

# Le Domaine Des Hiboux

Region: Atlantic Coast **Sleeps:** 16

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## Overview

Whether you yearn a peaceful getaway in stunning natural surroundings or wish to spend family time on cycle rides and by glorious sandy beaches, Le Domaine Des Hiboux offers ample space and authentic charm for up to 16 guests, just a short drive from the Atlantic coast.

Set in a 100-acre estate, surrounded by woodland walks and cycling trails, this is wonderful for wildlife lovers – look out for owls, deer, rabbits and red squirrels as you stroll around the picturesque *domaine* or relax by the fishing pond – there are a couple of rods you can borrow. The heated swimming pool is also a delight or spend time with loved ones cooking up a feast by the barbecue with delicious produce bought from local markets.

The origins of the *domaine* date as far back as the 14th century and there are two houses where guests can stay – the elegant 4-bedroom château and an inviting guesthouse. In the main château, sleeping 8 guests, rooms have been sensitively restored, thus creating a traditional and warm ambience with beautiful windows allowing light to flood into the home. The guesthouse by the swimming pool offers further charming accommodation for eight guests while there is also a gatehouse near the entrance occupied by a caretaker.

Hop on the château's six bikes and head off for cycle rides through the Marais, some of France's best preserved wetlands and also an exceptional place for bird-watching, long nature walks and canoeing trips. Cycle as far as the Atlantic coast, perhaps visit the bustling morning market in Pornic or Les Moutiers-en-Retz and discover sandy beaches for a day by the ocean.

Further afield, learn about regional salt production on the idyllic island of Noirmoutier-en-l'Île, also much loved for its stunning beaches, cycling trails and shellfish digging. Or head north to the historic city of Nantes with its artistic vibe and fantastic food scene.

Then there's the Loire valley and its châteaux and vineyards – bring back a bottle or two to enjoy on your veranda as you gather with family and friends back at Le Domaine Des Hiboux.



## Facilities

Chateaux & Castles • Private Pool • Child-Safe Pool • Heated Pool • Beach Nearby • Ideal for Babies & Toddlers • Ideal for Kids • Ideal for Teens • Wi-Fi/Internet • Pets Welcome • <1hr to Airport • Laptop Friendly Workspace • BBQ • Ground Floor Bed & Bath • Smart TV • DVD • Heating • Cot(s) • High Chair(s) • Watersports • Canoeing/Kayaking • Rural Location • Walking/Hiking Paths • Wine Tasting • Golf Nearby • Cycling • Horse Riding • Fishing • Outstanding Landscapes • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Tourist Towns & Villages • Historical Sites • Boat Trips

# Interior & Grounds

## Main Château Interiors (8 guests)

### Ground Floor

- Drawing room with grand piano
- Living room with TV
- Dining room with open fire
- Open-plan kitchen, well-equipped with table for up to 8 guests
- Laundry room
- Shower room
- WC (x2)

### First Floor (via stairs or lift)

- Library
- Bedroom with king-size double bed and en suite bathroom with bath and WC
- Bedroom with queen-size double bed and en suite bathroom with bath and WC
- Bedroom with king-size double bed (can be split into twins) and en suite bathroom with bath and WC
- Bedroom with king-size double bed (can be split into twins) and en suite bathroom with bath and WC

*There are four single beds that can be added to bedrooms for two four children on request – please enquire*

## Guest House I Interiors (near swimming pool, 8 guests)

### Ground Floor

- Living and dining room
- Games room/pool house
- Kitchen, well-equipped
- Bedroom with king-size double bed and separate bathroom with bath/shower and WC
- WC (x2)

### First Floor

- Bedroom with queen-size double bed (160x200cm)
- Bedroom with twin beds (90x200cm each)
- Bedroom with double bed (140x200cm)
- Bathroom with bath/shower and WC



## **Outside Grounds**

- Heated swimming pool (14x7m, depth: 1.2-1.6m) set at 24 degrees with electric safety cover. Open approximately mid-April to early October
- Al-fresco terrace with charcoal barbecue
- Gas barbecue
- Boules
- Private estate (100 acres)
- Woodland walks and cycling trails
- Fishing Pond (and rods)
- Bikes (x6)

## **Facilities**

- Wi-Fi (Château and Guest House I)
- Heating
- Lift (main villa)
- TV with Netflix and Disney + (Château and Guest House I)
- TV and DVD player (Guest House II)
- DVD library
- Nintendo Wii (and a couple of games)
- Library with English books
- Computer and printer
- Piano
- Fishing rods
- Boules
- Washing machine and dryer

## Location & Local Information

Le Domaine Des Hiboux is situated in the heart of the Marais in the Loire-Atlantique department, around 40km south-west of Nantes and the Loire estuary and only a short drive from the Atlantic coast.

Within the 100-acre *domaine* there are cycle and walking trails through the woodland as well as a pond where fishing is permitted. It's a paradise for nature lovers – look out for red squirrels, owls, deer, rabbits and you may even see a kingfisher. The surrounding Marais wetlands are also wonderful for bird-watching and an ideal area for cycling, canoeing and long nature walks.

The Atlantic coast nearby is stunning and offers a range of experiences for everyone. Les Moutiers-en-Retz, around 14km away, has a fantastic sandy beach or continue north up the Côte de Jade for more blue-flag beaches, as far as Pointe Saint-Gildas, an area of incredible natural beauty with some excellent coastal walks. Amble around the harbour at Pornic (24km), take a boat trip along the coast, enjoy a picnic on the beach and admire traditional Breton pottery at Faiencerie de Pornic. La Bernerie-en-Retz is a delightful former fishing village with vast sandy beaches, watersports and a sea lake for swimming even when the tide is out.

Crossing over to the Vendée department, learn all about salt production on the picturesque island of Noirmoutier-en-l'Île, also known for its idyllic beaches and dunes, shellfish digging, cycling trails, watersports and other outdoor activities.

A trip to one of the food markets of the region is a must during your time here – look out for markets in nearby Machecoul, only 6km away, on a Wednesday and Saturday morning and others in Challans, Pornic and Les Moutiers-en-Retz amongst many other places.

Another wonderful aspect of this location is the proximity to the Loire valley for wine-tasting and to visit some of the impressive châteaux near Nantes. Indeed, Nantes itself is a brilliant day out, on the banks of the Loire river and with a rich heritage as well as an artistic vibe. Food-lovers will adore the many fashionable restaurants and there are some amazing markets including the historic Talensac market which dates back to the 1930s, a particular must if you adore seafood.



## Local Amenities

Nearest Airport

**Nantes Atlantique Airport  
(35km)**

Nearest Ferry Port	<b>La Rochelle (150km)</b>
Nearest Train Station	<b>Gare de Machecoul (5km)</b>
Nearest Village	<b>Small village (2.5km)</b>
Nearest Restaurant	<b>Local village (2.5km)</b>
Nearest Supermarket	<b>Machecoul (5km)</b>
Nearest Town	<b>Machecoul (5km)</b>
Nearest Beach	<b>La Bernerie-en-Retz (17km)</b>
Nearest Golf	<b>Golf Blue Green Pornic (26km)</b>

## What Oliver loves...

- An absolute paradise for nature lovers – look out for owls, deer, red squirrels and maybe even the local kingfisher across the 100-acre estate
- Enjoy swimming in the heated pool, fishing in the pond or following the cycling and walking trails through the domaine's woodland
- The glorious sandy beaches and traditional seaside towns of the Atlantic are just a short drive away
- In the heart of the Marais, this is a wonderful area for bird-watching, cycling, canoeing and of course long nature walks
- Try some of the best seafood either found at atmospheric local markets, nearby restaurants or from little oyster shacks along the coastline

## What you should know...

- The *domaine* features a 4-bedroom château (8 guests) and a separate guest house with four bedrooms (8 guests). Please see the Features tab for details on the layout.
- There are four single beds that can be added to bedrooms for four extra children on request – please enquire.
- The quiet and non-intrusive caretaker lives on-site in the gatehouse by the entrance of the estate.
- There is Wi-Fi in the château and the guesthouse - it can be quite slow but it is usually good enough to be able to watch Netflix etc.
- If travelling with children, be aware that there is a fishing pond in the grounds (there are a couple of fishing rods you can borrow!).

# Terms & Conditions

- Security deposit: €2000 paid via bank transfer to the owner one month before arrival and refunded two weeks after departure, subject to full inspection.
- Arrival time: 5.00 p.m.
- Departure time: 10.00 a.m.
- Energy costs included?: Yes.
- Linen & towels included?: Yes (changed once every 7 nights).
- Pool towels included?: Yes.
- End of stay cleaning included?: Yes and mid-stay cleaning for stays of 7+ nights also included. 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.
- Pool heating charge?: Included up to approximately 24C. Pool can be heated to an additional 3-4 degrees for a supplement of €350 per week payable locally. Please note that like all heated pools, pool heating and water temperature are reliant on weather and outside temperatures.
- Pool opening dates?: The pool is open approximately mid-April to early 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.
- Heating costs included?: Yes.
- Changeover day: 2022: Saturday. 2023: Friday. All other changeover days on request.
- Minimum stay: 7 nights. All other durations on request.
- Pets welcome?: On request only and with prior agreement with the owner.
- Smoking Allowed?: Outside only.
- Other Ts and Cs: Weddings are on request only and subject to prior arrangement with the owner and additional charges. Stag/hen parties and other special events are not allowed.
- Internet access?: There is Wi-Fi in the château and one of the guesthouses only – it can be quite slow but it is usually good enough to be able to watch Netflix etc.
- Other Ts and Cs: The domaine features a 4-bedroom château (8 guests) and a separate guesthouses with four bedrooms (8 guests). Please see the Features tab for details on the layout.
- Other Ts and Cs: Highchair and cot are available on request.
- Other Ts and Cs: The quiet and non-intrusive caretaker lives on-site in the gatehouse by the entrance of the estate.