

PLAN YOUR TRIP

YOUR PLANNING TOOL KIT

Photos, itineraries, lists and suggestions to help you put together your perfect trip

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UNDERSTAND FRANCE

GET MORE FROM YOUR TRIP

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Every listing is recommended by our authors, and their favourite places are listed first

Look out for these icons:



Our author's top recommendation



A green or sustainable option



No payment required

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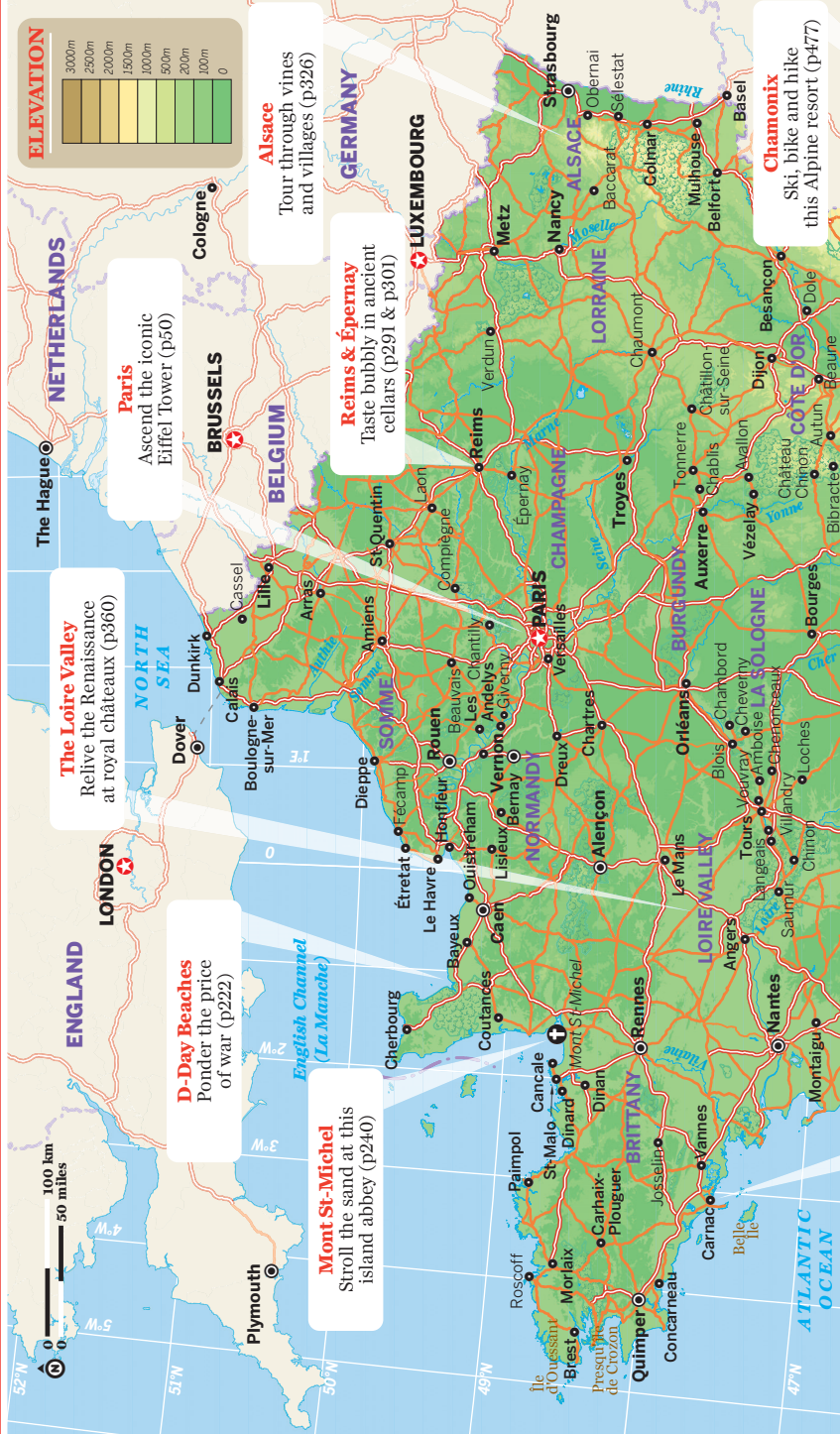
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Carnac

Cycle past mysterious megaliths (p275)

Dune du Pilat

Climb Europe's largest sand dune (p636)

Provence

Meander markets and hilltop villages (p756)

The Three Corniches

Drive a trio of coastal cliff-hangers (p860)

Lyon

Feast in France's gastronomic capital (p446)

Carcassonne

Linger in the spectacular walled city (p729)

Pont du Gard

See the highest aqueduct in the Roman Empire (p715)



To Corsica (50km, see inset)

Corsica

9°E

42°N

44°N

46°N

48°N

50°N

52°N

54°N

56°N

10°E

12°E

14°E

16°E

18°E

20°E

22°E

24°E

26°E

28°E

30°E

32°E

34°E

36°E

38°E

40°E

42°E

44°E

46°E

48°E

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600°E

602°E</



Jean-Bernard Carillet

Normandy, Burgundy Paris-based (and Metz-born) journalist and photographer Jean-Bernard was delighted to research his own turf. He has clocked up countless trips to all French regions and written extensively about Provence, the Basque Country, Brittany, Alsace, Corsica and, of course, Burgundy and Normandy. As a hopeless French gourmand, he confesses a pronounced penchant for *cuisine du terroir* and robust tipples (Pernand-Vergelesses and Gigondas being two of his favourites). Just after completing this project he set off to Beaujolais and Marais Poitevin.



Kerry Christiani

Champagne, Alsace & Lorraine, French Alps & the Jura Mountains Kerry has been travelling to France since her school days to brush up her *français*, which she studied to MA level. The high-altitude pull of the Alps, Alsace's sweet eccentricities and Champagne's wineries draw her back time and again. Kerry has authored some 20 guidebooks and frequently contributes to magazines, including *Olive*, *Lonely Planet Magazine* and bbc.com/travel. She tweets at @kerrychristiani and lists her latest work at www.kerrychristiani.com.

Read more about Kerry at:
lonelyplanet.com/members/kerrychristiani



Gregor Clark

Lille, Flanders & the Somme, The Loire Valley, Lyon & the Rhône Valley, Massif Central Gregor's love affair with France started on the midnight streets of Paris at age 14, when, jetlagged and culture-shocked, he ordered a crêpe and discovered that his high school Franglais actually elicited a response. He's been feeding his France obsession ever since, picking fruit on summers off from university, leading bike tours, and writing for *Lonely Planet* since 2000. Highlights of this research

trip include sharing his daughters' enthusiasm for their rented Loire Valley troglodyte house, and hiking the Massif Central.

Read more about Gregor at:
lonelyplanet.com/members/gregorclark



Emilie Filou

Provence, The French Riviera & Monaco Emilie was born in Paris but spent most of her childhood holidays roaming the south of France. She left France when she was 18 to go travelling and never quite made it back. She now lives in London, where she works as a freelance journalist specialising in development issues in Africa. She still goes to the Côte d'Azur every summer. See more of Emilie's work on www.emiliefilou.com; she tweets at @emiliefilou.

Read more about Emilie at:
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Catherine Le Nevez

Paris, Around Paris Catherine first lived in Paris aged four and she's been returning at every opportunity since, completing her Doctorate of Creative Arts in Writing, Masters in Professional Writing, and post-grad qualifications in Editing and Publishing along the way. Revisiting her favourite Parisian haunts and uncovering new ones is a highlight of this (and every) book. Catherine's writing on Paris includes numerous *Lonely Planet* guides to the city, country, continent and beyond.

Wanderlust aside, Paris remains her favourite city on earth.



OUR STORY

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Melbourne, London and Oakland, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse'.

OUR WRITERS



Nicola Williams

Coordinating Author, Plan Your Trip, Corsica, Understand, Survival Guide Author, travel writer and editorial consultant Nicola Williams has lived in France and written about it for more than a decade. From her hillside house on the southern shore of Lake Geneva, it's a quick and easy hop to the French Alps (call her a ski fiend...), Paris (art buff...), southern France (foodie...). She has worked on numerous titles for Lonely Planet, including *France, Discover France, Paris* and *Providence & the Côte d'Azur*. She blogs at tripalong.wordpress.com and tweets at @Tripalong.

Read more about Nicola at:
lonelyplanet.com/members/nicolawilliams



Oliver Berry

Limousin, the Dordogne & the Lot, The Pyrenees, Toulouse Area, Languedoc-Roussillon Oliver's French love affair began at the age of two, and he's since travelled right across L'Hexagone while contributing to several editions of Lonely Planet's *France* guide, amongst other books. Research highlights for this edition included hunting for truffles in the Dordogne, canoeing in the Gorges du Tarn and hiking to the Cirque de Gavarnie in the Pyrenees. He lives and works in Cornwall as a writer and photographer. You can see his latest work at www.oliverberry.com.

Read more about Oliver at:
lonelyplanet.com/members/oliverberry



Stuart Butler

Brittany, Atlantic Coast, French Basque Country Stuart's first encounters with southwest France came on family holidays. When he was older he spent every summer surfing off the beaches of the southwest until one day he found himself so hooked on the region that he was unable to leave – he has been there ever since. When not writing for Lonely Planet he hunts for uncharted surf on remote coastlines. The results of these trips appear frequently in the world's surf media.

His website is www.stuartbutlerjournalist.com.

Read more about Stuart at:
lonelyplanet.com/members/stuartbutler

OVER MORE
PAGE WRITERS

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