

# **France**

## **Day 1: Country Facts**

### *What continent is France located in?*

France is located in western Europe, bordering the Bay of Biscay and English Channel, between Belgium and Spain, southeast of the UK; bordering the Mediterranean Sea, between Italy and Spain

### *What is the capital of France?*

Paris is the capital of France and has 9,854,000 (metro. area) and 2,110,400 (city proper) residents.

### *What time is it in the capital when it is noon here?*

The local time in Paris is 6 hours ahead of Concord, NH.

### *What is the population of France?*

The population in France is 60,656,178 as of July 2005 est.

## **Day 2: People, Places, & Things to do**

### *What language is (mostly) spoken in France?*

French is spoken 100% up the time. Rapidly declining regional dialects are Provençal, Breton, Alsatian, Corsican, Catalan, Basque, and Flemish. “Bonjour. Comment faites-vous aujourd'hui ?” means “Good morning. How are you doing today?”

### *What summer holidays are celebrated in France?*

June 5 is Whit Monday, July 14 is Bastille

Day, and August 15 is Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

### *What are the main religions in France?*

The main religions are Roman Catholic 83%-88%, Protestant 2%, Islam 5%-10%, Jewish 1%, and unaffiliated 4%.

### *What cultural heritage is in France?*

Palace and Park of Versailles was the principal residence of the French kings from the time of Louis XIV to Louis XVI. Embellished by several generations of architects, sculptors, decorators and landscape architects, it provided Europe with a model of the ideal royal residence for over a century.

### *What places can you go see in France?*

The Cathédrale de Notre Dame, a medieval marvel in Paris is not only a masterpiece of French Gothic architecture, but has also been Catholic Paris' ceremonial focus for seven centuries. The cathedral's immense interior, a marvel of medieval engineering, holds over 6000 people and has spectacular rose windows. It's well worth the effort of climbing the 387 steps to the north tower. This will bring you to the top of the west facade and face to face with many of the cathedral's most frightening gargoyles, which enjoy a spectacular view of Paris.

### *What international recipe is from France?*

Peach Flambé

Ingredients:

8 Peach halves, peach or canned  
2 Tbs. Sweet butter

2 oz. Brandy

2 oz. White wine

4 Tbs. Sugar

Juice of one orange

Juice of ½ a lemon

Peel of one orange shredded

Preparation:

Cook the sugar until it turns light brown in color. Add the butter, orange peel, lemon and orange juice, and simmer until the mixture has a honey like consistency. Add the peaches, brandy, wine and flambe. Stir for a short while. Serve hot as a sauce over ice cream.

## **Day 3: Land & Climate**

### *What borders France?*

France is bound by Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany to the north and northeast, Switzerland, Italy and Monaco to the east, the Mediterranean Sea to the southeast, Spain and Andorra to the south and the Atlantic Ocean to the west.

### *What is the total land area of France in square kilometers and in square miles?*

The total land area in France is 549,183 Sq Km (212,041 Sq Mi).

### *What are some of France's topographical areas?*

France is distinguished topographically by the four Hercynian Massifs. (1.) The Ardennes in the western tip. (2.) The Vosges to the south. (3.) The Armorican which protects the Paris Basin to the west and (4.) the Central Massif which separates the north

and south of France.

*What is the average temperature in January and July in the capital city?*

The average temperature in January is 39 F and 67 F in July.

#### Day 4: Economy

*What are the industries in France?*

The major industries in France are machinery, chemicals, automobiles, metallurgy, aircraft, electronics; textiles, food processing; and tourism.

*What commodities are imported into France?*

France imports machinery and equipment, vehicles, crude oil, aircraft, plastics, and chemicals.

*What commodities are exported out of France?*

France exports machinery and transportation equipment, aircraft, plastics, chemicals, pharmaceutical products, iron and steel, and beverages.

*What is the monetary unit for France?*

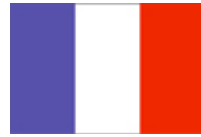
The currency in France is the euro dollar.



*What is the exchange rate for \$1.00 US?*

The exchange rate for \$1.00 on July 19, 2006 is 0.7932 euro.

#### Day 5: Government



*What is the official name of France?*

The official name for France is La République Française (The French Republic).

*What is the ruling political party in France?*

The ruling party is Union pour un Mouvement Populaire (UMP) (Union for a People's Movement), which is comprised of the Rassemblement pour la République (RPR) (Rally for the Republic) and Démocratie Libérale (DL) (Liberal Democracy); Union pour la Démocratie Française (UDF) (Union for French Democracy) and allies.

*Who is the head of state in France?*

The head of state in France is President Jacques Chirac (RPR), who was re-elected 5 May 2002.



# Adventures in France

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