



Exchange Student Handbook

2020/2021

1. EPITA

- About EPITA [P.4](#)
- Key Figures [P.5](#)

2. UNIVERSITY LIFE

- Academic System [P.7](#)
- French Higher Education [P.8](#)
- Grading System [P.9](#)

3. STUDYING AT EPITA

- Classes [P.11](#)
- Orientation & Buddy Program [P.12](#)
- Activities [P.13](#)
- Campus: Map & Facilities [P.14](#)
- Becoming a Student at EPITA [P.15](#)
- Enrollment [P.16](#)

4. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

- Visa [P.18](#)
- Accommodation [P.19](#)
- Bank Account & Mobile Phone [P.20](#)
- Health [P.21](#)
- Working in France [P.22](#)

5. LIVING IN PARIS

- The arrival [P.24](#)
- Public Transports and Getting Around the City [P.25](#)
- Budget [P.26](#)
- Going out & Night Life [P.28](#)
- Shopping for food [P.30](#)
- Travelling in France & Europe [P.31](#)
- Practical Information [P.32](#)



EPITA



ABOUT EPITA

Founded in 1984, EPITA is a bilingual Graduate School of Computer Science. Thanks to its unique pedagogical approach, EPITA trains its students to become outstanding engineers who boast a solid base of scientific knowledge and the most advanced skills in the digital sector. EPITA also welcomes a wide range of foreign students thanks to its several international programs: bachelor, Master of Engineering, summer schools and French language courses

EPITA is ranked among the top computer engineering schools in France.

As one of the leading French science and engineering schools, EPITA is committed to ensuring that all students have meaningful opportunities for personal growth and professional achievement in the future.



“ The academic program for future digital engineers is heavily focused on science and technology, and must rapidly include core values such as environmental, societal, entrepreneurial, ethic and human responsibility.

The women and men who will work with the new Internet of data, guide the creation of artificial intelligence, oversee new mobilities and permanently help protect cyberspace must be complementary in their shared vision of the future.”

Joël Courtois
Managing Director of EPITA

KEY FIGURES





UNIVERSITY LIFE

ACADEMIC SYSTEM



- Academic Calendar

Academic Calendar 2020/2021	Dates are subject to change!			
	SEMESTRE 1 (FALL)		SEMESTRE 2 (SPRING)	
	Starts on	Ends on	Starts on	Ends on
Year 1	01/09/2020	08/01/2021	11/01/2021	04/06/2021
Year 2	01/09/2020	18/12/2020	04/01/2021	28/05/2021
Year 3	21/09/2020	12/02/2021	22/02/2021	09/07/2021
Year 4 Specializations (CS –DSA – ISM-SE)	07/09/2020	12/02/2021	15/02/2021	16/07/2021

- ECTS system

ECTS is the *European Credits Transfer System*, the point system created by the European Union in order to facilitate the transfer of students and their grades between European higher education institutions by allowing national and local grading systems to be interchangeable.

1 ECTS credit
=
25-30 work
hours.

A bachelor's
degree (3 years)
=
180 to 240 ECTS
credits

A master's
degree (2 years)
=
120 ECTS
credits

- Examples of ECTS equivalence

Canada, China,
South Korea,
USA:
1 local credit
=
2 ECTS

Mexico:
1,6 local credit
=
0, 625 ECTS

India:
1 local credit
=
1,5 ECTS or
2 ECTS

FRENCH HIGHER EDUCATION



There are three types of higher education institutions in France: **Universities**, **Grandes écoles**, and **Specialized schools**.

Universities are public institutions that offer academic, technical, and professional degrees to any student who has obtained a *baccalauréat* or its foreign equivalent. University study leads to degrees in many fields. Degrees are awarded at 3 different levels of achievement, called *cycles*, within a framework referred to as *licence*, *master*, *doctorat* (LMD), which is described in the following section.

The Grandes écoles are selective public and private institutions. They are like universities but typically offer a more specialized 3-year course of study in subjects such as business, public administration, or engineering. Students are admitted to the *Grandes écoles* based on their scores on a competitive exam. Before taking this exam, students must have obtained a *baccalauréat*, and they often have taken a 2-year preparatory course (*cours préparatoires* or *prépas*). Students graduate from a *Grande école* with a master's degree (*master*).

Specialized schools are public or private institutions delivering *Licence and Master's degrees* that train students for professional careers in specific fields, such as art, architecture, social work, or tourism.

• What is the LMD Framework?

The **LMD framework** is the result of the Bologna Process to harmonize university qualifications in Europe. The French current system rests on the following principles :

The Licence / Bachelor's degree:
A 3-year study program or 6 semesters at undergraduate level

The Master / Master's degree:
After completing a licence, students can apply for a master's degree which is a 2-year study program or 4 semesters.

Doctorat / PhD:
Students holding a master recherche may complete an additional 3 years' coursework to qualify for a doctorat (PhD equivalent).

GRADING SYSTEM



The grading system in France is on a scale of 0 to 20. Students must obtain at least 10/20 to be awarded ECTS credits.

- ECTS Grading Scale:

ECTS	French Grade	Definition	
A	16/20 - 20/20	EXCELLENT	Outstanding performance with no or only minor errors
B	14/20 - 16/20	VERY GOOD	Above the average standard but with some errors
C	12/20 - 14/20	GOOD	Generally sound work with a number of notable errors
D	10/20 - 12/20	SATISFACTORY	Fair but with significant shortcomings
E	10/20	SUFFICIENT	Performance meets the minimum criteria
FX	8/20 - 10/20	FAIL	Some more work required before the credit can be awarded
F	0/20 - 7/20	FAIL	Considerable further work is required

- ECTS credits:

1 Semester	1 Academic year
30 ECTS credits	60 ECTS credits

At the end of each semester a transcript of record is established by the school and sent to the students and the university. Each professor will inform on the evaluation and testing methods.



STUDYING AT EPITA

CLASSES



- Course Selection

Students' home universities will ask you to fill out a **learning agreement** which will clearly indicate the courses they have selected and their ECTS credits. These will be the courses students will need to validate during their semester/year at EPITA.

Students will, at first, select select courses via an internal platform to which they will have access once enrolled at EPITA. Students can participate in the first class and decide then whether to continue or drop the course. Once the learning agreement approved by both the universities, no change can be made.

It will be your responsibility to attend all the courses you have selected and validate them. Teachers will give you all the details on the evaluation modes.

- Classes at EPITA

EPITA offers classes taught both in **French** and **English**.

Students finalises their class selection with the *Incoming Student Officer* upon arrival. They have access to EPITA online platform **Chronos** where they will have access to the class schedules. They will only have access to the classes that are part of and will not be able to select courses from other majors.

Each student will have an average workload of *25 hours per week* and per class. Students will have lectures and personal work to do.

Once you have made your selection, attendance is mandatory. There is a specific attendance tool on which your presence will be notified and followed. **Each absence must be justified by a medical certificate or other certificate.**

The syllabi of EPITA's courses are on our website and can be sent by the incoming mobility officer on demand. Or students can have access to the Sway document with syllabi updated.

ORIENTATION & BUDDY PROGRAM



Before the beginning of each semester, an orientation session is organized to introduce international students the team that will accompany them throughout their semester/year at EPITA. They will meet their **Incoming Students Officer** from the International Relations Department who will be their main contact during their stay at EPITA. All academic information and the practical details of the semester will be explained, and a campus tour is organized to help students find the classrooms and the key areas.

International students have the possibility to be assigned a buddy who will accompany and assist them during their experience at EPITA.



Having what we call an **EPIBUDDY** is not mandatory but strongly recommended by the International Relations Department of EPITA. The EPIBUDDY contacts will be shared with international students before their arrival in France.

- EPITA offers other student support services:

40
student
societies

Gym
Centre
Pass

Mental
Health
Support

Campuses
open 24/7
with
student ID
card

Computer
labs
+
Research
Labs

High
Speed
Internet
Line

Online
platform
for
incoming
students

French
Language
Center

ACTIVITIES



Here is a sample of activities students can join during their stay at EPITA:

SPORT

EPISPORT



Campus sport student society offers a wide range of individual and group physical activities. Enrolled students receive an official licence from the FFSU (French University Sport Federation) Telephone & Internet (contract per month)

AIMS

Aims at promoting motor sports among students. Various events, held in France and abroad, are offered for both beginners and advanced students

Le Baby

Students share their passion of babyfoot and organizes tournaments throughout the year

ART

Ephemere



Helps to develop students' talent and passion for Photography. The society is often present to take the best clichés of EPITA events

Epink

Organizes events and animations that promote the art of tattooing.

CULTURE

EpiWorld



International student society welcoming newcomers and organising a great range of activities among which Paris visits, Cheese & Wine testing and French movies projections

Eptanime

Promotes Japanese culture among students and throughout Europe. Main activities are: Karaoke, film projections, drawing, musical video games)

CHARITY

Episolaire

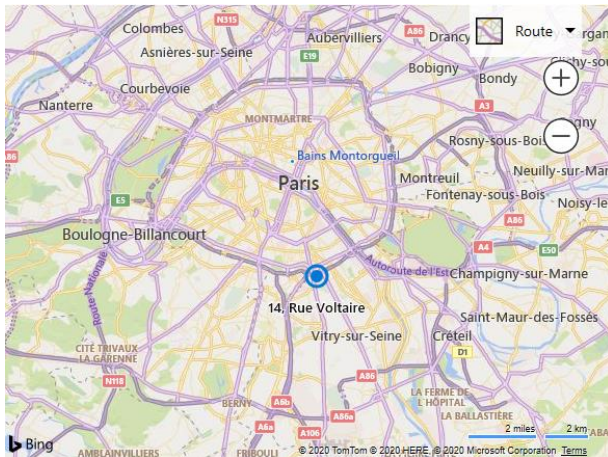


Humanitarian & charity actions on campus and in the surroundings (roam, collecting necessities, fund-raising)

CAMPUS: MAP & FACILITIES



- Kremlin-Bicêtre Campus

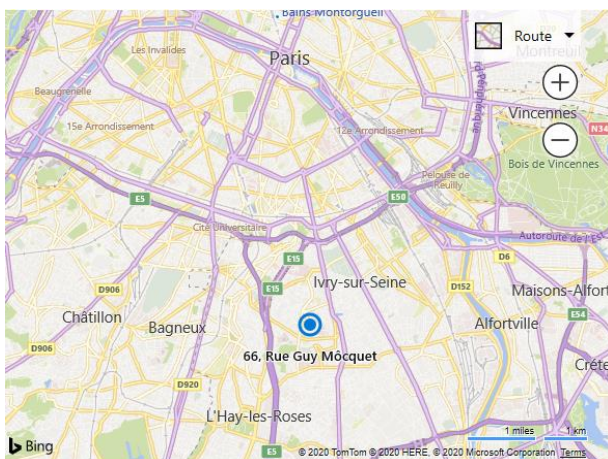


- Facilities

Kremlin-Bicêtre campus - a cafeteria is open on weekdays from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm where students can enjoy a breakfast or a lunch. There is a break area on the 6th floor of the Voltaire building which is mainly for international students and students can also chill in an open area in the center of the campus. Soft drinks and snack vending machines are also available at various areas.



- Villejuif Campus



Villejuif campus - 15 min away from Porte D'Italie, accessible by the subway. The campus includes classrooms, practical and research labs, a fireplace, a cafeteria open on weekdays from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, several multi-purpose relaxation and work rooms, all in a beautiful wooded park.

Wireless Internet Access everywhere with the logins students receive at the arrival

All classrooms have a video projector and high tech materials

BECOMING A STUDENT AT EPITA



- You can join the EPITA experience in 3 different ways!

- **Exchange Student**

Students can apply as exchange students if their home university has an agreement with EPITA.

Students must contact their international office and ask for information on the process of application. The international office will then nominate the selected candidates at EPITA and keep the students informed on the process.

As exchange students, EPITA tuition fees will be waived and students will only have to pay for personal, travelling and housing expenses.

- **Study Abroad Student**

Students from non-partner institutions can still apply if they are interested in studying at EPITA.

Students will need to pay EPITA tuition fees - €3,900 for 1 semester. A scholarship can be granted after studying the application.

- **Summer School Student**

Each year EPITA organizes summer school programs to allow students to enjoy the vibrant city of Paris and study in one of the Top Engineering schools in France in July.



ENROLMENT



Once students have been accepted to do their studies at EPITA, they will need to follow several steps:

1



Finding the International Relations Office!

Students need to go see the *Incoming Students Officer* in the International Relations Office in the Kremlin-Bicêtre Campus

2



Collecting the Student Card!

Students need to give the necessary documents to the Incoming Student Officer and collect their student cards

3



Participating in the Orientation day!

Students will need to attend the orientation day held at the beginning of each semester.

This day will give to our international students all the key information about the campus and the different courses

4



Finalising choices

After the first classes of each unit, student will have the opportunity to confirm or change their courses' choices with the *Incoming Students Officer*



ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

VISA



All non-EU students coming to study in France need a student visa.

The type of visa depends on the length of students' stay.

Administrative procedures to obtain a French visa can be very different and take time depending on your home country.

• General Information

The French diplomacy [website](#) gives general information about student visas and the types of visas (Long-stay/ short-stay visa)

We recommend students to contact the French embassy in their Home country to get more information about procedures.

*Visa procedures must be completed **before** your arrival in France.*

• Residence permit

Non-EU students coming to study need a student visa AND a [residence permit](#) to stay more than 6 months.

Within 2 months of your visa/temporary residence permit expiry date, if you want to stay on longer in France, you have to go to the local *préfecture* (French local authority) and apply for a renewable residence permit.

• Work permit

It is very difficult and long to obtain a work permits, but solutions exist. If students have a residence permit, they don't need a work permit if a job takes up less than 964 hours/year. Employers must inform the Préfecture beforehand. More details [here](#).

To cover their expenses, many students do:

- ☐ Baby sitting (€10 - €15 an hour)
- ☐ Language classes (€10/hour or more if you have some teaching experience or if your language is rare)
- ☐ Work in bars and Fast-food restaurants.

These jobs opportunities are found networking, classified ads, specialised apps, flyers left in local stores or schools. The French Ministry of Education has a dedicated [website](#).



Useful links to help students in their process:

[Campus France](#)
[Gouvernement Français – Visa](#)
[Office Français de L'Immigration et de L'Intégration \(OFII\)](#)

ACCOMMODATION



Finding accommodation in the Île-de-France region can be very challenging, expensive and can take some time. It is recommended that you plan much in advance. Every student is responsible for finding their own accommodation.

EPITA does not provide any campus accommodation. However, we offer housing and airport transfer services for which you can request during your application process.

✓ Find a place: OPTION 1

Exchange students coming to EPITA have the possibility of arranging their accommodation before they arrive:

- €125 booking fees, including airport pickup

Students will live with other international students in furnished accommodations with bills included and within easy walking distance from campus.

- The rents range from €350 to €750, depending on the type of accommodation.

✓ Find a place: OPTION 2

Students can also find an accommodation by themselves. However, they have to make sure to look long before coming to Paris. It is difficult to find a private accommodation for foreign students and it can be expensive.

Available websites:

- [PAP](#) (de particulier à particulier)
- [La carte des colocs](#) (finding flatmates)



Getting an *Housing insurance!* - Mandatory

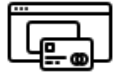
Students must subscribe to a housing insurance no matter where they are going to live. It will cover damages such as robbery, fire or flood.

Useful links:

[Studapart](#) (code: EPITALOGEEMENT)
[CIUP](#)
[Immojeune](#)



BANK ACCOUNT & MOBILE PHONE



Students will need to open a bank account while staying in France.

EPITA has an agreement with BNPPARIBAS: International students can open their bank account there.

Opening an account makes life easier when paying bills and subscriptions.



• Opening a bank account

Students must have (at least) the following three documents with them in order to open a bank account:

- ☐ ID card or passport
- ☐ Proof of address in France
- ☐ An acceptance letter from EPITA or student card.

You will be guided during the orientation day in this procedure and all the details will be provided. The bank account opening can be done after your arrival in France.

It is important that students close their French bank account before they leave

• Managing your account: avoid overdrafts!

If students spend more than what they have on their account, they might have to pay high overdraft fees or “agios” – If the bank’s interest rate for agios is 17%, students may have to pay 17% more than what they owe

For example: if a student spend €100 without having it on the account, this student will have to pay €117 to the bank. Students need to be careful with their expenses



- In case students lose their credit card or check book!
 - ☐ Let the bank know so that it can block the card. This is a 24/7 service that direct the call to the “centre d’opposition”
 - ☐ A report to the central police station is necessary if the card has been lost or stolen. If this step is skipped, the insurance, that came with your credit card, will not work.

• Mobile Phone

Students can buy a chip mobile phone when they arrive in France at a mobile network carrier’s store (Orange, SFR, Bouygues, etc.).

Students will need to choose a « forfait » (plan) – they need to be aware that most plans have a 1 year commitment at least.

Here are the commitment- free plans:

- SOSH
- SFR (RED)
- Free

Make sure to mention your specific needs for the best deals.



HEALTH



Social security affiliation is free and obligatory for all students in France, whether they are French or foreign nationals.

• European Students



- ☐ European students usually have a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) or a temporary certificate.
- ☐ The medical costs are reimbursed at the same level as they would be in their home country. This card must be valid until the end of the academic year.

• International Students



- ☐ Non-European students under 28 must sign up to the social insurance system
- ☐ Students need to sign up once registered at EPITA
- ☐ The cost of this social insurance is around **€215**
- ☐ It reimburses medical expenses but not all the expenses
- ☐ To increase your health insurance pay-out, you can register for an additional health cooperative (not mandatory but strongly recommended)
- ☐ EU student without a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) need to do the same



Useful links:
[Ameli for foreign students](#)
[CLEISS](#)
[Doctolib](#)
[Planning Familial](#)

WORKING IN FRANCE



International students at EPITA can work alongside their studies or participate in paid intern missions for EPITA

French law allows foreign students to work 964 hours a year, or the equivalent of 60% of the legal working hours limit. Students can therefore only earn a partial salary. If you are not a European Union citizen then you must have a student residence permit in order to work in France.

Studying at EPITA can sometimes be a lot of work, so we do not advise foreign students to work alongside their studies.



Students must request a work permit in the following three cases:

- ☐ You must work more than the authorized number of hours
- ☐ If you hold a temporary six-month visa
- ☐ If you are an Algerian student

It is highly recommended for students to have at least a B1-B2 level in French in order to communicate with your employer and colleagues



Paid Intern missions at EPITA

Internal activities, when they come out of what is normally expected from students, also give rise to paid missions. It is then important to check EPITA website and stay tuned on EPITA activities!



Useful websites:
www.jobaviz.fr
www.cidj.com

Working conditions and Law

From 1 January 2010, all employees in the national workplace relations system receive 10 basic minimum entitlements known as the National Employment Standards (NES). The NES include:

- ☐ Maximum weekly hours of work
- ☐ Requests for flexible working arrangements
- ☐ Parental leave and related entitlements
- ☐ Annual leave
- ☐ Personal/carer's leave, compassionate leave and family and domestic violence leave
- ☐ Community service leave
- ☐ Long service leave
- ☐ Public holidays
- ☐ Notice of termination and redundancy pay
- ☐ Provision of a Fair Work Information Statement.



LIVING IN PARIS

THE ARRIVAL



Paris has 3 major airports: **Orly** (16 km south of the city centre), **Roissy-Charles-de-Gaulle** (27km north of the city centre), and **Beauvais** (80km from Porte Maillot in Paris).

How to get around once you arrive at the airport?

- **EPITA Service**

EPITA transport & accommodation service can provide a car that can pick you up.

- **Taxi**

Recognizing an official taxi

Taxis stand at the arrival gates and have luminous signs on the roof. *If you are approached by anyone claiming to be a taxi driver at the exit of the baggage claim, we suggest that you decline any of their offers of transport.*

- **Train or RER**

The RER line B serves Roissy Charles de Gaulle in the north and Orly airport in the south of Paris.

RER B- Roissy Charles de Gaulle **€10,30**

RER B- Orly: Direction Antony and then take the Orlyval

€9,50

- **RoissyBus & OrlyBus**

You can also take shuttles from both Charles de Gaulle and Orly airport. You can ask at the information desk. Approximate prices:

- **From Charles de Gaulle to Opera:** the bus will drop you in the center of Paris. You will need to buy another ticket if you want to take the subway after the ride.

Departure from Roissy Charles de Gaulle (Terminal 1 - Terminal 3 - Terminal 2AC - Terminal 2D - Terminal 2EF), arrival Opéra (corner rue Scribe & rue Auber).

€13,70

- **From Orly airport to Denfert Rochereau:** the bus will drop you near the subway station Denfert Rochereau. You will need to buy another ticket if you want to take the subway after the ride.

Departure from Orly (Terminal 1, Terminal 2, Terminal 3, Terminal 4)

€9,50

PUBLIC TRANSPORTS AND GETTING AROUND THE CITY



Getting around in Île-de-France and Paris is very easy.

An extensive five-zone public transport network serves Paris and the Île-de-France region and includes metro, bus, tram, regional express train (RER), and regional train (Transilien) links. The RATP group is responsible for operating most public transport services in Paris and the surrounding area. SNCF, the National Train Company operates all the trains from express, to regional to national trains. Students can easily go from one side of the city to the other using public transports

•The “imagine R Étudiant” subscription

Annual subscription aimed at students under 26 living in the Île-de-France region for unlimited journeys around the entire region (all zones: €350/year)

•The monthly “Navigo” subscription

Monthly subscription for unlimited journeys in all zones (€75.20/ month)

Subway, bus and tramway: Students can easily go from one side of the city to the other using public transports

€ 1,90 = 1ticket



•Subway

Fastest, cheapest, and most simple way to get around in Paris. The metro network is made up of 16 lines and 300 stations across Paris and its suburbs. Services begin everyday around 5/45am and finish around 12.45am (from Sunday to Thursday) and 1.45am (Friday and Saturday).



•The bus

An excellent way to discover Paris. Bus lines in Paris for the most part run from Monday until Friday from 6.00am until 12.30am. Services may decrease on Sundays and holidays depending on the line.



•Tramway

Three of the 10 tram lines of Île-de-France: serve Paris: the T2, T3a and T3b. Tram tickets are the same as metro and RER tickets within Paris.



• Noctilien

A bus service that mainly operates during night-time. With roughly 47 lines, you can travel in Paris and the Île-de-France region between 12.30am and 5.30am.

BUDGET



Living in Paris can sometime be very challenging and expensive.

Students must be prepared before coming to France to live a unique experience and discover things different from their home country.

This is an approximate guide of the living costs in Paris. *These figures can easily change.*



Acommodation

Per month

Studio at CIUP	€470-€700
Private studio	€ 800
Shared flat	€ 550
Shared room	€ 490
Electricity & Water	€ 50



Transports

Monthly travel pass	€75.20
Metro ticket	€1.90
Pack 10 metro tickets	€14.90
On-board bus ticket	€2.00
Student travel pass	€28.5
Vélib'	€3.00



Food

Meal at EPITA cafeteria	€5.00
Meal at Restaurant	€15-€20
Sandwich	€4-€6
Coffee	€1.00-€2.00
Baguette	€1.20-€1.80
Pastry	€1.50-€3.00
Glass of wine	€4.00
Beer	€3.50

Sales tax & tips

In France, prices are shown TTC (all tax included): Tips are optional.

BUDGET



Telephone & Internet (contract per month)

Mobile phone	€15.00
Internet	€20.00-€30.00



Entertainment

Cinema ticket	€8.00-€12.00
Swimming Pool entrance	€2.00-€3.50
Exhibition entrance	€6.00-€12.00



GOING OUT & NIGHT LIFE



Paris is one of the world's most popular tourist destination: vibrant, cosmopolitan and with an impressive cultural heritage. Ranked in the QS Best Student Cities in 2018, Paris was selected as the 2nd best student city in Europe and the 5th best in the world.

All year round, students can enjoy cultural events, exhibitions, shows, festivals just to name a few. In each *arrondissement*, you can discover secret passages, gardens from the Quartier Latin to the Canal Saint Martin passing by Montmartre or cruising the river seine.

- Free Admission Under 26

Access to permanent collections in museums and monuments in Paris and the Île de France region is free for young people under 26 who come from one of the 28 European Union member states (Louvre Museum, Musée d'Orsay, Palace of Versailles, etc.). There is also a discount for temporary exhibitions in most museums.

- Example of parcs

Numerous Numbers of parcs (400 in total):

Jardin du Luxembourg

Jardin des plantes

Buttes-Chaumont

Bois de Vincennes

Bois de Boulogne

- Museums with Free Admission

Many Other museums are free all year long:

Air & Space Museum

Musée du parfum Fragonard

The Shoah Memorial

The Curie Museum

- Gateway destinations in Ile-de-France:

It exists many gateway destination within an hour and a half's reach outside Paris: Monet's house in Giverny, le château de Fontainebleau or even the Musée National de la Renaissance...

GOING OUT & NIGHT LIFE



RESTAURANTS, CAFES & BARS

Paris is the place to be as night life is exciting. Youngsters hang out until late hours but make sure to always be in a group. It is easy to find a place to either enjoy a gastronomic dinner or just grab a bite after a movie session. Quartier Latin is one of the popular area for students.



MUSEUMS & MONUMENTS

With more than 200 museums, Paris has a rich art heritage: painting, sculpture, photography, contemporary art, and science but also it is famous for its fashion & Haute Couture, architecture and food



THEATRE

Paris has a huge variety of theatre. You can find some very classical plays of Molière, Corneille to the latest and modern ones. The choice is endless and caters to all ages and tastes.



CINEMA

Paris has cinema halls in every *arrondissement* which offer a very wide range of foreign films. All these cinemas offer international films that are either subtitled or in their original version.

The *Lost in Frenchlation society* offers non-French films with English subtitles in classic Parisian cinemas. Drinks and debates are also part of these events.

Most cinemas offer reduced ticket for students under 26.



SHOPPING FOR FOOD




EPITA has an ideal location and shopping for food is quite easy near the campus.

Most shops are open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. from Monday to Saturday. Grocery stores are usually closed on Sundays, and sometimes on Mondays. However, during the holiday season (before Christmas), many shops stay open in the weekend. Groceries (food stores) often open earlier in the morning and do not close until later at night.

- Addresses near EPITA:

Corner shops: Expensive, limited choice but handy	
Carrefour Market	
Franprix	

Hypermarkets Less expensive and bigger	
Lidl (Avenue Fontainebleau)	
Auchan (In the shopping mall on avenue Fontainebleau)	

- Other options:

- Markets:** local products - from fruit and vegetable to meat, cheese, sometimes even clothes or jewellery...

Prices vary; products may be more cheap than in supermarkets and others much more expensive.

Here is a list with all the information, including dates and hours :

<http://kremlinbicetre.fr/content/le-march%C3%A9>

- Frozen goods:** there are frozen-food sections in several stores, but you can also head to **Picard** which is specialized in Frozen food

TRAVELLING IN FRANCE & EUROPE



Paris is the heart of France and the Hub of Europe!

Students can easily travel within France and in Europe.

Before planning trips outside France, students need to make sure that their visa allows them to leave the country and come back

• By Train



The SNCF (the French national railway company) manages the entire French train network. Train is the simplest way to travel in and around France for students.

If you are under the age of 28, you can get discounts.

For all details about ticket reservations, schedules, and discounts, look up the SNCF website. SNCF also offers low-cost trains.

Students can travel around France and Europe from Paris in train. As an example, they can go to:

Paris-Lille: 1h
Paris-Lyon: 2 h
Paris-Strasbourg: 1h47
Paris-London: 3h
Paris-Brussels: 1h30.
Paris-Amsterdam: 2h19

• By Plane



Plane might be an easy and quick way to reach your destination but remains the most expensive one too.

It is very easy to travel by plane from Paris. You have access to 2 international airports:

- Roissy Charles de Gaulle airport (CDG)
- Orly Airport

Both airports operate international flights and you just need to book your ticket and fly the world.

• By Bus



Eurolines is a low-cost coach travel company with over 600 destinations in France and Europe and has discounts for people under 25

• Driving



Non-European students need an international driving license to drive. Procedures may vary depending on your country. Check here.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION



Paris can be full of surprises and students will need also to explore by themselves. Before that, here are some additional information.

• Sports

Students can practice sports in Parisian parks for free. There is also a possibility for students to join an indoor gym but a subscription is required.

EPITA has a special offer for its students should they wish to join the **Forest Hill Sport Centre**:

€ 150/ year

Forest Hill is always ready to welcome you and your gym bag before or after your course or internship. It is open from 7am to 10pm. You can practice your favourite sport thanks to the dozens of disciplines on offer or to enjoy one of the 306 gym machines. You can also relax in the famous water park unique in Europe, or on the many tennis or squash court. The EPITA/Forest-Hill partnership provides 7-day/7-day multi-activity access to the Aquaboulevard.

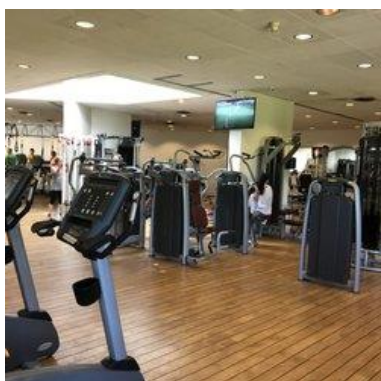
• Weather

Paris experiences mostly mild **weather** across four distinct seasons. Average daily highs range from 46°F (8°C) in the winter to 77°F (25°C) at the height of summer.

Don't forget an umbrella and/or a raincoat: even on a sunny day, there might be a few showers. [Information on weather forecasts.](#)



There is usually no air conditioning in classrooms and in accommodations when the weather is warm.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION



Contacter les Relations Internationales



Email: international@epita.fr

Phone: +33 (0) 1 84 07 40 31

Website: EPITA

- **Emergency Numbers:**

18 - Pompiers – fire department: fire, accidents and medical emergency.

17 - Police emergency squad, police force.

15 - SAMU: emergency medical services in town.

115 - Samu social: in Paris - societal welfare emergency medical services, support for the homeless.

- **Emergency medical services:**

Poison centre in Paris: 01 40 05 48 48

SOS Médecins (24h/24h): 08 20 33 24 24

Medical care Paris (24h/24h): 01 42 72 88 88

SOS Dental care: 01 43 37 51 00

Serious burn aid Hôpital Cochin: 01 58 41 26 49

Late night chemist/duty pharmacy: 39 15

SOS lost or stolen bank cards: 0 892 705 705

SOS lost or stolen checks: 0 892 683 208

