

WanderWork:

A Guide to Working and
Traveling Abroad



France Edition

The Benefits of Working and Traveling in France as a Canadian



Are you ready for the adventure of a lifetime, but the thought of figuring out the visa process and finding a job abroad is making your head spin?

Do you have questions about where to go, how to get the work visa, how to get a job overseas?

Have you started to book your trip and need some travel suggestions and advice?

In this guide to working abroad in France you will find detailed information about jobs, housing, travel, safety and much more!

At GO International we understand what you are going through and we are here to help.

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An Introduction to International Experience Canada (IEC)

Are you ready to turn your travels into a life-changing experience? Did you know there's a government program that makes it possible for you to work in over 35 countries while you explore the world? It's true!

As a Recognized Organization (RO) of IEC, GO International has been designated a partner in raising awareness and providing support services to foreign national and Canadian youth. The Government of Canada works with key stakeholders like GO International in Canada and abroad to raise awareness of the program, promote the benefits of international experience, and to equip Canadian youth with information to successfully embark on international work and travel experiences through IEC.

What is International Experience Canada?

International Experience Canada (IEC) is the Government of Canada's flagship youth mobility program, facilitating work and travel opportunities for thousands of Canadian and foreign youth each year. Although Canadian citizens enjoy passports that provide visa-free access to many countries around the world, most do not allow easy access to labor markets, making it difficult to obtain international work experience without specialized, in-demand skills.

Through the negotiation of youth mobility arrangements, IEC facilitates international work experience opportunities for youth aged 18-35 in partner countries and territories around the world.

Originating in 1951 as a cultural youth exchange initiative following World War II, the program now has more than 30 active youth mobility arrangements with country and territory partners across Europe, East Asia, Oceania, and the Americas.

Its primary objectives include building the global competencies of Canadian and foreign national youth and leveraging youth mobility arrangements as a strategic tool in diplomatic relations to strengthen global relationships.



"Traveling allows you to become so many different versions of yourself."

How does it work?

IEC has three program streams through which foreign youth may work and travel in Canada:

Working Holiday

The Working Holiday stream facilitates work and travel through an open work permit that allows foreign youth to work for virtually any employer in any location in Canada.

International Co-op & Young Professionals

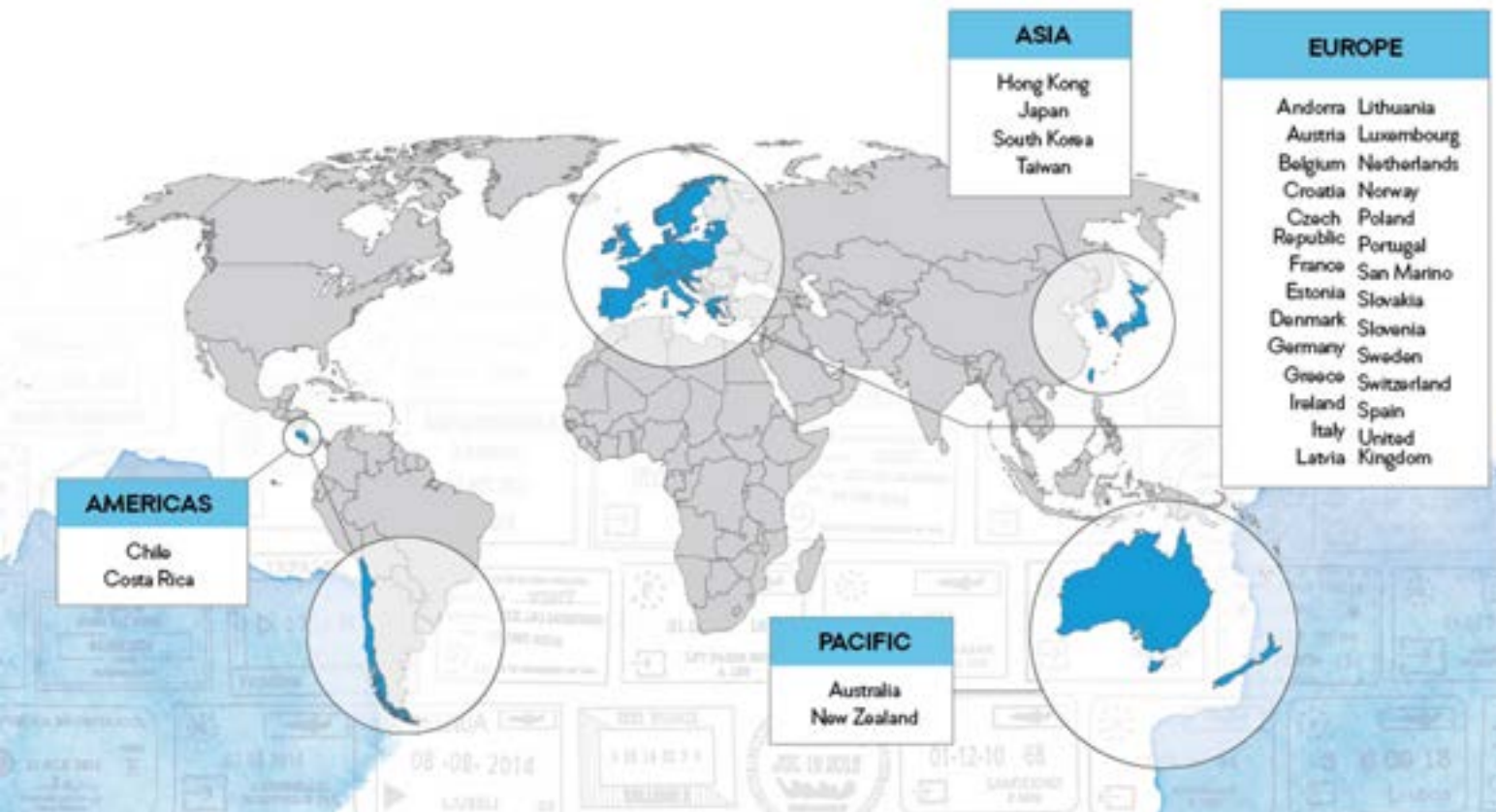
The International Co-op and Young Professionals streams facilitate internships and professional work experience through employer-specific work permits.

Similarly, Canadian youth can access a variety of work-travel program streams in partner countries and territories. Access to specific work permit streams depends on the negotiated arrangement between Canada and each of its partners.



IEC Partner Countries

The following countries have reciprocal Youth Mobility Agreements (YMA) with Canada. This means, that as a Canadian citizen, you can get a Youth Mobility visa / Working Holiday visa for any of these destinations - always depending on the agreement between Canada and the IEC country.



Planning Your Trip: How to Budget and Plan Your Itinerary for France

Travel to France for your Working Holiday adventure!

If you are already packing your bags, why not travel to France?


France is a popular destination for working holiday travelers because of its rich culture, stunning landscapes, and diverse job opportunities. By embarking on a working holiday in France, you'll have the chance to immerse yourself in the local way of life, learn a new language, and gain valuable work experience in fields such as hospitality, agriculture, and teaching. You can also earn money to fund your travels, which will allow you to explore all that France has to offer, from the romantic streets of Paris to the breathtaking French Alps.

Requirements for Traveling and Working in France as a Canadian

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM:

- You are a Canadian citizen residing in Canada
- You have a valid Canadian passport (valid for at a minimum six months past the end date of the visit)
- You must be between the ages of 18 and 35 (and must not turn 36 before applying for your visa for France)
- A clean police record
- A bank statement that certifies you have access to at least 2,500 EUR in available funds
- You must submit all the documents necessary to support your visa request in person at a VFS Global Center.
- Medical insurance for the duration of your entire trip
- You must not have any dependent children

Note: Through the Working Holiday Visa, you are allowed to stay in France for 12 months.

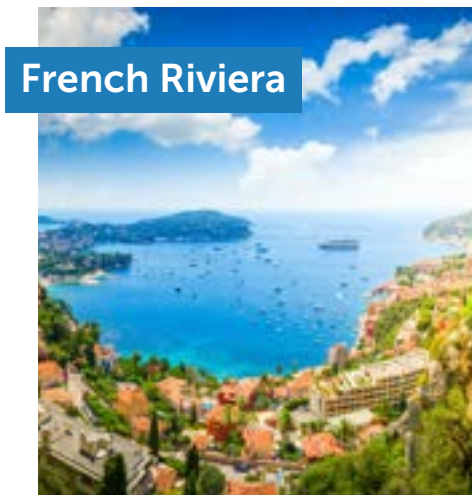


"The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step."

Must-See Sights to Visit on Your Trip



The "City of Light" is a must-see destination for many travelers. From the Eiffel Tower to the Louvre Museum, Paris is full of iconic landmarks, world-class cuisine, and a rich cultural heritage. Strolling along the Seine River, visiting Notre-Dame Cathedral, and exploring the Montmartre district are just a few of the many things to do in Paris.



The French Riviera, or Côte d'Azur, is a glamorous and luxurious region along the Mediterranean coast. It's known for its beautiful beaches, crystal-clear waters, and upscale resorts. Nice, Cannes, and Saint-Tropez are just a few of the cities worth visiting in this area.



The Loire Valley is a picturesque region in central France known for its stunning chateaux, beautiful countryside, and excellent wine. Visitors can tour the famous chateaux, such as Chambord and Chenonceau, visit charming towns and villages like Amboise and Tours, and sample delicious local wines and cuisine.



THE ULTIMATE **PARIS** BUCKET LIST FOR YOUR WORKING HOLIDAY!

EIFFEL TOWER

The famous wrought-iron lattice tower on the Champ de Mars in Paris is named after the engineer Gustave Eiffel, whose company designed and built the tower. Standing 330 metres tall, the tower is the tallest structure in Paris about the same height as an 81-story building. Locally it is nicknamed "La dame de fer" (The Iron Lady).



LOUVRE MUSEUM

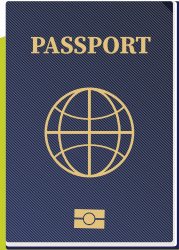
The museum is housed in the Louvre Palace, originally built in the late 12th to 13th century under Philip II. Remnants of the Medieval Louvre fortress are visible in the basement of the museum. It is the home of some of the best-known works of art, including the Mona Lisa and the Venus de Milo.

LUXEMBOURG GARDENS

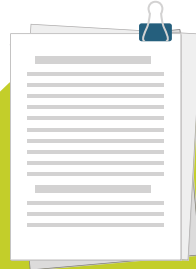
Colloquially referred to as Jardin du Sénat, this marvelous garden is located in the 6th arrondissement of Paris, France. It covers 23 hectares and is known for its lawns, tree-lined promenades, tennis courts, flowerbeds, model sailboats on its octagonal Grand Bassin, as well as the picturesque Medici Fountain, which was built in 1620.



What to pack for your *Carry-on Luggage*



Passport



POE Letter



Health Insurance



Credit or Debit Card



Cash



Emergency Contacts



Travel Pillow



Charger & Adapter



Important Documents



Electronics



Snacks & Water



Change of Clothes



Check the carry-on rules for your airline!

Travel Preparation Checklist



Travel Preparation

- Renew/Check passport
- Book medical insurance
- Change CAD to local currency
- Check flight status, online check-in, & seat reservation
- Download offline maps
- Print important documents
- Make copies to give to parents or someone you trust
- Get a credit card
- Write down important contact numbers
- Visit doctor (e.g. dentist)
- Apply for an international driving permit
- Check vaccination requirements
- Prepare a general resume
- Check that your cellphone is unlocked
- _____

Home Preparation

- Organize plant & pet care
- Empty the fridge of perishables
- Forward or hold mail
- Give keys to a relative/friend
- Cancel contracts/subscriptions



Packing Checklist

Clothing

- Shirts / T-shirts
- Pants / Jeans
- Shorts
- Socks
- Sweater
- Hat
- Underwear & Pajamas
- Bras
- Dress / Skirt
- Pantyhose
- Collar Shirt
- _____
- _____

Cold Weather Clothing

- Jacket (Wind breaker)
- Gloves
- Hat
- Scarf
- _____
- _____

Optional Clothing

- Belt
- Raincoat
- Umbrella
- Jewelry
- Glasses / Contact lens kit
- Smart interview outfit
- _____

Beach Gear

- Swimsuit
- Sunglasses
- Sunblock
- Beach towel
- _____
- _____

Shoes

- Runners / Walking shoes
- Sandals
- Dress shoes / Heels
- Shower shoes
- _____

Electronics

- Cellphone / Charger
- Extra batteries
- Power bank
- Laptop
- Watch
- Headphones
- Travel adapter
- _____

Luggage

- Backpack
- Carry-on bag
- Suitcase
- Safety pins
- _____

Personal Hygiene

- Toiletry bag
- Hair Brush / Comb
- Razor / Electric Shaver
- Toothbrush / Tooth Paste
- Dental floss
- Soap/ Cleansers
- Shampoo/ Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Moisturizer
- Lip Balm
- Quick-dry towel
- Make-up
- Feminine products
- _____
- _____

Health & Medications

- Prescription medicine
- Contraception/ Condoms
- Motion sickness pills
- Pain/ Aspirin medication
- Antibiotic ointment
- Laxative/ Diarrhea medicine
- First Aid Kit
- Insect repellent
- Band-aids
- _____

Quick Packing Tips

1 Don't overpack!

Pack only as if you'll be gone for 3 weeks and take just your favorites.

2 Pack smart

Use packing cubes or the rolling technique so you won't lose any suitcase space.

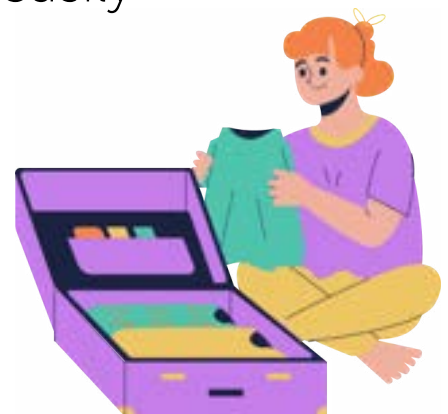
3 Be wise, carry travel size

Bring travel size items like shampoo, sunscreen, etc., and buy bigger packages at your destination.

4 Easily access certain items

Pack these items so they are easily accessible in your carry-on:

- Medication
- Change of clothing
- Important documents
- Liquids bag



Common Mistakes and How to Avoid Them

1) Supporting Documents

You don't prepare your supporting documents before starting your application.

2) Check Visa Application

You forget to check your visa application for mistakes before submitting it. It is extremely important to pay attention to the visa guidelines to avoid delays in your visa processing. Even better: Ask someone else to look over it once!

3) Expiring Passport

If your passport is not valid for the full duration of your stay in France, your work permit will only be valid until the expiry date of your passport. Make sure to renew your passport before the application process.

4) Age Limit

You forget to apply for your Working Holiday visa before your 36th birthday. It is okay if you turn 36 while being in France or before you travel.

5) Travel Health Insurance

You don't book a medical travel insurance. It is mandatory to be insured for the full duration of your Working Holiday in France.

6) Visa Processing Time

You don't plan enough time to apply for your visa. It usually takes 30 business week to process the application.

7) Visa Application

You don't plan enough time to visit a VFS Global Center for submitting your visa application in person.

8) Language Skills

Your French language skills aren't sufficient to find a job in France. Be aware that you should take a language course or have at least conversational French skills to do a Working Holiday.



General Tips

Obtain the necessary visa

Canadian citizens between the ages of 18 and 35 are eligible for a Working Holiday visa in France. Make sure to apply for the visa well in advance of your planned departure date.

Learn some French

While it's not mandatory to speak French to find a job in France, knowing some basic French will make your job search and daily life much easier. Consider taking some language classes before you go or using language learning apps to practice.

Research job opportunities

Do some research on the job market in France and the industries that interest you. There are opportunities in hospitality, agriculture, teaching, and more. Look for job openings online or in local newspapers, and consider using job search websites like Pôle emploi and Indeed.

Budget wisely

France can be an expensive country to live in, especially in larger cities like Paris. Make sure to budget wisely and keep track of your expenses. Consider staying in hostels or shared accommodations to save money on housing.

Explore the country

Take advantage of your time in France to explore all that the country has to offer. Visit museums, historical sites, and natural landmarks. Try local cuisine and wines, and immerse yourself in the culture.

Connect with other travelers

Join Facebook groups or forums for Working Holiday travelers in France to connect with other Canadians and exchange tips and advice.

General Tips

Stay safe

While France is generally a safe country, it's important to take precautions to stay safe while traveling. Be aware of your surroundings, avoid carrying large amounts of cash, and keep your passport and valuables in a safe place.

Organize before departure

Make a list of the things you need to do before you leave, such as canceling your bills, changing your address, and so on. This will help you stay organized and ensure that you don't forget anything important.

When to go to France:

France can be visited year-round, and the best time to visit depends on your interests and preferences. Here's a breakdown of the different seasons in France to help you plan your trip:

Spring (March - May)

This is a popular time to visit France because the weather is mild, and the countryside is in bloom. It's also the season for cherry blossoms in Paris, which is a beautiful sight to see.

Summer (June - August)

Summer is peak tourist season in France, with warm weather and long days. This is the best time to visit the French Riviera, the beaches, and the mountain resorts.

Fall (September - November)

Fall is a great time to visit France for lower prices and fewer crowds. The foliage is beautiful, and the weather is still mild. This is also a good time to visit wine regions, such as Bordeaux and Burgundy, during harvest season.

Winter (December - February)

Winter is the low season in France, with fewer tourists and lower prices. Ski resorts in the Alps and Pyrenees are popular during this time. Paris is also magical during the winter holidays with its Christmas markets and decorations.

Other Key Things

- **Accommodation:** Finding a place to live can be one of the biggest challenges when moving to a new country. Research different options such as short-term rental accommodation, hostels, Airbnbs or long-term rentals. It's also a good idea to look into shared accommodation options to save on costs.
- **Transportation:** Research transportation options in your destination city and consider purchasing a car or bike if you plan on staying in one place for a longer period of time. Make sure to check if you need a special license to drive in France.
- **Banking:** Setting up a bank account in France will make it easier for you to manage your finances and get paid. Research different banking options and compare fees and services.
- **Health insurance:** It's important to have health insurance when working and traveling in France. You will have to book a medical travel insurance for the full duration of your stay in France.
- **Currency:** Get familiar with the currency used in France and consider getting your money exchanged before you leave Canada or when you arrive in France.
- **Visa regulations:** Make sure you understand the rules and regulations of your visa and ensure you comply with them during your stay in France.
- **Taxes:** Make sure you are aware of your tax obligations in France and how to file your taxes, including how to register for your tax identification number.
- **Cultural differences:** Be aware of the cultural differences between Canada and France. Research the customs and social norms of your destination and be prepared to adapt to the new culture.
- **Safety:** Research the safety situation in your destination city and take necessary precautions to ensure your safety while working and traveling in France.
- **Networking:** Network with other Canadians and connect with local communities and organizations to learn more about the country and find job opportunities.

Emergency contact information

Make sure to keep emergency contact information, such as the contact information of your embassy and your insurance provider, on hand in case of an emergency.

Flight Booking Tips

Decide on where and when you want to fly - it's better to be flexible about the dates to find a cheaper rate and/or better connection.

Check flight comparison websites like Expedia, Skyscanner, Kayak, but if possible book directly through an reliable airline (e.g. Air Canada).

Sign up for price alerts by using flight search tools such as Google Flights, Kayak, Hopper, and Skyscanner.

You'll definitely want at least a 1.5 to 2-hour window for layovers. Make sure to have sufficient time to make your connection.

Decide if you want to book a one-way or return ticket. You will need to prove extra funds if you only book a one-way ticket. If it's a return ticket, make sure you can reschedule the return date.



Arrival in France - Three Essential Tips

Once you arrive in France, there are three essential things to do:

1 Tax Identification Number (Numéro fiscal)

Obtain a tax identification number: You will need to obtain a tax identification number from the French tax authorities (Direction Générale des Finances Publiques) as soon as possible after arriving in France.

2 Register Residency

- Gather required documents: You will need to provide several documents when registering your residency, including your passport, visa or residence permit, proof of address, and proof of health insurance.
- Schedule an appointment: You can schedule an appointment to register your residency at your local city hall (Mairie) or at the Prefecture. You may need to bring a French speaker with you if you do not speak French.
- Submit your application: At your appointment, you will need to fill out an application form and provide all required documents. You may also be required to pay a fee.
- Receive your certificate of residency: Once your application is approved, you will receive a certificate of residency (Attestation d'inscription au Registre des Étrangers) in the mail. This document confirms your residency status in France.

3 Bank Account

It's essential to open a bank account to receive your salary and manage your finances. You'll need your passport, visa, and address details to open a bank account in France.





Visa Applications for Canadians: A Detailed Guide on how to Apply for Different Types of Visas

Everything You Need to Know About the France Working Holiday Visa

Are you planning to work and travel in France? Then, it's essential to know everything about the Working Holiday visa for Canadians.

The process of getting a visa, finding a job, and settling down in a new country can be a bit challenging, but it can be made simpler if you know what to do. In this article, we'll go through everything you need to do before and after arriving in France to start your Working Holiday.

Young Traveller (Working Holiday) for Canadians in France

Depending on your nationality and age, you may be able to benefit from the work holiday program. This program allows you to visit France for a period of more than three months with the right to work to supplement your financial resources on site.

CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must:

- Be between the ages of 18 to 35 as of the date of request submission;
- Hold a Canadian passport, issued less than 10 years ago and that is valid for at least three months past the end date of the visit;
- Have never benefited from this visa or the other two types of visa under the mobility agreement;
- State the main reason for their stay as tourism and discovering France's culture;
- Provide proof of sufficient financial resources to provide for any initial expenses at the start of their stay and to allow them to leave the country that they are visiting at any time during their stay;
- Agree to pay any taxes and fees;
- Submit all the documents necessary to support their visa request.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

The following is a list of all the documents that you will have to provide at your visa application appointment to complete your visa application. All documents have to be in original and a copy.

Pre-requisites

- Application Form dated and signed (filled out online)
- A Canadian passport, issued less than 10 years ago, containing at least two blank pages with a period validity at least 3 months longer than the date on which you intend to leave the Schengen Area (Europe) or, in the case of a long stay, at least 3 months longer than the expiry date of the visa requested
- France-Visa registration receipt (printable during online application)
- ID photograph - The picture must be recent and conform to reality. The photo should be 35 mm wide and 45 mm high. The size of the face should be 32 to 36 mm (70 to 80% of the picture) from chin to forehead (excluding hair)

French Working Holiday Visa for Canadian Citizens

Purpose of travel/stay

- Letter of motivation (stating purpose of travel, overview of itinerary and intent to return to Canada)
- Confirmed return booking or proof of extra funds (ca. \$1,000 CAD)
- Medical certificate stating that the visa applicant's health permits him or her to exercise a professional activity
- Proof of a clean criminal record
- Proof of subscription to an insurance policy for all medical expenses including repatriation, for the whole length of the stay and for Quebec residents an letter from the RAMQ

Funds

- Proof of funds (at least 2,500 EUR)
- You have to provide an accepted document to show evidence that you have the needed financial ability to travel and reside abroad in the specific country of the Schengen Area for the duration of the intended stay (personal bank statement for the last 3 months, last 3 pay slips, credit, debit, or prepaid card).

*Tip: The best way to prove your funds is with a signed and stamped bank statement (checking or savings account). You don't need to show all financial transactions, but rather the available funds during each month.



French Working Holiday Visa for Canadian Citizens

APPLICATION PROCESS

In order to start your application, visit the [official visa website of France](#).

At the bottom of the page, you are able to choose from these options:



Visa Wizard: Find out which visa you need and if you are eligible.

Visa application: Start your visa application.

Submit application: Continue working on a saved application.

Tracking application: Track the processing of your application.

To start the process, you have to click on “Access the visa application” and create an account or log into your existing account to continue working on your application.

> STARTING THE PROCESS

Create an account or log in to your existing account, choose the language for your application form (French, English or Spanish) and complete the form.

To facilitate the process, online assistance is available in Arabic, Chinese and Russian, after you have selected the language from the menu at the top of the page.

[Access the visa application](#)



French Working Holiday Visa for Canadian Citizens

Choose your city of submission and visa duration:

Your stay

Place of submission of application *
Canada

City of submission of application *
Vancouver

Visa type requested. *
Long-stay (> 90 days)

Number of months of stay *
Between 3 and 6 months
Between 6 months and 1 year
More than 1 year

Main destination of stay *
France

Your plans

Your plans *
Other

Main purpose of stay *
Working holiday

You have to prove your first accommodation during your visa application.

You can either mention a private person you are staying with or an organized place of accommodation, like a hostel, hotel or Airbnb.

A person will be accommodating me

A company, organisation or establishment will be accommodating me

My hotel or place of accommodation (if different)

If you choose a person, this person will have to obtain a proof of accommodation document.

Providing a proof of accommodation is mandatory for persons being hosted by private individuals.

The person hosting you must go to their local town hall in France to obtain the proof of accommodation document on your behalf. When submitting your visa application, you must be in possession of the original document as it must be stamped by the consulate and be presented when you enter the country.

French Working Holiday Visa for Canadian Citizens

VISA FEES

Normally, there shouldn't be any costs associated with submitting your online visa application.

However, you will need to pay 31.50 EUR (as of September 2022) for making an appointment with VSF Global (the private organization accepting your application and processing your biometrics).

Your passport will remain at the application centre (So don't plan any international trips during this time!). If you choose not to pick it up yourself, you will additionally have to pay \$35 CAD (as of March 2020) for a courier.

VFS APPOINTMENT

In order to submit your visa application and have your biometrics processed, you will need to travel to a VFS Global Centre within Canada.

Have a look [here](#) for which locations are available, the opening hours and how to book an appointment.

**Tip: If possible, try to book an appointment early in the day. If there are any missing documents, the officer might allow you to leave the Centre to sort it out and return the same day to submit your complete application.*

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions or concerns, check the [FAQs](#) first, if your query has been dealt with before. If you still need assistance, please contact the [VFS Helpline](#).



Please note this document is only designed as a guideline to your visa application process. GO International does not guarantee the completeness and currentness of the information provided. It is the participant's responsibility to validate the correctness of all details.

WanderWork

Chapter 4

Finding a Job Abroad: Tips on Job Searching, Networking, and Preparing Your Resume for an International Job Market



General Tips



- Choose the city where you want to live and work in France, and identify the job platforms and job market that works better in that area to start your job research.
- Make a list of career options to decide the job field that you want to work in (e.g. hospitality), do research on the current demand, and check the qualifications for France.
- Evaluate the possibilities for a foreign transfer (if you are working in an international company).
- Make sure you adapt or localize your resume to France, extend your research to determine unique selling points in the field you want to work in.
- Use your network and meet new people in your field to create and learn about new opportunities.
- Use international job boards to extend your research and have more options when seeking for a job.

General Tips



- Write down the top 10 employers to narrow the options in your field and to get a clear idea of your goals in the job search.
- Build the right and specific mindset, goals, and priorities, and challenge yourself to succeed in your job search.
- Take a trip to France (if possible) to apply while you are there as a tourist, and start networking during your vacation.
- Build your language skills if you are not a native French speaker and consider taking a language course before traveling.
- Tap into all types of job search (e.g. job boards, recruiters, network, cold calling/applying, networking/referrals, job fairs, company websites, LinkedIn, interning/volunteering).

A Guide to Finding Work in France

Finding a job in France on a Working Holiday can be a challenge, but there are several strategies that can help you in your search. Here's a guide to finding a job in France on a Working Holiday:

- Check job boards and websites: Job boards and websites are a great place to start your job search. Some popular websites for job seekers in France include [Pôle Emploi](#), [Indeed](#), and [Monster](#). You can also search for jobs in English on websites such as [The Local France](#).
- Network: Networking can be an effective way to find a job in France. Attend networking events and job fairs, and connect with professionals in your industry on [LinkedIn](#). You can also join expat groups or associations in France to connect with other working holidaymakers and locals.
- Apply directly to companies: If you have a specific company in mind that you would like to work for, consider applying directly to them. Many companies in France accept applications online or via email.
- Be prepared for the job application process: The job application process in France may be different than what you are used to. Be prepared to provide a detailed resume (CV), a cover letter, and any relevant certificates or diplomas. Interviews may be conducted in French, so be sure to practice your language skills.
- Consider seasonal work: Seasonal work is common in France, particularly in the tourism and hospitality industries. Look for job openings in ski resorts, beach towns, or in vineyards during the harvest season.
- Be persistent: Finding a job in France can take time and effort, so be persistent in your job search. Follow up on job applications, attend interviews, and continue networking until you find the right job.



A Guide to Finding Work in France

Resources for Job Hunting

The following are the best job boards and resources you as a Canadian should access to find a job in France when you get there or before you leave Canada.

- Pôle Emploi: Pôle Emploi is the French national employment agency, and is a great resource for job seekers in France. You can search for job openings, create a profile, and receive job alerts.
- Indeed: Indeed is a popular job search website that lists job openings in France. You can search for jobs by keyword and location, and upload your resume to apply for positions.
- Monster: Monster is another job search website that lists job openings in France. You can create a profile and upload your resume, and receive job alerts based on your search criteria.
- RegionsJob: RegionsJob is a job board that specializes in job openings in specific regions of France. You can search for jobs by region, industry, and job type.
- JobTeaser: JobTeaser is a job search website that focuses on job openings for recent graduates and young professionals. You can search for jobs by industry and location, and upload your resume to apply for positions.
- Cadremploi: Cadremploi is a job board that specializes in job openings for executives and managers in France. You can search for jobs by industry, job function, and location.



A Guide to Finding Work in France

Apply for Tax Identification Number (Numéro fiscal)

- Gather required documents: You will need to provide several documents when applying for a tax identification number, including your passport, proof of address, and employment contract or business registration documents.
- Submit your application: You can apply for a tax identification number online through the French tax authorities website, or in person at your local tax office (Centre des Finances Publiques). If you apply online, you will need to create an account and provide all required information and documentation.
- Wait for processing: Processing times can vary, but it typically takes a few weeks to receive your tax identification number.
- Receive your tax identification number: Once your application is approved, you will receive a tax identification number (Numéro fiscal) and a tax assessment notice (Avis d'Impôt) in the mail.

It's important to note that if you are on a Working Holiday visa in France, you will need to provide proof of your visa when applying for a tax identification number. Additionally, it is recommended that you seek professional advice from a tax advisor or accountant who is familiar with French tax laws to ensure that you are meeting all of your tax obligations in France.



A Guide to Finding Work in France

Banking in France

Opening a bank account in France as a working holidaymaker can be a straightforward process, but you will need to have the necessary documentation and meet certain requirements. Here are the steps to follow:

- Choose a bank: There are several banks in France that you can choose from, such as BNP Paribas, Société Générale, and Crédit Agricole. Consider researching the different banks and their account options to find one that suits your needs.
- Gather the necessary documentation: To open a bank account in France, you will need to provide the following documents:
 1. Valid passport or national ID card
 2. Proof of address in France (e.g. lease agreement or utility bill)
 3. Proof of income or employment (e.g. working holiday visa, employment contract, or pay stubs)
 4. French tax identification number (if applicable)
- Schedule an appointment: Contact the bank of your choice to schedule an appointment to open your account. Some banks may allow you to make an appointment online, while others may require you to call or visit a branch in person.
- Attend the appointment: Bring all of the necessary documents to your appointment. The bank representative will guide you through the account opening process, which may involve filling out forms, choosing an account type, and setting up online banking.
- Receive your bank card and access codes: Once your account is open, you will receive a bank card and access codes to use for online banking.

Remember to ask the bank representative any questions you may have about the account or banking services available. It's also important to understand the fees associated with your account, such as monthly maintenance fees and transaction fees, to avoid unexpected charges. Good luck opening your bank account in France!

A Guide to Finding Work in France

Banking in the France (continued)

Choosing the best bank in France depends on your personal financial needs and preferences. Some of the banks in France that are frequently recommended by experts and users include:

- BNP Paribas: BNP Paribas is one of the largest banks in France, and is known for its extensive network of branches and ATMs throughout the country. They offer a range of banking products and services, including checking accounts, savings accounts, credit cards, and loans.
- Société Générale: Société Générale is another large bank in France that offers a variety of banking services, including online banking, mobile banking, and international transfers. They also offer a range of credit cards and insurance products.
- Crédit Agricole: Crédit Agricole is a popular bank in France that is known for its focus on agricultural and rural areas. They offer a range of banking products and services, including checking accounts, savings accounts, and loans.
- HSBC France: HSBC France is the French branch of the global banking and financial services company HSBC. They offer a range of banking services, including checking accounts, savings accounts, credit cards, and loans.
- La Banque Postale: La Banque Postale is a French bank that is owned by the French postal service. They offer a range of banking products and services, including checking accounts, savings accounts, and loans.

It's important to do your own research and compare different banks based on your specific needs and preferences before choosing one in France.



Finding Accommodation in France

Finding accommodation can be one of the most challenging aspects of planning a work and travel experience in France. Here's a detailed guide to help you find a place to stay while on a Working Holiday visa.

When looking for accommodation in France, it's best to book a hostel for the first few days before you arrive in the country.

You should book in advance as places sell out in popular cities like Paris or Marseille. This will give you a place to stay and ensure that you feel safe. After you've found a job, you can consider more long-term accommodation options.

General Tips

* Research your options

The first step in finding accommodation is to research your options. There are a variety of options available, including hostels, hotels, homestays and short-term rentals. Make sure to research the pros and cons of each option to determine which one is best for your needs and budget.

* Start your search early

Accommodations in France can book up quickly, especially during peak travel seasons, so it's important to start your search early to ensure availability.

* Use online booking sites

There are many websites that can help you find accommodation in France, such as Airbnb, Booking.com, and Hostelworld. These websites can provide you with a range of options and prices to suit your needs.

* Consider your budget

France can be an expensive country to travel in, so it's important to consider factors such as location, size, and amenities when looking for accommodation.

* Look for shared accommodation

Sharing accommodation with other people is a great way to save money. There are many websites, such as Colocation.fr and Appartager.com, that can help you find shared accommodation in France.

* Check the location

When looking for accommodation, make sure it is located in a safe and convenient area. Consider the distance from your workplace and other amenities like grocery stores, public transport, etc.

* Don't overlook hostels

Hostels can be a great option for budget-conscious travelers. They are usually clean, safe, and offer basic amenities such as WiFi, laundry facilities, and shared kitchens.

* Contact local host families

If you're on a working holiday and looking for a cultural exchange, consider staying with a local host family. This can be a great way to learn about the local culture and language.

General Tips

* Consider short-term rentals

If you're only planning to stay in France for a few months, consider short-term rentals. Websites like Airbnb and [HomeAway](#) offer short-term rentals that can be more affordable than traditional leases.

* Get advice from locals

Ask locals or expats for recommendations on where to find accommodation. They may be able to offer you valuable insights on the local rental market and where to find the best deals.

* Read reviews

Before booking any accommodation, make sure to read reviews from previous guests. This can give you a good idea of what to expect and whether the accommodation is suitable for your needs.



Popular Hostel Companies in France

- **Hostelling International**

Hostelling International is a non-profit organization with a network of hostels in more than 80 countries, including France. They offer affordable and clean accommodations with shared or private rooms.

- **Generator Hostels**

Generator Hostels is a stylish and trendy hostel chain with locations in several cities in Europe, including Paris. They offer private and shared rooms with a social atmosphere and modern amenities.

- **St. Christopher's Inn**

St Christopher's Inn is a hostel chain with several locations in Paris and other cities in France. They offer a range of private and shared rooms, with a lively atmosphere and on-site bars.

- **Youth Hostel Association (YHA)**

YHA is a network of hostels in the UK and France, offering affordable accommodation for travelers of all ages. They have several locations in Paris and other major cities in France.

- **Meininger Hostels:**

Meininger Hostels is a budget-friendly hostel chain with locations in several cities across Europe, including Paris. They offer private and shared rooms with modern facilities and a social atmosphere.

- **Les Auberges de Jeunesse (FUAJ):**

Les Auberges de Jeunesse is a network of youth hostels in France, offering affordable and clean accommodations for travelers of all ages. They have several locations throughout France, including major cities and rural areas.



Working and Living in Different Cultures - an Overview of Cultural Differences and How to Navigate Them

Cultural differences can be both fascinating and challenging, especially when traveling to a new country for work or travel. As a Canadian visiting France, you may encounter various cultural differences that can affect your social interactions, communication style, and work etiquette. Understanding these differences and how to navigate them can help you avoid misunderstandings, adapt more easily to your new environment, and enhance your overall experience in France.

General Tips

Learning French can go a long way in helping you communicate with locals and navigate everyday life. Consider taking a language course or downloading a language app.

France has a rich cultural heritage, and it's important to be respectful of local customs and norms.

French cuisine is renowned around the world, and trying new dishes is a great way to experience the local culture.

Talk with someone who has traveled to France before and learn from previous experiences.

Get in touch with locals (e.g. join groups, clubs, events) and maintain good communication with new friends.

France is known for its strict rules and regulations, and it's important to follow these rules as a visitor. This includes traffic laws, disposing of trash properly, and respecting the quiet hours in residential areas.

Use public transportation: France has an extensive and efficient public transportation system, including trains, subways, and buses.

Visit art exhibits, museums, join walking tours, read literature and watch documentaries to find out more about France.

Cultural differences can be frustrating, but it's important to be patient. Don't take things personally, and try to adapt to the local way of doing things.

Staying with a local family can be a great way to experience French culture and learn about daily life in France.

Learn about culture shock and how to deal with it (5 stages of culture shock).

While popular tourist destinations like Paris are must-see destinations, there's so much more to France beyond these hotspots. Explore lesser-known towns and villages to experience the quieter, more traditional side of France.

Cultural Differences To Consider And Tips On How To Navigate Them

There are several cultural differences between France and Canada. Here are some examples:

- Greetings: In France, it is customary to greet people with a kiss on each cheek, even if you are meeting them for the first time. This may be different from the more informal greeting style that Canadians are used to.
- Work culture: French work culture can be more formal and hierarchical than Canadian work culture. It may be important to use proper titles and show respect when interacting with colleagues and supervisors.
- Language: While many French people speak English, there is an expectation that visitors will make an effort to speak French. This may require some language preparation before arriving in France.
- Meals: French meals are typically more formal and structured than Canadian meals. It is important to observe French dining etiquette and take your time with meals, rather than rushing through them.
- Holidays: In France, many businesses close for several weeks in August for the traditional "August vacation." This may be different from the vacation policies in Canada, and may require some adjustment.
- Work-life balance: French people tend to work long hours, and vacations tend to be shorter than in Canada. Canadians may need to adjust to a different work-life balance and take advantage of opportunities to relax and enjoy their time off.



Cultural Differences To Consider And Tips On How To Navigate Them

- Food (continued): French cuisine is world-renowned for its rich flavors and attention to detail. French meals are often enjoyed slowly and seen as a social occasion. French cuisine is also characterized by its emphasis on high-quality ingredients and traditional cooking techniques. Popular French dishes include croissants, baguettes, cheese, wine, and escargots.
- Weather: France has a temperate climate, with mild winters and warm summers. However, weather patterns can vary widely depending on the region. In the north of France, the weather is generally cooler and rainier, while the south of France is known for its Mediterranean climate with hot, dry summers. France is also known for its frequent rain showers and occasional snowfall in the winter.
- Sports: France is known for its passion for soccer (or football), with the national team having won the FIFA World Cup twice. Other popular sports in France include rugby, basketball, handball, and cycling. The Tour de France, a cycling race that covers more than 3,500 kilometers throughout France, is also a major cultural event in the country.



Staying Safe and Healthy - A Guide to Staying Safe and Healthy While Traveling Abroad

France is generally a safe country to travel in, but like any destination, it's important to take basic safety precautions. Some tips for staying safe while traveling in France include keeping your valuables secure, staying aware of your surroundings, and avoiding poorly lit or unfamiliar areas at night.

Here are some further tips for staying safe and healthy while working and travelling in France.

Tips for Staying Safe and Healthy



- Do your research about the destination, stay up to date on any travel advisories or warnings related to France / the area.
- Inform yourself about water and food safety, and stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water, especially in hot weather.
- Consider registering your travel plans with your embassy or consultant, which can help provide assistance in case of an emergency.
- Visit a doctor for check-ups and vaccinations before traveling, and keep a list of emergency numbers handy in case you need medical assistance.
- Pack a first-aid kit, and be mindful of the risk of extreme weather events.
- Keep your important documents/valuables safe, and keep (digital) copies online.
- Keep your friends and family updated about your whereabouts, and carry emergency contacts with you.

Tips for Staying Safe and Healthy



- Make sure you book adequate health insurance coverage for your trip.
- Keep up to date with the current situation, news, events, and emergency alerts.
- Drink responsibly. Make sure you know your limits.
- Be smart about your money, and use local ATMs wisely.
- Have common sense and follow your gut feeling/ trust your instincts.
- Be cautious of unsolicited emails, phone calls, or text asking for personal information or money.
- Invest in a good travel bag/travel lock and rather splurge on extra safety.
- Know your skills, and limitations (e.g. when hiking), and wear sunscreen, a hat, and sunglasses.
- Ask locals for advice, and don't share too much information with strangers (e.g. exact location on social media).
- Avoid unsafe neighborhoods, especially alone at night, and travel in numbers.
- Stay up to date on any travel advisory or warning and be generally street smart (don't do dangerous things for photos!).

Tips for Staying Safe and Healthy

Traveling to France can be a great experience, but it's important to take steps to stay healthy and safe. Here are some tips:

- Research the area before you go: Be sure to research the area where you will be staying and working. Know which areas are safe and which areas to avoid, especially at night.
- Keep your valuables safe: Make sure to keep your passport, money, and other valuables in a secure place, such as a hotel safe or a money belt.
- Be aware of your surroundings: Always be aware of your surroundings and trust your instincts. If you feel uncomfortable or unsafe, move to a different location or seek help from a police officer or other authority figure.
- Know the emergency numbers: Make sure to know the emergency numbers in France, including 112 for general emergencies, 15 for medical emergencies, and 17 for the police.
- Get travel insurance: Make sure to get travel insurance that covers medical emergencies, theft, and other travel-related issues.
- Take care of your health: Make sure to take care of your health while traveling. Get any necessary vaccinations before you go, practice good hygiene, and be mindful of the foods you eat and the water you drink.
- Know the local laws and customs: Be familiar with the local laws and customs in France, including rules about drinking alcohol, smoking, and other activities.
- By following these tips, you can help ensure a safe and healthy experience while traveling in France on a Working Holiday.



Tips for Staying Safe and Healthy

Medical Care and Expenses in France

If you are on a Working Holiday in France, you may be entitled to access the French healthcare system. However, the specific regulations may depend on your country of origin and the length of your stay.

As a foreigner, if you are working in France and paying into the French social security system, you may be entitled to receive medical care under the same conditions as French citizens. This means that you can access medical treatment from doctors and hospitals that are part of the public healthcare system, with part of the costs covered by the French social security system.

If you are not paying into the French social security system, you may still be able to access medical care, but you may need to pay for it out of pocket or have private health insurance that covers medical expenses.

It is important to note that the French healthcare system is generally of high quality, but it can be expensive. Therefore, it is recommended to have travel insurance that covers medical expenses and emergency evacuation in case of serious illness or injury.

If you need medical care while on a Working Holiday in France, you can visit a doctor or hospital. In general, French medical professionals speak French, so it is helpful to have a basic understanding of the language or to bring a translator with you.

In summary, it's important to have comprehensive health insurance when traveling or living in France. With the right insurance coverage and preparation, you can access high-quality medical care if needed without incurring significant out-of-pocket expenses.



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Chapter 8

Returning Home - Tips on Re-Entry and How to Leverage Your International Experience



General Tips



- Arrange logistics for arrival home, for example where you will live and what do you want to do next.
- Prepare yourself for post-travel depression and reverse culture shock.
- Be patient with yourself and get some rest after returning home.
- Prepare emotionally for friendships that have changed.
- Avoid being a know-it-all about travel and your time abroad.
- Pre-plan your responses to popular questions.
- Make plans, so you have something to look forward to.
- Spend time with friends and family, but don't overwhelm yourself.
- Write down what you have learned and/or create a photo/scrapbook.
- Connect with other travelers.
- Find a new passion apart from traveling.
- Book a new trip - even if it's a short one. Reminder that you can still do other Working Holiday countries as long as you are under 36!

General Tips

As your time in France comes to an end, it is important to prepare for your return to Canada. Here are some tips on re-entry and how to leverage your international experience.

Plan Ahead

Returning home can be overwhelming, particularly if you have been away for an extended period. It is essential to plan ahead by considering your accommodation, transportation, and finances. You may need to arrange temporary accommodation, sell or store your belongings, and make travel arrangements. It is also important to have a budget in place and understand any tax or customs regulations that may apply.

Stay Connected

Your time in France has likely resulted in new friendships and professional connections. It is essential to maintain these connections by staying in touch and networking. Social media platforms such as LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram are great ways to keep in contact and share updates. You may also want to attend networking events or join professional organizations related to your industry.



General Tips

Reflect on Your Experience

Your time in France has likely been a significant personal and professional growth opportunity. It is essential to reflect on your experience and identify the skills and knowledge you have gained. This can include language skills, cultural awareness, adaptability, and problem-solving skills. These skills are highly valued by employers and can be leveraged when seeking new opportunities.

Update Your Resume and Cover Letter

As you return to Canada and begin your job search, it is essential to update your resume and cover letter to reflect your international experience. This can include highlighting any volunteer work, internships, or projects you worked on while in France. You may also want to include any language skills, certifications, or awards you received during your time abroad.

Be Patient

Returning home and settling back into your routine can take time. It is important to be patient and allow yourself time to adjust. You may experience reverse culture shock, which can include feelings of disorientation, frustration, and anxiety. This is a normal part of the re-entry process, and it is essential to seek support from family, friends, or a mental health professional if needed.



General Tips

Stay Open-Minded

Your international experience has likely broadened your perspective and challenged your assumptions. It is essential to stay open-minded and apply this mindset to your personal and professional life in Canada. You may want to explore new hobbies, volunteer opportunities, or career paths that align with your values and interests.

Returning to Canada after your time in France requires planning, reflection, and a positive mindset. By leveraging your international experience, staying connected, and being patient, you can successfully navigate the re-entry process and embrace new opportunities.



GO International Work and Travel Program Destinations:



Australia



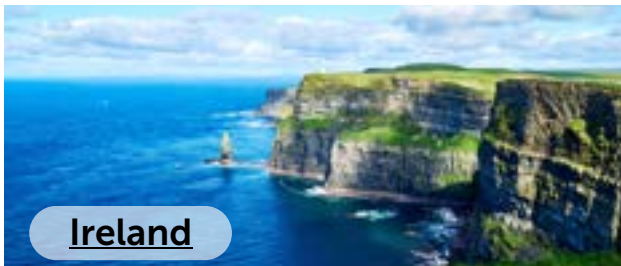
Costa Rica



France



Germany



Ireland



Japan



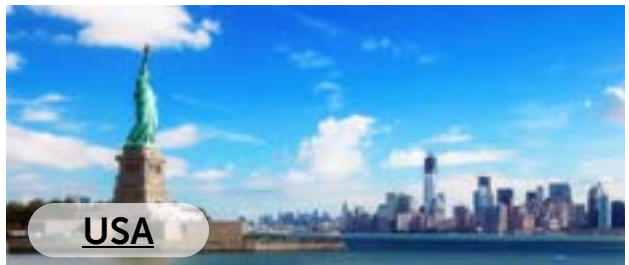
New Zealand



South Korea



UK



USA

Appendix - A List Of Helpful Resources

WanderWork



[French Embassy](#)

[Canadian Government info about France](#)

[France Customs](#)

[French National Railway](#)

[Europe Railway](#)

[Buy and Sell on Leboncoin](#)

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