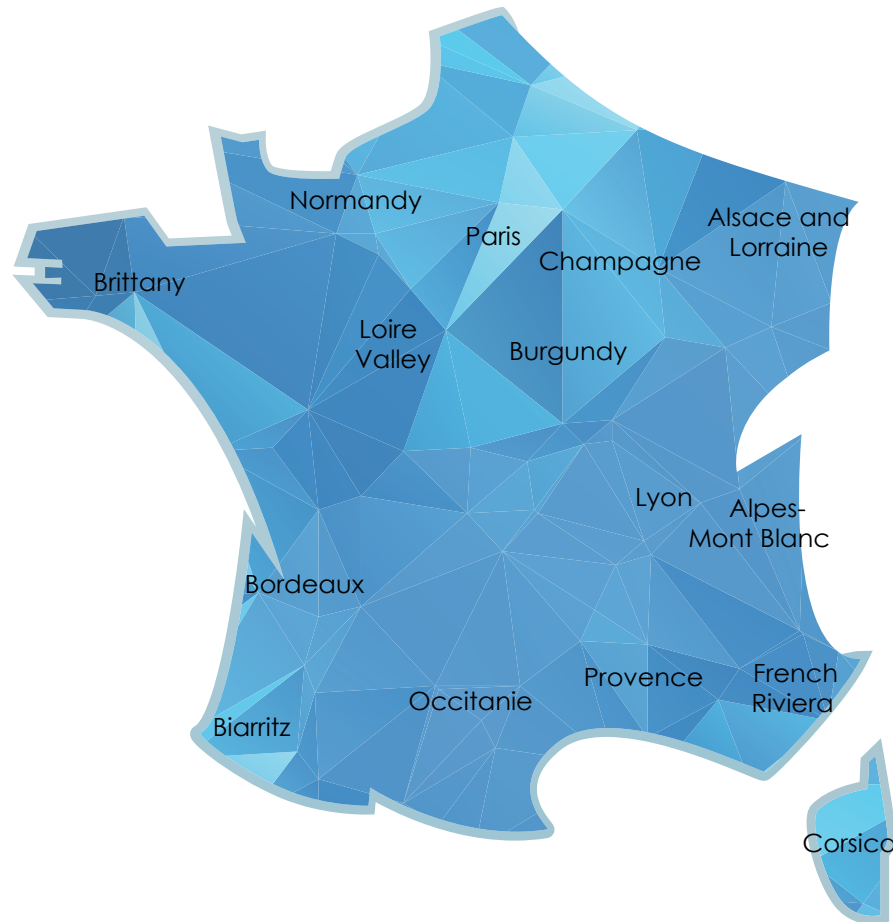


France Destination Specialist Programme

Module 1 - City Breaks

Showcasing France



Map of France

FRANCE IN FACTS AND FIGURES

- France is the number 1 tourist destination in the world. In 2018, the country received 89.4 million overseas visitors to its shores.
- Strategically located in the heart of Europe, France enjoys easy air and rail access from major European cities and the rest of the world.
- France has the 2nd largest European railway network in the world and its high-speed train, the TGV (Train à Grande Vitesse), travels up to 320 km/h and facilitates connections to over 450 destinations in France, including every major city.
- France's accommodation options include an exhaustive accommodation inventory of 612,000 hotel rooms which include
 - ▷ 6,170 3-star and 4-star hotels
 - ▷ 338 5-star hotels
 - ▷ 25 hotels bestowed with the prestigious Palace classification.
- The Gastronomic Meal of the French has been added to the UNESCO's Intangible Heritage of Humanity since November 2010. France offers you:



Mont Saint Michel

- ▷ A selection of 365 distinct types of French Cheese
- ▷ 10, 000 wine cellars for wine tasting
- ▷ 621 Michelin-starred gourmet restaurants
- France is home to more than 40,000 monuments: castles, abbeys, churches and manors, 8,000 museums and 44 UNESCO World Heritage sites.

VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR FRANCE

Valid Schengen VISA is mandatory for Indian Tourists

- Passports older than 10 years must be renewed
- **A MUST:** Duly filled Form, proof of income, Overseas Medical insurance, Invitation letter (for business visa), Air tickets, Visa Fees starting from INR 639 to 6,972 depending on the type of Visa.
- VFS centres in 14 cities.
- Single-window application for MICE
- Visa processed within 48 hours of application at VFS Centres



La Cité du Vin

AIR FRANCE

Founded in 1933, Air France is France's national carrier and together with KLM, reaches 314 destinations worldwide in 116 countries. It operates from 3 Indian gateways: New Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru.

Its hub, Charles De Gaulle Airport in Paris is home to a state-of-the-art Air France Business Lounge which was launched in July, 2018. It is located in Hall L of Terminal 2E in Charles De Gaulle Airport.

Air France with its robust domestic network, connects to numerous French cities such as Marseille, Lyon, Nice, Nantes, Montpellier and Toulouse to name a few.



Air France - Economy Cabin



Air France - Business Cabin

This summer, Air France unveiled its revamped long-haul travel cabins on board Airbus A330 on the Bengaluru-Paris and New Delhi-Paris route. With 36 seats in Business, 21 seats in Premium Economy and 167 seats in Economy, Air France offers brand new experience on board. The revamped A330 has a new Business seat that transforms into a full flatbed, one of the widest Premium Economy seats in the market and additional comfort in Economy with 118 degree recline.

For summer 2019, the refurbished A330 will progressively fly daily from Bengaluru and will fly five times a week from New Delhi.

For winter 2019, Air France will start flying daily from New Delhi starting 28th October 2019. It will continue to fly daily from Bengaluru and Mumbai. The route will be operated by Boeing 777 aircraft.

CITIES



Arc de Triomphe

PARIS

When in Paris, visit famous Parisian landmarks, stroll along the quays of the Seine, take a trip through the timeless heart of the city, savour succulent French gastronomy at bistros or brasseries, enjoy retail therapy or spend time discovering typical Parisian districts.



2 CV Rides

Paris with the Family

A 2CV (Deux Chevaux) vintage car tour of Paris with a chauffeur

Discover Paris in a vintage Citroën car that has you driving past iconic monuments with a chauffeur who acquaints you with the city's history and regales you with amusing anecdotes.

The Grévin Wax Museum

Encounter legendary celebrities such as Cristiano Ronaldo, Ranveer Singh or Katy Perry at the Grévin Wax Museum. Children will enjoy their Discovery Tour which adds an entertaining angle to learning about the art of creating wax models.

Fly-View Paris

Enjoy a new virtual reality experience. Fly-View Paris gives you an opportunity to take off on a flight over Paris and its well-known monuments such as the Arc de Triomphe, the Eiffel Tower and Notre-Dame de Paris aboard a jetpack with a 360° view.

Air & Space Museum

Located at Le Bourget airport, this is the only museum in the world that houses the Concorde prototype 001, the Concorde Sierra Delta and a supersonic Air France commercial liner.

Paris for Two

A Meal Made Special

Savour a panoramic meal for two at the Jules Verne in the Eiffel Tower, the Maison Blanche, Les Ombres or a romantic meal for 2 by the fireside at Le Coupe-Chou in the Latin Quarter. Enjoy traditional French gourmet cuisine at the iconic Café de la Paix against the iconic backdrop of the Opéra Garnier.

Portraits at Studio Harcourt

Studio Harcourt specialises in black and white photography. Its newly launched range of luxury photo booths allows you to click your photograph for EUR 10. Among the photo booths located around the city, the one at MK2 Bibliothèque even offers couples a portrait photo together.



Montmartre

A Walk in Montmartre

The winding streets of Montmartre teem with artists painting at street corners. Discover the art deco houses of Avenue Junot, the "Mur des je t'aime" that has "I Love You" written in 280 languages and the Musée de la Vie Romantique that houses several romantic canvases, objet d'art and sculptures.

On the Wine Trail

Ô Château

Ô Château is one of the best wine bars in Paris that offers more than 50 varieties of wine by the glass and 1,000 references by the bottle. Complement your tasting with platters of cheese and charcuterie and small plates.



Dilettantes

Dilettantes

At Dilettantes, 125 different local Champagne are referenced. All are rare, authentic and affordable and originate from 25 different wine-growers. This champagne bar is often considered a very convivial and friendly place to learn more about champagne and enjoy tasting.

Shopping in Paris

Enjoy sublime shopping at chic department stores such as the Galeries Lafayette, Printemps located on the Boulevard Haussmann, the Le BHV Marais, le Bon Marché Rive Gauche and the Printemps du Louvre.



La Vallée Village

Enjoy a day out at La Vallée Village, an open-air chic village, which offers more than 110 fashion and lifestyle boutiques that offer the trendiest products from their previous collections at prices reduced by at least 33% and often more. La Vallée Village is open 7 days a week, just 40 minutes from Paris and 5 minutes from Disneyland Paris.

Shop on Sunday in Paris! More than 3,000 retail outlets are open for business in different parts of the city that include the Champs-Élysées and Avenue Montaigne, the Boulevard Haussmann, le Marais, les Halles, Montmartre, the Latin Quarter and many more.

Beyond Paris

Enjoy unlimited entertainment at amusement parks such as Disneyland Paris which offers 2 Disney parks, more than 50 attractions, shows and parades. An encounter with the Gauls is promised at Parc Astérix where Astérix and his entourage offer a slew of 40 astonishing attractions and 5 major shows.

Art comes alive at Giverny; this quaint village located in Normandy is where you will find celebrated Impressionist artist



Parc Astérix

Claude Monet's home with famous Japanese engravings. A must visit is the famous Water Garden with the famous Japanese bridge.

At an hour's distance from Paris lies the magnificent Domaine de Chantilly that is home to the statuesque Château de Chantilly, the Condé Museum and the Grand Stables. Do not forget to try the delectable Chantilly cream that is known all over the world.



Aerial view of Chantilly Castle

©Picardy Tourism - J.L.Aubert

LYON



Lyon

A 2000-year-old city, **Lyon** is the capital of the Auvergne Rhône Alpes region and is considered a gateway to the French Alps. Renowned also as the World Capital of Gastronomy, visitors can choose from a selection of traditional eateries known as bouchons, Michelin starred restaurants and brasseries. Lyon has also been recognised as the “European Capital of Smart Tourism” in 2019.



Overview of Lyon from Fourvière Basilica

Must Visit in Lyon

The Basilica of Fourvière

Devoted to the Virgin Mary, this iconic building overlooks all of Lyon. Its interiors are richly decorated with mosaics, stained-glass windows and marble. The panoramic view from the esplanade is breath-taking.

The Traboules of Old Lyon

Winding their way through buildings, courtyards, and up and down staircases, Lyon's secret covered passageways, or traboules, are an ideal way of visiting the city's hidden and colourful past. Located mostly in Old Lyon and the Croix Rousse, there are 400 traboules in Lyon, but just over 40 are open to the public.

The Maison des Canuts

Relive Lyon's days of yore when it was a thriving textile industry with a visit to the Maison des Canuts. You'll get to know all the secrets of exceptional silk making techniques thanks to a weaving demonstration done on a hand operated Jacquard loom.

Family Experiences

Musée des Confluences

Situated on the confluence of the Rhône and Saône rivers, this futuristic monument essays to narrate the story of mankind and explains the origins and evolution of life. The Museum has inherited over 2 million pieces from the 16th century to date and its treasures include mammoth and dinosaur skeletons.

Musée Lumière

Learn more about the origins of cinema at this home of the celebrated Lumière brothers who shot the world's first motion



Musée Lumière

© Marie Perrin

picture "*La Sortie des Usines Lumières*" (Exit of the Lumières Factories) here on 19 March 1895.

Tête d'Or Park

This park offers its visitors a zoological park where zebras, giraffes, antelopes, lions and other rare species roam free, a botanical garden with 20,000 species and in spring an international rose garden. Kids can choose from pony rides, miniature golf or even delight themselves at a puppet show.

Gastronomy



Bouchon Abel

Bouchon Meals

Enjoy a traditional meal at any of Lyon's traditional restaurants known as bouchons. The label *Bouchon Lyonnais*, guarantee an authentic culinary experience. Choose from bouchons such as Le Bouchon Sully, Chabert et Fils, Aux Trois Couchons and many more.

Les Halles de Lyon Paul Bocuse

Whether you're partial to quenelles, cheese, macaroons or seafood, you can find almost any food product at the Halles

de Lyon, the city's covered food market that pays homage to celebrated chef the late Paul Bocuse. The food here is sumptuous with pride of place given to quality regional produce.

Shopping in Lyon

Gift a silk accessory to your loved ones from the few original silk weavers that still reside in the city. Choose from their Made in Lyon products that include scarves, ascots and other silk accessories.



Silk Scarves

For the best in fashion and current trends, go to the Confluence, Croix-Rousse, the 6th district or the Presqu'île district where independent boutiques, small and large brands and expert concept stores offer a diverse variety.

Gourmands can choose from a selection of confectionery at the Violette and Berlingot boutique, chocolates from Chocolats Voisins, 50 types of honey at Comptoir du Miel and fine French gastronomy products such as foie gras, truffles and more at Comtesse du Barry.



Lyon

Beyond Lyon

Côte du Rhône Vineyards

At 25 minutes from Lyon, on a guided tour, discover the legendary Côte du Rhône vineyards. Discover the Côte Rôtie vineyards

home to the Syrah grapes and also Condrieu which is home to the Viognier grape that produces the world-famous white wine. Winery visits acquaint you with secrets of wine-making and tastings of 5 legendary Côtes du Rhône wines.

Oingt

Located in the southern part of Beaujolais, Lyon's wine growing region-Oingt is a picturesque perched village (40 kms from Lyon). Explore its narrow-cobbled streets and its monuments made of golden stone. Visit Oingt's Tower, its entrance gate (Porte de Thizy) and its Centre of Mechanical Music. Stop by at a wine cellar for some local wine tasting.



Oingt

TOULOUSE PYRÉNÉES



Toulouse Pyrénées

Capital of the region, Occitanie Sud de France, **Toulouse** with its pretty nickname of “La Ville Rose” or the Pink City surprises visitors with its colourful tones and its exceptional heritage reflected in its UNESCO sites. As the European capital of the aeronautics and space industry, Toulouse is the only place where you can visit the final assembly line of the A380.

Must Visit in Toulouse



The Capitole Square

The Capitole

This emblematic building is set across from the Place du Capitole and houses both the town hall and the Théâtre du Capitole. Its superb Salle des Illustres hosts a vast gallery of mirrors whose paintings retrace the history of Toulouse.

The Jacobins Convent

The church, a jewel of Gothic-art, with its double nave featuring a painted décor and stained-glass windows, is also home to the relics of Saint Thomas Aquinas. Its cloister regularly hosts concerts and exhibitions.

Saint Sernin Basilica:

This UNESCO Heritage classified Basilica of brick and stone is one of the largest Roman buildings in the Occident. Beneath its octagonal bell tower, there is an immense vaulted nave, as well as a crypt that contains numerous relics including those of the bishop and martyr Saint Sernin.

Banks of the Garonne:

Offering the most iconic views of the city, its banks are ideal for promenades and sunbathing notably along the Promenade Henri-Martin and at the Place de la Durade.

Family Friendly Toulouse

Encounter space at the adventure park - Cité de l'Espace. Experience the cosmos at its IMAX® cinema that has a screen as high as a 6-foot storey building or discover unknown astronomical worlds at the vaulted 360-degree screen of its planetarium. The Moon Runner simulator gives kids a chance to walk on the moon.

Aviation history comes alive at the Aéroscopia museum that is located next to the Airbus factory premises. Children can enter a real Concorde, an Airbus 330B and the Super Guppy. Admire a collection of aircraft, go behind the scenes of an airplane, or navigate your own flight with a simulator session.



Cité de l'Espace

© Manuel HUYNH

Gastronomy

Toulouse is the home of classic French specialties such as the cassoulet (a meat and bean stew), duck confit, sausages and foie gras. Many dishes also feature *haricots blancs* (white beans) which are a staple of southwest cuisine.

Raise a toast to wine at N5 Wine Bar which offers more than 3,500 wine references.



N5 Wine Bar

© Toulouse office de tourisme

With a remarkable wine dispensing system, N5's unparalleled selection of wine by the glass allows guests more than 500 choices to discover every day, all perfectly preserved using Enomatic dispensers.

Gourmands will enjoy a visit to the wonderful covered market Marché Victor Hugo which has amazing array of produce and a food court upstairs for a delicious lunch.

Shopping in Toulouse

Violets are the emblem of this city. One can take back souvenirs that include violet honey, candied violets, syrup and the Violette de Toulouse perfume, created in 1936 by Berdoues which is a must-try with its elegant pump bottle. Try Les Trésors de Violette boutique for violet goodies.



© Brice-Dittes

Toulouse acquaints you with the wonders of pastel. Head to the exclusive "Graine de Pastel" boutique that houses a veritable collection of cosmetic products made with this legendary blue plant of the region.

The main shopping street in Toulouse is Rue Saint Rome that has chic boutiques and exclusive labels. For exclusive offers one can go to the Rue du Taur. Foodies can take back gastronomic delights such as foie gras, the famous Armagnac brandy, sausages and more from the Victor Hugo market.

Beyond Toulouse



© Dominique Vief CRT Midi-Pyrénées | Une | Us

Pic du Midi

Pic du Midi

The Pic du Midi located at 2hrs 30 minutes from Toulouse, located at 3,000 m above sea level, can be accessed by cable car. Admire outstanding panoramas of the Pyrénées mountain range and also visit the museum which allows you to safely look at the sun with the use of filters, mirrors and lenses.

Cirque de Gavarnie

At only 3 hours from Toulouse, discover the grandiose UNESCO classified Cirque de Gavarnie - a natural bowl carved out by ancient glaciers in grey, ochre and pink limestone rocks. Admire Europe's largest waterfall with its 413m vertical drop and permanently snow-covered mountains.



Cirque de Gavarnie

© D Vlier CRT Midi Pyrénées



© CRT Midi Pyrénées- D Vlier

Albi

Albi

At an hour's distance from Toulouse is the medieval city of Albi, the birthplace of celebrated artist Henri de Toulouse Lautrec. Visit the Toulouse Lautrec museum and its historic city centre which enjoys UNESCO World Heritage classification. Discover Albi by boat or through a tourist train that traverses the medieval roads of this city.

MARSEILLE



Marseille

The port city of **Marseille** is France's third largest city. The European Capital of Culture in 2013, Marseille underwent a complete metamorphosis which led to creatively designed museums, art scenes and more forming part of the city's landscape.

Must See in Marseille

Take in a guided tour of Marseille's old town and the Old Port that teems with cafes, bars and souvenir shops.

Make the trip to the Basilica of Notre Dame de la Garde that towers over the city of Marseille. Take a fun ride on the tiny touristic train that starts from the Old Port and winds its way to the top and offers breathtaking views en route.

Discover Marseille's majestic cliffs at the Calanques National Park that stretch along 20 kms of the coastline. In this trekker's paradise, admire an extravagant display of fauna and flora.

Make a stop at the Panier, Marseille's oldest district that teems with colourful streets, restaurants and funky artisan shops. To the south, you have famed architect Le Corbusier's famous UNESCO classified Cité Radieuse building painted in shades of blue, yellow and red.

Take a boat ride to the legendary and listed historical monument - the Château d'If once a state prison and made famous by Alexandre's Dumas's novel 'The Count of Monte Cristo.'



Basilica of Notre Dame de la Garde

Marseille with Children



MUSEM

MUSEM

Marseille's iconic landmark is the striking MUSEM or the Museum of European and Mediterranean Civilisations. Visit the J4, home to 6 exhibition halls and 3 restaurants. Cross the bridge to visit the historic Fort Saint Jean that offers panoramic vistas of Marseille

and the Mediterranean Sea. Children will enjoy the magic of this place and discover its temporary and permanent expositions.

The Préau des Accoules

A museum for children, the Préau des Accoules has been promoting art and heritage to kids in a fun way. Each year, several thematic exhibitions and cultural events are organised for children. The museum aims at making museum visits entertaining and educational at the same time.

A Rendezvous with Marseille's Famous Soap

Marseille's authentic savons (soap) are emblematic to the city. At



MuSaMa

the Savonnerie Marseillaise de la Licorne, kids will learn all about the history of Marseille soap and the secrets of its production. They can even touch, smell and personalise their soap.

Marseille on a Plate

Tuck into some traditional fare such as bouillabaisse (fish-stew), aioli, tapenade (olive spread), anchoïade (anchovy spread),



Bouillabaisse

stuffed vegetables, panisse (garbanzo bean rolls) and the famous “navette” an orange blossom flavoured delight found in the Panier and St Victor districts.

Try the local Pastis which is a gold-tinted aniseed drink typical to Marseille or a cold glass of one of the famous Rosé wines (Chateauneuf du Pape, Bandol, Rasteau or Côtes de Provence).

Le Comptoir aux Huiles is a charming olive oil cellar and shop in the heart of Marseille, offering exclusive olive oil tastings and pairings with different aperitifs.

Shopping in Marseille

Head to Marseille's city centre for traditional shopping. The La Joliette district, Rue Sainte and St Victor are great options for trendy buys. For flea market shopping, head to the Fifi Turin flea housed in a village square atmosphere.

The souvenir and gift shops (soaps, olive oil, etc.) can be found between the Old Port and Le Panier, popular tourist areas.

Around the Prefecture, numerous antique shops and art galleries have set up home in Rue Edmond Rostand, Rue Sylvabelle and Rue Saint-Jacques.

Beyond Marseille

Wander off from Marseille to discover surrounding Provence, lavender fields, the quaint hilltop villages of the Luberon or the Alpilles such as Gordes, St Rémy de Provence, Les Baux de Provence for best views of the surrounding countryside.



Luberon

© LMV-photo Ph.Giraud

Visit the culturally rich town of Aix en Provence (32 kms by road). It's must-visit attractions include Old Aix, the Cours Mirabeau and the Vasarely Foundation.

Discover Avignon, once the city of the French popes. The city boasts of historical sites such as the Palais des Papes, the famous Pont d'Avignon (the bridge), its ramparts and churches.



Abbaye de Sénanque

© Ph.Giraud - OTLMV

In order to become a certified France Destination Specialist, you must complete all four modules. To get started, **REGISTER HERE** and download the study material to get acquainted with France.

If you have already registered yourself and would like to test your knowledge on France as elaborated in this study material, please **LOGIN** your details here to take test.

To successfully complete the test, please note below:

- You must answer all the questions in each module.
- There is only one correct answer per question.
- Click the submit button to move on to the next module.
- You must qualify for each Module in chronological order with min. 60% (Module-1 >> Module-2 >> Module-3 >> Module-4) before you can proceed to the next module.