



DISCOVER YOUR CITY



Campus France assists you when you arrive in France and **will be your guide in Dunkerque, Calais, Boulogne-sur-Mer and Saint-Omer** home to the Côte d'Opale university campuses and your new home.

WELCOME TO DUNKERQUE

**AND THE CÔTE D'OPALE
BOULOGNE - CALAIS - SAINT-OMER**





ARRIVING IN DUNKERQUE, BOULOGNE, CALAIS, SAINT-OMER

♦ Orientation services at Université du Littoral - Côte d'Opale (ULCO)

Université du Littoral - Côte d'Opale (ULCO)
has campuses in Dunkerque, Calais, Boulogne-sur-Mer and Saint-Omer. Wherever you are, an international student service helps you with all your procedures when you arrive in France.

An information desk for international students is available from September to the end of October.

This welcome desk will give you information on services provided by ULCO as well as the local transportation network and housing.

Université du Littoral - Côte d'Opale has three campuses in cities along the coast (Boulogne-sur-Mer, Calais, Dunkerque) and one inland city (Saint-Omer).

Dunkerque is 70 km from Boulogne, 40 from Saint-Omer and 40 km from Calais.

Addresses and contacts:

- **in Dunkerque:** Services Centraux, 1 place de l'Yser, 59375 Dunkerque Cedex 1,

03 23 73 73 28 or international@univ-littoral.fr

- **in Calais:** Centre Universitaire Mi-Voix - rue Ferdinand Buisson, BP 653, 62228 Calais Cedex, 03 28 23 73 28 or incoming.cl@univ-littoral.fr

- **in Boulogne-sur-Mer:** Centre Universitaire Saint-Louis 1, 21 rue St Louis, BP 774, 62327 Boulogne-sur-Mer Cedex, 03 21 99 41 40 or incoming.cl@univ-littoral.fr

- **in Saint-Omer,** Centre Universitaire Descartes, Avenue Descartes, BP 99, 62968 23 73 28 or international@univ-littoral.fr
- for post-docs and researchers (visa and residency permit procedures): mobility.staff-phd@univ-littoral.fr

Learn more:

- full list of contacts: <https://www.univ-littoral.fr> > International > Joindre les relations internationales

- see the dedicated pages for more information (including a link to the International Student Welcome Guide): <https://www.univ-littoral.fr/international/>

♦ Welcome and orientation in other institutions

If you are enrolled in another institution, please consult the Campus France website for orientation. The site presents a series of **Information Sheets covering the different higher learning institutions:** <https://www.campusfrance.org> > Students > Documentary resources > Practical information for students and researchers > Reception arrangements in institutions

If you cannot find your school in this list, then go directly to their website.

- Buddy System

All international students can ask to be assigned another student as a buddy upon arriving at ULCO. For more information, please visit: <https://www.univ-littoral.fr/parrainage-des-etudiants-internationaux/>

♦ National Services

- students: www.etudiant.gouv.fr

- doctoral students, researchers:

<http://www.euraxess.fr/fr>



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.



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.

SOME IDEAS

• See the **Logement** page for information about accommodation for international students who are not on an exchange program:

<https://www.univ-littoral.fr> > International > Venir à l'ULCO > Pour étudier > En tant que candidat individuel

• Download the **Logement Guide** published by the CRIJ des Hauts-de-France (regional youth information center): <http://www.crij-hdf.fr> > Nos publications

Address and phone: Bureau Information Jeunesse de Dunkerque, Entreprendre Ensemble, 66 rue des chantiers de France, 03 28 22 64 66.

A FEW TIPS

♦ Short-term housing

in Dunkerque:

- Auberge de jeunesse L'Escale (youth hostel), quartier du Grand Large, 351 avenue des Bancs de

Flandres, 59000 Dunkerque.

Contact: 03 28 63 36 34

and accueil@escale-dunkerque.com

Site: <http://www.escale-dunkerque.com/>

- Other types of accommodation on the Dunkerque Tourist Office website:

<https://www.dunkerque-tourisme.fr> > Où dormir / où manger > Hébergements

In Calais:

- the Centre de Séjour Européen (youth hostel), rue De Lattre De Tassigny, 62100 Calais

Contact: 03 21 34 70 20 and

contact@cescalais.com

Site: www.auberge-jeunesse-calais.com

. Other types of accommodation on the Calais Tourist Office site:

<https://www.calais-cotedopale.com> > Où dormir

in Boulogne-sur-Mer:

- Auberge de jeunesse Allan-Lantz (youth hostel), place Rouget de Lisle, 62200 Boulogne-sur-Mer.

Contact: 03 21 99 15 30

or boulogne-sur-mer@hifrance.org

Site: <https://www.hifrance.org/carte-auberge-france>

. Other types of accommodation on the Boulogne Tourist Office site: <https://www.boulonnaisautop.com/>

> Séjourner > Dormir

in Saint-Omer:

. See the Saint-Omer Tourist Office website for information about temporary accommodations:

<https://www.tourisme-saintomer.com> > Où dormir

- please contact the Information Desk for accommodation in Saint-Omer: 03 74 18 22 20.

♦ Long-term housing

• **Student accommodation run by the CROUS (Centre Régional des Œuvres Universitaires) in Lille Nord - Pas-de-Calais, which includes all the ULCO cities.**

Contact: crous@crous-lille.fr or 03 20 88 66 00

Site: <http://www.crous-lille.fr/>

Site *Trouver un logement*:

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

• **In Calais**, contact the Association pour le Logement Etudiant à Calais (ALEC).

Address: 16 bis quai de la Gendarmerie, 62100 Calais.

Contact: 03 21 85 89 34 or alec.label@hotmail.fr

Site: <http://aleccalais.monsite-orange.fr>

- see the City of Calais website: <https://www.calais.fr> > Vivre à Calais > Logement et urbanisme > Logement étudiant

• Private Housing Platforms:

All the cities on the Côte d'Opale have student residences managed by private companies.

Consult the specialised sites:

- <https://www.adele.org/>

- <https://www.immojeune.com/>

- <https://www.location-etudiant.fr/>

- <https://housinganywhere.com/fr/>

- <http://www.campusvert.com/>

• **There is also Lokaviz**, a site managed by CROUS, which includes a listing of student accommodations in private homes: <https://www.lokaviz.fr/>

• **Classified ads:** Consult the Hauts-de-France CRIJ (Centre Régional d'Information Jeunesse, or regional youth information center):

<http://www.ij-annonces.fr/>

• Shared Leases: **Consult La carte des colocs**, a national site for shared leases that's free and simple to use: <https://www.lacartedescolocs.fr/>

• **Other solutions available on the Campus France site:** <https://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

GETTING AROUND THE REGION



Getting to Dunkerque, Calais, Boulogne-sur-Mer or Saint-Omer from the Lille airport: take the shuttle to Lille-Europe or Lille-Flandres train stations where there are regular trains: <https://www.oui.sncf/>



Public transport (bus):

- Dunkerque, DK'Bus **free transport service**:

<https://www.dkbus.com>

- Calais, Sitac network:

<http://www.sitac-calais-opale-bus.fr/>

- Boulogne, Marinéo network:

<https://www.marinéo.fr>

- Saint-Omer, Mouvéo network:

<http://mouveo.ca-pso.fr/>



For travel within the region:

- regional trains:

<https://www.ter.sncf.com/hauts-de-france>

- low-cost buses: <https://fr.ouibus.com/> or

<https://www.flixbus.fr/>



For ride-sharing, refer to the collaborative websites, for example:

- local: <https://www.passpasscovoiturage.fr/>

- national: <https://www.blablacar.fr>



For greater independence, rent a bike:

- Dunkerque, **DK Vélo**: <https://www.dkbus.com>

> Se déplacer > Me déplacer en vélo

- Calais, **Vel'in**: <https://www.vel-in.fr/>

- Boulogne, **Cycleco**:

<http://www.cycleco-boulogne-sur-mer.fr>

- Saint-Omer, **Mouvélo**: <http://mouveo.ca-pso.fr/>

◆ **If you want to apply for the APL**
(Aide Personnalisée au Logement -personalized housing aid)

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

◆ **For accommodation adapted to your special needs,**

Contact the CROUS Service Social which will work with your host institution.

The ULCO supports disabled students during their time at the university through Handicap'ULCO:

<https://www.univ-littoral.fr> > Campus > Etudes et handicap

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.



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

- Connect to <https://cvec.etudiant.gouv.fr/>

- For additional information and special cases:

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

◆ **Confirm Registration**

Take note! Even if you have a pre-registration letter, you are not officially enrolled.

You must confirm your enrollment with the institution's Service de la Scolarité (Admissions) as soon as you arrive.

On the other campuses contact the Service de la Scolarité (Admissions).

◆ **Physical Exam**

To finalize your ULCO enrollment, contact the university's health and preventive health service, Service Universitaire de Médecine Préventive et de Promotion de la Santé (SUMPPS) for a check-up. To make an appointment, send an email to santecampus@univ-littoral.fr

You will need to show the email which confirms your appointment when you enroll at ULCO.

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 several bank agencies located in Dunkerque, Calais, Boulogne-sur-Mer and Saint-Omer.**

In France, opening a bank account is a right:

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.

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

As a student, you can also take advantage of the university medical services. In these health centers where consultations are free, you will be greeted by a team of doctors and nurses who can give personalized advice about health and prevention.

This is the case at the Université Littoral - Côte d'Opale in Dunkerque which has a Service de Santé étudiante (SSE), or Student Health Service. Your health is their priority: On arrival at the university, you will meet with the service's healthcare professionals before being able to enroll.

Beyond this **mandatory health check-up**, the Health Service is open to all students on each site.

Contact: 03 28 23 71 61

or santecampus@univ-littoral.fr

Site: <https://www.univ-littoral.fr> > campus > santé

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.

HOUSING INSURANCE

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.

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.

LEARNING FRENCH

Learning French is an opportunity to be seized!

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.

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**.

Here is a list of resources to help you find a job or work experience placement:

- **Jobs and internships:**

- the ULCO Service Universitaire d'Accueil, Information, Orientation et Insertion Professionnelle has a Facebook page where you will find ads for

jobs and internships: [Facebook](#) > Bureau insertion professionnelle ULCO

- ULCO also offers jobs for students at the beginning of the academic year to help other students: coursework, tutoring, mentoring: <https://recrutements-etudiants.extranet.univ-littoral.fr> > Voir les offres

- the Centre Régional d'Information Jeunesse (CRIJ)

- Hauts-de-France, the regional youth information center provides a platform for job offers

and internships: <http://www.crij-hdf.fr/>



THINGS TO DO IN DUNKERQUE, BOULOGNE, CALAIS, SAINT-OMER

TAKE UP A SPORT

• For access to the special free sports program, see the **ULCO website**: <https://www.univ-littoral.fr> > campus > sport

• **The local towns on the Côte d'Opale**, propose a range of activities including water sports:

- **Dunkerque**: <https://www.ville-dunkerque.fr> > Menu > Découvrir, sortir, bouger > Sports

- **Calais**: <https://www.calais.fr> > Envie de bouger > Se divertir > Sports

- **Boulogne**: <https://www.ville-boulogne-sur-mer.fr> > Découvrir et sortir > Sport > Salles-et-equipements

- **Saint-Omer**: <https://terredesport.ca-pso.fr/>

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:

- See the list of ULCO student associations:

<https://www.univ-littoral.fr> > Campus > Bureau de la Vie Etudiante

- Consult the national sites: www.animafac.net or www.letudiant.fr

- Go to the Bureau de la Vie Étudiante, BVE in your institution.

• You can also contact the **town hall in each of the Côte d'Opale's main cities**. Each provides lists of the associations and their sector of activity:

- **Dunkerque**: <https://www.ville-dunkerque.fr> > Menu > Découvrir, sortir, bouger > Culture et relations internationales

- **Calais**: <https://www.calais.fr> > Ville à Calais > Associatif

- **Boulogne-sur-Mer**: <https://www.ville-boulogne-sur-mer.fr> > Découvrir et sortir > Annuaire des associations

- **Saint-Omer**: <https://www.ville-saint-omer.fr> > Dynamique > Associations

CULTURE AND NIGHTLIFE

• Dunkerque, Calais, Boulogne-sur-Mer and Saint-Omer propose many cultural experiences and places to go out. Movie theaters, concerts, theaters, operas, museums, exhibitions, and festivals are on the program and most of the time, at reduced cost for students.

You'll find more information on the Côte d'Opale city or Tourist Office websites:

- **Dunkerque**: <https://www.ville-dunkerque.fr> > Menu > Découvrir, sortir, bouger > Culture et relations internationales

- **Calais**: <https://www.calais.fr> > Envie de bouger > Se divertir

- **Boulogne**: <https://www.ville-boulogne-sur-mer.fr> >

Découvrir et sortir > Culture > La saison culturelle

- **Saint-Omer**: <https://www.tourisme-saintomer.com>

• **Also see the agenda of cultural events organized by the ULCO which offers a pass for 1 euro** which gives access to all the cultural events organized by the university.

ULCO has also signed agreements with local cultural venues for reduced rates:

<https://www.univ-littoral.fr> > Campus > Culture

• **For going out or cultural outings on the Côte d'Opale**:

- 2 major movie theaters in Dunkerque, 2 in Calais, 1 in Boulogne, 1 in Saint-Omer (student discounts, rewards cards), including an art house theater, Studio 43 in Dunkerque and Alhambra in Calais

- major museums (student discounts), including:

. LAAC (Lieu d'Art et d'Action Contemporaine), the contemporary art museum in Dunkerque

. the fine arts museum and Cité de la Dentelle et de la Mode in Calais,

. the castle museum in Boulogne-sur-Mer,

. the Hôtel Sandelin museum in Saint-Omer.

More information on the museums:

<http://www.cote-dopale.com>

- performance centers including **La Piscine**, part of the Université Littoral - Côte d'Opale:

<https://atelierculture.univ-littoral.fr/>

- major bookshops including < Furet du Nord in

Dunkerque, part of a chain of bookshops in the Hauts-de-France and many independent bookshops.

- municipal multimedia libraries in all the cities (Les Balises in Dunkerque) and the BULCO, the Université Littoral - Côte d'Opale library, which is open to all:

<https://www.bulco.univ-littoral.fr/> and the Saint-Omer city library, which houses an exceptional range of written and graphic works: <https://www.ca-pso.fr/services/culture-sport/bapso/>

• For going out or staying abreast of events on the Côte d'Opale, check out:

• **La Voix du Nord**, the majore regional daily, available in newsstands, on-line and for free at ULCO: <https://www.lavoixdunord.fr> > Ma Commune > Dunkerque

You can also check the Côte d'Opale Tourist Office website which lists all events and entertainment by geographic area: <http://www.cote-dopale.com> > Agenda



TOP ATTRACTIONS /

In Dunkerque:

- Visit the historical sites of the World War I Dynamo operation with walking, bus and boat tours.
- Place Jean Bart, a large shopping square with the statue of the legendary Dunkerque native, Jean Bart, famous for defending France under Louis XIV.
- The beaches around Dunkerque (Malo-les-Bains and Dunes de Flandre).

In Calais:

- Rodin's Burghers of Calais bronze statue represents six Calais residents who sacrificed themselves for the city's residents in 1347.
- The town hall, built with Flemish architecture has an impressive belfry (listed as world heritage by UNESCO).
- The beach and pier with the promenade and traditional bathing boxes.

In Boulogne-sur-Mer, recognized for its art and history since 1986:

- The fortified city with ramparts and a lively atmosphere in summer.
- The belfry, a 13th century Gothic monument and former keep.
- Learn all about marine life at Nausicaa, Europe's largest aquarium.

In Saint-Omer, recognized for its art and history since 1997:

- The Gothic Cathédrale Notre-Dame, the most beautiful religious monument in the region.
- Quai des Salines and Quai du Commerce lined with lovely Flemish houses.
- The Coupole d'Helfau, one of the most impressive ruins from the Second World War in Europe.
- The marais audomarois, which was awarded the UNESCO *Man and biosphere* label.

For more information, consult the Côte d'Opale Tourist Office website:

<http://www.cote-dopale.com> > Tourisme and the Tourist Office in each town.



IMPORTANT ANNUAL EVENTS /

JANUARY: Givrés de Nouvel An - the first swim of the year in Dunkerque!

FEBRUARY - APRIL: Carnaval de Dunkerque, famous around the world with giants, costumes and brass bands.

MAY: La Ronde des Vents - thousands of aircraft in the sky over Bray-Dunes near Dunkerque. **La Nuit Européenne des Musées** (European Museum Night) in the towns along the coast. **The 4 Jours de Dunkerque** - a major cyclist competition. **La Sablaisienne** - a race on the beach in Calais.

JUNE: The Fête de la Musique with free concerts in all the towns. **"Bonne Aventure" Festival** in Dunkerque. **Deux Jours sur les Flots**, a festive musical event in Calais.

JULY - AUGUST: Fête de la Mer in Boulogne. **Le Village d'Été de Calais** - a summer festival with free activities facing the sea. **The fireworks** in Dunkerque-Flandre Côte d'Opale. **Fête du Jazz** in Saint-Omer.

SEPTEMBER: - Journées du Patrimoine (heritage days), when all the cultural and heritage monuments on the Côte d'Opale are open to the public free of charge. **The Boucles Dunkerquoises - the region's largest free running race. Fête du Parc Naturel Régional des Caps et Marais d'Opale** - a festive event on the Boulogne coast.

OCTOBER: Welcome Day for ULCO international students. Fête de la Science in the University laboratories. **Festival Hauts-de-France NEAM**, electronic music festival in Saint-Omer.

NOVEMBER: The Fête du Hareng, pays tribute to herrings in Calais and Boulogne-sur-Mer. **Les Rêves de Notre-Dame**, with concerts and entertainment in the Calais cathedral.



**& 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

- **Dunkerque:** **86,000** residents
- **Calais:** **72,000** residents
- **Boulogne-sur-Mer:**
40,000 residents
- **Saint-Omer/Longuenesse:**
30,000 residents

UNIVERSITÉ DU LITTORAL CÔTE D'OPALE:

- 4 campuses (Dunkerque, Calais, Boulogne-sur-Mer and Saint-Omer)
- 14 research centers
- 2 doctoral schools

HAUTS-DE-FRANCE REGION:

3rd region for higher education with 215,000 students

5th French region in terms of hosting foreign students (25,000 international students)

Université du Littoral Côte d'Opale (ULCO):

10,000 students

including more than 1,000 international students.



HAUTS-DE-FRANCE REGION: THE 3RD MOST DENSELY POPULATED REGION IN FRANCE AND THE REGION WITH THE YOUNGEST POPULATION.

Most of the information presented in the Campus France City Information Sheets concerns all international students regardless of their institution.

In France, in each of the host cities, most foreign students study at universities. Accordingly, the City Information Sheets attach great importance to them without overlooking the other higher education institutions even if it is not possible to list them all here with their specific information.

For more information on the institutions' welcomes and orientations:

<https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/recherche/categorie/hauts-de-france-555>

CAMPUS FRANCE

28 rue de la Grange aux Belles, 75010 PARIS - 01 40 40 58 58 - www.campusfrance.org