

## France

There are 64,473,140 French citizens with nearly 100% speaking French. French people are world known for their sense of style and chic way of dressing. France is, after all, the country where such famous designers as Coco Chanel originate.

Meals range from the very basic, such as the traditional baguette plus cheese plus inexpensive wine, to very elaborate affairs that can involve a dozen courses and different wines consumed over several hours.

It is common in much of France to take a two-hour break for lunch. Due to the long lunch break, businesses that close for this period typically reopen around 2pm or so and then stay open until about 7pm. Almost all the famous French dishes are regional specialities, some of which have become popular throughout France (such as *Coq au Vin* and *Foie Gras*). France has traditionally been a catholic country and today approximately 80% of the population of France ascribe, at least nominally, to the Catholic religion. The vast majority of Catholics in France do not attend church regularly or even at all.