



THE FRENCH TRAVELER STAGE D'IMMERSION LILLE 2023

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

lundi 10 juillet

Bienvenue à Lille! Apéritif d'accueil in our new surroundings and welcome dinner in one of Lille's inviting restaurants in the heart of town, a traditional *estamminet*. **DÎNER**

mardi 11 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 importance of the role Lille played in the history of France, and its place as a crossroads of the northern region for centuries. Afternoon *balade* will help us discover the delightful *coins et recoins de cette ville*. Take the remainder of the afternoon to explore the city or rest. **DÉJEUNER**

mercredi 12 juillet

L'éducation et le nouveau bac *[l'éducation et l'enseignement]*

Recent reforms in the education system concern all of France's students, and we'll have a look today at how this impacts teaching in French schools. You'll even be able to study a genuine copy of a *baccalauréat* exam and compare it to our high school exams. An afternoon visit with French teaching colleagues will elucidate the schoolroom situations faced by our counterparts in France. **DÉJEUNER**

jeudi 13 juillet

La francophonie d'ailleurs : bonjour la Belgique ! *[la famille et la communauté]*

With its close proximity to the Belgian border, it is normal for the Lillois to visit their neighbor, as we will do tomorrow. A close look at this country, quite different in its political structure to France, and we'll do a comparison with the French political system as well. Afternoon visit to test Lille's best breweries! **DÉJEUNER**

vendredi 14 juillet*

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

Take the day for yourself today or join us in an outing to our multi-cultural neighbor to the north, Brussels. Home to NATO and seat of the European Union, Bruxelles is a vibrant, multi-lingual city with a remarkable past and stimulating present. We'll take an early train to the city and then be shown around by a highly entertaining guide. After a lunch together, you're free to wander around a bit or join us on a walk to see the city's famous B.D. street art and visit some excellent beer brasseries as well. **DÉJEUNER INCLUS**

samedi 15 juillet

La politique : *[le pluriculturalisme]*

After an overview of France's current political culture—quite turbulent!—we'll turn to a comparison of the French and the American governments, with lessons learned from both systems. An afternoon visit to the native home of the man who created *la 5e république*: Charles de Gaulle who was born and raised in Lille.

REPAS LIBRES

Dimanche 16 juillet*

Journée libre ou Bruges *[la quête de soi, le patrimoine]*

An optional visit to one of our neighboring country's most charming towns, Bruges in Belgium. We'll travel there by train, enjoy a delightful boat ride on its famous canals, then spend the rest of day at leisure to shop and wander. Visit any of the excellent museums and feast on Flemish cuisine. Don't forget to leave room in your suitcase to pack the many specialties of this town: exquisite lace products and mouth-watering chocolates.

REPAS LIBRES

lundi 17 juillet

Travaillons notre français et la braderie d'idées. *[l'esthétique: le patrimoine]*

Spend the morning at leisure or join an optional cooking course. You'll not only learn to prepare a Flemish meal, you'll also consume it. Then, this afternoon, come prepared to participate with your best classroom ideas and bring enough copies for the whole group. Tonight, you'll spend an optional evening dining with a French family *chez eux*, a rare treat for foreigners, in which case you'll be paired off two by two.

DÎNER

mardi 18 juillet*

Journée libre ou Bergues et Dunkerque. *[l'esthétique: le patrimoine]*

Take some leisure time today or come with us as we explore the town made famous by the 2008 film by Dany Boon, *Bienvenue chez les Ch'tis*. We'll take a tour of the places made famous during the movie, then have lunch in a restaurant saluted during the film. Because Bergues is only 10 kms from the sea, we'll motor over to Dunkerque this afternoon for some leisure time in that town. Enjoy the beaches or the many museums for which the town is famous.

DEJEUNER

INCLUS

mercredi 19 juillet

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

Spend your final day in Lille buying those last-minute purchases you've been intending to make or visiting the museums or bookstores we didn't have time to see. We'll say goodbye to our seminar leader this evening at our final dinner.

DÎNER DE CLÔTURE

jeudi 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 the northern area, as its towns are full of history and authenticity often marked by the scars of the wars which tore through here in the last century.