

Welcome to HUNTING in FRANCE

You are hunting on the French territory.

To ensure that no difficulties arise during your stay in France, some basic rules are to be observed, which we have summarized here:

Document(s) you have to carry with you when hunting:

When hunting, you must at all times carry with you:

- › Your hunting licence or the equivalent administrative document, granted in your home country.
- › Your validation form, duly completed and signed, issued either by the "*Fédération Départementale des Chasseurs*" (= regional Hunting Federation) or by the National Treasury.
- › Your Insurance Certificate, proving that you subscribed a Civil Liability Insurance ("*Assurance Responsabilité Civile*») with an Company authorised to provide, on the French territory, specific insurance against hunting risks (article L 423-16 of the Environmental Code).

These three documents are mandatory to avoid being fined or sanctioned according to the existing regulations and/or legislation:

Besides, do not forget when hunting:

- › Your "*European Firearms Pass*",
- › Your "*European Pet Passport*", if you go hunting with your dog or with your ferret, which must be identified and vaccinated against rabies.

Weapons, ammunition and accessories:

Legislation on weapons and ammunition may not be the same in France than in your home country. Therefore, you should basically know that:

➡ In all circumstances:

- › Handguns and pump-action guns are strictly forbidden when hunting.
- › The use of buckshot, of gunshot inferior to number 1, or of a silencer is also strictly prohibited.
- › Electronic devices, such as walkie-talkie or night vision systems, are forbidden.
- › Only weapons classified in the 5th category can be entered and used on the French territory, with a "*European Firearms Pass*".
- › Important: during transport, weapons must either be unloaded and put into a protective case, or be taken apart (to avoid transport of the gun in one piece). Ammunition must also be carried separately.

Protection of biodiversity and of huntable species

- › Some species are fully protected and cannot be hunted. Any shooting arising from a mistake in their identification is liable to be severely sanctioned by Law. Huntable game species are subject specific regulations, according to the different hunting seasons, type of territory and the species concerned. Regarding opening and closing dates as well as the enforceable legal rules, you can consult the hunting agenda at the local town hall,
- › Be also aware that to bring trophies out of France you must comply with specific regulations.

For an exhaustive update about hunting rules and regulations, you can contact the "*Fédération départementale des chasseurs*" of your departmental hunting area. (see below for Directory).

Safety and Caution:

To "see and be seen" are mandatory rules for your own safety as well as for other's.

- › Before shooting, you must always clearly identify the species. For big game, the rule is that the shooting must always be directed toward the ground, never upwards.
- › Also keep in mind, when hunting, that shooting distances need to be respected.

In case of doubt or if you need some more information on any of these topics, please contact the "*Fédération départementale des chasseurs*" of your departmental hunting area or a gunsmith, who will be able to provide you with all specific information.

We wish you an excellent hunting stay in France.

The complete Directory for all "*Fédérations Départementales des Chasseurs*" can be found on our website: www.chasseurdefrance.com.

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