Family Fun in Lille!

DAY 1
When you arrive in Lille, start off by heading to the Citadelle de Lille, a massive 17th-century fortress with plenty of space for children to run around and explore. Take a guided tour to learn about the history of the citadel and the role it played in the defence of Lille, or simply enjoy a leisurely stroll through the surrounding park.

Depending on when you need to check in to your hotel, take a break for lunch or a late afternoon meal at L'Estaminet du Vieux de Lille, a cosy traditional brasserie serving classic French dishes that are sure to please both parents and children. Try the quiche Lorraine or the croque-monsieur, and make sure to save room for dessert!

Evening: For a fun and educational activity, head to the Palais Rihour, a former residence of the Dukes of Burgundy that now houses the Lille Tourism and Convention Bureau. Take a guided tour to learn about the history of the building and the city, and then head to the nearby restaurant Le Pain Quotidien for a family-friendly dinner.

DAY 2
Morning: Start your day with a visit to the Natural History Museum of Lille, a fascinating museum with exhibits on everything from dinosaurs to insects. Children will love exploring the interactive exhibits and learning about the natural world, while parents will appreciate the museum’s beautiful architecture and wide-ranging collections.

Afternoon: For an afternoon of outdoor fun, head to Parc de Loisirs de la Citadelle, a large park with a variety of attractions for children of all ages. Let the kids ride the train, jump on the trampolines, or play on the bouncy castles while parents relax on a nearby bench. Then, have a picnic lunch in the park or grab a bite to eat at the nearby snack bar.

Evening: For a family-friendly dinner, head to the popular restaurant Les Fils à Maman, which serves up classic French dishes with a playful twist. Kids will love the macaroni and cheese or the giant burgers, while parents can indulge in the foie gras or the confit de canard. Alternatively, head to a local crêperie like La Crêpe Rit or La Cloche à Fromage, where you can enjoy delicious sweet or savoury crêpes.

DAY 3
Morning: Start your final day in Lille with a visit to La Piscine Museum in nearby Roubaix. Housed in a former Art Deco swimming pool, the museum has a wide-ranging collection of art and artifacts, from ceramics and textiles to paintings and sculptures. Children will love exploring the museum’s interactive exhibits and learning about the history of the area.

Afternoon: If you have time before you leave, head to the nearby town of Villeneuve d’Ascq to visit the Lille Métropole Museum of Modern, Contemporary and Outsider Art. The museum has a wide-ranging collection of works by artists from around the world, and children will love exploring the interactive exhibits and learning about different art styles.

Don’t forget to stop at our Duty Free port shops before your journey home to take advantage of great deals on wine, beers, spirits, toys, and more!

Spending an extra night in Lille?
If you decide to extend your stay in Lille, there’s plenty more to see and do in the area. Spend more time exploring the city’s various parks and playgrounds, such as the Jardin des Plantes or the Parc Barbieux in nearby Roubaix. Lille also boasts a number of family-friendly restaurants, such as Le Pain Quotidien or Les 3 Brasseurs. Additionally, you could take a relaxing stroll along the Deûle River or the Canal de la Deûle, or head to the nearby town of Lens to visit the Louvre-Lens Museum.

Whatever you choose to do, you’re sure to find plenty of fun for the whole family in Lille.