

NantesFrance

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It is very simple to find your way around Nantes. By bike or by foot, it is a manageable scale and it is supported by a very efficient public transport system. The bus and tram systems are both logical and frequent, connecting you to further parts of the city where you will inevitably have to go to deal with the bureaucracy that is ever present while living in France.

Setting yourself up is a bit of an obstacle, but once you've sorted out your apartment / bank / house insurance / telephone line / internet / mobile / CAF etc. it's plain sailing. The pace of life in Nantes is very appealing. Is a bustling city with cafés spilling onto beautiful squares. There is a lot of green space for the summertime BBQ and the 'Herde' is lovely in the sun; there is a Japanese garden and you can rent boats and kayaks and meander down the river.

The nightlife is more orientated around house parties and bars....there isn't really a Nantes equivalent to Copper's, but there are a few night clubs at 'Le Hangar à Bananes' on the l'île de Nantes, and a few dodgy salsa clubs in the centre-ville if you're into that sort of thing!

Visit as many of the bars in Nantes as you can, my favourites were 'La Maison', 'Le Canotier' and 'Côte de Plage'. They all have different Belgian beers on tap, again, try them all. St. Patrick's day is also packed with temporary bars and people on the streets. In general we lovely young Irish students are very well recieved.

The project was a study of a 1950's post-war modernist seaside town. Our brief was to work towards the aims of the town as a 'Town of Art and History' and make interventions on an urban and eventually site specific scale. The best advice we recieved was to take Monsieur Dessey's Studio, he is a very patient man with Erasmus students!



Royan - Ville d'Art et Histoire

