France lets residents apply for citizenship after 5 years

That is half the 10 years Spain, Italy and Portugal ask for. The long-stay visitor visa asks for about €1,478 a month.



5

years of residence before you can apply for citizenship

Capital	**Paris**
Languages	**French**
Currency	**Euro**
Population	**68,882,600 (2025)**
Price level 2024 (EU = 100)	**111**
Minimum wage	**€1,867 a month**
Tax	**45% top income tax, 20% VAT**
Years to	**PR 5, citizenship 5**

★ Capital ● City we cover ● Other city

WAYS TO MOVE

Long-Stay Visitor Visa	**€1,478/mo**
Talent Passport	**€3,299/mo**
Freelance and Entrepreneur Visa	**€1,867/mo**

Income or funds asked for one person

COST FOR ONE, A MONTH

Paris	**€2,500**
Lyon	**€1,900**
Bordeaux	**€1,900**
Nice	**€2,000**

Our estimate for a comfortable life

EAT LIKE A LOCAL

Escargot
Pot-au-feu
Beef bourguignon
Blanquette de veau

EMERGENCY
112

PLUGS
C, E

EU AND SCHENGEN
EU, Schengen

WORK-DAY OVERLAP
2 hours with New York

Visas, costs, taxes and cities for France: **livingineurope.net/countries/france**

Sources: Population, price level and minimum wage: Eurostat. English: EF English Proficiency Index 2025. Peace: Global Peace Index. Visas and tax: official government pages, as listed on each of our guides. Europe-wide comparisons: Tax Foundation 2026 and Eurostat. City costs are our estimates. Dishes: Wikipedia, National dish. Map: Natural Earth. Rules change, so confirm with the immigration office. Checked 7 October 2026.