

FRANCE SERVE TOUR

FAQ

What is the cost?

The cost is \$1,275 for single occupancy, \$975/person for double occupancy with single bed. The trip costs will cover lodging, breakfast and lunch (DINNERS NOT INCLUDED), in-country transportation, and ministry expenses but will exclude airfare, visa and vaccination requirements, insurance, and/or tourism activities.

*Dinners will be on your own please budget approximately \$120 for your own dinners for the week.

*Cost difference is due to the difference in single or double occupancy. \$1,275 drops to \$975 in double occupancy, double occupancy is mostly for married couples. Non-couples should know that rooms are small and may only be 1 bed or 2 twins that are side-by-side.

Schedule (tentative):

May 30, Day 1: Arrival in the morning. Orientation and cultural introduction in the afternoon.

May 31, Day 2: Church and Travel to project locations

June 1-3, Day 3-5: Project Days

June 4, Day 6: Return to Paris and closing Rally

June 5, Day 7: Departures

Will I have to go through an application process and/or pay a deposit?

Yes, every volunteer must go through an application process and complete required trainings. During this process you will also have to pay a deposit of \$400 for a team and/or \$100 if serving as an individual. Your spot will not be reserved until the deposit is paid.

Arrival Airport:

-Charles de Gaulle airport (CDG) Paris, France

-Airfare is ever changing, because of this we cannot guarantee pricing for airfare. Though it is not required to work through a travel agent, it is highly recommended to do so for both your airfare and travel insurance. We recommend using STG Travel.

- Their contact is:

STGTravel.com

agents@stgtravel.com

Office: 214-789-9451

Fax: 205-206-5344

What projects will volunteers be participating in?

This Serve Tour has a focus around construction projects. We have a need for construction professionals in flooring, electrical, excavation, plumbing, heating and cooling systems. We will match these professionals with other volunteers who have general construction skills.

General Description of Projects to be completed:

Paris 1: General renovation of an outreach center hosting weekly events

Paris 2: Installing a kitchen and flooring in a church plant meeting space

Paris 3: Repair and refurbish an old Baptist building for use by an artistic church plant and outreach ministry

Paris 4: Install heat pumps, build tents, and gardening work at an evangelical seminary in preparation for summer France Theology events aimed at helping churches

Paris 5: General renovations on a church building used by both French and English-speaking congregations

Aubagne (near Marseille): Renovations at an evangelical camp that hosts summer discipleship and outreach camps as well as winter IMB TCK camp

Lyon: Work at an evangelistic camp for kids, replacing a water tank and pipes, clearing woods, and building fences

Strasbourg 1: Update a church plant space for outreach and training, replace floors, paint, run cords

Strasbourg 2: Work with an Iranian pastor of a central Asian church to renovate a kitchen for ministry meals and meeting space for discipleship

Colmar: Pour 2 concrete parking spaces and build a handicap ramp to help a small church meet city codes for ministry

If I take a team from my church, will we serve together the whole time?

Possibly, being that there are specific skill sets for each team needed, individuals from teams might have to be distributed to other teams to better fit the needs on the field. However, we will do our best to keep teams together.

What if I want to stay a few extra days?

You are free to arrive early or depart at a later date. However, we CANNOT provide additional days for accommodations. If you decided to spend extra time in France planning, including finding lodging, and costs associated with doing so are at your own expense.

Will accommodations include AC/heating?

The orientation and debrief hotel in Paris will have AC, but most worksites and local lodging will not.

Health Considerations:

Ability to do physical labor and walk. Not all locations will have AC.

Cultural Considerations:

Walking will be necessary, hotel rooms are small, smoking and alcohol and sex in ads will be prevalent. French language barrier means communication may be difficult and require patience and clear speaking. Local payments and purchases can be made with credit cards (Visa and Mastercard only).

Transportation:

Trains, busses, and walking. However, one team will use rental cars.

Accommodations:

Volunteers will be staying at either hotels, seminary and/or camp dorms based on project location.

Items to bring:

Work clothes, walking shoes, a Visa or Mastercard credit card with low or no foreign exchange fees.

Weather to be expected:

Warm but comfortable summer weather.

Application Approval:

Please note, for your application to be approved you must finish the application, Safe & Secure Training, all 3 references returned, and background check completed. It can take up to 3 weeks from the date you finish the application requirements until it is approved. Once approved you will receive an email to pay your deposit and/or add other members to your team.

*You cannot pay your deposit until your application is approved.

*If you are a Group Leader, you also cannot invite other members until your application has been approved as well.

Insurance:

Although it is up to the individual, church or ministry to determine which insurance provider they prefer, Send Relief volunteer teams have purchased coverage in the past through the providers below.

Gallagher - www.travelwithgallagher.com

MTA - www.gowithmta.com

Any insurance coverage purchased must include medical, accidental death, medical evacuation, and disability, at a minimum. Please be aware that not every provider or plan provides the same coverages. The volunteer, church or ministry is responsible for comparing the coverage provided by different insurance providers and must select the insurance that fits their needs or desires best.

Additional Recommendations:

We strongly recommend you purchase trip cancellation insurance when you purchase your airfare in case your trip is cancelled or rescheduled due to unforeseen circumstances. Please be aware that the coverage and benefits under these policies may vary depending on the provider and reasons for cancellation.

We also strongly recommend that you review any life insurance policy for restrictions related to the country you are traveling to on your volunteer trip. Some policies may exclude or limit benefits under certain circumstances.

Registration Deadlines:

Registration is limited to 92 participants on a first come first served basis. Registration will close when all spots have been filled and/or on January 31, 2026. Please note that your team's registration will not be valid until the deposit of \$400 (\$100 for an individual) has been paid.

All volunteers must have their applications complete, references returned, and training complete no later than March 1, 2026.

All final payments are due April 30, 2026.

International Serve Tours work with local churches to aid them in meeting the needs in their communities. Because of this, they cannot make final arrangements for Serve Tour projects and accommodations until they know the final number of volunteers coming and the skills sets, they are equipped with. This means we are able to provide an overview for what your team might do during Serve Tour, but we cannot give specific assignments until less than 30 days prior to departure. Because of this, you and your team will not have contact with field personnel until between 60-30 days prior to departure.

*Costs include all on field costs such as lodging, meals (DINNERS NOT INCLUDED), transportation, and ministry expenses. Costs do not include airfare, insurance, tourism activities, visa and/or vaccination requirements.