



## LANGUAGE & CULTURE IMMERSION PROGRAMS



**FRENCH  
LANGUAGE  
PROGRAM  
INFORMATION**



**Two weeks o more of French classes, nature, sports and cultural activities designed to create unforgettable memories!**

### OUR MISSION

#### **FULL FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE IMMERSION**

We provide a full immersion in French Language and Culture in FRANCE through a fantastic combination of conversation-based classes, fun supervised activities and day-to-day living experiences.

By spending their vacation time learning and improving their French, your children will develop outstanding language skills while building memories that will last them a lifetime.

### OUR FOUNDER



#### **Dr. Marta Alfaro.**

**A pediatrician and Ridgefield resident and devoted mother of two boys who grew up in San Sebastian, Spain.**

Dr. Alfaro attended medical school at the University of Navarra and completed her pediatric residency in the United Kingdom. In 2004, she came to the U.S. with her husband, Dr. Sanjay Gupta, who was completing a fellowship in joint replacement at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York. They were drawn to the welcoming nature and hospitality of the States and became American citizens. They made their home in Ridgefield, Connecticut.

Marta and her bilingual sons spend their summer in Spain. She knows the importance of learning a second language...and the benefits of introducing children to another culture. This led her to start Camp Sol Spain, a full Spanish language and cultural immersion program in San Sebastian, soon followed by another French language program in Biarritz, France.



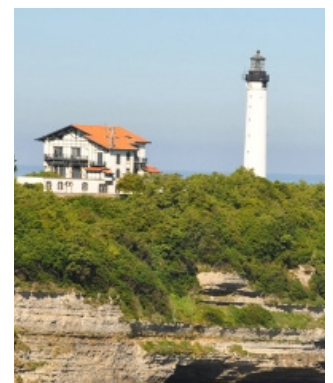
OUR  
DESTINATION

## BIARRITZ

Biarritz, an elegant seaside town on southwestern France's Basque coast, has been a popular resort since European royalty began visiting in the 1800s.

Known for its famous beaches and therapeutic water, Biarritz offers visitors a unique atmosphere. The town is comprised mainly of grand houses used by the wealthy as summer retreats. It has an upscale feel to it that is balanced off nicely with a more relaxed and easy-going surf culture that has a long history here.

This is a place where fine restaurants and spas live harmoniously side-by-side with laid-back pizza joints and surf shops.



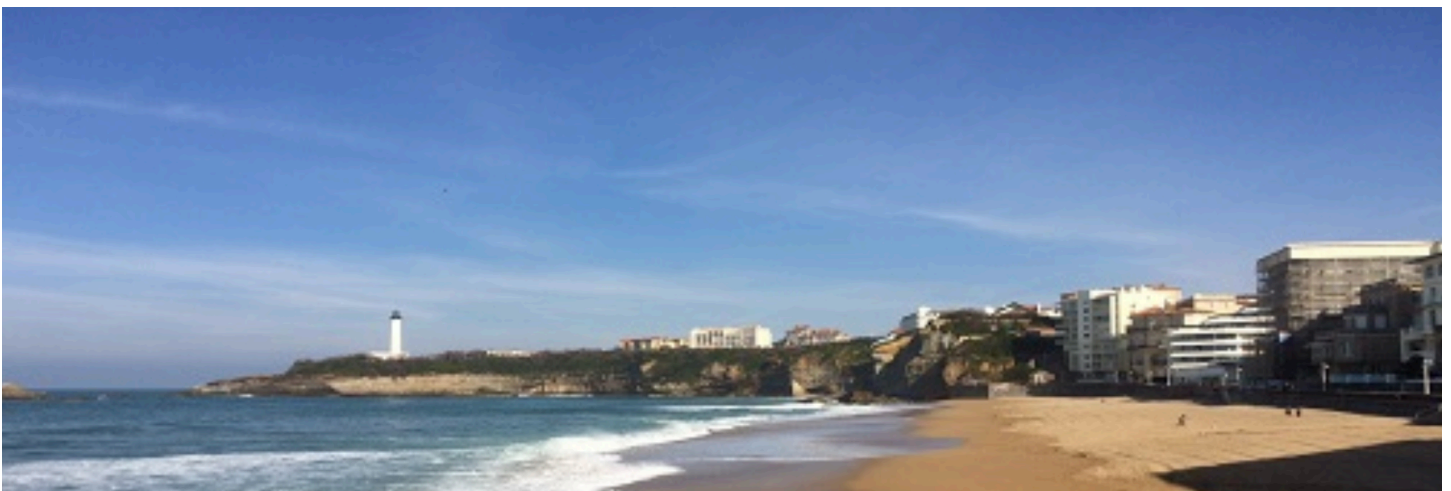


## OUR SCHOOL



**The school is located in the centre of Biarritz, 5 minutes' walk from markets, restaurants, cafés and boutiques in the lively Halles district and only 10 minutes from the world-famous surf spot at the Côte des Basques beach.**

Set in a typically Basque town house dating from 1850, with a terrace garden and a private swimming pool, Corinne and her team are on hand to welcome you for an unforgettable stay tailored to suit your requirements whether you are young, sporty, senior, a couple or looking for something different!





## OUR SCHOOL

Specialized in teaching French as a foreign language, our school can boast 38 years of experience. Renowned for the quality of their teaching as well as their innovative approach in terms of educational research and development. Our schools have been awarded the « Qualité Français Langue Etrangère » label, which guarantees the quality of the teaching, of facilities and student services.

**8000 students trained every year**

**More than 100 nationalities welcomed**

**80 permanent teachers and professors**

**Actively involved in all bodies and major international events concerning French as a Foreign Language.**

Member of **CAMPUS FRANCE** (public institution in charge of promoting French higher education abroad), **IALC** (International Association of Language Centres) and **ATOUT France** (agency for the development of French tourism abroad).





## OUR PROGRAM

### EXAMPLE OF A CUSTOMIZED FRENCH LANGUAGE PROGRAM

**Class hours per week** 15-20 hours per week

**Class timetable** Classes are held from Monday to Friday as follows:

Class 1: 09:30-11:00

Break: 11:00-11:30

Class 2: 11:30-13:00

**Materials Included** Course materials & Course completion certificate

**All French levels accepted** Beginner-C2

**Language Assessment Exam** Your language level is evaluated upon arrival at the program location. We measure your ability by a written placement exam and/or an oral exam with local professors. The language assessment is intended to ensure you get the best training possible while attending our program. A written placement exam may be given prior to your departure overseas also.

**Certificate** Course completion certificate stating French level according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.





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### EXAMPLE OF A SCHEDULE

<b>8:30-9:00 AM</b>	Wake-up & wash-up
<b>9:00-9:30 AM</b>	Breakfast
<b>9:30-9:40 AM</b>	Preparation for classes
<b>9:40-11:10 AM</b>	French Class
<b>11:10-11:30 AM</b>	Recess & Morning Snack
<b>11:30-12:55 AM</b>	Second French class
<b>13:00-14:00 AM</b>	Activities (theater, science, dance & music)
<b>14:00-15:00 AM</b>	Lunch
<b>15:00-15:30 AM</b>	Free time (supervised)
<b>15:30-19:30 AM</b>	Team games, sports, workshops, cultural activities and special clinics
<b>19:30-20:30 AM</b>	Shower & free time
<b>20:30-21:15 AM</b>	Dinner
<b>21:15-22:30 AM</b>	Night activities, theme nights, cinema in OV, disco, games & more
<b>23:00 AM</b>	Good night





### **Personalized student's course and stay in France.**

France Langue has created an academic monitoring process for its students with dedicated teachers. The aim is to ensure the effectiveness of each training course and the progress of each student according to their individual goal.

### **Innovative teaching methods and content.**

France Langue has created a modern and innovative academic syllabus run by a team of 80 teachers including 30 permanent professors who, in addition to their courses, develop educational programs.

### **Communication dynamic that creates a unique student experience.**

France Langue aims to create a special atmosphere within its schools to facilitate and promote sharing. Students, teaching and administrative staff, host families, all strive to make each stay a memorable one. Sharing experiences, exhibitions, outings, sports, excursions, ... More than just a language course, France Langue offers a real human and cultural adventure!

### **Pedagogy and courses.**

We have academic programs and content that are adapted for each age group, each different level as well as the class's own requirements as per the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

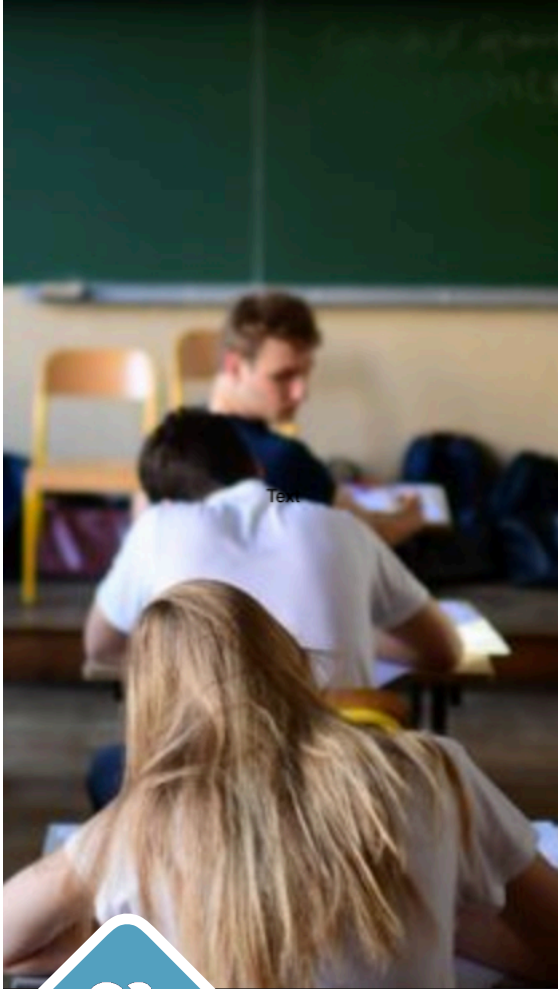
### **Methods with guaranteed results**

Our methodology is focused on the practice and action of using the French language for communication from day one. This model of teaching and learning guarantees the satisfaction and good results of students in all areas of communication.

### **Mission, vision and guarantee**

An international school which is a center of reference for the training and teaching of French and its associated cultures, with a standard of excellence in terms of results and for its leadership in teaching faculties and communication.





- 15-20 hours of French language classes each week.
- Small classes (max of 13 students) facilitate close student relationships and personalized teacher attention.
- The classes are educational and entertaining. This promotes class participation and cooperation for a safe learning environment. The teachers and staff all have experience and ensure that the teens gain confidence with their language skills as well as new vocabulary.
- Classes are fun, interactive and practical with French used constantly in the classroom.
- Emphasis on comprehension, conversation and interaction ALL in French.
- Classes are engaging and use visual materials
- Internet and educational games.
- Teachers are experienced and native French speakers.
- Teachers are university graduates and have been trained to teach French as a foreign language to younger learners using the IH methodology.
- The Director of Studies, in consultation with the Senior Teacher Trainers, develops the academic study program.



**Our aim is to make you feel safe and secure from the very first moment so you feel right at home!. We offer two accommodation options :**

### **HOST FAMILIES**

#### **For our juniors (from 15 years of age)**

Our Juniors learn about local customs, cuisine and the daily French life while enjoying a more familial company in their free time.

While living with a host family they can practice your French skills daily and become a real part of the family. We have a large variety of responsible and trustworthy families of all different kinds to ensure that we find our students the perfect match.

Advantages:

- Allows students to really get to know the French people and their way of life including their customs, cuisine and habits. It's an intimate look into another culture.
- Get the most out of your French course by using their French skills daily while enjoying an atmosphere perfect for serious study.
- Full Board

### **DOMAINE DU PIGNADA**

#### **For our younger campers (up to 15 years of age)**





## OUR ACCOMODATIONS

- Five meals a day. We can accommodate any dietary requirement, such as kosher, vegan food, allergies, gluten free, dairy free, vegetarian..

- Laundry is included once a week.

- Surrounded by mountains, beaches and rivers, providing all students the perfect mixture of Nature adventures and City exploring in a safe and controlled environment.

- Program counselors provide 24 hour supervision.

- The building that houses our Programs includes (Subject to availability):

- Soccer fields
- Basketball courts
- Volleyball court
- Gymnasium
- Indoor fronton
- Stage Theatre
- Small movie theatre and TV room
- Computers and Internet access
- Game room with ping-pong tables
- Cafeteria and Kitchen
- Classrooms
- Dormitories
- Limited and secured access points





## OUR ACTIVITIES

**Our program is designed to provide a good mix of recreational, cultural, social and sporting activities that allow students to practice French together, along with excursions organized to visit the city's landmarks and discover the beautiful Spanish and French Basque Country.**



An orange diamond shape containing the text "OUR ACTIVITIES" in white, bold, uppercase letters.

OUR  
ACTIVITIES

**EXAMPLE OF A 2 WEEK ACTIVITIES & EXCURSIONS PROGRAM**

<b>Day 1</b>	Visit to the “City of the Ocean” + scientific workshop (meteorology/climate/ocean study)
<b>Day 2</b>	Hike across the Spanish / French border
<b>Day 3</b>	Trip to Bilbao and visit to the Guggenheim Museum
<b>Day 4</b>	Visit to the Aquarium + scientific workshop : study of the ocean and marine species
<b>Day 5</b>	Golf lesson
<b>Day 6</b>	Visit to the “Surf Rider Foundation” + scientific workshop (waste and plastics management in the oceans)
<b>Day 7</b>	Electric biking tour along the Biarritz Coastline
<b>Day 8</b>	Visit to the “Izaldia Ecological Park” + scientific workshop (discovery of the environment, ecosystem and coastal ecology)
<b>Day 9</b>	Full day excursion to the “villages basques”
<b>Day 10</b>	Full-day excursion to San Sebastian
<b>Day 11</b>	Surf lessons + scientific workshop: (reading oceans and waves / understanding tides and currents)
<b>Day 12</b>	Introduction to the “Pelote Basque “



## FAQs

Below is a full list of common study abroad questions that we receive from students, parents, teachers and schools. Please search for your questions below. However, do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to ask us a question over the phone or if you cannot find what you are looking for here.

### WHAT HAPPENS IF A STUDENT HAS A PROBLEM ONSITE

Our onsite directors are available exclusively for our participants 24/7 and families in the US can contact their son or daughter at anytime.

Whenever a participant has a problem they should contact their onsite director immediately. All participants are provided with the contact information for our staff overseas and in the US.

If there is a medical emergency while you abroad we will make sure your emergency contact is notified before making any major decisions.

Camp Sol Spain recognizes the importance of knowledgeable, friendly, and well trained onsite staff. Our onsite directors and staff are available 24 hours a day and 7 days a week to assist you with any needs. Our goal is to ensure you are as comfortable as possible while abroad.

### HEALTH AND SAFETY

France is a relatively safe country but the normal precautions should be taken. In the summer you should be wary of sunburn and dehydration.

At Camp Sol Spain we provide a safe and supervised program environment. Our onsite directors and staff are available to assist you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If medical attention is needed while abroad, our onsite staff will accompany you to an appropriate healthcare facility. We only choose program locations that we deem completely safe and healthy, and this extra precaution ensures that our students have a wonderful experience without worry.

### INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL INSURANCE

Full medical insurance is included in your program fee.

Camp Sol Spain insurance policy will cover absolutely any medical expenses internationally up to USD \$50,000 with MultiNational Underwriters. If you take prescription medication with you make sure that you have a doctor's prescription in the event that customs officials question you about it. This is rare, but it's always a good idea to be prepared.

### SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS

Vegetarian, vegan, and kosher students, or whatever dietary needs you may have! If you have any special dietary needs just let us know beforehand.



## FAQs

### FOOD ALLERGIES

If your daughter/son has food allergies, sensitivities, or dietary restrictions, you are at the right place . We accommodate campers with gluten-free and dairy-free diets, as well as other food allergies, such as seeds, fish, shellfish, and eggs.

### RECEPTION & FAREWELL ACTIVITY

We welcome you to your host city with a reception activity to meet the other participants and your directors. And, of course, a farewell activity is provided as a chance to say goodbye to friends and celebrate your new experience.

### PROGRAM ORIENTATION

When you arrive at your study abroad destination, our onsite staff will provide you with a welcome orientation. This will cover important topics such as health, safety, academics and cultural awareness, and end with a tour of your host city.

### PRE-DEPARTURE ADVISING

All of us at Camp Sol Spain are always available to answer your questions throughout the pre-departure process

### TUITION & BOOKS

Tuition, books and fees are included for the French classes taken abroad.

### LANGUAGE EXCHANGE

Interaction with locals is an important aspect of our language program. We strive to create cultural and language exchange opportunities at each of our sites.

### COLLEGE CREDIT (only for College students)

College credit is included or available .

### TRANSCRIPT OR CERTIFICATE (only for College students)

You will receive a university transcript or French school certificate upon the completion of your program. Camp Sol Spain will maintain an original document in our offices in the event that you need a copy in the future.



### PACKING RECOMMENDATIONS

Generally, French people dress very similarly to Americans. However, clothing brands and styles do set Spaniards and Europeans apart from Americans. We suggest you bring the clothes that you are normally used to wearing. The points below are a few things to keep in mind:

- French do not tend to dress “sporty” and normally do not walk around in athletic clothing unless they are actually playing sports.
- For summer programs we recommend bringing all summer clothing while in Biarritz. However, evenings can be cool so bring a light jacket or sweater for going out.
- Pack light: leave a little room for the things you will buy while abroad!
- Lightweight clothing .Air conditioning is not common in France – pack accordingly!
- Swimsuit, sun hat, sun glasses, beach towel, sunblock
- Comfortable walking shoes! Make sure you break them in before your trip to avoid blisters. Also, if you plan on jogging or doing any sports you’ll want to bring the appropriate footwear.
- Flip flops; typically you have one pair for inside the home. House shoes are an important cultural aspect of the French culture.

### MISCELLANEOUS

Small duffel or backpack for weekend or afternoon trips

Towel, toiletries, and sunblock.

Camera, batteries, and charger

European electric socket adaptors (for camera battery chargers, iPod chargers, etc. You will need a European-style prong in order to plug into European sockets. This can be bought at outdoor or travel stores).

### LAPTOPS

In general, we do not suggest students bring a laptop for short programs (1 month or less) because it is one more item that could be lost, stolen or damaged. There are computer labs at the school and Internet cafés all over town. You will not need it for class.

### CARRY-ON

Bring an extra pair of clothes & toothbrush in case your luggage gets lost or delayed by your airline.





### MEDICAL/SAFETY ITEMS

Bring any prescription drugs that you may use. Make sure they are labeled and if possible, carry your doctor's prescription.

### PASSPORTS AND VISAS REQUIREMENTS

#### • PASSPORTS

Your passport must be valid at for at least six months or longer beyond the dates of your trip. Some immigration officers may not allow you to enter the country otherwise.

If you do not have a passport, or need to renew your current one, you can find an application at your local post office. Please visit the [USPS PASSPORT PAGE](#)

#### • TRAVEL VISA

For summer students that do not exceed 60 days, no special visa is needed .

#### • US DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Camp Sol Spain recommends that all students register with the US State Department (this is now known as Smart Traveler Enrollment Program "STEP") while overseas. This is very simple to do. Please visit the website to enter in the requested information. You will need an address and a telephone number to register.

Under the section titled "International Travel" (located on the bottom left hand side), click on the "Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)" link. STEP (formerly known as "Travel Registration" or "Registration with Embassies") is a free service provided by the U.S. Government to U.S. citizens who are traveling to, or living in, a foreign country. You can read more about the benefits of this program on the website.

You will need an address and a telephone number to register. This will be provided to you 1 month prior to travel.

### WIFI AVAILABILITY

Residence will have WIFI plus student will have full access to the computer lab.

### COMMUNICATIONS BY EMAIL

Language School /Residence have computers available for student use. Keeping in contact with friends and family is a great way to share your experience. Just remember, though, it can take away from your French learning. Attempt to write as little as possible in English while you are there.



## FAQs

### WHAT'S THE ELECTRICITY IN FRANCE LIKE

France uses 220 V AC at 50 Hz, the same as the rest of Europe. Plugs have two round pins so if you bring any electrical items from the US you will need to bring an adapter plug. These can be bought at travel or outdoor stores or in the airport. Be wary of plugging electrical items in from the US—check to make sure the item can handle the different electrical current. Hairdryers brought from the US, for example, often short out. Most new electronics, such as digital cameras, and laptops are of the 110 V AC – 240 V AC range. If the electrical plug they use has a small box on the cord then you have the built-in converter.

### WHAT'S THE CURRENCY

France is part of the European Union and as such uses the euro. To find the most up-to-date conversion please visit XE. You could also bring some cash.

### WHAT'S THE TIME IN FRANCE COMPARING TO USA

France is 6 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time (EST). The country observes daylight savings (from the last Sunday in March to the last Sunday in October).

### CONTACT

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