

Gap Program in Tours, 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 take courses in Medical French or French for Diplomacy, join a bread and cheese tasting, or combine programs in Tours and Paris. Programs can be as short as four weeks or as long as a full year and start any Monday. Academic credit is available.

2010 Estimated Price: \$8,975 for a 12-week program
(airfare not included; 4-week to 12-month programs possible)

Tours

Tours is a charming university town in the Loire Valley, a region known for its many Renaissance chateaux. It is said that the "finest" French is spoken in Tours, which makes it a great choice for international students. Some of the best places to practice the language and enjoy the city are the beautiful parks and gardens, and the many cozy cafes in the historic city center.

The Language Institute

Located in the lively old town of Tours, the institute offers nine spacious, comfortable classrooms, a rooftop terrace, a video room, several libraries, and a cellar constructed in the 15th century. Students come here from all over the world, creating a truly multicultural learning environment.

The Classes

With a maximum of only seven students per class, you will have many opportunities to participate. The courses are designed according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages and include 20 hours of classes per week. You can also choose additional sessions on French society, political life, literature, art history, or wine. At the end of your course, you will receive a certificate.

Cultural Activities

Visiting the medieval fortresses along the Loire river, tasting French artisan breads and cheeses, or discovering the homes of Honoré Balzac and Leonardo da Vinci are just a few of the many options. You will want to budget a little extra for entrance fees and transportation costs. Free activities may include concerts by local musicians, museum visits, or screening of French films.

Special Option: Combine Tours and Paris!

Don't leave France without having experienced the City of Lights! You can continue your language studies at an institute in the cosmopolitan 14th arrondissement, within walking distance of Montmartre and the Sacre Cœur basilica. Contact us for details!

Accommodations

A homestay with a local family is the best way to immerse yourself into the daily life in Tours. 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; dinner can be arranged for an extra fee.



"My host family was fantastic, I loved them! Tours is a great small city and the Touraine valley is a great region to get to know. I also learned a lot about communicating in different languages with people from different cultures"
-Fanny, 2009-



ANDEO
INTERNATIONAL HOMESTAYS

ANDEO International Homestays - a nonprofit organization since 1981.

Frequently Asked Questions

What does the estimated price include? Tuition for the language course, study materials, homestay placement with breakfast every day, 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 Tours? Yes. On your first day of classes, you will be given a welcome pack which includes maps, brochures, and a student card enabling you to benefit from various discounts in bookstores, museums, cinemas etc. After your placement test and a first meeting with your teacher, enjoy a guided tour of the city.

Will I have access to email? Yes, the institute has several computers with internet access and all students can use them at no cost.

Will the institute be closed for any holidays? Yes, it will be closed for all national holidays in France. 2010 dates will be available soon.

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 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. 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 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, 503.274.1776 or 800.274.6007. We look forward to working with you!



ANDEO
INTERNATIONAL HOMESTAYS

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

ANDEO International Homestays - a nonprofit organization since 1981.