

# Villa Cousteau

Region: Provence-Alpes **Sleeps: 13**

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## Overview

The amazing Villa Cousteau has been designed by a prestigious architect and is sure to take your breath away. It could well be the dream holiday you are searching for, perched on a hill above the French Riviera resort of Bandol in an extraordinarily idyllic setting, blending beautifully into the landscape.

There are so many quirky features to delight you here on the different open-plan levels. This is a uniquely stylish space where the glass sides of the 28m heated pool run alongside the living area so that you can jump straight into the water from your armchair!

As you rest in one of the sleeping areas below, you might see your friends and family swimming below the water from one of the spectacular bedrooms. This is a place for unconventional living for a group of people who are relaxed together and appreciate the artistic ambience of this unique villa.

There are lovely terraces to admire the superb views, a fully equipped kitchen to produce delicious meals, kitchenette areas for a quick coffee, comfy beds, bathrooms and shower rooms interestingly placed throughout this fascinating abode.

You may well feel that you are in some kind of heavenly space but, when reality beckons, you are close to the much loved French Riviera resort of Bandol. With a more relaxed atmosphere compared to other towns on the Côte d'Azur, it's just lovely strolling along the palm lined promenade and admiring the sailing boats bobbing in the marina. There are a variety of boat trips from Bandol to several wonderful islands offering the chance to scuba dive or see the dolphins.

There are more watersports and sandy beaches in Sanary-sur-Mer which you might combine with a trip to the historic maritime city of Toulon. There is scenic coastal walking, hiking and mountain biking trails in the nearby Forêt de Janas and don't miss the Calanques National Park, an area of incredible beauty between Cassis and Marseille.



## Facilities

Wow Factor • Quirky • Instagrammable • Modern • Private Pool • Child-Safe Pool • Heated Pool • Ideal for Teens • Wi-Fi/Internet • Air-Con • <1hr to Airport • BBQ • All Bedrooms En-Suite • Cot(s) • High Chair(s) • Watersports • Sailing • Canoeing/Kayaking • Walking/Hiking Paths • Wine Tasting • Golf Nearby • Tennis Nearby • Cycling • Horse Riding • Fishing • Outstanding Landscapes • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Tourist Towns & Villages • Historical Sites • Scuba Diving • Boat Trips • RWC-Marseille

# Interior & Grounds

## Villa Interiors (350m2, various levels)

- Open plan lounge with doors opening to swimming pool
- Open plan kitchen, fully-equipped
- Bedroom with double bed (160cm, can be made up as a twin) and shower room with WC
- Bedroom with double bed (200cm) and sleeping area with round double bed, three raised single mattresses (90cm each) and aquarium style wall (with view of swimming pool). Kitchenette and shower room with WC
- Bedroom with double bed (160cm) and bathroom with WC
- Bedroom with bunk-bed (bottom bunk: 140cm, top bunk: 90cm), kitchenette and shower room with WC

## Outside Grounds

- Heated swimming pool (28m long). Heated approximately April to October
- South facing terraces
- Al-fresco dining area (6-8 guests)
- Barbecue
- Outdoor kitchen
- Terraced garden (with steps and open levels)
- Parking (3 spaces)

## Facilities

- Wi-Fi
- Air-conditioning





## Location & Local Information

Villa Cousteau is situated on a wooded hillside 4km outside the seaside resort of Bandol in the Var department of the Côte d'Azur between Toulon and Cassis on the French Riviera.

Bandol is a seaside town which was historically a quiet retreat for artists and writers and is now a particularly treasured holiday space for the French. Situated in a sheltered bay with one of the largest marinas in France, there is a bustling Tuesday morning market, lively night markets and plenty of restaurants, cafés and shops. It's very relaxing to stroll along the palm lined promenade at Quai Charles de Gaulle, admiring the variety of sailing boats as you pass.

Grand Vallat, Casino and Centrale are sandy town beaches and the Cove of Rénegros has a beautifully sheltered sandy bay with gently shelving water. Around the town there are also some lovely small pebbled coves with crystal clear water to explore at the end of the day.

Bendor Island is only a short trip from Bandol and there are longer boat trips to the beautiful Îles d'Hyères, some offering a chance to scuba dive and meet the dolphins along the way. Hikers will enjoy the westwards coastal walk from Bandol to the Calanque De Port d'Alon before following the gorgeous vineyard trail to La Madrague in St-Cyr in time for the bus back to Bandol.

Bandol is famous for its vineyards and there are several wineries to visit in the region for tastings of the famous AOC Bandol. It is also well known for its Paul Ricard motor racing circuit, created in the 1970's and considered one of the most beautiful in the world.

Toulon is a great destination for a day trip with its museums, restaurants, markets, shops and beaches, a 17km drive westwards or a train journey from the station at Bandol. Be sure to take the cable car up Mont Faron and admire the spectacular views from the top.

Sanary-sur-Mer (8km) is a lovely seaside town with a picturesque harbour, tall watchtower and weekly market. Join the queue for the traditional spongy pancake, cade, and during summer weekends take a tour of the coastline in one of the brightly coloured fishing boats. The pebbled Plage de Bonnegrace has a section near La Coudoulière which is an ideal spot for surfers and windsurfers due to the large waves whipped up by the Mistral.

Eastwards from Villa Cousteau and not far from Marseille is the pretty fishing village of Cassis (30km), the ideal place for a seafood lunch with a glass of the celebrated Cassis wine. It is the gateway to the Calanques National Park, an



area of incredible beauty encompassing the land and sea east of Cassis. There are some more wonderful hikes from Cassis along the calanques, natural inlets surrounded by steep rocky promontories.

### Local Amenities

Nearest Airport	<b>Toulon Hyères Airport (38km)</b>
Nearest Airport 2	<b>Marseille Provence Airport (76km)</b>
Nearest Train Station	<b>Bandol (4km)</b>
Nearest Restaurant	<b>In and around Bandol (4km)</b>
Nearest Supermarket	<b>(Within 2km)</b>
Nearest Beach	<b>Near Bandol (3km)</b>
Nearest City	<b>Toulon (17km)</b>
Nearest Golf	<b>Fregate Provence Golf &amp; Country Club (5km)</b>

## What we love

- A prestigious architect designed villa with sensational living spaces, perched on wooded hills overlooking the sparkling azure sea
- Simply amazing heated swimming pool with glass sides running 28m parallel to the stunning open plan lounge
- It's a short drive to the heart of Bandol with its large marina, restaurants, beaches and coves
- Sample some local wine from Bandol's renowned vineyards as well as trying out some of the many watersports available locally
- There are plenty of day trips to wonderful places such as Toulon, Cassis and the spectacular Calanques National Park

## What you should know...

- Please note that published rates are only valid for the current year. Any bookings for subsequent years will be on request only and correct rates will be confirmed at the time of booking.
- Please note that your booking will only be confirmed once we have checked availability with the owner or their property manager.
- Expect unique features such as designer furnishings, open bedrooms/bathrooms, bright windows and many steps and terraced levels!
- Due to the layout of the villa and its grounds on various levels, children will need to be supervised.
- The villa sleeps up to 13 guests across four bedrooms - check the "Features" tab for details of the bedroom layouts.

# Terms & Conditions

- Security deposit: €2500 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.
- Minimum stay: 7 nights approximately mid-June to mid-September. 3 nights during all other periods.
- Changeover day: Saturday approximately mid-June to mid-September. Flexible during all other periods.
- End of stay cleaning included?: Yes, and 4 hours daily cleaning 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.
- Linen & towels included?: Yes.
- Energy costs included?: Yes.
- Tax: French Visitors Tax paid via bank transfer to the owner one month before arrival (typically costs €1-€5 per adult per night- please enquire if exact amount is required).
- Pool opening dates?: 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.
- Pool heating charge?: Included April to October. Extra cost during all other periods, payable locally (on request). Please note that like all heated pools, pool heating and water temperature are reliant on weather and outside temperatures.
- Pets welcome?: Not allowed.
- Smoking Allowed?: Outside only.
- Other Ts and Cs: Please note that published rates are only valid for the current year. Any bookings for subsequent years will be on request only and correct rates will be confirmed at the time of booking.
- Other Ts and Cs: Please note that your booking will only be confirmed once we have checked availability with the owner or their property manager.
- Other Ts and Cs: Weddings, stag/hen parties and any special events are on request only and subject to prior arrangement with the owner and additional charges.