

# House of Sebastien

**Region:** Provence

**Sleeps:** 13 **Bedrooms:** 6

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## Overview

Originally a 14th century lookout tower, this hilltop chateau in Provence provides 360-degree views of the surrounding oak forest and lush landscapes below, accommodating 13 travellers in comfort and style.

## Description

Thoughtfully restored with rustic and contemporary décor, the chateau has an inviting ambiance and plenty of comfortable places to relax - from the open living space with a wood-burning stove, to the cinema room, or the sun loungers by the pool overlooking the valley.

The ancient terraces will be a popular spot for enjoying meals from the local market - especially the shaded terrace just off the impressive modern kitchen, where you'll dine alongside breathtaking panoramic views of the French countryside. Below lies a medieval courtyard with lavender and fruit trees - another excellent space for entertaining.

Along with five bedrooms in the main house, the delightful studio with a mezzanine bed and private terrace sleeps an additional two guests.

You'll be within walking distance to the village of St Michel L'Observatoire, with delicious restaurants and a prominent observatory, and a short drive to the famous absinthe of Forcalquier. The beaches of the French Riviera are worth the 2.5-hour drive!

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## Layout

The original Maison Sebastien was a medieval lookout post - The Bastide. Over the centuries a studio apartment was added and in 1859 the annexe of the Magnanerie was built to house the facilities to produce silk. The valley is famous for its mulberry trees.

### **The Bastide (the main house)**

On the Ground Floor there is a large open plan area with a modern kitchen, indoor dining area and a large sitting room. This area opens onto a double terrace with outdoor dining and a serving area. Around the corner is an ancient covered terrace that overlooks the medieval courtyard.

From the salon, a stone arch leads to a large ground floor bedroom with a superking sized bed and a bathroom with Haman style shower. The main stairway is curved stone and lit by a double storey slit window.

The first floor has two en suite double bedrooms both with kingsized beds. The area outside the second bedroom room can be curtained off to create a family unit with an additional single bed.

The second floor has two bedrooms - one double and one with two single beds. These rooms share a bathroom. The second floor also has a full TV/cinema area with access to Apple TV and Orange cable. This layout of rooms is the original medieval fort and sleeps 11.

### **The Studio**

Also available is the studio, set below the main Bastide, off the medieval courtyard, and which is ideal for a couple. This has its' own bathroom, small kitchen, private sun terrace and a mezzanine with a double bed.

## More Info

The house and estate are comfortable, spacious and offer different experiences for everyone. While some people are swimming others can be watching TV and films, or riding at the local stable. Walking locally is fantastic and there is much to see in the area.

Kindly note the spacious terraces and fenced gardens have low walls and the upper windows do not have locks and bars: we recommend keeping an extra eye on toddlers and young children.

## Features

- WiFi Internet
- Golf Course Nearby
- Private Pool

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## Grounds

Maison Sebastien is situated in the Luberon National Park and therefore all work done has to reflect the area's natural beauty. When you first arrive at the property you drive through a thriving young oak forest. This gives way to a stunning view of Mane, Forcalquier and the Midi Alps beyond. The approach to the house is lined with olive trees, pines and poplars. The swimming pool is fully enclosed and highly secure for young children. It is surrounded by an elegant stone area that offers both perfect sunbathing and shade under a 'tunnelle'. All around the house there are old - some ancient - terraces and the property has one of the very last remaining Roman mulberry trees in Provence. The stoneware around the house is listed.

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## Location

Maison Sebastien is a five minute drive - or lovely twenty minute walk - from the village of St Michel L'Observatoire.

The village is thriving with four restaurants, a baker, butcher and epicerie. It is also home to a major French Observatory. St Michel's position at the foot of the Midi-Alps combined with a lack of light pollution gives it unique night skies.

Ten minutes drive from the house is the small medieval town of Mane and beyond - the regional centre - Forcalquier. Mane has a good pizza restaurant, pharmacy, bakery, butcher and Epicerie. Forcalquier is famous for it's absinthe, it's historic church and square and it's citadel high above the town but it also has two excellent supermarkets, a thriving - if crazy - Monday market and some lovely cafes restaurants and shops.

There are many ways to get to the property: fly to Marseille or take a train to ether Aix en Provence TGV or Avignon TGV. There is now a direct train between London St Pancras and Avignon. The drive from London is approximately 14 hours. There are numerous useful local buses that link with both the airport and the train stations.

- Nearest Airport - Marseille (91-100 km )
- Nearest Ferry port - Marseille (91-100 km)
- Nearest Train Station - Manosque (16-20 km)
- Nearest Village - St Michel L'Observatoire (1 km)
- Nearest Town/City - Forcalquier (4 km)
- Nearest Restaurant - St Michel L'Observatoire (1 km)
- Nearest Bar/Pub - St Michel L'Observatoire (1 km)
- Nearest Shop - St Michel L'Observatoire (1 km)
- Nearest Supermarket - Forcalquier (4 km)
- Nearest Tennis - St Michel L'Observatoire





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## Photos





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