



**DISCOVER  
YOUR CITY**



Campus France will guide you through your first steps in France and **exploring Aix-en-Provence, your new home.**

**WELCOME TO**

**AIX-EN-PROVENCE**



**CAMPUS  
FRANCE**  
[campusfrance.org](http://campusfrance.org)





## YOUR ARRIVAL IN AIX-EN-PROVENCE /

### ◆ A Welcome Desk for international students

**Aix-Marseille Université (AMU) created an International Student Welcome Desk (Guichet d'Accueil) for foreign students enrolled in the following establishments: Ecole Centrale - Marseille, Kedge Business School, Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture – Marseille, IEP Aix-en-Provence, Ecole Supérieure d'Art d'Aix-en-Provence and Mines Saint Etienne in Gardanne.**

**The Welcome Desk is open from August 31 to September 25, 2020.**

On site, you'll find the services of the CROUS, the Prefecture, the City of Aix-en-Provence, and other organizations which will simplify your administrative procedures as concerns:

- residence permits
- housing and transportation
- banking and insurance
- health and welfare
- campus life (culture, leisure, sports, and recreation)

**Address:** Campus Schuman, Le Cube building, 29 avenue Robert Schuman, 13100 Aix-en-Provence.

**Access:** Bus lines 7 and 8, Schuman stop.

**Hours:** Monday to Friday, 9am to 4pm.

### Learn more:

- **International Student Handbook** Aix-Marseille University (bilingual), download from the AMU site: <https://www.univ-amu.fr> (International pages) <https://dri.univ-amu.fr> > guides à télécharger
- **the Aix-Etudiant portal**, put in place by the City of Aix-en-Provence to help students in their search for information: <http://www.aix-etudiant.fr/>
- **the portal for the Direction des Relations Internationales (DRI), or International Relations Department** at the Aix-Marseille Université: <https://dri.univ-amu.fr/>

### ◆ Welcome and orientation for researchers and doctoral students

Researchers and doctoral students can visit the Aix-Marseille Université DRI home page: <https://www.univ-amu.fr/en/public/international-mobility>

Aix-Marseille Université is a member of the Euraxess Network.

Contact: 04 86 09 08 43 or [drv-euraxess@univ-amu.fr](mailto:drv-euraxess@univ-amu.fr)

### ◆ Buddy System

You can be assisted by a buddy in Aix-en-Provence! With the **ESN student association** (Erasmus Student Network), and the **Buddy System**, foreign students are assisted by French students, and have the advantage of personalized support: More information: <https://buddysystem.eu/fr/>

### ◆ 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/fr/recherche/categorie/provence-alpes-cote-d-azur-466>

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

### ◆ National Services

- students: [www.etudiant.gouv.fr](http://www.etudiant.gouv.fr)

- doctoral students, researchers:

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



## HOUSING IN AIX-EN-PROVENCE /

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

What's most important is to take care of this as early as possible, before your arrival.

- **Aix-Marseille Université** has put in place a **housing service** thanks to the **Studapart** platform which will help you find housing easily. There are numerous offers for housing and the platform is updated regularly:

<https://univ-amu.studapart.com/en/>





For more information, refer to the **Guide Logements** published by AMU and available in French or in English:  
<https://vie-etudiante.univ-amu.fr> > vie pratique > se loger pendant ses études > guides logements

• **The CRIJ (Centre Régional d'Information Jeunesse)**, the regional youth information center, for Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur publishes free classified ads on its site:  
<https://annonces.infojeunesse-paca.fr/>

• **The City's dedicated site, Aix-Etudiant**, gives several leads for housing:  
<http://www.aix-etudiant.fr/> > Vivre à Aix > Se loger

## A FEW TIPS

### ◆ Short-term housing:

• **The Aix-en-Provence Tourist Office has a search engine on its site** which lists all types of housing:  
<https://www.aixenprovencetourism.com/> > Préparer son séjour > Hébergement

### ◆ Long-term housing

• **Aix-Marseille-Avignon CROUS** (Centre Régional des Œuvres Universitaires - Regional Center for University Services) for **housing**.

Address: 31 avenue Jules Ferry,  
13090 Aix-en-Provence.

Hours: Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 12:30pm  
and 1:30pm to 4:15pm.

Housing contact: 04 42 90 08 00.

Site: <http://www.crous-aix-marseille.fr/>

The website *Trouver un logement*:

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

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

### • Private Housing Platforms:

In addition to the Aix-Marseille Université, Studapart platform (<https://univ-amu.studapart.com/en/>), other offers for student housing managed by private companies, are also available.

Try these sites:

- <https://www.adele.org/>

- <https://www.immojeune.com/>

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

- <https://housinganywhere.com/fr/>

## GETTING AROUND AIX-EN-PROVENCE



**From Paris, there are two options to get to Aix-en-Provence:**

- by train (high-speed TGV train ride 3 hours and 10 minutes) that you can catch from Roissy-Charles de Gaulle airport (terminal 2) or from the center of Paris (Gare de Lyon). The Aix TGV train station is located outside the city. Take the shuttle for the 10km trip into town.

- by plane (flight time: 1 hour and 15 minutes). From Marseille Provence airport, take the shuttle for the 32km trip to the Aix bus station.

• Regardless of where you arrive in Aix-en-Provence, consult the dedicated page on getting to the Welcome Desk (Guichet Unique):

<https://www.univ-amu.fr/fr/public/mobilite-internationale>



• **In the city and surrounding areas**, use the Aix-en-Bus public transportation (bus) system to get around: <https://www.aixenbus.fr/>  
The Aix-Marseille metropolis offers the annual pass at a discounted price for students: <https://www.aixenbus.fr/> > Titres > Les titres et tarifs > Tous les titres de transport > Abonnement étudiant



**For travelling** within the region, take the:

- Provence - Alpes - Côte d'Azur regional

trains: <https://www.ter.sncf.com/paca>

The PACA Region created the **Carte ZOU** which allows you to travel cheap:

<https://www.ter.sncf.com/paca> > tarifs et achats > cartes et abonnements

**In the Bouches-du-Rhône department, you can also travel by bus:**

<http://www.rtm.fr/cartreize>

If you want to travel further, don't forget the bus for low-cost fares: <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:

<https://covoiturage.autoclubaix.com/>



**For more independence, you can rent a bike. Check out the best addresses at the Aix-en-Provence Tourist Office:**

Aix-en-Provence Visitor Center:

<https://www.aixenprovencetourism.com/> > Préparer son séjour > Accès et transports > Loueurs de vélos

• There is also **Lokaviz**, a 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](http://www.campusfrance.org) > Getting organized > Accommodation

#### ◆ If you need a guarantor to secure your lodging

Visale provides a free service for students who need a co-signer (guarantor) to secure housing: [www.visale.fr](http://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](http://www.caf.fr)

#### ◆ For housing adapted to your special needs, see:

<http://www.handitoit.org/>

Some establishments have specialized services for students with disabilities (assistance for housing, and also transportation and tuition).

**Aix-Marseille Université** has set up a **Mission Handicap** which welcomes and supports all students with disabilities:

<https://mission-handicap.univ-amu.fr/>



## 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.

- 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 Scolarité (Admissions) as soon as you arrive.

### RESIDENCE PERMIT (TITRE DE SÉJOUR)

#### ◆ Information

##### • At the Welcome Desk for international students.

Open from the start of the school year (end August to end September), the Welcome Desk is the place to go for foreign students arriving in France. They can complete their administrative procedures with the Aix-en-Provence Sous-Préfecture for the renewal of a residence permit for a first-time application.

Address: Campus Schuman, Le Cube building, 29 avenue Robert Schuman, 13100 Aix-en-Provence.  
Hours: Monday to Friday, 9am to 4pm.

##### • At the Aix-en-Provence Sous-Préfecture.

Address: 455 avenue Pierre Brossolette, 13100 Aix-en-Provence.

Hours: Service Titres de Séjour Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, from 8:30am to 12:15pm.

Contact:

- telephone helpline at 04 42 17 56 30,

Tuesday and Thursday, 2pm to 4pm

- 24/7 interactive voice response system:

04 84 35 40 35.

- you can schedule an **appointment** at the Sous-Préfecture to drop off your residence permit application: <http://www.bouches-du-rhone.gouv.fr/>

> To schedule an appointment

Site: <http://13.accueil-etrangers.gouv.fr/>

##### • Learn more about your rights and obligations:

[www.service-public.fr](http://www.service-public.fr) > Etranger > Titre de séjour et document de circulation

### GOOD TO KNOW

#### • If you arrive in France with a VLS-TS

**long-term student visa:** You must validate it online within three months of arrival:

<https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr>

• **If you are an Algerian national or a student with a "concours" (tests) visa or a "mineur scolarisé" (enrolled minor) visa or a visa with the indication "carte à solliciter dans les deux mois" (residence permit to be requested within 2 months of entry):** Depending on your institution, your residence permit application is made at the Préfecture or with the Service des Relations Internationales at your campus.

**Take note: To renew your residence permit, you must apply within two months prior to its expiration date.**



## PRACTICAL INFORMATION /

In Aix-en-Provence, the **Centre Information Familles** known as **Information Jeunesse et Eurodesk** is a **city service which welcomes students year-round**, during the course of their university studies (jobs, housing, health, training, etc.).  
Address: 37 boulevard Aristide Briand.  
Contact: 04 42 91 98 01 or [cif@mairie-aixenprovence.fr](mailto:cif@mairie-aixenprovence.fr)

### 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**, either online or in one of the 90 bank agencies located in Aix-en-Provence

In France, opening a bank account is a right:  
[www.service-public.fr](http://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, you can also take advantage of the university medical services.** In these health services where consultations are free, you'll be greeted by a team of doctors, nurses, and social workers who can give personalized advice in terms of health and prevention.

**That's the case with the Aix-Marseille Université** which has an Inter Universitaire de Médecine Préventive et de Promotion de la Santé (SIUMPPS), which is an inter-university service for preventive medicine and health promotion **with a satellite office in Aix-en-Provence.**

Address: 29 avenue Robert Schuman, Le Cube building, 13100 Aix-en-Provence.  
Contact: 04 13 94 22 80 or [siumpps-aix@univ-amu.fr](mailto:siumpps-aix@univ-amu.fr)

Learn more: <https://www.univ-amu.fr/>

> Vie des Campus > Vie pratique > Service médecine préventive

**In Aix-en-Provence, the city has created Santé Jeunes**, a youth health service which has a Point Accueil for health prevention where you'll be welcomed and where you can talk.

<http://www.aixenprovence.fr/Sante-Jeunes>

### 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** on the Internet.

### 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://ecolessdete.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

### 3 addresses:

- the **Centre Régional d'Information Jeunesse Provence - Alpes - Côte d'Azur**, or **regional youth information center** publishes free classified ads online: <https://annonces.infojeunesse-paca.fr/>
- the **CIF (Centre Information Familles or family information center)** works with young people who are looking for a job or internship: <http://www.aixenprovence.fr/Centre-Information-Familles-CIF>
- 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 AIX-EN-PROVENCE /

### TAKE UP A SPORT

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

**At Aix-Marseille Université, the SUAPS** (Service Universitaire des Activités Physiques et Sportives), or university department for physical and sports activities organizes activities for students: <https://agon.univ-amu.fr/>

**In Aix-en-Provence**, you can also find a sports activity by contacting one of the city's 300 sports associations and facilities: <http://www.aixenprovence.fr/> > Sport à Aix

### 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 host institution (Service de la Vie Étudiante)
- At **Aix-Marseille Université**, a list of over a hundred associations is available: <https://vie-etudiante.univ-amu.fr/> > Vie associative
- > Consultez la liste des associations étudiantes AMU
- consult the national sites: [www.animafac.net](http://www.animafac.net) or [www.letudiant.fr](http://www.letudiant.fr)

### GAINING CULTURE AND PARTYING

Aix-en-Provence 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. See the City site, Culture tab:

<http://www.aixenprovence.fr>

**At Aix-Marseille Université**, the Service Culture collaborates with regional and national cultural partners to develop an offer of artistic events. Since 2019, with the **AMU student card**, you can take advantage of **Pact'Amu**, which offers additional discounts on the young person rate for shows, and free admission for museums (in Aix and in Marseille): <https://www.univ-amu.fr/> > Vie des Campus > Vie culturelle > PacteAMU

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

- 4 multiplex movie theaters (student rates, rewards program) including 3 art house theaters.

- 11 museums:

<https://www.aixenprovence.fr/Musees>

- a dozen performance centers including Théâtre Antoine Vitez, installed on the Aix-Marseille Université Schuman campus which presents contemporary programming by young artists:

<http://www.aixenprovence.fr/Liste-des-scenes-aixoises>

- around ten book shops including a major institution, Librairie Goulard

- 4 libraries and multi-media centers:

<https://www.aixenprovence.fr/Bibliotheques>

In Aix-en-Provence, for going out or staying abreast of current events, read **the regional daily paper, La Provence**, available in newsstands or on the Internet: <https://www.laprovence.com/> > Région > Aix / Pays d'Aix

You can also check out the Tourist Office's cultural agenda:

<https://www.aixenprovencetourism.com/> > Tous les événements



## TOP ATTRACTIONS /

- The Quatre Dauphins (Four Dolphins) fountain: Aix-en-Provence is a spa town known as "the city with 1000 fountains."
- The Cours Mirabeau, in the center of Aix-en-Provence, is a beautiful avenue lined with plane trees. It has three fountains (Neuf-Canons, Moussue, and King René), cafés and terraces!
- There are 8 private mansions classed as historical monuments: <http://www.aixenprovence.fr/hotels-particuliers-classes>
- Vieil Aix (old town): Place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville (City Hall square), Tour de l'Horloge (Clock Tower), place Albertas, and the Saint-Sauveur cathedral and cloisters.
- The Atelier Cézanne, the studio where the famous

native-born Aix-en-Provence Impressionist painter, Paul Cézanne, lived and worked.

- The Ancien Palais de l'Archevêché is the former Archdiocese Palace. The prestigious Festival d'Art Lyrique d'Aix takes place in its courtyard.
- The Vasarely Foundation with unquestionably contemporary architecture, houses the works of Victor Vasarely, the Op Art master.
- Sainte-Victoire mountain, a symbol of Provence and the Pays d'Aix which so inspired Cézanne.
- And let's not forget all the lively, daily open-air markets in Aix-en-Provence!

To learn (and see) more, consult the Tourist Office: <https://www.aixenprovencetourism.com/>

## JULY - AUGUST

- the Aix Festival, lyrical and musical, one of the most prestigious in France and the world (reduced rates for those under 30): <https://festival-aix.com/fr>
- Instants d'Été (Summer Moments), free movie screenings in the open-air, in the city center and surrounding parks
- ZIK-ZAK Festival, a festival of contemporary world music (free admission).

## SEPTEMBER

- Les Journées du Patrimoine (heritage days), free visits of cultural venues.
- Festival Jours et Nuits de Cirque(s), a contemporary circus festival with reduced rates for students.

## OCTOBER

- **Nuit des Etudiants du Monde – Students of the World Night**, a festive evening with student associations, CROUS, and the University (in Marseille): [www.nuitdesetudiantsdumonde.org/nem](http://www.nuitdesetudiantsdumonde.org/nem)
- **Aix Students Fest**, free concert at the start of the academic year.
- **Festiv'Amu**, two days of sports and cultural activities for the entire Aix-Marseille University community: <http://www.festiv-amu.fr/>
- **Fête de la Science**, a science festival in the university laboratories.

## NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

- Christmas activities, numerous events including the traditional Santons of Provence fair and the 13 Desserts Market (culinary specialties for a Provence Christmas).
- Tous Courts, an international festival for short-feature films (reduced rates for students).

**Learn more:** <http://www.aixenprovence.fr/>  
> Culture à Aix > Les grands rendez-vous de la culture

Download the free **Aix Ma Ville app**:  
<http://www.aixenprovence.fr/Application-smartphone-Aix-ma-ville>

## IMPORTANT ANNUAL EVENTS /

### APRIL

- Aix-en-Provence Carnival, a theme carnival in the city center.
- Aix-en-Foulées, a foot race through the city.
- Rencontre du 9<sup>e</sup> Art, a graphic novel festival (free admission).

### MAY

- **Pint of Science**, a European initiative for learning about research in atypical venues: <https://pintofscience.fr/events/aix-en-provence>
- The Nuit Européenne des Musées (European Museum Night), an occasion to visit museums differently (and for free).
- C'est Sud, a festival with numerous events – musical, theatrical, and choreographed – in the city center (free admission)
- Pays d'Aix Tennis Open (free admission).

### JUNE

- Fête de la Musique with music everywhere in town (free concerts).



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



# THINGS TO KNOW

**Aix-Marseille-Provence  
metropolitan area:**

**1,900,000** residents

**2<sup>nd</sup>** largest metropolis in France

**City of Aix-en-Provence:**

**143,000** residents

**35,000** students

**AIX-EN-  
PROVENCE:**

**2<sup>nd</sup>** largest city in  
the Bouches-du-Rhône department

**4<sup>th</sup>** largest city in the Provence-  
Alpes-Côte d'Azur  
(PACA) region

**PACA REGION:**

**6<sup>th</sup>** region for hosting  
foreign students in France  
(21,000 international students)

**Aix-Marseille Université:**

**1<sup>st</sup>** French university

**1<sup>st</sup>** Francophone university

**72,000** students including  
**10,000** international students

**12** doctoral schools

**3,500** doctoral students

**132** research centers

**AIX-EN-PROVENCE, 11<sup>th</sup> OUT OF 44 FRENCH UNIVERSITY  
CITIES 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/provence-alpes-cote-d-azur-466>

**CAMPUS FRANCE – PACA REGIONAL DELEGATION**

6 allée Turcat Méry, 13008 Marseille (metro line 2, Périer stop)

Monday to Friday, 9am to 12pm and 4pm to 5pm

04 91 29 97 00

**CAMPUS FRANCE**

28 rue de la Grange aux Belles, 75010 PARIS - 01 40 40 58 58 - [www.campusfrance.org](http://www.campusfrance.org)