



Daily Life Made Easy

Getting set up for a good start - Part 2

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- Getting set up for a good start – Part II

Driving

Who needs a French license?

E.E.C.

- There is reciprocity with any European country – no need to exchange your license.

Outside E.E.C.

- Your international license and your home country license are valid for the first year of your Carte de Sejour.
- After that you are no longer covered by your insurance and if your national license is not exchangeable, you must obtain a French driver's license.



Daily Life Made Easy

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French licenses have 12 points. New license holders have a 3 years probationary period with only 6 points.

International Drivers License

- Can be obtained through AAA in the US.

Auto Ecoles / Driving Schools

- Fehrenbach is a driving school in Suresnes that offers English language instruction for the written and road tests.



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Driving

Basic Rules

- « Priorité à droite » Driver on the right has priority unless otherwise indicated. In a roundabout, whoever is already in the roundabout has priority
- Seat belts are required
- Children under 10 in the backseat unless special circumstances
- No cellphones / texting while driving
- Watch your speed - radars are everywhere!!
- Watch your alcohol - no more than 1 glass of wine!



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Money Saving:

CAF Caisse d'allocations familiales

- For 2+ children under 20 years old, the french government gives you a monthly allocation, not dependent on revenue.
- Per month 2 children 123.92€, 3 children 282.70€, 4 children 441.48€
- There are other allocations available dependant on family situation
- www.caf.fr

Cartes de fidélité

- Stores offer fidelity cards that give either immediate reductions or they send checks for future purchases.
- ie: Carrefour, Boulanger, Okaïdi



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Money Saving:

Chèque emploi service

- Simplified process to legally employ and pay employees for home services (eg: cleaning person, gardener, music teacher, childcare giver...)
- Check is given to employee
- Payment of social contributions made online www.cesu.urssaf.fr
- 50% of total cost is tax deductible

Carte famille nombreuses

- For families with 3 or more children
- Reduction on transportation (metro, trains, buses), museums, cinemas, etc. Issued by SNCF. www.voyages-sncf.com Costs 18€



Daily Life Made Easy

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Childcare

Au Pairs

- See page XX in the Survival Guide for complete details on the process and ask people who have au pairs

Babysitting

-APELI and various Sections offer babysitting lists
www.apeli.org

Centre de Loisirs in your town

- Childcare for Wednesdays and during vacations

Garderies

- Before and after-school care of students
- Available at maternelle/primaires at certain schools



Daily Life Made Easy

- Getting set up for a good start – Part II

Activities for Kids

School organized:

- Ask the Sport Teachers what is available at your child's school
- The LI has volleyball, badminton, basketball and swimming teams
- The LI has soccer teams organized by Section parents that compete against each other on weekends
- Speak to other parents

Outside sports / activities: www.saintgermainenlaye.fr

- « Forum des Sports » St Germain, September 4th
- « Forum des Associations » St Germain, September 25th.
- Chance to sign up your child for the year.
- Look on your town's website for exact date or ask at your Mairie.



Daily Life Made Easy

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Outside Sports / Activities (cont.)

- Swimming Pool / Piscine
- Library / Bibliothèque
- Music Conservatory / Conservatoire
- La Clef - Cultural center in Saint Germain for classes, ie: drawing, dancing, french...
- Pony Clubs in Saint Germain, Fourqueux and Marly le Roi
- French, American & British Scouts
- Vacation & Summer camps
- Centre de Loisirs