

# Villa Gabaye

Region: Aquitaine Sleeps: 10

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## Overview

Located within a working Côtes de Blaye vineyard is Villa Gabaye. Once a private home to the domaine's previous owners, this refurbished abode built with characterful stone walls comfortably sleeps up to ten guests and has all the space you need to settle into your holiday.

On the ground floor lies the main living area alongside a stylish kitchen-diner. The kitchen is fully equipped and has all the essentials to cook delicious family meals together. Wicker chairs surround the dining table, perfect for gathering and planning the next day's adventures.

From the dining area, open the French doors and go out to a pretty patio for al-fresco dining. A pergola above provides shade from the sun, cooling you down as you sit and take in the view. Relax in the garden opening out to the vines and dip into the heated plunge pool on sunny afternoons - the unique pool has been custom made by Nadalié barrel makers. There is also a charming barbecue area for outdoor feasts.

Back inside the villa are five bedrooms sleeping up to ten guests. The bedrooms feature wooden floors, attractive furnishings and bold coloured walls. There is a lovely bedroom downstairs which can be made up as a double or twin alongside an impressive adjacent bathroom. There are three doubles and a twin upstairs alongside two modern shower rooms.

The vineyard is in the Bordeaux region and provides the perfect backdrop to your holiday. As a working vineyard, you will be able to witness the full production of wine, from grape to bottle. Spend time walking through the vines and chatting to the owners, asking questions on the process, and discovering what makes the wines from Bordeaux so unique.

This French holiday home has bikes to explore the local area - discover the much-loved *voie verte* between Blaye and Étauliers, part of the Canal des Deux Mers à Vélo.

It's wonderful being so close to Blaye with its spectacular citadel, now a UNESCO World Heritage site. This is also a fantastic base for visiting the vineyards of the Médoc peninsula including the wine châteaux of Margaux and Pauillac or continue towards the coast for beautiful lakes and the wild shores of the Atlantic ocean near Lacanau and Hourtin.



## Facilities

Walking/Hiking Paths • Villa • Historical Sites • Tennis Nearby • Wine Tasting • Private Pool • Cycling • Great Value • Ideal for Teens • Cots (Cribs) • Heated Pool • Saltwater Pool • Ground Floor Bed & Bath • <1hr to Airport • Walk to Restaurant • Parking Space • Wi-Fi/Internet • Washing

Machine • Hairdryer • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Tourist Towns & Villages • Table Tennis • DVD • Bicycles Provided • Dishwasher • Microwave • Electric Car Charger • Smart TV • Heating • Wine-Tasting Available • Swings • Bathroom Toiletries • Bikes • High Chair(s)

# Interior & Grounds

## Villa Interiors

### Ground Floor

- Lounge with TV
- Open-plan dining area and kitchen, well-equipped, with French doors opening out to the covered terrace
- WC
- Bedroom with double bed (can be split as a twin)
- Bathroom with shower and bathtub

### First Floor

- 3 x bedrooms with double beds
- Bedroom with two single beds
- Bathroom with shower and sink
- Separate WC
- Large bathroom with shower, sink and WC

## Outside Grounds

- Heated salt-water plunge pool, accessed via customised wooden steps with a folding wooden gate for added safety. Open approximately May to end-September
- Sun loungers and outdoor seating area
- Outdoor shower
- Covered outdoor dining terrace
- Barbecue
- Table tennis
- Swing
- 4 x bikes with helmets and locks (more on request, and some children's bikes are available)
- Garden/grounds opening out to working vineyard



# Location & Local Information

Villa Gabaye is part of a working vineyard and winery in the Bordeaux region of south-west France, just a 5-minute drive from the historic town of Blaye. Bordeaux Airport (65km) is around an hour away.

The house is part of a working vineyard set amongst the vines in the outskirts of Blaye. The *domaine* is located just off a country road (no pavement) leading to a large supermarket only 1km away which you can walk/cycle/drive to passing various businesses en route (including an Italian restaurant as well as a bakery and a takeaway pizza kiosk near the supermarket roundabout).

Back to the wine estate, the grape vines are in clay-limestone soil, typical of the region. Traditionally, the vineyard produces Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec and Cabernet Franc. In recent years, the vineyard has diversified and now grows white grapes to produce Roussanne, Semillon and Chardonnay, offering a broader range. Take a wine tour to see the wine being made, observing this intriguing process from grape to bottle.

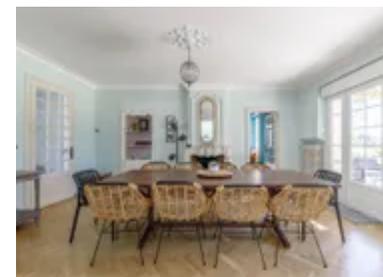
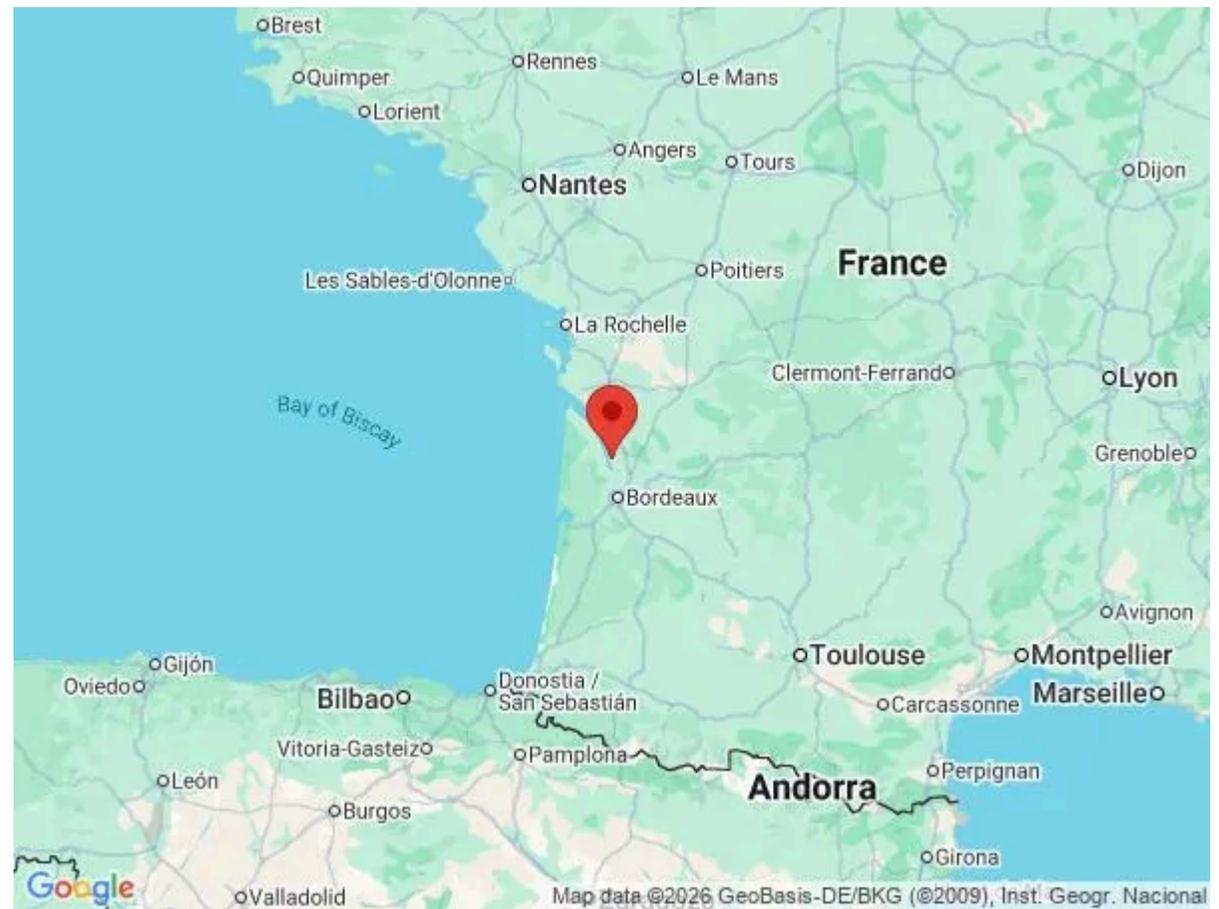
The wine estate is also home to Two Origins Distillery, producing whiskey. The name derives from combining the company's heritage; French and Irish. Two Origins Distillery produces a unique whiskey that combines the French taste with the traditional whiskey techniques of Ireland: the triple-distilled cask-aged Irish whiskey.

Blaye is your local town, home to the UNESCO World Heritage site, Citadelle de Blaye. Designed by the celebrated French military engineer Vauban, Citadelle de Blaye is a fortress offering panoramas over the Gironde estuary. Built in the 17th century, the citadel of Blaye had 1.5km of ramparts, over 30 hectares of fortifications and 1,500 soldiers occupying the fort!

Spend some relaxing time strolling through the citadel's narrow streets and meet the craftsmen, restaurateurs and shopkeepers who dwell in the once-fortified fortress. Tours are also available for those who want to delve deeper into history and enter the underground passages below the surface. The town of Blaye also offers cafés, restaurants, and shops for you to enjoy, and all just a bike ride or short car journey from the villa.

Travelling further afield, take a day to visit the picturesque village of Saint-Émilion (53km), a medieval gem located in another part of the famous Bordeaux wine region. Surrounded by UNESCO vineyards, Saint-Émilion has two thousand years of history emanating from its elegant architecture and monuments. Its golden bricks shimmer in the sunlight as you wind through the village, exploring historic vineyards, cafes, and shops.

Spend an afternoon feeling refreshed and head to the coast. The southwest of France is home to the Aquitaine coastline, the longest sandy coastline in Europe, stretching 230 kilometres! The charming seaside resort of Royan (85km) is around 90 minutes by car or head to Blaye and take the car ferry across to the Médoc peninsular, then continue towards the picturesque lakes, pine forests and sandy Atlantic coastline (a paradise for surfers) near the villages of Lacanau (45km) or Hourtin (47km).



The Médoc peninsula is another great wine destination - visit the villages and châteaux of Margaux and Pauillac, potter around their village markets and savour the fine cuisine this region has to offer. Further more, don't miss wonderful oyster shacks overlooking the estuary!

## Local Amenities

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Nearest Airport       | <b>Bordeaux<br/>(60km)</b>  |
| Nearest Beach         | <b>Lacanau/Royan<br/>(55km via ferry/81km)</b>                    |
| Nearest Golf          | <b>Golf de Margaux-Médoc-Bordeaux<br/>(20km (via ferry))</b>      |
| Nearest Restaurant    | <b>Italian restaurant<br/>(450m)</b>                              |
| Nearest Supermarket   | <b>E.Leclerc<br/>(1km)</b>  |
| Nearest Tennis        | <b>Outside Blaye<br/>(3km)</b>                                    |
| Nearest Town          | <b>Blaye<br/>(3km)</b>  |
| Nearest Train Station | <b>St André de Cubzac/Bordeaux Saint-Jean TGV<br/>(26km/54km)</b> |

## What we love

- This beautiful, traditional yet stylish French holiday home is set within a Côtes des Blaye vineyard and winery
- Wine tours and tastings can be arranged - it is fascinating to learn the methods and processes of a working vineyard
- The plunge pool is so unique - it has been custom made by Nadalié barrel makers
- Enjoy al-fresco meals beneath the pergola with a lovely view
- Make the most of the bikes and cycle along the trail between Blaye and Étauliers (part of the Canal des Deux Mers à Vélo)
- Blaye is only 3km away with its incredible 17th century citadel, now a UNESCO World Heritage site

## What you should know...

- Families are warmly welcomed. We do ask you to note that the house is part of a working vineyard/winery with machinery - the gardens open out to the vines and the estate is unenclosed so child supervision is needed.
- The summer plunge pool is fantastic for relaxing days in the garden - once again, please look after children near the pool. There are now customised wooden steps up to the pool (instead of the ladder shown in some of the pictures).

# Terms & Conditions

- **Security deposit:** €200 charged to client's credit card two weeks before arrival and refunded upon departure, subject to full inspection.
- **Arrival time:** 4.00 p.m.
- **Departure time:** 10.00 a.m.
- **Energy costs included?:** Yes.
- **Linen & towels included?:** Yes.
- **Pets welcome?:** Not allowed.
- **Other Ts and Cs:** Cot and high chair available on request.
- **Changeover day:** Flexible.
- **End of stay cleaning available?:** Yes. However, guests are required to leave the accommodation clean, tidy and in the same condition as on their arrival. Any extra cleaning, laundry, maintenance and/or rubbish disposal required will be charged against the security deposit.
- **Smoking Allowed?:** Not allowed.
- **Insurance:** Guests are required to be in possession of a valid insurance policy, which covers them for cancellations, personal belongings, personal liability and any accidental damage caused during their stay.
- **Minimum stay:** 3 nights.
- **Heating costs included?:** Yes.
- **Pool heating charge?:** Included for the plunge pool. Please note that like all heated pools, pool heating and water temperature are reliant on weather and outside temperatures.
- **Tax:** French Visitors Tax payable locally (typically costs €1-€10 per adult per night- please enquire if exact amount is required).
- **Pool towels included?:** Yes.
- **Pool opening dates?:** The plunge pool is open approximately May to end of September. Please note that pool opening dates are subject to local weather conditions and pool maintenance requirements and that cooler months may not be suitable for swimming.