



Refresher French: Noël en Provence

Start date: 24th November 2017 **End date:** 26th November 2017

Venue Madingley Hall
 Madingley
 Cambridge

Tutor: Francine Rouanet- **Course code:** 1718NRX020
 Démocrate

Director of Programmes Emma Jennings

For further information on this course, please contact Public Programme Coordinator, Clare Kerr
clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk or 01223 746237

To book See: www.ice.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 746262

Tutor biography

Francine has over 35 years' experience of teaching languages, using cultural references to bring life and meaning to the learning process. Francine, was until 2008, the Director of the local world renowned non-profit organisation, the Alliance Française de Cambridge; consisting of over 30 language and cultural professionals reporting to a committee of trustees.

Francine's life work was recognised in the 1999 by the French Government. She received the award of '*Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques*' (similar to MBE) in acknowledgement of her efforts to forge links between France and the United Kingdom.

Course programme

Friday

Please plan to arrive between 16:30 and 18:30. You can meet other course members in the bar which opens at 18:15. Tea and coffee making facilities are available in the study bedrooms.

19:00	Dinner
20:30 – 22:00	Meeting up: ice-breakers and “guessing games” to get to know each other and discover how similar the English and the French languages are. Assessing the participants’ aptitudes and existing skills. (Oral comprehension/ Basic oral expression)
22:00	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Saturday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	Presentation of one the most beautiful regions of France: “La Provence” / a little geography / local specialties / culture and tradition / basic structures and vocabulary to express one’s taste and interests (<i>slide-show/ oral & written comprehension/ oral expression</i>)
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	Description of a typical Provençal Christmas celebration / Traditional Nativity scenes with “ <i>les santons de Provence</i> ”/ vocabulary connected with villages, people’s appearance, personality, clothes, professions / Special Christmas dinner: “ <i>Le gros souper de Noël</i> ” / vocabulary connected with food, cooking, colours, numbers, quantities / Christmas carols & tales (<i>audio-visual support / oral and written comprehension / oral expression</i>)
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00	Free
16:00	Tea
16:30 – 18:00	Preparatory work / vocabulary and structures useful for the comprehension of the Saturday evening film / vocabulary about the family, relationships, the dialogues (<i>oral and written comprehension / oral expression</i>)
18:00 – 18:30	Free
18:30	Dinner
20:00 – 21:30	“Le Château de ma mère” (My Mother’s Castle) -1990- Film based upon Marcel Pagnol autobiographical novel, directed by Yves Robert. Narrated by Jean-Pierre Darras. (<i>English subtitles</i>)
21:30	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Sunday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	Summary of the vocabulary and grammatical structures learnt / Study of printed and visual material on the topic of food, family life, Christmas, Provence / oral and written activities / recipes (<i>oral and written comprehension / oral expression</i>)
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	Written and oral production / role-play / memory game / quiz on Provence / conclusion of the course (<i>oral and written comprehension / oral expression</i>)
12:45	Lunch

The course will disperse after lunch

Course syllabus

Aims:

This course will aim at refreshing the participants' knowledge of French and give them an insight into the South of France Christmas tradition. The participants will not only learn more about France's culture and way of life, but will see their confidence and communication skills improve.

Content:

As this course is devised for a public with a limited mastery of French the first aim will be to facilitate oral comprehension. The topic of Christmas and the region of Provence will be widely illustrated. The use of audio-visual and printed material combined with the use of very accessible French will make the comprehension of the topics presented easy. They will revolve around family life, people, food and Provençal Christmas festivities which are not always very well known. The participants will be able to refresh their knowledge of basic French and apply it to speak about a very enjoyable French tradition. They will be encouraged to express their opinion, their own way of celebrating Christmas, to make comparisons between the two cultures.

Presentation of the course:

The teaching method use is interactive and innovative, making use of "transparent French" (clear and simple structures and the use of words close to the English language whenever possible), body language, visual support, mime, drawing etc... The method also enables the learner to find strategies to both understand and speak rapidly. Based upon "accelerated learning" techniques it enables the participants to improve their communication skills fairly rapidly and achieve a satisfactory result by the end of the weekend.

As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:

- Enjoy setting their eyes on a beautiful part of France that some may have already visited in the summer but not at Christmas.
- Discover a very special tradition, different from the one celebrated in northern parts of Europe.
- Learn about the traditional food and songs, the tales and the Nativity scenes to be found all over the region.
- Improve their oral comprehension
- Gain some confidence and start communicating in French

Reading and resources list

Listed below are a number of texts that might be of interest for future reference, but do not need to be bought (or consulted) for the course.

Author	Title	Publisher and date
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No specific book to be read / any information, personal photos or documents to be shared are welcome.

Website addresses

<http://uk.france.fr/en/feel-provence/rubric/136867/provence-enjoy-unexpected>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/My_Mother%27s_Castle

Note Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

Information correct as of: 04 August 2017