

**Module 5: Au restaurant**  
**Topic 1 Content: The Culture of Food in France**

**Breakfast**



**le petit déjeuner**

If you visit France or another francophone country, you may be surprised to find that they eat only a very light breakfast. It usually consists of some kind of roll or bread, often served with butter or jelly, and a blend of steamed milk and coffee called, *café au lait*. Children do eat *des céréales* and frequently drink *un chocolat*. Eggs, pancakes, and other traditional American breakfast foods are generally served more often at lunch. *Crêpes*, which are very thin pancakes rolled up with a filling, are frequently served as a dessert.

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#### Lunch and Dinner



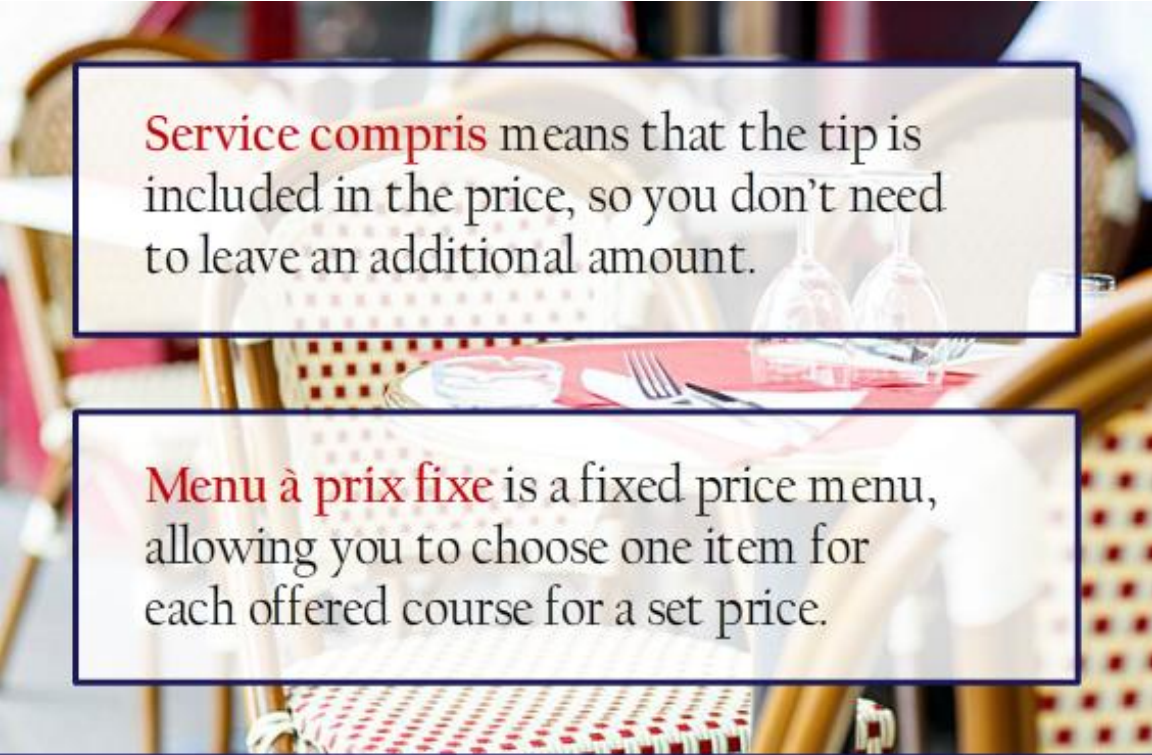
#### le dîner

For lunch and dinner, people in France eat similar foods to what we eat in the United States. Lunch is traditionally the largest meal of the day. Dinner is eaten later than the average American dinner, usually around 8 p.m. Most often, the French will drink water with their meals. Be aware, that if you ask for water in a restaurant, you will be served *de l'eau minérale* and will be charged for it. To order plain water, simply request *une carafe d'eau*.

Most people in francophone countries stick to eating at meals and do not snack. Children do sometimes have a *goûter*, or snack, after school.

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**The Menu**



**Service compris** means that the tip is included in the price, so you don't need to leave an additional amount.

**Menu à prix fixe** is a fixed price menu, allowing you to choose one item for each offered course for a set price.

When you go to a restaurant in France you will almost always see 2 things on *la carte*. *Service compris* means that the tip is included in the price of the food and drink items, meaning that you don't need to leave an additional amount. *Menu à prix fixe* is a fixed price menu allowing you to choose one item for each offered course for a set price.

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**The Euro**



**The euro** is the official currency of France and the European Union.



Prices in France are in euros. The euro is the official currency of 19 of the countries that are part of the European Union. There are 100 cents in a euro just as the U.S. has 100 cents in a dollar. The symbol for a euro is €. The exchange rate with the U.S. dollar varies over time, but as of 2016, one euro is worth slightly more than one dollar.