

Invest
in Bretagne

Bretagne

Land of excellence & innovation



Bretagne, an attractive region

On a human scale

Bretagne covers 5% of the French territory with 27,207 km². The region is divided in 4 departments:

- Côtes d'Armor: 6,878 km²
- Finistère: 6,733 km²
- Ille-et-Vilaine: 6,775 km²
- Morbihan: 6,823 km²

A young population

Bretagne counts 3 million inhabitants representing 5% of the French population. 24% of the Breton population is under age 20.

A qualified population

Bretagne provides an education of quality: reaching the first rate of success in France in the General Education Baccalaureate in 2006, with 89.2%.

Bretagne has more than 100,000 students in 4 major universities, 17 Engineering Institutes and Universities, 8 Academic Institutes of Technology (IUT) and 8 schools of higher education.

A cultural and touristic region

Bretagne welcomes more than 12 million visitors each year. They can enjoy diversified landscapes, 3,000 km of coastline, more than 300 exceptional natural sites, not to mention the richness of its historical, cultural, artistic and architectural inheritance. Bretagne is also the land of myths and legends. Bretagne has a gentle maritime climate. In Bretagne, there are not huge variations in temperature. In winter (November to March), the minimal temperatures average 3.8° Celsius and the maximal ones 10.6° while the average summer temperatures go from 10.6° up to 20.9°.

Bretagne, an accessible region

Bretagne has a solid transportation and communication infrastructure:

- The TGV high speed train departs from Rennes every hour, and every half hour during rush hour for a 2 hour trip to Paris. In addition, Bretagne is carrying out a grand-scale project: the realization of the TGV-OUEST enabling to go from Paris to Brest or Quimper in only 3 hours .
- 347 km (215 miles), i.e. 3.5 hours driving between Rennes and Paris. Within Bretagne, 1,000 km (620 miles) of toll-free motorways.
- 8 regional airports: daily air links to Paris, largest French and European cities.
- Bretagne is in close proximity of France's international maritime cargo lines with America and Asia. The second largest French sea port in Le Havre is 280 kms from Rennes and Nantes-Saint Nazaire, the fourth largest port, is only 110 kms away. In addition to this, there are 21 merchant ports in Bretagne including the main ports of Brest, Lorient, Roscoff, Saint Briec and Saint Malo.
- Telecommunications: High speed data, 3G, ADSL and wifi networks are available throughout the region.

Bretagne, a dynamic market

With 67 billion euro in 2005, Bretagne represents 4.2% of French GDP (1,600 billion euro). The Breton working population consists of 1.3 million people. Unemployment rate is one of the lowest in France with 8% of the working population against a national average of 9.9% in 2005.

Bretagne, a territory of entrepreneurs and creators

Pinault, Bolloré, Yves Rocher, Doux, Glon, Le Duff, Guillemot... A few names among enterprising creators and managers of big companies, all originating from Bretagne. Bretagne is a region where companies are created each year. In 2005, more than 12,000 companies were created or acquired.

Bretagne, a land of welcome for foreign investors

More than 15 nationalities have already set-up their business; originating from the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Germany, Canada, Japan, Sweden, the Netherlands, Italy... Over 22,000 Breton employees work in more than 250 companies with foreign capital.

Bretagne, land of excellence and innovation

Bretagne, a land of Research and Development

Research, key for economic development, occupies a major place in Bretagne.

A multisector and dynamic public and private research:

- The public sector, comprising 4,500 researchers, represents 4.5% of the French public research.
- More than 6,500 researchers and engineers are working in the private sector. Bretagne benefits from a distribution over its entire territory of this R&D capability. Each year Breton companies invest more than 650 million euros in R&D.

Bretagne, 4 competitiveness clusters awarded

The excellence and innovation capability of Bretagne have been recognized by the French government.

4 competitiveness clusters are supported by the French government and Regional authority:

- Media & Networks competitiveness cluster (ICT)
- High End Automotive competitiveness cluster (Automotive)
- Bretagne Sea Innovation and business competitiveness cluster (Maritime)
- Valorial, tomorrow's food competitiveness cluster (Agri-food).

Bretagne, land of Information Communication Technology

Bretagne is the second national center in ICT, with more than 43,000 people working in this sector. For more than 40 years, Bretagne has been at the leading edge in many fields: first TV live satellite broadcast in July 1962, HDTV- D2MAC research, High speed line data transmission, Minitel - first country wide telematic system ever built, Picture compression technologies, Digital Video Broadcast technologies, mobile multimedia software...

Bretagne, first Agri-food industry region

With more than 150,000 jobs located in Bretagne, the agri-food sector accounts for 30% of the total Breton industrial workforce. Fishing production represents more than 110,000 tons of fresh fish and seafood, i.e. 305 million euros, or 50% of the national production and more than 150 million euro sales for oyster and mussel production.

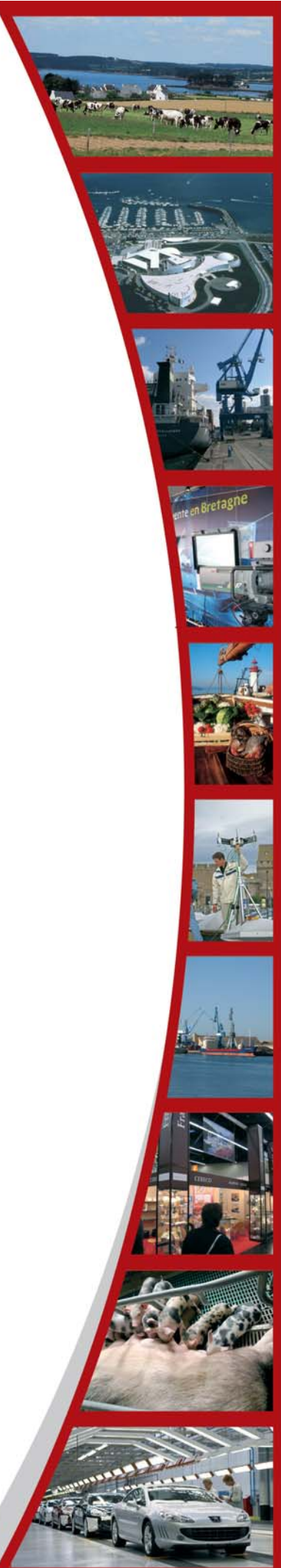
First European milk and vegetable producer. Breton agri-food industry represents more than half of national exports of meat and fish. It is particularly present in the activities of fish canning, slaughtering and meat processing (Bretagne is the first region of production and processing pigs with 52% of the national slaughterhouses), processing of milk, canning of vegetables and animal feeds (Bretagne ensures 44% of the national production). The agri-food industry is in constant evolution: environmental protection, food security and traceability have become a major focus for Breton businesses. Bretagne expertise is acknowledged worldwide. The region welcomes around 60 agri-food manufacturing units with foreign capital (Cargill-France, Saupiquet, Entremont...).

Bretagne, the automotive industry

Since the establishment of Citroën (PSA Group) in the sixties, the car industry has considerably developed in Bretagne. On the whole, the car industry represents today more than 30,000 jobs. Many foreign equipment suppliers are settled in Bretagne: Cummings-Filtration (filters for diesel engine, USA), Kenwood Electronics (car audio, Japan), Sanden (automotive compressors, Japan), Livbag (air-bag, Sweden)...

Bretagne, an area turned toward marine science

With over 3,000 km of coastline, Bretagne occupies an important place in maritime research. The European Center of maritime research, based in Brest, carries out 50% of the French oceanographical research (2,900 researchers located in Bretagne). In total, more than 38,000 jobs are involved in maritime activities.



Make your project a success

Created in 1983, Bretagne International is a non-profit association of private companies located in the West of France. It has been commissioned by the Regional Council of Bretagne:

- to assist Breton companies in their international development
- to identify and qualify potential projects of investment in Bretagne and support foreign investors to set up in Bretagne.

Within this framework, we at Bretagne International provide you free confidential assistance and complete information through the different stages of your project to create or acquire a company, or to extend an already existing site.



Collection of information

- Validation of a market, suppliers or customers in our region
- Availability and skills of workforce
- Financial incentives available
 - Assessment of costs

Identification of potential partners

Following your request, identification and introduction to your potential partners.

Site proposals

With the support of the Economic Agency of Bretagne and the action of regional development partners, we submit you a selection of sites according to your needs (greenfields, industrial buildings, offices...).

Assistance before, during and after your installation

We help you with all your administrative formalities:

- Creation of your local subsidiary
- Staff recruitment
 - Arrival of your expatriates and their families...



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