

# EUROPEAN MUSIC CAMPS IN FRANCE

How many children and teenagers take part in the camps?

Over 3000 youngsters take part each year and we are welcoming more and more from other European countries.

What are your accreditations and insurances?

Our organization is accredited by the Ministère de la Jeunesse et du Tourisme (the French Department of Youth and Tourism) and we are insured by the MAIF.

Who are the European camps aimed at?

Our holiday camps are open to any child or teenager wanting to share his or her passion for music and the arts with other young people from France and other European countries.

Is there a minimum musical level required to take part in one of the camps?

Some of the camps, such as the rock music camp, are open to everyone, beginners and experienced musicians. As for camps based on instrumental practice or orchestral music, the level and years of practice required are generally specified in the detailed description.

Is it necessary to have a certain level of spoken French?

Not at all. If a participant is unable to express him/herself in French, we try to communicate in English or, as much as possible, in his/her own language. Very often, children who do not speak French enrol with a friend, which generally makes them feel more confident.

Are there French language courses available during camp for the European participants?

Daily French classes are offered if the camp's theme specifies it, as in our European Rock and French as a Foreign Language camp. Whatever camp it is, if it is held in France, the participants attend songwriting or theatrical expression workshops, both in French. If at the beginning of the camp, one of the participants asks for a one-to-one language course, we can arrange it. And, when camps take place in other European countries (Germany, Italy, Ireland, Spain), an introduction to the language of the host country is offered.



EUROPEAN MUSIC CAMPS IN  
VACANCES MUSICALES EN **FRANCE**

Séjours musicaux, artistiques  
et linguistiques en France, pour  
enfants et jeunes européens.

Musical, artistic et linguistic  
stays for European children  
and young people in France.

Informations et réservations  
information and registration

VACANCES MUSICALES SANS FRONTIÈRES - PARIS

**VMSF.ORG**

## What is VMSF?

VMSF is the market leader in France for music and artistic camps in Europe for children and young people. It was created in 1998 and its headquarters are in Paris. VMSF camps are aimed at participants from 6 to 20 years of age.

Every summer, as well as during the autumn, winter and spring holidays, VMSF offers a wide choice of themed-camps combining musical expression with artistic media and language exchange.

How do I know if places are available before enrolling?

The camps that are fully booked do not appear on the website, all the camps you see still have places. So you can enrol in any of the camps that figure on the website.

How does the enrolment work?

You can use the online service: click on the RESERVER EN LIGNE tab to access the application form. You can also book by mail: click on the RESERVER PAR COURRIER tab. In this case we propose that you pay by bank transfer.

Can you meet a participant as soon as he arrives in France if he's travelling on his own to Paris?

Yes, we offer a transfer service to and from the airports (Paris CDG or Orly) and train stations (all Parisian SNCF train stations). This service is offered during the online application process. If you opt for this option, a VMSF representative will meet the participant as soon as he gets off the plane or train, and will accompany him to the Paris station from which the whole group will leave. He or she will of course be accompanied in the same way for the journey back.

What time does the participant travelling alone to Paris have to arrive?

So far as possible, he/she should arrive before midday. For the return journey, if possible, try to book a ticket for the beginning of the afternoon. For camps taking place outside of the capital or in another country, the arrival time must allow for the connections (train or plane) made for the travel of the whole group to the holiday camp. This also applies to the return journey. If the camp is held in or around Paris, his/her arrival time shouldn't pose a problem.

What time does the participant have to get to the holiday camp if he's taken there by friends or family?

If you are the one to accompany the participant to the camp, we'll send you a notification a few days beforehand, indicating a time-slot of a couple of hours. In most cases, they can arrive between 11am and 1pm.

They can leave at whatever time on the last day, but preferably before 4pm.

This time-slot can, of course, be adjusted to those with strict travel times. All you need to do is let the camp supervisor know.

Can a participant arrive the day before the start of camp or leave the day after? No. We cannot accommodate anyone before the first day nor let him stay longer than the last day.

**What happens once I've filled out the application form?**

As soon as we receive your application, we will send you your invoice and all the information that you'll need. A few days before the camp starts, you'll receive a departure notification and an information letter with all the practical information such as the name and phone number of the camp supervisor, the camp's address, our educative declaration, the link to the camp's blog, etc.).

What about health and hygiene issues?

We will provide you with an individual form for your child for you to fill in with all the information we need to make sure he/she gets the health and hygiene attention required. Even if there is nothing specific, your child still has to give in the form to the director as soon as he/she arrives. However, if your child does have a specific need, you must send us the form before the beginning of the stay so we can be prepared.

What happens if my child becomes ill during the stay?

If anything happens, whether an accident or a health issue, our medical supervisor will call the nearest doctor or health service, and we will contact you immediately to let you know. We will take care of the medical fees (the refund to be taken care of later) and make sure your child receives all the care and medical attention he/she needs.

How can I keep in touch with my child during the stay?

A few days before the camp begins, we will send you the supervisor's phone number. You can reach him whenever you want news of your child. Your child may also call you whenever he wants to with his own phone.

If the participants and the supervising team decide to create a camp blog, we will send you the link to it.

You can also phone us during office hours if you have any questions or need to give us any information.

How can I inform you of a participant's musical background?

We suggest you fill out and send us a specific musical information form. As soon as we receive it, we will send it to the musical supervisor so he can assess the level of each participant and prepare an appropriate musical course for his stay at the camp.

Should the participants bring their own instruments?

If they can be easily transported, yes of course. If a plane journey is planned and the instrument isn't allowed in the cabin (a cello, for instance), we will arrange the rental of one. In this case, we will need to ask you for a special fee.

My child plays the piano. Do you rent pianos for all the camps?

We rent at least 2 or 3 pianos per camp, as well as drums, amplifiers, sound systems, percussions...



VMSF.ORG

Are the instruments insured?

We insure all the instruments and equipment. In case of an accident, the instrument's owner is often asked to pay a franchise of 150 euros. If the participant owns an expensive instrument (worth over 700 euros), we suggest you insure it personally. Some situations (deliberate damage, loss...) can involve the parents' liability insurance.

What does a typical day consist of?

Musical, artistic and language activities take up most of the day. None of them are compulsory, the participant is completely free to attend the activities he chooses. Other fun activities and themed-evenings are also regularly organised. And of course, everyone has some all-important free time.

Is a concert or a show organised at the end of the stay?

Yes, it's a very important part of the camp for us. It's the best way to congratulate the participants for their accomplishments. The shared experience and emotion of the event will probably remain one of the best memories of the camp for most of the participants.

What happens after the camp?

You can forward any remarks or suggestions by using the form provided. And we are available to provide any useful information about the camp or your child's behaviour during his stay. Moreover, the participants often stay in touch through various social networks, which is a great way to keep practicing their French!

**Can I contact you for more information or to ask you a specific question before registering my child?**

You can write to us at [mail@vmsf.org](mailto:mail@vmsf.org) or call us + 33 1 40 33 30 10.

Will we be informed when the programme for next season is available ?

Yes, through our newsletter if you wish to receive it. The program is generally online in November. Don't hesitate to follow our news on facebook and twitter.

