

# Year 8 & 9 Trip to France



## Horse riding

Horse riding was so funny, Miss Maria Jose was impressed with her riding but I think we all put her down. She ran into a tree and started screaming while we were trotting. Then my horse started going crazy and nearly jumped on Ami's pony. Sean was laughing at me so much. Then Thomas's leg got caught in the reins and the horse wouldn't stop moving it was so funny! Alicia fell off the horse and my horse nearly ran over her so I turned quiet dramatically and then fell off. It was fun! The trip was great!

*Nadia*

## La Dune du Pyla

Although the day started off grey and cloudy, by the time we reached the sand dune, the sun was beaming and blue skies were all around.



"Try jumping with really long steps!" someone shouted.  
"Okay!" I replied. And over I fall.

*Cat Taylor*

In my opinion the best thing about France was the river descent. It was a fast paced race down the river of Mimizan. Myself, Josh and Miss Maria Jose were enthralled into a jungle of pond weed, midges, humongous

spiders and we were even ambushed by hordes of thorns and tiny creatures. Deeper and deeper we ventured down the river and into the forest. Unfortunately for me and Miss



Maria Jose our boat decided to lodge itself a few hundred times on rocks and logs, so we had to get out of the boat and into the water we went. Freezing doesn't even come close to describing the water not only did we have to push the boat, we also had to swim with it. Cold! Cold! Cold!

But it was all worth it in the end just to take a hot shower at the camp and grab a bite to eat!

*Lucas Whittaker*

Scuala were the huge fish that lived in the lake. They mated a lot so there were millions of them. They ate small fish at the bottom of the lake and enjoyed sucking on humans' toes. On



our day rowing my friend Charlotte and I were rowing happily down the lake, singing at the top of our voices and all of a sudden we saw a scuala. It was huge! We screamed so loud the whole lake thought something outrageous had happened, so now when we row we have our own little song about scuala so watch out for them. They are huge!!!

*Perli*



France was great, especially the river descent, you can't have more fun than canoeing through a narrow river that goes on for ten kilometers, bearing three inch spiders, leeches, huge logs breaking around you, thorns on the left and right waiting for you to lose control and fly into them and lots and lots of water.

It may seem hard to believe that it was enjoyable, but it was. Everywhere you look, you see people losing control and heading towards the thorns, usually screaming and flailing arms around. Spiders as big as your hands landing in front of you with fangs ready to bite is also a common situation. And it wasn't just the insects or plants, no, it gets harder. You can't help but get jammed on top of a rock, especially when people like Max, Fares and Louis are hitting you with the oars and pushing you into thorns.

It was hard but it was a good experience and was worth the effort. Au revoir.

*Josh Jolly*

In this year's French trip we went to Mimizan and Bordeaux. We did so many activities in Mimizan like sailing, canoeing, kayaking, cycling and river decent and also horse riding which was optional.

The activity I mostly enjoyed in Mimizan was river decent canoeing in a dangerous river, it was very adventurous and it was the activity that I have never experienced before.



I think the most challenging activity was my first time horse riding. My pony Bambu was an insane pony, which kept wandering off in another direction trotting. Also Megan's horse kicked me because my horse and her horse were about to fight, and Megan's horse thought I was Bambu and kicked my knee which didn't really hurt me but left a big scratch. We also went to Bordeaux to do a quiz



there and shopping which was very exciting but we only stayed there for 2 hours. In my opinion I think we should have stayed in Bordeaux longer. After shopping and doing the quiz we went to the highest sand dune in Europe which was amazing.

*Hanae Yoshimura*

The part of the trip that I enjoyed most was when we went to the Dune du Pyla which is the biggest sand dune in Europe, it was absolutely amazing. We made sand angels and rolled down the sand so fast that we ended up in a giant pile.

The moment that made me laugh the most was when Hanae was on a crazy little pony called Bambu that kept wandering off with her.

Also, the bus journey was much better than I thought it was going to be, we watched loads of films, played games, slept a lot and even though it took about 18 hours it was worth it when we finally got to Mimizan.

*Megan Arlett*

The trip was amazing and the river descent was hilarious. The best bit was by far the bus journey though! We told ghost stories when it got dark and completely freaked ourselves out! We sat at the back and everyone was getting so annoyed with us so whatever happened it was the fault



of the "back row!" We were trying to sleep and we were all spread out over each other. It was so uncomfortable! It was such a brilliant week though and I'll never forget it!

*Charlotte Alexander*

