

# Le Jardin Du Chateau

**Region:** Dordogne   **Sleeps:** 12

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## Overview

It's said that in former times, fruit was picked from Le Jardin Du Château and served to aristocracy in the imposing 13th-century château just opposite. Nowadays guests can enjoy breathtaking views of Château de Duras from the upper garden of their historic holiday home in this unique and spectacular setting in Dordogne-Lot et Garonne border.

Yet it's not just the proximity to Château de Duras that makes this place so special. The owners have restored this listed ancient monument to a beautiful standard, creating a stylish and charming home with an eclectic feel yet still respecting its historic past. Downstairs there's a vast living and dining space with an open-plan kitchen with high-end equipment, ideal whether you wish to create a feast or simply relax in the snug area with a glass of local wine and a great film. On the second floor there's a second living-dining room and another superbly equipped kitchen and wine-fridge, allowing ample space whether you're a large family or mixed group of friends.

Each of the six pretty en-suite bedrooms have been designed individually with some antique furnishings such as the Arts and Crafts bed in one of the rooms alongside simple yet smart style in others, all with linen from the White Company and Christy towels. At the top of the house enjoy the private double bedroom in the tower whilst families will appreciate the adjoining twin and double rooms on the first floor, each with their own bath or shower room.

Step outside from the lower living space into the south-facing garden and admire the wonderful views through the trees of the Dropt valley which has remained remarkably unspoilt over the years. A shady gazebo is a lovely place to lounge as kids splash around in the swimming pool and as evening approaches you can set up the al-fresco dining table by the Weber gas barbecue for a meal to remember by the beautifully lit pool.

From the second floor you can access the upper garden, a romantic spot with a lawn and sofas plus a second barbecue and table where you can sit and marvel at views of the Château de Duras so close. As evening falls, take your glass of Côtes de Duras wine, download a special app to your phone and you can control the coloured lighting of this 13th-century castle in a very 21st-century manner.

From the upper garden there's a little path that leads straight to the village of Duras in minutes, where you can be exploring charming lanes, picking up breakfast in the *boulangeries*, buying fresh local produce at the twice weekly market or enjoying lunch in one of the restaurants. Indeed, this region is filled with many marvellous *châteaux* and pretty bastide villages, some in the neighbouring Dordogne region such as Eymet, Monpazier and Monflanquin.

Bergerac is also within easy reach with its medieval architecture, great restaurants and *Maison des Vins*. Wine-lovers should also try the sweet wine at the nearby Château de Monbazillac and spend the day in the idyllic town of



Saint-Émilion. The city of Bordeaux with its surrounding vineyards and impressive La Cité du Vin museum is also a fantastic place to visit.

With undulating countryside of rolling hills, summer sunflowers and fruit trees, this is a sublime setting whether you wish to stay close to home or explore further afield. Whatever you choose to do, there's no doubt that Le Jardin Du Château will leave you with memories for a lifetime.



(<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/travel/escape/article-10999379/French-bit-rusty-enchanted-chateaux-France-rent-owned-Britons.html>)



(<https://www.standard.co.uk/lifestyle/travel/le-jardin-du-chateau-dropt-valley-france-castle-review-b1182349.html>)

## Facilities

Pure France • Ideal for Xmas/NY • Cycling • Historical Sites • Horse Riding • Walking/Hiking Paths • Golf Nearby • Walk to Village • Recommended • Wine Tasting • Ideal for Kids • Private Pool • Cots (Cribs) • Ideal for Teens • Maid Service Available • Heated Pool • Pets on Request • All Bedrooms En-Suite • Modern • <1hr to Airport • Pool Safety Feature • Walk to Restaurant • Wi-Fi/Internet • Outstanding Landscapes • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Tourist Towns & Villages • Table Tennis • Indoor Games • Satellite TV • Heating • Board games • Children's books • Ideal for Babies & Toddlers • Boules/Petanque • Pool inflatables • Stair gates • High Chair(s)

# Interior & Grounds

## Chateau Interior

### Ground Floor

- Open-plan kitchen-diner, well-equipped including large Falcon range oven and other high-end equipment plus living area with TV (French channels). Doors opening up to garden terrace and pool
- Separate WC

### First Floor

- Double bedroom with king-size bed and ensuite shower room with WC
- Double bedroom and ensuite shower room with WC (adjoins to twin bedroom)
- Twin bedroom and ensuite bathroom with WC (adjoins to above double bedroom)

### Second Floor

- Second kitchen, well-equipped with Falcon range cooker, wine-fridge and other high-end equipment
- Living-dining area with TV (with Firestick for Netflix and other channels)
- Double bedroom with ensuite shower room with WC
- Double/twin bedroom with king-size double/twin beds with ensuite bathroom with bath, separate shower and WC
- Access to upper garden

### Tower wing – Top Floor

- Double bedroom with ensuite shower room with WC

## Outside Grounds

- Heated swimming pool (11mx6m) with safety alarm. Open approximately mid-May to end-September. Solar covering to retain heat at night
- Sun-loungers (x8) and shades
- Gazebo with lounge area
- Al-fresco dining table
- BBQ
- Upper garden with dining and lounge area

## Facilities

- Wi-Fi
- Heating
- Cable TV
- Pool toys
- Table tennis
- *Boules*
- Board games
- Books



# Location & Local Information

Le Jardin Du Château is in the charming and historic village of Duras in the Lot-et-Garonne department, close to the Dordogne and Gironde border. The house enjoys wonderful views of the Dropt valley from the lower garden, swimming pool and some of the bedrooms as well as Château de Duras from the upper garden.

There's a little path that leads from the upper garden which takes you straight into the village in a few minutes. Here you will find some lovely cafes, four restaurants and a couple of bars as well as useful shops such as a bakery, butchers, and grocery store and an atmospheric Farmers market on a Monday and Wednesday morning. Look out for the guy who sells oysters from Arcachon on a Sunday morning!

There are events taking place throughout the year and from July to early September the village also hosts delightful weekly night markets where you can enjoy great local food and wine with live music. Wine-connoisseurs will also appreciate the impressive *Maison des Vins* just to the south of the village whilst history lovers can visit the Château de Duras with its fascinating history dating back to the 12th century.

This region is filled with undulating countryside with rolling hills, vineyards, summer sunflowers and fruit trees as well as historic *châteaux* and idyllic bastide villages, many with their own weekly markets. Highlights nearby include pretty Monségur (9km), 13th century Eymet (20km) with its beautiful main square, Sainte-Foy-la-Grande (22km) on the banks of the Dordogne with its river beach and Montcaret (26km) with its excavations of a Roman villa. A little further afield, Issigeac (43km) has a delightful Sunday morning market and both Monflanquin (57km) and Monpazier (66km) have been classified as one of France's '*Plus Beaux Villages*'.

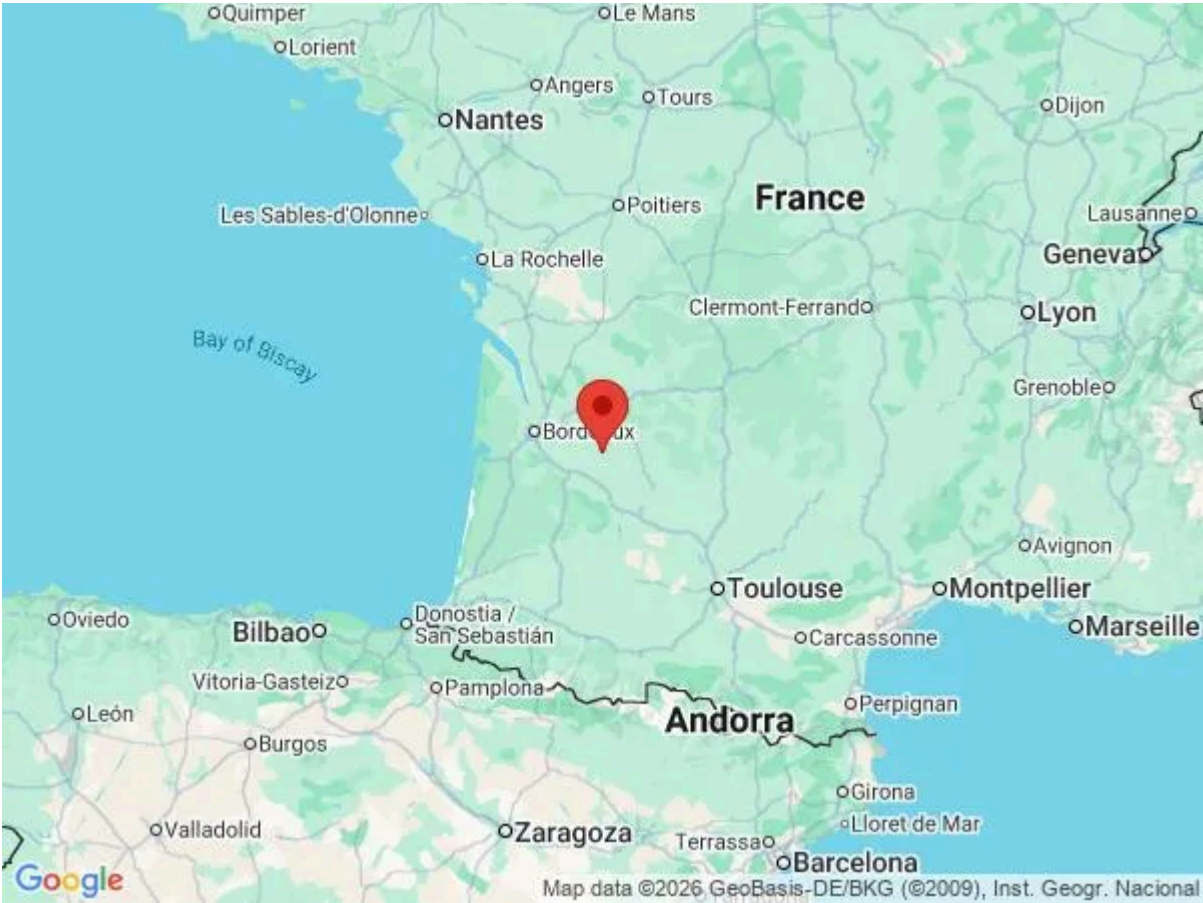
You are also within easy reach of beautiful Bergerac (40km) with its medieval architecture, narrow streets of boutiques, great restaurants and *Maison des Vins*. In the surrounding region there are also many wine *châteaux* and vineyards where you can sample the local wines of Duras (Côtes de Duras) and Bergerac as well as the sweet wine of nearby Château de Monbazillac (35km).

Wine-lovers should also head to the idyllic wine town of Saint-Émilion (44km) as well as the vineyards around Bordeaux (98km) including the impressive La Cité du Vin in the city centre.

For those seeking sporty activities, there is canoeing in the Garonne and Dordogne rivers, golf courses across the region as well as many beautiful hiking and cycling trails and horse-riding. Head to nearby Sainte-Colombe-de-Duras, only ten minutes away, for a tree-top activity centre or towards Bergerac for a waterpark, miniature boat rides and go-karting.

## Local Amenities

Nearest Airport	Bergerac (40km)
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Nearest Airport 2	<b>Bordeaux (102km)</b>
Nearest Train Station	<b>Gare de La Reole (25km)</b>
Nearest Village	<b>Duras (5-minute walk)</b>
Nearest Restaurant	<b>Duras (5-minute walk)</b>
Nearest Supermarket	<b>Boulangerie/Butchers/Grocery (5/10-minute walk)</b>
Nearest Supermarket	<b>Carrefour Contact (1.5km)</b>
Nearest Town/City	<b>Bergerac (40km)</b>
Nearest Golf	<b>Golf des Vigiers (20km)</b>

## What we love

- There are wonderful views of both the village's medieval château and Dropt valley
- Take a little path from the upper garden and it'll lead you straight to the charming village of Duras
- As evening falls, take your glass of Côtes de Duras wine, download a special app to your phone and you can control the coloured lighting of this 13th-century castle in a very 21st-century manner.
- This is a lovely historical home full of character and style
- Many bastide villages of the Dordogne are within easy reach such as Eymet, Monflanquin and Monpazier
- Local vineyard tours and wine-tasting can be arranged
- Wine-connoisseurs should also visit Bergerac, Saint-Émilion or even the Bordeaux vineyards

## What you should know...

- The double and twin bedroom on the first floor are adjoining, making a perfect family suite
- The house is a listed ancient monument so naturally some child supervision will be required at times. For example, there are various levels, stairs are steep with low banisters but stair-gates can be provided
- For two nights every year, coinciding with La Fete de la Madeleine on the 14th July as the village celebrates Bastille Day with fireworks the Chateau holds a music festival in the front courtyard.
- Please note that path to the village is via the park that is accessible from the top garden and some parts of the walking route do not have pavements/footpaths.
- As the building is listed, integrated air conditioning is not permitted. However, each room is fitted with elegant pillar fans, and the property's position built into the hillside naturally helps maintain a comfortable interior temperature.
- Car hire is strongly recommended for ease to get around and to explore the area.

# Terms & Conditions

- **Security deposit:** £1000 paid to the owner by bank transfer one month before arrival and refunded two weeks after 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?:** On request only and with prior agreement with the owner.
- **Other Ts and Cs:** Weddings, stag/hen parties and any special events are not allowed.
- **Changeover day:** Saturday.
- **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, loss of personal belongings, personal liability and any accidental damage caused during their stay.
- **Minimum stay:** 7 nights.
- **Heating costs included?:** Yes.
- **Pool heating charge?:** No, however a pool opening/heating charge may apply outside the normal opening period if the pool is open/heated. Please note that like all heated pools, pool heating and water temperature are reliant on weather and outside temperatures.
- **Tax:** French Visitors Tax payable to Oliver's Travels at the time of balance payment (typically costs €1-€10 per adult per night - please enquire if exact amount is required).
- **Pool towels included?:** Yes.
- **Pool opening dates?:** The pool is open approximately mid-May to mid-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.