



ESCI

ÉCOLE DE COMMERCE

100% INTERNATIONAL

MARNE - LA - VALLÉE - PARIS

Graduate School of International Business

Ecole Supérieure
de Commerce International



International Student **Guide**

Editorial



Dear students,

We are very pleased to welcome you as a student from one of our partner universities, schools or colleges.

As you know ESCI is a graduate school specialized in International Business which delivers the qualification of International Business Negotiator recognized by the State at the Master's level.

Unlike the universities, the Graduate Schools in France emphasize the practical application of theoretical knowledge. So, at ESCI, a large part of the teaching staff is composed of managers coming from the business world. The students, highly motivated for international trade, have to demonstrate autonomy, open-mindedness and creativity and are trained during three years to take up middle and upper management positions in companies: During the third year (BA level) they learn the fundamentals of business. The fourth year (Master's level 1) is dedicated to Advanced Training before the students specialize in the fifth year (Master's level 2) in International Marketing, Management or Purchasing.

ESCI was created in 1983 by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Seine-et-Marne and is located in Lognes, Marne-la-Vallée, 25 km east of Paris. As a member of the Marne-la-Vallée Polytechnicum, a group of 18 institutions of higher education and research, its aim is to increase cooperation among members and to participate in the economic development of the region.

Paris is one of the most interesting and exciting capitals in Europe. Big international companies are located in its surroundings where students can find internships for their practical application.

We wish you Good Luck for your stay in France and especially for your studies at ESCI.

This Student Guide is intended to present you our school, to help you with the procedures relevant to your enrolment and to prepare your studies at ESCI.

I am looking forward to meeting you!

Guillaume Krafft,
Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'G. Krafft'.





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ADMISSION AND REGIST

International students can apply for three types of course:

Certificate / Degree course

You can apply for the regular three-year programme, to obtain the "International Business Negotiator" Master's level degree. This admission is determined by an entrance examination (see the ESCI website: www.esci-paris.fr).

"Alliance" programme

If your college or university has signed an

"Alliance" agreement with ESCI you can come for a one-semester or one-year programme, leading to the "Chamber of Commerce Certificate in International Business".

Exchange programme

If your university has signed an exchange agreement (Erasmus or other) with ESCI, you can follow a programme defined in accordance with your university. The courses will be considered as part of your regular degree course, and the ESCI exam marks will be accepted by your uni-

versity on your return. You can come as an exchange student for a period of one semester or one year.

A specific course in French as a Foreign Language (FLE = Français Langue Etrangère) is organized by the Language Department of ESCI for exchange or non-exchange international students. The incomings can follow this course during the whole academic year (30 hours per semester. Please consult the course book).

1. DEGREE COURSE

The full-time ESCI course lasts three years. Only students who have completed two years of study at university level are admitted. On successfully completing three years of studies at ESCI, including several periods abroad (see below) you will be awarded the ESCI Master's-level degree: "International Business Negotiator".

If you have a Bachelor's or a Master's level degree, you can be admitted directly into the 4th or 5th year at ESCI.

a) Programme

You can find all information about the courses and the contents in the Syllabus. Please note that as a degree course student you have to study one semester in a partner institution of ESCI, university or school, but it is also possible to apply for the whole academic year abroad. Note that this is not possible for those students who start directly in the 4th or 5th year at ESCI.

At the end of each year the degree students have to do an internship, 3 months in the 3rd year, 3 months in the 4th year and 6 months in the 5th year. 6 months of the 12 months have to be carried out in companies abroad. Since 2009/10 you have the possibility to study the last year at ESCI on sandwich courses, 3 days per week internship in a company and 2 days per week in regular courses at ESCI.

b) Requirements

To be accepted as a degree course student in the 3rd year of ESCI, it is necessary to have successfully studied two years at university level and to speak two foreign languages. English is compulsory for all students. The second language is in general Spanish, German or Arabic, at the moment Italian and Chinese are not available.

c) Admission procedure

If you meet the requirements, you can ask for the Application Form. If you are selected by the admission jury on previous results, motivation and projects, you will be invited to sit for the entrance examination at ESCI. To help you to find the best period for you to do the different written and oral exams, ESCI offers several sessions between April and September of each year.

d) Entrance examination tests

The admission examination procedure takes a whole day and contains a written part and an oral part in front of an internal jury of ESCI.

a) Written exam

- A synthesis based on several articles of similar topics
- A multiple choice test which is designed to measure your management skills
- English test

b) Oral exam

- Presentation in English
 - Interview in French concerning a project you carried out during your previous studies or your leisure time.
- For further information see the "Admissions" section of the website www.esci-paris.fr

e) Tuition Fees*

- 5900 € for students starting their studies in the 3rd year at ESCI
 - 6250 € for students starting their studies in the 4th year at ESCI
 - 6550 € for students starting their studies in the 5th year at ESCI
- *for the academic year 2011/12

f) Start of the academic year

The courses start at the end of September/at the beginning of October.

g) Double diploma

ESCI proposes double degrees with University Paris-Est Marne-la-Vallée and higher education institutions abroad.

The students who study for one semester at University Paris-Est Marne-la-Vallée in the 4th year of the ESCI course, or those who - in the 5th year of ESCI - prolong their studies for one semester and go abroad again to partner universities, schools or colleges, obtain the Title of ESCI and the Master's degree diploma of their chosen institution (see the document ESCI partners on our website).





ADMISSION PROCEDURES

2. ALLIANCE PROGRAMME ADMISSION PROCEDURE

Students coming from ESCI Alliance partner universities or schools can apply for this programme. As an Alliance student, you can follow a one-semester or a one-year course. The Alliance programme leads to the “Chamber of Commerce Certificate in International Business” as follows:

- Full year Course:
Chamber of Commerce Certificate in International Business level 2
- Semester Course:
Chamber of Commerce Certificate in International Business level 1

a) Programme

The programme of study is defined with your university, and may include subjects from all three years, according to your level. For information about the programme, contact your International Relations Department (IRD). The Alliance

course can include a period of internship in a French company.

b) Requirements

To be accepted at ESCI, you have to be enrolled in a partner university. Ask your international relations department for information. It is also necessary to have completed two years of studies at university level, and to speak two foreign languages in order to obtain the Chamber of Commerce Certificate in International Business.

The admission procedures are not the same in all universities or school. Ask your IRD for information. Candidates are pre-selected by your IRD.

Note that most ESCI subjects are taught in French, and that students must provide proof of a sufficient knowledge of the language.

c) Application form

Application forms must be returned by:
June 30th for the autumn semester or the full academic year
November 30th for the spring semester with the following documents:

- 3 photographs
- A curriculum vitae in French
- Your university grade reports
- Proof of a sufficient level of French
- A photocopy of your ID-card or passport

d) Tuition Fees

Please ask your IRD for information about the tuition fees for the Alliance programme.

e) Start of the academic year

The courses begin at the end of September/at the beginning of October.

3. EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

If your university has signed an exchange agreement with ESCI, it is possible to study at ESCI as an exchange student. The usual system is the European Erasmus/Lifelong Learning Programme. Please ask your IRD to find out if your university is an ESCI partner. Once you have been selected and nominated by your home institution to participate in the exchange program with ESCI, you have to fill in the Application Form (available on our website) and send it with all complementary documents through your International Relations Office to ESCI before deadline.

Please bear in mind that you must be registered as a regular student at your home university throughout the whole exchange period.

a) Programme

Your course choice will be subject to approval by your home university. Your university will select the subjects that are appropriate for you. If the timetables make it possible, we allow exchange students to study subjects at different levels. If your study period is only one semester long, make sure that the subjects you choose take place during that semester, and that each module is free-standing.

b) Requirements

To study at ESCI as an exchange student, you must be enrolled in a partner university. To be accepted at ESCI, it is necessary to have completed two years of studies at university level.

Candidates are pre-selected by the IRD of their home university.

They have to sign a Learning Agreement, which has to be approved by the home and the host institution before the semester starts. Before leaving, the home institution gives the outgoing student the Erasmus Student Charter, which shows his/her rights and the obligation during the stay in the host university or school.

Note that most ESCI subjects are taught in French, and that students must provide proof of a sufficient knowledge of the language.

c) Application form

Application forms must be returned by:

June 30th for the autumn semester or the full academic year
November 30th for the spring semester with the following documents:

- 3 photographs
- A curriculum vitae in French
- Your university grade reports
- Proof of a sufficient level of French
- A photocopy of your ID-card or passport

d) Tuition Fees

Exchange students continue to pay their fees at their home institution (where applicable).

e) Start of the academic year

The courses begin at the end of September/at the beginning of October.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

ADMINISTRATIVE PREPARATION OF

Administrative requirements concerning a stay abroad can be time-consuming. France is no exception, so start preparing as early as possible.

RESIDENCE PERMIT, VISA ETC.

To enter and study in France

a) as a student of the European Union or of the European Economic Area you need only a valid identity card or passport.

b) as a non European or non European Economic Area Student

you need a valid passport and a visa

- a short-stay-visa (stay of less than 3 months)
- a student visa (stay between 3 and 6 months)
- a long-stay-student-visa (stay for more than 6 months).

To obtain the visa you have to contact the French embassy or consulate in your home country.

If proof of admission to ESCI for your Visa application is required, you should

contact ESCI and ask for an "Admission Form".

Please consult this website:

www.diplomatie.gouv.fr - étudiant/étudiant en France, visas – quel type de visa choisir. You can find helpful information.

As soon as you arrive in France you have – as an international student (other than European Union nationals) – to apply for a student residence permit if you want to stay for more than 3 months. You have to go to the "Préfecture" within two months of your arrival in France to obtain this document.

The documents you need to apply for a Residence Permit are:

- Photocopy of your passport
- Birth certificate (translated. If you have it translated in France you will have to pay an official translator)
- 4 passport photographs
- Proof of residence in France (rental

agency contract, or electricity or telephone contract, or a letter from your landlord with a copy of his/her identity card and an electricity or phone bill)

- Proof of admission/enrolment at ESCI
- Proof of sufficient finance (grant, letter from your bank IN FRANCE) for a minimum of 430€ per month and per person. A letter from your parents or a foreign bank will NOT be accepted.)
- Proof of medical insurance for non-EU students

A medical examination is compulsory for obtaining the residence permit. The administrative staff of the "Préfecture" will give you the address of the International Immigration Office. You have also to buy a fiscal stamp which will cost you 55 €.

NB: This procedure is also valid for students coming from an EU country, if they are not EU nationals.

BANKING

Holding a bank account in France is strongly recommended. However, a bank account in France is required if you want to apply for an accommodation allowance (see below).

The major French banks - BNP Paribas, Crédit Lyonnais, Crédit Agricole, Société Générale etc. - are widely represented and propose quite similar services. Banks are in general open from 9.00h to 12.00h and from 14.00h to 16.30h. They are closed on Sunday and Monday.

To help ESCI students with the administrative procedures opening a bank account, ESCI has signed a partnership with the Société Générale. The office is situated in Lesigny.

Société Générale
Agence Société Générale de Lesigny
Centre Cial du Parc- 77150 Lesigny
Tel.: 01.60.02.27.55

To open a bank account you may contact Mrs Garance Ducret at the following e-mail address: melun.particuliers@socgen.com

There are no fees for opening the current account at Société Générale but some other services may be liable to charges. In general within 2 weeks you will be given a bank card which you can use in cash dispensers.

With you PIN-code you have also access to the on-line banking services in French.

If you wish to open a bank account BEFORE arriving in France, in order to transfer money in advance or to have your cheque-book and bank card available on arrival, please use the form provided by our IRD and send it to Mrs Ducret at the address above. Don't forget to specify that you are an exchange/Erasmus/international student and to mention "ESCI partenariat Société Générale".

You need to provide:

- A photocopy of your ID card or passport
- A proof of accommodation
- A photocopy of enrolment at ESCI/study certificate.





YOUR STAY IN FRANCE / FORMALITIES

HEALTH CARE AND INSURANCE

Health care

The French health-care system is one of the best in Europe and the social security system makes medical care available to everybody.

In France health coverage is compulsory for all students. . ESCI does not cover any medical costs for its students. All students are responsible for their own health, accident and travel insurances. Make sure that your insurance covers you not only during your stay in France but also during your trip to and from France.

a) As a citizen of the European Economic Area, you can apply for the European Health Insurance Card in your home country from the appropriate authority. The card proves that you are covered by the health care system in your country and enables you to apply for reimbursement of health expenses in France. When you go to a doctor or to the hospital in France you have to show this card. You should also make sure that you have adequate private insurance to cover the difference between real expenses and Social Security reimbursement, as well as repatriation costs in case of accident or serious illness.

b) Students from a non-EU member country have to join the French social security scheme (CPAM – SMEREP or LMDE). No dispensation is possible, even in cases

where the student is member of another foreign public scheme or has private health insurance whether with a French or foreign company.

The subscription costs about 200€ (for the academic year 2010/2011).

Non-EU nationals must take out private health insurance BEFORE they arrive in France.

In France you can make an appointment with the doctor of your choice. The cost of a visit to a GP approved by the Social Services is about 22 €. The cost of a consultation with a Specialist is about 30 € and the waiting lists are sometimes very long.

At the end of your consultation you usually have to pay by cash or cheque (sometimes you can pay by card). You will be given a 'Feuille de soin' which you have to send to your insurance to be reimbursed.

Pharmacies

Most medicines are only available on prescription and sold exclusively in pharmacies (the sign of the pharmacy in France is a green cross).

In general the pharmacies are open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am to 7 pm.

When they are closed information is displayed in the shop window about where an emergency pharmacy is open. However, at night, you first have to call the police (17) for security reasons.

Emergency telephone numbers

Police secours/police: 17

Pompiers/Firemen: 18

Samu/Ambulance service: 15

Other insurance

All students must be covered for their personal liability in case they cause injury or damage to other people or property.

All exchange students will be required to provide a photocopy of their insurance cover on arrival at ESCI. Please have a look on the following link for all information:

<http://vosdroits.service-public.fr/particuliers/N60.xhtml>

HOUSING ALLOWANCE

La Caisse d'Allocations Familiales (CAF)

Students are eligible to apply for a Housing Allowance, APL or ALS which are French public housing allowances managed by CAF.

If you want to apply you will be asked to produce the following documents:

- Your Carte de Séjour (if applicable)
- Proof of your income for the previous year (grants, tax returns, pay slips etc)
- Proof of your registration at ESCI (Admission form)
- Bank details (from a French bank)
- CAF application forms
- A photocopy of your health insurance

NB : You will generally be asked to produce original documents for all administrative formalities. Be sure you have enough copies of all-important documents (the translation of your birth certificate, for example) with at least one spare copy for emergencies! If you are unable to obtain several originals, be sure you have several "certified copies".

You can fill in the application online
Further information at www.caf.fr/wps/portal/
You should choose Etudiants – Aide au logement – Votre première demande

Nota Bene: If you are eligible you will receive the housing allowance only after three months, this is in general the length it takes the CAF to process your file.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

ARRIVAL IN FRANCE

Whatever your means of transport, you will probably arrive in Paris.

BY PLANE, BUS OR TRAIN/RER (REGIONAL RAIL SERVICE)

Paris has two international airports: Roissy Charles de Gaulle (23 km north-east of Paris) and Orly (about 15 km south of the capital). Both are well served by public transport and taxis.

From Roissy/Charles de Gaulle airport

To get from CDG to ESCI in Lognes, you can use the RER B (blue line) to Paris Châtelet les Halles (direction Robinson or Saint-Remy Les Chevreuse). At Châtelet, you take the RER A (red line) direction Marne La Vallée/Chessey TGV Parcs Disneyland. You get off the train at Lognes or at Torcy.

From Orly airport

To get from Orly to the centre of Paris and then to Lognes, you can use the

train Orlyval from the airport (South or West) to Antony and then change to the RER, Line B (blue line) direction Aéroport Charles de Gaulle or Mity Claye. At Chatelet les Halles you change to RER A (red line) direction Marne La Vallée/Chessey TGV Parcs Disneyland and get off the train at Lognes or Torcy. An alternative to using the RER to go to Paris is the Air France Shuttle. The buses leave every 12 minutes from all terminals at CDG airport or Orly to downtown Paris. You can get off at different stations ('Gare de Lyon' if you come from CDG and take the RER A to Lognes/Torcy or 'Gare Montparnasse' or 'Invalides' if you come from Orly). To see the schedule and the prices, look at: <http://shuttle-paris.tourpackagers.com>

If you come by bus

If you are coming from your home country by bus, please do not take a bus, which arrives at the International Coach Station (Gare Routière Internationale) at "Porte de Bagnolet". The buses often arrive VERY late, the station closes at 10pm, and there is no transport towards the centre of Paris. Use a bus company, which will take you to another point in the centre of Paris (some bus companies arrive at the main train stations, for example). For more information about the transport system in the Paris region, see the following websites: www.transports-idf.com www.sncf.com • www.ratp.fr www.mappy.fr

ACCOMMODATION

ESCI is located in Lognes at about 20 km from Paris. Many students from different universities live in the area and therefore finding accommodation is not always easy.

Our advice would be, if possible, to begin to look for accommodation in June, which is the ideal period. If you have the possibility of coming to Lognes during the summer, this would be helpful. In August and September finding accommodation can be more difficult.

ESCI can offer assistance in finding accommodation, but note that you can only use this service if you have been accepted into a study programme

the region of Val Maubuee and of Marne-la-Vallée on www.polytechnicum.org/illustrations/res_etudiant_07.pdf.

ESCI is a partner of the CROUS, the French student social support service. This organisation reserves each year a number of rooms for ESCI students in one of their university residences in the region (Champs-sur-Marne, Torcy, Lognes). The furnished rooms are distributed to the students according to a social scale (a low income for example) and availability. As the Residence is not located near the Campus, you have to use the RER or the bus.

rooms are rent out to students who are looking for a 12 months contract. It is very difficult for exchange students who stay only one semester to rent a room in the residences of the CROUS. Our advice is to contact private organisations which are listed on adele.org.

You can select Seine-et-Marne (77) and find all residences of this 'departement' but also Seine-Saint-Denis (93) and Val-de-Marne (94) because some of these 'departements's cities are served by the RER A.

Only some words about 'Relais Jeunes 77'. This organisation offers accommodation for young people between 18 and 30 in the department of Seine-et-Marne

UNIVERSITY RESIDENCES

- www.adele.org
- www.logementetudiant.fr
- www.estudines.fr

You can find very helpful information about accommodation for students in

You can rent a single room (12-22 m²) or a flat for 2 persons. In general these





in different towns of Marne-la-Vallée near RER or bus stations. The rooms you can apply for are situated in apartments for two, three or four persons. You can have a single furnished bedroom and share the kitchen, the bathroom and the living room.

THINGS TO CONSIDER

When renting accommodation in most cases you have to send several documents with your Housing Application: a photocopy of your ID card or passport and the 'Attestation d'Admission' which the ESCI International Relations Department sends to you by post. In France everybody who wants to rent a flat or a house needs to name a guarantor who lives in France. A guarantor is a person who can prove sufficient funds and who accepts the obligation to pay your rent should you encounter financial difficulties. The documents frequently required are: the guarantor's proof of income (pay slips, bank account details, rent slip, tax return or similar) and the guarantor's residence document.

If you don't have a member of your family or a friend in France who would be your guarantor, you may have to pay the rent for the whole period of your studies as well as the equivalent of a month's rent as a deposit the day you move in.

NB: In all cases to rent accommodation you have to show a fire, flood and public liability insurance policy. You can subscribe to this compulsory insurance the same day you arrive.

HELP

ESCI students, especially from the ESperanCI club, can come to meet you either in Paris or at the train station in Lognes or Torcy, take you to your accommodation and help you to settle in.

If you wish to be met when you arrive, please send your arrival form with the exact date and time as soon as possible, so that we can prepare your arrival here. If you are living at the university residence,

THE PRIVATE SECTOR

- www.seloger.fr
- www.immostreet.fr
- www.petites-annonces.fr
- www.logement77.com
- www.abcimmo.com
- www.appartement-location.net
- www.location-appartement.org

If you rent private accommodation you should ask for an inventory and visit the flat or room with the landlord. Do not forget to note the duration of contract and time of notice (usually 2-3 months before departure). You will be asked for a deposit of one or two month's rent which will be refunded at the end of your stay if you have not caused any damage to the accommodation.

Rent

The rent in the private sector ranges from about 250€ for lodgings in a family home, sharing kitchen and bathroom facilities with the family, to upwards of 400€ (for a studio). A room in a shared flat will generally cost between 280 and 330€ per person. In many cases, you will have to add the price of water and electricity, and sometimes you will have to pay agency fees to find accommodation. These fees are around 300 - 400€, and are not refundable, as this is the price for the service. (see Student's Statement on the right side)

Other useful and helpful information about student housings, residences, flat sharing, etc., on <http://www.capcampus.com/logement-1159/>

be aware that the office is closed in the evening and also at weekends. If you have rented private accommodation in town you should make an appointment to meet the landlord on your arrival, but this may not be possible until after working hours.

On the first day you'll probably have to settle a lot of administrative and accommodation problems, but you'll be helped by ESCI staff and students.

ARRIVING WITHOUT ACCOMMODATION

Don't forget that in the Région Parisienne, finding a place to live, at a few days' notice, at a reasonable price and at the end of September is impossible. We would strongly discourage students from arriving without having prearranged accommodation.

We do our best to help you, but insist that you find something and make a firm reservation before coming here.

STUDENT'S STATEMENT

Ciao, my name is Francesca Ferrari. I'm an exchange student from the University of Pavia in Italy. I came to ESCI to study in France, to improve my French and to live in Paris.

This is the reason why I was looking for a room in the capital and not in Lognes or Torcy even if I have to take the RER to go to ESCI. I want to visit, to enjoy the night life and to meet a lot of young people.

I found a room in a Residence for girls, the 'Foyer International La Vigie' in the 4th arrondissement on the St. Louis Island.

I pay 629 € per month for my single room but it's a little cheaper if you share a room with another girl (about 540 €). This price includes breakfast and dinner from Monday to Friday. I can also use a kitchen and the laundry room, Internet and a lot of other facilities.

As ESCI students spend their weekends in Paris, we meet here to go to pubs or discotheques. I don't regret my choice.

If you are interested in this offer, please contact:

Foyer International La Vigie
7, rue Poullietier
75004 PARIS
Tel.: 01 46 33 33 98



ACADEMIC INFORMATION

1. STUDYING AT ESCI

3rd Year Programme

Course offer for the 1st semester

Intercultural Management
Business Law
Accounting and Management Control
Transport and International Logistics
International Business Tools
Commercial Geopolitics
Business Spirit
Professional Seminar

Course offer for the 2nd semester

Economic Conjunctural Analysis
Managerial Economics
International Strategy
Marketing and Market Studies
International Trade Law
Business Spirit
Simulation Game
Professional Seminar

Course offer of the language department during the three years (business language, language skills and cultural awareness)
English, German, Spanish, Arabic and (with a sufficient number of students): Italian, Chinese
For the incomings (exchange and non-exchange students):
French as a Foreign Language
NB: If the timetables make it possible, we allow exchange students to study subjects in several years and levels.

4th Year Programme

Course offer for the 1st semester

Human Resource Management
International Sourcing and Purchasing
International Business Negotiation
Financial Analysis
Subsidiary Management
Customs and Processes
Simulation Game
Business Spirit
Professional Seminar

Course offer for the 2nd semester*

Semester in a partner university abroad

5th Year Programme

Course offer

Core modules

International Mindset

International Business
International Project Management
Customs and Product Compliance
Business Spirit
Professional Seminar

Specialisations

A. International Marketing:

Business Activities in Marketing
Marketing Tools
Advanced Marketing*

B. International Management:

International Finance
Global Company Performance
Business Platform Analysis*

C. International Sourcing and Purchasing:

Global Sourcing
Managing a Purchasing Department*
ISP: Best Practice

For further information about the course content, the teacher, ECTS credits etc., see the Course Descriptions.

Teaching language

Most of the academic programs offered in France are taught in French, which will come as no surprise. So a good knowledge of the French language is essential to make a success of your semester at ESCI.

* (usually taught in English)

2. ACADEMIC CALENDAR

a) Semester dates

The concrete dates vary slightly from year to year. These dates include examination weeks.

Autumn semester

- 3rd year: Beginning of October to the end of January (4 months)
- 4th year: Beginning of October to the end of January (4 months)
- 5th year: Beginning of October to the end of January (4 months)

Spring semester

- 3rd year: Beginning of February to the end of May (4 months)
- 4th year: No lectures at ESCI but a study period in partner universities/schools abroad
- 5th year: No lectures at ESCI but a 6 months vocational internship

Our advice would be to arrive on a week's day and not during the weekend. So you can contact all services you need.

b) Vacation and holidays

Summer vacation in France covers the entire months of July and August, and sometimes includes the last days of June

and/or the first days of September as well. The Christmas vacation starts in general one or two days before the 25th of December and lasts until the end of the first week of January. Two other periods can give you free time from school: the February/Ski holidays and the Easter holidays.

c) Public holidays in France

1st November	All Saints' Day
11th November	Armistice Day (1918)
25th December	Christmas
1st January	New Year's Day
Moveable	Easter
1st May	Labour Day
8th May	Armistice Day (1945)
Moveable	Thursday Ascension Day
Moveable	Pentecost
14th July	National Day (Bastille Day)
15th August	Assumption Day





3. GRADES AND TRANSCRIPT

Teaching and learning practices at ESCI may be different from what you know from your experiences at your university. ESCI is not a university, most of the classes are interactive.

Student performance at ESCI is assessed in two ways:

Short quizzes, written reports or essays given throughout the semester allow teachers and instructors to check what their students have learned in each unit. For some courses oral presentations and an

active participation may be requested. Examinations covering all of the material presented during the semester are given at the end of each semester, generally in the last week of January and again at the end of May, before the summer break.

At the end of the semester the student will be given a transcript which contains the following information:

- Name of the host and home institution
- Name of the student

- Title of the courses the student followed
- Local grades
- ECTS grades and credits (see below)

Local Grading system

In general you get in France a mark between 0 and 20. 0 is the lowest and 20 the highest mark. The mark of 13/20 or 14/20 is quite good. Do not be disappointed when you do not obtain 18 or 19/20. These marks are really exceptional even for French students.

4. THE ECTS SYSTEM

The European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) was created within the SOCRATES-ERASMUS programme to enable students to obtain academic recognition of studies abroad.

The system operates on the basis of Information (on courses available in each institution), Agreement (between the home and host institutions) and the use of Credit Points (to evaluate student workload). The credit ratings are based on student workload, including all lectures, work pla-

cements, personal work and examinations, making it possible for the home and host institutions to agree on the number of courses required. It is important that all ECTS-rated courses are part of the regular programme of study of the host institution. For a period of study to be validated, the student is expected to obtain 60 ECTS credits per year, or 30 per semester. The credits will be awarded only if the course has been completed and the student has obtained satisfactory results. The credits

obtained can be transferred by the student from one institution to another as long as there is prior agreement between the institutions involved.

Assessment and grading scale

ECTS GRADE	% of students
A	10
B	25
C	30
D	25
E	10
F	

Non Erasmus students: Your course choice will be made by mutual agreement with your home institution.

5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Class times

Classes are scheduled from 9.00 to 10.30, from 11.00 to 12:30 and from 14.00 to 15.30, from 16.00 to 17.30, Monday to Friday.

Faculty and staff

ESCI being a small structure, our faculty and staff are always available to assist and advise students.

Not all the teaching staff is present on the campus during the whole week, many are business professionals. Should you need to contact them you can make an appointment through the office. This is the easiest way. You can also ask the teacher for his/her e-mail address. There will be no problem.

The Business Relations Department

Our Business Relations Department can

help with your CV and application letters, and can also provide assistance if you are looking for an internship in France or abroad.

The BR department supervises the training periods of all ESCI students – bear in mind that the degree course students have to do several internships during their studies – and organizes different events with business leaders to help the students to acquire professional behaviour and attitudes.

The Language Department

All regular ESCI students follow courses in at least two foreign languages. Some of them even study a third language for beginners. French language classes are also provided throughout the year for foreign students.

The International Relations Department (IRD)

The persons who are in charge of the Office have an administrative role. They help you with your paperwork like application, enrolment, time-table, transcripts, questions about housing and bank account. They are also in contact with the Departmental Director who signs your Learning Agreement. Please don't hesitate to knock at the door...

The IRD organises also an Orientation Day at the beginning of each semester for the 'incomings'. Your attendance at this day is compulsory; all important and useful information about rules, examinations and academics is given during this meeting. A special board for up-to-date information is reserved for the 'incomings' which is located on the ground floor of the ESCI building near the entrance.



AROUND THE CAMPUS

ESCI IS LOCATED ON THE OUTSKIR

The town, which counts today 15.200 inhabitants, is situated in the east of Paris, in the department Seine-et-Marne. Lognes is part of the Val Maubuée sector, one of the four sectors in the "new town" (Ville Nouvelle) of Marne-la-Vallée.



On the campus you can find three schools of Higher Education:

- ESM-A MLV (Ecole Supérieure de Management en Alternance à Marne-la-Vallée)
- ISEAM MLV (Institut Supérieur d'Etudes en Alternance du Management à Marne-la-Vallée)
- And since September 2008, ESCI.

At the moment 1000 students are studying in these three schools in Lognes including 100 ESCI students.

TRANSPORT

ESCI is about 15 minutes walk away from the two RER A stations.

There are also three bus lines which you can use to go to the campus: line 321 and 211 when you get off at the RER station in Lognes and 421 when you get off at RER at Torcy.

Of course, you can use a bike to go from your accommodation in Lognes or in Torcy to ESCI, you even find cycle paths in the surroundings.

Students who own cars will also be pleased to give you a lift to school. Many of our students live in the residences around Lognes and thus travel to school and back every day, there is a lot of car pooling. Don't hesitate to ask for a lift.

SPECIAL NEEDS

At the moment, the campus is not equipped to meet the requirements of disabled students with special needs. All classrooms are situated on the ground floor whereas the offices of the teaching and administrative staff are located on the first floor of the building. There is no lift. You can find toilets on each floor.

COMPUTER AND INTERNET FACILITIES

At ESCI, students have access to a fully equipped computer room, with fast and permanent Internet access, where you can work, do research or print your personal work. This room is open from 8.30 a.m. until 6.30 p.m.

The campus is equipped with wifi.

LIBRARY

There is no library on the campus. But all ESCI students have the possibility of using the university Marne-la-Vallée library.

You find the rooms, which host the Library of Economic Sciences on the 1st floor of building A.

It's open from Monday to Friday from 8h30 a.m. to 06h30 p.m.

Université Paris-Est Marne-La-Vallée
Cité Descartes
5, bd Descartes
Champs sur Marne
77454 Marne-la-Vallée Cedex 2
Tel.: 01.60.95.75.00

For further information about the University of Marne-la-Vallée have a look at its website: <http://www.univ-mlv.fr>

PHOTOCOPIES

Photocopy cards are sold by the administratif staff of on the campus. Photocopy cards and cards to print your personal work cost 6 € per 100 papers.





SPORTS OF LOGNES

RESTAURANTS

There are lots of restaurants around the campus.

• **The “brasserie” Le Vallon** – just in front of the school – offers a full meal for 13 €.

• **The Class Croute**

2 minutes on foot – is a ‘sandwicherie’.
52, boulevard de Courcerin
77183 Croissy-Beaubourg
Tel.: 01.60.37.02.02

You have two pizzerias within 2 kms

• **Pizza Pub**

Allée des Voyageurs - ZAC de Parisest
77184 Emerainville
Tel.: 01.64.11.34.81

• **Pizza Hut**

Boulevard du Courcerin – Le pavé neuf
77184 Emerainville
Tel.: 01.60.17.24.41

You can reach the Fast food restaurant:

• **Mc Donald’s** in a 10 minute walk

Boulevard du Mandinet
Centre Commercial Valorée
ZAC du Mandinet
77185 Lognes
Tel.: 01.60.05.91.66



It is also possible to have lunch at the Students Union Cafeteria which is situated in the ESM-A building 54 next to ESCI. You can use the microwave ovens to warm up your meal and sit down with the other students. In the same place there are some Snack and Coffee Vending Machines.

By the way, in France you can find a lot of international restaurants. Everybody knows Italian, Chinese and Japanese cuisine but what about Algerian, Moroccan and Tunisian food? These restaurants are quite common in France because of the link between France and North Africa. Try the ‘Couscous’ (with chicken or lamb and vegetables), or the ‘Tajine’ (with spices like saffron, coriander, cinnamon, pepper and ginger). You’ll certainly like it.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES AT SCHOOL

The ESCI campus is far from being as large as that of a university. This particularity leads to a community-based way of life, and no student is ever isolated. A specific club is dedicated to taking care of international students, and organizing special activities and trips for them. Naturally, foreign students are always welcome to participate in regular student activities and clubs.

Clubs

The list of clubs varies from one year to the next, according to the students’ interests and motivation, but you can always find student organisations, which propose activities like sports or music. They have also a student enterprise and a group, which organizes different events during the whole year.

ESperanCI

ESperanCI is the club, which looks after international students. As well as helping you with everyday affairs, it organizes short trips, both for culture and leisure, and of course a number of parties.

STUDENT’S STATEMENT



Ann-Kathrin Pflanzl

With one of my new friends from ESCI, Benjamin, we organized the Fair Trade Day: We designed a programme for three days and invited the students and teachers from ESCI, other establishments in Fontainebleau, shopkeepers and the town mayor. We supplied a lot of information about Fair Trade in general, sold a lot of products (coffee, tea, chocolate) as well as goods such as toys and bags and organized some conferences on the subject. We are very proud of our results and the visitors were very interested in this kind of work and trade.

Vera Harzheim, AMA Lippstadt (Alliance Programme)

What I liked especially about ESCI was the fact that it is not a big school, which might seem astonishing. But in fact it allows the foreign students to get to know the other students quickly and integration is easy one doesn’t feel lost because of the personal atmosphere.



USEFUL INFORMATION



CLIMATE

The climate may be very different from what you are used to.

The coldest months are January and February, the hottest July and August.

Up to the end of September days can still be warm with temperatures up to 20°C, but evenings will be cool. The sun sets around 7.30 p.m. in September. From October you will need warm clothing (parka, warm coat, sweaters and so on). From December to February the weather is generally cold, with negative temperatures even some days in March, and it can be very damp. In the depths of winter, it gets dark around 5 p.m.

Temperatures can remain quite low until the end of May, but from April onwards there will be some warm sunny days. At the end of June, it gets dark after 10 p.m.

TRANSPORT

Trains/RER in Ile-de-France

When you want to go to Paris you don't need a car and our recommendation is: Don't use your car in Paris! Paris has a very good underground and bus system. It's a lot easier and even quicker to go from one side of Paris to the other. To go to Paris by train (RER) you need about 20 minutes from Lognes or Torcy.

Ile-de-France has 8 pricing zones. This zone division is used to set the prices for

your train or RER/Metro ticket around Paris. Depending on your point of departure and arrival, you select the zone in which your ticket will be valid.

There are different types of tickets (in July 2010)

- Single ticket: this ticket is valid for one journey by train, RER, metro, bus or tram and costs 1,70 € (Paris 'intra muros').
- Carnet de tickets: This booklet contains 10 single tickets and costs 12,00 €.
- Mobilis: This ticket is a daily pass permitting an unlimited number of journeys. The price depends on the zones chosen (for example zone 1-2: 6,10 €, zone 1-6: 17,30 €).
- Ticket Jeunes: is also a daily pass but reserved for young people under 26 and valid for an unlimited number of journeys on Saturdays or Sundays. The price depends also on the number of zones chosen (for example zone 1-3: 3,40 €, zone 1-6: 8,50 €).

For buying your transport ticket you may:

- Use the automatic dispensers. They are practical and easy to use.
- Go to any ticket office at train or RER stations in Ile-de-France.

All information: <http://www.transilien.com/web/site/accueil/guide-du-voyageur/billets-tarifs/billets-abonnements/lang/en>

Trains in France

France has several high-speed rail lines which are used by the TGV. These trains take you from one point in France to another and even to the neighbouring countries in the shortest times. Paris to Marseille (863 km) takes only 3 hours. Why not organize an Erasmus weekend in the beautiful south of France? In 2,20 hours you are in Strasbourg. Think about a shopping day on the Christmas Market in December. London is 2,15 hours away on the Eurostar or, Brussels the capital of Europe, is 1,25 hours. 5 times a day the Thalys takes you in 3,55 hours to Amsterdam...

Driving a car in France

In the countryside, a car can be very helpful. Please don't hesitate to ask the ESCI students to give you a lift to take you to one of the big shopping centres to do your shopping.

Be careful, in France we have a lot of speed checking by cameras. So, observe the limits:

- 50 km/h in built-up areas
- 90 km/h on main roads (signs indicating a main road are green with white lettering)
- 130 km/h on motorways (signs indicating a motorway are blue with white lettering).

NB: Most of the French motorways are toll motorways.

There are petrol stations everywhere in France which sell Diesel, unleaded 95 and 98 fuel. Almost all stations in France accept credit cards like Visa or Mastercards. And often, it's possible to use automatic pumps (in supermarket areas for example) which is very useful when the station is closed.

TELEPHONING/COMMUNICATION

The phone boxes you find in the towns work with telephone cards. These cards are sold in post offices, tobacco bars, kiosks or in train stations. You can make international calls from all public telephone boxes.

If you want to use a cell phone, you can choose between the three main mobile phone companies: SFR, Orange or Bouygues Télécom. But there are now also lots of operators with interesting special offers and prices.

All French numbers consist on 10 digits with the first two digits indicating the region. For example all Ile-de-France numbers start with 01. There are 4 other areas in France 02, 03... Cell phone numbers begin with 06.

Note that the country code for France is 33. If you call from abroad, you don't put the initial 0 of the local number after 33.





PRACTICING YOUR RELIGION

Since the beginning of 20th century France has been a secular state and guarantees religious freedom as a constitutional right.

In general, religion is considered as private matter. But you can find places of worship of the different religions in almost all French towns.

(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion_in_France)

WORKING IN FRANCE

Every student has the right to work in France. As an international student, you have to prove that you are enrolled in a university or a school and have a sufficient social security cover (the students from other countries than the EEA countries have to show their residence/work permit).

Foreign students are only allowed to work about 20 hours per week (per year a maximum of 884 hours). Only during academic holidays can you work full time).



COST OF LIVING/BUDGET

A student who applies for a visa has to prove sufficient financial resources during his stay in France. The amount of officially requested is 430 € per month. But you may need to get by on a bigger budget, as your expenses will depend on what standard of living you are used to.

You can find here some examples of prices in the region around Paris in 2009:

- a baguette: 0,90 €
- a coffee: 1,90 €
- a meal in a restaurant (full meal): 15,00 – 20,00 €
- a sandwich: 3,50 – 4,50 €
- a book (paperback): 8,00 – 12,00 €
- a cinema ticket: 7,50 €
- a metro ticket (Paris 'intra muros'): 1,70 €
- a pack of cigarettes: 5,60 €
- a newspaper: 1,20 €
- a CD: 16 € – 20 €

You should expect to spend between 200 and 250 € per month on food.

On top of your rent and food expenses, you will need to budget for visits and entertainment. Do not assume that you will not spend any more than at home, as you will want to visit Paris (which can be expensive!) and probably spend some time travelling.

You will certainly want to visit some museums during your semester here in France. Museum entrance is free to young adults (under the age of 25) in France from 2009 on.



SHOPS AND SHOPPING

The majority of shops in France are open from Monday to Saturday from 9am to 8pm and the hypermarkets most of the time until 10pm.

The bakeries and often also little supermarkets are open on Sunday mornings too, in general until 12.30 pm.

The giants in France are: Carrefour, Auchan and E. Leclerc

The names of the supermarkets are: Super-U, Champion, Casino and Intermarché

You can find Hard Discount shops like: Leader Price, Ed, Aldi and Lidl (for German students: Lidl and Aldi don't necessarily sell the same products as in Germany).

Big shopping centers are located on the outskirts of towns.

One of the largest shopping centers, the Centre commercial International Val d'Europe offers not only a lot of shops, but many famous outlets, leisure areas with restaurants and a giant aquarium (covering 3250 m2).

Take the RER A exit Val d'Europe/Serris Montévrain.

Centre commercial International Val d'Europe

14, cours du Danube
77711 Marne le Vallée Cedex 4
Tel.: 01 60 42 39 39

Have also a look at **Bay 1** – Loisirs in Torcy. You can find different restaurants (12), shops, cyber cafés, cinemas (16) and even hotels or at **Bay 2** in Torcy-Collegien 110 shops, stores and a big Carrefour.

Nearer to ESCI is the small shopping centre Valorée in Lognes, which hosts 15 stores.



LEISURE TIME

MARNE-LA-VALLÉE

Marne-la-Vallée includes 26 communes in the departments of Seine-et-Marne (77), Val-de-Marne (94) and Seine-Saint-Denis (93).

For administrative reasons the “New Town” has been divided into four sectors:

Porte de Paris, Val de Bussy, Val d'Europe and Val Maubuée.

The agglomeration Val-Maubée is made up of six communes: Champs sur Marne, Croissy-Beaubourg, Emerainville, Noisiel, Torcy and Lognes.

You can download the very interesting and useful brochure A la découverte du Val Maubuée de Marne-la-Vallée at www.valmaubuee.fr/article1825.html

You can find a website on the net designed by the Val Maubuée with a weekly updated schedule of all cultural and leisure activities: www.san-valmaubuee.fr/rubrique29.html

PARKS

If you like nature, you should visit two parks near Lognes:

- The park of the château Champs-sur-Marne which covers about 85 hectares. The initial garden was designed by Claude Desgot, the nephew of André Le Notre who was working for Nicolas Fouquet on the park of Vaux–Le–Vicomte near Melun.

Domaine national de Champs-sur-Marne

31 rue de Paris
77470 Champs-sur-Marne

Tel.: 01 60 05 24 43

Website: champs-sur-marne.monuments-nationaux.fr

- The park of château Ferrières

It was designed by the English architect and landscape gardener Joseph Paxton for the Baron James de Rothschild in 1855

Chateau de Ferrières

Rue Rucherie
77164 Ferrières –en-Brie
Tel.: 01 64 66 34 97

E-mail: accueil@chateauferrieres.com

Website: www.chateauferrieres.com

SPORTS

The agglomeration of Val Maubuée offers a website concerning sports activities:

www.valmaubuee-sport77.org/

The Leisure park **Base régionale de Vaires-Torcy** is a wide area of about 1000 hectares where you can enjoy different sport activities like golf, tennis (indoor and outdoor), fitness, skating and cycling, horse riding and different water sports.

www.bases-loisirs-iledefrance.fr/1,23,0/Base-de-loisirs-Vaires-Torcy.html

You can easily reach the base with the bus line 211 and 421.

You can use two swimming pools in the surroundings:

The Piscine de l'Arche Guédon the bigger of the two and The Piscine d'Eméry. In general they are open from Monday to Saturday from 5 pm to 8 pm and on Sundays from 9 am to 12.30 pm.

Piscine de l'Arche Guédon

Place des rencontres
77200 Torcy
Tel.: 01 60 37 24 84

Piscine d'Eméry

Rue Louise Michel
77184 Emerainville
Tel.: 01 60 05 23 07

You can use the bus line 421, also the line 211 et 220 to go to the swimming pool in Torcy and the lines 206 and 212 to the one in Emerainville.

Further information on: www.polytechnicum.org/illustrations/piscines.pdf

Students who like climbing can use the hall Bussy Vertical Limit (Indoor rock climbing) which is open in the evenings until 10.30 p.m. (from Tuesday to Thursday) and on Sundays from 02.30 p.m. to 06.30 p.m.

This club also organises excursions to natural sites (local sites include Bouldering in the Forest of Fontainebleau).

Bussy Vertical Limit

Place de la Mairie
77600 Bussy St Georges
Tel.: 06.20.44.25.56

The aerodrome of Lognes is located on the other side of the main road next to ESCI.

If you have a valid flying licence you can rent a Robin, a Piper or a Cessna as often as you want. Please be aware that you need to apply for a membership





card. Even if you don't stay the whole year at ESCI you have to pay the annual fee which is 160 € at the moment. For further information contact

L'aéroclub H. Guillaumet
Tel.: 01 60 17 24 71
Fax: 01.60.17.24.81
E-mail: achg@achg.asso.fr

CULTURE

If you are interested in theatre, concerts, conferences or exhibitions around ESCI please find below some addresses

Espace Saint-Exupéry
15 rue d'Emery,
77184 Emerainville

L'Espace Culturel Le Wagon
107, boulevard du Segrais,
77185 Lognes

Salle du Citoyen
17 rue du suffrage universel,
77185 Lognes

Salle Jacques-Brel
Allée Pascal Dulphy,
77420 Champs sur Marne

Auditorium Jean-Cocteau
34 bis, cours des Roches
(quartier du Lizard), 77186 Noisiel

Espace Lino-Ventura
Place Appel du 18 juin 1940,
77200. Torcy

CINEMA

A 16 screens cinema complex is located in the Shopping Area Bay 1 in Torcy.

A 2 screens cinema is situated in the Ferme du Buisson, which is a contemporary arts centre in Noisiel.

ARCHITECTURE

If you are interested in Industrial Architecture you should visit the **chocolate factory** in Noisiel, which was built in the 19th century by the family Menier. In 1825 Noisiel was a village with about 200 inhabitants, but the company had such a success that its employees numbered more than 2000 by the end of the 19th century.

The factory was closed in 1993 but can be visited (the museum offers 2 guided visits: La cité ouvrière Menier à Noisiel and L'ancienne chocolaterie Menier - Tél. 01 60 05 15 50).

Today the Nestlé company uses the building as its head office in France and the UNESCO lists it on its World Heritage Site.

Further information: www.ville-noisiel.fr/tourisme/visites.html

DISNEYLAND® RESORT PARIS (VAL D'EUROPE)

Not very far from ESCI in Lognes is the Val d'Europe and **Disneyland® Resort Paris!**

You find on the area the two Disney Parks, the first with many attractions within 5 landscapes, the second called Walt Disney Studios Park where you can discover the world of cinema.

The Disney Village outside the two parks covers a wide area with bars, restaurants, boutiques and a nightclub (RER: Marne la Vallée – Chessy)

Disneyland Resort Paris

B.P. 100
77777 Marne-la-Vallée
Tel.: 08 25 30 60 30
Website: www.disneylandparis.com



LEISURE TIME

FAVORITE PLACES IN THE SOUTH OF SEINE-ET-MARNE

Students from ESCI especially appreciate the following places in the department Seine-et-Marne.



STUDENT'S STATEMENT

Besides Fontainebleau chateau, the chateau garden which is a wonderful place, don't forget to visit Vaux le Vicomte which is very romantic both in winter and in summer.

The small village of Barbizon where 19th century painters formed a school of the same name, and the medieval city of Moret sur Loing are also well worth a visit!

Ann-Kathrin Pflanzl,
Erasmus-student from
University Passau, Germany



FONTAINEBLEAU

Fontainebleau is a historic town. The castle is very old, but François 1er (XVIth century) contributed most to its construction. During the centuries, many extensions were built by all the French kings, and Louis XIII was born in the palace in 1610. It was designed as a place for rest and leisure for the kings and it remains one of the most magnificent places in France. It is notably famous as the favourite residence of Napoleon, and it is the actual place where he renounced the throne in 1814, bidding farewell to his armies in the main courtyard of the castle. Fontainebleau forest is the most famous in France, and one of the largest in Europe. It offers 1100 km footpaths, and a wide variety of landscapes, hills, fields, gorges, rocks, and 6600 animal species.

August 17th in 1661 felt envious of the owner of this magnificent property. The beauty of the palace led the king to commission the three artists to build the Chateau of Versailles.

Vaux-le-Vicomte
77950 MAINCY
Tel.: 01 64 14 41 90
E-Mail:chateau@vaux-le-vicomte.com
website:www.vaux-le-vicomte.com

NB: You can visit this estate by Candlelight on Saturdays from May to October and on Fridays in July and August.

PROVINS

The city of Provins, a sort of showcase of the Middle Ages, is inscribed on the UNESCO list of Humanity World Heritage. Many constructions of Provins are real architectural beauties like the famous tower, symbol of the town, the churches of Saint Quiriace and Saint Ayoul, the fortified gates and the 10 km of underground passages!

During the whole year, there are many events which are very popular and not only aimed at tourists. From April to November you can enjoy falconry demonstrations on the ramparts of the old city or battle reconstructions from the history of the Middle-ages.

Office de Tourisme de Provins

Chemin de Villecran Maison du Visiteur
BP 44 - 77482 Provins
Tel.: 01 64 60 26 26
E-Mail: info@provins.net
Website: www.provins.net

You will find a lot of other interesting places to visit on:
www.tourisme77.fr/

BARBIZON

Not very far, the village Barbizon, where some famous artists and painters, disappointed by the teaching of the Ecole des Beaux-Arts at the end of 19th century, found inspiration in nature. The group is called today The Barbizon School. Jean-François Millet (1814-1875) settled in Barbizon in 1849; his studio still exists today.

VAUX-LE-VICOMTE

This chateau was built in the 17th century for Nicolas Fouquet - the superintendent of the Royal Finances. It is considered as the masterpiece of the three artists, the architect Louis Le Vau, the decorator Charles Le Brun and the landscape architect André Le Nôtre. Even Louis XIV who went to the inauguration on





PARIS

Paris is beautiful, exciting and one of the most cosmopolitan capitals in Europe. Lognes is not very far from Paris and you will plenty of opportunities to visit and discover the different faces of the city.

There are plenty of museums and monuments in Paris and the region. Some of them offer free entrance one night per week, free access to the permanent collections, free access on the first Sunday of the month or discount entrance.

For a number of years lots of museums have had a one late-night opening day, known as a “nocturne” until 9pm (f. ex. the Musée d’Orsay is open on Thursday until 9.15pm).

NB: Museums in France are closed either on Mondays or Tuesdays.

Have a look at these websites to make your choice:

www.museums-of-paris.com

www.paris.fr/

www.paris-france.org/en/visiting/

www.linternaute.com/sortir/

DISCOVER PARIS IN OTHER WAYS

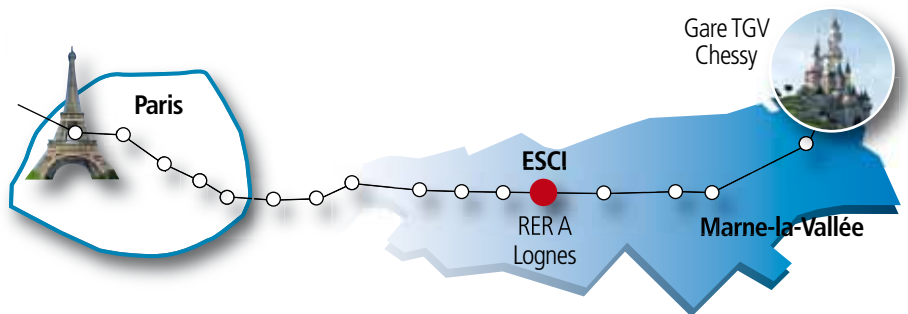
If you want to see Paris from another viewpoint, you can choose to do it by rollerblading.

Rollerblading

Rollerblading has become very popular in Paris and you can find lots of places and possibilities for beginners or advanced skaters.

You can skate on your own or choose to participate in two rollerblading tours through the streets of the capital.

The Friday evening tour: 25 km circuit which is different each week. Though it is open to all, it is advisable to have a reasonable level of competence to participate. You can find details the day before (Thursday) on the website



www.paris-roller.com/ or you can phone Tel: 01 43 36 89 81.

The Sunday afternoon tour is a circuit of approximately 20 km over 3 hours and is more family-oriented.

Information on www.rollers-coquillages.org/ or Tel: 01 44 54 07 44.

Velib'

Another way to enjoy the life of the capital streets, is to hire a bike. Vélib' is the self service bike hire system in Paris. The bikes are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. So the name – Velib' – is well chosen: vélo and liberté. A lot of location service points allow you to pick up a bike from just wherever you are. Have a look at the map www.velib.paris.fr/plan_des_stations/le_plan_des_stations.

In every Velib' station you can find about 20 bikes and you choose the length of time you will use the bike.

With the annual card you can take a bike anytime without using the terminals. You have only to swipe your card through the reader on the bike stand. Another interesting offer, the Day Vélib' ticket and the 7-day Vélib' ticket.

These tickets give you unlimited ac-

cess for the duration of the subscription period.

NB: A security deposit of 150 € is required for all short-term subscriptions.

Prices: the first 30 minutes of every journey are free of charge.

So, if you use the bike only for 25 minutes, you don't pay. If you cycle about 55 minutes, you have to pay 1 € and so on.

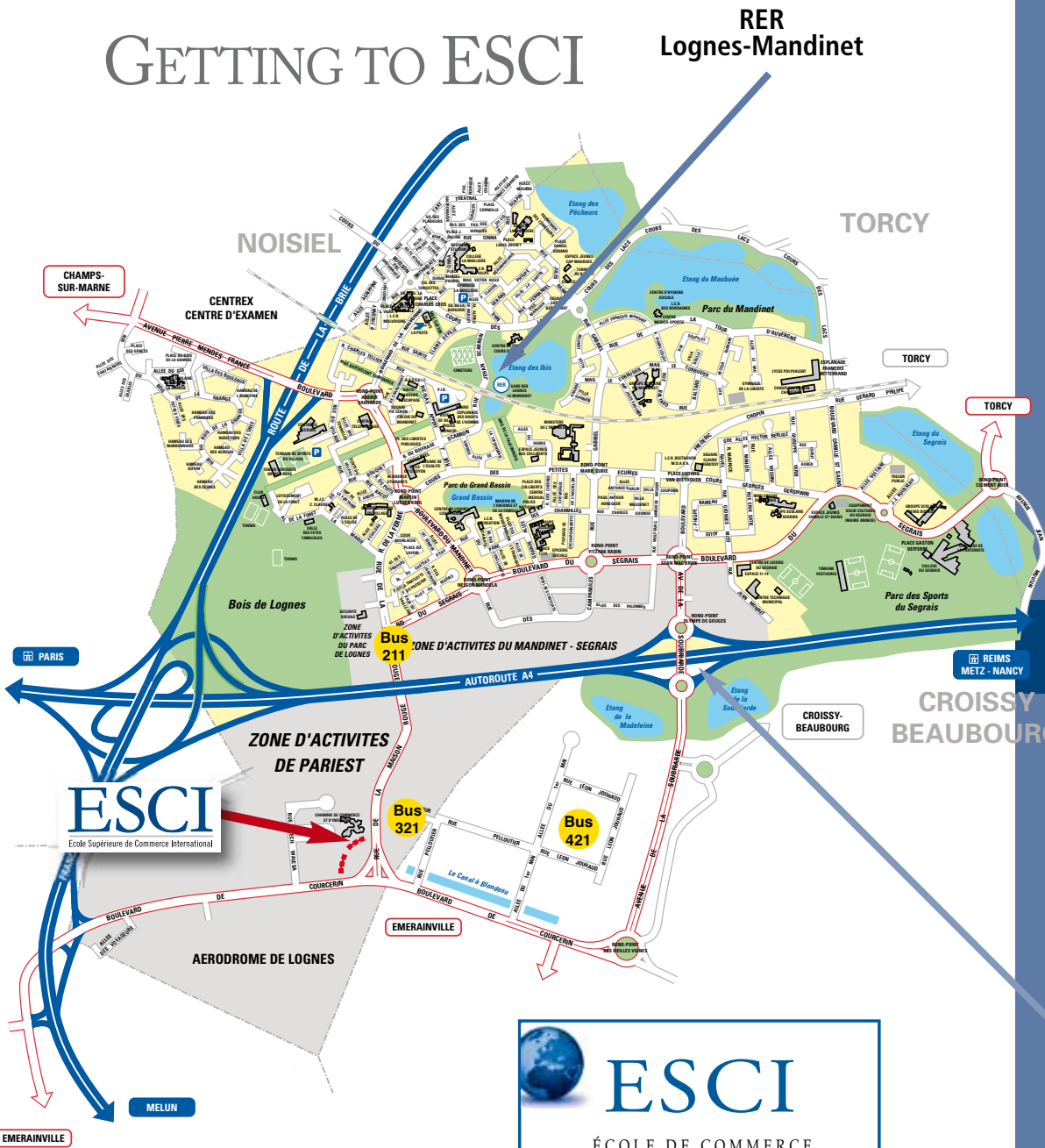
Further information: www.en.velib.paris.fr/abonnements_tarifs/

Enjoy your stay!





GETTING TO ESCI



Contact : Mrs Gesche LANDAIS • International Relations Department
 e-mail: glandais@hemail.fr • Tel.: +33 1 72 84 61 52

FROM THE RER A TO ESCI

- When you get off the RER in Lognes, you can use the bus line 321 (direction Emerainville) to ESCI. You have to get off the bus at the stop Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie. ESCI is just in front of you...
 (<http://www.metro-pole.net/hor/fiche/321.02.html>)

- You can also pick up the bus on line 211 and stop at Maison Rouge. To reach ESCI you have to walk for 10 minutes.
 (<http://www.metro-pole.net/hor/fiche/211.05.html>)

- When you chose to get off the train at Torcy, you can take the bus line 421 (direction Emerainville). You have more buses than on the line 321 at Lognes. The name of the bus stop you get off is La mare à Blondeau.
 (<http://www.metro-pole.net/hor/fiche/421.01.s.html>)

BY CAR

From Metz-Nancy

If you come by car take the motorway A4 direction Paris. Leave the motorway at ZA Pariest, Lognes-Croissy Beaubourg. Then take the direction Lognes Pariest, Croissy-Beaubourg. Go on the boulevard of Courcerin until you arrive at the traffic light, then turn left (rue de la Maison Rouge) and after 50 m turn left.

From Paris

At the Porte de Bercy take the motorway A4 direction Metz-Nancy. After 19 km take the exit Lognes, ZA Pariest, Lognes-Croissy Beaubourg. Then see information above.