



AT THE SEASIDE / AU BORD DE LA MER

by Sue Burgess

Summer is here. *L'été est arrivé.* Time for a day or two on the coast *sur la côte / à la mer.*

Perhaps you would like to go bathing *se baigner* or perhaps you just want to sunbathe *se bronzer* on the sand *le sable*, reading novels on the beach *lire des romans sur la plage* or just relaxing *se détendre.* The more energetic may want to water-ski *faire du ski-nautique* or surf *faire du surf.*

Whatever you choose, don't forget to pack your suntan lotion *la crème solaire* and some after-sun *l'après-soleil.* Sun-glasses *les lunettes de soleil* and a sun-hat *une casquette* are essential. I suppose you have packed your cases *faire les valises* and included your bikini *un bikini/un deux-pièces*, swimsuit *un maillot de bain* or bathing shorts *un short de bain.* Don't forget your jelly (plastic) shoes *les méduses* or your flip-flops *les tongs.*

Be careful not to get stung by a jellyfish *se faire piquer par une méduse* and if you leave your things on the beach and go for a dip, make sure that you don't have your wallet pinched/nicked *se faire piquer son portefeuille* (slang).

Remember to put a bucket and spade *un seau et une pelle* in your beach bag *un sac de plage* for the children so that they can make sandcastles *faire des châteaux de sable.* Perhaps they need a rubber ring *une bouée* for swimming in the sea.

You will need your beach towel *une serviette de plage* and your parasol *un parasol.* Little beach tents *les abris de plage* are popular.

The green flag *le drapeau vert* means that the beach has a life-guard *un surveillant de plage* and that bathers are being watched *baignade surveillée.* An orange flag means that it is dangerous to swim *baignade dangereuse* even though the life-guards will still be on duty. The red flag means that swimming is not allowed *baignade interdite.* On a beach with life-guards, there will be a first aid post *poste de secours.*

Enjoy your holidays *Profitez de vos vacances.*

VOCABULARY / VOCABULAIRE:

la plage.....	beach
l'océan.....	ocean
la mer.....	sea
la côte.....	coast
le sable.....	sand
la vague.....	wave
la marée.....	tide
le crabe.....	crab



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la pierre.....	rock
le caillou.....	pebble
la mouette.....	seagull
le goéland.....	gull
profond/profonde.....	deep
peu profond/profonde.....	shallow
l'eau de mer.....	seawater
la baie.....	bay