

Bonjour chers collègues,

The French Traveler offers professional development workshops every summer in France for teachers of French. Attended by language teachers from many different regions, the *stages* focus on the contemporary issues of France, making French culture more accessible to you and consequently to your students. Morning seminars and afternoon excursions occupy our days; leisure time and optional activities fill in the gaps. The seminars cover topics and themes included in the syllabus for advanced studies of French. We speak only French; we dine together in restaurants selected for their authenticity. We also laugh a lot. When we're not engaged in animated discussions about France today, we're collectively pooling ideas for new lesson plans or spending our free time in the museums and bookstores we've been longing to visit.

The 2013 *stage intensif* will be held in two cities, Lille, France and Brussels, Belgium, both with grand historical and geographical importance. Recently renovated when chosen as Europe's cultural center in 2002, Lille is a lively metropolis filled with colorful, architecturally exuberant buildings, welcoming public squares, excellent food choices, and a warm, friendly population which welcomes visitors. Brussels needs no introduction: the capital of the European parliament and center of *francophonie* in a bilingual country, it bursts with energy, architectural gems, and intellectual stimuli.

Lodgings for the *stage* are in the heart of each city, within walking distance of restaurants, bookstores, boutiques, and transportation. Our seminars are held in the hotels.

For the sixteenth consecutive summer, we're proud to present an outstanding class leader to guide us in our discussions and pedagogical pursuits. Instructor Camille Limbourg, who teaches World History at the Ecole Internationale de Lille, will stimulate your inquiry into intercultural issues which are bound to have an impact on your lesson plans next fall. You may earn 85 *Massachusetts professional development hours* for your efforts. Consult the website for further details.

To continue your immersion in the language and culture of France and Belgium, choose to extend your stay in the area. *Il y a tant de choses à voir et à faire!*

Come stretch your limits with us. Register early; space is limited. *Venez vivre à la française!*

Testimonials

"[Our instructor] was absolutely wonderful! Always prepared with superb presentation style. Great, useful materials."

Roseann Loreface, 2004, 2012: SUNY, Cortland NY

"I will be able to make good use of the ideas and materials from our stage. The themes corresponding to the AP classes was a great idea! The suggestions of songs and films were particularly helpful."

Sherri Queen 2012, Tampa Preparatory, Tampa, FL

Valerie Sutter
Director, *The French Traveler*



About the French Traveler

Valerie Sutter, Founder and Director, created The French Traveler in 1998 as an immersion program for language teachers who wish to improve lesson plans and enable their students to better prepare for today's language challenges. Increasing fluency in French language and deepening cultural awareness is the major goal of the program. A teacher for 30 years, Valerie lived and studied in France, taught high school French on various continents, and continues as Director of The French Traveler to explore all regions of France. Passionate about cultural acquisition and language immersion as the means of understanding both culture and self, she is fluent in French and Portuguese and has a modest command of Spanish. She resides in France half the year.

The French Traveler Advisory Board

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Lille/Bruxelles 14-25 juillet 2013

Dimanche 14 juillet

Bienvenue à Lille! Arrive at our hotel today and settle in. In the early evening, we'll get acquainted with the rhythm of this historical city and dine in one of Lille's renowned restaurants in the heart of town, the *Grand'Place*. We plan to catch a glimpse of the fireworks given in honor of the French *fête nationale*. DINNER

Lundi 15 juillet

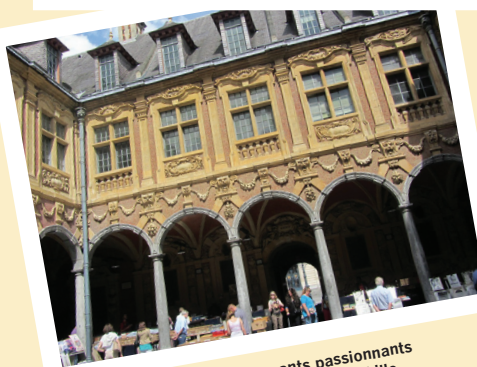
La ville: [*esthétique: le patrimoine*] To help us better understand our new surroundings, a morning overview of the history of this complex, important region by our private guide, a historian from the Tourist Office. After a *déjeuner en ville*, we'll put that perspective to use in a walking tour of the city, learning "Ch'ti" as we go. LUNCH

Mardi 16 juillet

La politique française & européenne: [*défis mondiaux*] How exactly is France run? How is a president elected? How does France fit into the European Union? What are the inner workings of the EU, and what goes on in Brussels vs. Strasbourg? We'll discuss these and other *questions du jour*. Afternoon visit to a distinctly different kind of museum in nearby Roubaix, where art meets politics. LUNCH

Mercredi 17 juillet*

Le nord & la guerre: [*défis mondiaux, patrimoine*] From the battle of Waterloo in 1815, to the two devastating wars of the twentieth century, the north of France and south of Belgium have been at the heart of European quarrels. Great French statesmen such as Napoleon and Charles de Gaulle have fought hard to win the people's hearts, vowing never to resort to war again.



top: Des intervenants passionnants
bottom: La Vieille Bourse Lille

A fascinating look at war, carnage, and the emergence of peace. Visit to Vauban's remarkable 17th century citadel, a living monument to security and fortification, still occupied by the French army.

MEALS AT LEISURE

Jeudi 18 juillet* †

Journée libre. [*patrimoine*]

Faites la grasse matinée and roam the city on your own today, or join us as we explore *les alentours de Lille*: Ypres, Cassel, and the countryside. Despite the heart-wrenching destruction caused here by battles, the area remains beautiful, its countryside restored and its town centers rebuilt.

We'll visit some unexpected

sites in and around both areas, and we'll stop in the surprising Bassin Minier on the way home. MEALS AT LEISURE

Vendredi 19 juillet

Le système scolaire: [*famille & communauté*] What classroom struggles do teachers in France face? How does the French national curriculum compare to the US state-supported structures? What about French adolescents: are they any different from the ones we teach? A close look at France's educational system, with colleagues from one of the most prestigious lycées in Lille to discuss this subject with us. Tonight, we plan to have you hosted, in pairs, by a French family for dinner, a special treat for travelers from abroad. DINNER



Le parlement européen Bruxelles

Samedi 20 juillet

L'immigration en France:

[*défis mondiaux; la citoyenneté*] This thorny subject is the focus of many intense debates in France, and Lille is home to a large

immigrant population. We'll discuss one of Lille's many organizations to see how the city works with and integrates its immigrant population, and sample a delicious coucous for lunch. Free afternoon. LUNCH

Dimanche 21 juillet

Stylistique & bourse aux idées pédagogiques: Travaillons notre français! [sciences & technologies] A morning in the classroom for us teachers: *exercices de style, faux amis, connotations poétiques, nouvelles technologies.* You'll have a chance to demonstrate one of your best classroom successes. We'll leave for Bruxelles after lunch and settle into our new hotel before setting off to explore the heart of this exciting cosmopolitan city. Today is the Belgian *fête nationale*: we hope to experience another *feu d'artifice*, the second in one week, given in the gardens of the Royal Palace. DINNER



Marché Wazemmes, Lille

Lundi 22 juillet

Getting to know you: Discovery of Brussels this morning, on foot and by bus, visiting the colorful *murs peints* that decorate the city. As Bruxelles is one of the European centers for *les bandes dessinées*, we'll visit to the bibliothèque/musée of Georges Rémi—"Hergé"—the famous creator of the cartoon character Tintin. LUNCH

Mardi 23 juillet*

Brussels is of the center of the European Union, so a visit to the European Parliament is *de rigueur*. We'll participate in an unusual role-play game in European politics, handling a case study as if we were the representatives from the various European countries. Take the afternoon to browse the many bookshops and literary outlets which adjoin the Parliament, an incredible gold mine for your students. MEALS AT LEISURE

Mercredi 24 juillet †

Join us today on an optional trip to the picturesque canal town of Bruges, returning mid-afternoon, or spend the day exploring Brussels on your own. Gala dinner in a delightful setting. DINNER

Jeudi 25 juillet

Departure is always bittersweet. Hopefully, you can prolong your stay in either France or Belgium. There is much to see and do to continue your *immersion complète dans la langue française*.

* = meals at your leisure
† = extra cost

TRIVIAL PURSUIT: LA FRANCOPHONIE DU NORD Venez découvrir avec nous les réponses aux questions suivantes

LILLE

- 1) Combien de gares SNCF y a-t-il à Lille, et quelles sont les différences entre ces gares ?
- 2) Comment s'appellent les collines autour de Lille ?
- 3) Quelle est la deuxième langue souvent parlée à Lille ?
- 4) Historiquement terre industrielle, de commerce et d'agriculture, Lille aujourd'hui porte quelle importance à la région du nord ?
- 5) On parle encore un vieux patois qui s'appelle.... ? Que veut dire, dans cette langue haute en couleur, «biloute» ? «ti'z'aute» ? «cayelle» ? «acater» ?

BRUXELLES

- 1) Comment circule-t-on à Bruxelles ?
- 2) Bruxelles n'est-elle qu'une ville de bureaucrates ?
- 3) Quelle langue parle-t-on à Bruxelles ?
- 4) Quels sont les meilleurs cadeaux à rapporter de Bruxelles ?
- 5) Quel est le meilleur endroit pour aller chiner le dimanche matin à Bruxelles ?
- 6) Comment s'appelle l'édifice symbolisant l'Europe avec un grand «E» ? Il a été détrôné par quel édifice, surnommé le «Caprice des Dieux» ?



La porte de Paris, Lille



Quelle heure est-il ?



Le passage Alcide

Registration 2013 Workshop Lille/Bruxelles

Please print out the complete registration form from our website,
www.frenchtraveler.com
or mail us this card and we will send you the registration form

Name:

Address:

E-mail:

Telephone:



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IMMERSION WORKSHOP. Please refer to the website for more detailed information.
Lille & Brussels, July 14-25, 2013, \$2850 land only, DBL occupancy. Alumni discount: \$2700. Optional visits may be cancelled if the minimum number of people is not attained, in which case participants will be refunded.
- Day trip around Lille, \$99; day trip to Bruges, \$99.
- Single supplement: \$699;
- Extra night hotel in Lille on 7/13/13 or 7/25/13 \$149 per person or \$200 DBL occupancy
Transportation to and from the workshop is the responsibility of the individual. We prefer payment by check or money order only, please, but can accept payment via paypal.
Inclusions
All lodgings in DBL accommodations in deluxe hotel in center of Lille & Brussels•all breakfasts and other meals where noted•all guided tours•introductory & farewell cocktails•entrance fees and transportation to scheduled locations•tips, taxes, & service charges for all group activities. Please consult website regarding roommate & SGL supplement policies.
Exclusions
International airfare•meals on days marked with an asterisk•all beverages except at breakfast, welcome & farewell dinners•accident/baggage/trip cancellation insurance•any activities not scheduled in

program•optional activities•laundry, dry cleaning or valet service•phone, fax
Registration
Download registration form from website and send it with your deposit of \$650 to **The French Traveler, Inc.**, 1825 Ponce de Leon Blvd #346, Coral Gables, FL 33134. Deadline for reservations: March 25, 2013. Balance due April 25, 2013. Payment by check only, please. Registration minimum 10, maximum 28 participants. Registration after March 25, 2013 will incur the single supplement if we are unable to find a roommate for you.
Massachusetts Professional Development Hours. Please consult website for details.
Cancellation Policy
Cancellations must be made in writing before April 24, 2013. Deposits are refundable, less \$200 per person, until April 24, 2013. No refunds of either deposit or balance after April 25, 2013 under any circumstances.
The French Traveler strongly recommends the purchase of trip cancellation insurance.
Eligibility
The **Lille-Bruxelles '13** immersion workshop is open to language teachers and/or administrators, librarians, school board officials, members of language associations who speak French at an intermediate level or better; Francophone spouses and family members over 23 are also welcome. We discourage the use of

the English language at all times.
Participant responsibility
We will gladly discuss details of workshop with you. We expect that you read the pre-departure information and be in sufficient good health to undertake the trip. We use public transportation in Europe and walk at length, sometimes on bumpy cobblestone streets or on narrow sidewalks. We take metros and buses in cities and hire coach buses for our outside excursions. While this contributes to the charm of the experience, it requires the participant to be in good physical condition. Air conditioning in Europe is not as widespread as it is in the US, and hotel rooms are smaller. We focus on absorbing French culture and expect our participants to do their best to adapt to France: *vive la différence!* If you have certain dietary or other restrictions, please ascertain beforehand that we are able to accommodate you. Vegetarian diets can usually be adapted, but we regret that our chefs cannot accommodate a vegan diet.
Organizer Responsibility
The French Traveler has exercised careful consideration with regard to the safety and well being of participants. We can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any airplane, automobile, train, cable car, motor coach, metro or other conveyance, or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged

in conveying passengers in carrying out the arrangements of these programs. We accept no responsibility for baggage, losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, force majeure, or other causes beyond our control; such losses or expenses will be borne by the passenger, as tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make alterations to this itinerary as deemed necessary, or to cancel this program prior to departure, in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation. We reserve the right to decline any person deemed inappropriate for the program, and to change or substitute any activities described above for reasons of inclement weather, unforeseen circumstances, acts of nature or inconveniences or reasons beyond our control. No refund will be made for any unused portion of this program. **The French Traveler** accepts no liability for any carrier's cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable ticket connected with the program. Program price based on exchange rate in September 2012; if euro/dollar rate reaches or exceeds 1 E = \$1.30 by April 25, 2013, a \$200 surcharge will be required of all participants, regardless of registration date.



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Recommended by the
Eastern Massachusetts
chapter of AATF



L'exubérance de l'architecture flammande

Lille/Bruxelles 14-25 juillet 2013 Séjour d'immersion culturelle et linguistique pour professeurs de français



On s'amuse beaucoup!