



*Tarascon Artists House, Provence*

# *Tarascon*



The terrace town house is situated in the quiet unspoilt Provence town of Tarascon. Set on the banks of the great river Rhone, Tarascon is home to one of France's finest châteaux and a legendary monster, the Tarasque, whose notoriety is celebrated in a fun-packed family festival in June. Close to the natural splendour of the Camargue and the Mediterranean Sea, Tarascon is situated near Nimes, Avignon, Arles and fashionable St Remy. From Van Gogh to Marquis de Sade, Roman viaducts to pink flamingos, the area is rich in history and beauty.



## *The House*

The house stands within the old walled town, close to Tarascon's ancient Gatehouse. It comfortably sleeps six people. There's a kitchen, a fine stone walled sitting room, one bathroom and three double bedrooms, one of which leads onto a secluded roof terrace, ideal for soaking up the sunshine. Below off the sitting room, there is a small walled courtyard for resting in the shade on days when the temperature gets too hot!

Lived in for hundreds of years, the house has a rustic charm, which has only been enhanced by its recent renovation. Artists, musicians and writers have all contributed in some unique way to its refurbishment and most have stayed, using the house as 'home from home'.

## *The Kitchen*

A fully fitted Ikea kitchen contains fridge-freezer, electric oven and halogen hob, kettle, microwave, steel sink, dishwasher, and washing machine. Comes complete with a butchers block, cooking utensils, white china and cutlery for eight - ten people.



## *The Bathroom*

Situated on the first floor, it has one big bath with shower mixer, sink and toilet. Towels in the bathroom can be used.



## *The Living Room*

One of the most charming rooms in the house, the living room's medieval sandstone walls glow warmth and character. There are two Italian black leather sofas. The dining table sits 6 to 8 people. There is no TV, DVD player or Internet. There are board games, books and CD player/radio and lots of CDs to use. The backdoor leads to a small walled courtyard. There are also many books that are cherished by us, and we are happy to share them with you, but please put them back where you found them after you've finished reading.



## *Courtyard*

The small courtyard off the living room is ideal for morning coffee and evening drinks.



## *Bedroom 1*

This double bedroom is situated at the back of the house and has one wardrobe and one bedside cabinet. This is most 'girly' room in the house, with muslin curtains and canopies. It's also the smallest.



## *Bedroom 2*

A large white double bedroom with a bedside cabinet and clothes hanger, this bedroom is at the front of the house. Currently comfortably sleeps two people. We are yet to introduce a decorative style to the room as we are thinking of creating a library/slumber room.



## *Bedroom 3*

On the second floor, this bedroom is the largest of the three. Lofty, complete with a king size bed and clothes hanger. The bedroom opens onto the roof-terrace.



## *Terrace*

There are two deck chairs for sitting in the sun and a table. The shutter doors have hooks to hold them in place when the wind blows - it can be annoying if you accidentally shut yourself out.

The terrace is tiled with non-slip tiles, but do take care when wet.



## *Other Information*

The house is to be treated as a Gite and as your own during your stay. However, please bear in mind some of the idiosyncrasies of an old house:

The door on Bedroom 2 is old and a little awkward – please don't force shutting it.

The back door can only be opened from inside the house and do take care descending both stairwells (the first stairwell is in the process of being retiled).

If you use candles, please be certain to extinguish them.

The house is non-smoking inside, however you can smoke in the courtyard and on the terrace.

While duvets and pillows are provided, please bring your own King/Double Duvet covers and pillowcases and towels. Tea towels are included. Please put the dirty laundry in the bathroom laundry basket, when you have finished.

All electricity and water bills are included.

## *Keys*

Please arrange to collect and return keys from Alana Pryce.

Bookings are made on a Saturday afternoon arrival and Saturday morning departure basis.

## *Car Parking*

There is a free car park 2 minutes walk from the house. Be sure to move it on Saturday night as the car park becomes a local bric-a-brac market on Sunday mornings and during the June festival season it becomes the focus of a local gipsy guitar fete.

## *Markets*

Tarascon market is every Tuesday and Friday morning in the centre of the town. The other local town, Beaucaire, is a 20 minute walk across the bridge and their market days are Thursday and Sunday. Arles has a great Saturday market and you can enjoy sitting in the beautiful square next to Van Gogh's old lodgings. St Remy is pretty, chic and expensive. Great for a special meal and browsing in cute shops, it makes lovely day out and it's close to Les Baux.



## *Local Restaurants*

The restaurant close to the house makes good pizza and local dishes. The Theatre restaurant is run by a lovely couple and is definitely worth a visit – although you may have to be patient with the arrival of the food. The bar and interior design shop by the Railway station is good for 'posh' drinks and has a garden. Go to L'Ail Heure in Beaucaire for posh Parisian style fare and Le Soleil by the canal side for fantastic fish and mussels.

## *Local Area*

To read all about Tarascon visit the Tarascon Tourist Office and Provence Beyond  
In Tarascon there is the famous Souleiado textile museum.  
Pictures of Tarascon at [web-provence.com](http://web-provence.com) and by Galen R. Frysinger and  
Saskia van Diesen  
Henry James visited Tarascon in 1884. Read his *A Little Tour In France*



A short walk across the Rhone there is Beaucaire  
Nearby towns Arles, Saint Remy de Provence, Les Baux, Nimes, Avignon and  
Saintes Maries de la Mer  
The Camargue



# Getting There

## By Air

Nîmes-Garons Airport (Nîmes Arles Camargue)  
30km from Tarascon (30 minutes by car)  
Ryanair flies to Nîmes from Luton and Liverpool  
There is a bus service from the airport to Nimes (20km)

Montpellier-Mediterranean Airport

75km from Tarascon (1 hour by car)  
Ryanair flies to Montpellier from Stansted and Bristol  
Easyjet flies to Montpellier from Gatwick  
Air France flies to Montpellier from most airports  
Buses leave every 30 minutes for Montpellier (8km)

Marseilles-Provence Airport

80km from Tarascon (1 hour by car)  
Ryanair flies to Marseilles from Gatwick, Stanstead, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Manchester, Birmingham and Bournemouth  
Easyjet flies to Marseilles from Bristol and Gatwick  
British Airways flies to Marseilles from Gatwick  
Air France flies to Marseilles from most airports  
Buses leave every 20 minutes for Saint Charles railway station in Marseille (25km)

## By Rail

Eurostar runs directly from London King's Cross to Avignon (6.30 hours) from where you can catch the local SNCF train to Tarascon (15 minutes)

Eurostar runs indirectly from London King's Cross via Paris or Lille to Nimes, Montpellier and Marseilles. From here Tarascon can be reached by car or by local train or bus. The total journey from King's Cross to Tarascon is approximately 8 hours.

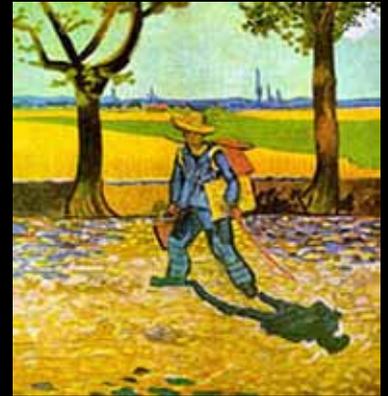
## By Road

Tarascon is about 10 hours by car from Calais, approximately 14 hours from London. Route maps and directions can be found at [RAC Route Planner](#).

## Local Transport

Local trains and buses depart from Tarascon to Nimes, Marseille and Avignon. See the [SNCF Timetable](#)

Car hire is available in Tarascon and Beaucaire as well as all of the major towns and cities. Bikes can be hired in the town. We do advise hiring a car as the sea, at Saintes Maries de la Mer, famous for the Romany festival, bulls and white horses, is 45 minutes drive from the house. Also take a drive into the mountains of Les Baux and let the children enjoy another castle where sometimes they have jousting.



The Painter On The Road To Tarascon  
Vincent van Gogh

## *Maps*

googlemaps  
[www.tarascon.org](http://www.tarascon.org)

## *Tourist Board*

There is one in Tarascon. For further information look up  
[www.tarascon.org](http://www.tarascon.org)  
[www.webtourist.net/france/tarascon/tourist-information.phtml](http://www.webtourist.net/france/tarascon/tourist-information.phtml)

## *Prices*

Spring	01 April - 31 May	£450 per week	£200 for two nights
Summer	01 June - 31 July	£700 per week	
Summer	01 August - 31 August	£750 per week	
Autumn	01 September - 23 October	£600 per week	

All electricity and water bills are included.

## *Contact*

Alana Pryce  
Tel: + 44 (0)7940 420 631  
Email: [info@alanapryce.co.uk](mailto:info@alanapryce.co.uk)

## *Comments From Past Visitors*

“At first I was worried how my two small sons would cope without television; I needn't have bothered. It was the first family holiday where everybody spent time with each other and genuinely enjoyed exploring the local castles, sea and countryside.”

“Merci, merci beaucoup! For allowing us to stay at your magical mansion - It was superb! We hope to return at some stage.”

“It's a stunning, beautiful house!”