

Homestay Immersion in France - Group Travel

2010 Dates and Prices*

Dates: July 1 to 29, 2010

Prices: \$3,400 for 4-week program
\$625 for optional Paris Tour

Roundtrip airfare from Portland, OR
(PDX) included

*Dates are tentative. We reserve the right to adjust program prices if there is a major increase in airfare or a major change in the currency exchange rate. In this event, applicants may cancel and receive a full refund.



Program Highlights

- individual homestay placement with French family
- guaranteed contact to French teen(s)
- bilingual chaperone
- group travel to/from France
- optional: explore Paris with the other students in your group!

Welcome to France!

Experience the beauty of French culture as part of a family! This program allows you to join in the daily flow of life, improve your French skills through animated conversations and everyday situations, and enjoy the company of a welcoming host family.

Program Structure

You will travel to France together with other ANDEO students and a bilingual chaperone who will be available to support you throughout your stay. Once you step off the plane, you will be met by a local program representative and escorted to your host family. Because our partners in France match students and host families based on shared interests, not on location, they may live anywhere in France. For the next four weeks, you will eat, sleep, and play like the French do. Enjoy! At the end of your stay, you will meet your group again at the airport and return to Portland together.

Optional Paris Tour

If you don't want to leave France without experiencing the magical City of Lights, finish your stay with a 3-day tour of Paris with other students in your group. The tour will be led by a local coordinator and may include visits to the Champs Elysées, the Louvre, Versailles, and some of the hidden treasures of the French capital. Please note that we need a minimum of eight students to offer the tour.

Prerequisites

We recommend this homestay immersion program for students who have studied French for at least two years, who really want to use and improve their language skills, and who feel ready to dive into a different lifestyle and culture. You won't spend a lot of time with other American students, and you should not expect to do a lot of traveling. If you prefer a program that offers language classes and organized group activities, take a look at our homestay study program in Paris!

"My host family was very accommodating and helped me learn about the language and culture. I also went to a music festival with my host siblings which was really fun and I got to learn a lot about the culture of my generation.

~Kelsey, 2008~



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ANDEO International Homestays - a nonprofit organization since 1981.

Frequently Asked Questions

What does the price include? Return airfare from Portland (PDX), a bilingual chaperone, homestay placement with meals, travel insurance, pre-departure orientation materials, and on-site support in France.

What is a host family? Host families come in all shapes and sizes, but what they all have in common is a strong interest in sharing their culture. For this program, our partners in France choose host families who either have a teen in the home or can connect you with teens in the extended family or neighborhood. All host families are screened by our partner organization in France and provide warm, welcoming homes for international students.

Are host families paid? Most families volunteer to host because they want to share their culture and learn about yours. Their compensation is a great time with an American student who is excited about being a part of their daily life and culture... like you!

Will my family speak English? They might, but they know that you are coming to use and improve your French skills, so they will encourage you to speak their language.

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, possibly earlier.

But what will I DO all day? That depends on your host family's daily schedule and lifestyle. You can expect to speak French, meet French people, explore the neighborhood you are staying in, and participate in family activities like meals, family gatherings, grocery shopping, or a few weekend outings. The key to enjoying an immersion program is to stay curious and take every opportunity to practice your French and learn something new about your host culture.

Will there be an orientation? Once you are accepted into the program, we will send you comprehensive orientation materials that cover everything from packing suggestions to dealing with culture shock. In April, we will hold an evening orientation for you and your parents. There will also be a mandatory orientation meeting in May where you will have the opportunity to meet the other students and your chaperone. Together, you will prepare for the experience by clarifying your expectations, learning about France and the French culture, and sharing advice on how to work through the challenging parts of an immersion program such as homesickness and culture shock.

Can I get high school credits for this program? Possibly. Talk to your teachers before the end of the school year about the option of completing an independent study project during or after your stay abroad.

What travel documents will I need? That depends on the total length of your stay abroad, your citizenship, and other individual factors. Entry requirements change frequently, so we strongly recommend that you contact your nearest French embassy or consulate to get up-to-date information. Generally, U.S. citizens need a passport, but not a visa for a short-term stay. It is your responsibility to obtain all necessary travel documents for your stay in France.

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

How do I apply? Complete the initial application form and return it to ANDEO with a \$500 deposit. We will then send you a detailed application with questions about your family and interests, a medical statement and release form, an agreement that spells out behavior expectations, directions for writing a letter to your host family, and three reference forms. You will have about 3-4 weeks to complete this. The decision to accept you into the program will be made based on your completed application. If for any reason we cannot accept you into the program, your deposit will be refunded in full.

What is the application deadline? The deadline is March 15th. However, we recommend that you apply as soon as you feel that all your questions have been answered and you have decided that this is the right program for you. Programs sometimes fill up early.

Who should not apply for this program? Students who are currently experiencing excessive behavior problems, drug or alcohol abuse, eating disorders or other psychological disorders that might interfere with the program, or students who have experienced these issues in the past year should not apply.

Are there any scholarships? No, ANDEO is a non-profit organization and we try to keep prices as low as possible for all participants. For students who want to fundraise for their program abroad, we have compiled some ideas and suggestions. You can find them on our website at www.andeo.org.



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Like having options? Take a look at our other homestay immersion programs in Germany, Mexico and Spain! We also offer homestay study programs in Costa Rica, Ecuador, France, Germany, Japan and Spain!

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