

TRAVEL

Overheard: Château Les Carrasses

by Richard Alleman



Photo: Courtesy of Château Les Carrasses

In the pristine Languedoc area of southwestern France, considered by many to be more desirable and less touristy than Provence, an exciting new resort is set to bow this July, midway between the towns of Montpellier and Perpignan. Château Les Carrasses is an enchanting former wine estate—complete with a turreted fairy-tale castle, workers’ cottages, a blacksmith’s house, and various other outbuildings—all of which have been restored and turned into 28 posh suites, apartments, and villas, most with private gardens and many with swimming pools as well. The eight-acre property also boasts a large infinity pool, with a “beach” where guests can lounge half-in/half-out of the water (a real beach is a 20-minute drive away in the town of Serignan). Additional activities include tennis on a court (floodlit for after-dark matches), biking, hiking, horseback riding, and golf, with four courses within an hour or less of the Château. Meanwhile, the property’s bistro is guided by food writer and former Food Network producer **Anne de Ravel**. For introductory rates as low as €129 per room per night, check out *Chic Retreats*.