

Explore the Le Mans area from this stylish château... or simply kick back, enjoy the surroundings and relax!



DREAM HOLIDAY STAY: Château style

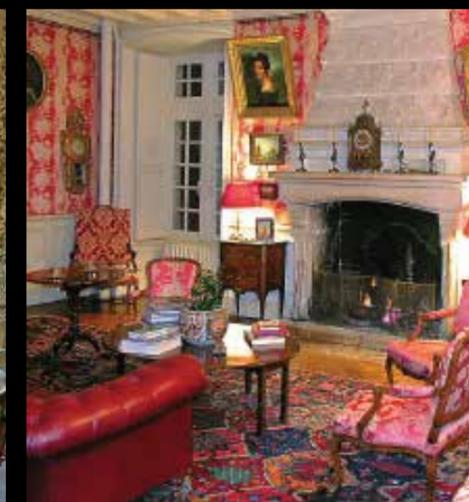
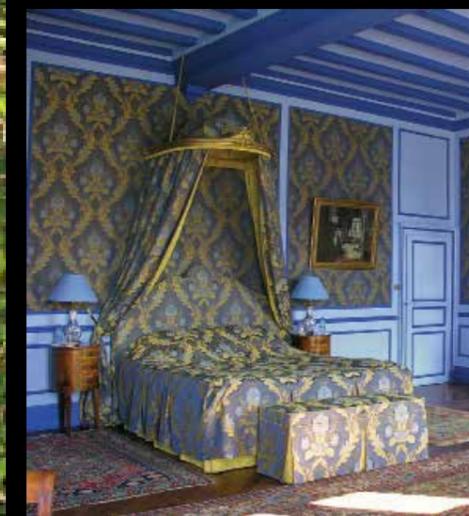
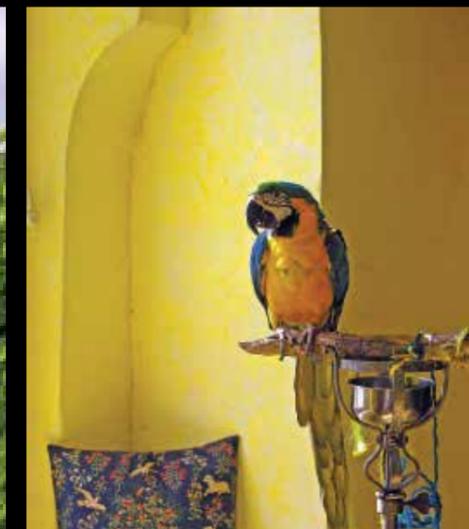
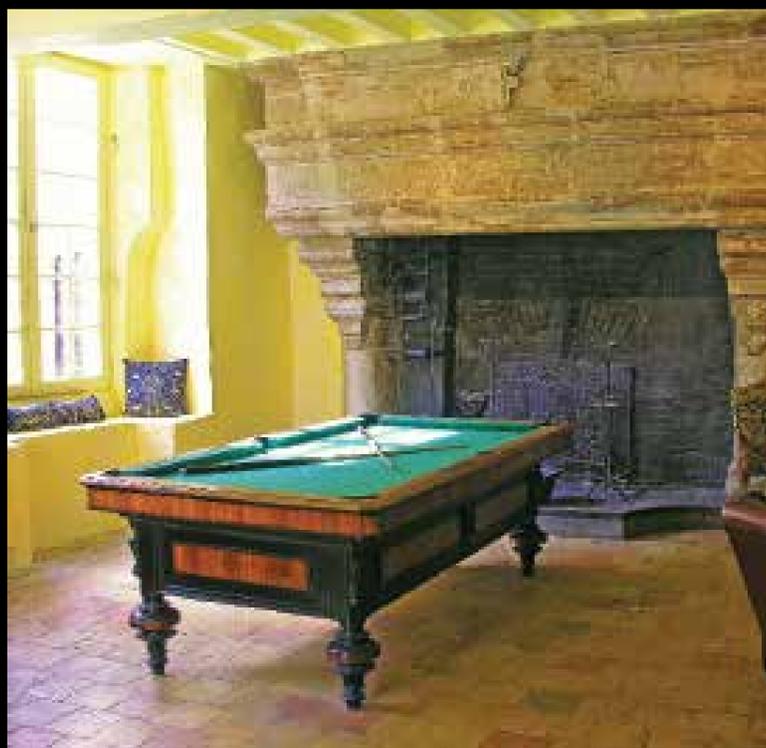
THE ELEGANT 14th to 19th Century Château de la Barre has been in the de Vanssay family for generations – and now Guy and Marnie, the present Comte and Comtesse de Vanssay, personally welcome guests to their ancestral home. The château lies in the rolling hills of the Petit Loir, between Vendôme and Le Mans. It's set in 100 acres of parkland, with its own chapel, flower garden, pond with swans, woods and 16th Century fortifications.

The interior breathes sophistication, elegance and warmth and each of the B&B rooms is individually designed and colour-themed, furnished with exotic fabrics and fabulous antiques. It is possible to hire the entire château, with 10 en-suite bedrooms, for a week's stay and there are also two self-catering cottages to rent in the grounds.

Grand it may be, but guests are made to feel really comfortable and at home, whether joining their hosts for tea in the Salon Rose or under the centennial elm trees. Drinks before dinner are served in the pure 18th Century Grand Salon with its high ceilings, ornate chandeliers and furniture which has never left the room since the wedding of the Marquis de Vanssay in 1784. Later, a candlelit dinner will be served in the grand Salle à Manger with its exquisite china collection. The food is, of course, very French and the wines superb – all served utilising the family silver, porcelain and crystal.

Guests have the run of the grounds and can book treats like a hot air balloon ride, vintage car hire and private château tours. fe

● Château de la Barre in the Loire Valley is ID 5244 at www.frenchconnections.co.uk or for more information you can also call +44 (0)1580 819303.



Perfect for a group gathering of family or friends, guests at Château de la Barre will receive a hugely warm welcome from the owners. Enjoy the elegant, sophisticated interiors, feel at home in the various salons and use the château as a base to explore the wonders of the region