



WELCOME GUIDE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

1 BEFORE MY ARRIVAL

Visa application - Which visa for which situation ?

	Stay time	Students	Doctoral students	Teachers - researchers	Trainees
EU / EEA member or Switzerland	< or > than 90 days				
Non-EU member	> than 90 days	Long-stay visa valid as a residence permit for students	Long-stay visa "talent passport" or as a residence permit for students	Long-stay visa "talent passport"	Long-stay visa with the mention "trainee"
	< than 90 days	Short-stay visa	Short-stay visa	Short-stay visa	Short-stay visa

All procedures are carried out online on the following website : <https://france-visas.gouv.fr/>

You are a student (more than 3 months)

- You do not need a visa if you are from Switzerland or a member of the European Economic Area (more information on [Campus France](#) website)
- International students, from outside the EEA, must present a visa. [Click here](#) to check out the requirements and procedures needed to obtain a visa.
- For local contact details: please enquire with the international relations office of the relevant school, the international relations office at Toulouse INP if necessary, and the laboratory if you are a PhD student. [Click here](#) to view the contact details for the international relations offices at Toulouse INP.

*EEA member states: Germany, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Croatia, Denmark, Spain, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, the Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden.

Short-stay visa (less than 3 months)

Depending on your nationality, you may need a short-stay (or Schengen) visa. The [Visa Assistant](#) can help you determine whether this type of visa is required in your circumstances.

Please note that from the last quarter of 2026, you will need to have an ETIAS (European Travel Information and Authorisation System) to stay in France for a short period.

Apply for a "Short-stay" visa on the following website : <https://france-visas.gouv.fr/demande-en-ligne>

Short-stay Visa (less than 3 months)

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Convention d'accueil

The Convention d'Accueil ("cerfa") or hosting agreement in english, which you need for your visa application is generated by the International Relations Office of Toulouse INP. In order to get an agreement signed by the Presidency, you must provide international@toulouse-inp.fr with the following documents at least 2 to 3 months prior your visa application :

- A letter from the laboratory, signed by the laboratory director, specifying the exact dates of the stay and the monthly salary, if applicable
- A copy of your ID (passport)
- A copy of the last diploma

You are a PhD student

For PhD students, you can choose between the [talent passport](#) and a visa serving as a [residence permit for students](#).

If you decide to apply for a talent passport, you must :

- Have an employment contract with your home or host organisation

OR

- Be a scholarship holder and to receive monthly funding (scholarship plus any additional funding from the host institution) in excess of the minimum amount required for a PhD contract in public law.

If you have no employment contract or if your monthly funding (scholarship plus any additional funding from the host institution) is inferior to the minimum amount for a PhD contract in public law, you must apply for a student visa.

Procedures

- Apply for a "research talents passport" long-stay visa on the following website : <https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr>
- For the "talent passport" long-stay visa, the Convention d'Accueil ("cerfa") you need for your visa application is generated by the International Relations Office.



2 WHEN I ARRIVE AT THE SCHOOL

Validating your visa

To submit supporting documents online via France Visa, please log in at the following address :

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

You will need :

- A valid email address
- The information on your visa
- To communicate your arrival date in France
- To communicate your residence address in France
- A payment card for paying your tourist tax online

To [collect your residence permit](#), you will need to make an appointment and go to the [Welcome Desk](#).

On the day of the appointment, you will need to present :

- Your passport
- The latest residence permit and receipt
- If you are a student : your university enrollment and your latest academic transcript (paper copy)
- A revenue stamp

You will find more information on the [Welcome Desk](#) website.

Trainees

Some specific procedures need to be carried out before and after your arrival in France.

For further information, check out the relevant page on the France Visa website :

<https://france-visas.gouv.fr/en/stagiaire-etudiant>

PhD students

You are subject to a specific procedure relating to the “Talent Passport – Researcher” Visa.

For further information, please visit the dedicated page on the following website :

<https://www.service-public.gouv.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F16922>

Student card IZLY

IZLY is an e-wallet payment method integrated into your student card, which can be topped up online using a bank card.

Payment at the university canteen is by [IZLY card](#) only.

Once your student card has been issued, you will receive an email from the IZLY platform at your email address within 48 hours inviting you to activate your account.

SIM card

In France, it is recommended that you buy a French SIM card or take out a local mobile contract. This will allow you to :

- Have a French phone number, which is useful for administrative procedures, and for contacting banks or medical services
- Access the internet anywhere, without relying on Wi-Fi
- Avoid charges if you use a SIM card from your home country

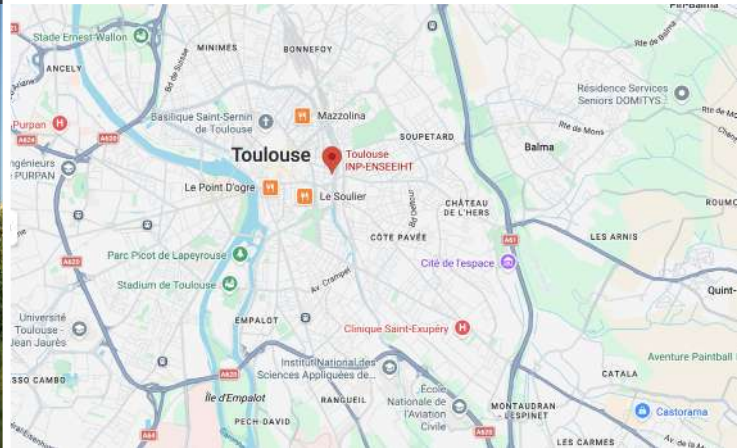
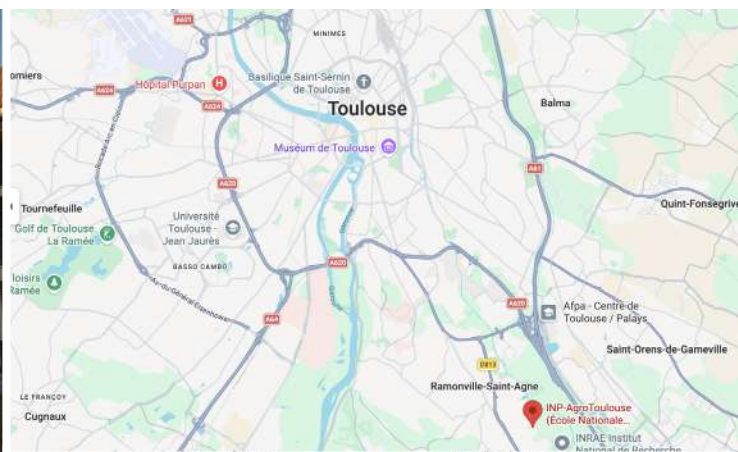
Be sure to choose a no-contract plan, which you can cancel at any time.

There are deals tailored to students, which are often straightforward, affordable and have no commitment. However, you will need to open a bank account (see page 7) to subscribe to a mobile contract.

Here is a non-exhaustive list of French mobile operators:

- Bouygues Télécom
- SFR
- Free
- Orange
- Sosh
- Pritel

Accessing the Toulouse INP campuses



The Tisséo Network

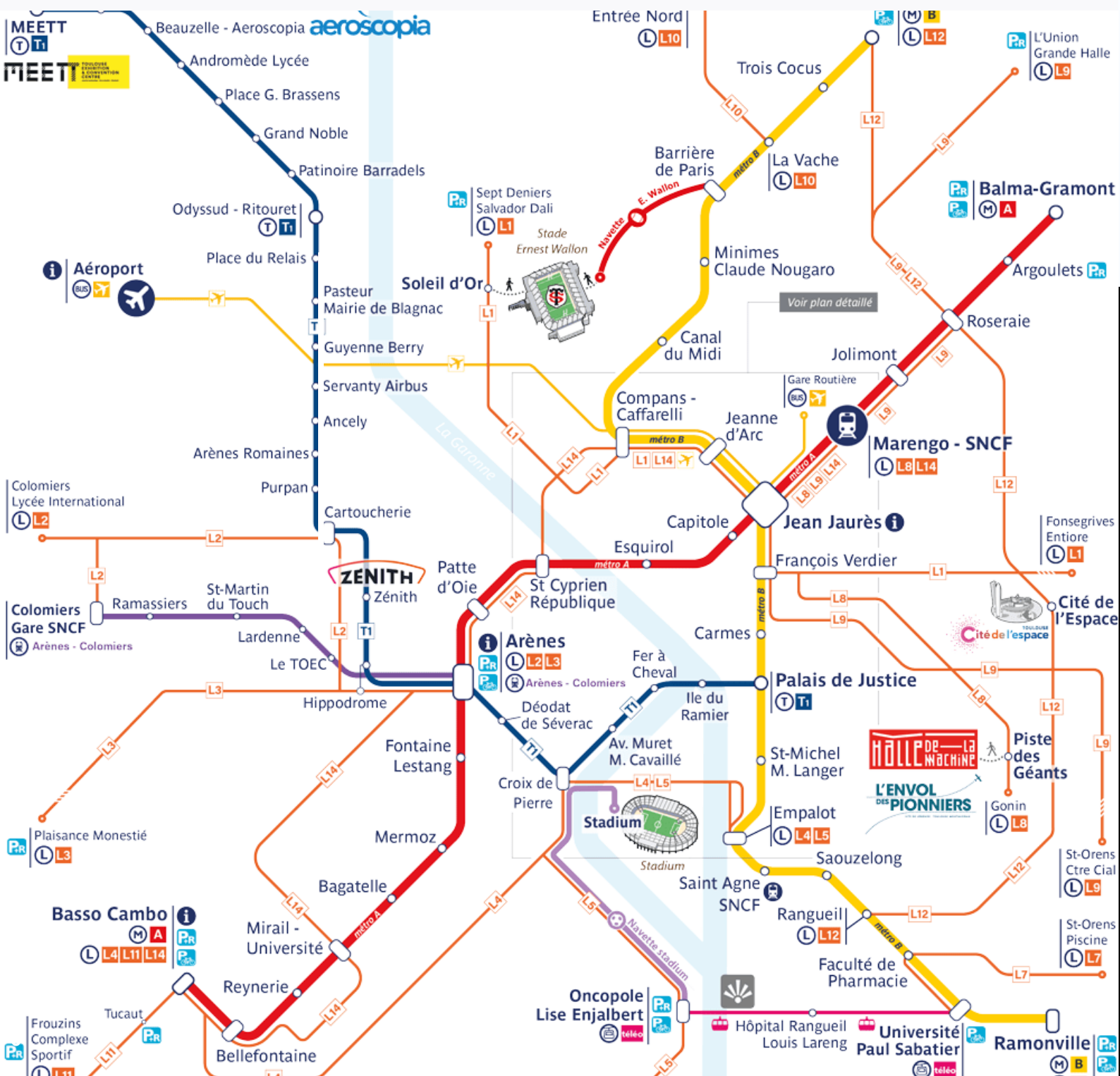
- 2 subway lines (soon to be 3!)
- 1 tramway line
- More than 100 bus lines
- The longest urban cable car in France : Téléo, linking the University of Toulouse with the Oncopole and passing by Rangueil hospital

How do i get to my campus ?

INP-ENSIACET : Line B Ramonville stop + bus 79 towards Labège Couder stop at INP

INP-AgroToulouse : Line B Ramonville stop + bus L6 towards Castanet-Tolosan stop at Moulin Armand

INP-ENSEEIH : Line B or bus L1 or L8 stop at François Verdier or Line A stop at Jean Jaurès



Prices

Prices :

Making the [Carte Pastel](#) (with ID and photograph) : 9 €

- Annual subscription (20 to 25-year-old students) : 169,60 €
- 31 days (20 to 25-year-old students) : 16 €

How to obtain my Carte Pastel ?

By presenting an ID and an ID photograph, you can get it online on the [Tisséo Website](#) or directly in a [Tisséo Agency](#).

Other travel tickets available with a rechargeable ticket :

- 3 days : 14,40 €
- 1 day : 7,20 €
- 10 trips (20 to 25-year-old students) : 6 €
- 1 trip : 1,90 €
- From/To the airport, check out the [different options](#) (starting from 1,90 €)

[Download the
Tisseo App](#)

Vélo Toulouse

- Available 24/7 – 283 stations
<https://velotoulouse.tisseo.fr/fr/offers/groups>
- 24h Liberté offer : 2 €
- Liberté 1 trip : 1 €



The first 30 minutes of each trip are free.

Bank

Opening a bank account in France can be very useful, particularly for:

- Paying your bills (electricity, telephone, rent)
- Your subscriptions (public transport, internet)
- Receiving any wages more easily
- Getting your healthcare costs reimbursed directly.

An international student living in France can open a bank account at any bank in France. You can compare the offers from different banks.

The documents usually required to open a bank account:

- A valid ID
- A certificate of enrolment or a student card
- Proof of address.

More information on the [Campus France](#) website.

If necessary, please contact the designated point of contact for new students in your school's International Relations Office :

- INP-AgroToulouse : françoise.eftymiades@toulouse-inp.fr
- INP-ENSIACET : internationaloffice@ensiacet.fr
- INP-ENSEEIH : isabelle.simon@toulouse-inp.fr

HEALTH INSURANCE

For **doctoral students** : Social Security enrollment – CPAM

- The health insurance system in France covers part of medical expenses (consultations, medications, hospitalization, etc.).
- All non-european international students must enroll in the French social security system upon arrival by registering for free on the official website : [Assurance Maladie](https://assurance-maladie.fr).
- You will be required to provide the following documents :
 - An ID
 - Your residence permit
 - A school enrollment certificate for the current academic year
 - An IBAN (International Bank Account Number) or a bank account statement (RIB) for reimbursements
 - A civil status document necessary to create your identification number (commonly called the “social security number”). The adequate civil status documents are :
 - a full copy of the birth certificate
 - an excerpt of the birth certificate with parentage (or any document issued by a consulate)
 - Family record book
 - A marriage certificate

International agreements and conventions may require additional documents, see the “Special Cases” section below.

Special cases : Internationals from EU/EEA/Switzerland, Quebec, Andorra

- If you are a **citizen of the EU/EEA/Switzerland** : Make sure you have the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). If you do not have an EHIC, you will need to register on etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr
- If you are a **citizen of a non-EU/EEA country** : When registering on the etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr website, you must provide a residence permit.
- If you are a **citizen of Quebec** : Before your departure, request from the RAMQ the form SE 401-Q-102 bis, “Certificate of Membership in a Quebec Health Insurance Plan prior to departure for France” .
- If you are a **citizen of the Principality of Andorra** : Before your departure, request from your health insurance fund the form SE 130-04, “Certificate of entitlement to healthcare benefits, including maternity, during a stay in the territory of the other State.” .

Civil liability insurance

If you have a bank account, you can purchase insurance through an insurance agency or a bank.

Additional health insurance

Since the EHIC does not cover all costs, an additional health insurance is recommended.

DAILY LIFE

Managing your expenses

Average prices of basic products

- Baguette : 1 €
- Croissant : 1,10 €
- Coffee : 1,40 €
- Restaurant : 15 à 25 €
- Meal at the university restaurant : 1 €
- Groceries : about 40€/week

Accommodation

CROUS housing

- I am looking for a [CROUS residence](#)
- INP-AgroToulouse : [résidence Rachel Carson](#)
- INP-ENSIACET : South-East Toulouse area residences
- ENSEEIHT : Toulouse city-centre residences

Long stays

[Studapart](#) is the housing partner of Toulouse INP. Find accommodation in just a few clicks and with full confidence ! For other housing options (university residences, private housing, shared apartments, etc.), additional information is available on [this website](#).

Each university has CROUS accommodation prioritised for exchange students. However, universities cannot guarantee accommodation for all students. Please contact the international relations office at the relevant university. For PhD students, please enquire with your research group and the Welcome Desk. For international students receiving a French government scholarship, Campus France will assist with accommodation.

Address book

International Relations Offices of Toulouse INP

- Common services :
6, allée Emile Monso, F-31400 TOULOUSE
international.inp@toulouse-inp.fr
- INP-ENSIACET :
4, allée Emile Monso, 31029 TOULOUSE
international.ensiacet@toulouse-inp.fr
- INP-AgroToulouse :
Avenue de l'Agrobiopole, 31326 CASTANET-TOLOSAN
international.ensat@toulouse-inp.fr
- INP-ENSEEIHHT :
2, rue Charles Camichel, 31071 TOULOUSE
international.enseehit@toulouse-inp.fr

MY STUDENT LIFE

Summer schools

Toulouse INP organizes an intensive French language course for incoming students before the start of your academic year.

The course includes 20 hours of classes per week, preparation for studying at an engineering school, as well as cultural activities and guided tour (one per week).

<https://www.inp-toulouse.fr/fr/international/summer-schools.html>

French as a Foreign Language (FLE) courses

French as a Foreign Language (FLE) courses, along with many other languages (English, Spanish, Italian, Chinese, Japanese, Portuguese, Swedish, ...) are offered throughout the academic year to PhD students and teaching-research staff at University of Toulouse member institution.

More information about french courses offered by the [University of Toulouse](#).

Sports

- All information on [how to practice a sport on campus](#).

Student organisations

- [ESN Toulouse](#)



- [AEGEE Toulouse](#)

- [La vie étudiante associative](#) à l'INP

Emergency numbers

General emergency number : 112

Emergencies (SAMU) : 15

Firefighters : 18

Police : 17

SOS Médecin : 36 24 ou 05 61 33 00 00

Poison center : 05 61 77 74 47

Welcome Desk



41 Allée Jules Guesde, 31013 Toulouse

welcomedesk@univ-toulouse.fr

As soon as you arrive in Toulouse, please go to the [Welcome Desk](#) to get all the information you need to settle in comfortably in Toulouse.

You can :

- Submit your visa application
- Find out about the city, healthcare, etc.
- Apply for housing assistance, etc.



TOURISM AND CULTURE

You can find [here](#) a touristic map of Toulouse



A touch of nature in the city :
the jardin des plantes, japanese garden, royal garden, jardin du Grand-Rond, prairie des filtres, jardin Raymond VI, and the [Pech-David sports and leisure centre](#)

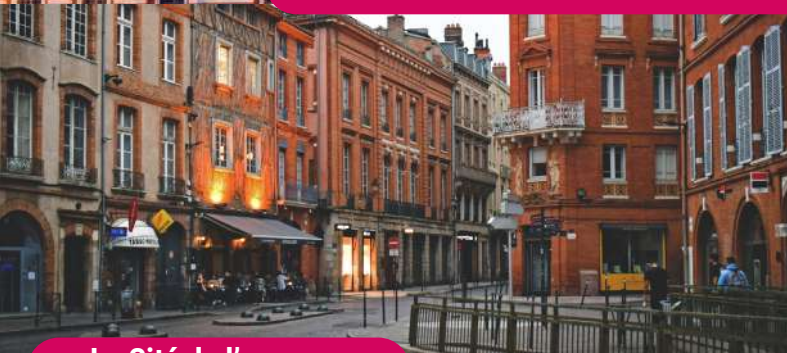
Sports

The Ernest Wallon Stadium to watch a rugby game featuring [Stade Toulousain](#) or [Toulouse Olympique XIII](#)

The "Stadium" to cheer on [TFC](#)
There are several [public swimming pools](#) in Toulouse and the surrounding area.



Must-sees in Toulouse : Capitole, Garonne river banks, Saint-Sernin Basilica, Jacobins convent



La Cité de l'espace :
regular day ticket : 29 €



La Halle de La Machine :
full price starting from 12 €



Culture

Music and Concerts

Toulouse has been designated a City of Music by UNESCO. This international recognition highlights the city's history and excellence in this field. The title pays tribute to musicians and to all those who contribute to the vibrancy of the city's musical life.

From large concert halls dedicated to classical or contemporary music to small café-concerts, there is something to suit every musical taste and every budget.

- [Zénith](#)
- [Bikini](#)
- [Maison Blanche](#)
- [La halle aux grains](#)
- [The Métronum](#)
- [The Rex](#)
- [Interférence](#)



Cinema

Cinema holds a special place in Toulouse. From mainstream cinemas showing films in their original language to arthouse cinemas offering a more specialised programme, there is something for everyone when it comes to cinema.

Toulouse is home to a large Latin American and Spanish community, and hosts two film festivals showcasing the latest releases from these cultural regions.

- [Pathé Gaumont Wilson](#), [Pathé Gaumont Labège](#)
- [UGC Toulouse Montaudran](#)
- [American Cosmograph](#)
- [Le Cratère](#)
- [ABC](#)
- [Utopia Borderouge](#)
- [Cinémathèque de Toulouse](#)



Museums

- [Musée des abattoirs](#) (full price : 10 €)
- [Musée Aéroscofia](#) (full price : 15 €)
- [Le Quai des savoirs](#) (full price starting from 9 €)
- [Musée départemental de la résistance et de la déportation](#) (free)
- [Musée Saint-Raymond](#) (tarif plein : 5 €)
- [Muséum d'histoire naturelle](#) (tarif plein : à partir de 9 €)



Theater

In Toulouse, many theatres put on performances every evening.

In September, the Ramonville Street Arts Festival offers the chance to discover a wide variety of artists from a range of disciplines (theatre, clowning, acrobatics, etc.)

- [Café-théâtre les 3T](#)
- [Théâtre Garonne](#)
- [La cave poésie](#)
- [Le théâtre du Grand Rond](#)
- [Théâtre de la cité](#)
- [Le Sorano](#)



Festivals

- [Rio Loco](#) (mid-june)
- [Ciné latino](#) (end of march)
- [Rose festival](#) (end of august)
- [CinEspaña](#) (start of october)
- [Festival Le Marathon des Mots](#) (end of june)
- [Pause Guitare, Albi](#) (start of july)
- [Le Festival de Carcassonne](#) (end of june)



Events in Toulouse

- Every december, the christmas market takes over Capitole Square
- On the 21th of june, it is World Music Day, go out in the street and celebrate !

Les halles de la Cartoucherie

Open every day of the year, Les Halles offers dining and sports facilities, workspaces, a performance venue and a wide range of events, most of which are free.
Opening hours: 8.00 am – midnight / 1.00 am



Gastronomy

Where to eat ?

- [Victor Hugo Market](#), 6AM – 2PM from tuesday to sunday
- Place Saint-Georges
- [Ma Biche sur le Toit](#) : standing on top of the Galeries Lafayette, enjoy a stunning view over the roofs of Toulouse, to grab a bite or a drink while admiring the sunset.

Places to grab a drink and go out

- Capitole Square
- Carmes
- Place Saint-Georges
- Saint-Cyprien
- Around the Saint-Sernin Basilica
- Place Saint-Pierre
- Saint-Aubin

"Guingettes" (open-air summer bars and restaurants)

- [Horizon](#) : guinguette on a barge
- [Racines](#) : alongside the Garonne river
- [La Friche Montaudran](#)

Specialities from Toulouse

- Cassoulet
- Toulouse sausage
- Cachou Lajaunie : small liquorice and catechu candy
- Violet

In Occitanie

Albi

Not far from Toulouse, Albi is a magnificent historic town renowned for its remarkable architecture and cultural heritage. The Episcopal City is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is well worth a visit on a day trip !

Must-see sites

- The [Sainte-Cécile cathedral](#), the world's largest brick cathedral, famous for its imposing Gothic architecture and its richly decorated interior.
Reduced price : 5 € (full price : 6 €)
- The [Toulouse Lautrec museum](#), This museum houses the world's largest public collection of works by the painter Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, who was born in Albi.
Student price : 5 € (adult 10 €)
- The [palais de la Berbie](#), former episcopal palace with wonderful gardens and panoramic point of view over the Tarn river.

Opening hours: 8.30 am – 6.30 pm (8 pm from June 1 to September 31)



The mountains

For nature lovers, the Pyrenees are just a few hours away from Toulouse by train or carpool.

- Skiing in winter ([Ax-3-Domaines](#), [Saint-Lary](#) or [Font-Romeu](#)).
- Hiking in summer ([lac d'Oô](#), [cirque de Gavarnie](#)).
- The [Pic du Midi](#) : impressive panorama at 2877 meters high, accessible by cable car. Starting from 34 €

The cité de Carcassonne

Take a journey back to the heart of the Middle Ages with a visit to the Cité de Carcassonne, a magnificent fortified town listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Close to Toulouse, treat yourself to a cultural afternoon away from it all.

- Individual price: €19 (from 2 June to 30 September 2025), €13 (from 1 October to 31 March 2026)
- Free for people under 26 (from EU and non-EU foreigners living in France)
- Visits are available in french, english and spanish.

Walks or bicycle rides along the paths on the banks of the [Canal du midi](#), a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It's a peaceful and picturesque way to explore Toulouse and its surroundings, ideal for relaxing, exercising or getting about on a daily basis.

The Mediteranean Sea

- [Collioure](#) : a colourful and picturesque harbour. Enjoy the beaches, the royal castle and the bustling narrow streets.
- [Narbonne](#) : A town steeped in history, just 1h30 hours by train from Toulouse. Visit Saint-Just Cathedral and the market halls, then head to Narbonne-Plage for some sun and sea.
- [Gruissan](#) : a charming village with beaches, [pink salt flats](#) and wooden huts on stilts.

To move around the Occitanie region, remember to use public [public transportation](#).

<https://www.tourisme-occitanie.com/>

<https://www.toulouse-tourisme.com/autour-de-toulouse/escapades-a-moins-de-2-heures/>

<https://www.toulouse-tourisme.com/autour-de-toulouse/excursions-organisees-autour-de-toulouse/>

Social Media

facebook.com/toulouseinp

instagram.com/toulouseinp

linkedin.com/school/toulouseinp

scoop.it/u/inp-toulouse

inp-toulouse.fr/en/index.html