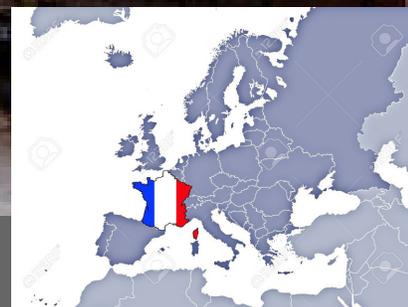
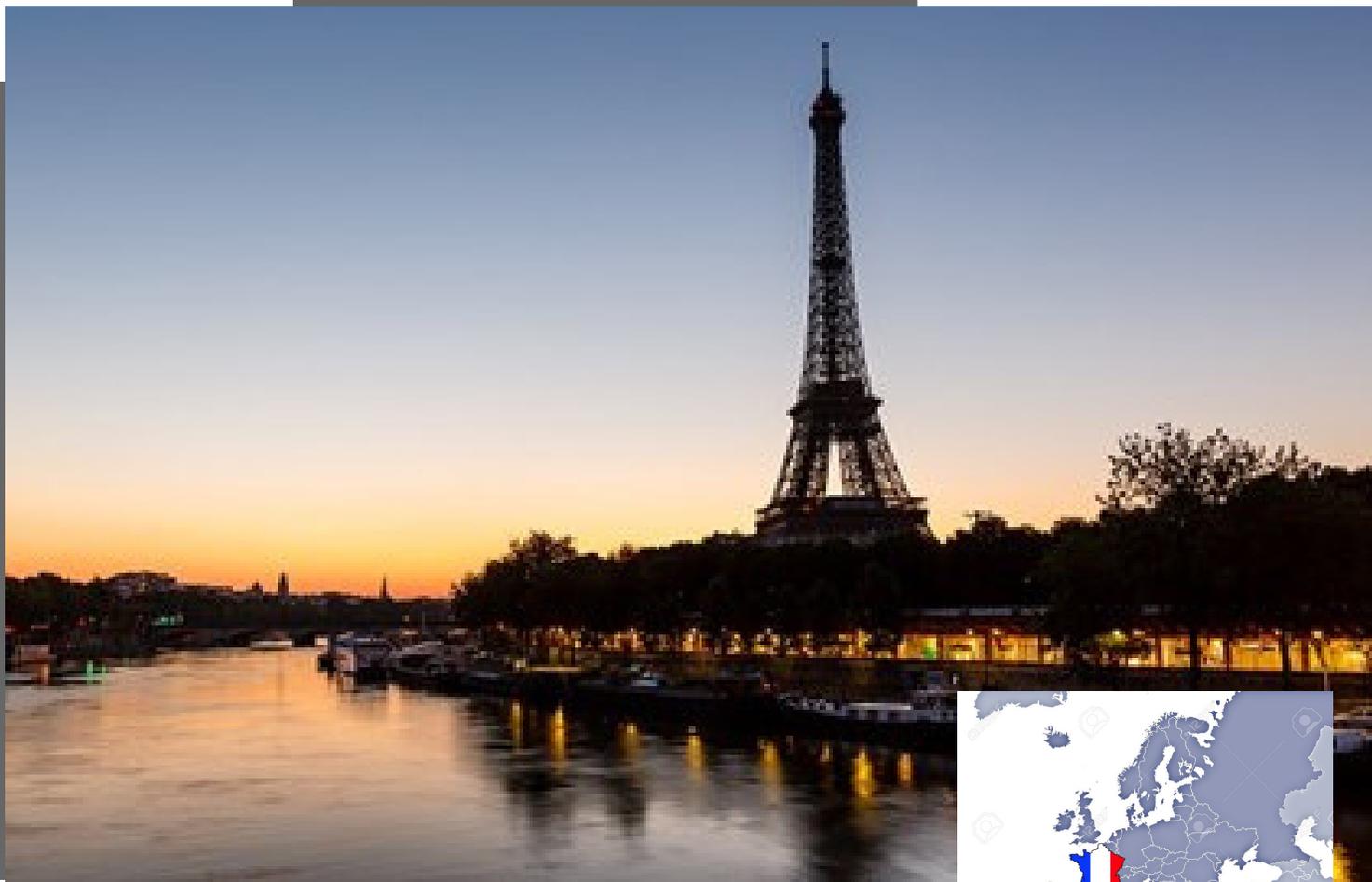


## FRANCE



## Basic info

**Member State of the EU since:**

**25 March 1957**

**Capital: Paris**

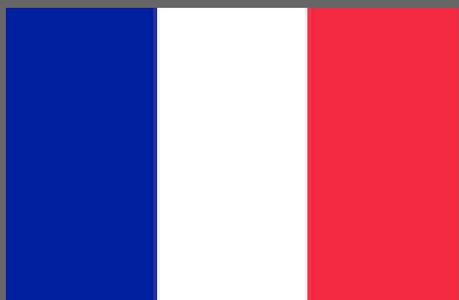
**Geographical size: 643 801 Km<sup>2</sup>**

**Population: 65 630 692**

**Coin: euro**

The most important capes are the Hague and the tip of the Raz, and the most important gulfs the Lion in the Mediterranean, the Gascony (or Vizcaya), Saint-Malo and the Bay of the Seine in the Cantabric.

France is in the western part of the European continent. France is a country located on the western edge of Europe, bordered by the Bay of Biscay (North Atlantic Ocean) in west, by the English Channel in north west, by the North Sea in north, by Belgium and Luxembourg in north east, by Germany, Switzerland and Italy in east, by the Mediterranean Sea, Monaco, Spain and Andorra in south. France shares also maritime borders with the United Kingdom. France also compares its borders with Spain, with Andorra and with the Cantabrian Sea, to the East with the borders of Luxembourg, Germany and Switzerland, the French insular territory corresponds to the Western Mediterranean to the island of Corsica, as well as to diverse Colonies along Of the archipelagos of the Atlantic Ocean.



# FRANCE

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## ▼ History

France is one of the middle states of Europe, although it only appears with such name from the Average Age. In the past France was recognized as Gaul, although Gaul occupied a slightly larger European area than the present-day France. During the European history France fought against many European countries. The most famous French emperors were: Charles I "The Great", Louis XIV "The Sun King", and Napoleon I Bonaparte "The Great".

## ▼ Culture in France

France has been a centre of Western cultural development for centuries. Many French artists have been among the most renowned of their time, and France is still recognised in the world for its rich cultural tradition.

In France there are 1,200 museums welcoming more than 50 million people annually. The most important cultural sites are run by the government, for instance through the public agency Centre des monuments nationaux, which is responsible for approximately 85 national historical monuments.

The 43,180 buildings protected as historical monuments include mainly residences (many castles, or châteaux in French) and religious buildings (cathedrals, basilicas, churches, etc.), but also statutes, memorials and gardens. The UNESCO inscribed 41 sites in France on the World Heritage List

## ▼ Economy

France is the sixth world economy with a very high cultural diffusion in the international context. It is a member of the G8, the Eurozone and the Schengen area, and houses many of the most important multinational companies, leaders in various sectors of industry and the primary sector, as well as being the world's first tourist destination with 83 million of foreign visitors per year.



## ▼ Eiffel tower

The Eiffel Tower is a metal structure built on the Champ de Mars near the Seine in Paris. It is the highest building in Paris and is one of the world's most famous symbols. The tower is named after its builder Gustav Eiffel. This 324 meter high and 10,100 tons of architectural dominance was put into operation in 1889 as a so-called "World honesty" and has become an attraction of the capital. More than 243 million tourists visited it.



## FRANCE TEAM

Leonor Aparicio  
Nina Slavkovská  
Artemisia Miropoulou  
Agapi Kalivi