



DISCOVER
YOUR CITY



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

WELCOME TO
LILLE



CAMPUS
FRANCE



YOUR ARRIVAL IN LILLE /

◆ Different welcome and orientation desks for students

• At **Université de Lille**, depending on your course of study (scientific, literary, legal, or medical), **welcome and orientation take place at dedicated sites** specifically concerning administrative procedures and at a **one-stop desk, the Maison Internationale**, for residence permits.

To see where to go, check out the following site:

<https://international.univ-lille.fr/etudiants-etrangers/preparer-son-arrivee/formalites-dentree-et-de-sejour/>

◆ In other institutions

Regardless of your 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.

◆ Welcome and orientation for researchers and lecturers (international mobility)

The **Euraxess** office of Lille Nord de France provides the support you need during your move.

Contact: mobilitycentre@cue-Inf.fr or by **appointment** at 03 20 79 87 25.

◆ Buddy System

You can be guided and supported by a **local student in Lille**, who will welcome you and help you at every step of the way: www.buddysystem.eu/ or www.esnille.fr/satellite/fr

◆ National Services

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



HOUSING IN LILLE /

There are numerous solutions for housing in Lille: **Student-only accommodations managed by CROUS**, student housing and private residences, and rooms in private homes.

Most important is to take care of this as early as possible and before your arrival.

Université de Lille offers a **directory of accommodation options, as well as a complete guide (to download) about the available places of residence that can be useful for all students:**
- <https://international.univ-lille.fr> > Venir étudier à l'université > Préparer son arrivée > Logement à Lille > Guide à télécharger (en français ou en anglais)

A FEW TIPS

◆ Short-term housing:

- The Stéphane Hessel youth hostel, with its futuristic architecture, near the center, Porte de Valenciennes metro station:
<https://www.hifrance.org>
- The Gastama, a youth hostel in the old-town Vieux Lille: www.gastama.com
- The Eklo Hotel, an affordable and welcoming solution (with common rooms), Porte de Valenciennes metro station:
www.eklohotels.com/hotels/lille/
- Other solutions on the website of the Lille Tourist Office: <https://www.lilletourism.com> > dormir

◆ Long-term housing

• **CROUS student housing** (Centre Régional des Oeuvres Universitaires et Scolaires), the regional center for university services **for Lille Nord-Pas-de-Calais**.

Address: 74 rue de Cambrai, 59000 Lille.

Hours: Monday to Friday, 9am to 12pm and 1pm to 5pm.

Contact: 03 20 88 66 00 or crous@crous-lille.fr

For housing for international students, you can also try the following contact:

03 74 09 12 02 or 03 74 09 12 11 and service.

international@crous-lille.fr

Website: www.crous-lille.fr/

Website *Trouver un logement*:

<https://trouverunlogement.lescrous.fr>

On campus, the CROUS is also responsible for all low-cost food services (university restaurants, cafeterias, food-trucks, etc.)

• Private Housing Platforms

Most institutions in Lille are members of **Studapart**, a private housing platform:

<https://univ-lille.studapart.com/fr/>

Université de Lille also has an agreement with **Housing Anywhere** which gives students privileged access to housing offers: <https://housinganywhere.com>

You can consult other specialized sites, for example:

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

• There is also a **Lokaviz, site managed by CROUS, 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/>

• **Other solutions available on the Campus France site:** 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 Personnalisée au Logement, or personalized housing aid),** CAF (Caisse des Allocations Familiales) can check your eligibility: 08.10.29.29.29 or www.caf.fr

◆ **If you need housing adapted to your special needs,** contact the CROUS Service Social which will work with your host institution. Some of our institutions have specialized services for disabled students (housing assistance and also transport and tuition.

At Université de Lille, the BVEH (Bureau de la vie étudiante handicap) greets and assists students with a disability:

<https://www.univ-lille.fr/vie-des-campus/etudes-et-handicap/>



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.

GETTING AROUND LILLE



If you arrive in Lille by air or rail, you can follow the advice offered by Université de Lille, whatever your exact destination of arrival: <https://international.univ-lille.fr> > venir étudier à l'université > préparer son arrivée



For travel in and around the city, there is a dense public transport network (bus, metro, tram, shuttle) that runs day or night: <https://www.ilevia.fr/fr/>



There are regional trains for getting around the region:

www.ter.sncf.com/hautes-de-france
Coaches are also an option for low-cost travel: <https://fr.ouibus.com/> or <https://www.flixbus.fr/>



For ride-sharing, refer to the collaborative websites:

- local: www.covoiturage-libre.fr
- national: www.blablacar.fr



For more independence, use the **V'Lille** system, which offers self-service bicycles that are available in more than 260 stations: <https://www.ilevia.fr/fr/>

GOOD TO KNOW

• **If you have arrived in France with a VLS-TS long-term student visa:** you must validate it online upon your arrival and imperatively within the first three months of your stay (in France) on the ANEF (*Administration numérique pour les étrangers en France*) website: <https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr>

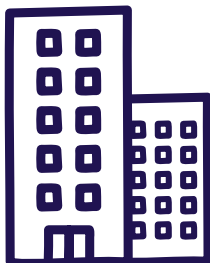
• **If you are an Algerian national or a student with a "Concours" (tests) visa» or a visa with the indication "Carte à solliciter dans les deux mois" (Residency permit is to be requested within 2 months of entry):** your residency permit application has to be made at the Prefecture.

• **If you hold a "mineur scolarisé" (enrolled minor) visa and you attained the age of majority, you have to request for a "Titre de séjour" online on the ANEF website or at the prefecture where you live within 2 months following your majority.**
<https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr>

Take note : To renew your student residency permit "Titre de séjour" (VLS-TS), your request must be done during the 3rd month before the expiration date of your current "Titre de séjour" (permit) on the website: <https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr>

This tutorial will help you:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j_suMJ3fliw&list=PLpm2evF1qaJe_oq0a-LMIKujAihwAtVEy&index=16

• **To find out more about rights and obligations:** The reception services of your establishment can guide you in the event of difficulties.
www.service-public.fr > Etranger > Titre de séjour et document de circulation (Foreigners > Resident Card and Travel Document)



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 128 bank agencies located in Lille.

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

HEALTHCARE

In France, receiving medical treatment is **practically free** but you must be insured. **Accordingly, signing up for medical insurance is mandatory.**

Login to the <https://etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr> Site to register, to understand your eligibility and benefits, and to take the necessary steps.

Learn more:

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

As a student enrolled at Université de Lille, you can benefit from the institution's on-site 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.

• **For students at Université de Lille, the Centre de Santé des Étudiants, the student health center offers:**

- a **unique phone number: 03 20 90 74 05.**
- **five reception centers in the different schools,** open non-stop Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 5pm (excluding holidays).

Learn more: www.univ-lille.fr > Vie des campus > Santé, bien-être > Centre de santé des étudiants

• **For students enrolled in other institutions in Lille,** contact your school's Service de la Vie Étudiante or Services des Relations Internationales to find out if you can use the health center services. Some institutions are in fact bound to this Center by an agreement.

ADDITIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE

You can also sign up for **top-up insurance** which will cover all health expenses not covered by the **free**

and compulsory health insurance.

Take note: The plans and coverage levels differ from one company to another. To choose a **top-up insurance policy** which meets your needs and your budget, you can **compare student health insurance plans online**.

HOUSING INSURANCE

In France, housing insurance is mandatory.

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

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

SAMU: Call 15 Emergency Medical Services

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

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

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

LEARNING FRENCH

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

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

<http://ecolesdete.campusfrance.org>

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

FINDING A JOB OR AN INTERNSHIP

2 addresses:

• **CRIJ des Hauts-de-France** (Centre Régional d'Information Jeunesse) - the regional youth information center has a platform for job and internship offers available for young people: <http://www.crij-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 LILLE /

TAKE UP A SPORT

In your institution, you can obtain special access to the sports activities by contacting the Service des Sports (or the Service de la Vie Étudiante).

At Université de Lille, you can choose any sport from those on offer:

www.univ-lille.fr > Vie des campus > Sport

In Lille, choose from the 200 sports facilities set up by the city or the Métropole (metropolitan area):

- <https://www.lille.fr> > Que faire à Lille > Envie de sport

- <https://www.lillemetropole.fr> > Votre métropole > Compétences > Promotion du territoire > Sport

BE ACTIVE

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

To find out more, contact:

- **your school (Service de la Vie Étudiante) for information**. If you are enrolled at Université de Lille, check out the section on the website:

<https://www.univ-lille.fr> / > vie-des-campus/vie-

associative-et-engagement-citoyen/vie-associative

- consult the national sites: www.animafac.net

or www.letudiant.fr

In Lille, the ESN association, which is an organization that welcomes international students, is very active in helping foreign students settle in:

<http://www.esnlille.fr/satellite/fr>



GAINING CULTURE AND PARTYING

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

For more information:

- www.lille.fr > Que faire a Lille/Envie de culture

- <https://www.lillemetropole.fr> >services > culture

The Service Culture at Université de Lille created the **Atout Culture** (culture asset) program so that students can benefit from the region's cultural organizations (discounts, free admissions, artistic gatherings, guided tours):

<https://culture.univ-lille.fr> > atout culture

In most of the other institutions in Lille, you can also contact your school's Service Culture or Vie étudiante for available activities

For entertainment or to pick up some culture, in Lille, there are:

- more than 20 movie theaters with multiple screens (student rates, rewards card) including 3 art house theaters: Le Métropole, le Majestic and l'Univers, as well as le Kino-Ciné, part of Université de Lille.

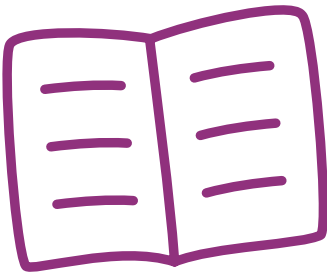
- 12 top museums, reduced rates for students: www.lille.fr > Que faire a Lille/Envie de culture> musées et expositions

- 20 large venues for concerts, theater, dance and opera: www.lille.fr > Que faire a Lille/Envie de culture> théâtres et spectacles

- approximately 40 bookshops including a major institution: The Furet de Nord on the Grand-Place of Lille, one of the largest bookshops in France and Europe. It also buys your used books.

- 12 large libraries and media libraries:

<http://www.bm-lille.fr/>



For going out and staying abreast of current events in Lille, **read the leading regional daily paper, La Voix du Nord**, available in news stands or online:

<http://www.lavoixdunord.fr/region/lille-et-ses-environs>

You can also check out the cultural agenda on the Lille Tourist Office: <https://www.lilletourism.com> > sortir > tout l'agenda

TOP ATTRACTIONS /

Lille has been listed as a City of Art and History since 2004.

- The Grand-Place, in the heart of the city, also known as the Place du General de Gaulle.
- Vieux Lille, or old-town a neighborhood that dates back to the 17th century.
- The Palais des Beaux Arts, one of the leading fine art museums in France in terms of the size of its collection.
- The Hôtel de Ville (Town Hall) and its belfry, listed world heritage sites by UNESCO.
- The house where Charles de Gaulle was born.
- The cathedral of Notre-Dame de la Treille, built in the neo-Gothic style.
- The Piscine, museum of art and industry, in the Art Deco surroundings of a former swimming pool (in Roubaix).
- The LaM, museum of modern art of Lille Métropole (in Villeneuve d'Ascq), for its collections of modern and contemporary art.

Learn (and see) more:

<https://www.lilletourism.com> > découvrir





IMPORTANT ANNUAL EVENTS /

FEBRUARY

- Art Up, the leading contemporary art fair in the region.

MARCH

- The Séries Mania Festival, the international festival of television series.

APRIL

- **The Festival of Art and Culture in Higher Education (JACES):**

<https://journées-arts-culture-sup.fr> > lille

- The Anim Festival, an international event dealing with every kind of animated production.

MAY

- **The Pint of Science Festival:**

<https://pintofscience.fr/>

- The Nuit Européenne des Musées (European Museum Night), an amusing way to visit the museum at night, for free.
- The Festival International de la Soupe, a humoristic and festive soup festival, with world music concerts.

JUNE

- Fête de la Musique: Music everywhere in town (free concerts).
- Lille Piano(s) Festival, 50 artists, 30 concerts in 3 days (discounted rates).
- The Latitudes Contemporaines, a contemporary dance festival.

AUGUST

- The Festival des Nuits Secrètes (festival of secret nights), for discovering "alternative music" at Aulnoye-Aymeries, a town near Lille (discounted rates).

SEPTEMBER

- **The Journées d'Immersion dans la Vie Étudiante, (JIVÉ), student induction days at Université de Lille.**
- **Welcome Days dedicated to welcoming first-time international students at Université de Lille.**
- The world-famous Braderie de Lille, the largest flea market in Europe.
- Journées du Patrimoine (heritage days), free visits of cultural venues.
- The Course des Terrils (slag heap run), 5,000 participants scrambling for two days!

OCTOBER

- **The Nuit des Etudiants du Monde (World Student Night),** a highlight of student life.
- **Fête de la Science** in the University laboratories.
- **The Science Village at Saint-Sauveur Station:** <http://www.cue-lillenorddefrance.fr/> > Culture - Patrimoine - Société > Culture scientifique

NOVEMBER

- **International Student Week,** for international and French students from the University of Lille, a way to meet up by joining in friendly festive events: <http://isw.univ-lille.fr>

Learn more: <https://www.lille.fr> > que faire à Lille > les grands événements



& 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!

*Remember to sign up on 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

LILLE, CAPITAL OF THE NORD DEPARTMENT, capital of the Hauts-de-France region which is made up of 5 departments

EUROPEAN METROPOLITAN AREA OF LILLE:

1.1 million residents

CITY OF LILLE:

238,000 residents
more than half of whom are under 30

HAUTS-DE-FRANCE REGION,

RANKED **5th** for the number of foreign students (more than 21,000 international students)

Lille:

120,000 students,
one of the largest university cities in France

Université de Lille:

73,000 students including
9,600 foreign students of 145 nationalities



LILLE RANKED 12TH (OUT OF 44) BEST CITY IN FRANCE WHERE IT'S GOOD 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/hauts-de-france-555>

CAMPUS FRANCE

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