STRAS BOURG EUROP TIMIST

# Strasbourg the Guide



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### **1.**0

## Strasbourg 10 reasons for settling in Strasbourg A weekend checking out Strasbourg Living in Strasbourg The cost of living in Strasbourg Once you've tried it, you'll be hooked.



Exploring Strasbourg

## 1. Strasbourg, European capital

Strasbourg is a city on a human scale, with an ideal location in the centre of the main European markets. The city is home to the Council of Europe, the European Parliament and over 70 international organisations and diplomatic representations.

## 2. A user-friendly city with great connections

With its 8 lines, including 2 bus rapid transport routes, Strasbourg has France's largest tram system. 600 km of cycle tracks crisscross the city, making it the most cycle-friendly metropolis in the country and the 4th-ranked in the world. Getting around is easy and it's also a very walkable city.

### 3. A thriving economy

The Eurometropolis of Strasbourg is the most attractive metropolis in France (Le Point magazine, 2019).

### 7. A young, highlyqualified population

32% of Alsatians are under 25 and Strasbourg has the largest number of international students (20% of the University total) of any French city.

## 4. A great place for entrepreneurs

Strasbourg's ecosystem is designed to drive talent and creativity, offering facilities and services for entrepreneurs, while the city is just the right size for easy, productive contacts.

## 5. A solid track record for invention

Strasbourg has been a hotbed of invention for many centuries, from printing to minimally invasive surgery, and is a genuine testing ground for Europe.

### 6. A centre for innovation

An Innovation Park, NextMed, the MedTech campus, 5 currently-active Nobel prize winners, 4 competitiveness clusters - innovation's at home here!

## 8. A unique living eurs environment

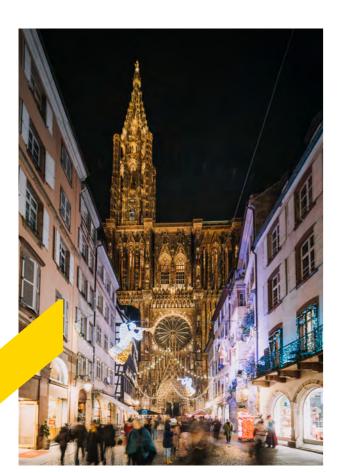
Urbane and trendsetting districts, a pedestrianised city centre, the 3rd-ranked Green City in France, with 162 m² of green space per inhabitant and vineyards and mountains just 30 minutes away.

### 9. A lively cultural and event scene

The city's vibrant cultural scene covers some 9000 events every year, including the world-famous Christmas market.

## 10. A double UNESCO Heritage site

Not only is Strasbourg a double UNESCO Heritage site, with Grande-Île and Neustadt, it has also been awarded the official "City of Art and History" and "European Heritage" (for the European district) labels. You can't help loving Strasbourg!



### Strasbourg's Christmas market

The Christmas market is a unique annual event held in Strasbourg's mediaeval centre, the UNESCO-listed Grande-Île. To find out more about the extraordinary atmosphere of Christmas in Strasbourg, go to:

www.noel.strasbourg.eu

### Strasbourg mon Amour

Strasbourg's remarkable architecture, with its half-timbered houses and stone bridges over the many waterways make it one of the most romantic cities in France.

All the romance of St Valentine's Day is celebrated in the city, with events and parties over a whole 12 days in February. Find out more with:

www.strasbourg-monamour.eu



## Other city experiences

### The Ososphère

The digital arts festival and events located in a site that's reshaping what the city's like.

www.ososphere.org

### **Guided tours**

Join the guided tours organised by the Strasbourg Tourist Office.

www.visitstrasbourg.fr/en

### **Batorama**

A waterborne tour of Strasbourg on a Batorama riverboat.

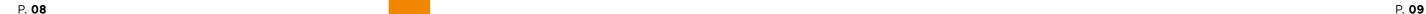
www.batorama.com

### The Parlementarium

The European union, explained in a fun, interactive way.

www.europarl.europa.eu/visiting/en







## Strasbourg sparkles in summer

### Fête de la musique

Strasbourg's summer music festival, with classical, contemporary, experimental, jazz, rock, hip-hop and traditional music, all round the city's streets.

Saint-Jean Fair

All the fun and thrills of a traditional fair in June, with merry-go-rounds and all, at the Wacken exhibition park.

### **Alsatian folk** tradition

Traditional Alsatian folk music and dancing all through the summer, from 1 July to 1 September.

### The docks in summer

Strasbourg's own beach, every day from July to September on the waterside on the presqu'île Malraux.

www.ete.strasbourg.eu/les-docks-d-ete

### Le FARSE - Street **Arts Festival**

Come mid-August, the city's streets and squares are taken over by street arts, in a free festival for people of all ages.

www.farse.strasbourg.eu



# Living in Strasbourg

A city of contrasts – serious yet joyful, creative yet productive, young yet respectful of Alsatian traditions, – Strasbourg is also for having fun. It's a place where the people who live there love to share their joie de vivre with anyone new to the city.

With its unique mix of Latin and Germanic influences and dynamic university and cultural life, Strasbourg's history reaches out to embrace the delights of contemporary living.

Strasbourg is a centrepiece of Europe, a city of its time, a city with its own position in the world.

The aim of this guide is to give you useful addresses and tips to help you settle down in Strasbourg. We can't list every place, so your suggestions and comments are welcome!



Strasbourg is ranked 20th in the ECA International list of the most liveable locations for European expatriates.

The average rent for a oneroom apartment in the city centre is €570, and €412 outside the centre. A 3-room city-centre apartment can be found for about €1075, compared to €750 outside the centre.

A monthly Internet connection works out at about €27.

For transport, a monthly season ticket for the local bus and tram network costs around €50.

A fitness club will set you back on average €43 a month, while a cinema ticket is about €10.

www.strasbourg.eu/nouvel-arrivant



2.1 Working and doing business Strasbourg, the Guide



- ADIRA
- **APEC** management job offers

Job hunting

- **Est Job** leading jobs website in eastern France
- Indeed the largest online worldwide job search
- **Jobijoba**
- Le bon coin
- LinkedIn

For further details, see:

www.servicepublic.fr

"Travail" section

# Starting a business

### 6 627 new businesses were started in 2019.

- ADIRA
- Chamber of Commerce (CCI Alsace Eurométropole)
- Alsace Chamber of Trade
  (Chambre de métiers d'Alsace)
- Cooproduction, les Scop
- **Créacité**

- ETENA
- France Active Grand Est
- Info Conseil Culture for artistic and cultural projects
- Tempo

The first Thursday of every month, come and have a drink with Strasbourg entrepreneurs and project initiators.

- Find out more on the "apéros entrepreneur" Facebook page
- For more details, contact Nicole Schall, or get in touch with a Résoptimist, who'll point you in the right direction!

www.europtimist.eu/en/the-good-contact/



# Settling in successfully

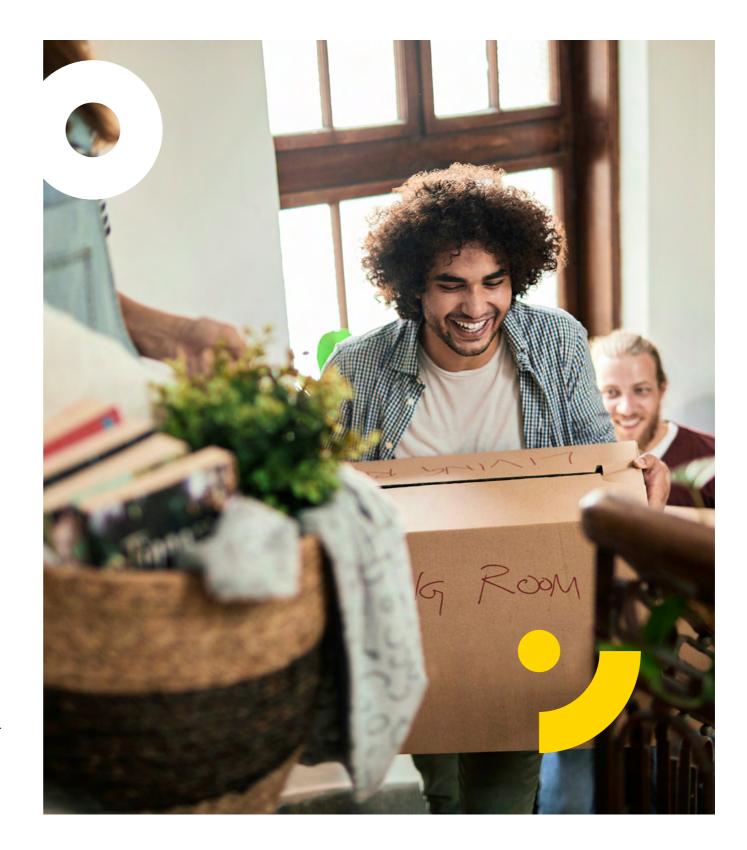
## with the help of a professional

- Alsaceway International
- KeeSeeK
- Muter Loger
- > Plurial Entreprises
- SCOT
- **Via Humanis**

You might be able to use the MOBILI-PASS® system to pay for the services of a relocation agency.

MOBILI-PASS® is a subsidy and/or a loan granted every 2 years under certain conditions to people in France working in companies with a minimum of 10 employees, whose job requires them to move.

www.actionlogement.fr



2.5 Professional networks Strasbourg, the Guide



## Professional networks

Strasbourg is an active supporter of services for new businesses, helping to create a dynamic entrepreneurial environment

- Alsace digitale
- Apéro entrepreneurs de Strasbourg
- **CJD** (Centre for Young Directors)
- Initiatives durables (sustainable initiatives)
- The Résoptimists
- > Strasbourg Startups
- Women entrepreneurs

### You're looking for a job or want to start your own business? Get in touch with a Résoptimist!



**Gilles Fourchy** 

Head of HR services for businesses APEC



**Nicole Schall** 

Head of entrepreneurial development Eurométropole de Strasbourg



Virginie Pattein and Bertrand Kauffmann

Operational coaches, Experts in career transition and Recruiters





## Studying

### The University of Strasbourg

(Unistra) is the biggest multifaculty university in France, with its 52,114 students, 2782 academics and 2410 admin staff. 20% of the University's students come from outside France, while the University has 2000 cooperation agreements in 95 countries with more than 750 universities and is the co-founder of the European campus of Strasbourg. Alsace Tech is the umbrella organisation for the 14 grandes écoles in engineering, architecture and management in Alsace. The network represents 9195 students following over 70 master's and doctoral courses in engineering, architecture and management. It was created to answer the need for a single body to advertise the schools's courses and carry forward joint initiatives.



# Student life at the university

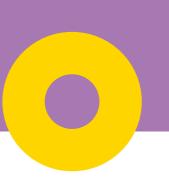
The University features some 100 active student associations, along with 70 sports clubs for students and 882 sports-association licence-holders. The *Carte culture* allows students to get special rates for exclusive events and cultural activities, while the city runs a year-long programme to help students enjoy their studies and city life.

www.strasbourgaimesesetudiants.eu

## Higher education

### To summarise, Strasbourg means:

- school of journalism
- grandes écoles
- university Institutes of technology
- engineering schools
- 150 nationalities



## Student grants

Depending on your financial resources, you might be entitled to a grant to help you finance your higher education studies.

Grants are also dependent on nationality, age and studies.

The size of grants is calculated on the basis of several criteria.

The following websites will help you apply for a grant:

**CROUS - Centre for students affairs** 

international.lescrous.fr/

Student financial aids

en.unistra.fr/





## Student accommodation

### Accommodation for all budgets and all tastes

If it's accommodation you're after, then you're sure to find the place you're looking for in one of Strasbourg's many districts, ranging from the lively city centre, packed full of architectural gems, to quieter neighbourhoods outside the immediate centre, such as Neudorf, the Krutenau (just 10 minutes away) or the Esplanade student district.

- CROUS Centre for student affairs
- The MUI (international student residence)
- Appartager

- Recherche Colocation
- La Carte des Colocs
- Toit Chez Moi

For further details, check out:

www.strasbourgaimesesetudiants.eu

## Any questions on education in Strasbourg?

Don't hesitate to contact the Résoptimists!



**Evelyne Wintz-Houel** 

Alumni relations Unistra



Lina Tremisi

Unistra Alumni Ambassador

3.0 We make life easier for you Strasbourg, the Guide



# We make life easier for you

- Accommodation
- Administrative Formalities
- Family and education
- Healthcare
- Culture / leisure / shopping

Getting out and about

## All the links you need for getting around in Strasbourg

- Strasbourg transport company (CTS) bus, tram
- **Vélhop** bike hire
- <u>Citiz Alsace</u> self-service car sharing
- MobiStras dial-a-ride service for people with reduced mobility
- **Le Pass Mobilité** a special season ticket for all forms of transport
- Regional trains
- Fluo Grand Est

# Key figures for Strasbourg

1 st ranked hop-in-and-go car sharing service

6500 shared bikes

th ranked bike-friendly city worldwide

77 km of tram lines





4.1 We make life easier for you Strasbourg, the Guide

# Housing in Strasbourg

Finding a place to live

You'll find details of the legal aspects of house hunting on this website:

www.service-public.fr

## Some house-hunting websites:

- Le bon coin
- Particulier à Particulier
- Le Figaro Immobilier
- Se loger
- Bien ici
- La Carte des Colocs



## Looking for a place to live?

Don't hesitate to contact the Résoptimists!



Sarah Kosman

Estate agent



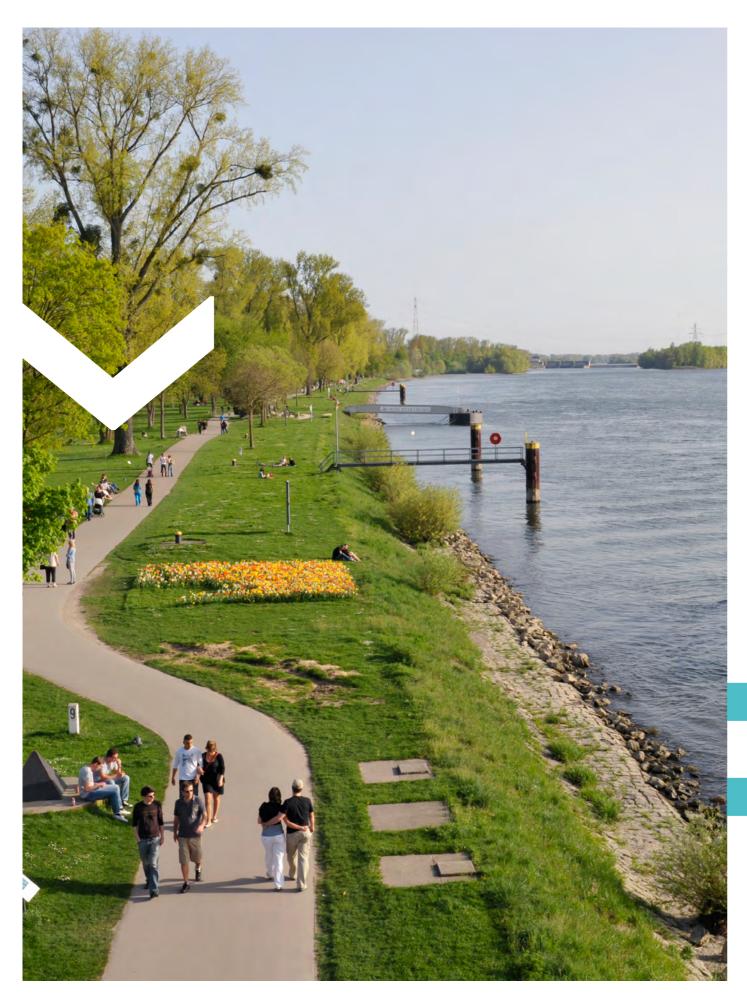
**Armelle Kerampran** 

Development manager Léo & Léa Crèche



Robert Barré

Professional mobility facilitator KeeSeeK





# Smart moving

If you're moving to Strasbourg, you can reserve a parking space for your removal lorry (at least 7 days before your move). If necessary, you can also request permission to drive into a pedestrian area (at least 3 days before your move).

Further details on:

www.strasbourg.eu

# What's the best neighbourhood for you?

Strasbourg's districts all have their own distinctive character and 2 of them are on the UNESCO World Heritage List: Grande-île since 1988 and Neustadt since 2017.



### The Petite France

Historical Strasbourg's quaintest district used to be home to fishermen, millers and tanners. With its canals, peaceful winding streets and 16th and 17th-century half-timbered houses, it's a must-see part of Strasbourg.

## The Robertsau, Wacken and Orangerie

Just over the road from the European institutions, the Orangerie park is one of the most popular spots in Strasbourg for a weekend stroll with the family. A bit further north, past the Marne au Rhin canal, there's the Robertsau forest and residential district, once a centre for market gardeners.

## You'll love your new neighbourhood!



## A place that suits you best



### The Centre and the Cathedral

Strasbourg's historical centre, nestled within the arms of the river III, has been a World Heritage Site since 1988. The mediaeval part, with its waterways, bridges, narrow streets and passageways, stretches out around the city's cathedral, a mirror of European history. Packed with restaurants, bars and shops, it's the essence of Strasbourg's heritage.

It's great for walking or cycling, with much of it closed to traffic.

### The Bourse, Esplanade and Krutenau

The Bourse-Krutenau sector is a buzzing neighbourhood with all its shops, bars and restaurants that make it immensely popular evenings and at weekends.

The Esplanade is a student hotspot, right next to the University campus.

### Neudorf and the Meinau

Neudorf and the Meinau are both near the centre, but are often a good area for larger homes. They enjoy excellent facilities and transport connections and make for a great quality-of-life.

The inner city attracts students and young professionals (Grand-Île, beginning of Neudorf) and the more well-off population (Contades, quartier des XV). The immediate suburbs (old Cronenbourg, Koenigshoffen, Montagne-Verte, central Schiltigheim, the southern part of Neudorf) are residential areas mainly for professionals, while Robertsau, Stockfeld, Meinau-Villas, Lingolsheim, Mittelhausbergen and Niederhausbergen are home to many retired people, with families with children slightly further out.

To find out more about the 33 municipalities of the Eurometropolis of Strasbourg:

int.strasbourg.eu/the-eurometropolis-of-strasbourg



Moving into a new city means going through a series of administrative formalities.

These are the main formalities:

Registering on the electoral roll

easier

- Registering children in schools
- Declaring your new address to local and national administrations
- Renewing your car logbook (carte grise)
- Other administrative formalities on the Préfecture website

You'll find all the information your personal situation requires on this website (in French only):

www.service-public.fr

Click on the Comment faire si... (What to do if) section and then Je démenage (l'm moving).

For further details:

www.mon.strasbourg.eu



## Family and schooling



### **Associations helping** newcomer families

It's only natural that people in Strasbourg reach out to offer you a warm welcome and share tips to help you settle in.

- Accueil des Villes Françaises this national association sets out to offer help and advice to people moving into the city for both professional and personal reasons.
- Association Générale des Familles du Bas-Rhin
- Bienvenue à Strasbourg
- Mums in Strasbourg find out more on the Facebook page and in the Facebook group



## Child benefits

You automatically receive child benefits once you have a second child, if you have at least 2 dependent children under the age of 20. The amount you receive will depend on your family situation and your income.

Find out more on the website of the Caisse d'Allocations Familiales (the family allowance fund):

www.caf.fr

## From kindergarten to high school

Education is compulsory for all children, both French and foreign, aged from 3 to 16.

Parents can send their children to either a state or private school. If your child goes to a state school, this will be your neighbourhood one.

- List of primary schools in the Bas-Rhin
- List of secondary schools (collèges) in the Bas-Rhin
- List of high schools (lycées) in the Bas-Rhin

## **Early** childcare

Childcare facilities are available in many establishments for children under the age of 3.

You can opt to have your child looked after by a childminder, until secondary-school age (11). It is also possible to choose home childcare.

You'll find all the information you need for your family's situation on this website (in french only):

www.mon-enfant.fr

## International schools



Children in Strasbourg can enjoy international schooling from kindergarten up to the baccalaureate.

There are a number of international schools in Strasbourg where children are taught in different languages. About 15 high schools in the area offer a syllabus based on the joint French/German AbiBac.

- The bilingual syllabus in the Académie de Strasbourg (the Strasbourg education office)
- International schooling in Strasbourg

**4.**4 We make life easier for you Strasbourg, the Guide

## Health and healthcare



Strasbourg acts proactively to help improve the health of its citizens



The city is part of several schemes for enhancing inhabitants' health, with the support of national and international organisations.

You'll find detailed information on the official French website:

### www.service-public.fr

in the Social - Santé (Social - Health) section

- **Emergencies**
- Hospitals and clinics
- **Duty pharmacies**

## Culture, leisure and



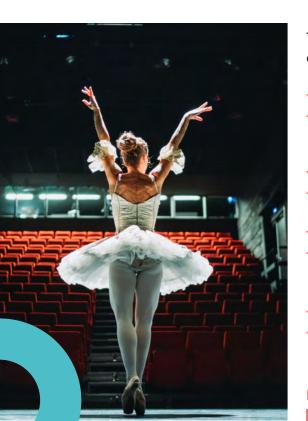
Museums, opera, theatre, festivals and venues, Strasbourg's vibrant cultural scene buzzes with some 9000 events every year.

Strasbourg is home to cultural icons such as the National Theatre and the Arte TV channel and offers a huge range of cultural events for all tastes and ages.

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### **Culture**



These passes and cards will help you get reduced rates or free admission to hundreds of events and exhibitions:

- Carte Atout Voir: the card for 11 to 25-year-olds who live or go to school in Strasbourg or in one of the Eurometropolis's 33 municipalities.
- **Carte culture:** shows, films and museums at special student rates.
- Museums Pass: your admission ticket to 230 museums in eastern France, Switzerland, Bade Wurtemberg and the Palatinate
- **Carte Pass'relle:** a single card allowing you to use all the libraries and media centres in Strasbourg and the Eurometropolis

Find out more about passes and cards on:

www.strasbourg.eu/cartes-pass

### Leisure

Strasbourg's website gives details of all the clubs and associations in and around the city:

### www.strasbourg.eu

- <u>CitizenKid</u> activities and games for kids
- Do You Miam
- JDS Strasbourg (listings)
- **Le Vaisseau** fun with science

- List of cinemas
- List of escape games
- The Strasbourg sports office
- 10 best restaurants in Strasbourg rated by TripAdvisor
- Pokaa

### Going out

With its multiple influences, Strasbourg is a haven for art and culture, an open-minded city that inspires its artists and artisans.

- The best shows in the Upper Rhine area
- The Strasbourg National Theatre

Strasbourg museums

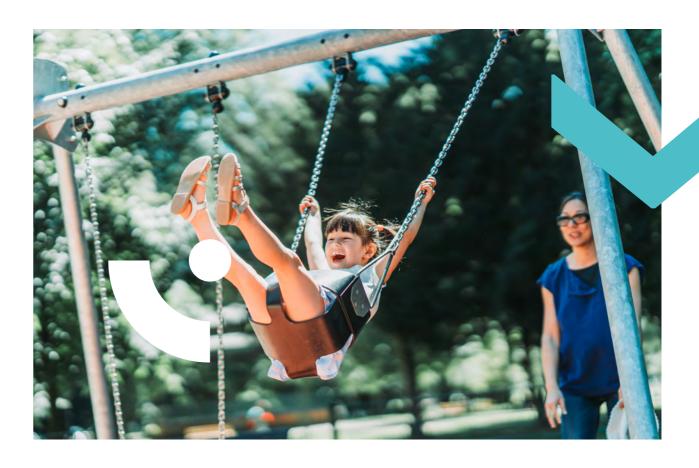
Strasbourg's cultural programme

You'll find a comprehensive list of leisure activities in the region on the Strasbourg Tourist Office website, in the What to see and do section:

https://www.visitstrasbourg.fr/en/welcome-in-strasbourg/#

### And a little further afield

- The search engine for culture in the Bas-Rhin
- The portal for museums in Alsace



### Shopping



With over 7000 shops, there's a fantastic choice, ranging from major department stores to small independents and trendsetting brands!

Strasbourg's city centre offers a unique retail experience, with, for example the 2 famous Parisian department stores, Galeries Lafayette and Printemps, which feature all the latest international trends. You can take the weight off your feet with a bite to eat at PUR, Flamm's or Bagelstein, chains which started off in Strasbourg.

And if you like things a bit smaller, hunt out the latest boutiques and design shops selling crafts and design products and goods made with eco-friendly processes.

Food shopping, of course, is pure pleasure, with markets dotted all around the city,

featuring producers (many organic) selling meat, fruit and vegetables, honey and lots of other produce. You'll find a list of the city's markets here:

www.strasbourg.eu/ marches-brocantes

If you're buying stuff for the home, or if you're into DIY, plants and decorations, you'll find what you need in the North retail park or in the La Vigie shopping centre to the south.

And if, after all this, you still can't find what you're after, you can always hop over the border into Germany (you can get a tram there) and see what they offer.

That's what living in the heart of Europe, in Strasbourg, is all about!

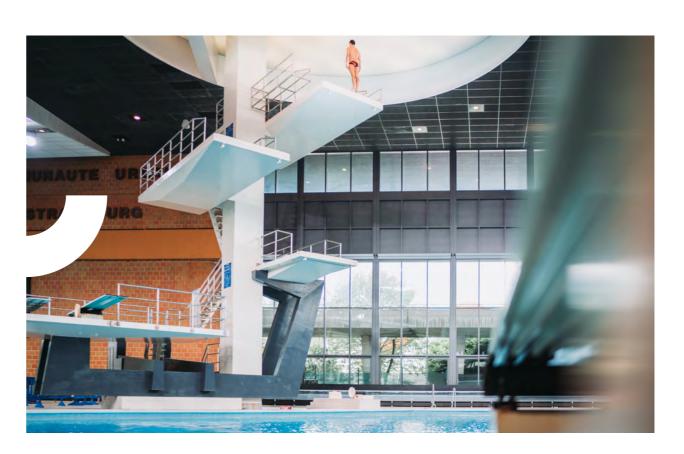
### **Sport**

Sport is often a huge social and cultural factor for helping people settle in and also for keeping you in great health. Strasbourg caters for just about every type of sport, whether in a club or doing it on your own or with friends.

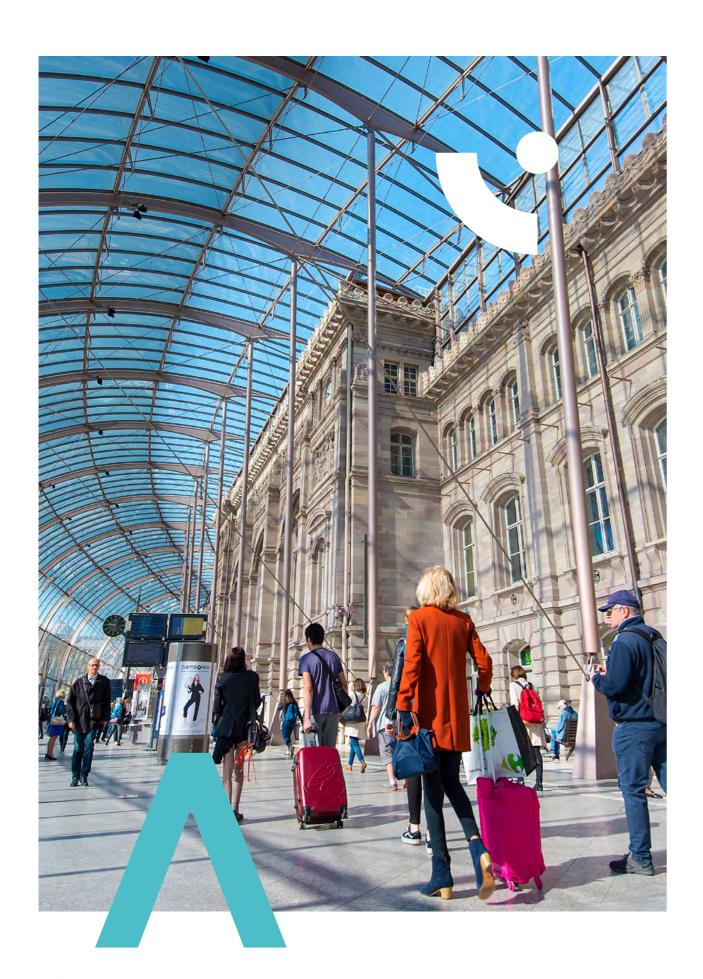
- Some of the sports activities and facilities
- Vitaboucle fitness circuits and equipment
- L'ile aux sports: a vast, multisport park in the city centre

To find out more about sport in Strasbourg:

www.strasbourg.eu



We make life easier for you Strasbourg, the Guide



**4.**5

## Going further afield

- Alsace Destination Tourisme (in French only)
- Agence d'Attractivité de l'Alsace
- Visit Alsace
- Pass Alsace
- Strasbourg Europtimist

## Travelling

- SNCF TGV high-speed trains
- Strasbourg International Airport
- Basel Mulhouse Freiburg EuroAirport
- Frankfurt Airport (Germany)



tips for great food

Optimist **Caroline Lévy** adores Strasbourg, especially when out looking for new places on her bike. Strasbourg is packed full of local eateries and drinking spots, including takeaways, and it's not short of great places to go to.

Caroline knows the city like the back of her hand and she's also a Chief Optimist Officer, with a flair for hunting out and sharing the top spots.

europtimist.eu/chief-optimist-officer



## Brunch with a hint of the exotic

### **Hey Mama**

Sokhna and her husband, Guillaume, are at the helm of this fun, bustling restaurant which is also a venue for events. Originally from Senegal, Sokhna's bright, colourful cooking is perfect for breakfast, brunch or lunch.

3 rue des Pucelles



### The waterfront and its floating wharfs



The city's floating wharfs are a recent addition and were an instant hit. They're where people come to have a drink, read the paper, or watch the light show on the buildings opposite once night falls. Bliss!



## Time for a coffee

### Café Bretelles

A couple of popular coffee shops, one in the Krutenau and the other in the Petite France, ideal for coffee or lunch. They roast their own coffee here, in the centre of Strasbourg.

2 rue Fritz

36 rue du Bain-aux-plantes

4.5



### A prematch drink

### Le Café des Sports

With its retro-look wood panelling, Le Café des Sports (Strasbourg had to have one!) harks back to the old-style village bistro. Craft beers are the rule here, with natural wines often sourced directly from local producers. The giant screen upstairs is for sports events, including, of course, matches involving local football team, Racing Club de Strasbourg!

16 rue Sainte-Hélène

## Spoiling the kids

**Joy Concept Store** 



A fun, unisex boutique concept specially designed for kids (and their parents). Owner Joy Fleutot has divided the store into age categories, each with its own collection of eco-responsible non-stereotyped clothes, games and books. A breath of fresh air! 42 rue du Jeu-Des-Enfants





## Healthy eating

### **Surtout**

Everything in this Meinau-based restaurant is house-made and locavore! Hyperactive owner Aysé Wilhelm's cooking is intuitive and she offers cooking lessons for small groups, in a friendly atmosphere. The restaurant also has a catering service to tempt your tastebuds.

23 rue Saglio

## Local delivery

### Kooglof

Kooglof was the brainchild of 5 friends from Strasbourg. It's a new, 100% local delivery cooperative, offering a handy, ecological and ethical alternative to the sector giants, focusing on local products and eateries!

kooglof.coopcycle.org



## Green up your home

### **Tchungle**

Jennifer and Stéphane created this urban jungle in early 2020, and in no time at all it's become the city centre's new green HQ! If you want to green up your home, pop into the shop and browse the nifty choice of plants and pots.

20 rue de la Division Leclerc

The Résoptimist community Strasbourg, the Guide



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**5.**0 The Résoptimist community Strasbourg, the Guide



### Meet the Résoptimist community

The Résoptimists are a community of people living in the city and they are just one of the many helping hands offered by Strasbourg Europtimist to boost the area's attractiveness and help newcomers settle in quickly. They all know the city back to front and are ready to give you the lowdown on life in Strasbourg and help you find your feet as quickly as possible.

The local people who make up the network are committed to helping the city's development, and they're ready to answer any questions newcomers might have and help with practical advice and tips.

Find the right contact

The system is based on the involvement and motivation of each of its members!





**Annabelle Bendel** 

Consultant in an advertising agency



Noémie Boschetti

Founder of the MUMS IN network



**Alban Petit** 

a business CCI Alsace Eurométropole















### Strasbourg's a city of optimists So come and join us.

europtimist.eu



**#StrasbourgEuroptimist** 





