

Chateau Alarie

Region: Loire Valley **Sleeps:** 15 - 19

Overview

Château Alarie is a stunning French castle with deep roots in the history of the region. Here you'll find traditional luxury, and an authentic experience yet with plenty of amenities close by in the picturesque town of Villeloin-Coulangé and an array of modern comforts on site.

Furthermore, included in the higher rate, a cottage is also now available, adjoining the château. With two bedrooms, a living area with an open fire and a conservatory looking over the orchard down to the river, this could make a lovely holiday home for accompanying family or friends.

The property is in the heart of châteaux and vineyard country in the Loire, part of the commune of Montresor, recently voted one of the two most beautiful villages in France.

It is only a 20 minutes' drive from the world famous zoo at Beauval and from a *train-touristique*. So there are activities for all the family!

The house was, until the French Revolution, the residence of the Abbots of the Benedictine Monastery of St-Sauveur in Villeloin-Coulangé, founded in 850 AD in the reign of Charles the Bald. Situated South of the Loire Valley, the area attracted the Kings of France who came to hunt boar and deer in the surrounding forests and Louis XI, on one of his visits, stayed in the house.

This is the region where Charles VII kept the first official royal mistress, Agnes Sorel, from whom much of the royalty of Europe is descended, and where Joan of Arc persuaded him to go to Reim to be consecrated in 1429.

There is a bi-weekly market on Wednesdays and Saturdays, much enlivened by an active café life with the arrival of crowds of shoppers from the surrounding area who come to buy their provisions and socialize while doing so.



Facilities

Chateaux & Castles • Great Value • **Recommended** • **Exclusive** •
Heritage Collection • Ideal for Babies & Toddlers • Ideal for Kids • Ideal for
Teens • Wi-Fi/Internet • Walk to Village • Walk to Restaurant • <1hr to
Airport • Ground Floor Bed & Bath • Table Tennis • Working Fireplace •
Heating • Cot(s) • High Chair(s) • Fenced Grounds • Rural Location •
Walking/Hiking Paths • Wine Tasting • Fishing • Outstanding Landscapes
• Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Tourist Towns & Villages

Interior & Grounds

- 1) Château only (15 guests)
- 2) Château and Cottage (19 guests)

In the château, 12 guests can sleep in 5 bedrooms plus there is an extra double in the attic and a child's bed in the paired suite.

Château Interiors

Ground Floor

- Large dining room with possibility of seating 20
- Drawing room with fireplace, library, grand piano and sitting area
- Fully equipped kitchen/breakfast room with all amenities and batterie de cuisine (plenty of cutlery, crockery, cookware, coffee machine etc.)
- Bedroom with four poster bed for one guest and en-suite bathroom

First Floor

- Paired suite with one room with a double bed and the other with a double bed and child's single bed (the door can be closed to make it two separate bedrooms)
- Double bedroom
- Twin bedroom (plus room for a cot)
- Triple bedroom (three single beds)
- Three bathrooms

Loft

- can be used as additional living area/playroom or as an extra double bedroom

Tower

- Library and writing room with views

Basements

- Washing machine, dryer, wine cellar, central heating boiler (oil) and additional freezer capacity

Cottage Interiors (adjoining main house)

Ground Floor

- Open-plan living room with sitting area with chairs, sofa-bed and open fireplace.
- Open-plan kitchen-diner, fully-equipped including electric stove, induction hob, fridge-freezer, dishwasher, kettle, coffee maker, dining table and washing



machine

- Twin bedroom with en suite bathroom with bath and shower attachment
- Conservatory with table and chairs, overlooking grassed/orchard area leading down to the river

First Floor

- Double bedroom with en suite bathroom with WC, bath and shower attachment

Outside Grounds

- Fabulous two-level walled garden
- Upper level with easy access to the kitchen for dining al fresco, well shaded by trees and enjoying the sunset
- Two large terraces, and one gazebo
- Garage with table tennis
- BBQ area

Location & Local Information

One of the attractions of the area is its proximity to not only the châteaux of the Loire but also many churches, abbeys and historic gardens, without itself being too much of a tourist destination, though the neighbouring village of Montrésor (2.5 km), categorised as one of the most beautiful villages of France, boasts an agreeable restaurant/bar, a mini-supermarket, bakery, chemist, and petrol pump.

For daily requirements, such as fresh produce, bread, newspapers etc, Villeloin itself has all this within a few paces walk, whilst for more serious shopping, Loches is 19 km away, with two large supermarkets, and all the amenities of a small provincial town. Loches itself is a place of substantial historical significance, with its massive defensive keep, chateau and royal residence, and cathedral.

The main transport hub in the area is Tours, about 50 minutes' drive, where there is a small airport and rail link to Paris (56 minutes) and southwards by TGV.

Tours is also connected by regular bus service to Loches, and Eurostar/TGV from London via Paris or Lille is some six hours, whilst driving from Calais is in total about six and a half hours with good motorways all the way until about half an hour from Villeloin.

An additional facility available is a secure underground parking space operated by remote next to Tours station, useful for leaving a car if traveling to Paris or elsewhere by train. Both St Pierre des Corps Tours and Tours mainline stations have car hire places where you can book vehicles that carry up to nine passengers.

Some of the most famous Chateaux in France are only a short distance. There's a beautiful old Chateau in the next door village which is open to the public. That is within walking distance; it's a little over a mile. Others are within cycling distance or a short drive. The best place to hire bicycles is the Peugeot Garage on Rue des Moulins in Loches, the nearest town. This has a good selection and they are cheap to hire.

If you hire your bikes in Loches we strongly recommend cycling around the Royal Forest which has some glorious rides. You might usefully stop off on your way to Loches at the tourist office in Montrésor which has a good selection of cycle route maps. There is also a tourist office in Loches by the station and it is a beautiful market town with a historic castle and keep, just 12 miles away.

Chenonceaux, the Loire's most famous Chateau, is just 21 miles away.



Chaumont is 28 miles away. Blois is 37 miles away. The beautiful gardens at Villandry are just 44 miles away.

The imposing fortress at Chinon is 51 miles away.

Many other historic buildings are within easy reach too.

Local Amenities

Nearest Airport	Tours St-Symphorien (61-70 km)
Nearest Ferry Port	Calais (Over 100 km)
Nearest Train Station	Loches or St Aignan (16-20 km)
Nearest Village	Villeloin-Coulange (Under 1 km)
Nearest Town/City	Loches (16-20 km)
Nearest Restaurant	(3 km)
Nearest Bar/Pub	(3 km)
Nearest Supermarket	(Under 1 km)
Nearest Shop	(Under 1 km)

What Oliver loves...

- A stay at Château Alarie puts you right in the heart of the French countryside, where you can discover genuine rural life in a region that is pivotal in the country's history
- The local area has a rich heritage comprising of garden and flower shows, famous markets, historical buildings and great cycling paths!
- The architectural beauty of Alarie has been strikingly well preserved, and gives a feeling you've stepped back in time the moment you enter the property
- Stunning gardens surround the property, boasting beautiful wild flowers and a terrace which is a wonderfully atmospheric setting for an evening entertaining friends and family
- The great Châteaux of the Loire are at your doorstep!

What you should know...

- The 15-person rate includes the château only whilst the 19-person rate also includes the adjoining two bedroom cottage
- In the main château there are five bedrooms sleeping up to 12 guests but up to 15 guests can sleep in the château using the child's bed in the paired suite and the attic room which can be used as an extra double - see the Features tab for more details
- This region is best enjoyed with access to a car
- There is no TV... which means more opportunities for socialising and spending time outdoors!

Terms & Conditions

- Security deposit: £250 payable to the owner and refunded after departure, subject to full inspection (and heating costs).
- Arrival time: After 3.00 p.m.
- Departure time: Before 12.00 p.m.
- Heating costs included?: No, heating costs are calculated on departure and deducted from the security deposit.
- End of stay cleaning included?: 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.
- Linen & towels included?: Yes.
- Pets welcome?: On request only and with prior agreement with the owner. If accepted, a pet supplement and/or additional security deposit may apply. Pets permitted only in the dining room, the kitchen and outdoors.
- Smoking Allowed?: No.
- Changeover day: Any day of the week.
- Tax: French Visitors Tax payable locally (typically costs approximately between €1-€3 per adult per night- please enquire if exact amount is required).
- Other Ts and Cs: The 15-person rate includes the château only. The 19-person rate includes the château and the adjoining cottage.