

How to Contact OM France



You've arrived! So you've just got off the plane after your 10 hour flight and it doesn't matter that you were sitting next to the lovely man who didn't stop snoring and the cute baby who didn't stop crying, God is good and you're ready for your week of outreach! You collect your luggage (always the last off the conveyor belt) and reach for your phone to summon the OM chauffeur. But wait! You realise you have no service. You're trapped! The dreams of a week filled with baguettes, cheese and sharing the gospel with the lost come crashing down around you, replaced by the prospect of sleepless nights on the airport floor. Not quite what you had in mind.

Here are some handy hints to make sure this isn't you!

PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE

Check with your provider before you leave if your phone will work. If not, you can make special arrangements. Here's a link to a website where you can buy a pre-paid SIM and have it delivered before you leave (although from the reviews it seems you might have to order it well in advance.)

<http://www.lefrenchmobile.com/> (*I have no personal experience with this provider, and take no responsibility for problems – it's just an idea and it seems that other people have had good experiences*)

Here's another link which will give you some more ideas.

<https://www.quora.com/What-is-the-best-way-to-get-a-SIM-card-in-Paris>

HELP! I DIDN'T KNOW THAT AND NOW I'M STUCK!

DON'T PANIC! Despite what happens in the imaginary story above, you won't be left in the airport all week with only a stale croissant for company.

Here are some things you can do:

1. Ask someone around you if you can borrow their phone or if they can make a call or write a message for you.
2. Go to a Tabac and buy a sim card (and/or ask if you can use their phone)
3. Find a public phone and call from there.
4. Try email/Whatsapp instead (not recommended if you need a quick answer): find a free wifi spot (e.g. a café, McDonalds) and use your phone email. Some phones are also equipped to call using Whatsapp.

In case of an emergency, shout loudly; find your way to a police station (as you would at home).

USEFUL VOCABULARY

A SIM card	Une Carte SIM
A cell phone/mobile	Un portable
A network Provider	Le réseau
Excuse me !	Excusez-moi
My cell phone is not working.	Mon portable ne fonctionne pas.
Please may I borrow your phone ?	Est-ce que je peux emprunter votre portable, s'il vous plaît ?
I would like to buy a SIM card, please.	Je voudrais acheter une carte SIM, s'il vous plait
Is there a public telephone here ?	Est-ce qu'il y a une cabine téléphonique ici ?
Thank you	Merci
This croissant is stale.	Ce croissant est rassis.

Some more phrases can be found here:

<https://www.tripadvisor.com/Travel-g187070-s604/France:Important.Phrases.html>

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

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The +33 is the country code for France and is used for calls outside French soil. In France simply dial the 0 and then 6/7/1 to start the call.