

Villas in Dordogne, France 2022/2023

An Introduction to the Dordogne

Named after the river that carves its way languidly through the lush landscape, the Dordogne is one of the most beautiful regions in southwestern France. Also known as Périgord, rural Dordogne is famed for its medieval castles and boating adventures, with authentic food and stunning weather sealing the deal.

Our holiday villas in Dordogne make the perfect base to explore this countryside idyll, and many have the best sights right on the doorstep.

Dordogne Activities

The rugged Dordogne terrain makes for one of nature's best adventure playgrounds. Here, you can get in touch with your wild side by paddling down the river in a canoe or going for a refreshing swim in a plunge pool surrounded by emerald forests. Hikers will love exploring the trails that crisscross the valley, while climbers can scale the gorges for a bird's-eye view. For an aerial thrill, take to the skies on a sunrise hot air balloon flight and see the countryside and its castles flooded with amber.

Dordogne Food

Foodies will be in seventh heaven sampling the flavours of this delectable region. Many of our Dordogne villas with pools have gorgeous kitchens to make cooking a pleasure, but sometimes it's fun to eat out instead. Succulent Quercy lamb, juicy strawberries, and black truffles are firm favourites with locals. You can give these tasty morsels your own stamp of approval at restaurants across the area. Don't miss the creamy Rocamadour goat's cheese either, paired with a glass of Coteaux de Glanes wine.

Dordogne Sightseeing

This beautiful region isn't all about divine food and luxury villas. Dordogne is home to hundreds of castles, with Château de Beynac stealing the show thanks to its dramatic position overlooking the river. On the opposite bank, the imperious Château de Castelnaud vies for your attention with its mighty fortress walls and vast weapon collection. Visiting medieval clifftop villages like Beynac-et-Cazenac will be a highlight too, where historical churches and photogenic streets beckon you onwards.

Dordogne History

Villas in Dordogne are popular for many reasons, but one of the main draws is the region's rich history. Prehistoric cave paintings and troglodyte dwellings reveal that humans inhabited the Dordogne 400,000 years ago, while archaeological sites at Perigueux and Montcaret shine a light on the Roman occupation. Meanwhile, in charming towns like Sarlat and Bergerac you can follow in the footsteps of rebel queen Eleanor of Aquitaine, as well as admire the splendid Gothic and Renaissance architecture.

Dordogne Holidays - Points of Interest

- Visit the enchanting cliffside village of Beynac-et-Cazenac and stroll up the medieval streets to the castle for unbeatable views over the Dordogne River.
- Eat your way around the Saturday market in the charming town of Sarlat-la-Cadenat, where winding alleyways lead you to stalls selling local honey, cheeses, and pastries.

- Hire a canoe and paddle down the tranquil Dordogne River, stopping for picnics on the beaches and exploring the gorges from a new angle.
- Travel through time in the prehistoric caves of the Vézère Valley and admire the rock art that still holds its colour. Lascaux Cave is the most famous, with nearly 600 palaeolithic paintings discovered here.
- Our Dordogne villas with private pools are difficult to leave, but you could be tempted out with a spot of wild swimming at Magali Plage or Meyraguet.