the Romans, the ancient Greeks and recently the Egyptians, but always in the visual style of the stories.

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



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