

## *France Sports Educational Travel*

### FRANCE

Northern France is a great destination for a sports tour. Lievin just 1½ hours from Calais, is the official regional centre of the French Soccer Federation. Lievin adjoins the town of Lens - a soccer crazy town where a number of World Cup 98 matches were played. Soccer friendly matches are organized against a selection of local clubs within the region while rugby and boys hockey is also possible in nearby Arras, Bethune and Lille. Lille with its close proximity to Paris is also an excellent touring base.

In the Parisienne suburbs a short drive south of the city, the Villecresnes complex is another ideal location for school groups looking to stay in the Paris region. Accommodation is in simple self-catering bungalow-style units for 4 persons, with meals provided in the restaurant on site and the added attraction of sports and leisure facilities on site. There are excellent possibilities for Soccer, rugby and even hockey teams within Paris and the region. Occasional tournaments may also be available at certain times of year.

With its enormous expanses of golden sandy beach, the Cote d' Opale has long been popular with French and English tourists. The charming, busy seaside resort of Berck sur Mer has a reputation for being a sporty town. You will find the accommodation perfectly located just two minutes from the beach, shops and sports facilities. Soccer, rugby and even boys hockey matches are organized within the region.

Along the French Normandy coast the Houlgate centre is located just a mile from the beach and set in lovely extensive grounds with numerous leisure facilities. Soccer and rugby matches are organized within the region with tournaments available over selected weekends. Some boys and girls hockey is also played in Normandy.

Verville a quiet and peaceful village in the Normandy countryside, ideal for a secluded training camp. The picturesque village is within walking distance of the centre, and is only a dozen or so miles from Rouen. It is also just a short drive to the beaches of the Normandy coast. This specialist soccer venue is managed by one of France's top international referees. Soccer friendly matches are organized against a selection of local clubs. Rugby and hockey is also possible in the region on request.

With its warmer climate Southern France is another destination that is becoming increasingly popular with sports teams, Rugby and soccer are played widely also in this region as well as Basketball, Netball and cricket. We are able to organize tours around the Toulouse area or the Mediterranean resorts.