Housing advice in Bordeaux – 2018/2019

Student Mobility Office
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Housing in Bordeaux

If you are considering coming to Bordeaux for an exchange study program, or already decided to come, there is a variety of housing solutions:

- **Le CROUS de Bordeaux-Aquitaine**
  The CROUS de Bordeaux-Aquitaine is a student representative body dealing within the Nouvelle-Aquitaine region with accommodation, catering, scholarship, etc. Their ambition is to be at the disposal of students in the main moments of their university life: information, welcome and orientation, social assistance, search for temporary jobs, cultural activities, hosting international students, etc. The CROUS of Bordeaux can accommodate some international students. For international students applying on an independent basis, the priority will be given to the ones registered on a Master or Doctorate program in the Aquitaine region. For international students taking part in a partnership program, some accommodation is reserved for the higher education institutions of the academy of Bordeaux. Either way, students must complete an International accommodation application from January 15th until May 31st and contact the international relations office of their host institute in France to obtain information about accommodation. If you are a Campus France grant holder, Campus France will book your accommodation and send you by email the references of the university residence in which you will be housed throughout your stay.

  *Link*: [https://www.crous-bordeaux.fr/international-2/](https://www.crous-bordeaux.fr/international-2/)
  *Contact*: logement.international@crous-bordeaux.fr
  *Address*: 18 rue du Hamel 33800 Bordeaux
  *Telephone*: 05 56 33 92 17

- **Lokaviz**
  Lokaviz is a website entirely dedicated to the research of student housing in France. It offers housing in the CROUS residences but also in private households. It lists nearly 230,000 housing offers.

  *Link*: [https://www.lokaviz.fr/](https://www.lokaviz.fr/)
  *Contact*: [https://www.lokaviz.fr/contactez-nous/n:69](https://www.lokaviz.fr/contactez-nous/n:69)

- **CRIJ Nouvelle-Aquitaine (ex-CIJA)**
  CRIJ Nouvelle-Aquitaine is a Youth Information Center operating in the Nouvelle-Aquitaine region. It aims to promote young people’s access to autonomy by guiding and providing them with information and services.

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1 For your information, the International Relations Office of Bordeaux Montaigne University hands this non-exhaustive list to international students in order to help them in their housing search. The Office declines all responsibility regarding the mentioned bodies.
housing hunting, job applications, rentals...) that would be useful in their
daily lives.

**Link:** http://www.info-jeune.net/accueil/ (homepage)
http://ww2.info-jeune.net/logement.html (housing page)
**Contact:** http://www.info-jeune.net/contact/ or cija@cija.net
**Address:** 125 cours Alsace et Lorraine - 33000 BORDEAUX
**Telephone:** 05 56 56 00 56

- **KAPS (Kolocation à Projets Solidaires)**
KAPS is a housing project offered by AFEV, a student solidarity network who offers apartments to share between students with solidarity projects to conduct in Pessac, a few minutes away from the campus. A room’s price is between 300€ and 400€. Students live in shared apartment and invest voluntarily in concrete solidarity actions with and for the inhabitants of their neighborhood. The projects are not predefined. The idea is to give the possibility to students to initiate their projects and bring their desires to life. The AFEV team will guide the students throughout the development and the execution of the projects they will choose (e.g. shared gardens, afternoons dedicated to intergenerational activities, “discosoups”, student parties within the residence, etc.)

**Link:** http://rejoins.afev.org/kaps/bordeaux/
**Address:** 54 Allées de Tourny, 33000 Bordeaux
**Telephone:** 05 56 32 94 67

- **Toit+Moi a European platform for intergenerational cohabitation**
Would you like to discover the local culture by living with an inhabitant of Bordeaux? Toit+Moi puts you in touch in a secured way with seniors open to intercultural and intergenerational interactions. A local association will help and guide you from beginning to end. Moreover, the Toit+Moi program does not include any monetary commitment apart from a contribution to current expenses up to 150€ per month.

**Link:** https://toitplusmoi.eu/app/tm/home
The website is also available in Spanish.
**Contact:** contact@toitplusmoi.eu or toitplusmoi@cnav.fr
**Telephone:** 01 55 45 76 06 or 05 56 11 65 97

- **La carte des colocs**
La carte des colocs is a website created by roommates during their university studies. They wanted to create a platform where they could put in touch people searching for a housing or for a roommate. The website will allow you to search for an apartment sharing in France’s biggest cities including Bordeaux. The website is 100% free.

**Link:** https://www.lacartedescolocs.fr/
**Contact:** contact@lacartedescolocs.fr

- **Erasmusu**
Erasmusu is a community platform allowing Erasmus and exchange students to meet their future friends and share among themselves information regarding housing, cities, universities and scholarships in France and abroad.

**Link:** https://erasmusu.com/?lang=en (homepage)
The website is also available in Dutch, Italian, German, Portuguese, Polish, Spanish and Turkish
**Contact:** info@erasmusu.com
You can also contact Erasmusu on Facebook and Twitter
**Studylease**

Studylease is an online solution allowing students to book their student housing with the help of agencies specialized in student apartment and residence management all over France. Studylease will help you filling out the forms and transmit them to the relevant bodies.


The website is also available in Spanish.

*Contact:* [http://www.studylease.com/contact](http://www.studylease.com/contact)

*Telephone:* +33 1 42 99 94 64

**Le Bon Coin**

Le Bon Coin is a commercial advertising website on which you can post and read adverts for free. It’s a website where you can sell, purchase and rent goods, services and even real properties. Le Bon Coin is France’s first free classifieds website.

*Link:* [https://www.leboncoin.fr/](https://www.leboncoin.fr/)

*Contact:* [https://www.leboncoin.fr/support/form/0?id=1&ca=12_s](https://www.leboncoin.fr/support/form/0?id=1&ca=12_s)

*Telephone:* +33 1 30 84 83 13

**Roomlala**

Roomlala is a platform that puts owners and tenants in touch for the rental of a room at the owner’s house. Roomlala gives you the opportunity to find a room during a medium or long period (studies, internship, mobility program…) in exchange of services such as keeping company to seniors, tutoring, etc. In a manner of speaking, it’s a medium and long stay Airbnb.


The website is also available in Dutch, German, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish.


In case you face a critical situation, some websites offer short period solutions.

**Bordeaux Youth Hostel (Auberge de jeunesse de Bordeaux)**

Bordeaux Youth Hostel welcomes young people all year long. It offers a bed (in a bedroom or in a dormitory) cheaper than a hotel: 24.50€ per night and per person. For 18/25 year olds studying or receiving training the price is even cheaper: 20.50€. They also have the possibility to rent a room for one night or a couple of months. All the prices include breakfast, the cost of the stay but also all the services the Hostel provides (collective kitchen, lockers, bike garage, Wi-Fi…). Possibility to make a reservation online. However, the Hostel does not aim to accommodate people for long stays. Hence the fact that the reservations are limited to three nights maximum and renewable on the spot according to the availabilities.


The website is also available in German, Italian and Spanish.


*Address:* 22 cours Barbey 33800 Bordeaux

*Telephone:* 05 56 33 00 70

**Yestudent**

Yestudent is a couch or room rental platform for students reaching a critical situation or for the ones who struggle to find a housing directly and who cannot afford to pay a hotel for one night. Indeed, rental prices on Yestudent are very low and affordable for students. Yet, this is a short-term solution. The website also allows students to travel and socialize with other students all around the world.

Solutions for a guarantor

In France, when you are about to find a housing, having a guarantor is fundamental. This stage can be sometimes difficult to the French, but it is even more difficult for foreigners. However, there is a guarantee – the VISALE guarantee – whose aim is to encourage young people’s autonomy and success by giving to them a better access to housing and by taking charge of unpaid rents. It is a free guarantee that lasts throughout the term of the rental lease (renewal included). Nonetheless, the rent, common charges included, must not exceed 1 500€ per month in Ile-de-France and 1 300€ for the remainder of the territory.

This guarantee concerns employees about to be hired or in a professional mobility, young people aged under 30 maximum (all profiles), scholarship students or not and students following a work-linked formation. European and non-European are also eligible, provided they are aged between 18 and 30. Non-European students must have a long-stay visa or residence permit (VLS-TS, visa long séjour valant titre de séjour). Students will not have to justify their financial resources provided the rent is inferior or equal to 425€.

The service is free for the owner and for the student. The procedure is 100% dematerialized. The application for a visa occurs online. Within a 48 hours delay you will obtain a certified visa that you would be able to download, print, and then transmit to the future lessor.

For more information go to: https://www.visale.fr/#/!
Contact form: https://www.visale.fr/#/contact

Just like French students, international students can benefit from financial aid and subsidies. We can mention for instance the Personalized Housing Assistance (APL) and the Social Housing...
Assistance (ALS) granted by the CAF – the French Family Allowance Fund (Caisse d’Allocations Familiales). For more information about the conditions and the application process go to the website of the CAF de la Gironde.

For more information go to: http://www.caf.fr/
You will find housing aid application tutorials in Chinese, English and Spanish at the very end of the following link: http://www.caf.fr/allocataires/actualites/2017/aide-au-logement-etudiant#en%20langues%20etrangeres

Lexicon

❖ A guarantor – garant in French – is a person who takes responsibility for you in case of financial concern. He or she will pay the tenant for you in case you face financial difficulties and cannot respect the agreement. In order to have an accommodation, you must have a guarantor.

❖ A deposit – caution in French – is a guarantee as well. Before entering in your housing a bail will be asked, it’s a security deposit the owner or rent organism may cash in case there’s a material damage caused in the housing during your lease period. If there are no material damages caused, he will give the bail back to you at the end of your lease.

Tips

1. You must pay attention to dishonest advertisers, including some homeowners. Therefore, we recommend that you make no reservation payment before having visited the accommodation or being sure the offer is authentic, nor before signing the lease.
2. Do not send a postal money order to an owner.
3. We recommend that you decline all proposals to pay by Western Union, PCF, PPCF or even PayPal.
4. You must be very careful when signing the lease on the inventory. When entering in the accommodation you must notify every malfunction, every stain you notice to the owner otherwise some of them may take this moment as an opportunity to cash the security deposit.
5. Always ask for a rent receipt after each payment made.
6. Do not trust any owner who declines to see you personally or sends you a third person.
7. Do not give your personal documents to everyone.