L'Essence de Grasse

Region: Cote d'Azur | Grasse
Sleeps: 10 **Bedrooms:** 5 **Bathrooms:** 5



Overview

Built in 1892 by one of Grasse's wealthiest perfumeurs, L'Essence de Grasse has been stunningly and sympathetically renovated to create a villa of 5 en suite bedrooms. Easy walking distance into the village of Grasse and the Fragonard perfume museum. Great views over Grasse and surrounding countryside. Air conditioning. Heatable pool. Pets allowed on request. 5 bedrooms/5 bathrooms.

Description

Since the 16th century, Grasse has cultivated the flower and the art of distillation. Centifolia rose, jasmine, tuberose: its hills have fed the great perfume houses — Fragonard, Galimard, Molinard — which are still in operation just a few minutes from the villa.

On a hillside in Grasse, the world capital of perfume, L'Essence de Grasse has stood since 1892. Built by a perfumer, it still sports its original Italianate silhouette: a belvedere tower, a run of arches, a perfectly symmetrical façade turned toward the light. Nothing is for show; everything is a matter of balance and light.

In the late nineteenth century, Grasse was living the golden age of perfumery. This residence was built to the measure of its art: elegant, restrained, open to the hills where roses and jasmine once grew.

Carefully restored, L'Essence de Grasse now welcomes up to ten guests across five bedrooms. But what brings people here is simpler than that — the calm of its tall rooms, the shade of its olive trees, and the rare feeling of living inside a house with a history. A product of La Belle Époque, the house carries the quiet confidence of its time. Tall rooms, generous windows, sightlines drawn toward the old town — the unhurried art of Provençal living, still alive within its walls.

This property understands l'Art de Vivre. Whether it's breakfast on the terrace with views of the town and the ringing of distance church bells, long afternoons by the pool or in the shade of the olive tree with a book and a glass of something cold to hand, or dining al fresco with the lights of Grasse spread below; the rhythm and ambience have not altered in 150 years.

The kitchen is the heart of the house. You cook with what you bring back from the market, open a bottle facing the view, and let the conversation linger long after dinner. (Chef service etc available).

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Layout

5 bedrooms/5 bathrooms, air conditioned.

Garden Level:
Two bedrooms, each with its own bathroom, plus a separate WC. This level opens directly onto the garden and the private parking.

First Floor:
The heart of the house: the entrance and its staircase, the kitchen, the living room and the dining room. On one side it opens onto the garden and its olive corner — a large table, a barbecue and beds of flowers; on the other, onto the heated pool, set on a wide panoramic terrace open to Grasse and the French Riviera, with a second barbecue.

Second Floor:
Three bedrooms under the eaves, each with its own bathroom. One keeps watch over Grasse from beside its fireplace, eyes on the old town.

More Info

Outside:
The heated pool -
On its panoramic terrace, the water invites you to swim facing Grasse and the French Riviera, from spring to autumn — with a barbecue at the far end for summer evenings.
The olive corner -
On the garden side, an olive tree shades a large outdoor table, beside the barbecue and the beds of flowers. This is where meals linger, with family or with friends.
The terraces -
All around, the terraces unfold. Everywhere, the same view over the Riviera and the old town of Grasse.

Features

- Aircon
- WiFi Internet
- Easy Walk to Shops
- Heatable Pool
- Winter Heating
- Private Pool
- Pets allowed on request

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Location

No other destination on the French Riviera is quite like Grasse. For centuries its singular climate has allowed the cultivation of jasmine, rose centifolia, tuberose, orange blossom and lavender — the most precious raw materials in perfumery.

Just below the villa, the old town is best explored on foot, slowly. Narrow medieval streets, ochre façades, stone staircases, small shaded squares, cafés, independent boutiques and markets: a place to lose yourself happily, away from cars.

You climb up in the morning for the market, and return at the golden hour, when the warm stone turns the colour of honey.

The great perfume houses of Gallimard, Fragonard and Molinard are within walking distance.

The Cote d'Azur is within easy reach. Forty minutes will ensure that you move effortlessly between the peace of the Provençal hills and some of the Mediterranean's most iconic destinations.

Cannes - 30 mins
Nice - 45 mins
Antibes - 35 mins
Monaco - 55 mins
St Paul de Vence - 45 mins
Nice airport - 45 mins

And not forgetting the lovely hilltop villages ('villages perchés') of Provence:
Mougins - 25 mins
Valbonne - 20 mins
Gourdon - 25 mins
Tourrettes sur Loup - 20 mins
Cabris - 10 minutes

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Photos








