

rance is one of the world's leading countries in politics, diplomacy, military affairs, and economics, as well as a founding member state of the European Union. Its GDP makes it the world's sixth-largest economy. It is number 10 globally by purchasing power and has the second-largest exclusive economic zone in the world. Based on household net worth, France is the richest country in Europe and the fourth richest worldwide. French nationals enjoy a high quality of life, with the nation performing outstandingly in metrics including education, life expectancy, democratic freedom, and humanitarian development. In particular, its medical R&D and the application thereof have long been ranked first in the world. French industry has also been impacted by COVID-19. The demand for transportation, aviation, automobiles, oil, natural gas, and so on has plummeted, with the aviation industry suffering the most. In the third quarter of 2020, the market for related composite materials even decreased by 42%. It is estimated that air transportation will not return to 2019 levels until at least 2023. As for the automobile industry, numbers vary depending on power source - for instance, electric cars and battery materials grew by more than 25% despite the overall trend. Additionally, demand for oil and natural gas has been decreasing since before the COVID-19 outbreak. Meanwhile, the demand for medical and cleaning products has risen dramatically, including new cleaning products such as Actizone (an antibacterial disinfectant cleaning product) and anti-COVID-19 & antibacterial textiles, which performed well against the prevailing tide.

In Paris, housing prices declined slightly in early 2022 because high living costs in the capital have driven some residents to relocate to the suburbs. According to French real estate data, the market in Paris is showing moderate improvement as a whole, however, real estate in other suburban areas is still not making significant progress. Newspaper Le Parisien noted that the decline in Paris property prices is gradually subsiding according to the latest data from online real estate valuation specialist Meil leurs Agents. The average price per square meter of apartments in Paris rose by 0.2% compared with last month, reaching €10,187. But after eight consecutive months of decline in 2022, the average price has fallen by 2% in one year.

In terms of international tourism, the International Olympic Committee eventually decided that Paris will be hosting the 2024 Summer Olympics and Los Angeles the 2028 Summer Olympics, which will greatly benefit both the real estate and tourism markets. Repair and rust removal work on Parisian landmark the Eiffel Tower has been delayed several times due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks to France's GDP of US\$257.5 million, Reuters reported that the Municipality of Paris has decided to allocate a special budget of €60 million (about NT\$1,865.82 million) for a major renovation of the tower so that this landmark can put on its best face for the 2024 Olympics.

The Paris 2024 Olympic Games will not only boost the development and prosperity of the French tourism industry, but also help the French real estate market continue to rise. Investing in France is a good option in the foreseeable future.