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CESA
Languages
Abroad

Biarritz Summer Course

2012

Biarritz is a fun, lively town which really appeal to teenagers in summertime, there is always something going on: bands playing, jugglers, painters in the old port, street theatres, skate boarders, surfers showing off their talent.... The town has a prestige and elegance that dates back to the beginning of the century and is still famed today for its golden beaches, luxurious hotels, casinos and golf courses but most of all for it's excellent surf conditions.

Biarritz provides a perfect environment for water-sport lovers, its long sandy beaches and incredible waves attracting surfers from all over the world! Biarritz is situated at the foot of the Pyrenees mountains, on the Atlantic coast in the heart of the Basque region (which extends into Spain).

It is a region of strong traditions and rich culture that has preserved a certain quality of life in one of the most beautiful regions of France.

Are these Courses for you?

Yes if you are between 15 and 17yrs of age and wish to combine a relaxed but serious language course with the chance to learn to Surf with other teenagers or enjoy an activities programme, whilst living with local French hosts.

~ Suitable for: **Beginners through to GCSE, Alevel & Leaving Certificate students**

The School

3rd June to 22nd June:

The school is located in the Biarritz Youth Hostel, a modern building offering good classroom facilities.

23rd June to 17th August:

The school is located in a very pretty residential area of Biarritz this charming villa based college is just to the south of the town centre, 8 – 10 minutes walking distance from the sea front, beaches and heart of the town. The school offers 10 bright and spacious classrooms, a computer room, a large courtyard garden shaded by trees with tables & chairs and there's even room to play football and volleyball.



IN BRIEF

Age Range:

- 15yrs to 17yrs+

- Summer Course

- 16 or 20 lessons/week

- A-level/Leaving Certificate

+ Cultural Programme

- or Surfing Course

Minutes per lesson: 50

Accommodation:

- Local host families

Travel:

- Arrive: Sunday

- Depart: Saturday

Transfers:

- Free from

- Biarritz Airport or

- Biarritz Station

No of students:

- Summer: 35 to 75

Language Assessment

Prior to arrival, students are asked to complete an on line test if at elementary, intermediate or advanced level. This gives the teachers the opportunity to analyse the students' strengths and weaknesses and place them in an appropriate class that will develop and expand their existing level of competence.



The Course

- Course duration: 1 week +
- 16 or 20 lessons x 50 minutes duration per week
- Lessons taught: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday (and Wednesday AM on 20 lessons a week course)
- Timetable: 09.00 to 13.00hrs
- Excursion on Wednesday PM
- Special A-level / Leaving Certificate courses offered on set dates (20 lessons per week)



The lessons are a good balance between conversation, grammar, and reading, listening and writing. Although this is an academic programme, the emphasis is very much on the pleasure and benefits of learning a language. The goal is to ensure you return home positively motivated and eager to continue improving, once home.

Levels and Class Size

- Generally 6 - 12 students per class
- Max. 15 students per class
- From beginners to advanced (depending on dates)

20 lessons per week course option:

Includes extra classes in a mini group session on Wednesday morning.

4 additional lessons in AM

Mini group of 4/6 students per class

Must be booked in advance

French College Plus Points

~ 20 years experience of teaching French has enabled the college staff to develop a detailed and effective methodology.

~ The college grammar books are specifically selected for each level offered and are provided free of charge to everyone for a practical and personalised experience. Learning and revising grammar is guaranteed on a daily basis through written and oral exercises.

~ Each day one lesson will involve carefully selected texts concerning; social issues, civilisation and history. Each topic covered is accompanied by teacher initiated questions as the basis of discussions and debate in class.

~ Carefully designed educational supports enliven the oral classes, (tailored and adapted to meet different language level needs of each class) dependant on the students current experience, to facilitate expression and oral comprehension, whilst strengthening written language skills.

~ A professionally designed range of audio-visual data, exploring everyday life situations: at the market, in a restaurant, in the family etc. to ensure authentic language skills needed for day to day life are covered.

~ A relaxed and vibrant classroom atmosphere to encourage everyone to get involved in the teaching sessions through role-plays, discussions and real life simulations.

~ Phonetic corrections are made by the French native speaking teachers throughout the language course addressing the needs of individual students, according to their level and progress, within the group context.

~ Each student will be tested prior to departure, by written and oral assessment and will be issued with a certificate of achievement.



Students

Predominantly students are 16 & 17yrs of age, though mature students of 15yrs, and 18yr olds are also welcomed. The students are drawn from European nationalities (mainly British, Spanish, Irish, Swiss, Italian and German) with others joining from all over the world in smaller numbers.

The Teachers

All teachers in the school are French nationals with French as their mother tongue, many of them have lived and taught French abroad and speak several languages, therefore relating easily to different cultures. With their enthusiasm and spontaneity, they guarantee lively and effective lessons!

French & Activity Course

includes

- ~ 16 or 20 French lessons per week
- ~ One sporting activity per week
- ~ One surf lesson per week
- ~ One cultural activity per week
- ~ One excursion per week (Wednesday)

Sporting activities; aside from a Surf lesson these may include beach ball, Pelote Basque, basket ball, body-boarding, hiking, swimming in a sea water swimming pool etc. You will also get opportunities to spend time at the beach.

Surf lesson; one lesson per week organised with the local Surf Club so you can get out on the waves!

Cultural activities; an organised visit to a local rugby match, to the chocolate museum, to the cinema or going bowling together as a group.

Excursion; each Wednesday guided visits are arranged to places of interest such as:-

- Bayonne and its modern art museum and Cathedral
- St Jean-de Luz
- San Sebastian



French & Surfing Course

includes

- ~ 16 or 20 French lessons per week
- ~ Four surf sessions per week



Learn to surf for FOUR afternoons a week with the local Surf Club (exact timetable dictated by the tides) plus join in the Wednesday college excursion (June/July). A very popular course choice – so early reservation is essential. All Surf Instructors hold a diploma from the “Federation de Surf” to prove competence to teach Surfing.

Lessons may be moved to alternate days depending on weather conditions. In June and July students on Surf course are able to join the Wednesday excursion, but this is not possible in August.

The Activities programme cannot be offered in the same week as a Surf course, but students are welcome to book one of each option, on a two week+ course.



Accommodation

Arrive: Sunday

Depart: Saturday

Students are fully immersed not only in the language but also in the French way of life, in host based accommodation. Generally there are two students per room and there may be more than 2 students per host family, (except in August when students are generally in single room accommodation instead and may be the only student with a host).

All the host families are quite close to the school and town centre (5 to 20 minutes by foot). Solely at the school's discretion, where your hosts are located 20 mins+ away, you will be issued with a Bus Pass by the college.

As the College works with around 30 to 40 hosts in the Biarritz area, the quality of the accommodation is of a good standard and the hosts provide a welcoming atmosphere.

Hosts provide shared rooms (single or shared rooms in August), breakfast, a packed lunch to take to college and the evening meal, and a picnic is arranged for the Wednesday.

Biarritz is very friendly, safe town and easy to get around by foot, bike or bus. Hosts will show students the route to school on the first Monday of college, thereafter they make their own way by bus or on foot.

Don't forget the hosts will do their best to make you feel at home so consequently do not hesitate to ask them if you need assistance.

The weekends are spent with your hosts, so that they can enjoy your company and perhaps take you out or go to the beach with you.

If you have any specific medical treatment or particular allergies, please let CESA know before you arrive so we can ensure your hosts are advised in advance.

Parental Permission

You can ONLY go out after 20.00hrs each evening with parental authorisation. If given, you can go out until the times indicated by the French language college. Failure to comply will be notified to your parents. CESA will provide a Permission Form for them to complete.

Travel arrangements

Students are responsible for booking their own flights. Please ensure you arrive on SUNDAY in Biarritz.

Fly direct to Biarritz

The best route is to fly direct to Biarritz from the UK, there is an Air France flight from London (Stansted) airport and a Ryan Air service as well.

Fly to Biarritz via Paris

There are daily connecting flights to Biarritz from both Orly and Charles de Gaulle airports.



Personal Budget

We recommend that you exchange your pocket money into Euros prior to your departure. A sum of €100 per week should be sufficient. As an idea of the cost of living in Biarritz, a sandwich will cost around €3.00, a drink €1.80, a cinema ticket €8.00, a bus ticket €1.50, a telephone card from €1.50 and bike rental, from €25.00 per week (a great way to get around Biarritz).



Start Dates

School opening date: Monday 4th June

Teenager Course & Activities/Surfing

Start Dates : Two weeks+

Open to all levels (except beginners who must begin on a start date shown in red – dates to be confirmed December 2011)

04 June, 11 June, 18 June
25 June, 02 July, 09 July, 16 July,
23 July, 30 July, 06 August &
13 August

There are also a limited number of ONE week course start dates:

04 June, 11 June, 18 June &
30 July, 06 August & 13 August
Not open for beginners

School closing date: Friday 17th August

Please note that the start dates in June were fully booked by end of April last year, and July ALWAYS become fully booked well in advance of the course dates. We expect all start dates to be in high demand this summer, so please try and book your course as early as possible in 2012.

A-level & Leaving Certificate Course & Activities/Surfing

04 June, 11 June, 18 June
25 June*, 02 July*, 09 July*, 16 July*,
23 July*, 30 July*, 06 August*,
& 13 August*

All dates June to August are open to Leaving Certificate students

Dates marked with an asterisk are A-level course dates.

No one week courses available in July

Public Holidays

14 July and 15 August

Lessons will be held on public holidays.

French & Activity programme

(16 lessons)

1 week	€ 605.00
2 weeks	€1242.00
3 weeks	€1852.00
4 weeks	€2459.00

(20 lessons)

1 week	€ 645.00
2 weeks	€1322.00
3 weeks	€1970.00
4 weeks	€2614.00

(Leaving Certificate & A-level course / 20 lessons)

1 week	€ 685.00
2 weeks	€1401.00
3 weeks	€2087.00
4 weeks	€2769.00

Includes tuition, all organised activities, accommodation and transfers.

French & Surf programme

(16 lessons)

1 week	€ 695.00
2 weeks	€1421.00
3 weeks	€2117.00
4 weeks	€2808.00

(20 lessons)

1 week	€ 735.00
2 weeks	€1500.00
3 weeks	€2234.00
4 weeks	€2963.00

(Leaving Certificate & A-level course / 20 lessons)

1 week	€ 775.00
2 weeks	€1579.00
3 weeks	€2352.00
4 weeks	€3119.00

Includes tuition, 4 surfing lessons per week, one excursion, accommodation and transfers.

Administration

In all cases CESA makes an administration charge of **45.00€** per booking which will be shown in addition on your invoice.

Course Enrolment

To enrol on this course please complete the on line enrolment form or call the CESA office on **01209 211800**. We will require a deposit of **£150.00 / € 200.00** when you enrol (or full fees if there are less than 8 weeks before the course starts).

NB: As we are arranging courses for teenage students, there are several forms for parents/guardians to complete regarding language level ability, travel arrangements, medical emergency contact details and going-out permission etc.

These forms **must** be returned to us **before** the student arrives in France.



If you have any questions that have not been answered by this factsheet, please do not hesitate to phone or email us.

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