

Live Like Royalty on the French Riviera: Rent, \$1,030 a Month

By Steve Gibson

They call it the *Promenade des Anglais*.

It's the four-mile promenade that hugs the beachfront in Nice, in the French Riviera.

If you'd been here 125 years ago, you might have seen Britain's Queen Victoria having an after-dinner walk. Or countless other members of the British aristocracy.

Hence, "*Anglais*." ("English")

From the 18th century to the early 20th century, Britain's Royals—and their hangers-on—would decamp to the French Riviera each winter.

After all, why hang around some damp and chilly castle when you could enjoy warmth and sunshine.

On a bad day in January or February, it might get down to 46 F. Once in a while, it'll rain.

But, more often than not, it's 59 F and sunny.

And it looks like this:



I took this photo from Castle Hill in Nice.

So, do you have to be royalty to enjoy this?

Here's the kicker: My stay in Nice was cheaper than my typical cost of living back home.

I found a really great apartment on Airbnb. It's in a quiet street, in a friendly neighborhood, just a mile from the beach. (To be precise, it's one mile and 219 yards.)

It cost me just \$1,030 a month to rent. And that includes taxes, utilities, WiFi, central heating, a/c, cable TV...

And there's no shortage of things to do.

Nice has everything you'd expect from a European city; cafés, restaurants, supermarkets, cinemas.

And, because it attracts the super-rich, swanky hotels and designer clothes stores abound.

It has the beach and a harbor full of expensive yachts. And it has a picturesque old town.

It has museums.

It has a great public transport network. Trams run every few minutes from my neighborhood.

If you're into history, you can visit the ruins of a 4,000-seat Roman amphitheater or visit Castle Hill.

And, if you like to be active, you can walk or cycle along the *Promenade des Anglais*. (Nice has a cheap bike hire scheme.)

And, if you run out of things to do in Nice, you can always take the bus to Monte Carlo.

It costs just €1.50 (\$1.70) and goes through some beautiful coastal towns. The bus drops you off next to a famous casino that's appeared in a couple of James Bond movies.

Or, if Monte Carlo isn't your thing, €1.50 will also get you to Cannes, home of the world-famous film festival.

Or, if you want to get away from the coast, try Saint-Paul-de-Vence, a fortified hillside town. It's one of the oldest medieval towns in the south of France and well worth a visit.

Again, just a €1.50 bus ride away.

Editor's note: As Steve discovered, the good life in Europe doesn't have to cost the earth. Discover all the potential it has to offer you a serious retirement upgrade with the [Best of Europe Private Screening](#). This online event lets you explore the very best European retirement havens from the comfort of your own home. Then, when the time is right to set off overseas, you'll have all the knowledge, insight, and contacts you need to make your move as quickly and easily as possible.

[Add your name, obligation-free, to our "first in line list" for this very special event today](#) and you'll be eligible for first dibs to participate at the biggest discount we'll offer. [Sign up free, here.](#)
