



DISCOVER YOUR CITY



Campus France will guide
you through your first steps
in France and **exploring**
Corte and Corsica,
your new home.

WELCOME TO CORTE/CORSICA





YOUR ARRIVAL INCORTE/CORSICA /

♦ Student Welcome services at Université de Corse (Università di Corsica Pasquale Paoli)

The first point of contact at Université de Corse is the **Mobility Office (Bureau de la mobilité)** run by the **International Relations Service (SRI)** for free-mover international students (non-exchange students).

The SRI has set up a one-stop Welcome Desk where students can access information about all requisite administrative procedures and practicalities (residence permit, accommodation, social security, registration...).

Address: Université de Corse, Edmond Simeoni Building (level 1), Service des Relations Internationales, Mobility Office, Mariani Campus, Avenue Jean Nicoli, 20250 Corte.

Hours: Monday to Friday, from 8:30am to 12:20pm and from 1:30pm to 5:30pm.

Contact: 04 20 20 22 70 / 04 95 45 06 46 or bureau-mobilite@univ-corse.fr

Learn more:

- check out the **Study in Corsica** pages for international students on Université de Corse's website: <https://www.universita.corsica/fr> > International > Study in Corsica.

♦ Accompanying international students

There are two associations that can help you find your feet in Corte:

- the **Union des étudiants internationaux de Corse** (UEIC - Corsica Union of International Students), an association that aims to provide support to new students arriving from abroad and help them with administrative procedures, while also organising events to help them settle in: etudiants-internationaux@universita.corsica / www.facebook.com/groups/129679137384995/about/

- the **ESN (Erasmus Student Network) Corsica Association**, an association of students from Université de Corse which welcomes international students to Corte by organising various activities: www.facebook.com/ESN.Corsica/



Making you feel at home is a major concern for all French higher education institutions! The **Welcome to France label** is awarded to institutions that fulfil exacting criteria in the way they take care of their international students.

♦ Welcome and orientation for researchers and doctoral students

International researchers and doctoral students can also contact the **Mobility Office run by the International Relations Service (SRI)** (see address and contact details shown above).

♦ National Services

- students: www.etudiant.gouv.fr

- doctoral students, researchers: <http://www.euraxess.fr/fr>



ACCOMMODATION

Finding somewhere to live is not always easy.

Rents are often high, and landlords require financial guarantees (such as a deposit).

Nevertheless, there is a wide range of accommodation on offer: halls of residence that are exclusively reserved for students and managed by the CROUS, student halls and private lodgings, rooms in private homes, flatshares...

The main thing is to start preparing for this as early as possible, before leaving your home country.

Corte is a small town with limited housing stock; it is thus essential that you book accommodation before arriving in Corsica.

A FEW TIPS

♦ Short-term housing

• **The search engine on the Corte Tourist Office website** may help you find short-term accommodation: <http://www.corte-tourisme.com/>

• If accommodation is not being sought at the start of the academic year, the **"Bed & CROUS"** site may also be useful: <https://www.bedandcrous.com/residences/corte>

♦ Long-term housing

• **The Corse CROUS** (Centre Régional des Œuvres Universitaires et Scolaire - Regional Center for University and School Services).

Address: 22 avenue Jean Nicoli, F-20250 Corte.

Hours: Monday to Friday, from 9am to 12pm and 2pm to 6pm.

Contact: 04 95 45 30 00.

Website: <https://www.crous-corse.fr/etudes-internationales/>

Applications for accommodation can be completed online: <http://www.crous-corse.fr/> > Logement > Accueil des étudiants internationaux.

Website *Trouver un logement*:

<https://trouverunlogement.lescrous.fr/>

• Private Housing Platforms

Other offers for student lodging, managed by private

organisms, are also available in Corte.
Using an internet search engine to search the terms "Logement étudiant Corte" should come up with all the private rental options.

• **Other solutions available on the Campus France site:** www.campusfrance.org > Getting Organized > Accommodation.

♦ If you need a guarantor to secure your lodging

Visale is a new and free guarantor system:
www.visale.fr

The CROUS, at your service everywhere

Do you need any help and/or advice, somewhere to eat or to live, a job - or do you just want to find out all there is to know about student life? Then the CROUS is what you need!



The CROUS (Centre Régional des Œuvres Universitaires et Scolaires - Regional Centre of University and School Services) has branches in all major French university towns.

It manages university halls of residence and canteens, allows you to meet social workers, and offers cultural activities and job opportunities.

♦ If you want to file an application for APL funds (Aide Personnalisée au Logement, or personalized housing aid),

CAF (Caisse des Allocations Familiales) can check your eligibility: 32 30 or www.caf.fr

♦ If you need housing adapted to your special needs

Please contact the *Bureau d'Accompagnement, de Soutien et d'Ecoute* (Support, Assistance and Listening Desk) which accompanies students with special needs and works in conjunction with the CROUS in Corse:

seddok_l@univ-corse.fr or 04 20 20 23 92.

For further information:

<https://studia.universita.corsica/> > Vie étudiante > Handicap.

Etudiante et de Campus (CVEC) – the student and campus life contribution fee.

- **Log in at:** <https://cvec.etudiant.gouv.fr/>

- **For additional information and special cases:**
<https://www.campusfrance.org> > Getting Organized > CVEC.



GETTING AROUND CORTE/CORSICA



When travelling to Corsica you can arrive:

- by plane (from Paris, Marseille or Nice, or fly in directly from certain countries);
- by boat from mainland France (Marseille, Nice, Toulon) or Italy (Livorno, Naples, Genoa, Savona, Piombino).

For practical reasons and irrespective of the method of transport, it is easier to arrive at the airport or port in either Ajaccio or Bastia for onward travel to Corte.



To get to Corte, from the airport or port, you can take:

- the bus: <https://www.corsicabus.org/> (bilingual information in French & English)
- the train: <https://cf-corse.corsica/>



For travelling around Corsica, you can use:

- regional trains, run by Chemins de fer de la Corse (special student rates):

<https://cf-corse.corsica/>
- Cotenais bus service:
<https://transport-touristique-corse.fr/>
- Corsicabus bus service:
<https://www.corsicabus.org/>



Main journey times (by car) in Corsica:

- Corte - Bastia: 1 hour and 15 minutes,
- Corte - Aléria: 40 minutes,
- Corte - Ajaccio: 1 hour 40,
- Corte - Porto-Vecchio: 2 hours,
- Corte - Calvi: 1 hour and 30 minutes,
- Corte - Bonifacio: 2 hours and 35 minutes.



For ride-sharing, please check:

- the Université de Corse website, where a car-sharing service has been set up:
<https://studia.universita.corsica> > Vie étudiante > Train et covoiturage.
- the national website
<https://www.blablacar.fr/>



For a bit more independence, you can rent a bike using a private rental company (there is no municipal service), such as Altipiani (<http://www.altipiani-corse.com>) or V'loc Corte (+33 (0)6 84 67 92 63, Facebook V'loc Corte).



FIRST THINGS FIRST /

ENROLLMENT IN YOUR INSTITUTION

♦ CVEC

Before you can enroll in your institution, you must download proof of payment of the Contribution Vie

◆ Confirm Registration

Take note! Even if you have a pre-registration letter, you are not officially enrolled. You must validate your enrollment with the institution's Service de la Scolarité (Admissions) as soon as you arrive.

Important information: Université de Corse placement test in French as a Foreign Language (FLE).

To enroll at Université de Corse, students from countries where the official language is not French, need to provide a French as a Foreign Language certificate at level B1 CECRL minimum. However, you will still need to take a FLE placement test after enrolling at Université de Corse Pasquale Paoli. Depending on your level, you may be required to take free FLE lessons in parallel to your studies.

RESIDENCE PERMITS

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- If you have just arrived in France on a long-term VLS-TS student visa: you must **validate it online as soon as you arrive in France**, on the ANEF (Administration numérique pour les Etrangers en France - Digital Administration for Foreigners in France) website. This validation must be carried out within the three months following your arrival: <https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/particuliers/#/>

- If you have Algerian citizenship or you are a student holding a "concours" visa or a visa bearing the mention "carte à solliciter dans les deux mois" ("card to be requested within two months"): your request for a residence permit must be carried out at the Préfecture.

- If you hold a "mineur scolarisé" ("minor in education") visa and you have since attained your majority, you must request a residence permit directly on the ANEF website or at the *préfecture* of your place of residence within the two months following your attaining the age of legal majority: <https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/particuliers/#/>

Please note: if you wish to renew your residence permit or VLS-TS, you must make your request during the third month preceding the date of end of validity of your current residence permit, on the following website: <https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/particuliers/#/>

The following tutorial can help you with this procedure: <https://www.campusfrance.org/en/tutorials-to-help-international-students-in-their-application-process>

- Your institution's student support services can assist you in case of any difficulties.

To find out more about your rights and obligations: <https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/N110>



PRACTICAL INFORMATION /

OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT

If you stay in France for more than 3 months, it will be much easier day-to-day if you open a bank account, **online or in one of the bank agencies located in Corte.**

In France, opening a bank account is a right: <https://www.service-public.fr> > Argent > Comptes bancaires (droit au compte).

ACCESSING HEALTHCARE

Accessing healthcare in France is almost free, but you must be insured. **You must therefore be registered with the national health insurance programme.**

Please go to the <https://etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr> website to register, understand your rights and to carry out the requisite procedures.

Learn more:

<https://www.campusfrance.org> > Getting Organized > Health.

Non-EU students must go to Université de Corse's Service de Santé étudiante (SSE), or Student Health Service, for a health check-up upon arrival.

This medical center is open to all students free of charge throughout the year.

Learn more: <https://studia.universita.corsica> > Vie étudiante > Santé.

Address: Desanti Building (level 0), Grimaldi Campus, 20250 Corte.

Hours: Monday to Friday, 9am to 12pm and 2pm to 5:30pm

Contact: 04 20 20 23 92 or medecine@univ-corse.fr

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

SAMU: Call 15 Emergency Medical Services

Police emergency: Call 17 in the event of violence, theft, robbery.

Fire Department: Call 18 in the event of fire, gas leak, water damage, natural catastrophe, or traffic accident.

Call 112: European emergency services number that's accessible from anywhere in the European Union in addition to the French numbers above.

TAKING OUT COMPLEMENTARY HEALTH INSURANCE ("MUTUELLE")

We recommend you take out complementary health insurance in order to cover the totality of your healthcare costs, which are not all covered by the compulsory and free national health insurance programme.

Please note: options and levels of insurance vary from one insurer to another. In order to choose the complementary insurance that is best adapted to your situation and your budget, you can access more information on a student "mutuelles" price comparison website.

INSURE YOUR HOME

In France, housing insurance is mandatory.

The "garantie risques locatifs" - rental risk guarantee - is housing insurance which you can subscribe with your bank or a private insurance company. Online subscription is also often possible.

LEARNING FRENCH

Learning French is an opportunity that's not to be missed!

Find what works best for you:

- by consulting the Campus France site or the Français Langue Etrangère (FLE) - French as a foreign language - centers and universities which offer courses at all levels year-round <https://ecolesdete.campusfrance.org/#/main>
- by asking in your institution, at city hall, or in your host city's Maison des Associations - community centers.

Université de Corse offers foreign students several options for learning French (FLE): <https://studia.universita.corsica> > International > Study in Corsica > Français Langue Etrangère.

FINDING A JOB OR WORK EXPERIENCE PLACEMENT

It is important that you have sufficient financial resources to come and study in France.

Working in France as a foreign student is possible within limits, namely for a maximum duration of 964 hours per year. This can therefore only be a way of earning **supplementary funds**.

Please note: to work in France, if you are not a citizen of the European Union, you must hold a valid **student residence permit**.

To help you find a job or work experience placement, other addresses:

- **The youth information office (BIJ-CPIE Centre Corse)** can provide information on job opportunities on site.

Address: Bureau Information Jeunesse - CPIE, 7 rue Colonel Feracci, F-20250 Corte.

Hours: Monday to Friday, 9am to 12pm and 2pm to 6pm.

Contact: 09 70 71 85 78.

- **The Jobaviz website, run by the CROUS**, can help you find a student job that's compatible with your studies: <https://www.jobaviz.fr/>



THINGS TO DO IN CORTE/CORSICA /

TAKE UP A SPORT

In your institution, contact the Service des Sports for free access to sports facilities.

At Université de Corse, the University Service for Physical and Sports Activities (SUAPS) offers students the opportunity to choose between a range of sports and physical activities:

<https://studia.universita.corsica> > Vie étudiante > Sport.

At the start of the academic year, the university organizes an Introductory Day for international students, to help them get to know their new home town through a sports activity (sign up via the SUAPS).

The town council in Corte, the city also offers around thirty different sports activities:

<https://www.mairie-corte.fr> > Sports.

BE ACTIVE

Attend cultural and sporting events, or join a social or community group, through one of the numerous local or national student clubs and associations. Please contact your place of study for further information Pôle Vie étudiante at Université de Corse: vieetudiante@univ-corse.fr and +33 (0)4 20 20 22 92) or refer to the websites: www.animafac.net or www.letudiant.fr

A variety of student associations ensure that campus life is never dull at Université de Corse, including **ESN Corsica** (Erasmus + Student Association) and **the International Students' Union in Corsica (UEIC)**, whose role is to welcome new international students and help them deal with administrative issues, finding accommodation and work placements. The University's International Relations Service also organizes numerous events for international students: cultural excursions, a welcome evening, opportunities to meet and network...

More information:

- about student associations in general: <https://studia.universita.corsica> > Vie étudiante > Vie associative.
- about ESN Corsica: <https://www.facebook.com/ESN.Corsica/>
- about the UEIC: find the association on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/> > UEIC Corte (public group).

CULTURE AND NIGHTLIFE

Movie theaters, concerts, theaters, operas, museums, exhibitions, and festivals are on the program and most of the time, at reduced cost for students: <https://www.mairie-corte.fr> > Culture et patrimoine.

Responsible for cultural policy at the Université de Corse, the Centre Culturel Universitaire (CCU), offers various activities for students (25 art workshops): <https://studia.universita.corsica> > Vie étudiante > Culture.

The University Cultural Centre (CCU) also has its own **theatre and concert venue**, the **Spaziu universitariu Natale Luciani**. It offers an original program of music, theater, exhibitions and conferences, etc. for students and locals. Admission to all events is **free** for students: <https://studia.universita.corsica> > Vie étudiante > Culture > Programmation annuelle et expositions.

Don't forget to request your **Pass-Cultura**, a free coupon-book worth €75 (provided by the local authorities in Corsica) which entitles you to 12 passes for 3 free tickets (movie theaters and film

festivals) and 9 discount coupons to buy tickets for concerts, shows and dance events:

<https://www.passcultura.corsica/>

For entertainment or to pick up some culture, you can choose from:

At Université de Corse:

- the university library (extended opening hours);
- the Centre Culturel Universitaire, the university's concert and theater venue (see above);
- the FabLab at Université de Corse (Palazzu Nazzionale, upper town): <https://fablab.universita.corsica/>

In Corte:

- 1 movie theater, with 2 screens (student rates, rewards card), the Alba.
- 1 major museum, the Musée de la Corse, a regional anthropology museum: <http://www.musee-corse.com> > Découvrir le Musée de la Corse.
- Corse's Regional Contemporary Arts Foundation (FRAC) in the upper part of Corte: <https://www.frac.corsica/>
- 1 large multimedia library, the Médiathèque du Centre Corse. Open to the public, it has become a meeting place for culture, information, events and exchange: <http://www.haute-corse.fr> > Culture > Médiathèques.

Try the following for further information:

- **the Tourist Office agenda:** <http://www.corte-tourisme.com> > Agenda.
- the **Cultura website**, published by the **Collectivité de Corse**: <https://www.isula.corsica/culture/>
- the daily regional newspaper **Corse-Matin**, or **RCFM, France 3 Corse Via Stella, Tele Paese, Corse Net Info (CNI)**, etc.

TOP ATTRACTIONS /

In Corte:

- Corte Citadel, with its panoramic views over the Restonica valley. It houses the Musée de la Corse and Corse's Regional Contemporary Arts Foundation (FRAC).
- Corte's old town.
- The Palais National, former headquarters of the Corsican Government, established by Pasquale Paoli, and the first university in Corse, established in 1765. It now houses a Center for Innovation and Development (PID), including the FabLab, as well as the Université de Corse Foundation.
- Maison Arrighi de Casanova (Duke of Padua), originally a 16th century tower-house and one-time

residence of the Bonaparte family.

- The Restonica gorges and upper valley, to discover Lake Melo and Lake Capitello.

In Corse:

- Ajaccio, the capital of Corse, with the Musée Fesch and the house where Napoléon Bonaparte was born.
- Calvi and its citadel.
- Morosaglia, birthplace of Pasquale Paoli and its Musée Pascal Paoli.
- Bonifacio and its white cliffs.
- Bastia and its Vieux-Port.
- The beaches of Porto-Vecchio.
- The Golfe de Porto.
- Piana and its rocky coves.
- 3 ski resorts: Ghisoni, Val d'Ese, Ascu.

Learn (and see) more:

- the Corte Tourist Office website:

<http://www.corte-tourisme.com/>

- the Corsica Tourist Office website:

<https://www.visit-corsica.com/>

- A Fiera di u Casgiu (cheese fair), in Venacu.

JUNE

- Fête de la Musique (free concerts).
- Cavall'in Festa, a major horse festival in Corte, equestrian games, entertainment, food-tasting, etc.

JULY

- Restonica trail run, various races and hikes in the Corsican mountains around Corte.

SEPTEMBER

• **Allegria, celebration to mark the start of the academic year at Université de Corse, two-days of celebrations and entertainment to welcome students to Corte.**

- Les Journées Européennes du Patrimoine (European Heritage Days), free visits of cultural venues.

- The Périple de l'Arche race, starting in Corte, to discover the mountains of Corse.

- A Santa di u Niolu (Niolu fair) in Casamaccioli.

OCTOBER

• **International Student's Night (in partnership with AVUF, City of Corte, CROUS, associations ESN and UEIC students), in Corte.**

NOVEMBER/ DECEMBER

- **Science festival** at Université de Corse in Corte.

• **Cultural day for international and Erasmus+ students organized by the International Relations Service at the Université de Corse in Corte.**

- A Fiera di a Castagna (Chestnut fair), in Bucugnà.

- A Festa di a Nazione (national celebration), throughout Corse on 8 December.

For more information: please check the Corsica Tourist Office website:

<https://www.visit-corsica.com/>



IMPORTANT ANNUAL EVENTS /

APRIL

• **Arts and Culture in Higher Education Days (JACES) at the Université de Corse.**

- Easter celebrations in Corte and the Granitula ceremony.

MAY

• European Night of Museums offers an opportunity to discover museums and other cultural sites in a new light!

• Fiera di Corti - San Teofalu, Corte's traditional fair lasts two days.



**& SHARE
PARTICIPATE**

To stay informed and attuned to others and the world, to share and dialogue with students, follow **social media** where Campus France has an especially strong presence!

*Don't forget to join the **France Alumni** network. Take part in discussion groups on various subjects, take advantage of cultural outings, and consult job and internship offers.*



THINGS TO KNOW



CORTE, SOUS-PRÉFECTURE OF THE HAUTE-CORSE DÉPARTEMENT, home to the local government (Collectivité de Corse)

COMMUNAUTÉ DE COMMUNES OF CENTRAL CORSE

10,000 residents

CORTE, THE HISTORIC AND CULTURAL CAPITAL OF CORSE

7,500 residents

1765: foundation of Université de Corse by Pasquale Paoli

1981: reopening as a multidisciplinary institution

Université de Corse



5,000 students, including 300 foreign students of 60 different nationalities, 8 research fields, 1 doctoral school, 150 doctoral students per year including 20% international students

CAMPUS FRANCE – PACA REGIONAL DELEGATION

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