

Geographic Names Standardization Policy for France

United States Board on Geographic Names

Foreign Names Committee



August 2019

1. Introduction

This geographic names standardization policy has been prepared as an aid to those geographic names experts who are the working staff for the United States Board on Geographic Names (BGN) in the standardization of the geographic names of France for United States Government use. The BGN and its staff work to effect consistent treatment of geographic name spellings in US Government databases, publications, maps, and charts. The country policies are intended to satisfy, in part, the statutory requirements levied upon the BGN in Public Law USC 80-242 to develop principles, policies and procedures for geographic names standardization, and to promulgate decisions with respect to the principles of geographic nomenclature and orthography.

2. Languages and Language Policy

a. Demographics

As of July 2015, the population of France is over 66.5 million persons. Of this number, approximately 62.8 million live in metropolitan France (i.e., France on continental Europe and Corsica) while the remainder lives in France's five overseas regions and territories. As the collection of data on ethnicity, race, and religion is prohibited in France, there are no exact figures regarding the ethnic makeup of France. In general terms, the majority of the population of metropolitan France is Celtic and Latin while Teutonic, Slavic, North African, Indochinese, and Basque groups constitute a significant minority. The population of France's overseas regions is mainly comprised of blacks, whites, mulattos, East Indians, Chinese, and Amerindians.¹

b. Languages

France's official language is French (ISO 639-3 code *fra*). French is used in all official contexts in metropolitan as well as overseas France. In addition to French, many regional languages and dialects are spoken, although with steadily declining numbers. These include Alsatian (ISO 639-3 code *gsw*), Basque (ISO 639-3 code *bqe*), Breton (ISO 639-3 code *bre*), Catalan (ISO 639-3 code *cat*), Corsican (ISO 639-3 code *cos*), and Occitan (ISO 639-3 code *oci*).

In France's overseas ADM1, a diversity of languages are spoken: Shimaore or Maore (ISO 639-3 code *swb*) and Bushi (ISO 639-3 code *buc*) in Mayotte, Reunion Creole French (ISO 639-3 code *rcf*) in La Réunion, Antillean Creole (ISO 639-3 code *gcf*) in Guadeloupe and Martinique, and French Guianese Creole (ISO 639-3 code *gcr*) in Guyane.

Tahitian (ISO 639-3 code *tah*) and Austral (ISO 639-3 code *aut*) are two of the many Polynesian languages spoken in French Polynesia. Wallisian (ISO 639-3 code *wls*) and Futunan (ISO 639-3 code *fud*) are both spoken in Wallis and Futuna. In Saint Martin and Saint Barthelemy, French creole is spoken in addition to English (ISO 639-3 code *eng*).²

¹ France, *CIA World Factbook*, CIA. URL: <www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/fr.html> (Accessed 2 May 2016).

² "France." *Ethnologue*, Lewis, M. Paul, Gary F. Simons, and Charles D. Fennig (eds.). 2016. *Ethnologue: Languages of the World*, Nineteenth edition. Dallas, Texas: SIL International, Web. <www.ethnologue.com/country/FR> (Accessed 29 July 2016).

c. Geographic Names Standardization

According to the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN), France's national authority for geographic names is *la Commission nationale de toponymie (CNT, National Commission on Toponymy)*.³ The body, which resides within *le Conseil national de l'information géographique (CNIG, National Geographic Information Council)*, is responsible for preserving France's cultural heritage by maintaining and developing its geographic names.⁴ Within the UNGEGN, France participates in the French-speaking, Celtic, and Romano-Hellenic divisions.⁵

3. Toponymic Policies

a. Orthography

Geographic names standardization policy will follow French orthographic conventions. The user of French geographic sources should be aware that native sources may contain variant place names in other languages, including Breton and Corsican. Occasionally, the user may encounter various spellings as a result of rendering indigenous place names in harmony with French orthographic rules; for example, *Île Wai* and *Île Ouaye*. This is more common in France's *DROM (départements et régions d'outre-mer)* where indigenous languages influence many toponyms.

b. Romanization

Romanization is not required.

c. Diacritics

Diacritics are shown in standardized and variant names in conformance with native sources and French orthography. Uppercase letters retain diacritics and, in accordance with French orthography, these letter/diacritic combinations are the most commonly found in standardized name forms in France:

Character Name	Upper Case	Unicode Value	Lower Case	Unicode Value
A with acute accent	Á	00C1	á	00E1
A with dieresis	Ä	00C4	ä	00E4
A with grave accent	À	00C0	à	00E0
A with circumflex	Â	00C2	â	00E2
C with cedilla	Ç	00C7	ç	00E7
E with acute accent	É	00C9	é	00E9
E with grave accent	È	00C8	è	00E8
E with circumflex	Ê	00CA	ê	00EA

³ "Authorities List." *UNGEGN*. United Nations, Web. URL: <unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/docs/NNA/Authorities_list_June%202016_rev.pdf> (Accessed 29 July 2016).

⁴ "Conseil national de l'information géographique." *CNIG*. CNIG, Web. URL: <cnig.gouv.fr/?page_id=671> (Accessed 29 July 2016).

⁵ "UNGEGN Divisions." *UNGEGN*. United Nations, Web. URL: <www.unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/divisions.html> (Accessed 9 May 2016).

Character Name	Upper Case	Unicode Value	Lower Case	Unicode Value
E with dieresis	Ë	00CB	ë	00EB
I with circumflex	Î	00CE	î	00EE
I with dieresis	Ï	00CF	ï	00EF
O with circumflex	Ô	00D4	ô	00F4
O with dieresis	Ö	00D6	ö	00F6
U with dieresis	Û	00DC	ü	00FC

d. Generic Terms

A generic is a term used to describe a geographic feature, such as “river,” “hill,” and “lake.” If the generic term does not identify the feature, the term should be considered a false generic and should not be added to the generic field of the GNDB. Generic terms are not collected for populated places. Appendix A provides a partial list of common generic terms one may encounter in French geographic names sources.

e. Hyphenation, Capitalization, and Spelling

French geographic names follow French grammar and spelling conventions.

When hyphenated place names are encountered on authoritative sources, they should be included in the feature name, as in *Amné-en-Champagne* and *Roézé-sur-Sarthe*.

On native sources, definite articles such as *le*, *la*, *l'*, and *les* (the) are generally not capitalized when in initial position as part of the proper feature name; however, in the standardized name form, they should be collected as capitalized. For example, *le Bois l'Abbé* (on source) is collected as *Le Bois l'Abbé*.

Unless capitalized on the native source, definite articles, conjunctions such as *et* (and), and prepositions (see chart below) found beyond the initial position are written in lowercase letters in the standardized name form, as in *Ruisseau de la Pommeraye* and *Sury-aux-Bois*. If the article is capitalized on the native source, it becomes part of the proper name. If the place name is written in all capital letters on the native source, a non-initial definite article, conjunction or preposition will be in lower case when the standardized name form is derived, unless nearby associated features suggest otherwise.

In French orthography, when a definite article or the preposition *de* precedes a singular noun that begins with a vowel, the article is attached by an apostrophe as in *Monts de l'Observatoire*. If the article appears in lower case on the source, the article is not collected as part of the proper name; for example, *Observatoire, Monts de l'*.

Common prepositions found in French toponyms

French	English
à	at, to
à l' (<i>le</i> or <i>la</i> when preceded by a vowel)	at the, to the

French	English
<i>à la</i>	at the, to the
<i>au</i> (contraction of <i>à + le</i>)	at the, to the
<i>aux</i> (contraction of <i>à + les</i>)	at the, to the
<i>en</i>	in, on
<i>d'</i> (<i>de</i> when preceded by a vowel)	of, from
<i>de</i>	of, from
<i>de l'</i> (<i>le</i> or <i>la</i> when preceded by a vowel)	of the, from the
<i>de la</i>	of the, from the
<i>des</i> (contraction of <i>de + les</i>)	of the, from the
<i>du</i> (contraction of <i>de + le</i>)	of the, from the
<i>lès</i>	near
<i>près</i>	near
<i>sous</i>	under
<i>sur</i>	on

The chart below shows the article, conjunction, and preposition capitalization standard:

Native Source Spelling	Collect as
<i>Riv. St-Aulaire</i>	<i>Rivière Saint-Aulaire</i>
<i>Rivière du Tour de l'île</i>	<i>Rivière du Tour de l'île</i>
<i>Ruisseau de la Virvée</i>	<i>Ruisseau de la Virvée</i>
<i>Île d'Oléron</i>	<i>Île d'Oléron</i>
<i>Rivière le Bevineo</i>	<i>Rivière le Bevineo</i>
<i>Mont l'Olmelli</i>	<i>Mont l'Olmelli</i>
JOUÉ-LÈS-TOURS	<i>Joué-lès-Tours</i>
la Neuville-au-Pont	La Neuville-au-Pont

f. Long and Short Forms

Short forms are not added for variant names in the GNDB.

Administrative division names are accorded long and short forms. Example: *Région Centre-Val de Loire* [long form]; *Centre-Val de Loire* [short form]. Short form names are to be ranked as the primary approved name and the long form as the secondary approved name.

Long and short forms of names of populated places are approved when supported by official evidence.

Railroad station names that appear on official sources with the generic term *gare* are given long and short forms as supported by the evidence. Example: *Gare d'Austerlitz* [long form]; *Austerlitz*

[short form].

g. Numbers

Names containing cardinal or ordinal numerals should be treated according to the following guidelines:

- Arabic numbers are generally expanded in the French language; i.e., *Saut n° 2* (on source) should be written as *Saut Numéro Deux*.
- Roman numerals are retained throughout, although these are not commonly found in French geographic names.

These guidelines apply to numerals in both initial and non-initial positions.

h. Abbreviations

The following is a list of abbreviations of generics which are commonly found on cartographic products of France. This list is not exhaustive, and other abbreviations may be found. Any abbreviations must be spelled out in the GNDB.

Abbreviated Form	Unabbreviated Form	Definition
<i>Anc. / Ancnne.</i>	<i>Ancien / Ancienne</i>	Former, Abandoned
<i>B.</i>	<i>Bois</i>	Forest
<i>Chât.</i>	<i>Château</i>	Castle
<i>Fl.</i>	<i>Fleuve</i>	Stream
<i>Fme.</i>	<i>Ferme</i>	Farm
<i>Ft.</i>	<i>Forêt</i>	Forest
<i>G. / Gd. / Grd. / Grde.</i>	<i>Grand / Grande</i>	Big, large
<i>I.</i>	<i>Île</i>	Island
<i>Mgne. / Mgnes.</i>	<i>Montagne / Montagnes</i>	Hill(s), Mountain(s)
<i>N. / N°</i>	<i>Numéro</i>	Number
<i>Pl.</i>	<i>Place</i>	Square
<i>Pnte.</i>	<i>Pointe</i>	Point
<i>Ptit. / Ptite.</i>	<i>Petit / Petite</i>	Small, little
<i>Riv.</i>	<i>Rivière</i>	Stream
<i>Rte.</i>	<i>Route</i>	Road
<i>Rvoir.</i>	<i>Réservoir</i>	Reservoir
<i>Ston.</i>	<i>Station</i>	Railroad station

i. Unique Linguistic Situations

Names Containing the Conjunction 'or'

Some sources may show a feature with two or more names, not necessarily in the same language,

joined by the conjunction *ou* (or). For standardization purposes, only one name is selected as the official standard name. The name chosen as the approved name will depend on the weight of the available evidence. In the absence of additional evidence, the first name shall be used as the official standard name. In accordance with standard policy, the other names for the feature will be considered variants.

Alternate Names

Feature names in French sources may appear with alternate names in parentheses. In this case, the first name will be chosen as the approved name, while the name in parentheses will be rendered as the variant name, unless overwhelming evidence suggests otherwise.

4. Political Geography Policy

a. Country Name

Conventional long form:	French Republic
Conventional short form:	France
French long form:	République Française
French short form:	France

b. Capital Name

Approved name:	Paris
----------------	-------

c. First-order Administrative Divisions

Metropolitan France is comprised of 13 regions (*régions*), which are subdivided into departments (*départements*). Corse is technically a collectivity (*collectivité*) but is generally referred to as a region.

In addition to the 13 metropolitan regions, there are two overseas departments and regions (*DROM, départements et régions d'outre-mer*) and three unique territorial collectivities (*CTU, collectivités territoriales uniques*), all of which are treated the same as a region in metropolitan France.⁶ They are referred to as “departments and regions” because the regions themselves only contain one department. While these entities maintain the status of either *DROM* or *CTU*, the generics associated with their long form name vary.

Although not considered first-order administrative divisions, there are five overseas collectivities (*COM, collectivités d'outre-mer*) which maintain varying degrees of autonomy. French Polynesia is considered an overseas country (*pays d'outre-mer*), while New Caledonia is referred to as a *collectivité sui generis*.

French Southern and Antarctic Lands, a scattered grouping of uninhabited islands and a land mass

⁶ The relatively recent administrative designation of *CTU* permitted Mayotte, Guyane and Martinique to merge the functions of the department and region into one, thereby reducing redundancy in government. For example, the *conseil régional* (regional assembly) and *conseil départemental* (departmental assembly) of Guyane, Martinique and Mayotte are now one singular governing body.

on Antarctica, is categorized as an overseas territory (*TOM, territoire d'outre-mer*). Finally, Clipperton Island, an uninhabited atoll in the Pacific, is considered a possession of the French State and is currently administered directly by the Minister of Overseas France (*Ministère des Outre-mer*).⁷

Please see Appendix A for a map depicting the first-order administrative divisions in France.

First-order administrative divisions of France

Name	Generic	Status	GEC	GENC	Seat
Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	Région	Région	FRC2	FR-ARA	Lyon
Bourgogne-Franche-Comté	Région	Région	FRC3	FR-BFC	Dijon
Bretagne	Région	Région	FRA2	FR-BRE	Rennes
Centre-Val de Loire	Région	Région	FRA3	FR-CVL	Orléans
Corse	Collectivité	Collectivité territoriale unique	FRA5	FR-COR	Ajaccio
Grand Est	Région	Région	FRC4	FR-GES	Strasbourg
Hauts-de-France	Région	Région	FRC5	FR-HDF	Lille
Île-de-France	Région	Région	FRA8	FR-IDF	Paris
Normandie	Région	Région	FRC6	FR-NOR	Rouen
Nouvelle-Aquitaine	Région	Région	FRC7	FR-NAQ	Bordeaux
Occitanie	Région	Région	FRC8	FR-OCC	Toulouse
Pays de la Loire	Région	Région	FRB5	FR-PDL	Nantes
Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	Région	Région	FRB8	FR-PAC	Marseille

First-order administrative divisions of Overseas France

Name	Generic	Status	GEC	GENC	Seat
Guadeloupe	Région	Département et région d'outre-mer	GP00	GP	Basse-Terre
Guyane	Collectivité territoriale	Collectivité territoriale unique	FG00	GF	Cayenne
La Réunion	Région	Département et région d'outre-mer	RE00	RE	Saint-Denis

⁷ The United States does not recognize France's claim on the Antarctic continent.

Name	Generic	Status	GEC	GENC	Seat
Martinique	Collectivité territoriale	Collectivité territoriale unique	MB00	MQ	Fort-de-France
Mayotte	Département	Collectivité territoriale unique	MF00	YT	Mamoudzou

France's overseas collectivities, territories, and possessions

Name	Generic	Status	GEC	GENC	Seat
Île Clipperton		Domaine public de l'État	IP00	CP	None ⁸
Nouvelle-Calédonie		Collectivité sui generis	NC00	NC	Nouméa
Polynésie Française		Pays d'outre-mer au sein de la République	FP00	PF	Papeete
Saint-Barthélemy	Collectivité	Collectivité d'outre-mer	TB00	BL	Gustavia
Saint-Martin	Collectivité	Collectivité d'outre-mer	RN00	MF	Marigot
Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon	Collectivité territoriale	Collectivité d'outre-mer	SB00	PM	Saint-Pierre
Terres Australes et Antarctiques Françaises		Territoire d'outre-mer	FS00	TF	None ⁹
Wallis et Futuna	Îles	Collectivité d'outre-mer	WF00	WF	Mata'Utu

First-order administrative divisions of French Polynesia

Name	Generic	GEC	GENC
Îles Australes	Subdivision administrative	FP01	PF-01
Îles du Vent	Subdivision administrative	FP02	PF-02
Îles Marquises	Subdivision administrative	FP03	PF-03
Îles Sous-le-Vent	Subdivision administrative	FP04	PF-04
Îles Tuamotu-Gambier	Subdivision administrative	FP05	PF-05

First-order administrative divisions of New Caledonia

Name	Generic	GEC	GENC	Seat
Îles	Province	NC01	NC-01	Wé

⁸ Île Clipperton is administered from Paris.

⁹ Terres Australes et Antarctiques Françaises is administered from Saint-Pierre in the region of La Réunion.

Name	Generic	GEC	GENC	Seat
Nord	Province	NC02	NC-02	Koné
Sud	Province	NC03	NC-03	Nouméa

First-order administrative divisions of Wallis and Futuna

Name	Generic	GEC	GENC	Seat
Alo	Circonscription	WF01	WF-AL	
Sigave	Circonscription	WF02	WF-SG	Leava
Uvea	Circonscription	WF03	WF-UV	Mata'Utu

d. Conventional and Anglicized Names

Conventional Names

Name	UFI	UNI	Designation
Antilles	-3750740	-4988026	ISLS
Lake Geneva	-2552150	-3514225	LK
Alps	-2551001	-3512719	MTS
Rhine	-2152115	16304753	STM
Rhine River	-2152115	-2984289	STM
Saar	-1854346	15156090	STM
Saar River	-1854346	-2561416	STM
New Caledonia	-1713621	-2405120	ISL
New Caledonia	-1713445	12132496	PCLD
Martinique	-1554447	14475503	ADM1
Territorial Collectivity of Martinique	-1554447	17731385	ADM1
West Indies	-1544444	-2199263	ISLS
Paris Basin	-1456932	-2085978	DPR
Little Saint Bernard Pass	-1447322	-2073342	PASS
France	-1427981	14103785	PCLI
French Republic	-1427981	-2047035	PCLI
Corsica	-1421828	-2039166	ISL
Corsica	-1421827	14145789	ADM1
Collectivity of Corsica	-1421827	518404	ADM1
Aquitaine Basin	-1407957	-2021323	DPR
Tromelin Island	-1393051	-2000506	ISL
Europa Island	-1393049	-2000498	ISL

Name	UFI	UNI	Designation
Reunion	-1331308	14475634	ADM1
Region of Reunion	-1331308	17731429	ADM1
Society Islands	-1311265	-1897614	ISLS
French Polynesia	-1310171	12132137	PCLD
Clipperton Island	-1310026	-1895216	PCLD
Wallis and Futuna	-1309787	12132498	PCLD
Wallis Islands	-1309786	-1894747	ISLS
French Southern and Antarctic Lands	-1308489	287549	PCLD
Juan de Nova Island	-1205219	-1771172	ISL
Windward Islands	-1203904	-1769442	ISLS
Saint Martin	-1203745	-1769186	ISL
Lesser Antilles	-1203233	-1768455	ISLS
Leeward Islands	-1203184	-1768385	ISLS
Guadeloupe	-1203022	14403688	ADM1
Region of Guadeloupe	-1203022	17731383	ADM1
French West Indies	-1202859	-1767888	ISLS
Saint Pierre and Miquelon	-1187330	14475636	PCLD
Territorial Collectivity of Saint Pierre and Miquelon	-1187330	-1749402	PCLD
Mayotte	-1187193	12132143	ADM1
Department of Mayotte	-1187193	13449007	ADM1
Glorioso Islands	-1176850	-1736196	ISLS
French Guiana	-916610	14403694	ADM1
Territorial Collectivity of Guiana	-916610	17731427	ADM1
Devils Island	-916442	-1356732	ISL
Courantyne River	-913818	-1352398	STM
Mont Blanc Tunnel	-122188	-187690	TNL
Mont Blanc	-111677	-173526	MT
Navarre	356607	443755	RGNH
Saint Barthelemy	10965089	12102862	PCLD
Saint Martin	10965216	12103025	PCLD

Anglicized Variant Names

Name	UFI	UNI	Designation
Brittany	-1415043	14838167	ADM1
Islands Province	12288702	15216565	ADM1
Province of the Loyalty Islands	12288702	15216564	ADM1
North Province	12288704	15216566	ADM1
South Province	12288706	15216567	ADM1

c. Unique Geopolitical Situations

For the latest information on country-specific boundary disputes, consult the U.S. Department of State Office of the Geographer and Global Issues.

Disputed Territories

Suriname claims a 5,000 square kilometer area of dense jungle in southeastern French Guiana. This dispute stems from the two countries' inability to agree upon the source of the Lawa river; Suriname claims the Malani (Marouni) as the source while France maintains that it is the Litani. On September 15, 1915, France and the Netherlands signed an agreement setting the Litani as the boundary but since then, the Netherlands and now Suriname have once again claimed the Malani as the source. The area left in question is the territory bounded by Brazil to the south, the Litani to the west, and the Malani to the east, continuing north until the confluence of the two rivers. The disputed territory is currently under French administration. Geographic features within areas claimed by Suriname east of the Litani are assigned the French Guiana country code.

Comoros claims the island of Mayotte. At the time of Comorian independence from France, Mayotte voted to remain a part of the French Republic. It became the 101st department of France in 2011. Geographic features in this area are assigned the Mayotte country code.

Vanuatu claims Île Matthew and Île Hunter, two uninhabited islands France considers part of New Caledonia. Geographic features in this area are assigned the New Caledonia country code.

Madagascar claims sovereignty over Bassas da India, Europa Island, Glorioso Islands and Juan de Nova Island, all of which are currently administered by France as part of French Southern and Antarctic Lands. Geographic features in this area are assigned the French Southern and Antarctic Lands country code.

Mauritius claims Tromelin Island but in 2010, both countries signed a framework agreement on co-managing the island. Geographic features in this area are assigned the French Southern and Antarctic Lands country code.

France asserts a territorial claim in Antarctica, Terre Adélie, which constitutes a majority of the land mass of French Southern and Antarctic Lands. The United States does not recognize France's claim on the Antarctic continent.

Undesignated Sovereignty

Geyser Reef is a mostly submerged reef off the northwestern coast of Madagascar. In 1976, Madagascar claimed the reef. Both France and Comoros view the reef as pertaining to their own EEZ. The GNDB feature below falls within the area of undesignated sovereignty and is not to be modified until the State Department supplies the necessary policy statement.

<u>Name</u>	<u>UFI</u>	<u>Designation</u>
Geyser Reef	-317704	RF

5. Sources

The preferred authority for French map and chart sources is the *Institut national de l'information géographique et forestière (IGN, National Institute of Geographic and Forest Information)*. The institute's contact information is below:

Address: 73, avenue de Paris
94165 Saint-Mandé CEDEX
France

Phone: 01 43 98 80 00

Web site: www.ign.fr

a. Preferred Sources

The following is a partial listing of preferred sources to be used for geographic name selection:

www.geoportail.gouv.fr/accueil

Géoportail: This *IGN*-produced source allows the user to search for features by name, coordinate or address. By zooming in and out, the user has access to the most up-to-date large and small scale maps. Navigational charts, historical maps, administrative boundaries, road names as well as cadastral data can also be found here.

More information regarding the products available, their scales and publication dates can be found [here](http://www.geoportail.gouv.fr/depot/fiches/cartesIGN/composition_donnee_cartes_ign.pdf):

www.geoportail.gouv.fr/depot/fiches/cartesIGN/composition_donnee_cartes_ign.pdf

cnig.gouv.fr/?page_id=10578

Conseil national de l'information géographique: The National Geographic Information Council provides detailed insight on French toponyms.

Appendix A. Glossary of Generic Terms

As noted below, certain generic terms are contained to singular regions of France, notably Breton terms in Bretagne, Corsican terms in Corse, and Shimaore terms in Mayotte.

Generic	Generic Designation	Designation Code
abbaye	monastery	MSTY
aérodrome	airfield	AIRF
aéroport	airport	AIRP
aiguille	mountain, peak	MT, PK
anneau	roadstead	RDST
anse	bay, bight, cove, tidal flat, point, stream mouth	BAY, BGHT, COVE, FLTT, PT, STMM
appontement, appontemont	pier	PIER
archipel	islands	ISLS
arrondissement	third-order administrative division	ADM3
baie	bay, cove, estuary, tidal flat	BAY, COVE, ESTY, FLTT
banc	bank, reef, shoal, tidal flat	BNK, RF, SHOL, FLTT
barrage	dam	DAM
barre	bar	BAR
basse(s)	reef, rock(s), shoal	RF, RK(S), SHOL
bassin(s)	dock, harbor, marina	DCK, HBR, MAR
bassure	shoal	SHOL
baz (Bretagne)	bank, reef, shoal, tidal flat	BNK, RF, SHOL, FLTT
beg (Bretagne)	point	PT
bocca (Corse)	pass	PASS
bois	forest	FRST
bosco (Corse)	forest	FRST
bras	anabranh	STMA
brisant (Bretagne)	shoal	SHOL
brûlé (La Réunion)	lava area	LAVA
cala (Corse)	bay, inlet	BAY, INLT
calanque	cove	COVE
camp	camp	CMP
canal	aqueduct, canal	CNLA, CNL
canton	fourth-order administrative division	ADM4
cap	cape, peninsula, point	CAPE, PEN, PT
capo (Corse)	cape, mountain, peak, point	CAPE, MT, PK, PT
capu (Corse)	cape, peak, point	CAPE, PK, PT
carrefour	road junction	RDJCT

Generic	Generic Designation	Designation Code
carrière	quarry(ies)	MNQR
cascade(s)	waterfall	FLLS
chapelle	church	CH
château	castle, country house	CSTL, HSEC
chaussée (Bretagne)	bank, rocks, shoal	BNK, RKS, SHOL
chemin	trail	TRL
chenal	channel, marine channel, navigation channel, canal	CHN, CHNM, CHNN, CNL
chissioua (Mayotte)	island, land-tied island	ISL, ISLT
cima (Corse)	hill, mountain, peak	HLL, MT, PK
cimetière	cemetery	CMTY
col	pass	PASS
collectivité territoriale	first-order administrative division	ADM1
colline	hill	HLL
colonne	monument	MNMT
commune	administrative division	ADMD
conche	bight, cove	BGHT, COVE
cornoc (Bretagne)	shoal	SHOL
côte	coast	CST
coulée (Martinique)	intermittent stream, lava area	STMI, LAVA
cratère (La Réunion)	crater	CRTR
crête	hills	HLLS
crique	stream	STM
cul-de-sac (Martinique)	bay, cove	BAY, COVE
danger (Corse)	reef, rocks	RF, RKS
darse	dock	DCK
dégrad	landing	LNDG
département	second-order administrative division	ADM2
digue	bar, breakwater, dike	BAR, BRKW, DK
domaine	estate	EST
dunes	dune(s)	DUNE
dyck	shoal	SHOL
dziani (Mayotte)	crater lake, lake	LKC, LK
écluse	lock(s)	LOCK
écueil(s)	reef, rock(s)	RF, RKS
église	church	CH
embouchure	estuary, stream mouth	ESTY, STMM
estey (Nouvelle-Aquitaine)	stream	STM

Generic	Generic Designation	Designation Code
étang	lagoon, lake, marsh, pond	LGN, LK, MRSH, PND
étier	canal, drainage ditch	CNL, DTCHD
falaises	cliffs	CLF
ferme	farm	FRM
fium' (Corse)	stream	STM
fleuve	stream	STM
focce (Corse)	pass, stream mouth	PASS, STMM
forêt	forest	FRST
fort	fort	FT
fosse	marine channel, pool, undersea trench	CHNM, POOL, TRNU
gare	railroad station	RSTN
golfe	bay, cove, gulf	BAY, COVE, GULF
grotte	cave	CAVE
hauteur(s) (Martinique)	hill, upland	HLL, UPLD
haut-fond	shoal	SHOL
havre	harbor	HBR
hôtel	hotel	HTL
île(s)	island(s), reef, rock(s)	ISL(S), RF, RK(S)
îlet	island	ISL
îlot	island, rock(s)	ISL, RK(S)
jalle (Nouvelle-Aquitaine)	canal, stream	CNL, STM
jetée	jetty	JTY
karreg (Bretagne)	bank, reef, rock, shoal	BNK, RF, RK, SHOL
klosenn (Bretagne)	rock	RK
korn (Bretagne)	shoal	SHOL
kornog (Bretagne)	rock(s), shoal	RK(S), SHOL
lac	lake, pond	LK, PND
lago (Corse)	pond	PND
lédénes, lédénez (Bretagne)	island	ISL
loup (Martinique)	shoal, reef	SHOL, RF
maison	house	HSE
maji (Mayotte)	cove	COVE
marais	marsh, salt pond	MRSH, PNDN
marécage	marsh	MRSH
marina	marina	MAR
marine	cove	COVE
massif	mountains	MTS
men (Bretagne)	reef, rock(s)	RF, RK(S)

Generic	Generic Designation	Designation Code
mine	mine	MN
mlima (Mayotte)	hill, mountain, ridge	HLL, MT, RDGE
môle	mole	MOLE
mont(e)	hill, mountain, peak	HLL, MT, PK
montagne	hill, mountain	HLL, MT
morne	hill, mountain	HLL, MT
mouillage	anchorage	ANCH
moulin	mill, windmill	MLWND, ML
mro (Mayotte)	stream	STM
mroni (Mayotte)	stream	STM
mro oua (Mayotte)	stream	STM
mtsanga (Mayotte)	beach, shoal	BCH, SHOL
musée	museum	MUS
palud (Bretagne)	marsh	MRSH
parc national	park	PRK
parc naturel	park	PRK
pas	pass	PASS
passage	marine channel	CHNM
passe	channel, marine channel, navigation channel	CHN, CHNM, CHNN
pen (Bretagne)	point, spit	PT, SPIT
pengoua (Mayotte)	peak	PK
pertuis	strait	STRT
petra (Corse)	rock	RK
phare	lighthouse	LTHSE
pic	peak	PT
pierre(s)	rock(s)	RK(S)
pietra (Corse)	peak	PK
piton	peak	PT
plage(s)	beach(es), tidal flat	BCH, FLTT
plateau	hill, reef, shoal	HLL, RF, SHOL
plature (Bretagne)	reef	RF
pointe	hill, mountain, peak, point	HLL, MT, PK, PT
polder	polder	PLDR
pont	bridge	BDG
port	bay, cove, harbor, inlet, port	BAY, COVE, HBR, INLT, PRT
porto (Corse)	bay, cove, inlet	BAY, COVE, INLT

Generic	Generic Designation	Designation Code
porz (Bretagne)	cove	COVE
presqu'île	peninsula	PEN
pripris (Guyane)	marsh	MRSH
punta (Corse)	cape, hill, mountain, peak, point	CAPE, HLL, MT, PK, PT
quai	quay	QUAY
rade	anchorage, roadstead	ANCH, RDST
rapides	rapids	RPDS
rassi (Mayotte)	hill, point	HLL, PT
raz (Bretagne)	marine channel, current	CHNM, CRNT
récif	reef	RF
région	first-order administrative division	ADM1
république	independent political entity	PCLI
retenue	reservoir	RSV
ridins	shoal	SHOL
rio (Corse)	stream	STM
rivière	anabranh, stream	STMA, STM
roc	peak, rock	PK, RK
roc'h	rock	RK
roche	mountain, peak, rock(s), reef, shoal	MT, PK, RK(S), RF, SHOL
rocher	mountain, peak, reef, rock(s)	MT, PK, RF, RK(S)
roh (Bretagne)	islands, reef	ISLS, RF
route	road	RD
ruisseau	stream	STM
saut	rapids, waterfall	RPDS, FLLS
savane	grassland	GRSLD
scierie	sawmill	MLSW
sommet	peak	PK
soula (Guyane)	rapids	RPDS
stade	stadium	STDAM
station	railroad station	RSTN
tête	mountain, peak, shoal	MT, PK, SHOL
torrent (P.A.C.A.)	stream	STM
tour	tower	TOWR
tsiraka (Mayotte)	headland, hill, point, ridge	HDLD, HLL, PT, RDGE
vasard	bar	BAR
villa	house	HSE
zone industrielle	industrial zone	INDS

Appendix B. First-order Administrative Divisions of France

Metropolitan France



Overseas France (ADM1 highlighted in yellow)

