

How much do you know about your partner country?

My partner country is France

Basics:

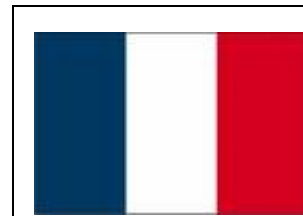
Population (estimate): 63 million inhabitants

Languages spoken: French

Current president/head of state: Nicolas Sarkozy

Currency: the euro (since January 2002)

Draw the flag:



Geography:

Capital city: Paris

Temperatures in Périgueux in January : 4 °C and in August: 22° C

Longest river: the Loire (1020 km)

Highest mountain: the Mont Blanc (4810 m) in the Alps

Education:

Compulsory education from 6 to 16 years old

Percentage young people going on to university: There are 1.5 million students in 84 universities. 73 % go to university after high school.

How many years to train as a teacher? 4 or 5 years

Current educational issues: Our official Common base of knowledge and skills is divided into 7 pillars:

- 1 Mastering the French language
- 2 Speaking a modern foreign language
- 3 Acquiring basic knowledge in mathematics and scientific culture
- 4 Developing a humanist culture
- 5 Mastering common information and communication technologies (ICTS)

6 Acquiring social and civic skills
7 Developing autonomy and initiative

Culture:

Main religions: our state is non-religious

National dish: there are many dishes but not a national one.

Important public holidays: 14 July: National Day 8 May celebrating the end of W W 2
1 May: Labour Day 11 November: celebrating the end of W W 1
Christmas New Year Easter

National sport(s): football rugby

Well known people:

1 a politician: Charles de Gaulle (1890 – 1970)

2 a writer: Victor Hugo (1802 – 1885)

3 a sportsman, a football player: Zinedine Zidane
a sportswoman, a swimmer: Laure Manaudou

List 5 items that are typical of the French way of life:

1 gastronomy: the French love eating, staying at the table for a long time!

2 We like having an “apéritif” (a drink) before eating! (well, not always...)

3 We go to the baker’s every day to buy a “baguette” (a special loaf of bread) and love having “croissants” for breakfast

4 We are not a sporty nation but we are good supporters!

5 French are very independent and they hate queueing up.