

# Chateau Des Romaines

Region: Midi-Pyrenees    Sleeps: 10

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## Overview

In the 'Golden Triangle' of the Tarn, Château Des Romaines is a beautiful residence surrounded by acres of woodland and vineyards so typical of this part of south-western France. You are less than a 10-minute drive from the perched village of Cordes-sur-Ciel which peeks above the clouds on a misty day, and just half an hour from the important medieval city of Albi.

Once a historic winery, parts of this handsome home date back to Roman times. In recent years, the château has been sensitively restored, retaining so many original features whilst benefitting from the modern comforts you would expect. The lounge, with its stone fireplace and Art Deco furnishings, looks out towards the forest whilst the rustic dining room features original *tomette* tiles and exposed stone allowing it to retain warmth in the winter and stay cool in the summer. Step into the bespoke kitchen and you will soon realise that the owners are keen cooks with its elegant design, impressive appliances and sociable central island.

An oak staircase leads upstairs to five en suite bedrooms, three doubles with their own shower room and two king-size doubles each featuring an Italian stone bath. This allows up to 10 guests to comfortably and peacefully sleep at Château Des Romaines, an inviting home with books, plenty of puzzles and games and an overall welcoming atmosphere.

The château is in a hillside position with tranquil rural views. The salt-water swimming pool awaits within a walled gated garden called Pompei, adding to the characterful ambience, and you can gaze at the château's Roman watchtower as you swim. This is also a fantastic area for al-fresco entertaining by the barbecue, relaxing beneath the shaded pergola or simply sunbathing in the summer



sunshine. Stroll through the newly planted olive grove and wildlife meadow and, if you are feeling active, wander up the woodland's private path towards the remains of a Roman chapel before walking through the vineyards and forest beyond.

Cordes-sur-Ciel is only 8km away, a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of France's classified 'Plus Beaux Villages'. Potter around its medieval lanes with restaurants, galleries and artisan craft shops, and enjoy its Saturday morning market. There are plenty of summer festivities to look out for in the village whilst garden-lovers should take time to visit the Jardin des Paradis.

To the south, head France's oldest vineyards in Gaillac, a picturesque historic town just 20km by car, and admire the beauty of the important medieval city of Albi, yet another UNESCO World Heritage site, both by the banks of the Tarn River.

Embrace the slow pace of life in local villages, seek out joyful markets and wine tasting opportunities, then experience a wealth of outdoor adventures from walking and horse-riding to mountain biking and golf. Venture to the idyllic village of Saint-Antonin-Noble-Val on the Aveyron River for kayaking/canoeing and its Sunday morning market. Bring back delicious regional delights to prepare in your elegant kitchen and serve al-fresco surrounded by the beautiful Tarn countryside.

## Facilities

Coffee Machine • Chateaux & Castles • Wi-Fi/Internet • Golf Nearby • Wine Tasting • Cycling • Tennis Nearby • Historical Sites • Canoeing/Kayaking • Horse Riding • Walking/Hiking Paths • Saltwater Pool • Rural Location • Indoor Games • Private Pool • Laptop Friendly Workspace • Heritage Collection • Pre-Stocked Fridge Available • Board games • Pool Safety Feature • Badminton • Ideal for Babies & Toddlers • Ideal for Kids • Tennis rackets • Ideal for Teens • <1hr to Airport • All Bedrooms En-Suite • Smart TV • Satellite TV • Outdoor Games • Working Fireplace/Woodburner • Heating • High Chair(s) • Parking Space • Outstanding Landscapes • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Tourist Towns & Villages

# Interior & Grounds

## Château Interiors

### Ground Floor

- Entrance hall
- Living room with stone fireplace
- Dining area
- Open-plan kitchen, fully-equipped including integrated coffee machine and wine-cooler leading to a breakfast hall which opens into the garden
- WC

### First Floor

- Landing and snug reading area
- Office area
- 3 x bedrooms with double bed (1.4x2m) and en suite bathroom with shower, sink and WC
- Bedroom with king-size double bed (1.6x2m) and en suite bathroom with double stone bath, sink and WC
- Bedroom with king-size double bed (1.6x2m) and en suite bathroom with stone bath, sink and WC

## Outside Grounds

- Salt-water swimming pool (11x4.5m, depth: 1.4m) with safety alarm. Open approximately May to October
- Large terrace for al-fresco dining
- Barbecue
- Pergola with al-fresco lounge
- Walled garden
- Badminton/tennis rackets
- Walled orchard
- Olive grove with newly-planted saplings
- Meadow
- Private walking path to Roman chapel (and beyond)
- Woodland
- Parking (several cars)
- Entrance gates

## Facilities

- Wi-Fi
- Heating
- Smart TV with satellite box and English channels
- Outdoor games (badminton/tennis rackets)
- Puzzles and board games
- Books
- Washing machine and dryer (cellar)





## Location & Local Information

Château Des Romaines is located in the 'Golden Triangle' of the Tarn with Gaillac and Albi to the south and Cordes-sur-Ciel only a 10-minute drive away. This region is also known as 'Tuscany in France' thanks to its beautiful landscapes of rolling hills and vineyards.

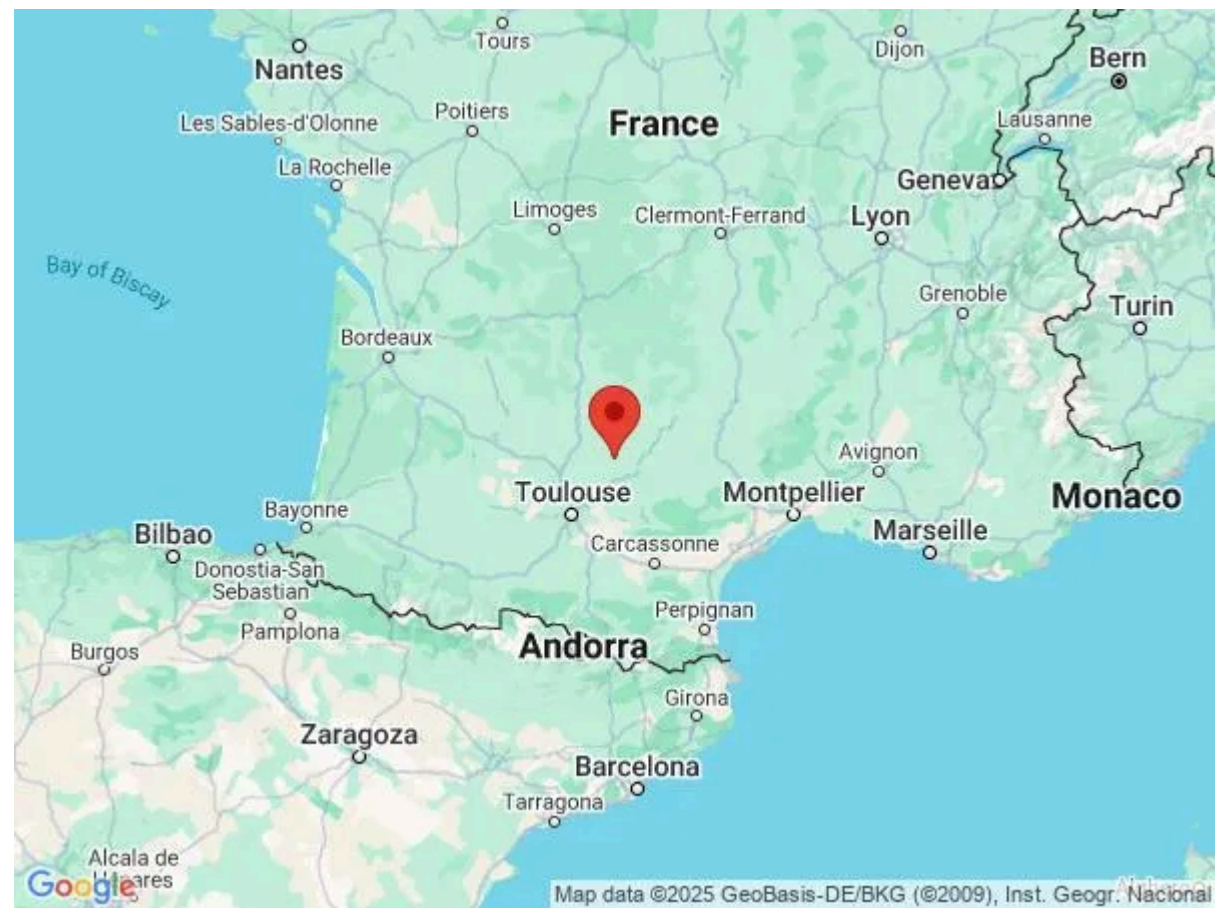
The château is surrounded by private woodland which guests can explore – follow a trail all the way to a Roman chapel or beyond towards hills, forest and vineyards. There is a tiny village 500m away and within 8km you will reach the perched village of Cordes-sur-Ciel, passing rural scenery and woodland as you drive along the pretty country roads.

Cordes-sur-Ciel is classified as one of France's '*Plus Beaux Villages*' and a UNESCO World Heritage site, home to a Saturday morning market and the picturesque Jardin des Paradis. Admire how perfectly the bastide village has been preserved as you wander around its narrow lanes and medieval gateways. Pop into art and craft shops across the village, dine in charming cafes and restaurants and look out for festivities taking place across the summer.

Wine-lovers will be especially keen to visit Gaillac (20km), home to France's oldest vineyards with some dating back to pre-Roman times. The town itself enjoys such a lovely setting on the Tarn River and features interesting museums as well as the Maison des Vins and the historic Abbey Saint-Michael. Gaillac hosts food and wine events and concerts during the summer months whilst the Friday morning market is also a joy to explore.

Albi (29km), another UNESCO World Heritage site, is also a must-visit if you can find the time. It is a small medieval city perched above the Tarn River with an impressive Gothic cathedral, atmospheric covered market, plenty of inviting restaurants and a museum all about the life and artwork of Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec.

Elsewhere, this part of south-western France offers



wonderful walking opportunities, mountain biking trails as well as horse-riding, swimming in lakes and cycling (bikes can be hired and delivered to the villa). In the summer, venture to Tarn-et-Garonne's Saint-Antonin-Noble-Val (23km), yet another idyllic village, popular for canoeing and kayaking on the Aveyron River. For the less active of guests, the Sunday morning market in Saint-Antonin-Noble-Val is well worth a visit or just potter around the pretty village and its canals.

Local Amenities

Nearest Airport	Toulouse-Blagnac Airport (88km/1hr)
Nearest Airport 2	Rodez-Marcillac Airport (99km)
Nearest Airport 3	Carcassonne Airport (142km)
Nearest Train Station	Cordes - Vindrac (4.5km)
Nearest Village	Tiny rural village (500m)
Nearest Restaurant	In and around Cordes-sur-Ciel (8km)
Nearest Supermarket	Carrefour Express (8km)
Nearest Town	Gaillac (20km)
Nearest City	Albi (29km)
Nearest Golf	Golf d'Albi (30km)

## What we love

- A beautiful historic residence with parts dating back to Roman times, surrounded by vineyards and woodland
- Gaze at the Roman watchtower as you cool off in the salt-water swimming pool
- Prepare delicious feasts in the bespoke kitchen to serve al-fresco on the terrace, an ideal spot for socialising into the evening
- A private *chemin* leads through the forest to a Roman chapel and beyond for long walks through the Tarn countryside
- The perfect setting in the Tarn's 'Golden Triangle' with Cordes-sur-Ciel only 8km away and Gaillac and Albi easily reached

## What you should know...

- The dedicated owners have been working hard on the château's restoration - additional photos will be added later this year.

# Terms & Conditions

- **Security deposit:** £750 paid via bank transfer to the owner one month before arrival and refunded two weeks after departure, subject to full inspection.
- **Arrival time:** 5.00 p.m.
- **Departure time:** 10.00 a.m.
- **Energy costs included?:** Yes.
- **Linen & towels included?:** Yes and mid-stay linen change for stays of more than 14 nights also included.
- **Pets welcome?:** Not allowed.
- **Other Ts and Cs:** Weddings, stag/hen parties and any special events are not allowed. Cot and highchair are available on request.
- **Changeover day:** Saturday. All other changeover days on request.
- **End of stay cleaning available?:** Extra £250, payable locally. 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?:** No.
- **Minimum stay:** 7 nights. All other durations on request.
- **Heating costs included?:** Yes.
- **Tax:** French Visitors Tax payable locally in cash (typically costs €1-€5 per adult per night- please enquire if exact amount is required).
- **Pool towels included?:** Yes.
- **Pool opening dates?:** The pool is open approximately May to October. 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.