

Les Cigales

Region: French Riviera (Cote D'Azur) Sleeps: 10 - 12

Overview

Sit by the poolside with a glass of Côtés de Provence *rosé* with the scents of thyme and lavender around you as you savour the vineyard views, listening to the sounds of the cicadas as the evening nears. Les Cigales offers everything you would expect and more from a stay in the magnificent French Riviera.

This beautiful abode started its life as a stone barn for grape harvesting but has been wonderfully converted into a homely 5-bedroom villa fully of original art work from Blasco Mentor and set in picturesque gardens. Every care has been taken by the hospitable owners to ensure guests feel at home at all times of year whether resting by the roaring fireplace, dining by candle-light on the fragrant garden terrace or spending time in the heart of any Provençal home; the wonderfully equipped kitchen. Five bedrooms offer charm and comfort; the master bedroom is especially lovely with its impressive bathroom and south-west facing balcony where you can watch the setting sun.

The amenities seem endless with air-conditioning throughout, satellite TV, a hot tub and a small gym plus a hammam (available at an extra cost); this *maison* offers many ways to unwind. Yet during the summer months you'll no doubt spend so much time in the enchanting gardens, relaxing under one of the shaded pergolas with the aromas of pine and the gentle sound of flowing water. Sip your morning coffee in solitude or dine al-fresco with loved ones by the barbecue, enjoying the finest *Cru Classé* from the surrounding vineyard.

The hospitable owners can arrange a number of extras such as beauty treatments, babysitting or private wine-tastings and vineyard tours. The owner is a Michelin starred chef and can deliver a 3-course meal from his restaurant in Lavandou straight to Les Cigales.

A Provençal village is just a five-minute drive away with picturesque restaurants, cafes and shops set amongst the winding lanes; make sure you climb to the top to enjoy the panoramic views of forests and vineyards in the surrounding landscapes. As well as pretty villages with weekly Farmer's markets and *brocantes*, the French Riviera can be reached within half an hour with La Londe-les-Maures, La Presqu'île de Giens and Plage de Saint-Clair just some of the wonderful beaches along this coastline. Take a ferry out to one of the islands such as Porquerolles for a fantastic day out.

Saint-Tropez and some of the idyllic Var villages such as Gassin and Bormes-



les-Mimosas are also within an hour or so and the cities of Hyères and Toulon are great places to visit. Closer to home you can enjoy walking through the hills, horse-riding, tennis and golf as well as tours and tastings at local vineyards. The Var region offers something for everyone and Les Cigales is perfectly placed to make the most of this remarkable part of southern France.

Facilities

Wellness • Sustainable Collection • **Recommended** • Private Pool • Child-Safe Pool • Heated Pool • Ideal for Babies & Toddlers • Ideal for Kids • Ideal for Teens • Wi-Fi/Internet • Air-Con • Hot Tub • <1hr to Airport • BBQ • Ground Floor Bed & Bath • Satellite TV • Spa/Massage • Sauna/Steam • Gym/Fitness Room • Indoor Games • Outdoor Games • Table Tennis • DVD • Working Fireplace/Woodburner • Heating • Cot(s) • High Chair(s) • Toys • Rural Location • Walking/Hiking Paths • Wine Tasting • Golf Nearby • Tennis Nearby • Cycling • Horse Riding • Outstanding Landscapes • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Tourist Towns & Villages • Historical Sites • Boat Trips • RWC-Marseille

Interior & Grounds

Villa Interiors (300m2)

Ground Floor

- Entrance hall
- Open-plan living-dining room with sofas, chairs, fireplace, dining table. Doors out to swimming pool
- Kitchen, fully-equipped including two dishwashers, range oven with 5 x gas hobs and double electric oven, microwave, American fridge-freezer, small drinks fridge, juicer, Nespresso machine, kettle, toaster, blender. Doors leading to garden
- Bedroom with en suite shower room and WC. Self-contained

Upper Floors

- Master double bedroom with dressing room, office and en suite bathroom with bath, shower and WC. Balcony
- Double bedroom with en suite shower room and WC
- Bedroom with twin/double beds plus a pull-out bed and hand basin
- Bedroom with twin/double beds plus a pull-out bed and a balcony
- Family shower room with WC

Separate Wellness room

- Gym, hammam (available at an extra cost) and double sofa-bed

Outside Grounds (3100m2)

- Heated swimming pool (12x5m, depth: 1.4m) plus *aperitif* pool with ledge. Safety fence and solid cover. Open approximately April to end-October
- Several al-fresco dining and sitting areas
- Barbecue
- Outdoor kitchen with fridge and ice-maker
- Outdoor lounge
- Poolside pergola
- Landscaped gardens
- Herb and vegetable gardens
- Animal pen with chickens and Angora rabbits
- Boules pitch with sitting area
- Ping pong table
- Children's play area
- Car parking



Facilities

- Wi-Fi
- Heating
- Air-conditioning
- 2 x TVs with satellite channels (including BBC/ITV)
- French TV
- DVD player
- Gym room with bike, weights, waff, yoga mats and pilates reformer machine
- Hot tub
- Hammam with steam room and massage table (available at an extra cost)
- Table tennis
- *Boules* pitch
- Board games
- Toys
- Hairdryer in each bathroom
- Washing machine and iron

Location & Local Information

Les Cigales is set in a pretty hamlet in the vines of a prestigious vineyard, a five-minute drive from an old Provençal village in the Var department of southern France.

The local village, just under 4km away, is full of charm with its winding lanes and historic buildings, pretty fountains and panoramic views from the top where you can admire many of the vineyards that make up the surrounding landscape. As well as restaurants, cafes and shops, you'll find the wonderful Farmer's market on a Friday morning. There is also a supermarket complex just a couple of kilometres from the villa, en route to the village.

Other great Farmer's markets to discover include Pierrefeu-du-Var (8km) on a Saturday, the coastal town of Le Lavandou (40km) on a Thursday morning and Hyères (24km) on a Sunday morning (when there is also an atmospheric flea market/*brocante*). A little closer to home, Puget-Ville (5km) also has a *brocante* on a Sunday morning.

Wine-tasting is a given in this region which produces some of the greatest Côtes de Provence wines as well as other well-known appellations. Wine-tasting and vineyard tours can be arranged by the owners and you can buy wine from the vineyard next door.

The Var region offers so much across all the seasons. There are many hiking trails through the hills, cycling and mountain biking are popular in the area and horse-riding stables can be found within a few minutes by car. There are also tennis courts within 5km and various golf courses including Golf de Valcros, near La Londe, around half an hour away.

Despite this rural location, the beaches of the French Riviera can be easily reached. The nearest beach is in La Londe-les-Maures, around half an hour away or head to the lovely seaside town of Le Lavandou (40km) with its sandy beaches, including Plage de Saint-Clair which has been voted as one of France's most beautiful beaches. La Presqu'île de Giens (30km), just south of Hyères is also superb or head further east to the incredible La Croix Valmer coastline, especially wonderful for walkers who can follow the coastal path and come across unique beaches such as Plage de Gigaro (70km).

Hyères (24km) is a beautiful city to explore, as is Toulon (25km) with its great harbour. The well-known fishing village of Saint-Tropez (70km) is just over an hour away; make sure you visit the world-famous Pampelonne Beach with its exclusive beach clubs such as Le Club-55, often frequented by celebrities. Perhaps combine the day out with a visit to one of the many idyllic villages such as Gassin, Ramatuelle, La Môle or Bormes-les-Mimosas.



Take a boat from one of the harbours to some lovely islands just off the coast, including Porquerolles with its magnificent beaches. The island can be explored by foot or bicycle; take a picnic for a great trip out with all the family.

For another spectacular day out, head inland to the famous Verdon Gorge (120km), one of France's most amazing natural wonders and a great place to hire boats, kayaks and canoes.

Local Amenities

Nearest Airport	Toulon Hyères Airport (28km)
Nearest Airport 2	Marseille Provence Airport (110km)
Nearest Airport 3	Nice Côte d'Azur Airport (120km)
Nearest Train Station	Local village (5km)
Nearest Village	(4km)
Nearest Restaurant	Local village (4km)
Nearest Supermarket	(2km)
Nearest Beach	La Londe-les-Maures (30km)
Nearest Golf	Golf de Valcros La Londe (33km)
Nearest Tennis	(5km)
Nearest Town/City	Hyères (24km)

What we love

- Enjoy the vineyard views of the renowned Cru Classé rosé produced from the prestigious vines all around you
- The beautiful swimming pool is set in landscaped gardens filled with lavender and thyme
- Watch the sun set from the master bedroom's south-west facing balcony
- The owner's homemade specialities are a real treat and they can also arrange all sorts of extras including wine tastings, beauty treatments, babysitting and even meals prepared by a Michelin starred chef.
- Fruit, vegetables and herbs grow in abundance and there are fresh eggs from the chicken pen (the kids will love the Angora rabbits in there too!)
- A pretty Provençal village is within a five-minute drive whilst the beaches of the French Riviera can be reached in half an hour

What you should know...

- The house sleeps 10 guests across five bedrooms plus two extra guests using either a double sofa-bed in the wellness room or two pull-out beds suitable for children - please see the "Features" tab for more details of the layout.
- Winter bookings are on request - please enquire
- The road leading up to the villa is through the vines and is unsurfaced

Terms & Conditions

- Security deposit: €1000 charged to client's credit card 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.
- Heating costs included?: Yes, heating (reversible air-conditioning) is included in the rental price. The fireplace and wood-burning stove can also be used in the winter.
- Linen & towels included?: Yes. Bed linen is changed mid-stay for stays of two weeks.
- Pool towels included?: Yes.
- End of stay cleaning included?: Guests are required to leave the accommodation clean, tidy and in the same condition as on their arrival. Alternatively they may opt to pay the €300 end-of-stay cleaning fee which is paid on site, directly to the owner. Any extra cleaning, laundry, maintenance and/or rubbish disposal required will be charged against the security deposit.
- Pool heating charge?: Included. Please note that like all heated pools, pool heating and water temperature are reliant on weather and outside temperatures.
- Pool opening dates?: The swimming pool is open approximately April to end-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.
- Changeover day: Saturday in August. Flexible during all other periods.
- Minimum stay: 7 nights in August. 3 nights during all other periods.
- Pets welcome?: No.
- Smoking Allowed?: Outdoors only.
- Other Ts and Cs: Weddings, stag/hen parties and other celebrations are not permitted.
- Insurance: Guests are required to be in possession of a valid insurance policy, which covers them for civil liability as well as cancellations, personal belongings, public liability and any accidental damage caused during their stay. A copy of this policy may be requested by the owner before or upon arrival.
- Other Ts and Cs: Use of the hammam is available at an extra cost of €200, payable locally.