

A person with a backpack is seen from behind, standing on a mountain trail and looking out over a vast mountain range. The scene is captured during the golden hour, with a warm, hazy glow over the landscape. The person is wearing a dark jacket and a backpack. The mountains in the distance are layered, creating a sense of depth. The overall mood is one of adventure and exploration.

ERASMUS YEAR ABROAD

The University of Warwick



Many language courses include a mandatory year spent in the country of your subject.

Available placement locations at my university included Paris, Brussels and the Caribbean island of Martinique.

You can choose whether you would like to study at a local university or find work.

Either option is sure to test and improve your language skills.

I Chose to attend a university in Grenoble.

The university was founded in 1339, has 175 hectares of land on the outskirts of the urban Grenoble area and is home to over 45,000 students.

Whilst at the University, you have the opportunity to take a course in any department.



Université
Grenoble
Alpes





Grenoble is often called the capital of the Alps due to its proximity to the ski resorts.

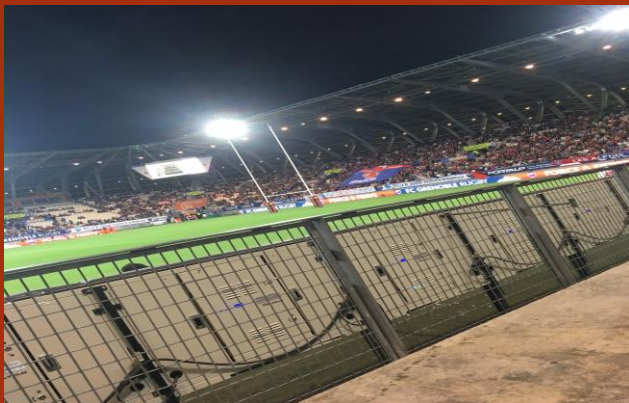
It is also only an hours drive from the third largest city in France, Lyon.



With just over 150,000 residents, Grenoble can retain a busy town center despite the quiet nature of its residential areas.



Sports in Rhône-Alpes



With France being crowned the FIFA World cup champions in 2018, a football fan in Grenoble would be an hour drive away from Champions league side Olympique Lyonnais.

Grenoble has its own side (GF38) who play in ligue 2 with a match ticket costing as little as €8.

The city also caters for rugby fans with a team in the top French division which attracts top talent from across the world.

The teams both play at the Stade des Alpes holding roughly 20,000 supporters. The arena will also host matches in this summer's FIFA Women's World Cup.

Skiing in the Alps

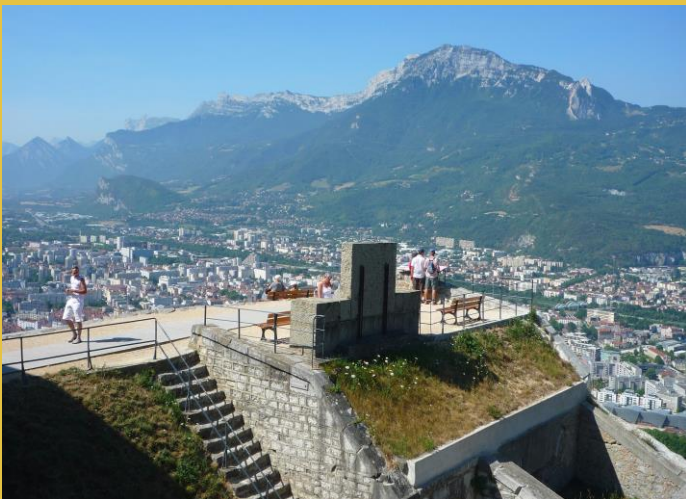
Local resorts include Chamrousse and Les Deux Alpes. Both resorts are situated roughly an hour away from Grenoble and University subsidised buses operate every week.

Of course you can travel independently to resorts further afield, mainly available via train to the local Ski stations. In two hours you can get to the 3 Valleys, the largest ski area in the world.



Historic sites

- The iconic view of the city from the Bastille has its roots in the 16th century shift from Roman Catholic rule to Lesdiguières' Huguenot regime in an attempt to militarily strengthen the Chartreuse hill.
- The fountain of the three orders located in the main square is an act of homage to the pre-revolutionary events in Grenoble (the day of the tiles) which some historians consider the start of the French revolution.
- Grenoble was promoted to the rank of a city in the 3rd century and you can find artefacts from the area in any of the 15 museums which cover a range of disciplines from science to religion.



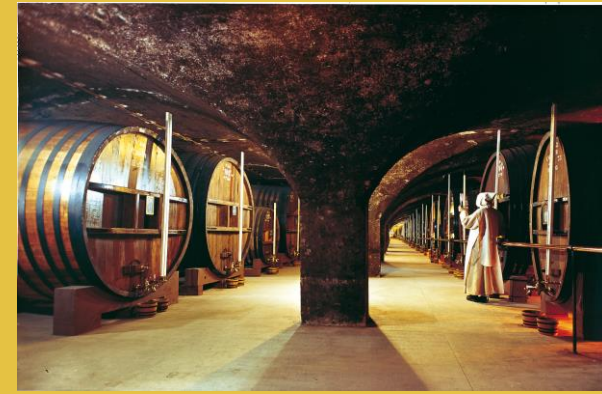
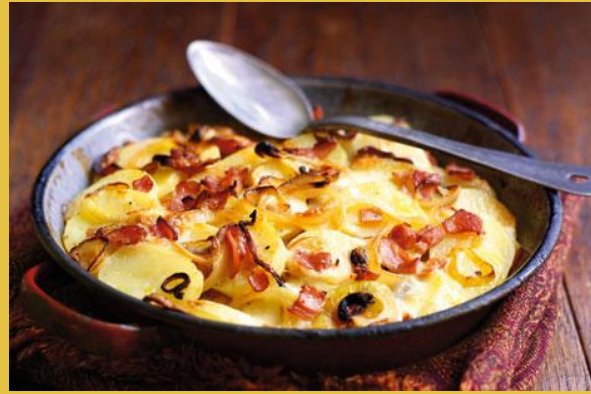
Food and drink

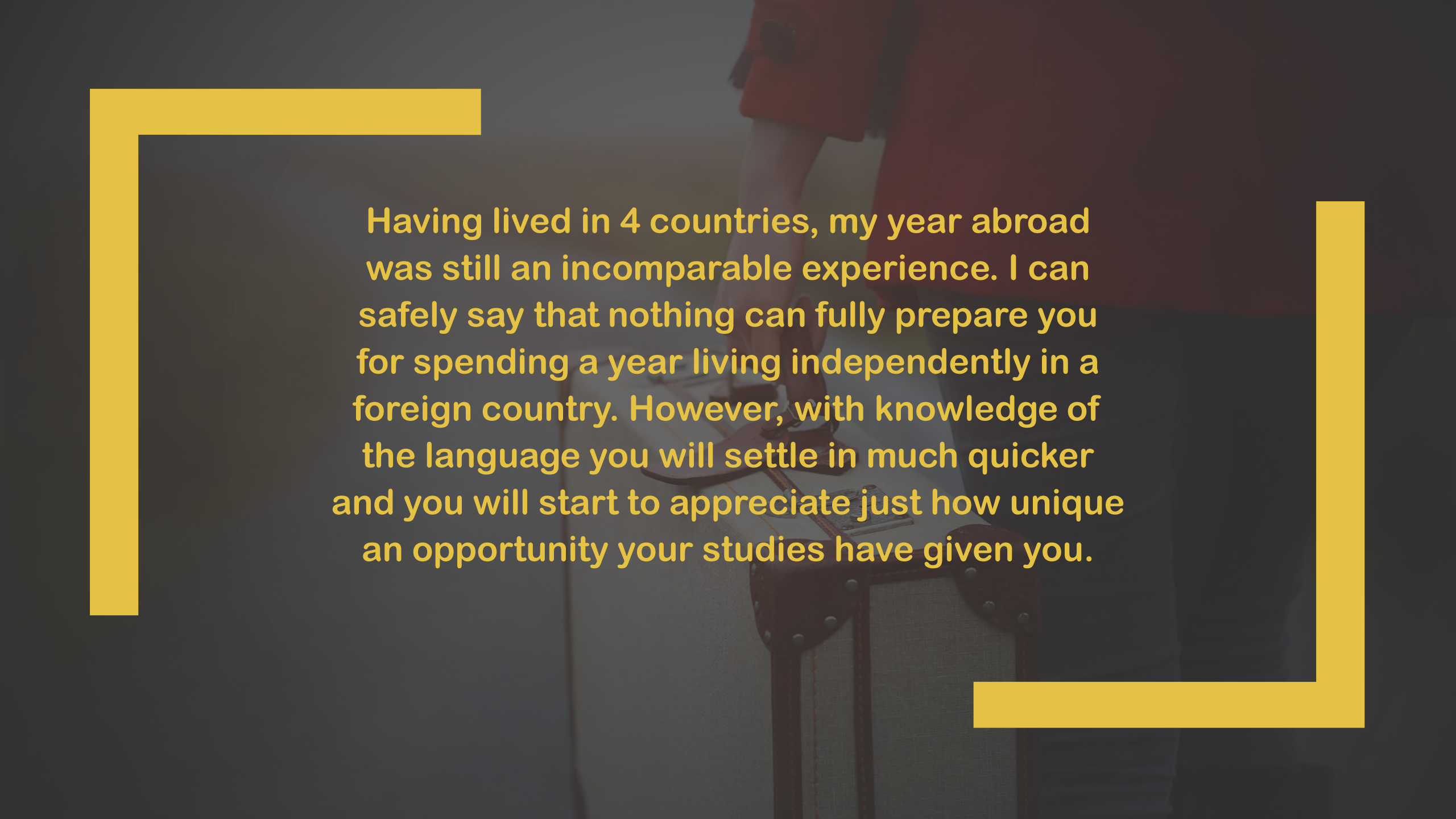
The French as a nation pride themselves on their gastronomy and each region has their own specialties.

In the Rhône-Alpes region they incorporate gratin dishes into most menus i.e. tartiflette.

The world renowned Chartreuse liqueur is produced 25 km away from Grenoble and you can tour the caves and monastery where it is distilled.

Eating out in the city is cheaper than in the U.K but with dishes like the Savoyard salad (covered in croutons, cheese and bacon) being considered a healthy option, It is easier on the wallet than the waistline.



A person wearing a red dress is sitting on a dark, ornate stool, reading a book. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. The image is overlaid with a dark grey semi-transparent layer, and the text is written in a bright yellow font. The text is framed by a yellow L-shaped graphic element on the left and bottom sides.

Having lived in 4 countries, my year abroad was still an incomparable experience. I can safely say that nothing can fully prepare you for spending a year living independently in a foreign country. However, with knowledge of the language you will settle in much quicker and you will start to appreciate just how unique an opportunity your studies have given you.