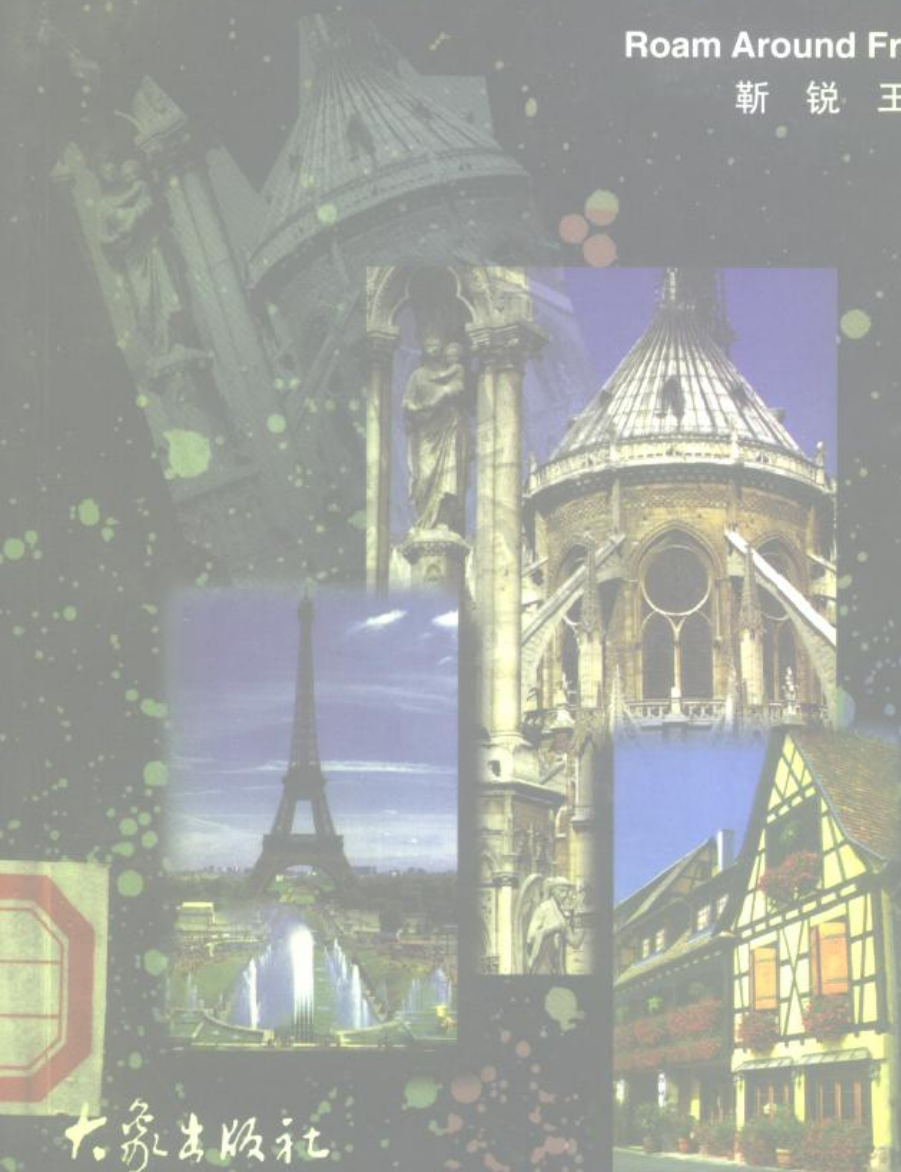


Roam Around the World Roam Around the World  
世界漫游小丛书

# 漫游法国

Roam Around France

靳锐 王大智



大象出版社



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## 前 言

在改革开放的今天,中国青年的目光已不再是仅仅盯着我国的长城内外、大江南北。他们渴望了解世界,尤其是发达国家。他们想了解那些国家的历史、现状、政治制度、生活习俗、文学艺术、自然风貌。看到中国的长江,他们就会想起美国的密西西比河;看到中国的黄果树,他们就会想起加拿大的尼亚加拉瀑布;看到中国的洞庭湖,他们就会想起新西兰的陶波湖;看到中国的苏州,他们就会想起意大利的威尼斯;看到上海的东方明珠,他们就会想起法国的埃菲尔铁塔。特里尔的马克思故居,伦敦的威斯敏斯特教堂,纽约港的自由女神像,巴黎的凡尔赛宫,罗马的斗兽场,悉尼的歌剧院,温哥华的唐人街,蓝山的三姊妹峰……这些闻名遐迩的世界名胜无不吸引着他们年轻的心灵。他们的兴趣广泛得很,想象力丰富得很。他们迫切需要营养丰富的精神食粮,来满足他们如饥似渴的求知欲。

“我们何不编一套英汉对照世界漫游丛书呢?”大象出版社编辑贺凡、董涛二位女士建议道。“一则可以扩大青年人的视野,二则可以帮助他们学习英语。两全其美,何乐而不为呢?”

1997.12.10  
此言不谬。于是,经领导批准,她们便委托我组织编写。这可是个苦差使,因为她们的要求十分苛刻:丛书内容要广泛,语言要浅显,既有趣味性,又有资料性,情趣盎然,图文并茂,每个分册 10 万字左右,三个月交稿。

领了将令,我不敢怠慢,立即组织一批编写人员。其中有教授,副教授,讲师,还有在校硕士研究生。在统一了格式之后,两人一分册,分头编写。具体分工如下:

美国分册:刘云波,虎松菊

英国分册:刘榜离,吴 真

法国分册:靳 锐,王大智

德国分册:王 东,陈异慧

加拿大分册:王云英,葛丙辰

意大利分册:黄 燕,陈保蓉

新西兰分册:索成秀

澳大利亚分册:叶定国,康建明

经过几个月紧锣密鼓的工作,第一批八个分册终于完成。其间编写人员查资料,找图片,编写及翻译的辛苦自不待言。尽管如此,由于时间仓促,资料匮乏,加之编写者文风各异,书中难免有诸多不尽人意之处。令人宽慰的是,精美的印刷与装帧将给这套丛书增色不少。究竟内容如何?还是请我们的青年朋友读读看吧。

刘云波

1997 年 12 月 1 日于郑州大学

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## A SURVEY OF FRANCE

France(officially France Republic)is a country in western Europe,with an area of 557,602 square kilometres.The capital is Paris.Her national anthem is La Marseillaise(words and music by Rouget de Lisle).The French flag has three broad vertical stripes of red,white,and blue,the blue stripe next the hoist;it is called the tricolour.France is bordered on the northeast by Luxembourg and Belgium,on the northwest by the English Channel,on the west by the Atlantic Ocean and the Bay of Biscay,on the south by Spain,Andorra,and the Mediterranean Sea,and on the east by Italy,Switzerland,and Germany.The island of Corsica in the Mediterranean is an integral part of France.The population of France was estimated at 56,720,000.

Three main geological regions are distinguish-

able: The worn remains of the ancient mountains that make up the Hercynian massifs (the Ardennes, the Vosges, the Massif Central, and the Massif Armorian); the northern and western plains; and the higher young fold mountains of the south and southeast, including Pyrenees, the Jura, and the Alps. The Massif Central, the largest of the Hercynian massifs, covers an area of about 91,000 square kilometres. The lowlands lie below 300 metres and cover about two-thirds of France. The Paris Basin lies to the north and northwest of the Massif Central. The Pyrenees stretch for more than 450 kilometres, forming a natural barrier between France and Spain. The Jura Mountains, extending into Switzerland, are composed of folded limestones. The highest point of French Alps is Mont Blanc (4,807 metres). Between these young mountains are the Saône and the Rhône plains, which extend southward to the Rhône delta. West of the delta lies the Languedoc coastal plain and to the east is the Côte d'Azur region, with its internationally known resort area, the French Riviera. The river systems of France are determined by a major divide that runs from the southern part of the Vosges in the northeast to the Massif Central in the south. Along this divide originate most of the westward-flowing rivers, including the Seine and the Loire. The four major river systems of France are those of the Loire, the Rhône, the Seine, and the Garonne. The Loire is the longest river of France, flows 1,000 kilometres.

France's climate is generally moderate, combining Atlantic, Mediterranean, and continental influences. Winters are generally mild outside the mountains and Alsace in northeastern France. The north-

west is characterized by its low monthly temperature variation (Brest having an average temperature of 6°C in January and 16°C in July), by its extreme humidity and moderate rainfall (900mm), and by the frequency of gale-force winds. The climate of the Paris Basin is a mixture of both maritime and continental influences. The average annual temperature is 11°C, and average annual precipitation is about 585mm in Paris. The Mediterranean climate of the southeast is characterized by mild winters, heavy precipitation during autumn and spring, dry summers, and violent northerly wind called the mistral. The average annual rainfall for most of the country is from 760 to 1,000 mm, with the mountainous areas having more than 1,500mm and often nearly 2,000mm a year.

About three-fifths of the land is suitable for agriculture, and France has some of the world's best cereal-growing land. About one-half of the country's arable land is used for cereals, chiefly wheat and corn (maize), but also including barley and oats. Vines, fruits, and vegetables cover only a limited area but represent more than one-fifth of the total value of agricultural output. Forests cover approximately one-fourth of the land area.

After decades of exploitation of iron ore deposits in Lorraine, France ranks among the world's leading producers of iron ore. It also has sizable reserves of tungsten, arsenic, diatomite, gypsum, magnesium, bauxite, lead, and zinc. It has limited reserves of petroleum, natural gas, and coal.

The French consider themselves a single race and a single nation. About three-fourths of the French people belong to the Roman

Catholic church. Other religious groups of sizable numbers include Protestants of various denominations, Jews, and Muslims. A significant portion of the population is also atheist. French is the national and official language. Basque, and German continue to be spoken in some areas, and there are many regional dialects of French. The birth rate is about average for Europe as a whole, which is about one-half the world average. The death rate is also about average for Europe.

France has a developed economy. The gross national product (GNP) is growing faster than the population, and the GNP per capita is about average for a developed, highly industrialized country.

Although France is the leading agricultural country in western Europe, the agricultural sector accounts for less than one-twentieth of the gross domestic product (GDP) and employs about one-twelfth of the work force. France is a major exporter of wine, dairy products, wheat, and tinned fruits. The country's agricultural imports include fruits and vegetables and meat.

Roundwood production is among the highest in western Europe. The forests, however, remain largely unexploited. Despite the extent of France's coastline, the fishing industry remains relatively small. The principal fish landed are cod, tuna, halibut, sardine, and mackerel.

France is one of the major economic powers of the world. Manufacturing accounts for approximately one-fourth of the GDP and employs slightly more than that proportion of the work force. Efforts to modernize and restructure French industry have been made difficult by a relative scarcity of very large firms and a preponderance of very

small ones. The government owns certain large-scale industries and has actively encouraged mergers; subsidies have allowed selected French products to compete advantageously in world markets. Major manufactures include steel, motor vehicles, aircraft, mechanical and electrical products, textiles, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, and food products.

The government controls the generation and distribution of most electricity. Electricity in France has increasingly been generated by nuclear-power plants. Services account for almost two-thirds of the GDP and employ more than one-half of the work force.

France is one of the world's largest trading nations. Imports, composed largely of machinery, chemicals and chemical products, agricultural products, and fuels, tend to exceed exports. France remains a major exporter of automobiles, electrical machinery, and metal products. A large percentage of France's trade is with members of the European Community (EC), of which it was a founding member.

France has a highly developed transportation system with extensive highways, inland waterways, and railways. Since the early 1980s certain new lines have been opened in conjunction with the high-speed trains between Paris and other cities in France. Paris is also connected by rail to Geneva and Lausanne in Switzerland. Air France, one of the world's major airlines, provides extensive internal and external service.

France has a multiparty democracy dominated by a strong executive. The constitution of the Fifth Republic, adopted in 1958, vests executive authority in the president, who is elected to a seven-year



term by popular vote. Article five of this document designates the president as arbiter and guardian of the constitution. The president appoints the prime minister and the executive minister, presides over the Council of Ministers, and also has the power to hold national referenda and to dissolve the National Assembly after consulting the prime minister and the president of the assembly. In times of national emergency, the president may assume full legislative and executive powers.

Legislative responsibility rests with the bicameral Parliament, which consists of a Senate and a National Assembly. The Senate, which possesses limited legislative power, has 321 members elected to nine-year terms by an electoral college. The National Assembly, France's principal legislative body, comprises 577 members elected to five-year terms by popular vote. The assembly can pass specific laws in such fixed areas as tax liability, nationalization of industries, and declaration of war; however, its authority to legislate is circumscribed in matters concerning national defense, education, finance, and social and economic programs. Several political parties dominate the competition for elective office in France: the Socialist Party, a moderately leftist group; the Gaullist Rally for the Republic, a moderately conservative party; the Union for French Democracy, a union of centrist parties; the right-wing National Front; and the left-wing French Communist Party.

There is a hierarchy of courts in the French judicial system. Civil cases are tried in higher and lower courts, criminal cases are tried in courts of correction, and minor offenses are tried in police