

THINGS TO KNOW

Amiens Metropolitan area:

180,000 residents

Amiens city:

134,000 residents

2nd CITY IN THE REGION, European Youth Capital in 2020

AMIENS,

ADMINISTRATIVE CAPITAL OF SOMME, one of the 5 departments which make up the Hauts-de-France Region

HAUTS-DE-FRANCE REGION,

5th FRENCH REGION in terms of hosting foreign students (21,000 international students)

University of Picardie - Jules Verne:

31,000 students

including **15%** international students
35 research centers, **2** PhD schools



AMIENS RANKED AMONG FRENCH CITIES WHERE IT'S GOOD TO LIVE AND STUDY (awarded by L'Étudiant magazine) WITH A GOOD SCORE FOR THE QUALITY OF CAMPUS LIFE

CAMPUS FRANCE

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



EXPLORING MY CITY



Campus France will guide you through your first steps in France and **exploring Amiens**, your new home.

WELCOME TO AMIENS



ARRIVING IN AMIENS /

Different measures are in place to greet you and assist you in your procedures.

• At University of Picardie - Jules Verne (UPJV), the International Relations Service (DRI) is there to meet you, advise you, and direct you in all questions concerning your installation.

Learn more: <https://www.u-picardie.fr/>

Address: DRI, 11 rue des Francs Mûriers, 80000 Amiens

Contact: 03 22 82 72 51 or dri@u-picardie.fr

◆ Sponsors

You can be assisted by a sponsor in Amiens!

With the ESN Amiens Association (Erasmus Student Network), a sponsor can meet you and help you in all your procedures:

<http://amiens.ixesn.fr> and <http://buddysystem.eu/>

◆ Your Higher Learning Institution

In other institutions, two information services are available:

- International Relations Department (welcome and orientation desk).

- the Admissions Department (enrollment and administrative procedures office).

◆ National Services

- Students: www.etudiant.gouv.fr

- doctoral students, researchers:

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



HOUSING IN AMIENS /

In Amiens, there are numerous solutions for finding lodging: the housing park reserved for students and managed by CROUS, student and private residences, and rooms in private homes.

What's most important is to take care of this as early as possible, before your arrival.



• The Hauts-de-France CRIJ (Centre Régional d'Information Jeunesse, or regional youth information center) publishes a **Housing Guide** which will simplify your installation: <http://www.crij-hdf.fr> > Nos publications > Guide du logement

• The Amiens Métropole site inventories all student housing solutions (private residences):

<https://www.amiens.fr> > Vivre à Amiens > Jeunesse > Étudier > Se loger

A FEW TIPS

◆ For short-term lodging

• The Amiens Youth Hostel located near the city center (on the Nemo red bus line).

Address: 30 square Friant les 4 Chênes, 80000 Amiens.

Contact: 03 22 33 27 30.

Site: <https://www.hifrance.org> > Auberge de jeunesse

• Other hotel-residences: use the search engine on the Amiens Visitor Center site which inventories all types of housing:

<http://www.amiens-tourisme.com> > Tourinsoft > recherche > Hébergement

◆ Long-term housing

• The CROUS (Centre Régional des Œuvres Universitaires - Regional Center for University Services) **student housing for Amiens-Picardie**. Address: 5 rue Saint-Leu, 80000 Amiens.

Hours:

- September 1 to October 31: Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 5:00pm.

- November 2 to August 31: Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 12:30pm and 1:30pm to 5:00pm.

Contact: 09 69 36 19 19

Site: www.crous.amiens.fr

On campus, the CROUS is also responsible for all low-cost food services (university restaurants, cafeterias, food-trucks, etc.)

• Private sites for housing search

You can also check out these specialized sites:

- <https://www.adele.org> > résidence > agglomération > Amiens

- <http://www.logement-etudiant.com/offre-de-logement/Amiens/liste.asp>

- <https://www.location-etudiant.fr> > résidences étudiantes > Amiens

- <https://housinganywhere.com/fr/s/Amiens--France>

• There is also a site managed by the CROUS, **Lokaviz**, which includes a listing of student accommodations in private homes:

<https://www.lokaviz.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**: www.campusfrance.org > s'organiser > logement (> Getting organized > Accommodation)

◆ If you need a guarantor to secure your lodging

Visale is a new and free guarantor system:

www.visale.fr

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

The CAF (Caisse des Allocations Familiales - family allowances fund) is available to assess your rights: 08.10.29.29.29 or www.caf.fr

◆ If you need housing adapted to your special needs

Contact the CROUS Social Services which will take action with your institution. Some establishments have specialized services for special-needs students (housing assistance and also transportation and tuition).

At University of Picardie - Jules Verne, contact the Service for Special-Needs Students:

<https://www.u-picardie.fr> > L'université > Handicap



GETTING AROUND AMIENS



To get to Amiens from Paris, the simplest is to take a train from Gare du Nord, (travel time : 1 hour and 15 minutes): <https://www.oui.sncf/> If you arrive at the Beauvais airport, take the Keolis Beauvais-Amiens bus (1 hour and 15 minutes).



In the city, use the Ametis network and its 17 bus lines (operates every day including holidays): <https://www.ametis.fr/>



To be more independent, use the rental bikes:

- The Ametis bus network is completed with a bicycle service for both short- and long-term rentals, **Buscyclette**:

<https://www.ametis.fr/buscyclette/>

- the local **Velam network**, bikes are available in 26 docking stations:

<http://www.velam.amiens.fr>



For travel within the region, take the regional trains:

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

Coaches are also an option for low-cost travel: <https://fr.ouibus.com/> or

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



For carpooling see the collaborative site: <https://www.blablacar.fr>

ENROLLMENT IN YOUR INSTITUTION

◆ CVEC

It is mandatory that you download proof of payment of the Contribution Vie Etudiante et de Campus (CVEC) – the student and campus life contribution fee before you can enroll in your institution.

- Log in at: <https://cvec.etudiant.gouv.fr/>

- For additional information and special cases: <https://www.campusfrance.org> > s'organiser > CVEC

◆ Confirm Registration

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

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

RESIDENCE PERMIT

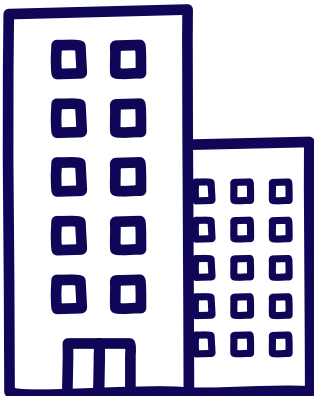
◆ Information

• At the Somme Prefecture.

Address: 51 rue de la République, 80000 Amiens.
Reception and contact: <http://www.somme.gouv.fr> > Services de l'État > Préfecture et sous-préfectures > La préfecture de la Somme Coordonnées et horaires d'ouverture

You can also ask for an appointment directly in writing, at: etudiants-etrangers@somme.pref.gouv.fr
General site: <http://www.somme.gouv.fr/>

• Learn more about your rights and obligations: www.service-public.fr > Etranger > Titre de séjour et document de circulation (Foreigners > Resident Card and Travel Document)



GOOD TO KNOW

• **If you arrive in France with a VLS-TS long-term student visa:** you must validate it online within three months of arrival: <https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr>

• **If you are an Algerian national:** depending on your campus, your residence permit application is made at the Préfecture or with the Service des Relations Internationales at your campus.

Take note: to renew your residence permit, you must apply within two months prior to its expiry.

EVERYDAY LIFE /

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 75 bank agencies located in Amiens.

In France, opening a bank account is a right: www.service-public.fr > Argent > Comptes bancaires > Droit au compte (> Finances > Bank Accounts > Right to Open an Account)

HEALTH CARE

In France, receiving medical treatment is **practically free** but you must be insured. **As a result, signing up for medical insurance is mandatory.**

Connect to the <https://etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr> site to register, to understand your rights, and to take the necessary steps.

Learn more:

<https://www.campusfrance.org> > S'organiser > Santé

As a student, you can also take advantage of the university medical services. That's the case for University of Picardie which has a Service de Santé Universitaire (SSU), or university health services.

In these health services where consultations are free, you'll be greeted by a team of medical professionals who can give you a health check-up and personalized advice in terms of health and prevention.

Address: SSU, Chemin du Thil, 80000 Amiens.

Contact: 03 22 82 72 33 or ssu@u-picardie.fr

Hours: Monday to Thursday, 8:30am to 5pm, Friday 8:30am to 4pm.

Site: <https://etudiants.u-picardie.fr> > Santé

In Amiens, there is also a multidisciplinary health care center, Espace Santé Maurice Ravel, where students can drop in with no appointments.

Address: 1 bis rue Maurice Ravel, 80000 Amiens.

Hours: by appointment.

Contact: 03 22 08 87 40

Site: <http://www.chu-amiens.fr> > Patients visiteurs > Services et contacts > Espace Santé Maurice Ravel Consultations de spécialités du CHUAP

INSURE YOUR HOME

In France, housing insurance is mandatory.

The "garantie risques locatifs" - rental risk guarantee - is housing insurance which you can you subscribe with your bank or a private insurance company.

Online subscription is also often possible.

Learn more:

<https://www.smeno.com/>

www.assistance-etudiants.com

www.assurances-etudiants.com

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

SAMU: 15 Emergency Medical Services

Police emergency: 17 in the event of violence, theft, robbery.

Fire Department: 18, in the event of fire, gas leak, water damage, natural catastrophe, or traffic accident.

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:

<http://ecolesdete.campusfrance.org>

- by asking in your institution, at city hall, or in your host city's Maison des Associations - community centers.

FINDING A JOB OR AN INTERNSHIP

3 addresses:

• Jobs and internships:

- the **Hauts-de-France** CRIJ (Centre Régional d'Information Jeunesse, or regional youth information center) has a platform of job and internship offers: <http://www.crij-hdf.fr>

- the **Amiens-Métropole** site publishes want ads: <https://www.amiens.fr> > Vivre à Amiens > Emploi

• **Student jobs:** find a student job that's compatible with your studies on the CROUS **Jobaviz** site:

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

GOING OUT IN AMIENS /

PLAYING A SPORT

• Your school or university may offer privileged access to different sports activities:

University of Picardie - Jules Verne offers sports activities for all students:

<https://etudiants.u-picardie.fr> > Sport

• **In the city of Amiens and its metropolitan area,** you will also find a complete selection of sports and recreation.

For more information:

- <https://www.amiens.fr> > Vivre à Amiens > Sport

- <http://www.osam.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.

To learn more, check with your school (Service de la vie étudiante or Campus Life services) or visit the following sites: www.animafac.net or www.letudiant.fr

In Amiens, ESN, an association which welcomes international students, greets foreign students and sees to their integration:

<http://www.amiens.ixesn.fr/fr> et www.facebook.com/ESNamiens/

GAINING CULTURE AND PARTYING

• Amiens offers numerous opportunities for cultural events or partying. Theaters, museums, movie theaters, dance, and music are on the program and most of the time, at reduced cost for students: <https://www.amiens.fr> > Vivre à Amiens > Culture Patrimoine

• **At University of Picardie - Jules Verne**, the Cultural Department develops partnerships with the city's other cultural structures to add to its programming and to offer students the best rates: <https://etudiants.u-picardie.fr> > Culture

• **The university's Maison des Langues (Languages Center) and the ESN association organize a languages café every Wednesday night:** <https://www.u-picardie.fr> > services communs > mdl

• **For entertainment or to pick up some culture, in Amiens**, there are:

- around 15 movie theaters (student rates, rewards card) including 1 art film house, Ciné Saint-Leu.
- 3 major museums, reduced rates for students.
- 6 large halls for concerts, theater, dance, and opera: <https://www.amiens.fr> > Vivre à Amiens > Les événements
- around ten book stores including an institution, Librairie Martelle, and a used-book store, Chapeau Melon et Pile de Livres.
- 5 multimedia librairies and librairies, including the Louis Aragon library: <https://www.amiens.fr> > Vivre à Amiens > Culture Patrimoine > Lire

• In Amiens, for going out or staying abreast of events, read **the major regional daily newspaper, Le Courrier Picard**, available in newsstands or on the Internet: <http://www.courrier-picard.fr/>

You can also read **JDA, the Amiens-Metropole weekly information paper:**

<https://www.amiens.fr> > JDA

MUST-SEE PLACES /

Amiens Métropole was awarded the label Pays d'Art et d'Histoire (Art and History Region) in 2015.

- The Jules Verne house, home of an important French author of the 19th century, and a precursor in science fiction literature.
- Notre Dame cathedral, the largest gothic building in France.
- The Saint-Leu neighborhood and its canals which earned Amiens the name, "Little Venice of the North".
- The Picardie Museum, with a large collection dating from prehistoric times to today.
- The Hortillonnages, for outings on small boats in the canals at the heart of flower and vegetable gardens.
- The Perret Tower, an example of modern 20th century architecture.
- The Amiens Zoo, near the city center.

For more information, consult the Amiens Visitor Center website: <http://www.amiens-tourisme.com> > La culturelle > Les incontournables



IMPORTANT ANNUAL EVENTS /

MARCH

• Safran'umeriques, the digital arts and new technologies festival (live entertainment, virtual immersions, and concerts, most often free).

APRIL

• Réderie de Printemps, a huge flea market, the most important after Lille's, also organized in October.

JUNE

• Fête de la musique: music everywhere in town (free concerts).

• La Rue est à Amiens, an international festival for street art.

• On a Marché sur la Bulle, the Amiens graphic novel rendezvous.

• market on the Hortillonnages waterways (traditional market).

JULY

• Festival Art, Ville et Paysages (Art, City, and Landscapes Festival), sculptures and plastic creations in the Hortillonnages.

AUGUST

• French "ballon au poing" championships, a typical Amiens-region team sport.

SEPTEMBER

• **Student Welcome Day** organized in different venues by the University of Picardie, the Region, City, and Metropolitan area.

• **Students of the World Night, a big welcome night for international students** in the Amiens City Hall.

• Les Médiévales, a popular festival along the water.

• Journée Européenne du patrimoine, with free visits to cultural sites.

OCTOBER

• **Science Festival** (in Amiens with over 1.000 researchers in 33 research units).

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

• Amiens International Film Festival.

• Spectacle Chroma (Chroma show) at Notre-Dame cathedral (light show on the façade, also takes place during the summer).

• Christmas Market, the largest event of the type in the north of France.

For more information:

<http://www.amiens-tourisme.com> > La festive > Grands événements



To stay informed, actively listen to others and the world, and share and dialogue with students, follow **social media** where Campus France has an especially strong presence!

*Remember to sign up on the **France alumni** network to take part in discussion groups on various subjects, take advantage of cultural outings, and consult job and internship offers.*

