



THE FRENCH TRAVELER STAGE D'IMMERSION NANTES & LA BRETAGNE SUD 9-20 JUILLET 2021

[Blue italics indicate the AP themes which our course is incorporating.]

vendredi 09 juillet

Bienvenue à Nantes! Apéritif d'accueil in our new surroundings and welcome dinner in one of Nantes's inviting restaurants along the Loire River.

DÎNER

samedi 10 juillet

La ville [l'esthétique: le patrimoine]

We'll start today's activities a bit later to help ease the jet lag. With our private guide, we'll learn about the history of this fascinating city, administratively part of the Loire-Atlantique but culturally and historically attached to la Bretagne. Afternoon *balade dans la ville* will help us discover the delightful *coins et recoins de cette ville*. Take the rest of the afternoon to rest or explore on your own.

LUNCH

dimanche 11 juillet

Nantes à l'ombre des anneaux de la mémoire (Nantes et le commerce triangulaire) [le patrimoine]

Nantes is the first city in France to have openly recognized its discreditable role in the slave trade, which enriched the city in the eighteenth century. Nantes gradually became the largest port in France after the establishment of French colonies and was responsible for nearly half of the 18th-century French Atlantic slave trade. We'll learn about this in detail this morning, and this afternoon we will visit the 18th and 19th century quartiers de Nantes, including the memorial dedicated to the slave trade located along the banks of the Loire.

LUNCH

lundi 12 juillet

L'immigration, une longue histoire [la famille et la communauté]

We'll continue in the classroom with France's complicated history of immigration, covering such topics as *laïcité*, present-day assimilation/integration, and the teaching of French to immigrants. We'll punctuate the lesson with an afternoon visit to the Musée d'histoire de Nantes in the imposing Château des Ducs de Bretagne, right in the heart of town.

LUNCH

mardi 13 juillet*

Journée libre ou Vannes [l'esthétique: le patrimoine]

You're free to roam Nantes as you like or come with us as we set off to discover the town of **Vannes**, both a thriving urban center and a desirable tourist destination in the summer, with its beautifully preserved ramparts and medieval *ruelles*. Over a two-day period at this time of year, Vannes celebrates *les fêtes historiques de Vannes*, with folk dances, jugglers, musicians *à l'honneur*. *Ambiance assurée !*

MEALS AT LEISURE

mercredi 14 juillet

Travail sur le français & Braderie d'idées [la quête de soi]

Our facilitator's specialty in teaching French to immigrants in France will provide rich material about la Francophonie for working on our own lesson plans. This is also perfect opportunity for teachers to share which ideas work best in the curriculum, and together, we can work on ways to bring the things we've discovered in Nantes into our own classrooms. Afternoon visit to nearby St-Nazaire, a thriving port town and center of ship building in France. You'll have a rail ticket to return to Nantes at your leisure, so you can spend the afternoon and evening on the boardwalk or the beach if you choose.

LUNCH

jeudi 15 juillet

Finissez vos phrases & Jeux littéraires *[la quête de soi]* .

We'll work our own French language skills today, using literature and advanced exercises designed to improve and increase our fluency. Free time this afternoon to finish up your exploration of Nantes before we head deep into the Breton countryside. We'll bid au revoir to our facilitator this evening.

DÎNER

vendredi 16 juillet

Quimper ! *[l'esthétique: le patrimoine]*

We'll shift gears today as we make our way to the Finistère. Our home for four nights will be the quintessentially Breton city of Quimper, whose beauty and authenticity were mercifully spared during the war. Classified *ville d'art et d'histoire*, Quimper is not only a winner of the coveted *ville fleurie* prize, it also boasts a magnificent Gothic cathedral, a genuine working *faïencerie*, numerous *crêperies*, and a lovely river walk. We'll arrive by early afternoon, in time for a *visite guidée* to acclimate ourselves to our new surroundings, followed by dinner in a renowned *crêperie*.

DÎNER

samedi 17 juillet*

Journée libre ou Landévennec & Locronan. *[l'esthétique: le patrimoine]*

One of the advantages of Quimper is its geographic proximity to many of Brittany's most unique places. Two stunning spots to be discovered today as we head north from Quimper : the adorable little hamlet of Landévennec located on the *rade de Brest* with its magnificent ruins of a 9th century Benedictine abbey and a poignantly beautiful *cimetière des marins*, overlooking the sea. Afternoon in the picturesque village of Locronan, a beautifully preserved medieval town where the movie *Tess* was filmed. We'll end our wanderings today at a *distillerie artisanal de cidre et lambig: visite et dégustation*. *Bonheur assuré!*

MEALS AT LEISURE

dimanche 18 juillet*

Journée libre ou Pont Aven *[l'esthétique: le patrimoine]*

Come along with us today to tour another jewel of *la Bretagne sud*: **Pont Aven**, considered a painter's haven and a boater's joy. First discovered by American artists in the 19th c, it soon attracted French impressionists. A charismatic local guide from the village will help us enjoy the delights of this town: the *moulins*, the restaurants, the forest, the artists. A picture-perfect outing.

MEALS AT LEISURE

lundi 19 juillet

Journée libre, entièrement *[esthétique: le patrimoine]*

To give you time to fully explore Quimper today, you'll be free all day until dinner. A remarkable *Musée départemental breton* is well worth a visit, as well as a (free) guided tour through the still-working *faïencerie* and the *biscuiterie* on which Quimper bases its renown. And then of course there is loads of shopping—all those little personalized china bowls make a wonderful gift.

DÎNER

mardi 20 juillet

Departure if you must, is always bittersweet, and we encourage you to stay longer in France if you can. There are so many options for delightful extensions nearby; rent a car and motor through the rest of Brittany, its wild and rocky coastline, its quaint towns full of history and authenticity.

mardi 20 juillet* *[esthétique: le patrimoine]*

An exceptional extension to our trip is offered today to visit the famous *menhirs* near Carnac. We'll leave Quimper early, wander through the towns of Carnac and Trinité-sur-Mer, then have a private visit of the breathtaking *menhirs*. Mystery, history, and gremlins promised! A magical world from thousands of years before our era, still not entirely understood, but majestic to behold. Last night will be spent in Auray, with its adorable Port St-Goustan and alluring boutiques, before final departure *demain*.

LUNCH INCLUDED

*extra cost