

MAGIC

The Gathering®



March 2-4

GP Lille Guide

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In order to facilitate planning your visit to Lille, the French federation of Magic the Gathering have prepared this short guide.

We hope it proves useful and allows you to enjoy even more your stay in France.

Quick Facts

Electricity:

220 VAC, 50 Hz, Euro - type plug.

Calling code: +33.

Time zone:

GMT+1 winter /

GMT+2 summer.

Cell phone network: 3G at 900/2100 MHz (UMTS or WCDMA) and GSM.



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Think Green : print only if needed.

Language and communication

The official language is French. A lot of French people can speak English, especially the young generation.

Obviously, it is not their native language so if you need to talk to them, you should try to speak slowly and without accent.

French players can understand most **Magic** words in English, such as tap, untap, instant, stack, damage, mulligan, life, and so on. You can normally play a game with a French player without having to say anything in French. However, you might want to know some French sentences used by local players. Here they are, along with some other useful phrases:



The « Grand Place », Lille downtown

Numbers

0 - zéro	11 - onze
1 - un	12 - douze
2 - deux	13 - treize
3 - trois	14 - quatorze
4 - quatre	15 - quinze
5 - cinq	16 - seize
6 - six	17 - dix-sept
7 - sept	18 - dix-huit
8 - huit	19 - dix-neuf
9 - neuf	20 - vingt
10 - dix	

Playing

Nice to meet you. — Heureux de faire votre connaissance.

I play first. — Je joue en premier.

I play second (I draw). — Je joue en second (je pioche).

How many cards in your hand? — Combien de cartes en main ?

What's your total life? — Combien de points de vie ?

Please wait a second — Un instant s'il vous plait.

I concede. — Je concède

Thank you. — Merci



Currency

The Euro (€ symbol) is the French currency.

1 Euro roughly equals 110 Japanese Yen - 1,31 US Dollars - 0,85 British pounds.

Most shops accept credit cards such as VISA and Mastercard – AMEX is less popular and recognized. Therefore you shouldn't have to keep a lot of cash in your pocket. However, sometimes, a minimum amount (10-15€ depending on the store) is required for using a credit card to pay.

You can ask for an invoice/receipt for any amount.

Traveling

Where is [Mairie de Lille] Station? — Où se trouve la station [Mairie de Lille] ?

Is it near here? — Est-ce proche ?

Can I walk there? — Puis-je y aller à pieds ?

Does this train stop at ~? — Ce train s'arrête-t-il à ~?

What's the next station? — Quelle est la prochaine station ?

How long does it take? — Combien de temps cela prend ?

I'd like to buy a return ticket. — Je voudrais acheter un billet aller-retour.

Please take me to [Lille Grand Palais Congress Centre] —

Emmenez moi à [Centre de congrès Lille Grand Palais] s'il vous plait.

How much does it cost to go to [Lille Grand Palais Congress Centre]? —

Quel est le prix pour aller à [Lille Grand Palais Congress Centre]?

Where are the toilets ? — Où sont les toilettes ?

Tipping

There is no tipping habit in France. Service is already included in the invoice. At restaurants, taxis, hotels, etc. you never need to provide any tip but if you do so, it'll be likely accepted if a special attention or a particular service has been provided.

In comedy theatres and concert halls, you usually tip the staff member who led you to your seat. Most of the time, tips are his/her only salary.

Safety

Lille is a safe place but it doesn't mean there is no crime. It depends on the time and the place, and your luck. Police forces are permanently placed on terrorist alert level so please do not leave your baggage unattended in public places and transportation.



Smoking

Smoking is prohibited in public spaces (bars, restaurants, stations, transports, hotels) but not outdoors.

Convenience stores.

In Lille there are convenience stores in almost every corner in down town that are open with extended hours.

They tend to have not only a great array of hot and cold snack foods and drinks, but also things like battery packs for phones, toiletries, and alcoholic drinks.



Yes, you can buy beer and wine in convenience stores. Drinking in public space is not prohibited in France, but it's not recommended.

If you're looking for a cheap takeaway meal, you can easily find a cold one in a convenience store. There are lots of sandwiches and take away stores open late at night in Lille Railway district streets.



The Town Hall, and his famous Belfroi tower

Transportation...

LILLE

1) From Lille-Lesquin Airport

Visitors will arrive at Lille Airport situated 20 minutes away from the centre of Lille and get a connection at the railway station to the tournament venue by shuttle.

Frequency: every 40 Min on week days. Also operates on Sunday and bank holidays.

Journey time: 20 min

Fare: € 7 one way / € 9 Return

You can find timetables and details here : <http://lille.aeroport.fr/gb/acces/navette.asp>

2) From Paris-Charles de Gaulle Airport

Visitors could also arrive from Paris-Charles de Gaulle Airport. There is a lot of high speed train connection calling at Lille railway station.

Frequency: an average hour on week days. Also operates on Sunday and bank holidays.

Journey time: 56 min

Fare : vary a lot (age – time – late booking or not...)

You can find timetables details and book here :

http://www.tgv-europe.com/en/?rfr=Homepage_footer_United%20Kingdom

3) From Belgium Airport

Visitors could also arrive from Belgium airport

. Bruxelles Zaventem Airport.

There is a lot of local train connection calling at Lille railway station from Bruxelles-midi railway station.

Frequency: an average hour on week days. Also operates on Sunday and bank holidays.

Journey time: 45 min

Fare : vary a lot (age – time – late booking or not...)

You can find timetables details and book here : <http://www.b-rail.be/main/E>

. Charleroi Airport

Most of low-cost flight are located in this airport. The easiest way to go to Lille is to connect through Bruxelles-midi railway station by train shuttle.

You can find timetables details and book here : <http://www.b-rail.be/main/E>

You can also order a private shuttle direct to Lille around 90€ - book it in advance.

4) By train

Situated just 400 meters from one another, Lille's two train stations are located in the city centre and are served by both the subway and the tram.

Lille Flandres Station: TER regional trains and direct TGV service to Paris.

Lille Europe Station: Eurostar service to London and Brussels, direct TGV service to Roissy Airport, Paris and all major French cities.

- Brussels: 38 minutes, 14 TGV and Eurostar trains a day

- Paris : 1 hour, 26 direct TGVs a day

- London : 80 minutes

- Lyon : 3 hours, 11 direct TGVs a day

Fare: vary a lot (age – time – late booking or not...)

You can find timetables and details here :

http://www.tgv-europe.com/en/?rfr=Homepage_footer_United%20Kingdom

Transportation...

5) By car

Six motorways lead to Lille:

A1 from Paris (220 km)

A23 from Valenciennes (53 km)

A25 from Dunkerque (80 km) and the A26 from Calais (110 km)

A27 / E42 from Brussels (110 km)

A22 / E17 from Ghent (75 km), Antwerp (125 km) and Amsterdam (290 km)



Download the [access map and map of the city centre](#).

Plan your itinerary with [Mappy](#) or [ViaMichelin](#) or [google maps](#).

Check [Info Trafic](#) (only available in French).

6) By bus

Eurolines, the international coach company organizes journey from/to Lille at fair price on a regular basis.

You can find timetables details and book here :

<http://www.eurolines.fr/en>

7) Public transportation in Lille

With [Transpole](#), Lille has a comprehensive public transport network:

2 automatic subway (Métro) lines

Line 1 : Villeneuve d'Ascq 4 Cantons

<> Lille CHR B Calmette

Line 2 : Lomme Saint Philibert

<> Tourcoing CH Dron

From 6 am to 11.30 pm.



2 tram lines with more than 35 stops connecting Lille to Roubaix and Tourcoing.

Tramway R : Roubaix Eurotéléport <> Gare Lille Flandres

Tramway T : Tourcoing centre <> Gare Lille Flandres

The buses, trams and metros run every day (except May 1st) from 5.30 am to around midnight.

Standard (single) fare for the entire network:

€1.40 for a full-price single ticket.

Set of 10 tickets: €11

ZAP ticket (3 tram or subway stations, transfert available): €0.70

Day Pass (available during 24h): €4

Evening Pass (after 7.00 pm): €2

The buses, trams and metros are free with [City Pass](#)! 24, 48 72 hours pass





Tournament venue

Lille Grand Palais

1, Boulevard des Cités-Unies

59000 Lille

Tel: +33 (0)3 20 14 15 16

Access :

-Subway (Metro) :

Line 2 St Philibert-C.H.

Dron : station "Lille Grand

Palais" or "Mairie de Lille".

3 min by foot to the

tournament venue.

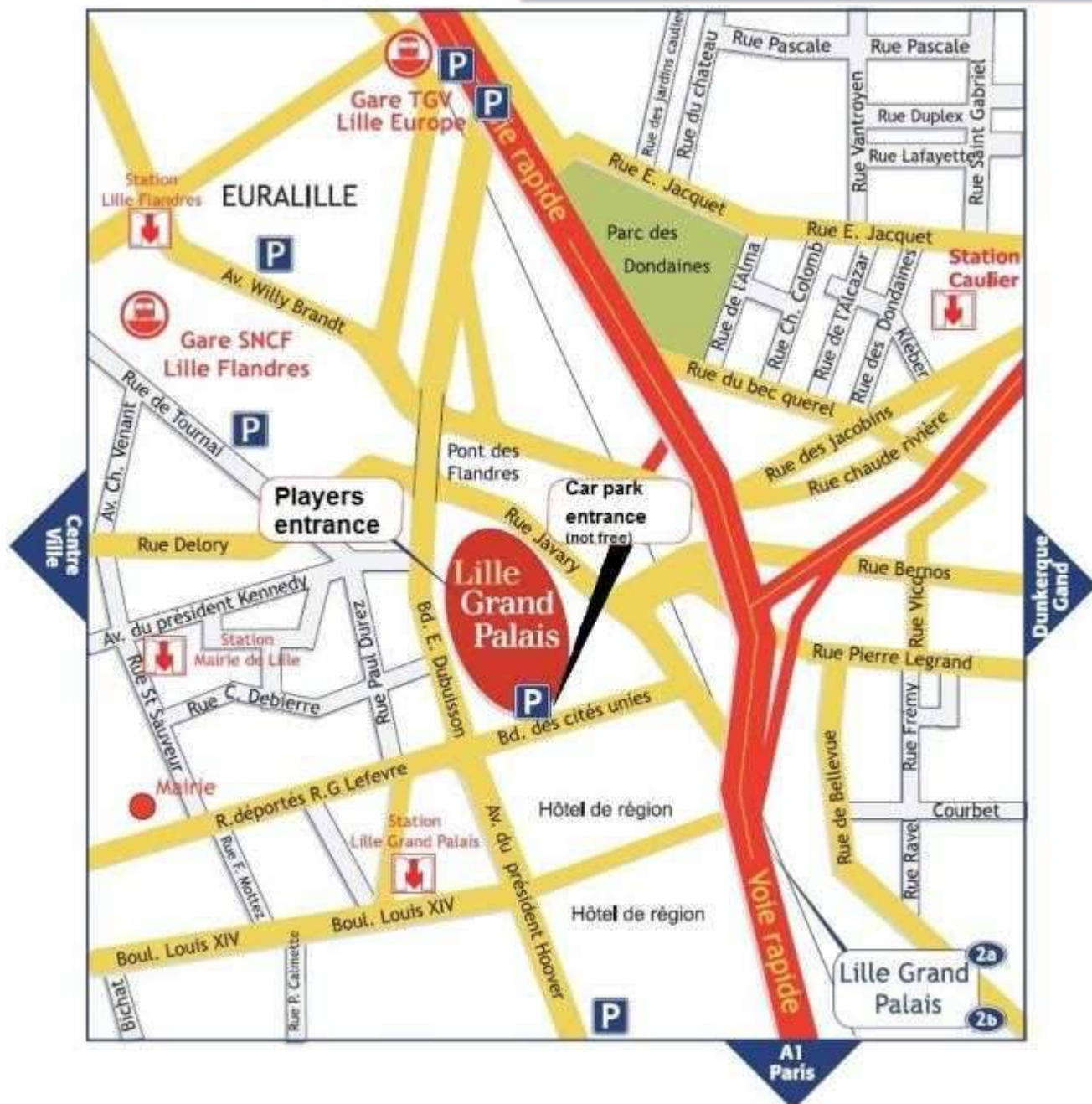
- by bus :

Citadine 1 : P. des Postes > Jardin Vauban > Gares > P. des Postes : stop at "Lille - Zénith" station.

Citadine 2 : P. des Postes > Gares > Cormontaigne > P. des Postes : stop at "Lille - Zénith" station.

Bus Liane 1 : Comines - Lille - Ronchin : stop at "Lille Grand Palais" station.

Bus Liane 2 : Ronchin - Lille - Comines : stop at "Lille Grand Palais" station.



The Fact Sheet

First of all, have you checked the event fact sheet webpage? It's got lot of information about the main tournament, the public events and the hall attractions. You should take a close look at it and decide which things you wouldn't like to miss :

<http://www.wizards.com/Magic/TCG/Events.aspx?x=mtg/event/grandprix/lille12>

Artists

Did you check which artists are attending? Yeah, it's on the webpage mentioned besides. In Lille, **Magic** artists **will be announced soon**.

You should start gathering all the cards you want to get signed at the event.

Magic in Lille

There are several game stores in Lille. Some stores have play space where you can play booster drafts, EDH, etc. WotC's own store locator is a handy tool for finding them:

<http://ww2.wizards.com/StoreAndEventLocator>

Main shops are:

Hobby Max

(9, rue George Maertens 59000 Lille - +33 (0) 320391908 - <http://www.hobby-max.fr>)

Troll et Ptits Lutins

(30 rue Gosselet 59000 Lille - +33 (0) 320881351 - <http://www.trollsetptitslutins.fr/home.php>)

Bazar du Bizarre lille

(24 rue des ponts de comine 59000 Lille - +33 (0) 320555665 - <http://www.bazardubizarre.com/mag.asp>)

Rocambole

(36, rue de la clef 59000 Lille - +33 (0) 320556701 - <http://www.rocambole.fr>)



Magic Magazine

There is a French magazine about Magic since 1994 "**Lotus noir**".

Some writers are well known in the Magic world : Pierre MALHERBAUD – European Championship finalist and Kevin DESPREZ – DCI level 4 judge.

The new website <http://www.lotusnoir.info> is going to be developed in the near future.

Be sure that they will attend this Grand Prix to bring you a nice coverage.

HOTELS

There are a lot of choices at various prices but I will recommend to you :

Close to the tournament location, 2 minutes walking

<http://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-3165-novotel-lille-centre-gares/index.shtml>

You can find and book your hotel with internet browser such as

<http://www.booking.com> or <http://www.tripadvisor.fr>

YOUTH HOSTEL

5 min by foot to the tournament venue, the youth hostel has accommodation in 2-6 bedded rooms and facilities include bar and kitchen from €21/night/bed.

Lille youth hostel - 12 Rue Malpart 59000 Lille (Tel. +33 3 20570894)

Website : <http://www.hihostels.com/dba/hostel020037.en.htm#tabs=2>

LOCAL FOOD

Troll et P'tits Lutins

(30 rue Gosselet 59000 Lille - +33 (0) 320881351 - <http://www.trollsetptitslutins.fr/home.php>)

Yep, it is a Magic store but it is also a restaurant with typical menu from the north of France.

Enjoy a local beer served by a Hall of Fame player while drafting... Olivier Ruel is the barman ;-)

La chicorée

(15 place Rihour 59000 LILLE - +33 (0) 320 54 81 52 - <http://chicoree.restaurantsdelille.com>)

Close to the Grand Place, this restaurant proposes a lot of local food at fair price. A well known address not far away from the tournament venue. Ideal for dinner.

PLACE TO BE IN LILLE...

The "Grand place", The "vieille bourse", and the Beffroi are located 200 m far away from Lille Flandres railway station. Living place, this location is Lille downtown. A walk in these streets and you can smell the flavor and the spirit of history of the North of France.

La citadelle

The Citadel of Lille is a pentagon-shaped citadel of the city wall of Lille, in France. It was built around 1668. It is one of the most notable citadels designed by Vauban. Starting from Lille, he supervised the construction of the many citadels and channels of the North, which controlled the border between France and Belgium.

Nowadays, it's still a military barracks but a large part is opened to the public and hosts a free zoo. It's a nice place to enjoy the warmth of the sun in the North....



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Ideas or comments are more than welcome at : mtg.guidetogplille2012@gmail.com

A french guide is also available at : <http://www.ffmtg.fr>