

Terry Bremner

TOULOUSE, France - Jan2018

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In the spring of 2018 we travelled Via Rail Belleville to Montreal and flew Air Transat to Toulouse. We spent a week aboard a "barge" owned by friends and travelled the canal system in comfort in the fully equipped 70 foot vessel. We opted to remain in Toulouse for another week and moved to a beautiful Air BNB condo that our friends had recommended to us.

Open air grocery markets, many restaurants of different cultures and an open air patio/bar and restaurant can be found around almost every corner. Duck, prepared in a wide variety of recipes, is one of the favourite meals in the area. Corner convenience/grocery stores are easy to find and have almost anything desired for preparing meals in a condo setting. Naturally, they also stock a variety of French wines at a wide range of prices.

The airport was very efficient and served by an inexpensive tram system designed and built by Airbus that connects the centre of the city to the airport. Of course, the Airbus home base factory is located at the airport and includes a museum with some samples of the company products including the new M500 military airlifter.

There are many interesting sights to visit in the city, the numerous dams and locks that serve the canal system are only some of them. The French canal system is connected to much of the rest of Europe, permitting travel in various directions including the Atlantic coast..

We returned to Canada via Air Transat and home on Via Rail.

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