

La Terrasse at Domaine Vivaldi

Region: Languedoc | Rieux-Minervois

Sleeps: 6 **Bedrooms:** 3 **Bathrooms:** 3



Overview

This stunning property, finished to 5-Star Hotel standards, is located in the pretty village of Rieux Minervois, just 20 minutes from UNESCO heritage site Carcassonne and at the centre of the Minervois wine region. The property comes with its own fascinating history but you will be able to enjoy the best of 21st century comforts.

Mediterranean beaches 45 minutes. 3 en suite bedrooms/bathrooms.

Can be rented alongside Main House for 18 guests in total.

Description

A stunning renovation of the upper floor of a Vigneron's wine barn, La Terrasse at Domaine Vivaldi has been fitted out to the highest level of care and quality.

The terrace - partly covered with Roman roof tiles held up by vast oak beams and partly exposed to the azure blue Languedocienne skies - is where most guests spend their time relaxing when they're not in or around the pool. The elevated level of the terrace means that you not only have lovely views over the garden filled with Mediterranean plants, but can benefit from the gentle breezes that waft through this comfortable living space. At one end of the terrace are comfortable outdoor iron sofas and armchairs whilst at the other is a terracotta-tiled dining table with matching iron dining chairs. There is a large Weber barbecue for authentic over-the-coals cooking, and the sound of a trickling water feature helps to keep the terrace feeling cool during hot, sunny, Mediterranean days and long balmy nights.

The huge lounge is suitably lofty in its proportions and flows through into the dine-in kitchen. This is a great social space encouraging chatter and relaxation in equal measure. The kitchen is particularly well-equipped for the chef that lurks within you!

There are three en suite bedrooms two with king-sized beds and the third with twin single beds. The two doubles open onto the terrace. Each bathroom has its own deep bath and there is plenty of hot water to ensure you can have a lovely long soak with intimate lighting, luxury toiletries and soft toweling robes.

For winter and Christmas bookings La Terrasse is particularly suited being fully heated. In the Christmas season the Languedoc is often sunny enough to enjoy Christmas lunch seated out on the terrace itself!

The pool is in its own private walled garden, just a moment's walk through the Mediterranean gardens. The pool garden is accessed through a lockable door fitted with a childproof lock. (Children must not be left alone at the pool). The pool is 11m x 4.5m and it shelves gradually from 1.2m to 2.8m. It is surrounded by sun-bathing terraces and there are plenty of sunbeds and recliners to choose from. Continental pool towels are provided.

Guests are welcome to explore the substantial and beautifully tended garden.

It's just a short walk to the village square where the boucherie and epicerie can all be found, along with the local bar and newsagent; the drive-in boulangerie can be found at the end of the village. Even closer is the local restaurant and a pharmacie, should it be needed. Also within a few minutes' drive you will discover plenty of places to taste (déguster) and buy some of the excellent local Minervois wines.

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The huge lounge is suitably lofty in its proportions and flows through into the equally lofty dine-in kitchen. All accommodation is on the first floor with fully equipped kitchen, living room with UK TV and Wi-Fi, three bedrooms, all with ensuite bathrooms.

Charming, elevated terrace with dining table and seating area. Steps lead down to the walled courtyard with private pool 11m x 4.5m and sun terrace with loungers.

Pool-side shaded area and WC.

Private, off-road parking.

Can be rented along with the main house, see <https://southfranceholidayvillas.co.uk/property/view?ref=RIEUX103> and <https://southfranceholidayvillas.co.uk/property/view?ref=RIEUX102> for more details.

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Layout

3 bedrooms to sleep 6 + baby or toddler.

Bedroom 1: King-size bed with en suite bathroom. Opens onto terrace.

Bedroom 2: King-size bed with en suite bathroom. Opens onto terrace.

Bedroom 3: Two single beds which can be arranged to provide a bed of super king-size proportions (by prior arrangement).

3 x Bathrooms: All have bath, separate shower, basin and WC. Hairdryer, a luxury range of toiletries and fluffy bathrobes are all provided.

More Info

Winter lets welcome.

Steep steps lead up to La Terrasse.

Private, secure parking.

Kitchen appliances are from Bosch, Siemens and Rosieres.

Maximum 6 guests + baby or toddler.

Baby equipment available.

Pool 11m x 4.5m. Chlorine. Not heatable. Fenced and secured for safety.

Pool open from 26/04 - 01/11 (or nearest Saturday)

Tall tower fans in each bedroom.

Features

- Internet
- Satellite TV
- Easy walk to shops (<15 mins)
- Un-overlooked pool
- Grouped properties
- Private pool
- Secure fenced pool
- Heating
- Private parking
- Golf nearby
- Watersports nearby
- Secure parking
- Family friendly
- Barbecue
- Terrace
- No pets allowed
- Spacious garden

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Location

This unique and imposing property enjoys an enviable location just a 400m stroll from the village square and excellent amenities that include a bakery, butcher, grocers, local bar, weekly market and one of several restaurants that are within walking distance..

Some facts about the region :

- Rieux-Minervois is an historical village whose timeline can be traced back to before the middle ages. The Eglise Heptagonale de Sainte Marie de Rieux-Minervois is a seven-sided church first built in 1097.
- The Chateau de Rieux is a castle-like structure overlooking the river. It is the ancestral home of the Gardey de Soos family who, at the time of the revolution, were much loved by the locals. They were hidden away and saved from a ghastly fate courtesy of Madame la Guillotine!
- The Minervois is one of the wine appellations of the Languedoc, producing some of the finest wines in all of France.
- Rieux sits between the Montagnes Noires to the north, which protects the region from the volumes of rain experienced on the other side in the lush Tarn, and the Mediterranean coastline to the south as it curves around the Golfe du Lion.
- The mountains (which are more like very big hills) are full of sleepy hamlets and villages with their own wineries and restaurants. Many vineyards were originally planted up by the Romans when they occupied nearby Narbonne. Marble quarries, and even a modern-day Indiana Jones-style (steel) suspension bridge, la Pasarela de Mazamet can be found in these hills. The Montagnes Noires provide a network of cycling routes, rewarding riders with amazing views towards the Pyrenees.
- The coastline offers a myriad of different topography. South towards the Spanish border and with some Catalan influences, the coastline combines cliffs and coves with a network of villages as far south as Collioure and Banyuls. Around Gruissan, the coastline is flatter and renowned for its salt flats, attracting the pink flamingos. Further round the coastline and the fishing villages of Marseillan and Sete can be found on the Etang de Thau, where oysters and mussels are farmed in the lagoons. Coastline villages are peppered with restaurants (lots of local seafood).
- Carcassonne, Narbonne and Perpignan are all in easy driving distance and each very different from the next. Carcassonne and its fairytale Cite (a



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Unesco World Heritage Site) dates back to the times of the Cathars; Narbonne's history is rooted in the Roman Empire and Perpignan is the most Mediterranean of them, with palm tree-lined boulevards. Culturally rich and diverse, they are each approximately the same size, by population, but each with a very different vibe.

- The Canal du Midi - another Unesco World Heritage Site - was constructed to join the Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea, thus avoiding having to sail around Spain. Its Mediterranean end is at Marseillan (also the home to the famous Noilly Prat vermouth - try a factory tour); it has an offshoot called the Canal de la Robine, which flows through Narbonne and beyond into the Golfe du Lion, near the stilted beach huts made famous in the cult film Betty Blue.

Beaches :

- Narbonne Plage : 55 mins / 57 km (sandy / local)
- Valras Plage : 67 mins / 68 km (sandy / east)
- Marseillan Plage : 83 mins / 92 km (sandy / east)
- Gruissan Plage : 57 mins / 58 km (sandy / south)
- Argeles-sur-Mer : 92 mins / 127 km (sandy / south)
- Collioure : 98 mins / 134 km (pebbly / south)

Getting There :

By Air. This region is serviced by ten regional and international airports - here are their drive-times and distances :

- Carcassonne : 32 mins / 29 km (UK & European regional flights)
- Beziers-Cap d'Agde : 70 mins / 75 km (UK & European regional flights)
- Perpignan : 73 mins / 98 km (UK & European regional flights)
- Castres - Mazamet : 76 mins / 62 km (Paris & Brussels city-hopper flights)
- Toulouse : 94 mins / 128 km (International flights)
- Montpellier : 96 mins / 138 km (UK & European regional flights)
- Nimes : 126 mins / 182 km (UK & European regional flights)
- Girona (Spain) : 129 mins / 202 km (UK & European regional flights)
- Rodez : 179 mins / 186 km (UK & European regional flights)
- Marseille : 180 mins / 271 km (International flights)

By Train :

- From Paris : It is now possible to reach the region by TGV from Paris in around 4 hrs & 30 minutes. The TGV travels southbound down the Rhone

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Valley past Lyon to Avignon, then westerly to Montpellier and Narbonne / Carcassonne (car hire depots at the railway stations).

- From the UK : Initially by Eurostar London to Paris. Change stations in Paris and take the TGV south as described above.
- Other mainland Europe : By train to Paris and take the TGV south as described above.

Alternatively, by train to Lyon and pick up the same TGV on its journey south
By Car & Ferry :

- From the UK, EuroTunnel connects Folkestone with Calais in just 35 minutes. Travellers remain seated in their own car throughout the transition.
- Various ferry routes across the Channel from Dover, Folkestone, Newhaven, Portsmouth, Plymouth to French Channel ports. Crossing times range between 45 minutes and six hours.

The arrival port is likely to influence the route south. It is recommended that travellers select different routes southbound and then northbound upon their return to take in as much as France as possible.

- There are also ferry routes from Portsmouth or Plymouth to Santander or Bilbao in Northern Spain. These are overnight crossings usually 20-24 hours in duration. These ports are approximately one hour from the Spanish / French border and then the journey eastbound is in the lee of the Pyrenees before circling Toulouse and onwards to Carcassonne.

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Photos



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