

Design Du Damier

Region: Aquitaine Sleeps: 12

Overview

Set in five hectares of grounds and woodland scenery, surrounded by the rural landscapes of the Lot-et-Garonne, this eco-designed villa exudes contemporary flair alongside traditional French charm.

Design Du Damier offers so much room across its modern interiors having undergone an extensive renovation in recent years. The open-plan living and dining space is impressive with sliding doors opening out to the vast terrace allowing seamless indoor-outdoor living. The chic contemporary kitchen features a breakfast bar for sociable cooking and we love the corner wooden bar beside the long dining table. Families will especially appreciate the home's table-tennis and table-football (as well as the fabulous swimming pool of course).

Up to 12 guests can stay across the villa's five attractive bedrooms with queen-size double beds – all three doubles on the ground floor have en suite showers (some open-plan) including one en suite bedroom which has been designed to be accessible to wheelchair users. A spiral staircase leads to the final two bedrooms (and shared bathroom), one with a balcony overlooking the glorious grounds, the other with two additional single beds beneath the eaves.

Gaze out towards the woodland as you dine al-fresco on the stylish tiled terrace overlooking the huge grounds with so much space for children to play. Cool off in the elegant 10m long swimming pool made from natural stone – it's design right next to the house is quite unique. Relax on the poolside decked terrace in the shade or sunshine and soak up the peaceful environment.

In a rural setting of countryside and farmland so typical of this part of south-western France, there is lots to explore nearby. Pick up regional delights at the twice-weekly market in Casteljaloux (8km), a historic town known for its thermal waters and close to Lac de Clarens for golf, tree-top adventures, horse-riding and seasonal water-based activities.

The region is loved by cyclists too, especially with the Canal des Deux Mers' fantastic towpath passing south of Marmande. Spend time in Marmande itself with its historic architecture and weekly market. Try Côtes du Marmandais wine at local vineyards and delicious Marmande tomatoes in restaurants across the region.



Further afield, venture to pretty villages across the Dropt valley (Eymet, Lauzun) alongside bastide towns (Monpazier and Monflanquin) and riverside spots along the Dordogne including Bergerac and Sainte-Foy-la-Grande. Even the grand city of Bordeaux can be reached in just over an hour.

Heading south instead, experience the beautiful landscapes of the Gers with Fourcès, Larressingle and Montréal all less than an hour away. Bring back a bottle of Armagnac to enjoy on your terrace as evening falls and the stars light up the clear skies above you.

Facilities

Villa/House • Modern • Great Value • Private Pool • Child-Safe Pool • Heated Pool • Ideal for Babies & Toddlers • Ideal for Kids • Ideal for Teens • Wi-Fi/Internet • Pets on Request • BBQ • Washing Machine • Tumble Dryer • Dishwasher • Microwave • Coffee Machine • Electric Car Charger • Ground Floor Bed & Bath • TV • Wheelchair Access • Table Tennis • Table Football • Heating • Cot(s) • High Chair(s) • Parking Space • Watersports • Canoeing/Kayaking • Rural Location • Walking/Hiking Paths • Wine Tasting • Golf Nearby • Tennis Nearby • Cycling • Horse Riding • Fishing • Outstanding Landscapes • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Tourist Towns & Villages • Historical Sites • Boat Trips

Interior & Grounds

Maison Interiors (260m2)

Ground Floor

- Open-plan living room with doors sliding open to terrace
- Open-plan kitchen and dining area, well-equipped including oven, dishwasher, fridge, freezer, microwave, coffee machine, toaster, kettle, wooden dining table and corner bar
- Bedroom with double bed (160x200cm) and en suite bathroom with walk-in shower (bedroom suitable for wheelchair users)
- Bedroom with double bed (160x200cm) and en suite bathroom with walk-in shower
- Bedroom with double bed (160x200cm) and en suite bathroom with walk-in shower

Some of the en suite shower rooms are open-plan to the bedrooms

Upstairs (via open-tread spiral stairs)

- Mezzanine hallway
- Bedroom with double bed (160x200cm) and balcony
- Bedroom (sloping ceiling) with double bed (160x200cm) and two single beds (90x190cm each)
- Shared bathroom

There are three WCs in total across the villa

Outside Grounds (50,000m2)

- Heated swimming pool (10x6m, depth: 1.5m) with safety alarm
- Poolside terrace with sun loungers
- Pool house
- Terrace with al-fresco dining table
- Barbecue
- Private land (five hectares)
- Parking (for several cars) with wheelchair friendly path to house
- EV charging point
- Paddock for horses (additional fee to bring your horse)



Location & Local Information

In the Lot-et-Garonne countryside, not far from the Gironde border, Design Du Damier enjoys a rural setting surrounded by vast grounds and woodland, around a 20-minute drive south-west of the riverside town of Marmande. With the Dordogne region to the north and the Gers landscapes to the south, this is a great base for exploring this part of south-western France.

Bordeaux Airport (96km) and Bergerac Airport (73km) are both just over an hour away by car whilst the nearest train station is in Marmande (17km) – if arriving by TGV from Paris, change at Bordeaux. Otherwise it is 6 to 7-hour drive from St Malo, Caen and Le Havre ferry ports.

There is a pharmacy, petrol station, épicerie (with bar) and bank around 3km away and supermarkets and restaurants can be found in and around Casteljaloux (8km), a small historic town with a twice-weekly market. Casteljaloux is also known for its thermal waters and the picturesque Lac de Clarens just south of the town, home to a range of seasonal activities including an inflatable water course, pedalo hire, stand-up paddle boarding and canoeing alongside a horse-riding centre, tree-top activity centre and 18-hole golf course.

In the other direction is Marmande (17km) by the banks of the Garonne, an attractive market town surrounded by agricultural landscapes, farmland and vineyards producing Côtes du Marmandais. Visit on a Saturday morning for its weekly market showcasing a wealth of regional produce including seasonal Marmande tomatoes! After exploring the historic town, take time to stroll around Parc De La Filhole by the banks of the river.

There are so many wonderful day trips in every direction. Visit pretty villages across the Dropt Valley such as Eymet (50km) and Lauzun (50km) or some of France's bastide towns including Monflanquin (71km), Castillonès (61km) and Monpazier (87km). Spend time exploring historic Bergerac or soak up the ambience of Sainte-Foy-la-Grande's Saturday morning market, both towns by the banks of the Dordogne. Even Bordeaux (92km) can be reached in just over an hour by car or take the train from Marmande.

Heading south instead, venture towards the Gascony region starting off in Nérac (39km) by the Baise River or continue south to the trio of idyllic Gers villages – Fourcès, Larressingle and Montréal, all within an hours drive. Agen (59km) is another fine day out, famed for its riverside setting, historic architecture, atmospheric markets and Agen prunes steeped in Armagnac.



Local Amenities

Nearest Airport	Bergerac Dordogne Périgord Airport (73km)
Nearest Airport 2	Bordeaux Airport (96km)
Nearest Train Station	Gare Marmande (17km)
Nearest Village	Small village (2km)
Nearest Restaurant	Local area (Within 5km)
Nearest Supermarket	(7km)
Nearest Town	Casteljaloux (8km)
Nearest Tennis	Casteljaloux Tennis Club (9km)
Nearest Golf	Golf Casteljaloux (10km)
Nearest Beach	Arcachon (125km)

What we love

- A contemporary eco-designed villa with touches of rustic French charm, set in five hectares of glorious grounds
- Experience seamless indoor-outdoor living with sliding windows opening out from the open-plan lounge and kitchen to the stylish tiled terrace
- The natural stone swimming pool is unique and beautiful, set right next to the villa with a shaded and sunny poolside terrace
- Head to the market town of Marmande, famed for its delicious tomatoes and vineyards producing Côtes du Marmandais
- Nearby Lac de Clarens is ideal for golf, tree-top adventures, horse-riding and a range summer water-based activities
- There are so many wonderful days out from bastide towns near the Dordogne to gorgeous Gascony landscapes and pretty villages

What you should know...

- The villa sleeps 12 guests across five bedrooms (one including a double bed and two single beds beneath the eaves). All three bedrooms downstairs have en suite shower rooms (some open-plan).
- One of the bedrooms has been designed for wheelchair users and there is a wheelchair-accessible path from the parking area to the villa - please ask for further details.
- 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.

Terms & Conditions

- Security deposit: €500 charged to client's credit card as a pre-authorisation at least 2 weeks prior to arrival and refunded two weeks after departure, subject to full inspection.
- Arrival time: 5.00 p.m.
- Departure time: 9.00 a.m.
- Minimum stay: 7 nights - all other durations on request.
- Changeover day: Saturday - all other changeover days on request.
- End of stay cleaning included?: No. €150, payable to Oliver's Travels at the time of balance payment. This is for a standard changeover clean. 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.
- Energy costs included?: Energy use over above 150kw/week is an extra cost, payable locally.
- Linen & towels included?: Extra €12.50 per person, payable to Oliver's Travels at the time of balance payment.
- Pool towels included?: No.
- Tax: French Visitors Tax payable locally in cash (typically costs €1-€10 per adult per night - please enquire if exact amount is required).
- Pool heating charge?: Extra charge, payable locally. Please note that like all heated pools, pool heating and water temperature are reliant on weather and outside temperatures.
- 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.
- Pets welcome?: On request only and with prior agreement with the owner. If accepted, a pet supplement may apply (payable locally).
- Smoking Allowed?: Outside only.
- Other Ts and Cs: Weddings, stag/hen parties and any special events are not allowed.
- 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.
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