

# GOURMET PRODUCTS AND SWEET TREATS

KEY INFO IN

**10**  
POINTS

# 1

## ▶ €7.2 BILLION OF GOURMET EXPORTS

In 2017, France exported €7.2 billion-worth of gourmet products, 15% of all agri-food exports. Bakery, pastry and biscuit products account for 27% of total exports in this sector and are followed by chocolate-based products (23%) and cheeses (11%). France's top customers are Belgium, Germany and the United Kingdom. (French Customs Authorities, 2018)

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# 2

## ▶ THRIVING BAKERY INDUSTRY

In 2015, there were 270 companies in the bakery, pastry and biscuit industry, with more than 40,000 employees and revenues of €8.5 billion, of which €2 billion was in exports. (Association of French Bakers)

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# 3

## ▶ DYNAMIC EXPORTS

Since 2000, the percentage of deli and gourmet products in French agri-food exports has more than doubled. Among the most dynamic sectors for export since 2014 are herbs and spices, gourmet seafood dishes (up 33%) and jams and honeys (up 20%). (French Customs Authorities, 2018)

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# 4

## ▶ 4<sup>TH</sup> LARGEST CHOCOLATE PRODUCER IN EUROPE

The French chocolate sector is made up of 120 companies, of which 90% are SMEs. The French consume on average 7.3kg of chocolate per year per capita (Alliance 7). In 2017, France was the fourth largest producer of chocolate (excluding cocoa) in Europe and exported around 60% of its production. (Eurostat, 2018)

# 5

## ▶ AGRI-FOOD COMPANIES: LARGEST MARKET FOR SUGAR

France is the largest producer of white sugar in the European Union (EU), with 31.5% of production, ahead of Germany (30.7%) (Eurostat). On a global level, France is ranked 10th (average over five years) (FAO, 2018). Fifty-eight percent of French sugar production is destined for the food industry, with examples including confectionery, chocolate, and biscuits. (CEDUS, 2017)

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# 6

## ▶ GASTRONOMIC MEAL GOES GLOBAL

An integral part of France's cultural heritage, the French multi-course gastronomic meal was officially inscribed in 2010 on UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage list. Since 2015, the Goût de France culinary event has celebrated this important part of the French way of life around the world, with more than 3,000 chefs from five continents taking part in the March 2018 event.

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# 7

## ▶ INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS STORIES

Many French companies have an international reputation: Jacquet Brossard, Delifrance, and Bridor for bakery items; Roullier, Foucteau, Compagnie des Desserts and Kremer for pastry; Monbana and Valrhona for chocolate; Andros, Saint Dalfour, Agronovae and Bonne Maman for jam; and Rougié and Delpeyrat for foie gras.

# 8

## ▶ STRUCTURED DISTRIBUTION NETWORKS

The gourmet food sector saw a 4% rise in activity in 2016. Distribution networks, whether they are national brands (Hédiard, Comtesse du Barry, Olivier & Co, etc.) or department stores (Le Bon Marché, Lafayette gourmet), have bolstered the market in France. (Xerfi, 2017)

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# 9

## ▶ SOUGHT-AFTER EXPERTISE

In 2004, the Swiss company Caviar House teamed up with Maison Prunier, based in Montpon Menesterol in Nouvelle Aquitaine, to benefit from its experience of breeding sturgeon. Around a dozen tonnes of caviar are produced every year. New investment in 2017 created five jobs in addition to the existing 25. France is today the fourth largest producer of caviar.

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# 10

## ▶ THE ULTIMATE GOURMET GATHERING

Established in 2009, the Gourmet Selection event specializes in high value-added food products and gourmet living. Some 350 exhibitors selling food products, wines, spirits, accessories, gifts, and more than 4,000 fine food and gastronomy professionals attended the 2017 event.



**IN 2017, FRANCE EXPORTED**

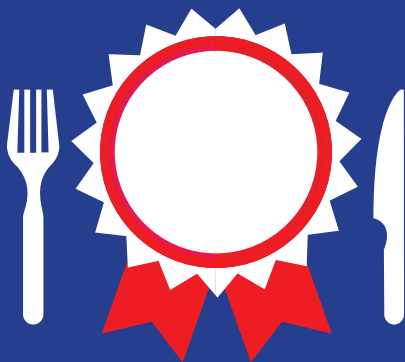
**€7.2**

**BILLION-WORTH  
OF GOURMET PRODUCTS**

**(FRENCH CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES, 2018)**



**AGRI-FOOD:  
FRANCE'S #1  
INDUSTRY  
(INSEE)**

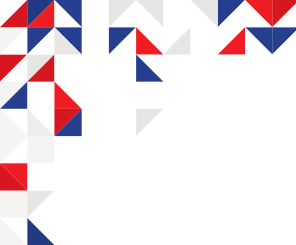


**FRANCE'S GASTRONOMIC  
MEAL NOW ON  
UNESCO'S INTANGIBLE  
CULTURAL HERITAGE LIST  
(UNESCO)**

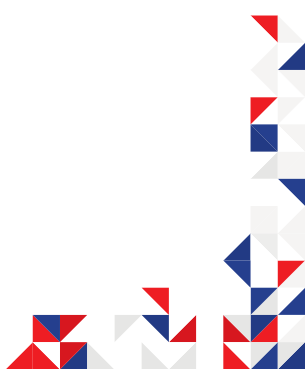


**FRANCE:**  
**#6**  
**GLOBAL AGRI-FOOD**  
**EXPORTER**  
**(UN COMTRADE)**





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