

CHATEAU RIGAUD

Rigaud House Party – what it's all about....

"The family escape where children's supper is served with a helping of boutique interiors and adult conversation on the side!" House Party is a fully inclusive break which includes activity based childcare and a unique "staying away with friends" atmosphere. Up to six families are hosted by chateau owners Andrew and Anna Barwick and their two young children, plus an extensive team of staff who anticipate your every need, from a glass of champagne on arrival to a bottle of warm milk at bedtime.

For Mum and Dad this is pure relaxation, chilling out in a beautiful private house which is oozing with laid back style. REN Spa treatments are available in the treatment room, someone else is doing the cooking, the fine Bordeaux flows freely, there's sport on the plasma screen in the bar and grown up conversation over dinner. Some nights this is a four course French affair, on other nights it's less formal with wine tasting challenges and the chance to cook your own crab if you fancy it. If socialising is too much like hard work then the full on 18 seat cinema and film library will please anyone who's not on sparkling form!

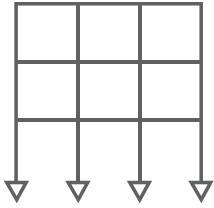
For the younger guests the activity based childcare is a riot of fun and laughter. The medieval chateau really captures their imagination as do treasure hunts, craft sessions, DIY Pizzas and the ever popular tractor and trailer rides in the grounds.

The children are supervised from breakfast until just after their lunch (9 till 1pm). The Rigaud team will even collect them from your bedroom if you request it, allowing you to enjoy a proper lie in. Afternoons are at ease as a family before the children's Kitchen Supper at about 5pm, followed by a suitable screening in the cinema. Tom and Jerry has proved a huge hit with the seven year olds!

The size of the House Party is strictly limited to the eight bedrooms that the chateau provides and hence the atmosphere is truly personal, friendly and relaxing. Guests are introduced to one another on arrival and take their meals together at one table but otherwise they enjoy the space and facilities at their own pace, in the tradition of a house party. It's very much like staying with friends in the country who happen to have staff there to look after you.

Here is what the writer from The Guardian made of it all...

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/travel/2007/may/06/escape.familyholidays>



CHATEAU RIGAUD

The facts....

The house

Rigaud is definitely luxury but it's not a hotel. House Party guests live together as one group, eating at one table in the evenings. The bedrooms don't have locks and the kitchen is open access to all. It's relaxed and informal without any compromise on comfort or style.

Hobo

During our first House Party in October 2006 our guests went out for a walk and came back with a stray four months puppy who had clearly not eaten for days. He was named Hobo and he's now a permanent resident in the chateau. Hobo is a bouncing black Labrador / Collie type who hoovers up after messy kids suppers. We do remove him from the room for anxious children but guests with allergies or phobias should be aware that Hobo lives here before booking.

Childcare

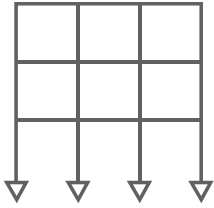
Our nannies run activities from 9am until 1pm each day. The childcare philosophy is to encourage the children to be as active as possible and to have fun. When appropriate we build in an educational angle but this is primarily a holiday childcare service and hence the emphasis on fun is high.

Activities for the day are planned and will normally be included on the "Rigaud Today" memo, available at breakfast. If there are any activities which you feel your child may not enjoy then please talk to our nannies who will act accordingly.

Eating

Breakfast is served from 8.30 in the dining room. We generally serve cereals, yoghurt, fruit, pastries, juices, coffee and tea. Chocolate bananas on request!

Lunch is a light and laid back affair, such as a home made soup with bread and cheese, simple pasta or quiche with a salad. If the children are eating together they will have a picnic of sandwiches, cheese and fruit. We are also very happy to pack a picnic for families who might like to venture out before lunch.



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At 5pm we serve children's kitchen supper which we are happy to supervise for the over three's. The menu is arranged by prior negotiation with the children to ensure we can provide something healthy and nutritious that they are comfortable with eating! At a similar time we discretely place a cake near the coffee machine which we try to keep separate from children who have not yet eaten their greens!

Dinner

Each house party is slightly different but as a rule we try to provide two formal dinners, usually on the first and last evening, while for the middle two nights we try to serve something different, such as a blind tasting challenge matching food to the wines being tasted, a barbeque, a kitchen party supper with pub quiz or a cinema screening with a Moroccan buffet. We tend to test the mood of the group concerned before proposing the alternative entertainment. Each night we start with canapés at around 8pm in the bar.

Drinks etc

You are encouraged to help yourself to drinks and any other snacks you might like while you are at Rigaud. The bar is always open to guests and well stocked and the Rigaud management adopt very liberal approach to consumption.

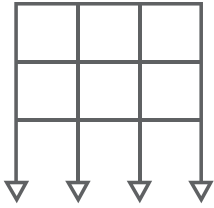
Childcare responsibility

Young children must be supervised at all times. There is a swimming pool at Rigaud (fenced and alarmed) and a further fenced off water source within the grounds. Older children who might not be supervised must be made aware of these two water hazards and also must be made aware that the barns on the property contain dangerous building and agricultural machinery and are therefore out of bounds.

At Rigaud we encourage children to explore, to discover an element of independence and above all to enjoy themselves but parents must be aware that they are responsible for their children's safety and that hazards do exist within this child friendly estate.

Equipment and monitors

We pride ourselves in our wide range of baby equipment here at Rigaud. Cots, highchairs, bibs, feeding bowls and plastic spoons, monitors, non slip bath mats, changing mats, a bottle steriliser and



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a microwave for the purpose of heating baby food. It's designed to make things as easy as they can be for the four days that you are here.

We don't like to set hard and fast rules but as a guide we suggest...

Parents will establish a bedtime of around 8pm for their children.

After 8pm children will be in their own rooms, in the TV lounge or in the cinema but not in the dining room or bar.

Of course we're entirely understanding of children who are difficult to settle and we make every effort to ensure that dinner is held until all monitors are silent.

To find out more about Rigaud Family House Parties check out the press section of our website www.chateaurigaud.co.uk/press or have a look at independent travel sites such as Trip Advisor or Mumsnet.

Fully Inclusive House Party Rates

These rates include the cost of your room(s), breakfast, lunch, children's suppers, dinner and wine, plus childcare on full house party days. Arrival is expected after lunch on day one and departure after breakfast on your final morning.

Families requiring two rooms would like...

Aquitaine with Boudoir

€450 / night

Two bedrooms interconnecting with one another, one with bath and one with shower

Maroc suite with interconnected Owlery...

€450 / night

Stunning bedroom with tiny "Alice in Wonderland" bedroom for two very lucky small children

Dauphin and Bourgie

€450 / night

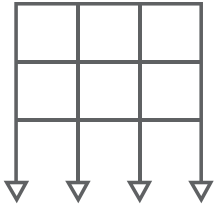
Two fairytale rooms next door to one another and each with a four poster double!

Families requiring one room would like....

The Tower

€400 / night

Stunning double aspect room with four poster bed and an en suite bathroom with roll top bath and Tower Shower.



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The Ballroom

Sheer glamour in an enormous space with four poster and bath

€400 / night

Bourgie

Four poster splendour with walk in shower

€400 / night

Dauphin

Four poster splendour with an in room bath, to share and remember

€350 / night

Jardin

Chandeliers and garden views with a walk in shower

€300 / night

Lone parents with one (or two) children would like....

Bourgie

Four poster splendour with walk in shower to share and remember!

€280 / night

Dauphin

Four poster splendour with an in room bath, to share and remember!

€280 / night

Jardin

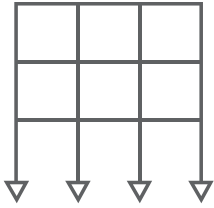
Chandeliers and garden views with a walk in shower

€280 / night

Boudoir

Chandelier princess room with walk in shower

€240 / night



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House Party Dates 2009

Easter House Parties

Monday 16th – Sunday 22nd March – 6 nights

Saturday 4th – Thursday 9th April – 5 nights

Thursday 9th – Thursday 16th April - 7 nights

Saturday 18th – Thursday 23rd April – 5 nights

May House Party

Wednesday 6th – Sunday 10th May – 4 nights

July House Party

Monday 6th – Friday 10th July – 4 nights

Autumn Half Term House Parties

Sunday 25th – Saturday 31th October – 6 nights