

French Inheritance Law

Given the diverse composition of the modern day family, many people may have complex requirements and it can be quite a challenge to find a solution which satisfies their wishes. French succession law is much stricter than UK law and for UK nationals who are resident and tax domiciled in France, their worldwide assets will be subject to French law, with the exception of any property (real estate) situated outside France.

Having said that, since various new laws were introduced in 2007, there is now greater flexibility and with forward planning, it is generally easier to organise things so that on your death, your property and other assets pass in accordance with your wishes. It is, however, difficult to disinherit your natural or adopted children and any gift to a stepchild remains subject to heavy taxation in France.

Regardless of whether you are resident in the UK or in France, it is extremely important that as owners of property in France you are aware of, and understand how, French law will apply to your property and your other French assets in the event of your death.



Greater security and protection to the surviving partner or spouse can be achieved through careful planning and by seeking good professional advice - preferably BEFORE you buy your property.

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