

Packing up their life in the capital to move to the South of France. The idea has been brewing for some time. The Suraud family found this year of lockdowns especially stifling in that Parisian apartment making them long for a better quality of life and above all space.

“It’s the feeling of lack of air, of lack of space which is quite normal in a city as packed as Paris is but it’s become totally unbearable”

“We said we’d move in a year or two and that we weren’t in a hurry but then we thought what are we waiting for?”

The pandemic accelerated the move. The city of light had already lost its lust for the family. Over the years they found living in Paris increasingly stressful.

“Everyone is just really stressed, whether their driving, on a scooter, walking, cycling, everyone is a bit on edge.”

“For us Paris has become a little gilded cage from which it’s hard to escape and hard to reenter”

“We’ve lost some of what made Paris beautiful compared to ten years ago”

The Suraud are far from alone in that decision to put Paris behind them. Last October Nicolas and his partner Constance jumped to the chance for a fresh start in Lyon.

“We are close to lakes, mountains, hiking trails”

“We are part of a new wave of movers you could say. We’ve helped quite a few Parisians with their moves to Lyon.”

In Lyon they found a bigger apartment, cheaper rent and the possibility of buying. The idea of leaving Paris had been on their mind for some time.

“We always knew we wanted to leave Paris and when the pandemic hit, we thought a lot of things are being called into question, our daily life has been turned upside-down and it made us more determined not to put off this plan.