



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

WINTOUR SEMESTER 2

ISVV – BORDEAUX (France)



wintour

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INFORMATION PROVIDED BY CURRENT WINTOUR STUDENTS



1. VISA RECOMMENDATIONS AND OVERVIEW

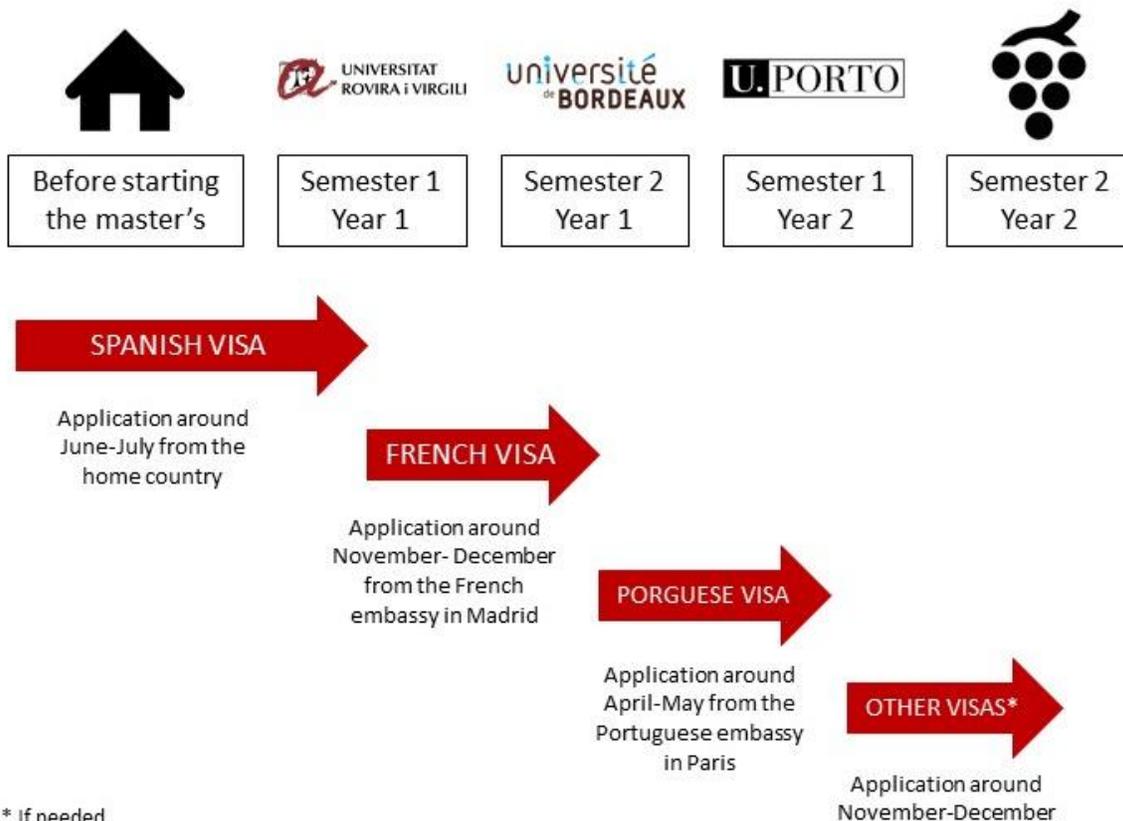
INFORMATION FOR STUDENT VISA OBTENTION

The entry and stay authorisations of [third-country participants](#) must be dealt with in coordination with the national authorities of the destination country.

The Directive on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of research, studies, training, voluntary service, pupil exchange schemes or educational projects and au pairing (Directive (EU) 2016/8013) provides that, **where all the general and relevant specific conditions are fulfilled, the third-country national is entitled to a residence permit or visa.**

Applications for authorisations must be submitted to the relevant authorities of the destination countries well in advance [*in this case: Spain (S1), France (S2) or Portugal (S3), for the teaching activities and the chosen country for developing the master thesis (S4)*]. **The process may take up to 90 days.** If there is no Consulate of the destination country in the student's country of residence, the student should contact the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the Immigration Office of the destination country to determine the responsible consulate.

VISA PROCEDURES - OVERVIEW



The [EU Immigration Portal](#) provides general information on visas and residence permits, both for short and long stays.

Generally speaking, Erasmus Mundus participants staying in the destination country for:

- **More than three months** need a long-stay visa.
- **Less than three months** need a short-stay visa.

The necessary documents to request the corresponding authorisation to enter and stay depend on the purpose of the stay and the rules of the destination country (regarding long stays).

RULES FOR LONG STAYS –MORE THAN 3 MONTHS

The same rules apply to countries of destination
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-EU national participants need a long-stay visa issued by the destination country. • Sometimes the destination country issues a residence permit replacing the long-stay visa once the non-EU national arrives in its territory. The rules differ depending on the length of the stay, the visa obtained in the country of origin and the destination country. The EU Immigration Portal contains links to the national authorities of the destination countries that are members of the EU. • If participants hold a residence permit or a long-stay visa issued by a Schengen area country, they can move within the Schengen area up to 90 days in any 180-day period. • Non-EU nationals travelling to a Schengen area country via another Schengen area country must make sure that they have a long-stay visa, or a residence permit issued by the destination country.

RULES FOR SHORT STAYS – LESS THAN 3 MONTHS

Country of Destination	Rules
<p><u>Members of the Schengen Area:</u> Austria, Belgium, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden</p>	<p>Depending on their nationality, non-EU nationals might need a short-stay visa ('Schengen visa'). Check if a visa is needed. In principle, Schengen visa holders can travel freely within the 26 Schengen area countries.</p> <p>The holder of a <u>single-entry visa</u> can enter the Schengen area only once. The holder of a <u>multiple-entry visa</u> can enter and leave the Schengen area as many times as they want during the validity period of the visa, while respecting the maximum period of allowed stay.</p> <p>General requirements to request a short-stay visa (this is an indicative list; harmonized lists can be found here):</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A completed and signed application form - A valid travel document and a photograph in the right format - Documentation related to the purpose of the trip. In this case, studies (<u>academic documentation provided by WINTOUR</u>) - Evidence of financial means to cover travel and stay (<u>award letters or certificates for EMJMD scholarship holders or other grantees – provided by WINTOUR</u>) - Documentation related to the accommodation - Travel medical insurance covering a minimum of €30,000 and valid for the entire Schengen area and for the duration of the stay (<u>insurance certificate provided by WINTOUR</u>). <p>An administrative fee (currently €60 in most cases) might be charged for visa application.</p> <p>Check the website of the competent destination country for detailed information. The EU Immigration Portal contains links to the national authorities of destination countries that are members of the EU.</p>
<p><u>Not members of the Schengen Area:</u> Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Ireland, Romania, United Kingdom, Turkey, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia</p>	<p>Depending on the rules of the country of destination, non-EU nationals might need a national short-stay visa.</p>

2. ACCOMMODATION AND INSTALLATION

WINTOUR students arrange their own accommodation in Bordeaux (in the city centre, close to La Victoire) or they are allocated to the University Bordeaux Residences.

Accommodation in Bordeaux is expensive:

- Sharing a flat: 400€-600€/month (all-inclusive)
- Living alone: 600€-800€/month (all-inclusive).

These rental prices are based on the average paid by last year's intake students.

Finding accommodation in Bordeaux is not easy. The first advice is to search information in advance as it is a city with a large population and with a significant growth of tourists – best European destination 2015!

Internet is the best source to find accommodation but be prepared to do phone calls (as it works better than email). It will be necessary some French skills, as not many people from Bordeaux are fluent in English.

CAF

Be aware that a proper contract with signatures is mandatory and in this case will help you to profit some financial aid from CAF – PUBLIC ALLOCATION FINANCIAL HELP. In case that you apply for this help, you must have all your documents and a lot of patience. The process is demanding and time consuming. In the welcome session, you will be informed of how this works (Agathe Lairy will help you on this matter). Have in mind that it is a small help, and not the same for everybody according to the age, profile, nationality, and other factors. Once again, a French speaker will have to be around.

We would advise you not to have expectations about the CAF funds. According to our sources, the distribution of the money is very random and most of us only received the money at the end of the semester. So, consider these funds as an extra and don't count on it for choosing your flat discounting on the price. The financial aid can go from 40€ to 100€. People staying at Airbnb can exclude this option.

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION (if needed)

- [Airbnb](#) around Corse de la Somme is cheap and you can find places 4/5 people.

USEFUL WEBSITES FOR FINDING FLATS

- [Le bon coin](#)

Airbnb and TripAdvisor also work well. WINTOUR students have found flats in Tarragona and Bordeaux in these platforms. Bordeaux landlord numbers from WINTOUR 2 will be provided in an Excel file.

LOCATIONS TO LIVE IN - CROUS

Village 1

- Located in Talence – half way from ISVV and center
- Close to Talence Campus
- Easy access by bus and tram B
- Small studios – private bathroom and small kitchenette with frigobar and stove

Residence Pierre et Marie Curie

- Flats with 4 rooms with private bathroom and shared kitchen
- Located in Talence
- Different room sizes for different prices

Village 5

- Located in Pessac
- Tram B close by
- Shared bathroom and kitchen

The prices will be between 300 and 400 euros. According to last year experiences, the best tip is to apply only for the ones you are interested in and not randomly. All of them have Wi-Fi and all the bills included. When reserving the room, you will have to pay a deposit that will be returned to you. All the students who stayed there had to buy kitchen tools and linens. Close to Talence or Pessac, there is a laundry where you can wash your clothes (3€ to wash, 1,5€ to dry and you can pay with the student card).

For applying to CROUS, you will need a guarantor. If you are under 28 years old, CROUS can help you in that matter. Otherwise, you will have to have a guarantor in Europe or pay all the rents at the beginning.

3. TRANSPORT

2.1. GETTING TO BORDEAUX

- **Plane** - *Ryanair* and *Vueling* have daily flights. We recommend buying them in advance. From the airport to the centre takes around 45min and the ticket is very cheap. In case you are familiar to the ESN - ERASMUS STUDENT NETWORK –, you can get in contact

with them and ask for an ESN card which will grant you a 15% discount on Ryanair flights with free checked luggage up to 20kg. In Tarragona there is no ESN office but there is one in Barcelona. In case you are European, you might be lucky and find one office in your hometown.

- **Bus** - there are buses between Barcelona and Bordeaux for 37€ euro overnight. It's more suitable for people with a lot of luggage. You will arrive to a train station close to the Tram C



2.2. GETTING AROUND BORDEAUX

Bordeaux is a very flat city so most of people use bikes to go everywhere. You can buy a second-hand bike in *Leboncoin* website (same as for accommodation). It should suite you for the time you stay there. Prices range between 50€ and 150€. The most important tip we can give you about bikes is to also BUY A "U" LOCK. The amount of bikes stolen everyday is big and with these locks you will be safer. You can find this equipment on Decathlon. At the end of the semester, you can easily sell it.

There is a public system in which you can take the bike in a station and deliver it in another place for 30€ per month with a deposit of 200€. It is a very useful system, used and recommended by many of us.

So, the two options for biking in Bordeaux are:

- 1) Buy a bike on a website like leboncoin.com and sell it when you leave. In this case, make sure that you buy a good lock and avoid parking it outside overnight because bike stealing is pretty common in a big city like Bordeaux.
- 2) Use the Vcub, the bike from the city. You can take the bike and return it to any of the several Vcub stations of the city. You have to buy the card for 33€/year on infotbm.com.

The office of TBM (transports of Bordeaux--suitable for public bike renting or bus/tram ticket), where you can find someone who speaks English, is in Gambetta.

Besides the bike, the tram and the bus can help you to move around the city. Tram B and bus 20 or 83 will take you to ISVV or very close to it - the schedules can be every 20min. In case that you use these transports every day, you should take a month card for around 30€.

Make sure you don't ride your bike on the tram rail :)

4. MOBILE PHONES/INTERNET

Most of the students kept the same PHONE COMPANY / SIM CARD as in Spain since nowadays the roaming system makes it easier in Europe. In case you need more data, *Lyca Phone* is a good option, as the SIM CARD is for free and you only need to charge it with 15€ for 5G. Regarding the *Wi-Fi*, it is available everywhere but keep in mind that if the contract of your flat or CROUS does not include the contract a company a new router and system, it is quite difficult due to the documentation process and it is also expensive, besides the 6 months of loyalty requirements.

5. WEATHER

The weather in Bordeaux is very unpredictable. It can be very sunny or cloudy, but you should expect rain at any moment. Your raincoat should be always with you and you should pack winter clothes for the first months. When the sun is shining, you will see the parks and the riverfront full of people, drinking and eating outside. You could do the same :)

6. SPORTS

The city is perfect for runners, as you can run along the river. There are some marathons around the city and some of them are at night which is pretty unique. If you are more into collective sports, the University can help you. You will be welcome to play at the main campus. For gym lovers, we recommend Basic Fit, with pretty cheap fees (35€). You can go at any hour to any of their facilities around the city. They have several gyms.

7. OTHER TIPS/SUGGESTIONS

7.1. AROUND BORDEAUX

The city is full of bars and a good atmosphere. The Happy hour usually goes from 17h to 20h. The HMS was very frequented by us and, on Thursdays, the happy hour lasted all night (make sure to take your student card). After 23:00, keep in mind that there is nothing open to eat except the kebab and the KFC but we can share a secret with you: near the square of La Victoire, there is a bakery open all night long :)

Supermarkets usually close on Sunday afternoon. Make sure to visit the Capucin market for some shopping and oysters. You will attend classes at Ecole Du Vin which has also a bar and besides a

constantly changing wine menu they practice the cheapest prices in town. You can find a Clément for 3€ à glass. In Bordeaux, where else? Make sure to follow the cultural activities of the city, where you can find some things for free, including free museums on Mondays.

7.2. RESTAURANTS/WINE BARS

Santosha	The bad mother fucker
Kokomo	The Rock School
Dick Turpins	Central Brazil
Peppone	House of Parliament
Café Japonais	Quartier Libre

La cité du vin

This place is one of the highlights of the city. You will go there with the university but make sure to spend more time there, as it's a very interesting museum and full of workshops. Once in a while they do presentations and tastings from different countries, including yours :), for a price around 25€.

While in BDX, make sure to attend *La fête de la musique* and *La fête du vin* in June. The first is a weekend wine festival: full of winemakers, wine tastings, environmental and networking. It's a very good wrap for the learning achievement at ISVV. The second weekend is a very special holiday that brings everyone to the street to listen music. You should not miss it!

7.3. MAIN ATTRACTIONS CLOSE BY

Aquitaine is much more than Bordeaux so, during your free time, make sure you travel to the Arcacoon coast and the Dune du pillar, which is the biggest in Europe. Besides this very touristic place, there are other areas to explore, such as the Carcans Plage or the Lacanau. Very close to the city, using your bike or a bus, you can discover on your own some of the châteaux in the closer appellations - the case of Pessac.

In case you like snow sports, if you rent a car you should also visit the Pyrenees. The resorts are open until mid-April. Last year's students had a lot of fun there.



8.TIPS ABOUT UNVERSITY

University MEALS

The ISVV does not have a canteen, only a food truck outside with some snacks. We would highly recommend that you have lunch at the University (eating indoors or outdoors).

Health Center

BORDEAUX University has a very good health care system. Just with your student card in case you need nurse care or a general appointment you can have it there for very low costs or even completely covered. For something more specific, you should go to a private center where you will probably be able to use your insurance.

WINTOUR adventure keeps going!



