

Villa Dumas

Region: French Riviera (Cote D'Azur) **Sleeps:** 6

Overview

Stay in your very own corner of Provençal paradise at this beautiful villa set in the forest, just a leisurely walk to a pretty market town and within a 40-minute drive of the French Riviera.

Take in the calming scenery around you as you head through the gates of Villa Dumas, surrounded by the aromas of pine trees and summer lavender. There are bursts of colour across the beautifully landscaped gardens alongside little stone walls, pretty steps and the most charming of terraces. Cook meals al-fresco by the plancha, dine with friends or family under the cast-iron pergola, then retire in the outdoor lounge with a glass of wine, perhaps from the vineyards of nearby Château de Berne.

The air-conditioned interiors offer both style and space with a living and dining area opening up to the elegant farmhouse kitchen with a Lacanche stove and other high-end appliances. The main villa is home to two double en suite bedrooms including a sumptuous master double with a contemporary walk-in shower, as well as a bunk-bed bedroom suitable for children. A studio annexe offers a third double bedroom with its own entrance, a great option for a couple or grandparents wanting a little extra independence.

Set in the woodland with other houses dotted across the neighbouring countryside, keen walkers can stroll along the country lanes to the restaurants and shops of the small local town. It's typically Provençal in character with authentic buildings, fountains and a wonderfully traditional market on a Tuesday morning.

Other delightful market towns and villages close by include Draguignan, Vidauban and Flayosc or drive further afield towards Aups, the gateway to the incredible Parc Naturel Régional du Verdon and its world famous gorges beyond. Find horse-riding nearby, canoeing and kayaking along the Argens river as well as so many cycling routes and hiking trails. Also look out for festivities, night markets and brocantes taking place across the Dracénie region in the summer months.

The French Riviera also awaits whether spending the day in historic Fréjus, sun-bathing on the shores of Saint-Raphaël, enjoying the beaches around Sainte-Maxime or soaking up the glamour of Saint-Tropez. You could even drive as far as Cannes, Antibes or Nice for a superb day out or stay closer to



home and explore the mountain villages of the Massif des Maures before heading back to your wonderful woodland retreat.

Facilities

Sustainable Collection • Private Pool • Child-Safe Pool • Heated Pool • Ideal for Kids • Ideal for Teens • Wi-Fi/Internet • Air-Con • Walk to Village • Walk to Restaurant • Electric Car Charger • Smart TV • Heating • Canoeing/Kayaking • Rural Location • Walking/Hiking Paths • Wine Tasting • Tennis Nearby • Cycling • Horse Riding • Fishing • Outstanding Landscapes • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Tourist Towns & Villages • Historical Sites • RWC-Marseille • RWC-Nice

Interior & Grounds

Villa Interiors (250m2)

- Living and dining area with doors leading out to terrace
- Open-plan kitchen, well-equipped including Lacanche stove and high-end appliances including an espresso machine
- Master bedroom with double bed (180x200cm) and en suite bathroom with shower, sink and WC
- Bedroom with double bed (180x200cm) and small en suite bathroom with shower and WC
- Bathroom with shower and WC
- Children's bedroom with bunk-beds

Separate Studio (own entrance)

- Bedroom with double bed (160x200cm) and en suite bathroom with shower and WC

Outside Grounds (4500m2, various levels with steps and horizontal railings)

- Heated swimming pool (8x4m, depth: 1.4-2m) with safety alarm and electrolysis pump for cleaning (partially salt-water). Open from approximately mid-April to beginning-October.
- Poolside terrace with sun-loungers
- Al-fresco lounge terrace
- Al-fresco covered dining terrace for up to 6 guests
- Gas *plancha*
- Other terraces amongst landscaped gardens
- Solar panels
- Fast speed charging point for electric vehicles (available at an extra cost)

Facilities

- Wi-Fi (Fibre high-speed internet)
- Air-conditioning
- Heating
- Solar panels
- Fast speed charging point for electric vehicles (available at an extra cost)
- Chromecast TV (with Netflix, Amazon Prime and BBC)



Location & Local Information

Villa Dumas is located in the Dracénie region of the Var department, part of Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur and just outside a picturesque Provençal town.

The setting feels remote, with just a handful of other villas dotted across the forested surroundings, yet you can walk along the country lanes (up and downhill) and reach the heart of the local town in around 20 minutes (or you may prefer the 5-minute drive). There's an authentic ambience across the small town which is home to historic buildings, pretty fountains and characterful streets with a handful of restaurants, bars and shops. The traditional market takes place on a Tuesday morning, one of the largest in the Dracénie region, selling fresh fruit and vegetables, local cheeses and charcuterie as well as crafts, clothes and more.

Gastronomes and wine lovers also note that Château de Berne is a short distance away whilst Chez Bruno, a Michelin starred restaurant specialising in truffles, is only ten minutes by car.

This is a wonderful area for exploring other historic market towns, idyllic perched villages and stunning landscapes, not just the surrounding olive groves, forests and vineyards but also the Maures mountains, the waterfalls at Cascade de Sillans and the Verdon Gorges - Aups, the gateway to the Parc Naturel Régional du Verdon, is only half an hour by car.

The bustling town of Draguignan (15km) has a twice-weekly market, art galleries and museums whilst nearby Vidauban (13km) is famed for its wine production and close proximity to the Argens river, ideal for canoeing, kayaking and all sorts of other adventurous activities close by. The medieval village of Flayosc (14km) is also a joy to explore with its charming Provençal ambience.

Further afield, head into the heart of the Massif des Maures and follow the winding roads through oak and chestnut forests to mountain villages such as La Garde-Freinet and Le Plan-de-la-Tour, perhaps continuing as far as the flower-filled village of Grimaud, set in the hills behind the glistening Gulf of Saint-Tropez.

The family friendly French Riviera resort of Sainte-Maxime is just under an hour by car, or a little further is Saint-Tropez and its famous Plage de Pampelonne and exclusive beach clubs.

Fréjus can be reached in around forty minutes, a beautiful historic town with a long sandy beach and plenty of attractions for everyone. Find more stunning shores in elegant Saint-Raphaël and some magnificent walking trails along the



coastline towards Plage d'Agay. backed by the Massif de l'Esterel.

Cannes is just over an hour away by car, with Antibes and Nice a little further along the French Riviera coast. Perhaps combine with lunch out in flower-filled Mougins, where Picasso spent his final days, or instead visit one of the perfume studios of Grasse, around 86km away.

Golf-lovers can choose from a number of courses across this part of the Var department, including the incredible Golf de Roquebrune or high-end Golf de Barbaroux a little closer.

Local Amenities

Nearest Airport	Toulon Hyères Airport (80km)
Nearest Airport 2	Nice Airport (93km)
Nearest Airport 3	Marseille Provence Airport (125km)
Nearest Train Station	Les Arcs - Draguignan (15km)
Nearest Town	Small market town (2-3km)
Nearest Restaurant	Local town (2-3km)
Nearest Supermarket	Intermarché Super et Drive (3km)
Nearest Beach	Port Fréjus/Sainte-Maxime (42km)
Nearest Golf	Golf de Barbaroux (30km)
Nearest Tennis	Vidauban (13km)

What we love

- The many terraces and landscaped gardens are a joy with Provençal fragrances and woodland views
- Stroll to the local historic town with its shops, restaurants, pretty fountains and traditional weekly market
- Sample fine wines at nearby Château de Berne and book a table at the Michelin starred restaurant specialising in truffles, Chez Bruno
- A paradise for nature lovers with hiking, cycling, canoeing and kayaking across the Dracénie region
- Head to the French Riviera for a superb day out – choose between Fréjus, Saint-Tropez or even Cannes!

What you should know...

- Villa Dumas sleeps up to 6 guests across three double bedrooms (one in an annexe) and a fourth bedroom with bunk-beds suitable for two children.
- The beautiful grounds and swimming pool are on terraced levels with steps, stone walls and horizontal railings.
- It's a pleasant 2km walk into the local town - it's worth noting it's via unpaved country lanes, downhill at first and then uphill.
- A car would be useful to explore places further afield, like the French Riviera resort of Sainte-Maxime or Saint Tropez.
- If hiring a car, please note that Villa Dumas features an electric-vehicle charging station (subject to an extra cost).

Terms & Conditions

- Security deposit: €800 paid via bank transfer to the owner 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.
- Heating costs included?: Yes.
- Linen & towels included?: Yes.
- End of stay cleaning included?: Extra €225, payable locally on arrival in cash. This is for a standard changeover clean. For stays of 14 nights or longer, there is also a fee of €100 for interim cleaning, 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.
- Tax: French Visitors Tax payable locally on arrival in cash (typically costs €1-€3 per adult per night- please enquire if exact amount is required).
- Pool heating charge?: Included. Please note that like all heated pools, pool heating and water temperature are reliant on weather and outside temperatures. Usually the pool is heated to 25 degrees Celsius.
- Pool towels included?: Yes.
- Pool opening dates?: Open from approximately mid-April to beginning-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. All other changeover days on request.
- Minimum stay: 7 nights. All other durations on request.
- Smoking Allowed?: No.
- Pets welcome?: Not allowed.
- Other Ts and Cs: Weddings, stag/hen parties and any special events are not allowed.
- Other Ts and Cs: Villa Dumas sleeps up to 6 guests across three bedrooms (one in an annexe) and a fourth bedroom with bunk-beds suitable for two children.
- Other Ts and Cs: Please note that the fast speed charging point for electric vehicles is available at an extra cost of €50 per week for 100 KWH (from the grid) or 200 KWH from the solar panels.