

Strasbourg Travel Guide



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1 / General



The city of Strasbourg is located in eastern France, on the left bank of the Rhine and just on the border of France and Germany.

Population: 461,042 inhabitants

Population Density: 3478 inhab/ km² (miles square)

Name of the inhabitants: Strasbourgeois, Strasbourgeoise

Region: Alsace

Postcode: 67000, 67100, 67200





2 / Transport

Due to its geographic position, Strasbourg is an important European crossroads and a dynamic city that hosts hundreds of thousands of visitors every year. The city acquired rather early a very extensive transportation network with an efficient layout. During your visit in Strasbourg, you'll also have the chance to get around quickly and efficiently in urban center.

By car

Strasbourg is accessible and navigable by car. From Paris, you can get to Strasbourg on highway A4, but the city is also serviced by other highways and national highways like the A35 (traffic is very dense during rush hours), N4 or N83. Once in Strasbourg, we recommend you to leave your car and enjoy the public transportation to get better acquainted with Strasbourg's most beautiful nooks and crannies.



By train

You can get to Strasbourg by train from numerous French cities. In fact, the Strasbourg-Ville train station makes up the center of a large railway network. From the Gare de l'Est in Paris, the trip to Strasbourg only lasts two hours. The TGV Rhin-Rhône also passes by the city of Strasbourg and allows you to make connections from cities like Mulhouse, Dijon, Lyon, and Marseille. Thanks to the TER trains, you can also reach small cities in eastern France as well as cities in Germany. More information is available on the [SNCF](http://www.sncf.com) website..



By plane

The city of Strasbourg has a single airport available, the [International of Strasbourg](#) which is located 15 km south of the city center. The airport services around 50 destinations that are mostly in Europe like Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Madrid, and even Prague. The German airport, [Baden-Baden](#) is located 60 km from Strasbourg and lets you connect to destinations like London and Berlin.



Tramway

The tram is especially present in the city center and in the old city. The first tramline opened in 1994 and the city has added 6 more since then. Furthermore, it is the most extensive tram network in France with 70 stations for a total of 60 km of lines. The trams are managed by the [CTS Strasbourg company](#) and the price for a ticket is affordable (1.60 euros for a single fare, 3.10 euros for a round trip).



By bus

Urban buses are managed by the same company as the tramway, [CTS Strasbourg](#). You can get around in the entire urban area thanks to their particularly extensive network (320 km of lines total). You can even get to the city of Kehl in Germany quickly thanks to certain bus lines. Prices are the same for the tram.

By bike

Strasbourg is a great destination for bike lovers. Since 2011, the city improved the quality and quantity of its [bike paths](#) and now has new bike racks so that cyclists can leave their bikes without worrying. From Strasbourg, you can also take the bike path, Veloroute Rhin (EuroVélo15), and continue on the German bike paths. You can rent bikes in many boutiques, but don't dwell on the city's Velhop, which is reserved for paying citizens of Strasbourg.



By boat

Let's not forget that Strasbourg is located on a large body of water: the Ill. Once you are in Strasbourg, you can enjoy a [Batorama](#) to discover the splendors of the city and peacefully get around. This service offered by the Port Autonome de Strasbourg is well known and especially appreciated by visitors that flock in masses during fine weather days. The service is available all year round, including the colder months! The boat trip is free for anyone under 4, the price goes up to 12.50 euros for adults and 7.20 for anyone under 12.



3 / When to go ?

December

Strasbourg is, above all else, the capital of Christmas.

In fact, for the past 400 years, the city has organized one of the best [Christmas markets](#) in France, thanks to its French and German heritage.

Also, if you have the chance to visit Strasbourg during the New Year's celebrations or during the month of December in general, you won't be disappointed.

The atmosphere is magical and spectacular at sunset. It's at this rather particular time of the day that the streets, shop windows, as well as the Christmas market cabins light up.

You can stroll through the market to discover local artisans and delicious food or even try some chestnuts and mulled wine while discovering the giant pine situated on Place Kléber.

You won't be at rest if you distance yourself from the heart of the market. In fact, the city doubles its efforts every year to highlight its cultural and architectural heritage thanks to light displays that flood the city in light during the time of the festival.

Strasbourg is still by a long shot the French capital of the Christmas market and we recommend going there especially during this time of the year.

The beginning of summer

During the warmest months of the year, the city comes to life and moves to the rhythm of many festivals organized in Strasbourg, as well as in small communities in the surrounding area.

For example, during your summer stay you'll have the chance to take part in an urban art festival, [Contre Temps](#) that takes place every year in June. During the festival, all forms of expression and urban art are focused on (hip-hop, street art, design, film, etc.) and you might also have the chance to meet some artists during meetings and talks organized by the festival.

Later in the summer, you'll be able to discover the [Strasbourg Music Festival](#) that honors lyrical and contemporary classical music, and also revisits songs that are now at least part of our cultural heritage. This festival takes place for 3 weeks during the month of June.





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The end of summer and fall

If Alsace is known for its Christmas markets, it is also known for its wine and beers. Beer lovers will be able to enjoy themselves during the [Fête de la Bière](#) that takes place every year for a few days at the beginning of August in a small city north of Strasbourg: Schiltigheim. Every year, the atmosphere is easy-going and friendly, and you'll have the occasion to discover and try many regional beers that are typical of Germany.

Additionally, at the end of August until mid-November, you can take part in the harvest in a welcoming atmosphere. Every year, the wine makers recruit volunteers to help harvest their grapes, a tiring activity, but rather gratifying for wine lovers.





4 / Information and useful addresses

Office du tourisme : 0388522828

Emergency: 112 (zone Euro, le 112 redirige sur les numéros 15, 17, 18, 115 et 119)

Fire station : 18

Medical emergency : 15

Police : 17

Missing kids: 116

Transportation

La CTS Strasbourg: <http://www.cts-strasbourg.eu/fr>

La Gare de Strasbourg-Ville: <http://www.voyages-sncf.com/gare-strasbourg>

L'aéroport international de Strasbourg: <http://www.strasbourg.aeroport.fr>



Museums and Touristic Sites

La cathédrale Notre-Dame : <http://www.cathedrale-strasbourg.fr>

L'Eglise protestante Saint-Thomas : <http://www.saint-thomas-strasbourg.fr/>

La Maison Kammerzell : <http://www.maison-kammerzell.com>

La Maison Egyptienne : <http://www.strasbourg.eu/fr/fiche-lieu>

Le Palais Rohan : <http://www.musees.strasbourg.eu/index.php?page=le-palais-rohan>

Le Musée Alsacien de Strasbourg :
<http://www.musees.strasbourg.eu/index.php?page=musee-alsacien>

Le Musée d'Art Moderne et Contemporain de Strasbourg :
<http://www.musees.strasbourg.eu/index.php?page=mamcs>

L'Aubette : <http://www.musees.strasbourg.eu/index.php?page=musee-aubette>

Le Musée Historique de Strasbourg :
<http://www.musees.strasbourg.eu/index.php?page=musee-histo>

Le Musée Les secrets du chocolat" : <http://musee-du-chocolat.com>



5 / Budget in Strasbourg

Lodgings

The prices indicated below are just for reference and include the price of one night in a standard double room and may vary depending on the season.

between 30 and 50 euros*:

at this price, you can stay in a basic hotel or apartment-hotel that may sometimes be a bit far from the center.

between 50 and 75 euros*:

you'll have the opportunity to spend a pleasant stay in a hotel in the center of Strasbourg offering simple services

between 75 and 100 euros*:

for this amount, you can stay in a lovely hotel in the city center, maybe even located in a half-timbered house, offering refined services in an elegant setting.

more than 100 euros*:

you'll have the chance to discover one of the most beautiful hotels or apartment-hotels in the city and having your dream stay in an idyllic decor.

[Take a look at our website to find a hotel to stay in Strasbourg](#)





Restaurant

The prices indicated below are just for reference and include the price of a dish/meal for one person.

between 5 and 15 euros*

If you are just a little hungry or want something sweet, we really recommend [PUR etc.](#), an organic “fast good” restaurant where everything is homemade and depends on the seasonal vegetables and fruits. To discover one of the region’s local specialties, the famous flammekueche, we recommend [Capt’ain Flam](#), a restaurant with an original concept. Instead of ordering the basic flammekueche (onions, creme, and pork), you can choose your toppings from among many salty or sweet products. It will then be rolled up like a crepe so you can take it to go and eat it more easily. (PUR etc, 15 place Saint-Etienne 122 Grand Rue Centre commerciale des Halles) (Cap’tain Flam, 9b rue des Frères)

from 15 to 30 euros*:

Make the most of your stay in Strasbourg by discovering Alsace and its traditional dishes. To extend your adventure, go to [Winstub S’kaechele](#), a restaurant located in the heart of Strasbourg that offers delicious regional dishes. Please note that the restaurant is very small and well-known so think about booking a table before going! For a nice evening in a half-timbered house near Strasbourg, we recommend [Deux Clefs d’Or](#), a charming family establishment that is acclaimed as much for its welcoming atmosphere as for its traditional cuisine. (Winstub S’kaechele, 8 rue de l’Argile) (Aux Deux Clefs d’Or, 21 rue du Moulin)

between 30 and 70 euros*:

For a lovely gourmet experience in Strasbourg, we recommend [La Vignette](#), a beautiful establishment that offers refined, modern, and well-presented dishes. We also recommend the [Esprit Terroir](#), an innovative gourmet restaurant that reinvents (the flavour as much as the presentation) traditional French dishes. Be aware that reservations are necessary in these two establishments (La Vignette, 29 rue Mélanie) (Esprit Terroir, 2 quai Finkwiller)

starting at 70 euros*:

If you are looking for a restaurant to celebrate a big occasion or just for fun, we recommend [Le Buerehiesel](#), Chef Eric Westermann’s restaurant. The place offers dishes that taste just as good as they look! Once again, we recommend making reservations. (Le Buerehiesel, 4 parc de l’Orangerie)





6 / Unmissable visits!



If the city of Strasbourg has many museums, the city center is partially a museum on its own. In fact, for centuries, the community has fought to preserve the historical and architectural heritage of Strasbourg. Also, we recommend starting your stay with a quick tour of the most beautiful buildings and facades in the city.

- [La Maison Kammerzell :](#)

This building is a real pillar of Strasbourg's architectural heritage. Built in 1467, the house has survived the test of time and is completely representative of the region's architecture. "Kammerzell" comes from the name of a grocer, the buildings owner in the 19th century. The house is especially admired for its façade that mixes biblical characters, tales of Antiquity and of the Middle Ages. The house is now a reputed hotel and restaurant. Of course, you can enter the hall and admire its façade for free.

- [Maison Egyptienne :](#)

Here is a surprising fresco with Egyptian inspiration in the heart of the German neighborhood. This fantasy mixing Art Nouveau and Orientalism dates back to 1905.



- The Imperial German Neighborhood

It is in the heart of this neighborhood that you can find the Maison Egyptienne, mentioned above. Built between 1880 and 1900, this neighborhood was constructed in the glory of the Empire and German pride, since Strasbourg belonged to the German empire at the time. This neighborhood contains large squares, big avenues bordered with trees and buildings with neo-renaissance inspiration and also neo-baroque, Italian, and German. This neighborhood is also called Neustadt and stretches from Place Broglie to rue de l'Observatoire, passing by Place de la République and Avenue de la Liberté.

- [University of Strasbourg's Botanical Gardens.](#)

Created in 1619, the gardens are located in the heart of the city. The place welcomes over 6000 species of different plants. All throughout the year, themed exhibits are offered and allow you to learn more about plants presented there. In summer, it is nice to stroll in this green setting and to take your time to admire the botanical world offered to you. It is free to enter.

- [Strasbourg Cathedral :](#)

A Completed in 1439, the cathedral is a masterpiece of Gothic art. You'll undoubtedly be impressed by the height of its steeple that rises to 142 meters. You'll be able to admire biblical figures depicted on the façade and, once you are inside, marvel before the majestic nave, as well as the splendid stained glass windows. The astronomical clock dates back to 1842 and puts the apostles on parade everyday at 12:30 p.m. exactly. Entry is free and you can walk around freely.





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- [Palais Rohan.](#)

Constructed in 1742? when Strasbourg became French again, the palace served as the residence of Armand-Gaston de Rohan-Soubise, a nobleman (and bastard to the king) and powerful clergymen of the French kingdom. The palace's architecture, which is both simple and impressive, is a real jewel in the eyes of the Alsatian population. The palace, which is now uninhabited, was transformed into a fine art museum in 1889 when the archeological museum was installed there in 1913 and the decorative art museum in 1924. We recommend taking a tour of this museum with its eclectic collections and admirable architecture.

- [Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art.](#)

Opened in 1998, the museum is an open and modular space that presents many expositions every year. The collections stretch over a period going from 1870 to our time and focus particularly on works from artists in Western Europe. For adults, the entry fee is at 7 euros, 4 euros per person for groups, 4 euros for students, and it is free for anyone under 18.

- [Aubette,](#)

Created by Van Doesburg, Hans Jean Arp, and Sophie Taeuber-Arp in 1928, the Aubette is an innovative museum/concept that you have never seen before. The goal of the establishment was to "place man in paintings rather in front of them" as Van Doesburg once put it. You will enter into a magnificent 4-floor building where you can really immerse yourself in the avant-garde world of Aubette and discover modern art works. Entry is free all throughout the year.

- [Strasbourg Historical Museum](#)

The place retraces the history of the city across the centuries. In fact, this one deserves a stop, given the surprising past of the city that has changed nationalities, and therefore has a bilingual culture that is both French and German. In this museum, you will be able to discover many models as well as testaments from citizens and archeological collections that will take you back in time to discover Strasbourg of another time. The museum is located in the city's old butcher shop, a monument that is worth a detour on its own, thanks to its history as much as its architecture. The museum's entrance is free for anyone under 18, and goes up to 6.5 euros for adults, 3.5 euros for students and members of groups larger than 25 people.





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- [Alsatian Museum of Strasbourg](#) :

This popular art museum, located in the old houses, displays furniture, dishes, and clothing from the time period as well as recreations of the interior characteristics of different regions in Alsace. Entry to the museum is free for anyone under 18, and it goes up to 3.50 euros for students, 6.50 euros for adults, and 3.50 euros per visitor in a group of 25 or more.

- [“Secrets of Chocolate”](#)

The land of deliciousness is in Geispolsheim, on the outskirts of Strasbourg. This museum is a nice activity for the whole family. There, you discover the secret of chocolate making. You can also participate in tasting workshops, creative workshops, and even guided tours. We recommend you to go to their website for more details on their program. The cost of entry is 8 euros for adults, 6 euros for kids, and 7 euros for members in a group and 5 euros for students. Access to the museum is free for kids under 5.

For those who love good wine, why not exploring the [wine road](#). You can organize a visit to a vineyard as well as tasting. Your visit to Strasbourg will be undoubtedly the occasion to try some new flavours!

** This travel guide was published in July 2015, prices may then vary.*

