

OUTSTANDING SPORTS INFRA- STRUCTURE IN FRANCE

KEY INFO IN

10
POINTS

1

▶ NEARLY 270,000 SPORTS FACILITIES

France has 269,500 sports facilities, including 43,500 large pitches (for football, rugby, hockey, etc.), 40,800 tennis courts and 29,400 pétanque playing areas. (French Ministry for Sport, 2017)

2

▶ EVER BIGGER VENUES

France boasts 14 stadiums with more than 30,000 seats, while the 81,000+ capacity Stade de France is one of the 10 largest in Europe. The Stade Vélodrome (67,354 seats) and the Groupama stadium in Lyon (59,186) are the second and third largest in France.

3

▶ GREENER STADIUMS

The Stade Océane in Le Havre is the first positive-energy stadium in France, generating more energy than it actually uses. With its self-regulating turf and rainwater collection system, the Matmut Atlantique in Bordeaux has also gone down a similar route, much like the Allianz Riviera in Nice, which has 7,000 sq. m. of solar panels.

4

▶ EUROPE'S MOST MODERN ARENA

Opened to the public in October 2017, the 40,000 capacity U Arena in the Paris suburb of Nanterre is Europe's largest, most modern and versatile indoor arena. In 2024 it will host the gymnastics events for the Paris Olympic Games.

5

▶ RISING CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP

An increasing number of facilities are sponsored by major French firms, including the Matmut Atlantique Stadium in Bordeaux, the AccorHotels Arena in Paris, the Groupama stadium in Lyon, and the MMArena in Le Mans. A total of 13 French stadiums and arenas had sold naming rights as of 2017. (French government Sports Economy Observatory, 2017)

6

▶ FUTURE OLYMPIC AQUATICS CENTER

A new Olympic Aquatics Center in Seine-Saint-Denis, just outside Paris, will be completed by 2024 in time for the Olympic Games. It will house two 50 m pools, two diving pools, and seating for 15,000 spectators during the Olympics (2,500 thereafter).

7

▶ FRANCE: A SKIING PARADISE

France boasts 250 ski resorts scattered across the southern Alps, the Jura mountains, Savoie, Haute-Savoie, the Pyrénées, the Vosges mountains, the Isère and the Drôme (French Ski Operators Association, 2017). Three of Europe's five largest ski areas are in France: the Trois Vallées (1st), Paradiski (3rd) and the Portes du Soleil (5th). (Skieur.com, 2014)

8

▶ REMARKABLE SPORTING VENUES

France features a wide array of outstanding international event venues, including the Marseille Marina for international sailing competitions, the gardens of the Château de Versailles for equestrian sports, and the Golf National in Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, one of Europe's top golf courses.

9


▶ FRENCH CONSTRUCTION EXPERTISE

French firms such as Bouygues Construction, Eiffage and Vinci boast globally renowned expertise in building large sporting facilities. In 2014, Bouygues inaugurated the Singapore Sports Hub, a huge 70-acre sporting complex comprising a 55,000-capacity stadium, an Olympic-size swimming pool, and six sports halls.



10

▶ EXPERIENCED HOSTS

After organizing Euro 2016, and the handball, surfing, ice hockey, wrestling and canoe slalom world championships in 2017, France has demonstrated its ability to successfully host the world's largest sporting events: its wide array of high-quality sporting infrastructure was a key part of Paris' successful bid to host the 2024 Olympic Games.



For further information, please visit:
www.businessfrance.fr





Business France
77, boulevard Saint-Jacques
75680 Paris Cedex 14 - France
Tel.: +33 1 40 73 30 00



1900

1924

2024

**PARIS TO HOST
THE OLYMPICS
FOR THE THIRD TIME**

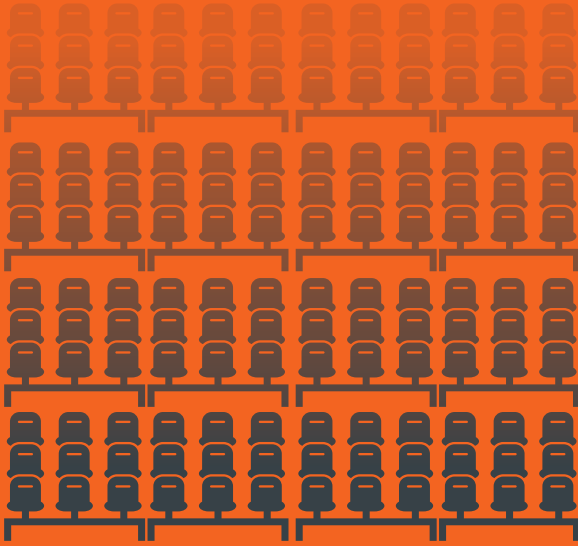
([OLYMPIC.ORG](https://olympic.org))



64%

**OF FRENCH PEOPLE
PLAY SPORT
AT LEAST
ONCE A WEEK**

(FRENCH MINISTRY FOR SPORT, 2017)



270,000
SPORTS FACILITIES

(FRENCH MINISTRY FOR SPORT, 2017)

250 SKI RESORTS



(FRENCH SKI OPERATORS ASSOCIATION, 2017)