

Welcome to
Bordeaux
Sciences Agro

HANDBOOK

Practical information



BORDEAUX
SCIENCES
AGRO

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WELCOME AND GENERAL INFORMATION

The International Relations office team is looking forward to welcoming you to Bordeaux Sciences Agro. We are certain that you will have an interesting, exciting and enjoyable experience at our institution and in our city.

At Bordeaux Sciences Agro, like at most other universities in France, people from different countries who speak different languages study, live and socialize together. Living with people from all over the world is a great experience and offers many new and exciting opportunities. We are looking forward to supporting you during your time in Bordeaux and we will do our best to make your stay as comfortable as possible.

Please, feel free to contact us!

- ▶ The first step towards a successful stay as an exchange student is reading the following information guide

About Bordeaux



THE CITY

As the capital of the Aquitaine Region, the city of Bordeaux enjoys a privileged position within France's leading region for value-added agriculture. Farmland and forests here account for more than 90% of the territory.

Aquitaine is the world's foremost region for registered wines of origin, France's leading region for production with quality and/or labels of

origin, and home to the largest planted forest in Europe. This exceptional situation combined with its own advantages gives Bordeaux Sciences Agro a unique advantage to develop academic and scientific partnerships around the world and welcome foreign teachers and students.

Besides the world-renowned vineyards, the city has a number of fascinating museums, splendid architecture, culture, fame and outstanding cuisine.

In 2007 Bordeaux was added to the UNESCO World Heritage list as "an outstanding urban and architectural ensemble" of the 18th century, the largest urban area ever to receive this acclaim. It has become a very attractive area, has a unique lifestyle and the city's exceptional vitality shows its openness to the world.



ITS CLIMATE

Bordeaux's climate is usually classified as an oceanic climate; however, the summers tend to be warmer and the winters milder than most areas of similar classification.

Substantial summer rainfall prevents its climate from being classified as Mediterranean. Winters are mild because of the prevalence of westerly winds from the Atlantic.

The average seasonal winter temperature is 7.1 °C (44.8 °F), but recent winters have been warmer than this. Frosts in the winter are commonplace, occurring several times during a winter, but snowfall is very rare, occurring only once every three years.

Summers are warm and long due to the influence from the Bay of Biscay where the surface temperature reaches 21 to 22 °C (70 to 72 °F).

THE COST OF LIVING

A monthly budget of approximately 600€ (minimum) is necessary to live in Bordeaux.

With your student status, you have access to certain services such as: University cafeterias and restaurants, Bordeaux Sciences Agro's accommodation (priority given to international students), libraries, reduced transport fees, sports facilities...

For the first month the budget is triple the usual amount as there are extra costs linked to settling in your accommodation, subscribing to Social Security, signing contracts for electricity, telephone, water...

ITS SURROUNDINGS ...

The Aquitaine region is located in the south-west of France and brings together 5 departments starting from the Dordogne until the Spanish border: Dordogne, Lot et Garonne, Pyrénées-Atlantiques, Landes and Gironde.

It is one of the most famous wine region in the world but also the largest producer of fruits and vegetables while having on its land the biggest forest of Europe. Most of the region's exportations come out from the agricultural and food sector although leading industries (aerospace and para-chemistry) are also important clusters.

The Aquitaine region offers a wide range of activities, a dynamic tourism through the privileged and protected spaces. You can discover the Atlantic coast, the Landes forest, the prehistoric sites of Périgord, prunes of Agen, the mountains of the Basque country and Bearn.





About Bordeaux Sciences Agro

ITS ENVIRONMENT

In a calm and green environment only a few minutes away from downtown Bordeaux, the school provides its students with the best living conditions during their studies.

For example, if you want to do some physical activities, we have many sports facilities on campus: a gymnasium, a soccer field, a rugby field, weights room and a dojo.

As a public institution under the authority of the French Ministry of Agriculture, Bordeaux Sciences Agro collaborates with other similar institutions in France and abroad through a network of higher agronomic institutes, notably in the framework of joint courses.



For 50 years, Bordeaux Sciences Agro has been able to forge privileged relationships with companies. These ties supplement the courses offered by our institution by helping increase the professionalism of the materials taught and by fostering the professional futures of the graduates by ensuring that the courses are suited to the real world.

FRENCH HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

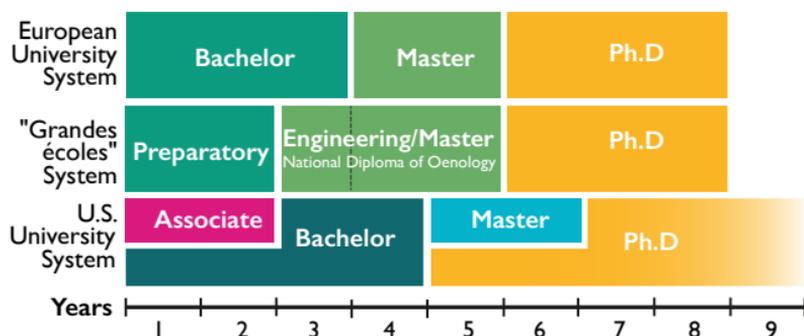
The higher education system in France proposes three principal degrees:

- › 1. Bachelor ("Licence"): 3 years (6 semesters) = 180 ECTS
- › 2. Master ("Master"): 2 years (4 semesters) = 120 ECTS
- › 3. Ph.D ("Doctorat"): 3 years on average (6 semesters) = 180 ECTS

The European Credit Transfer system (ECTS): Each level is attained by acquiring the required number of ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) credits. The academic year is divided into two semesters, and the validation of one semester is equivalent to 30 ECTS credits.

The accumulation of credits at the higher education level depends on academic workload, number of course hours and course objectives.

You can see below the differences between main University systems and the "Grandes Ecoles" system with engineering diploma that we propose here in Bordeaux Sciences Agro:



Classes: University classes generally start during the month of September and finish in May/June just before the end-of-year exams.

Semester: Each University year is divided into 2 semesters. The subjects taught are grouped according to teaching units (UE "unité d'enseignement") that include lectures, tutorials (TD "travaux dirigés") and practical work (TP "travaux pratiques")

Grading system: In France, the grades range from 0 to 20. 0 is the worst grade and 20 is the best. You have to get a minimum 10/20 to pass.

Assessment Tests: Two different types of assessment exist:

- Continuous assessment which validates knowledge with oral and written exams throughout the year ;
- Exams (oral and written) that are taken in one go at the end of each semester.

French courses during the semester

At Bordeaux Sciences Agro we offer French classes during the winter and spring semesters.

French language courses offer international students intensive language training in French as a Foreign Language aiming to allow them to develop a scientific and technical vocabulary essential to succeed in course work.

Calendar

Winter Semester	September – January
Spring Semester	February – June

Holidays

Autumn Break:	October - November
Winter Break:	December – January
Spring Break:	March – April
Summer Break:	July – August

ITS WINE ESTATE



Bordeaux Sciences Agro has its own wine estate:

Château Luchey-Halde, ideally located on 29 hectares of exceptional land at the center of the renowned appellation, Pessac-Léognan.

In 1999, the school began re-developing the estate. In the space of a few years, the vineyard restored its reputation for excellence and began producing high quality red and white wines.

This estate provides students studying the wine industry with an exceptional working tool, and beautifully showcases the school's know-how and commitment. This wine estate is also used to develop new projects such as an environmental approach to the vineyard.



» FEW THINGS TO THINK ABOUT BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL

Concerning your studies

EXCHANGE STUDENTS



Exchange students are allowed to spend one semester or a full year in Bordeaux Sciences Agro if their home university has a cooperation agreement with our institution.

The home university must nominate selected students following its own procedures and communicate a nomination list to the International Office before 1st of May (for exchanges beginning in the autumn semester) or 1st of November (for exchanges beginning in the spring semester).

In order to make a course timetable and to complete a "Learning Agreement", exchange students must discuss with their study advisor at the home university which course units would be relevant and recognized as a contribution to their own degree program.

Nominated students must then complete our "foreign students online application form" before June 1st, and send their application package to Bordeaux Sciences Agro's International Office.

Please remember that exchange students will remain registered at the home university and will thus pay tuition fees there. The ECTS credits obtained at Bordeaux Sciences Agro will be recognized by the home university at the end of the stay.

MASTER, CURRENT STUDENTS

Candidates are selected on the basis of academic and/or professional records and on their motivation. To be eligible to apply for the Master program, candidates are required to have:

1. An undergraduate degree of at least 3 years (i.e. bachelor's degree, or the equivalent, from an accredited college or university) in one of the closely related fields:

- Business management and economics
- Administration
- Marketing
- Accounting and Finance
- Agronomy / Agricultural Sciences
- Food /Plant Sciences & technologies

2. Working proficiency of English (language certificates are not required; however, your language proficiency will be verified during a Skype interview).

Applicants expecting their Bachelor Degree can obtain a conditional admission. Candidates must complete our online application form between 15th of February and 1st of June.

Please note that tuition fees for the Master degree are 10,000 € (per annum), to be paid annually. The tuition fees include: registration and general administrative costs, classes and travel costs for study visits. Fees do not include living expenses.

Concerning other administrative formalities

IMMIGRATION PROCEDURES

A VISA is only required for non-European students. Before moving to France, you need to apply directly to the French Consulate in your current country of study for a student, long-stay Visa, type D. Bordeaux Sciences Agro will provide you with an acceptance once your project is confirmed.

ACCOMMODATION RESERVATION



You can apply for accommodation on the Bordeaux Sciences Agro campus.

Bordeaux Sciences Agro has rooms (12m²) for 280€ per month and small studios (18 m²) for 370€ per month.

Please contact hebergement@agro-bordeaux.fr if you are interested.

Private student residence: TENEO

For those who do not want to apply for accommodation at Bordeaux Sciences Agro you can apply at a private student residence (TENEO) which is more expensive (a studio is around 550-600€ a month).

- Talence Médoquine
- Talence Université
- The studios/apartments are equipped. The monthly rent includes internet and all charges.

Other private accommodation

If you are not interested in this type of accommodation, you can also look for an apartment or studio in the private market. Please find below links (in French) that could help you to find accommodation on your own:

▸ CIJA WEBSITE:

<http://www.info-jeune.net/logement-durgence.html>

▸ Leboncoin:

<http://www.leboncoin.fr/locations/offres/aquitaine/gironde/?f=a&th=1>

If you are looking for flat-sharing (please be careful when reading the ads and contacting the persons, to check if they are real ads or hoaxes):

- <http://www.colocation.fr/homepage.php>
- <http://www.appartager.com/>

You can also consult estate agencies in Bordeaux (please avoid Direct Location or agencies that provide lists of apartments. Most of the time, list providers are a hoax, since apartments are no longer available!)

Temporary Accommodation

Auberge de jeunesse Barbey: 22 cours Barbey 33800 Bordeaux
Tél : 05 56 33 00 70

www.auberge-jeunesse-bordeaux.com

» FEW THINGS TO THINK ABOUT DURING YOUR STAY

Enrollment

You will be enrolled at Direction des Etudes when you arrive and then you will be provided with student cards, enrolment certificates and internet access codes.

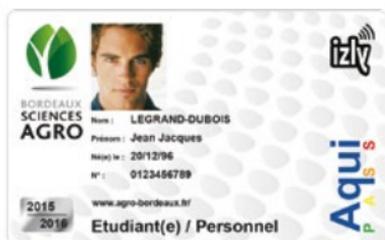
When you arrive at the University, you are provided with your personal Aquipass card. This is your student passport that will be your source of ID and will let you use the many services on offer: taking out books at the library, eating at the University restaurants...

You may also carry out certain purchases thanks to the electronic card system.

Izly: how does it work?

The Aquipass card has an integrated Izly electronic card system.

This may be used in the University cafeterias and restaurants thus avoiding the need to pay in cash. How to load up the Izly card? On-line right here !



To login for the first time on www.izly.fr, use your institutional e-mail address given by the "Direction des études" at your arrival.

How to load up the Izly card? For Loading / Reloading / Unloading / and online opposition, use a computer a phone or a tablet to connect on www.izly.fr.

With the Izly card it will be possible to pay with your phone to the CROUS restaurants of any city in France.

Where you can use Izly?

You can use your Izly card on:

- ▶ University canteens of the CROUS;
- ▶ Other services such as photocopier, vending machines, laundry, etc;
- ▶ On online ordering sites of the CROUS or other Higher Education institutions.

Concerning other administrative formalities and practical issues

IMMIGRATION

Non-EU students.

Once you arrive in France: Your passport / visa needs to be stamped by the Border Police at the airport! Without this stamp, the visa is not valid. Within 3 months, you need to send following documents by registered letter (French: lettre recommandée avec accusé de réception):

- Copy of your passport (pages: holder information, validity, stamp, visa).
- The original OFII form (the one you filled in at the time of VISA application in your country).

To: OFII–Direction territoriale 55, rue Saint-Sernin CS 90370 33002 Bordeaux Cedex

Once the OFII receives your letter and documents, you will receive within a few weeks an appointment for a medical visit.

You need to go to the medical visit with:

- Your passport
- An accommodation certificate
- A recent photograph (face, non-covered head, 3,5 x 4,5 cm)
- A stamp OMI/ANAEM/OFFI which costs 58€. You can buy it either at a tobacconist's (tabac) or a stationery shop in Bordeaux or through the OFII website: <https://www.timbresofii.fr>

Once the medical visit is done, the OFII will insert a secured vignette in your passport. Without this vignette and after 3 months in France, you will lose your VISA rights and be considered as an irregular resident. The vignette allows you to stay in France during the validity period and to travel to other Schengen-space countries.

ACCOMMODATION

Financial aid for accommodation

As with French students, you may qualify for student accommodation aid from the CAF (Caisse d'allocations familiales - Family Benefits Agency). For this aid, you must be a student, have a rental contract in your name and not be responsible for any children. For non-EU students, you will need a residence permit that is valid for over 3 months. You may complete your application on-line via the following website: <https://www.caf.fr>

Accommodation insurance

Personal insurance is obligatory no matter your accommodation, whether you are staying with a friend or renting in the private sector.

The insurance amount varies (between 30€ and 70€ per year) depending on the size of the apartment, the number of rooms and the risks insured (fire, theft, water damage, civil liability, damage to adjacent buildings...).

UNIVERSITY CANTEENS

University restaurants are located throughout the campuses as well as in the city center. They offer healthy, balanced meals for just 3,20€.

University restaurants in Pessac – Gradignan:



- ▶ **Resto U n°1** open in the evenings
Avenue Prévost – Talence ▶ Restaurant: Monday to Friday: 11.30am - 1.30pm and 6.30pm - 8pm ▶ Cafétéria : 7.30am - 6.30pm ▶ Tram B - Arts et Métiers
- ▶ **Resto U n°2**
Avenue des Facultés - Pessac ▶ Restaurant: Monday to Friday: 11.30am - 2pm ▶ Cafétéria : 10am - 4pm ▶ Tram B - Doyen Brus
- ▶ **Resto U n°3**
Avenue Camille Jullian - Gradignan ▶ Restaurant: Monday to Friday: 11.30am - 1.30pm ▶ Cafétéria : 11am - 3pm ▶ Bus Line (Ligne) 10 - Village 6
- ▶ **Le Forum**
2 Avenue Léon Duguit - 33600 Pessac ▶ Monday to Friday: 7.30am - 6pm ▶ Tram B - Montaigne-Montesquieu
- ▶ **Le Véracruz**
Esplanade des Antilles Avenue Maine de Biran - 33608 Pessac ▶ Monday to Friday: 7.30am - 6pm ▶ Tram B - Unitec
- ▶ **Le Sirtaki**
23 Esplanade des Antilles – 33600 Pessac ▶ Monday to Friday: 7.45am - 6pm (except Friday: 5pm) ▶ Take away: 9.30am - 5pm (except Friday 4pm) ▶ Tram B – Montaigne-Montesquieu
- ▶ **Cafétéria de l'IUT**
Rue de Naudet - Gradignan ▶ Monday to Friday: 8am - 4.15pm (except Friday: 3.45pm) ▶ Bus Line (Ligne) 10 (Village 6).

BORDEAUX SCIENCES AGRO LIBRARY

This is where you may carry out your research and study!

Publications and reviews may be consulted in the library or borrowed. There is also a wealth of on-line resources (reviews, databases...) available.

The Bordeaux Sciences Agro Library has nearly 30,000 books in relation with the training proposed at BSA: economy, agriculture, environment, sciences, animal production, crop production, food processing, forestry, viticulture, oenology, computing and information technology, foreign languages ... And it subscribes to more than 230 journals.



Facilities:

- › A reading room
- › Computers connected to the Internet
- › Small work rooms for 6 people
- › 2 large work rooms for 15 people
- › Free access to copier and printer

Operational hours:

From monday to friday : 8.15 am - 19 pm

Monday: opening at 9 am,

Friday: closed between 12.15 pm - 13 pm

SPORTS



During your stay at Bordeaux Sciences Agro, you'll be able to register for a physical activity such as basketball, volleyball, handball, and many other available sports with the Bordeaux Sciences Agro Sport association. Students are given a lot of time dedicated to the practice of a physical activity; students can practice it either at the school or in a private club.

This physical activity is taken into account in their study program through their 3 years of training. It is mandatory and will be part of the grade of their final exam.

Here are some activities proposed by the sport association of Bordeaux Sciences Agro:

Handball, Volley, Basket, Rugby, Soccer, Badminton, Tennis, Swimming, Judo, Gymnastics...

To practice these activities, we have many sports facilities on the campus of Bordeaux Sciences Agro: a gymnasium, a soccer field, a rugby field, weights room and a dojo.



STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS

We have many student associations, so you can be fully committed and active in your student role! There are also associations related to your field of study as well as cultural/sport/humanitarian associations...

The activities proposed are varied and will help your integration process as well as allowing you to discover new passions and talents!

Most of student associations at Bordeaux Sciences Agro are coordinated by "Le Cercles des élèves".

▸ Le Cercle des Elèves

Le Cercle des Elèves is an association managed by Bordeaux Sciences Agro first year students. Its aim is to coordinate student life activities on Bordeaux Sciences Agro's campus. This association is in charge of the organization of student life events such as the Christmas dinner for example, and the general and financial management of several clubs. Contact : cercle@agro-bordeaux.fr

Please contact Le Cercle des élèves for any information concerning students activities and associations.

HEALTHCARE AND INSURANCE

In France, health insurance (or Social Security as it is more commonly known) is obligatory for all students. You must pay up front for your healthcare; your visits to the doctor and your medication. Your expenses are then partially reimbursed by the Social Security. The remainder of the expenses is your responsibility. You may pay directly yourself or subscribe to a complementary health insurance (optional) that will cover such extra expenses. See below to check if/how you must register for Social Security depending on your student situation (age/status/nationality).

▸ You are under 28 years old on the 1st October and are from outside the EU and Schengen zone

If you are outside an exchange program, you must subscribe to the student Social Security system in France (annual fee of €211 that must be paid when registering at the University). If you are in an exchange program, you do not need to subscribe to the student Social Security but must have an international insurance certificate.

▸ You are under 28 years old on the 1st October and are from the EU, Schengen zone or Switzerland

If you have your European Health Insurance card (issued by your country of origin and valid for the entire University year), you do not need to register for the student Social Security system.

- ▶ You are from Quebec, Canada, with a Health Form provided by the Franco-Quebec protocol

You do not need to register with the student Social Security system because of the reciprocal agreements between the French Social Security system and the Health Insurance system in Quebec.

- ▶ You are coming to France to study for less than 3 months

You cannot register for the student Social Security system in France for short-term stays.

TRANSPORT

Reduced transport fees for students: You can purchase annual and monthly cards online or at one of the TBC offices. You will need your student card for any student discounts.

Students staying 1 semester:

We suggest that you take the monthly pass. The annual pass becomes interesting if you stay at least 6/6.5 months in Bordeaux. The card is valid from 1st to 31st of each month. You have then to reload your card each month either at the machines or at a TBC office.

The "Pass Jeune" (Youth Pass) card which gives you access to the entire transport network (tram and bus) if you are under 28 years old:

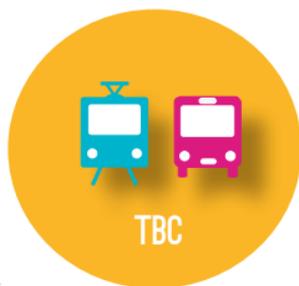
- ▶ Annual "Pass jeunes": €17,50 per month
- ▶ Monthly "Pass jeunes": €29.90
- ▶ Weekly "Pass jeunes": €8.50

The "Pass Jeune + VCub" card for an extra €20, in addition to the tram and bus, you have access to the VCub service, the bike share system in Bordeaux.

The "Tickarte" (for occasional travel): 10 tickets at a reduced price (€6.60).

You must present the TBC card (free of charge) with this ticket as it validates the price reduction.

The ticket is available for students under 28 yrs old (35 yrs old for international students) and gives you unlimited access to the Tram, Bus and Batcub (the river shuttle) for an hour after initial validation of the ticket.



Train Discount Card (Carte 12-28) This card is available for students under 25 years old. Students who will turn 29 soon, and are interested in applying, can apply before their 29th birthday. The card will still be valid for 12 months!

You can purchase the card at the train station or online: <http://www.voyages-sncf.com/services-train/carte-abonnement-train/jeune>

If you purchase it online, you may receive your card in a week or two. Please give a correct and valid postal address!

Producing this card, any time you purchase a train ticket via sncf.com you will be granted a 25% or 50% discount depending on the day / time you will travel.

BORDEAUX BY BIKE

Bordeaux is the 4th most bicycle-friendly city in the world.

With more than 200 kilometres of cycle paths, the Bordeaux urban area has become a paradise for cyclists. With VCub, you have a bike 24h/24 and 7 days/7, accessible with a single credit card or a subscription Tbc card. It allows you to combine the Tram, Bus or Bike easily from one mode of transport to another.

- ▶ 1545 bikes available
- ▶ 139 stations VCub

Very easy to use, you borrow a bike from the station of your choice and bring it back to the nearest bike station. The journeys of less than 30 minutes are free after accession. Once you are registered, you can use VCub as many times as you wish.



BANKING

If you are staying in France for longer than 3 months, you may open a bank account. The process is quite simple: you must simply provide your passport (or equivalent ID document), your residence permit (if a non-EU citizen) and proof of residence in Bordeaux. You will need a bank account in your name for many reasons, for example: Financial aid for accommodation and Security Social reimbursements are paid automatically to a bank account.

Note that at the International Relations office of Bordeaux Sciences Agro, we can help you as we usually plan a group appointment to the bank in order to help international students to open their bank accounts.

PHONING

Mobile phone options:

Obtaining a mobile phone in France is simple. You have two options: buy prepaid credit or obtain a one- or two-year contract. You will have to do a little research into which mobile company fits your needs the best, so feel free to shop around at mobile phone shops located throughout Bordeaux and ask questions! Mobile phone companies:

- Orange / Sosh
- SFR
- Bouygues Telecom
- Free Mobile

Option 1: Prepaid credit (no contract)

Prepaid credit is a great option for students who do not plan to use their mobile phones often and will be staying for only one semester or less. Typically, the credit will last for one month, and you can buy additional credit at tobacco shops or grocery stores. 1 SMS: ~€0.19; Phone call: ~€0.35/Minute (Receiving phone calls or text messages is free!)

Option 2: Signing a contract.

If you plan to stay in France for longer than six months, getting a mobile contract is the most economical choice. In order to obtain a mobile contract you must first have a French bank account. Phone packages typically include the phone itself, unlimited text messages within France, as well as 1-2 hours of telephoning. Internet (3G) may also be included depending on the package you choose. Mobile phone plans range from €20 to €50 per month.

Making phone calls:

French numbers are ten digits long and are displayed in pairs of two.

Calling French numbers:

From a French phone: Dial the number starting with a zero, without the country code.

Example: 06 76 80 67 65

From an international mobile phone:

Dial the number with the country code and remove the zero from the first pair of numbers.

Example: +33 6 76 80 67 65

From an international landline:

Dial the number with two zeros and the country code.

Example: 0033 6 76 80 67 64

Calling international numbers from a French phone:

Dial two zeros, the country code, and then the phone number.

For example, to call Canada: 00 1 403 555 7477

» FEW THINGS TO THINK ABOUT AFTER YOUR STAY

Concerning your studies

Please do not forget to get your transcript of records before leaving Bordeaux Sciences

Agro and France, as it will facilitate administrative formalities to obtain your diploma when you go back to your university.

If you have any questions about that, do not hesitate to contact the Department for Academic Affairs:

etudes@agro-bordeaux.fr

Tel: 05 57 35 07 42

Concerning other administrative formalities

ACCOMMODATION

Do not forget to provide one full month's notice when you want to leave your rented accommodation. If you are renting an accommodation on Bordeaux Sciences Agro's campus, you'll need to send it by registered letter to:

Service Hébergement Bordeaux Sciences Agro

1 cours du Général de Gaulle - CS 40201 - 33175

Gradignan Cedex

FRANCE

BANK

Do not forget to close your French bank account before leaving.

» ADDITIONAL USEFUL INFORMATION

Where to obtain medical care?

Student Health Center

13 avenue Pey-Berland – Pessac Tram B – Tram stop Doyen Brus

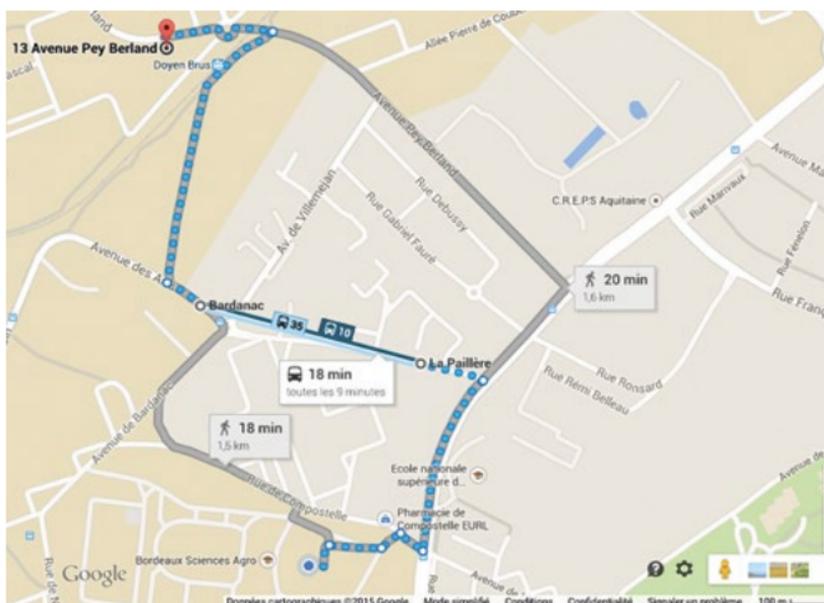
Tel: 05 56 04 06 06

From Monday to Thursday: 9am to 7pm.

Friday: 9am to 5pm

Closing dates: Christmas school holidays and from the 14th July until the 31st August.

It's the place to come to ensure that you remain in good health for the duration of your stay in Bordeaux Sciences Agro. Professional teams are present to welcome, provide advice and inform you as regards your needs: medical appointments, nursing services (free nursing care possible without prior appointment, health reviews), immunization updates and medical certificates allowing the practice of sport.



» EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Emergency services

Numbers

› SAMU	15
› Fire Brigade	18 or 112
› Police	17
› SOS Doctors	05 56 44 74 74 or 3624
› Anti-poison center	05 56 96 40 80
› Social Emergency	115
› Victim support service	05 24 57 42 50
› Emergency Welcome Center for victims of violence	05 56 79 87 77
› Bordeaux Police Station	05 57 85 77 77
› Talence Police Station	05 57 35 77 22
› Pessac Police Station	05 57 93 63 70

Pharmacies open 24h/24h - Pharmacies ouvertes 24h/24

Pharmacie des Capucins

30 place des Capucins

33000 Bordeaux

Pharmacie Devulder

71, Cours d'Albret

33000 Bordeaux

» CONTACTS



International Relations Office:

Tanya PARDO

tanya.pardo@agro-bordeaux.fr

+33 (0) 5 57 35 07 18



Department for Academic Affairs:

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etudes@agro-bordeaux.fr

+33 (0)5 57 35 07 41



Accommodation:

Cathy ZNOUTINE

hebergement@agro-bordeaux.fr

+33 (0) 5 57 35 07 00



SPEAK FRENCH

BASICS

Hello
Goodbye
Good afternoon
Good evening
Thank you (very much).
No, thank you.
Yes / No
Please
Excuse me
I'm sorry
You're welcome
Really?
I'd like ...
Where is...? / Where are...?
How...?
Why...?
When...?

Bonjour
Au revoir
Bonjour (après-midi)
Bonsoir
Merci (beaucoup)
Non merci
Si, oui / Non
S'il-vous-plaît
Excusez-moi
Je suis désolé(e)
Il n'y a pas de quoi
Ah bon? C'est vrai?
Je voudrais...
Où est...? / Où sont...?
Comment...?
Pourquoi...?
Quand...?

MAKING TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Round trip ticket
One-way ticket
Seat
Train station
Train
Flight
Air-port
I'm lost

aller-retour
aller-simple
siège
gare
train
vol
aéroport
Je suis perdu

HUNGRY?

I'd like some bread, please
I would like some water
Breakfast
Lunch
Dinner
Cheese
Coffee
Beer
Wine

Je voudrais du pain, s'il vous plait
Je voudrais de l'eau
petit déjeuner
déjeuner
diner
fromage
café
bière
vin

USEFUL TERMS

I don't understand
Can you repeat that?
Could you speak slowly?
I don't speak French very well
Do you speak English?
I don't know

Je ne comprends pas
Pouvez-vous répéter?
Pouvez-vous parler plus lentement?
Je ne parle pas bien français
Parlez-vous anglais?
Je ne sais pas.

HOW TO ASK FOR DIRECTIONS IN FRENCH

I want to go to ...
How do I get to... ?
Excuse me please! Could you
please tell me where ...is?

Left
Right
To the left
To the right
A Straight
At the end of
At the beginning of
Around the corner
The next street to the left.
The next street to the right.
In front of
Next to

Je voudrais aller à ...
Comment je fais pour aller à ... ?
Excusez-moi, est-ce que vous
pouvez me dire où est ... ? S'il
vous plaît.
Gauche
Droite
A gauche
A droite
Tout droit
Au bout de
Au début de
Au coin de la rue
La prochaine rue à gauche
La prochaine rue à droite
En face de
A coté de

Greetings: hello and goodbye

Cheek kissing is another common type of greeting in most French-speaking countries. However, the rules for cheek kisses can be a complicated matter. The rules change depending on the country you're in and even the region of the country. For example here in Bordeaux, the common number of cheek kisses is two, but when you meet someone for the first time, you can usually just shake hands.

French behavior



Another common behavior in France that you should know is that in France when you meet someone, the principal conversation topic is talking about the weather.

For example when you meet your neighbor, you say "Hi, how are you? It's cold today!" « Bonjour comment allez vous ? Il fait froid aujourd'hui ». You may find it weird at the beginning but it's really a common behavior in France, everybody talks about weather!

FRENCH ENVIRONMENT AND CULTURE

In France, most schools, government offices, banks and businesses are closed on public holidays. There are currently 11 public holidays in France.

- ▶ 1 January (New Year's Day)
- ▶ Easter Monday
- ▶ 1 May (Labor Day)
- ▶ 8 May (Armistice Day 1945)
- ▶ Ascension Thursday
- ▶ Pentecost Monday
- ▶ 14 July (France's national day)
- ▶ 15 August (Assumption)
- ▶ 1 November (All Saints' Day)
- ▶ 11 November (Armistice Day 1918)
- ▶ 25 December (Christmas Day)

Business hours

In general, shops are open between 9-10am and 7pm (8pm for some of the major chains), Monday to Saturday, except in small towns where most shops close between midday and 2pm. In France shops are closed on Sundays, with some exceptions – big shopping centers, the Christmas period, tourist areas, etc.

Superstitions

The French also have their superstitions, founded or unfounded beliefs that form such an important part of the culture of any country. It might be useful to know at least some of them.

It brings good luck to...:

- › Find a four-leafed clover
- › Touch wood while making a wish
- › Hang a horseshoe over the door
- › Tread on dog poo with your left foot

It brings bad luck to...:

- › Walk under a ladder
- › The number 13 in general is considered unlucky
- › Cross paths with a black cat at night
- › Open an umbrella in the house
- › Break a mirror (=7 years of bad luck)



Environment

France, like many countries, practices recycling. In most buildings there are three types of rubbish bins, with different colored lids:

- › **GREY lids:** for non-recyclable household waste
- › **GREEN lids:** for recyclable household waste such as:

Steel and aluminum wrappings (beer cans, tins, aerosols etc.)
Paper and cardboard wrappings (cereal/cake boxes, milk/soup cartons, etc.)

Newspapers and magazines

Plastic bottles (water/dishwashing liquid/shower gel/shampoo bottles, etc.)

- › **YELLOW lids:** for glass, jars, pots and other glass containers

In case of doubt, put it in the GREY-lidded bin.

Smoking

In France the law forbids smoking in public places except in designated smoking areas, both inside and outside (restaurants, cafés, shops, universities) as well as in collective transport (planes, trains, the metro). In practice, people smoke outside in certain public places (the terraces of restaurants and cafés). At universities and higher education establishments, the head of the institution decides whether or not to authorize smoking outside.

At Bordeaux Sciences Agro, smoking is only authorized outside the premises.

Eating and Shopping

The French usually eat three meals a day: breakfast between 7 and 8 am, lunch at around 12.30 pm and dinner at around 8 pm.

Eating out

For students; the cheapest option is the "restaurant universitaire" (resto-u), which offers a complete meal for around 3 Euros. These restaurants are open to all holders of a student card.

Another possibility is the lunchtime menu offered by most cafés and restaurants. A menu usually includes an entrée, a main course and a dessert for a fixed price, or simply a main course and a dessert.

In France the ham and cheese or ham and butter sandwich from the local bakery is a great lunch-time favorite. It's cheap!

In France, it's exceptional to find restaurants open 24/7. Most restaurants open between midday and 3pm and then again from 7-11 pm.



Restaurants

Tipping in France is not mandatory. Generally tips are not given for ordering coffee or alcoholic beverages; however, a couple of coins left after a meal if the service was good is appreciated, but not expected. For example, when paying the bill for a dinner for 2 people, €3 is quite a nice gesture but not mandatory. It's really up to you. (A service charge is included in the bill).

Food and grocery shopping

There are numerous small shops and supermarkets in town (Carrefour Market, Carrefour City, Monoprix, Super-U, Intermarché, etc.) where you can do your food shopping. Carrefour City only sells food products, but the others sell everything. The big supermarkets and other major stores are usually located in the commercial zones on the outskirts of Bordeaux.

The cheapest are the « hard discount » stores such as Leader Price, Ed, Aldi and Lidl.

The tradition of the farmers' market in France

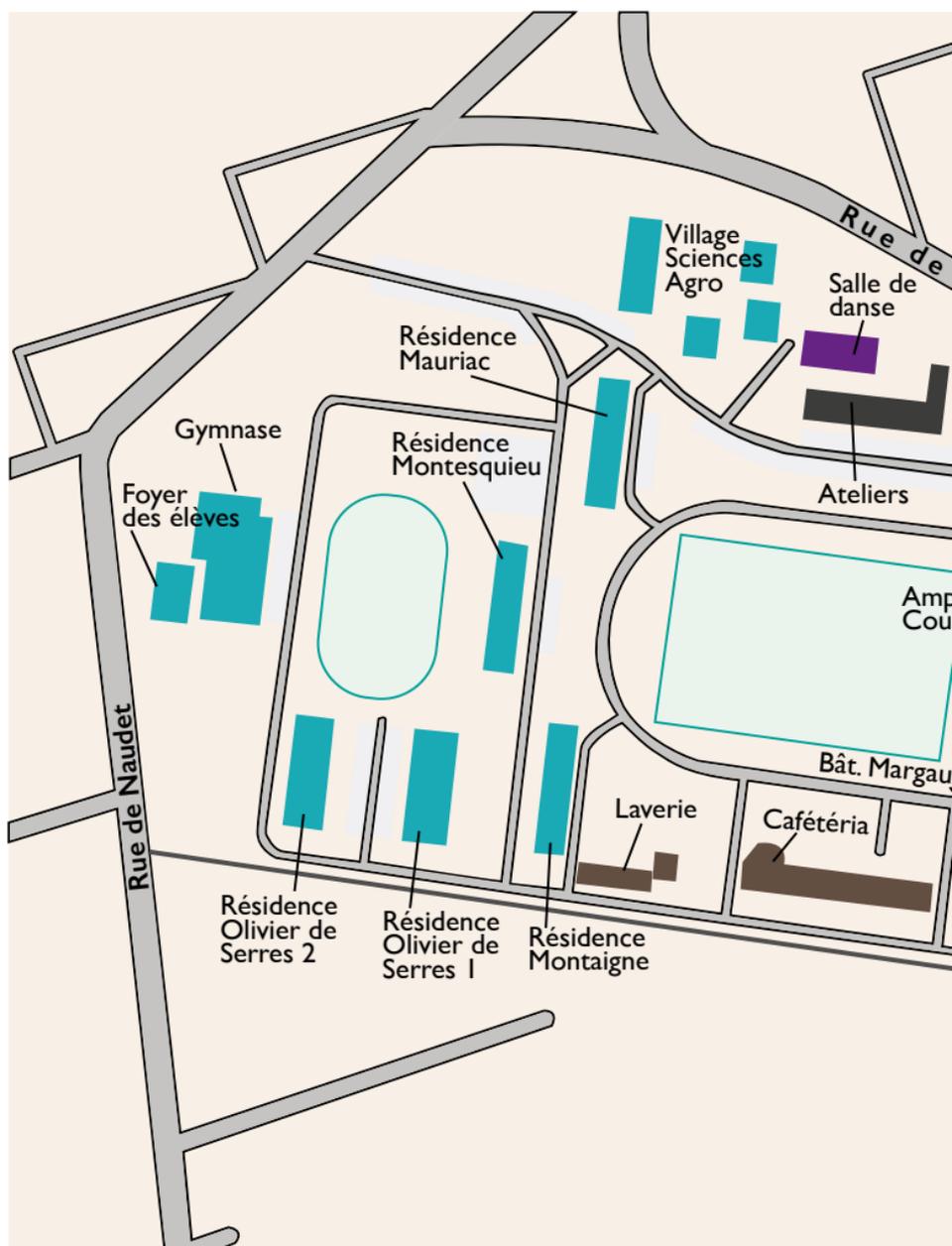
Many French people buy their fresh products (vegetables, meat, cheese, etc.) at farmers' markets. The Capucin market is one of the most important markets in Bordeaux; you will find there a lot of traditional food and fresh products. It takes place at Place des Capucins and it is open from Monday to Sunday (7.30 am to 12.30 pm).

Another example in Bordeaux is the Quai des Chartrons Market which takes place every Sunday morning from 7am to 1pm along the docks, and is very famous for its "spécialités bordelaises" and other products you will not find elsewhere.

Administrative formalities

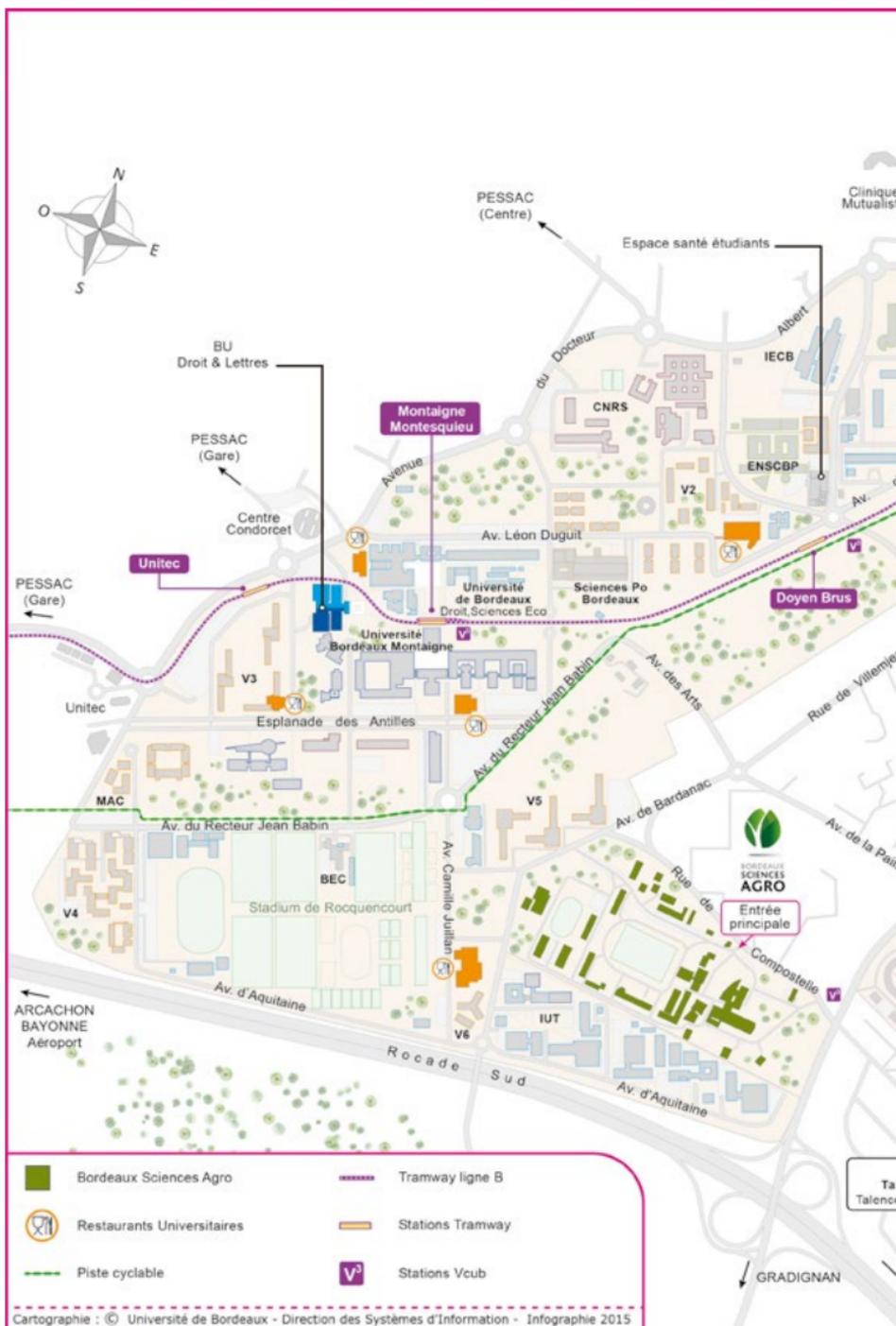
Finally, it is important to know that in France administrative formalities can last a few days and sometimes even a few weeks, it may seem like a long time but when it's done, you will notice that it is effective, you won't have to do it again!

» BORDEAUX SCIENCES AGRO'S MAP





» BORDEAUX CAMPUS MAP



Line A



Line B





Line C



PARTNERS



COMMUNAUTÉ
D'UNIVERSITÉS
ET ÉTABLISSEMENTS
D'AQUITAINE



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HAPPINESS

LUCK



in
BORDEAUX
SCIENCES
AGRO

SUCCESS

CHEERS!

