

# Student Renting in France

## Your Complete Guide



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## Introduction

“

***Housing is competitive, especially in Paris, and other big cities. So start early and plan carefully.***

”



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 Ask Sétu

Heading to France for your studies?

Congratulations! One of your first and most important tasks is finding a place to live...and that means understanding the French housing system.

### **How this guide helps:**

It breaks down public vs private housing, how to apply, guarantors, and how to avoid scams.

***A quick reminder: Start early.  
Housing is competitive, especially in Paris, and other big cities.***

# Types of Student Housing in France

Housing Type	Description	Who It's For	Approx. Rent / Month
CROUS Residences	Public, subsidised student housing. Rooms or small studios, basic but functional.	Students with limited budgets; those who apply early; scholarship holders.	€120–€400 (depending on city & room type)
Private Student Residences	Modern, furnished student buildings with amenities, managed by private companies.	Students seeking comfort, safety, modern facilities, English-friendly support.	€500–€900 (higher in Paris; lower in mid-size cities)
Independent Studios	A private apartment rented directly from landlords or agencies.	Students who prefer privacy, independence, and long-term stability.	€500–€950 (Paris ~€800–€1,200)
Flat-Sharing (Colocation)	Sharing a multi-room apartment; shared bills and responsibilities.	Students wanting a social experience, lower rent, and larger living space.	€350–€700 per room (Paris ~€600–€900)

## Living in CROUS (Public) Housing

- ✔ **Advantages:**
  - Very low rent (~ €120–€400/month)
  - Close to campus; subsidized.
- ✔ **Challenges:**
  - Scarce availability, high demand,
  - Shared facilities.
- ✔ **How to apply:**
  - Use the CROUS portal: [trouverunlogement.lescrous.fr](https://trouverunlogement.lescrous.fr)
  - Create a profile on MesServices Etudiant
  - Apply early, especially for international students.

### Pro-tips

- Even after applying, have backup options - CROUS spots are limited.
- Look for smaller CROUS rooms or “studettes” to lower costs.





## Private & Purpose-Built Student Residences

- ✓ **Advantages**
  - Furnished studios or rooms, common areas (study rooms, laundry), safety.
- ✓ **Challenges:**
  - Cost is higher than CROUS, but it is usually more comfortable
- ✓ **How to apply:**
  - Search on Studapart, Uniplaces, ImmoJeune, etc.
  - Prepare your dossier de location (student ID, admission certificate, guarantor, etc.)
  - Use Visale or GarantMe if needed (especially if no French guarantor)



### Pro-tips

- Confirm if utilities (internet, electricity) are included.
- Check contract duration (some are 9- or 12-month leases).
- Ask about on-site support: reception, maintenance, community events.



## Studios vs. Colocation – Which is Right for You?

### Studios

- ✓ **Advantages:**
  - Complete privacy, control over space.
- ✓ **Challenges:**
  - Higher rent + bills;
  - May require a guarantor.
- ✓ **Tips**
  - Use platforms like Le Bon Coin, Seloger, Studapart. [luluhives.com](https://www.luluhives.com)
  - Negotiate rent or request a virtual tour before paying anything.
  - Secure a Guarantor: Visale (free) or GarantMe (paid) are common solutions.

### Colocation (Shared Flats)

- ✓ **Advantages:**
  - More affordable, social, flexible.
- ✓ **Challenges:**
  - Less privacy, but shared responsibilities,
  - Need to find compatible roommates.
- ✓ **Tips**
  - Use platforms: La Carte des Colocs, Appartager, Facebook groups.
  - Organise a video call or in-person meet-up with housemates.
  - Split bills clearly: utilities, internet, deposit, and individual renters' insurance.



## Your Pre-Arrival & Move-In Checklist

- ✓ Submit CROUS application early (if you plan to apply)
- ✓ Create digital rental dossier (ID, proof of admission, guarantor docs)
- ✓ Apply for Visale or GarantMe (if required)  
Research and bookmark housing platforms (Studapart, Uniplaces, colocation sites)
- ✓ Estimate your monthly budget (rent + utilities + insurance)
- ✓ Plan your move: key pick-up, lease signing, home insurance
- ✓ Schedule virtual or in-person visits

### The Ultimate Guide to Student Accommodation Platforms



**“ A garant in France is a person or service that guarantees to cover your rent if you’re unable to pay, often required by landlords before signing a lease. ”**



## Got Any Questions? We've Got You Covered!

Finding housing as an international student in France doesn't have to be stressful — plan ahead, use reliable tools, and ask for help when you need it. Ask Sétu is here to support your entire journey.

- ✓ Admissions
- ✓ Administration & Bureaucracy
- ✓ French Language Workshops
- ✓ Inter-cultural upskilling
- ✓ Career-readiness support

### Join our WhatsApp Group!

A friendly, supportive space for Indian students in France.

- ✓ Connect with peers
- ✓ Get real-time tips
- ✓ Stay updated on events & deadlines
- ✓ Ask questions – no question is too small!

See you on WhatsApp

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