

Finding a place to live in Lyon

Tips and tricks to help secure a safe and comfortable place to live in Lyon, France.



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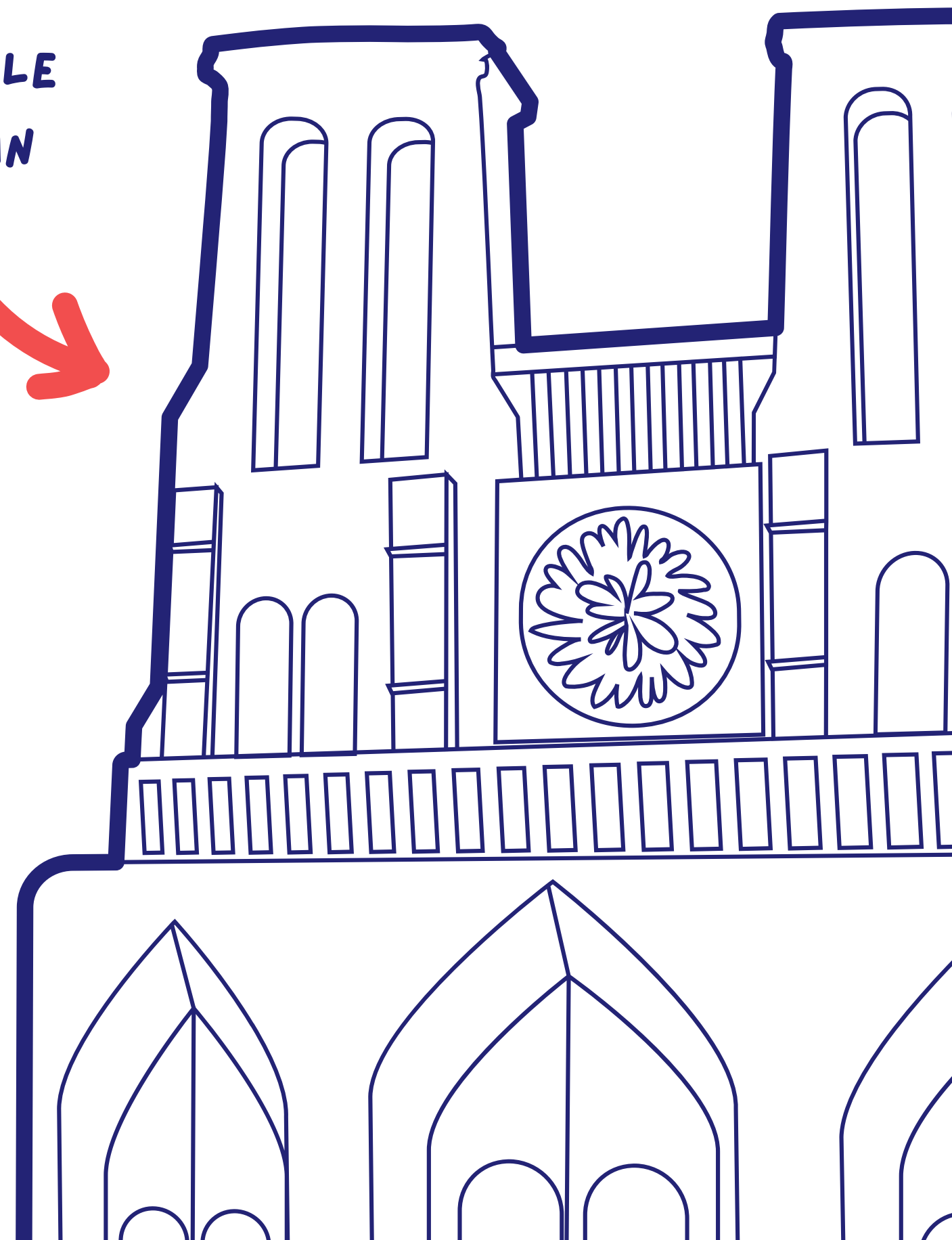
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Bienvenue à Lyon

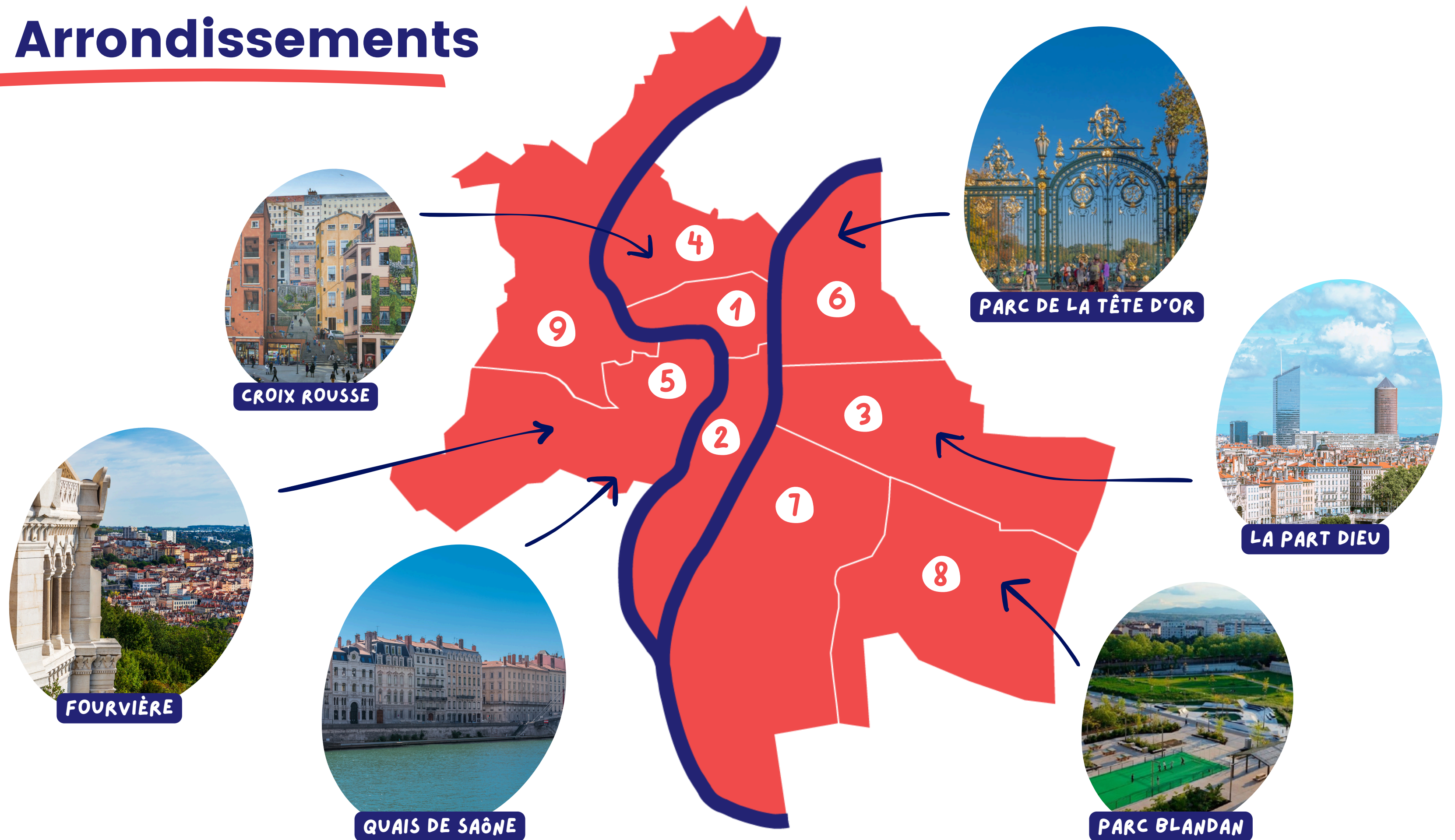
Nestled along the banks of the Rhône and Saône rivers, Lyon is a vibrant city home to over half a million people.

With its UNESCO-listed historic center, world-class cuisine, and endless choice of activities and outdoor spaces, it's the perfect destination to experience what France has to offer.

It's no wonder Lyon is consistently voted as one of Europe's best cities to live in!



Les Arrondissements

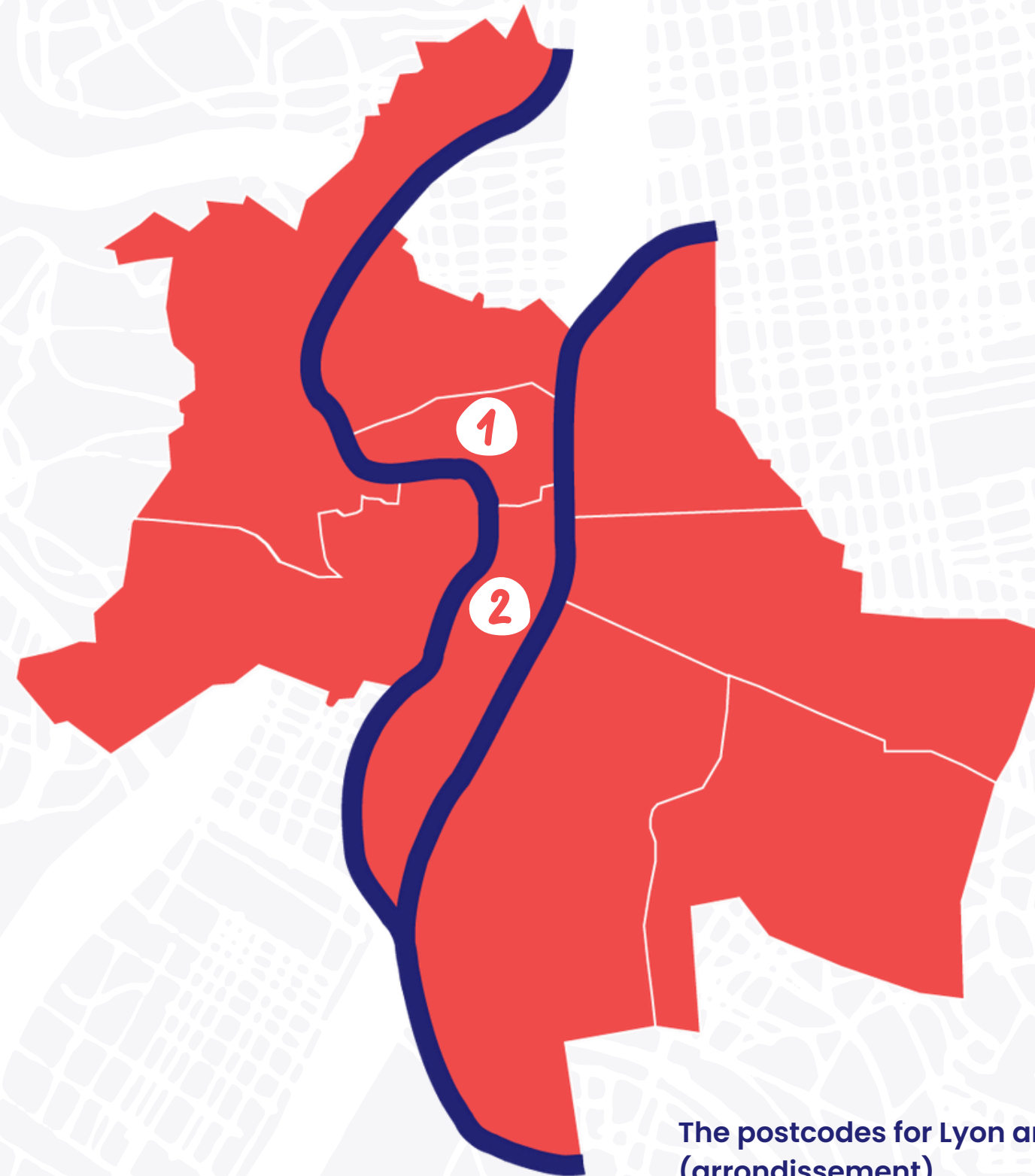


Which arrondissement should I choose?

69001

The first district is in the heart of Lyon, on the Presqu'île. The area is known for its vibrant shopping streets, cultural landmarks such as the city hall, opera, the Musée des Beaux-Arts and an array of popular cafes and restaurants.

Whilst rents are typically higher due to the central location, the Presqu'île is an ideal place to live to benefit from all the things the city has to offer, all within walking distance!



69002

The second district stretches from Bellecour down to Confluence. The district is home to Lyon Perrache railway station and many restaurants and shops.

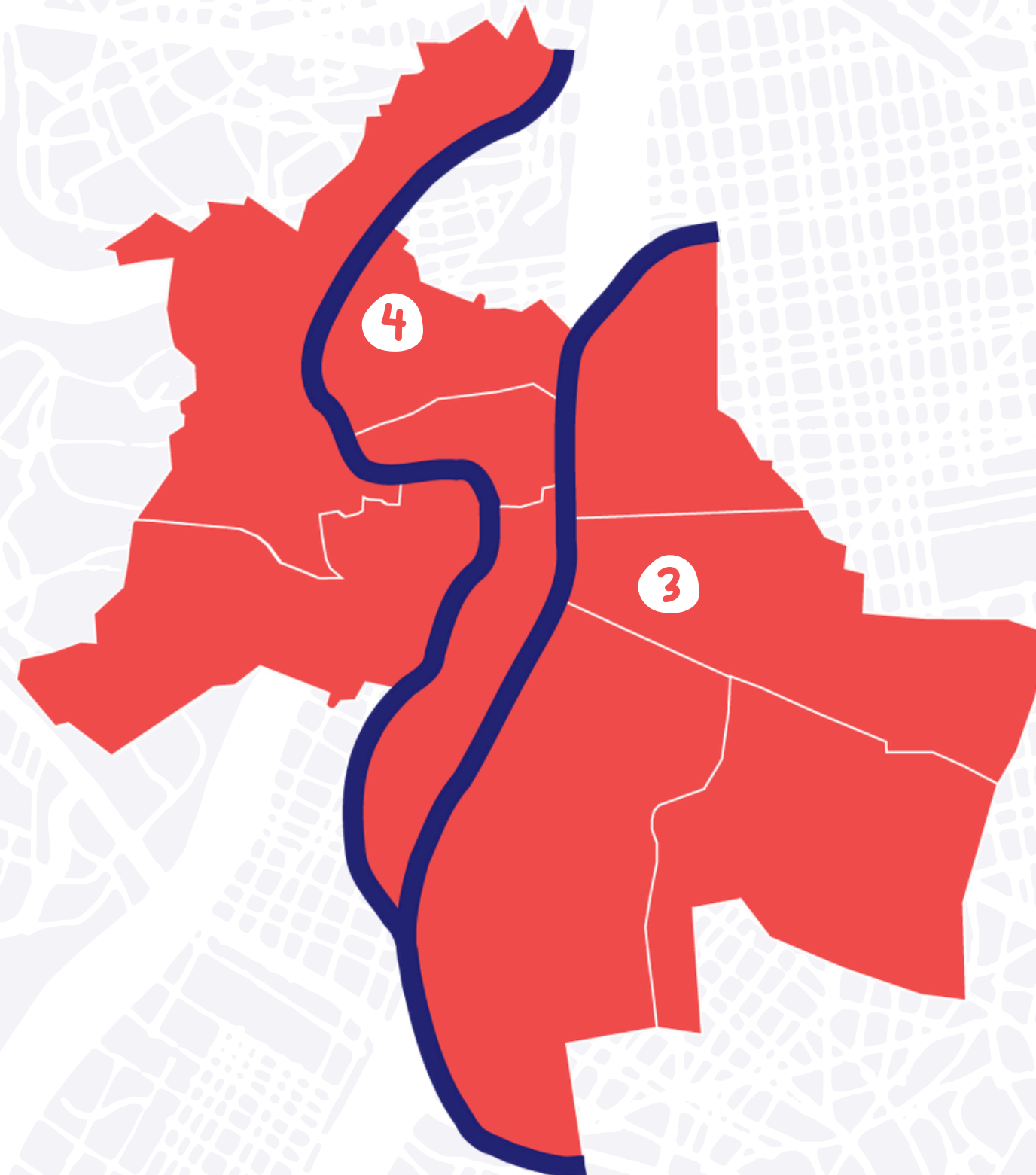
Once you go beyond Perrache train station you are in Confluence, a new modern neighbourhood with a large shopping centre, gym and park. Multiple tram lines connect this neighbourhood to the city centre.

The postcodes for Lyon are 6900_ and the final number indicates the district (arrondissement).

69003

The third district is the largest in Lyon and it covers Mutualité Prefecture, Voltaire Part-Dieu, Villette Paul Bert, Sans Souci Dauphiné and Montchat. All these areas are pleasant to live in, just be aware that around Part-Dieu train station can be crowded.

With access to the metro, bus, tram, airport tram service and multiple bike stations, you have every possible means of transport at your disposal!



69004

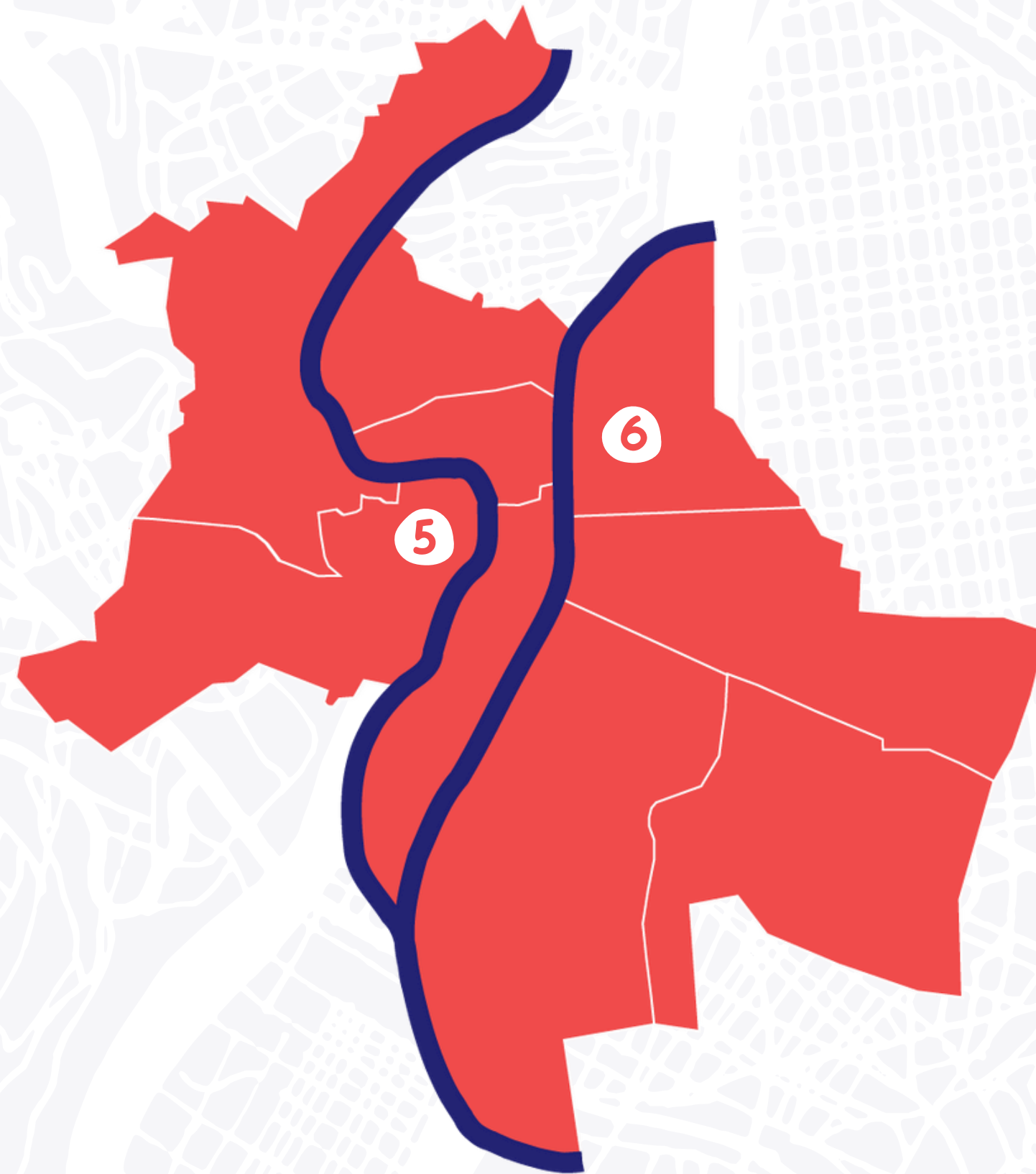
The fourth district is called the Croix-Rousse. The neighbourhood is positioned on a hill, offering both stunning views of the city as well as a free workout - you will not need a gym membership with all those hills!

The narrow winding streets are known for weekly produce markets, independent boutiques, vintage and vinyl shops and cozy cafes

69005

The 5th district covers the old historic town (Vieux Lyon), Fourvière and the surrounding neighbourhoods.

It's a lively area full of activity and character, as well as an abundance of traditional Lyonnaise restaurants (Bouchons) to visit. Bear in mind the old town can become busy during peak tourist seasons.



69006

The sixth district is known for its elegant 19th-century architecture, wide boulevards, and residential atmosphere. Whilst typically a more expensive neighbourhood of Lyon, the 6th arrondissement is ideally located and well connected to the rest of the city.

The sixth district is also home to the glorious 'Parc de la Tête d'Or' (a large green space within the city) which is a huge bonus!

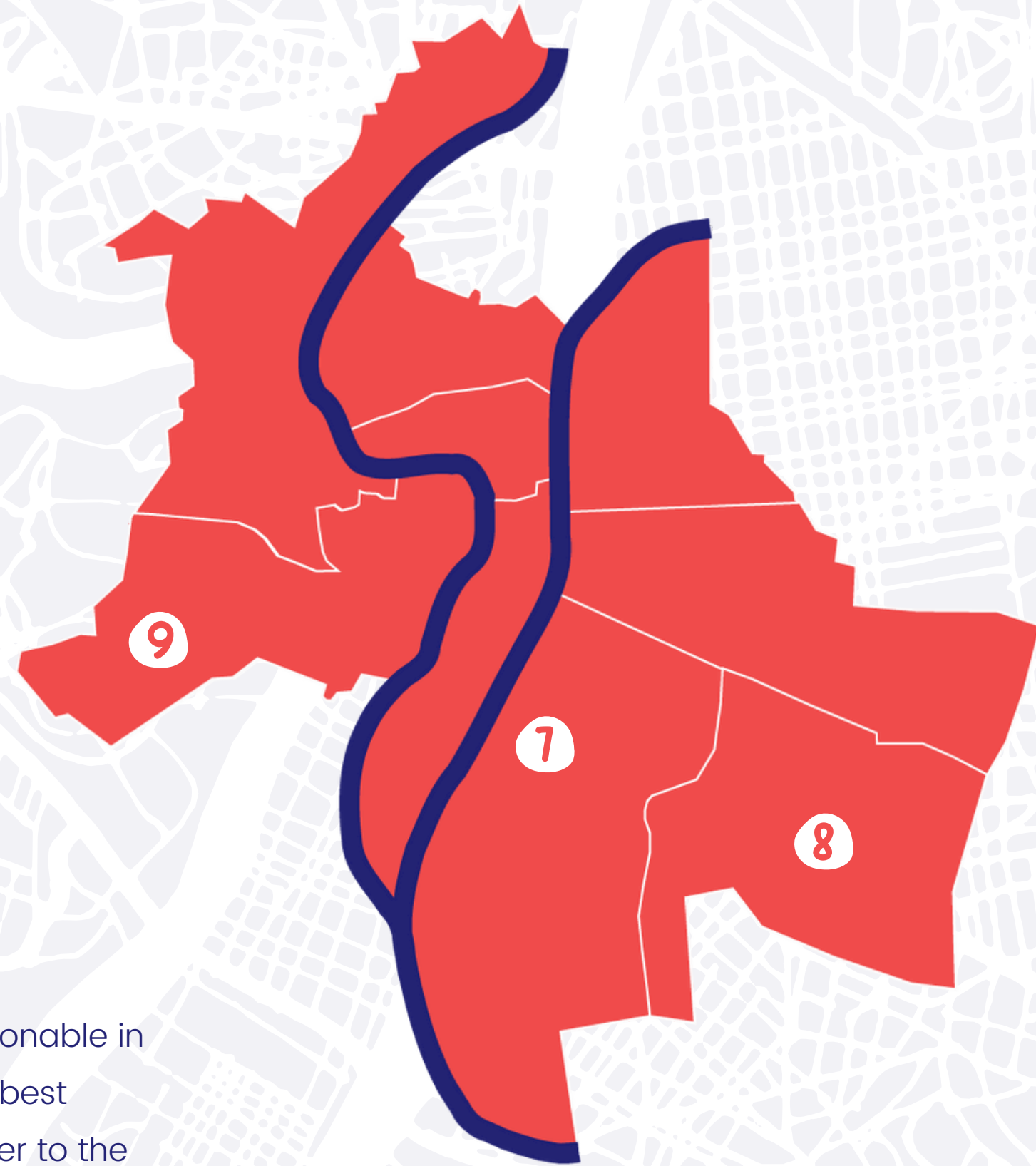
69007

Positioned directly next to the river, the seventh arrondissement is a prime location for students and young people looking to live in Lyon on a budget.

The seventh arrondissement is bustling with cafes, bars, second-hand shops, international supermarkets and nightclubs; the area is also well connected to multiple transport lines and is home to Lyon 2 University.

69009

The ninth district is the north of Lyon and it is reasonable in the areas closer to the city. La Duchère is not the best area so we would recommend being slightly closer to the city, either Vaise or Gorge du Loup



69008

The eighth district is slightly further from the centre but well connected with trams and the metro. Apartments tend to be modern and cheaper.

The further east you go however the more aware you should be in terms of safety.

Where to look?

Finding accommodation in Lyon can be a notoriously difficult task as the demand for rental properties is very high.

However, if you remain consistent, allow enough time and provide the correct documents, you will successfully find a suitable home away from home. The following websites are a good place to start:

➔✳️ **La carte des colocs**

France's go-to website to find flatmates (colocataires).

➔✳️ **Chez Nestor**

It's more expensive, but a reliable service, and you can reserve your accommodation before getting to Lyon.

➔✳️ **Oqoro**

Oqoro (previously 'mon bel apart') offers a similar service to Chez Nestor.

➔✳️ **Le bon coin**

Le bon coin is good for selling and buying used goods – users also post rooms and apartments for rent via this website.



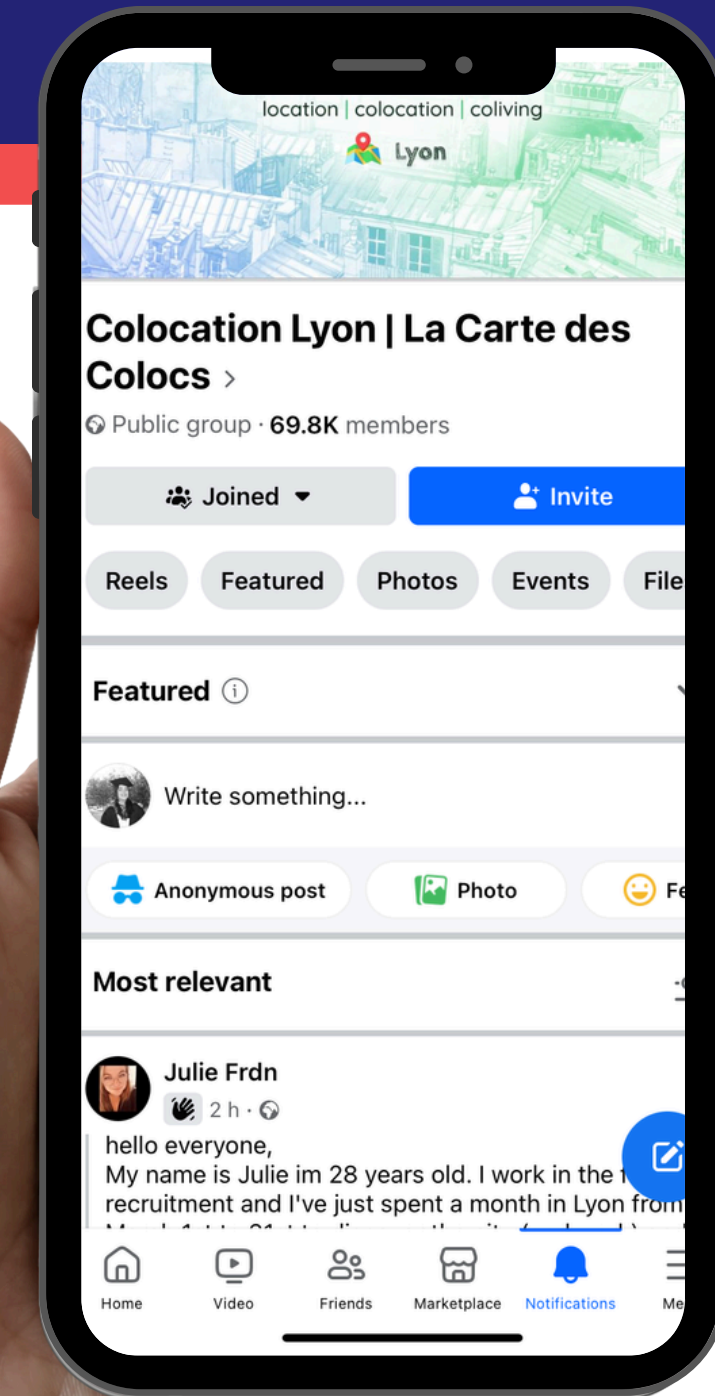
Where to look?

As well as websites, Facebook groups are a common way of sourcing accommodation in France.

However, be aware of scammers online and never send any money or documentation before securing a visit. It is also important to check for irregularities such as spelling, odd social media posts and small details that could indicate a housing scam.

Here are the most popular Facebook groups used to source accommodation:

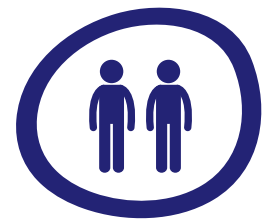
- Colocation Lyon | La Carte des Colocs
- Erasmus and International Students Lyon
- Expats living in Lyon
- Expat housing in Lyon
- Logement Etudiant Lyon | Colocation, Appart, Chambres, Location
- Gone Girl International Lyon



What options do I have?

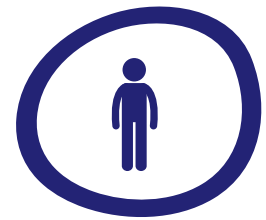
There are many forms of accommodation available in Lyon depending on your desires.

Ranging from independent studios to more social housing arrangements, Lyon has something to offer for everyone. Here are the different types of accommodation you could apply for:



Flatshare (Colocation)

Colocations are one of the most popular types of accommodation for students and young professionals in Lyon. You can often find rooms that are available in flats with other students or working professionals in the city. You can expect to pay 400-700€ per month for a room in a flat in Lyon.



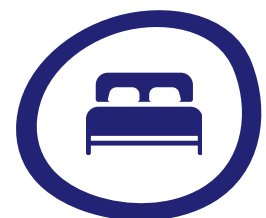
Studio

Studio apartments are ideal if you like your own space and are happy in your own company. You can expect to pay between 500-1000€ per month depending on the style and size of the apartment.



Homestay

Homestays (living with a host family) are good if you want some home comforts and a guaranteed place to move into when you arrive. We have a partnership with [Homestay Lyon](#) to house students upon arrival. The monthly cost is €595 including bills. Homestay Lyon has host families all over Lyon to suit your preferences. With a homestay, there's no need to have a guarantor and there is no administration fees.



Airbnb

Some airbnb's can be rented long term, but this can be more expensive. Prices range from 800-1200€ per month depending.

What is a dossier de location?

In order to rent anywhere in France, whether through a landlord or an agency, you will be required to present a 'dossier de location' with all of your personal information in it.

In your dossier you should include:



Copy of your passport

Provide a clear scan of your passport. Ensure your passport is valid.



Copy of your RIB

Provide a copy of your RIB (French Bank details).



Payslips

Provide payslips from the last three months if appropriate.



Guarentor

Provide the details of a person who could, if need be, act as your guarantor.



Job contract or acceptance letter

Provide a copy of your university acceptance letter, student card or work contract.

Agency vs Landlord ?

When renting a room or property in France, you can rent through an agency or private landlord.

Agency

- Many apartments can be rented through rental agencies in Lyon. Some of the most popular agencies are: Chez Nestor, Studapart and Oqoro.
- Agencies are a secure way to find accommodation and are guaranteed to not scam you.
- However, you will be required to pay 'frais d'agence' (agency fees) which can be around €200-300 and you won't get that money back.
- With agencies, you may be able to reserve a room in advance.

Landlord

- When choosing a landlord directly you will not need to pay agency fees.
- It is important to make sure that the landlord is trustworthy and will help out when there are any issues in the apartment.
- Landlords will often post adverts on Facebook or on 'le bon coin'.
- Landlords often require less paperwork than agencies.
- You will need to pay a deposit upfront.

Applying for CAF: Housing benefits

APL is rental assistance provided by the CAF for qualifying individuals. If successful in your application, you can receive as much as €180 per month for a room in a shared flat or €206 per month for a studio, to contribute to your accommodation costs. Follow these simple steps to apply.

If you are viewing apartments to rent, make sure to [ask if the properties are eligible for CAF.](#)



How to apply:

1. Check if you're eligible

- Your apartment is eligible for APL*
- Your name is on the lease
- You are not related to your landlord
- You have a long-term Student Visa
- You have little / no income

2. Gather Necessary Documents

- Valid student visa
- French social security number
- Proof of income
- Your landlord information
- French bank identification code (RIB)

Steps [2 & 3](#) on next page

Applying for CAF: Housing benefits

3. Fill out the simulation

Go to Caf.fr

Click on Menu → Mes services en ligne → Faire une simulation

Scroll down to the “Vous n’êtes pas allocataire” section and then click on “Le logement”

You will then be redirected to a page explaining the process

Fill out the pre-application form

You’ll find out if you’re able to claim housing benefits & see an estimation of the amount you’ll receive

4. Fill in your application

To fill in your application simply click:

Menu → Mes services en ligne → Faire une demande de prestation → “Vous n’êtes pas allocataire” → “Le logement”



Applying for Mobili Jeune



What is Mobili Jeune?

If you are an apprentice on a contrat d'apprentissage, you are eligible to apply for Mobili Jeune, a grant of €100 per month for a maximum of 12 months while you are studying and working.

Who can apply?

A young person under the age of 25 who holds a permanent contract, fixed-term contract or temporary employment contract will be eligible for 1,000 euros to help with accommodation and living costs.

When do I apply?

Your application must be submitted 3 months before the start date of your work-study contract or up to 6 months after this date.



Test your **eligibility** for Mobili Jeune

<https://mobilijeune.actionlogement.fr/eligibilite>

How to apply:

To apply for Mobili Jeune, follow these simple steps online:

1 Check Eligibility

- You must be an alternant(e) on a 'contrat d'apprentissage'. You must be eligible for CAF, therefore be renting an apartment (not a subleser).

2 Create account

- Sign up for an account on their website (this initial step can only be done between 4pm and 6pm during the week).

3 Gather documents and apply online

- Proof that you pay rent
- Proof of employment
- RIB
- Copy of your passport
- Apprenticeship contract
- Eligible for CAF

4 Wait 15 days

- It takes 15 days to process your request (sometimes longer during peak times like September and January).
- Each month you must upload a payslip and a proof of rent invoice. Once they receive this they will send the money.



Top tips for a successful stay in Lyon

- ★ Make sure to view the apartment before paying a deposit.
- ★ Sign up to a metro subscription or a 'velov' subscription to make getting around the city easier.
- ★ Make sure to visit the city as much as possible and explore while you're here.
- ★ Keep an eye on your belongings whilst taking the metro and tram, pickpockets are often operating on public transport.
- ★ Apply to CAF and health insurance as early as possible, it can be a long process in France.
- ★ Allow plenty of time when first visiting the families so you arrive on time and aren't affected by any transport problems. First impressions count!



How MES helps

Our team is here to support you every step of the way.

We can provide support with getting set up with a bank account or a homestay.

We can help with providing proof of funds and payslips where necessary.

We can provide a 'promesse d'embauche' or a job contract to prove you have sufficient funds to rent an apartment.



Visit our [blog](#) for tips & information



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WE'RE HERE TO HELP





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