

# Gap Program in Bordeaux, France

## Individually Customized Programs

What makes ANDEO's Gap programs stand out is that they are very flexible and can be customized to fit your goals and interests. The two core components are small-group language courses and a homestay with a local family. From there, you can choose your own path. For example, you can apply for an internship in Bordeaux, take classes in Business French, or add a surfing course on the Atlantic coast. Programs can be as short as four weeks or as long as a full year and start any Monday. Academic credit is available.

**2010 Price Estimate: \$6,950 for a 12-week program**  
(airfare not included; 4-week to 12-month programs possible)

## Bordeaux

There are many reasons to come to Bordeaux: the charming historic downtown, featuring classy cafés and Europe's longest shopping street, the sunny weather, or its proximity to the Southern Atlantic coast and the Pyrenees. Bordeaux is also the home to a vibrant cultural scene, several universities, and delicious varieties of French cuisine.

## The Language Institute

Inside the cozy 19th-century building, you will find several bright classrooms, a self-study area, and a comfortable lounge opening onto a sheltered garden. The institute is situated close to Place Gambetta, where you will find many cafés and shops.

## The Classes

For four hours each day, you will study French with a focus on oral communication. The institute emphasizes the importance of understanding the language within its cultural context. Teachers work with authentic materials like newspaper articles, literature, and songs. There are no more than 8-12 students in a class. Courses with a specific focus on business, medicine, law, diplomacy, and wine are also available.

## Cultural Activities

Each week, you can choose your activities and excursions from an outstanding program. Highlights may include a visit to a contemporary art museum, a day trip to the Dune of Pyla, screenings of French movies, or concerts. Some activities are free; for others you need to budget a little extra to cover transportation and entrance fees.

## Special Option: Study and surf on the Atlantic coast!

The institute's second campus is located in the seaside town of Biarritz, on the Bay of Biscay. Start your day with three hours of conversational French classes, then pack your wetsuit and surf the fantastic waves of the Atlantic coast! All levels are welcome, both in the classes and on the surfboard. Contact us for details!

## Accommodations

A homestay with a local family is the best way to immerse yourself into the daily life in Bordeaux. Host families come in all shapes and sizes, but what they all have in common is a strong interest in sharing their culture. All homestays include breakfast and dinner each weekday and all meals on weekends.



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# Frequently Asked Questions

**What does the price estimate include?** Tuition for the language course, study materials, homestay placement with breakfast and dinner each day and all meals on weekends, some cultural activities, pre-departure orientation materials, and ongoing support in your preparations and during your stay in France. If you want to add special options, please contact ANDEO for a cost estimate.

**Can I study if I am a beginner?** Yes, you can start as a complete beginner. Call for specific beginner start dates!

**When will I receive my host family placement information?** You will receive host family details and contact information in the week prior to your arrival date.

**Will there be an orientation session in Bordeaux?** Yes. On your first day, you will take a placement test and get the opportunity to discuss your motivations and interests with your teachers. You will also receive a welcome packet which includes useful maps and brochures.

**Will I have access to email?** Yes, the institute has a several computers with internet access and all students can use them for a flat fee of approximately €20.

**Will the institute be closed for any holidays?** Yes, it will be closed for all national holidays in France. The 2010 dates are: January 4, February 1, March 1 and 29, April 26, May 24, June 21, July 19, August 11 and 16, September 13, October 11 and December 6. The campus in Biarritz is open from March 29 to October 29.

**Can I get credits for studying abroad?** Yes! Whether you are a high school graduate, a university student working toward a degree, or a teacher looking for professional development, you can get credit for continuing your education abroad. Earn 5 to 10 credits by signing up for a variety of courses offered by *We Study Abroad*, an accredited college program linked with Seattle Central Community College. Please visit [www.westudyabroad.com](http://www.westudyabroad.com) for details.

**Do I need travel insurance?** We strongly recommend that you get travel insurance that includes a medical plan. Prices depend upon trip length and participant age. You can compare different policies online or by contacting your local travel agent.

**Will I need a visa?** That depends on the length of your program, your citizenship, and other individual factors. Visa requirements change frequently, so we strongly recommend that you contact your nearest French consulate or embassy to make sure you have the most up-to-date information about all rules and regulations that apply to your stay. It is your responsibility to obtain all necessary travel documents for your program in France. If you need any documents from ANDEO or our partner organization abroad, we will do our best to provide them to you.

**Can I speak to people who have participated in the program before?** Definitely! Please contact our office and we can provide you with the emails of students who have participated in this program.

**How do I apply?** To apply, complete the initial Gap application and return it with a \$500 deposit. You can download an application at [www.andeo.org](http://www.andeo.org). Your deposit will be applied to the total program price. Upon receipt of your program registration and deposit, we will send you a detailed orientation packet. The balance of your program fees will be due 30 days before your program start date.

**What is your cancellation policy?** If you cancel your program more than 45 days prior to your start date, we will refund the amount you have paid toward your program fee except for the \$100 non-refundable deposit as well as any cancellation fees charged by the language institute. The cancellation fees vary from program to program, so please feel free to ask us about the fees that apply to yours. For cancellations made less than 45 days prior to your program start date, your \$500 deposit will be forfeited, and you will also be responsible for the cancellation fees charged by the institute. If ANDEO cancels your program, you will receive a full refund.

**If you have any further questions or would like to start planning your program in France, please contact ANDEO at [info@andeo.org](mailto:info@andeo.org), 503.274.1776 or 800.274.6007. We look forward to working with you!**



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*Like having options? Take a look at our other Gap programs in Argentina, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Peru, and Spain!*

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