



## **FRANCE**

### **Information on your destination**

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#### **Documents to take**

Passport (or an identity cards if you come from a European country within the Schengen treaty). You must be 18 years old to pilot a boat.

#### **Highway Code**

Minimum age 18 years old, wearing a seat belt is compulsory at the front and rear, children under 10 must sit in the back and use a child seat. From July 1st, 2012, it is compulsory to carry an alcohol tester that is ready to use.

#### **Speed limits**

Motorway: 130 km/h - other roads: 80-90 km/h - in town: 50 km/h.

#### **Opening Hours**

Shops from 9am to 12-12.30pm and from 2 to 7pm - closed on Monday grocers are sometimes open on Sunday mornings.

#### **Phone**

For France dial: +33 (without the '0' from the local number).

## **In case of emergency**

Fire brigade:181

Police: 17

Ambulances: 15

International emergency numbers: 112

## **Fishing**

There is a daily (€11) or weekly (€33) fishing pass, valid all year round. The base will tell you where to buy it. Depending on the region the holiday licence is available outside these times, too. Otherwise, an annual license is necessary, which is much more expensive. Your departure base will inform you. Fishing with a dragnet is forbidden, and you should observe the regulations over minimum catch size (Pike = 60 cm / Sander = 50 cm / Trout = 23 cm).

## **Advice for navigation**

In France, the right to use the waterways and locks is included in the hiring price. There are some opening bridges that are only open at certain times (e.g., the bridge at Frontignan on the Canal du Rhône à Sète), others are only open on request and some that you manoeuvre yourself. You will find all these details in the guide map as well as in the boat's log book.

Navigation on the Etang de Thau is forbidden if the wind is stronger than Force 3 Beaufort (12-19 km/h or 8-11 knots). The staff at the base will give you all the necessary information. Depending on the regions, the locks are closed on certain bank holidays such as May 1st, 14th July and November 1st. However, there are numerous exceptions, which you can find in the base information on the following pages.