



Using the French Genealogy Website: Filae

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Objective: At the end of this lesson, you will be able to navigate the website and know how to search for your ancestors.

Introduction

Filae is a valuable resource that can help you find your ancestors quickly in France. The site has indexed many records and many community created trees. This is a subscription-based site. You will need a premium account to view all the records.

Premium Account

Premium accounts give you full access to the indexed information, as well as the images of the records. Current prices for a premium account are given as follows:

- 12.40€ / month*
- 49.90€ / 6 months*
- 79.99€ / year*

Available Records

Filae has many different records available online. Following is a list of the basic record types that are available:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Civil Registration Records | • WWI Deaths in France |
| • Notarial Records | • WWI Soldier Deaths |
| • Obituaries | • Military Pensions |
| • Paris Marriage Records | • Naturalization Records |
| • Census Records | • Canada Tanguay Collection |
| • Conscription lists | • Bastille Prison Records |
| • Bordeaux Passports | • French Coat of Arms |
| • Bordeaux Passenger Lists | |

* Prices are subject to change. These are prices as given on 13 July 2022.

Available Resources

In the French language version of the site, there are multiple resources that can help you research your family. Here is a summary of the available resources:

- **Noms de Famille – Family Surnames.** Here you can search your surname and learn the origin, etymology, and number of individuals that share your surname.
- **Guide généalogique – Genealogy Guide.** This is a guide that will help you learn how to start researching. This is only available in French.
- **Blog – Blog.** This is a link to their blog. On this blog you can see what new records they are adding.
- **Filae Académie – Filae Academy.** This is an area of videos that will teach you how to use Filae, including how to get started doing family history research.
- **Assistance – Help.** This is where you can go to get help.

Search Tips

Here are some tricks to help you find your ancestors on Filae:

- Remember that the first field is for the surname not the given name of an individual.
- Include the department when searching. You can add the city, but it can narrow your search.
- Apply filters when you have many results.
- If you know a familial relationship, add that individual to your search.

In-class Practice

Here is the information used in the class as a practice search:

- First Name: Jean Baptiste
- Birth name: Ambard
- Between 1700-1800
- Place: Var, Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur, Republic of France