



LES FRENCHIES

Recommendations for Paris and other cities and towns in France

Colleen and Antoine have a popular YouTube channel; *Les Frenchies*. They have nearly over 375,000 subscribers and 245 videos offering recommendations for travels to Paris as well as to other parts of France.

They moved from the USA to Paris in 2021. Here, in their own words, is some of their story.

Our first year

Colleen: *Moving day was January 7, 2021. Looking back, I think that moving to France during covid was a hidden gift. It was difficult having all the restriction. But it also meant that I got to have lots of my “firsts” in small bites.*

I really thought I knew what it would be like. Antoine and I had visited many times over the years. We stayed in the suburbs and did regular stuff like grocery shopping and gardening. We drove and ran errands. I wasn't like the starry-eyed people that move after one quick visit. I thought I knew Paris like a local.

But even as a tough cookie, I was brought to tears many times. I felt so stupid, so often. I knew some words and phrases, but I definitely didn't speak French.

The good news is that I am what the french call "bien installé". I have been installed well into the french life. And after 10 months of waiting to learn if my renewal was approved, I finally picked up the new one this week.

Now I'm good for another couple of years.

Antoine: *Moving back to France was weird for me. My entire adult life has been in the us. My children were born in the us. I bought my first home in the Fort Lauderdale. I built my business and my community in the us.*

I was a frenchie to all my friends, but I came to realize, is that I identify as an American.

I had zero connection to how things were done in France anymore. Of course, i have the huge advantage of being a French native, but after 32 years in the us, I felt like a stranger in my own country.

And I can see it in their eyes; I'm just a bit weird for them. I'm way too friendly, I'm very direct and say what I mean, I have lost the French formalities & manners.

Here are a few of Les Frenchies helpful videos. They have 245 videos with lots of suggestions.

Paris Best Restaurants Guide 2026 (Top 15)

This is a long video: almost three hours, that features their list of the top 15 restaurants in Paris

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ag6LyLITRM&t=5848s>

We Ate Like Locals in Paris (Tiny Budget)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-HyttUh3ccg>

Pickpockets in Paris: Avoid These Sneaky People!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M74UmyXAAzI>

This Paris Bistro Has Michelin Quality (For Half Price)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N4nYuMqXfeI&t=112s>

We Tried the Best BAKERIES in Paris (Where Locals Eat)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5sK5BusXB6o>

10 French CHEESES You Need to Try (Once in Your Life)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=83OFRblc588>

Discovering Hidden Gems of the Champagne Region

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7t12MBX9PsY>

We Spent 48 Hours in the MOST UNDERRATED Region in France

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m79Kp_SW_hw

