ESCP

Founded in 1819, ESCP is the oldest business school in the world. While the school offers various of programs in 6 different campuses throughout the Europe, perhaps the most famous programs of the school are the Executive MBA and the Grandes écoles program of *Master in Management*. ESCP offers 35 specializations for Master in Management, including the solid specializations in *Finance*, *Marketing* and *Entrepreneurship*. Some specializations are only offer in French track.

Students with different education background and different nationalities make the student body of ESCP is extremely diverse. ESCP hosts career fairs and related events regularly, these are very good channels for students who are seeking both full time work and the internships during or after the program. A good amount of students join the first tier luxury and cosmetic brands. ESCP also hosts forums and invite many heavyweight guest speakers including CEOs, Prime Ministers, and Ambassadors on a regular basis.

The language center at ESCP allows each student to have an hour of appointment based one on one language tutoring session per week. Each student can customize their session with their tutor.

Banking

There are few high street banks for choose from living in Paris including BNP, SG, LCL, and CA. Most of them provide services free for students, the easiest way to open a bank account is to set up an appointment with the banks representatives on campus during the orientation week. There are few digital banks in Europe that works just fine as traditional high street banks, N26, is the kingpin amount them. Revolut is an alternative digital bank for those who have problems verifying identity with N26.

Apartment

Amount all the sites for apartment searching, the most common ones are <u>Leboncoin</u>, <u>SeLoger</u>, and <u>Pap</u>. There are also apartments for rent just for student, for example <u>Nexity Studea</u>.

Some sites might charge fees with its users, for example Airbnb and <u>Logis</u>. There are also some Facebook groups that dedicating on sharing apartments information for rent. Most of the apartments in Paris come with heater, but with no air conditioners. During summer the temperature can be over 30 degrees Celsius. The average monthly rent for a studio is between €500 to €1000 inside Paris (in side all 20 Arrondissements).

CAF

France government provides CAF (housing subsidy), most students are eligible for obtaining it.

Depending on the rent and the status of the applicants, each applicant will receive different amount of subsidy accordingly.

Furniture

There is one Ikea located in the suburb of Paris. There are <u>Conforama</u> and <u>HEMA</u> inside Paris for smaller furniture.

Mobile phone

There are few telecom providers in France, the big three are Orange, Bouygues, and SFR.

Generally speaking these three has the best coverage in France. The walk-in plans for these three are relatively expensive, but they do have special offers with plans less than € over the internet from time to time. Other alternatives such as Free, Sosh (operated by Orange), SFR red (operated by SFR) also provide budget plans and special offers over the internet too.

Supermarkets

Three of the most common supermarkets in Paris are Auchan, Carrefour, and Franprix. These 3 supermarkets will cover most of the daily groceries.

Transport

Navigo is the contactless card for Buses, Metros, and RERs in Paris. It is required by law for cardholder to attach a head shot on the it, and carry a valid photo ID when travel. For students below 26 years old, there are monthly and annual discount plans. There are usually some strikes in Springs, schedules for some routes for Buses, Metros and RERs might be effect by strikes. The SNCF official app provides the live status of each metro line.

When living in Paris, it is very important not only to pick up the language, dress like a Parisian, but also act like one. Be smart, be calm, and stay alerted at all time.

Contacts at ESCP

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