



BIZ OÙ?

Moving to France

Your practical planning checklist

HOW TO USE THIS CHECKLIST

Work through it at your own pace. Tick each item as you complete it, and use the Summary Findings / Notes space to record decisions, questions, useful contacts and things you still need to investigate.

1. Decide Where You Want to Live

- ☐ Research different regions and departments.
- ☐ Compare towns, villages and rural areas.
- ☐ Consider climate, landscape and lifestyle.
- ☐ Check access to healthcare, shops and essential services.
- ☐ Think about transport and whether you will need a car.
- ☐ Visit the areas at different times of year if possible.

Summary Findings / Notes

2. Check Your Right to Live in France

- ☐ Check the residency or visa rules that apply to you.
- ☐ Check passport and document validity.
- ☐ Understand the conditions attached to your planned status.
- ☐ Keep copies of important documents in a secure place.
- ☐ Allow plenty of time for applications and appointments.

Summary Findings / Notes

[Related Biz OÙ? Expat Guides →](#)

3. Plan Your Finances

- ☐ Work out your realistic moving budget.
- ☐ Allow for property, deposits, removals and initial setup costs.
- ☐ Research banking arrangements in France.
- ☐ Understand the tax implications of your move.
- ☐ Budget for insurance, utilities and ongoing living costs.
- ☐ Keep a contingency fund for unexpected expenses.

Summary Findings / Notes

[Related Biz OÙ? Expat Guides →](#)

4. Find Your Home

- ☐ Decide whether you will rent or buy.
- ☐ Research the local property market.
- ☐ Check the total cost of buying or renting, not just the headline price.
- ☐ Understand the condition and running costs of any property.
- ☐ Arrange appropriate property and home insurance.
- ☐ Make sure you understand the legal process before committing.

Summary Findings / Notes

[Related Biz OÙ? Expat Guides →](#)

5. Healthcare & Insurance

- ☐ Research how healthcare works in your circumstances.
- ☐ Find out what cover you need during the transition period.
- ☐ Keep copies of prescriptions and important medical information.
- ☐ Identify healthcare providers in your new area.
- ☐ Arrange appropriate health and other personal insurance.

Summary Findings / Notes

[Related Biz OÙ? Expat Guides →](#)

6. Moving Your Belongings

- ☐ Decide what you are taking, selling, donating or storing.
- ☐ Get removal quotes and check what each quote includes.
- ☐ Check whether your removal company covers both countries.
- ☐ Prepare an inventory of valuable or important items.
- ☐ Plan for the delivery and setup of essential belongings.

Summary Findings / Notes

7. Get Ready for Everyday Life

- ☐ Arrange a French bank account if appropriate.
- ☐ Organise mobile phone and internet arrangements.
- ☐ Research electricity, gas, water and other utilities.
- ☐ Find local shops, markets and essential services.
- ☐ Locate your nearest pharmacy, doctor and emergency services.
- ☐ Start building local contacts and community connections.

Summary Findings / Notes

8. Driving & Transport

- ☐ Check the rules affecting your driving licence.
- ☐ Understand the requirements for bringing or buying a vehicle.
- ☐ Arrange appropriate vehicle insurance.
- ☐ Research public transport in your area.
- ☐ Plan how you will travel to work, school, healthcare and shopping.

Summary Findings / Notes

[Related Biz OÙ? Expat Guides →](#)

9. Explore Your New Area

- ☐ Explore your nearest towns and villages.
- ☐ Find local markets, activities and community groups.
- ☐ Look for English-speaking and bilingual services where useful.
- ☐ Explore local attractions and recommended Places to Visit.
- ☐ Start learning useful French for everyday life.

Summary Findings / Notes

10. Find Trusted Local Services

- ☐ Identify the tradespeople and professionals you are likely to need.
- ☐ Check qualifications, insurance and reputation where relevant.
- ☐ Keep useful contact details in one place.
- ☐ Use Biz OÙ? Smart Search when you need help finding a local business or service.

Summary Findings / Notes

11. Final Checks Before You Move

- ☐ Confirm your moving date and travel arrangements.
- ☐ Check all applications, appointments and important deadlines.
- ☐ Confirm accommodation and access arrangements.
- ☐ Keep important documents and valuables with you.
- ☐ Make sure family, employers and relevant organisations have your new contact details.
- ☐ Create a first-week essentials list for your arrival.

Summary Findings / Notes

Explore Your New Area

Once you know where you're heading, explore Biz OÙ?'s recommended **Places to Visit** for ideas on things to see and do in the area.



WHAT DO I NEED?

Need a local business or service? Don't worry about knowing the right category. Just tell Biz OÙ? what you need and where you need it, using **Biz OÙ? Smart Search**.

Your Moving to France Summary

Where are you leaning? What still needs to be decided? What are your next three actions?

Important: This checklist is a planning aid, not legal, tax or immigration advice. Requirements can depend on your nationality and personal circumstances. Always check current information with official French and relevant government sources before making decisions.

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