MADOR REPORT · NOVEMBER 2026

Restaurants in France: who AI assistants recommend

We asked 4 AI assistants where to find restaurants in 20 cities in France, with 5 questions per city written the way a resident would ask them. That makes 400 answers, collected between 3 November 2026 and 4 November 2026.

87% of answers recommend at least one business

346 of 400 answers give at least one name to call. With the same method, the true share sits between 83% and 90%; the other answers explain how to choose and name nobody.

Perplexity names the most, Claude the fewest

Perplexity recommends a business in 100% of its answers, Claude in 69%. Showing up in one assistant does not mean showing up in another.

Les Fils à Maman is recommended in 4 of 20 cities

2% of answers name at least one national network or chain. The other recommended businesses are independent, and they change from city to city.

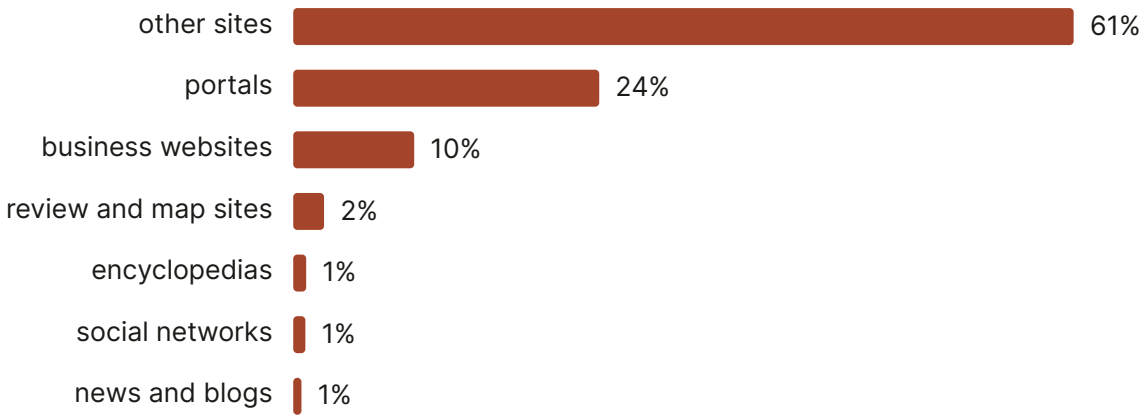
Portals make up 24% of the sites read, business websites 10%

63% of answers link to a portal, 28% to the website of a named business. A site the assistant reads is a site it takes names from.

How often each assistant recommends



Sites read, by type



Networks recommended in the most cities



City by city

#	City	Answers	With a business	Most recommended
1	Paris	20	95%	Lapérouse, Big Mamma, Comptoir Sur Mer
2	Marseille	20	70%	Le Petit Nice, AM, Chez Fonfon
3	Lyon	20	80%	Le Café Comptoir Abel, Le Café des Fédérations, Au Petit Bouchon – Chez Georges
4	Toulouse	20	75%	Le Bibent, Le Genty Magre, Le Colombier
5	Nice	20	85%	La Réserve de Nice, Le Plongeoir, Le Chantecler
6	Nantes	20	85%	La Cigale, L'Atlantide 1874 — Maison Guého, Lulu Rouget
7	Montpellier	20	90%	Le Petit Jardin, Le Jardin des Sens, Le Pastis
8	Strasbourg	20	85%	Au Crocodile, Le Blue Flamingo, 1741
9	Bordeaux	20	90%	Le Pressoir d'Argent, La Tupina, Maison Nouvelle
10	Lille	20	90%	Le Bloempot, Ginko, Pureté
11	Rennes	20	100%	Le Bistrot Des Remparts, La Closerie, Bombance
12	Toulon	20	85%	Le Rock, Le Saint Gabriel, Le Bistrot du Port
13	Reims	20	90%	Le Millénaire, Arbane, L'Assiette Champenoise
14	Saint-Étienne	20	85%	Grabuge, La Java Bleue, La Table des Matrus
15	Le Havre	20	90%	Le Margote, Le Bouche À Oreille, Calice et Mandibule
16	Villeurbanne	20	80%	La Bascule, Cuisine en Ville, Bistrot Le Filanthrope
17	Dijon	20	90%	L'Évidence, Loiseau des Ducs, CIBO

#	City	Answers	With a business	Most recommended
18	Angers	20	95%	Lait Thym Sel, Le Bistrot des Ducs, Le Restaurant Belle Rive
19	Grenoble	20	85%	Le Locafé, La Belle Idée, Le Tohu Bohu
20	Nîmes	20	85%	Le Duende, SKAB, Le Questel

Method

Cities: the 20 most populous municipalities in metropolitan France, INSEE legal populations at 1 January 2023. Each city has its own 5 questions, in the language spoken there, the same for every assistant.

Assistants: ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude, Perplexity, with the models of Mador's free scan and web search on. For each question and assistant the most recent answer counts.

An answer "recommends a business" when it names at least one real business in the category: headings, neighbourhoods, portals and public bodies do not count. The interval accounts for assistants answering the same questions (the same method as the Mador Index).

Since 4 November 2026, the order counts the answers that recommend first, then the mentions.

Names appear only where the assistants recommend them, never if an answer advises against them: national networks in the cities where at least one answer recommends them, independent businesses recommended in at least 2 answers in their city.

This data comes from the same work Mador does every day for businesses: it sees where assistants recommend them, writes and publishes the missing pages and measures again to see what changed.

[See where your business shows up]

Mador, "Restaurants in France: who AI assistants recommend", November 2026, mador.ai.