



# FRENCH connection

*France conjures up images of stunning countryside, delicious food and understated elegance. However, it's also known for its administrative red tape. We spoke to Tracy Leonetti, founder of LBS and expert in French bureaucracy to glean a few tips on moving to France*

### PAPERWORK FOOTPRINTS: GET PREPARED

Most legal and administrative processes in France require a suite of documents. Here are just some you may need:

- Legal civil status documents
- Visas (if applicable)
- European Healthcare card
- Financial information: tax returns, work contracts, salary slips, pension notifications
- Vaccination documents and school reports for children
- Car registration and insurance

### BREXIT & RESIDENCY: PLAN AHEAD

As a European living in France, requesting a residency permit to stay for longer than 3 months is optional, so there has been no obligatory formal demand for the British living in France. Brexit has changed this and now people are required to decide where they wish to live. To obtain a residency card, you will effectively need to prove who you are, where you are living and what your financial situation is.

If you are intending to live in France before 31st December 2020 or are already there, you can request your residency card (special Withdrawal Agreement) via a new online website. Your application will be available from 1st October.

Those arriving after 31st December 2020 will be classed as third country nationals and the processes will likely be more complex depending on final Brexit agreements in place.

### LEARN THE LINGO – HAVE FUN

If you truly want to integrate and enjoy the French way of life, then learning the language is essential. There are so many fun ways to do this. Group lessons using role play, private lessons for grammar even exchanges with French nationals who want to practice their English. Join a French club or association to build your confidence. Speak with elderly people in the supermarket (they have lots of patience and time), get active in your local community and then practice, practice, practice. If you don't make mistakes, you will never learn so take the plunge and get chatting.



LBS provides bespoke relocation packages with dedicated support for clients looking for a premium service.

After an in-depth initial client consultation, the portfolio of services provided by LBS and their dedicated relocation team include: immigration options and solutions, property searches using local agencies and referral contacts, banking and utilities set up, healthcare and carte vitale, business creation and management, school registrations, taxation, driving licence

exchanges and more on request. LBS offer a stress free solution for your smooth transition to France.

### CONTACT DETAILS

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