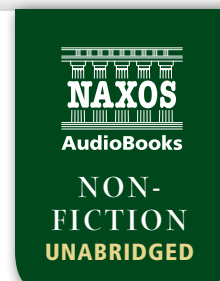
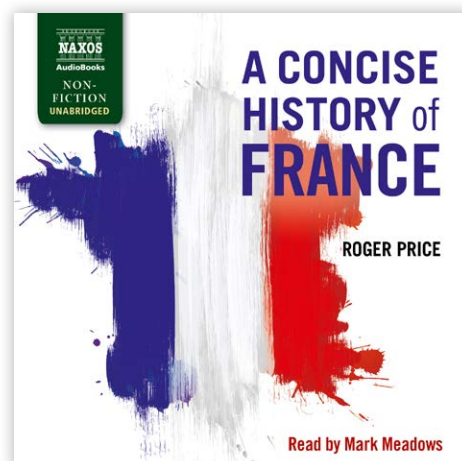


# A CONCISE HISTORY of FRANCE



**ROGER PRICE**  
Read by Mark Meadows

Ranging from the early Middle Ages to the present, this is the broadest and most up-to-date study of French history available in English. Amongst its central themes are the relationships between state and society, the impact of war, competition for power, and the ways in which power has been used. Whilst taking full account of major figures such as Philip Augustus, Henri IV, Louis XIV, Napoleon and de Gaulle, it sets their activities within the broader context of changing economic and social structures and beliefs, and offers rich insights into the lives of ordinary men and women. The recording also includes a chapter on contemporary France – its society and political system as a result of globalisation, rising unemployment, a failing educational system, growing social and racial tensions, corruption, the rise of the extreme right, and a widespread loss of confidence in political leaders.



**Mark Meadows** has recorded over 80 audiobook titles, for a large number of publishers, and can be heard frequently on BBC Radio, with shows including *Book at Bedtime*. He is a former musical director of the Swingle Singers and has various theatre and recording credits as composer and arranger, in addition to his numerous stage-acting credits. For Naxos AudioBooks he has read More's *Utopia*, Kierkegaard's *Fear and Trembling* and *The Confessions of St Augustine*.

**Total running time: 19:25:33**

View our catalogue online at [n-ab.com/cat](http://n-ab.com/cat)

1	<b>A Concise History of France</b>	7:42	26	Enlightenment ideals were not without their...	6:49
2	The maintenance of these administrative...	7:49	27	<b>Part 2: The Dual Revolution: Modern and...</b>	3:34
3	Furthermore, as one moves inland...	8:17	28	<b>Chapter 4: Revolution and Empire</b>	9:40
4	Their location and activities and those of...	6:06	29	Ministerial stability and consistent policies...	11:06
5	<b>Part 1: Medieval and Early Modern France</b>	4:15	30	Although urban workers were capable of...	12:52
6	<b>Chapter 1: Population and Resources...</b>	7:29	31	This clash was precipitated by the obvious...	13:04
7	The great period of land clearance...	7:55	32	The Debate on a New Constitution	11:11
8	The recurrence of subsistence crises...	11:01	33	Throughout the provinces, as in Paris...	10:59
9	The reasons for population growth were...	12:57	34	To a substantial degree, the policy decisions...	12:03
10	<b>Chapter 2: Society and Politics in Medieval...</b>	8:46	35	Radicalisation of the Revolution	8:19
11	Exploitation by the lord was restrained primarily...	8:17	36	The members of this assembly were all new...	8:35
12	The growth of population and of economic activity...	9:12	37	As the military crisis deepened in the spring...	11:09
13	During the fourteenth century it would acquire...	8:46	38	To impose food procurement and political...	7:55
14	Although defeated by Richard (died 1199)...	10:16	39	In the west, widespread violence occurred...	7:37
15	For some 130 years, from around 1335...	11:52	40	The Conservative Republic	8:41
16	<b>Chapter 3: Society and Politics in Early Modern...</b>	8:31	41	The Consulate and Empire	8:39
17	In establishing the administrative state the kings...	12:03	42	On 6 May 1802, in gratitude for Bonaparte's...	7:19
18	The crisis deepened. The collapse of revenue...	8:03	43	The Peninsular War (1808–14) proved to be...	10:27
19	The Fronde – a confused mixture of conflicts...	11:11	44	Conclusion	5:01
20	The constant waging of war would satisfy...	11:07	45	<b>Chapter 5: The Nineteenth Century: Continuity...</b>	2:22
21	In this situation internal administration...	10:06	46	Economy and Society	11:35
22	Certainly, the French nobility did not comprise...	9:18	47	The widest possible range of activities...	9:46
23	If the nobility frequently represented a goal...	9:34	48	The enlargement of markets and the growing...	9:46
24	Seigneurialism raised complex economic...	9:26	49	Society and Politics	9:34
25	By the end of 1769 the budget deficit had...	10:42	50	The Restoration	9:00

51	Concern about the regime's intentions was...	12:21	87	Did economic growth and social reform reduce...	11:04
52	The July Monarchy	7:05	88	Political Life: The Fourth Republic	8:08
53	The political peace of the years that followed...	8:39	89	The MRP had been founded in November 1944...	12:21
54	The Second Republic	7:58	90	The recovery of the right was nevertheless evident.	11:41
55	Faced with a plethora of candidates, many voters...	7:46	91	In the search for a military solution Mollet would...	8:43
56	Where might this lead? An apocalyptic perspective...	9:21	92	The Fifth Republic	8:01
57	The Second Empire	9:00	93	The political system that emerged after 1958...	11:18
58	In December 1861 Napoleon further responded...	10:56	94	There were limits to the French commitment...	8:50
59	Whatever the limits to opposition, the 1869...	9:37	95	Above all, the election result revealed...	9:28
60	In the provinces the news of defeat and revolution...	10:14	96	<b>Chapter 8: A Society Under Stress</b>	2:22
61	Faced with this intransigence, the monarchist...	11:05	97	Economy and Society	10:12
62	Moderate republicans were committed to a form...	12:47	98	The pressure on major companies to increase...	8:00
63	How real was this social threat that so exercised...	9:08	99	Public indebtedness and the exposure of banks...	8:34
64	<b>Chapter 6: A Time of Crisis: 1914–1945</b>	11:01	100	Social Problems	9:32
65	Joffre's successor, General Robert Nivelle...	8:12	101	In recognition of changing social mores, in 1999...	9:17
66	The occupation of the north, shortages of...	9:16	102	At least mobility and access to employment...	11:22
67	The Inter-war Years	9:35	103	A report by the Council on Integration in 2004...	11:17
68	In the end, France would receive the substantial...	11:14	104	The universities themselves, mainly...	9:27
69	As the left tore itself apart, electoral support...	10:41	105	Political Life	9:05
70	Certainly, in terms of unemployment, France...	11:41	106	The general sense of disquiet and of insecurity...	11:21
71	Amongst the middle classes, and especially...	13:31	107	New voting patterns were beginning to emerge...	10:13
72	Initially, the election results were disappointing...	15:23	108	Concerned by the impact of accusations...	12:11
73	The Second World War	8:34	109	In sharp contrast, in the following decades...	10:23
74	Weygand, a traditionalist Catholic...	11:42	110	With their eyes set on the presidential election...	11:51
75	Pétain's government was, furthermore...	11:45	111	Looking for inspiration to the achievements...	12:06
76	In the early post-armistice period in particular...	11:51	112	Once in power, Chirac immediately adopted...	11:10
77	In this, the French administration and its police...	12:12	113	On 3 May 2000 the National Assembly, in which...	11:25
78	Although Churchill had at first supported...	12:09	114	Indeed, the split in the party, in 1998...	12:15
79	Gradually, passions calmed. Even Xavier Vallat...	8:00	115	The European Commission tacitly accepted...	12:03
80	<b>Chapter 7: Reconstruction and renewal...</b>	4:20	116	The mediocre and grossly overcrowded...	10:21
81	Economy	8:45	117	Although they had lost three previous...	10:43
82	Only the introduction in 1948 of the Marshall Plan...	7:48	118	By focusing on issues such as housing...	9:03
83	In a situation of rapidly rising prices...	10:00	119	Conclusion: An Interim Report on the Socialists...	8:41
84	Society	8:12	120	Whilst accepting the urgent need for tighter...	8:53
85	Through the Plan, by means of direct intervention...	8:41	121	The potential for profit is enormous.	7:29
86	Improvements in healthcare, seen most notably...	8:33			

Recorded, produced, edited and mastered by Chatterbox Audio

Executive Producer: Anthony Anderson

Text © 1993, 2005 & 2014 Cambridge University Press © 2019 Naxos AudioBooks. Artwork © 2019 Naxos AudioBooks

Booklet and cover design: Hannah Whale, Fruition – Creative Concepts, using images courtesy of shutterstock

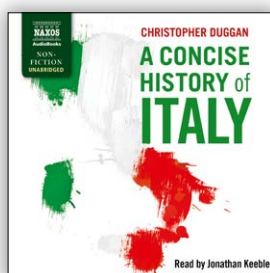
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. UNAUTHORISED PUBLIC PERFORMANCE, BROADCASTING AND COPYING OF THIS RECORDING PROHIBITED

**Total running time: 19:25:33**

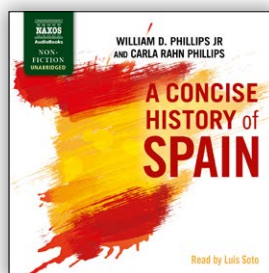
**Catalogue no.:** NA0377

**ISBN:** 978-1-78198-273-0

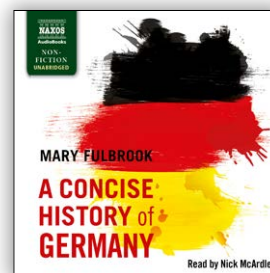
## Other works on Naxos AudioBooks



Christopher Duggan  
**A Concise History of Italy**  
Read by Jonathan Keeble



William D. Phillips, Jr. and Carla Rahn Phillips  
**A Concise History of Spain**  
Read by Luis Soto



Mary Fulbrook  
**A Concise History of Germany**  
Read by Nick McArdle