



VFrenchStudio
French Tutoring

French Summer Holiday Guide

Essential Phrases & Cultural Tips for
Adults

Explore French, your way | Holiday Edition



Holiday Phrases Guide:

Essential phrases for every situation.

Basic Politeness & Greetings

Bonjour - Hello

Merci - Thank you

S'il vous plaît - Please

De rien - You're welcome

Excusez-moi - Excuse me

Au revoir - Goodbye

Ordering Things

Je voudrais - I would like

Un café (au lait), s'il vous plaît - A coffee (with milk), please

L'addition s'il vous plaît - The bill, please

Quelle est la spécialité? - What is the speciality?

Sans sucre - Without sugar

Une glace au chocolat - A chocolate ice cream



Asking For Help & Directions

Où sont les toilettes? - Where are the toilets?

Où est la gare? - Where is the train station?

Pouvez-vous m'aidez? - Can you help me?

Parlez plus lentement - Speak more slowly

Je ne comprends pas - I don't understand

Pouvez-vous répéter? - Can you repeat?

Shopping & Paying

Combien ça coûte? - How much does it cost?

C'est trop cher - It's too expensive

Carte ou espèces? - Card or cash?

Je peux payer par carte? - Can I pay by card?

Avez-vous une réduction? - Do you have a discount?

Où est le marché?- Where is the market?



Healthcare

Je suis malade - I'm ill

Je suis allergique à... - I'm allergic to...

Où est une pharmacie? - Where is a pharmacy?

Où est l'hôpital? - Where is the hospital?

J'ai besoin d'un médecin - I need a doctor

J'ai de la fièvre - I have a fever

Accommodation Issues

Le Wifi ne fonctionne pas - The Wifi isn't working

Il n'y a pas d'eau chaude - There's no hot water

Le chauffage ne marche pas - The heating isn't working

Pouvez-vous réparer...? - Can you fix...?

C'est trop bruyant - It's too noisy

Où la clé?- Where is the key?



Holiday Tips

Some Cultural Insights For Your Trip

Public Toilets

Public toilets often charge €0.50 -1. Carry Coins! Some cafes require you to be a customer. Just ask: 'où sont les toilettes?'

Bank Holidays/Closures

Many shops and restaurants unexpectedly close on French bank holidays. Check dates before you go so you're not caught off-guard. Sunday closures are also common.

Lunch Times

In smaller towns, restaurants close between 12-2pm for lunch. Lunch is an important ritual in France- embrace the slower pace!

Healthcare Access

Pharmacies can help with minor issues and give advice. Look for the green cross. If you need a doctor, ask your accommodation for recommendations.

Public Transport

Validate your ticket or risk a fine. Different regions have different systems- ask at the station or tourist office how it works.

Driving/Parking

Speed limits and parking rules differ from the UK. Check rental car briefing. Parking in town centres can be tricky. Allow extra time.



French Summer Bank Holidays:

Key dates to be aware from for your trip!

14th July - Bastille Day (Fête Nationale)

Major national celebration. Fireworks, parades, festivities. Some shops and restaurants may close. Public transport runs on holiday schedule.

15th August - Assumption of Mary (Assomption)

Many shops, restaurants and businesses close.

Popular holiday time- beaches busy, accommodation pricer. Plan meals in advance, eating out can be difficult.



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Your French Adventure Starts Now!

Remember: you don't need to speak
perfect French- just be brave enough to try.
Enjoy every moment of your adventure.
Bonnes vacances!

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