



Welcome to

Château du Puits es Prats

where dreams come true



Contents

1. **Cover**
2. **Contents**
3. **Introduction**
4. **Where is the venue and what is the weather like?**
5. **What is the venue?**
6. **Your Wedding Ceremony and Blessing**
7. **Non-religious and religious ceremonies**
8. **Catering for your group on the Wedding Day**
9. **Catering for your group either side of the Wedding Day**
10. **Party Time on the Wedding Day**
11. **On-site accommodation**
12. **Wedding planning at the Chateau and how to visit**
13. **Financial planning and payment structure**
14. **On-site Amenities**
15. **Wedding Photography; on-site option**
16. **Videos, Web and Blog sites**
17. **Recent reviews**
18. **Recent reviews**
19. **Airport Links**
20. **Travel options**

After reading the brochure, if you would like an accurate guide to the cost of a wedding at our venue, please email us giving the **year** you wish to be married, the **size** of your wedding group, plus any **children under 10**.

The price guide details all the **wedding day** aspects that the Bridal couple are usually responsible for and includes all the catering and alcohol for the **Champagne Reception** and the **Wedding Banquet** that also has discounts for children under 10.

by email: **info@chateaudupuitsespratx.com**

by phone: 0033 (0)468 465 833

by mail: **Chateau Du Puits Es Pratx,**
40 Avenue Du Minervoise, 11120 Ginestas, France

websites: **www.chateaudupuitsespratx.com**
www.gomarryinfrance.com



Dear Bride & Groom,

We have been hosting wonderful Weddings for 15 years and what all our bridal couples are looking for is a relaxed 'house-party' style venue in a beautiful and romantic setting, and one that is different from the usual options 'at home'. This is exactly what we offer.

We experience that wherever couples live in the world, they all want a stress-free experience without the worry of arranging their own wedding in a foreign country. It is for this reason, we are NOT a venue that just offers the key and leaves the rest to you. We offer a very personal, 'hands-on service', where we can organize everything for you without the added cost of an expensive Wedding Planner.

An extra benefit of choosing a 'destination' venue is that it provides a special opportunity for friends & Family to be together for far longer than most 12-hour events at home, and your guests will treat their stay as a mini-holiday. It is therefore really important to know how your guests will spend their time and be 'cared for'.

As a Family-run business with the help of a wonderful team, we work closely together with every couple to create a unique experience at a realistic price.

We would love the opportunity of creating your dream wedding, and what follows is a guide to what we can offer you.



Where is the Venue?

Surrounded by vineyards and stunning views, the Chateau is on the edge of a village called Ginestas in the Occitanie or Languedoc region of Southern France. It is 5 minutes from the Canal Du Midi, 30 mins from the Mediterranean, 40 mins from Hérault National Park and only 1.5hrs from Spain; it is also situated in one of the sunniest parts of France.





What is the venue?

Built in 1840 the Chateau was home to the largest producer of wine in the village right up to 1990 and it still has it's own vineyard that is the backdrop to most of our Blessing Ceremonies. The Champagne reception is usually held in the formal gardens at the front and the ancient barn where the wine was produced has been beautifully restored as the Reception Hall and where the old wine press is now the bar.

The heart is a beautiful courtyard where guests can enjoy the Wedding Banquet, sitting under the stars in a magical atmosphere with candle lanterns, fairy lights in the trees, and Chinese lanterns above. The combination of the courtyard for dining and the reception hall for music & dancing will provide the perfect ambience for your wedding evening.





Your Wedding Ceremony and Blessing in France

To be official, all weddings in France have firstly to be conducted by the local Mayor in the Town Hall. Any documentation, if not in French, will need to be translated and signed by a solicitor.

If you don't need an 'official' French wedding, it is far simpler to get married 'legally' in the country where you live, and then enjoy a more 'meaningful' wedding ceremony at our Chateau, or in our local church. For your interest, we also provide the confetti using real flower petals.



Non-religious ceremonies

We can offer a romantic blessing in our vineyard or in the garden in front of the Chateau. There is a choice of celebrants we can arrange and we can provide a choice of wording to personalize your blessing ceremony that can be adapted to your own ideas and preferences.



Religious ceremonies

For those wanting a religious ceremony, our beautiful village church of St Luc has a stunning 14th century alter-piece & painting. It is only small yet seats up to 300, and either a Protestant or Catholic service can be arranged with a local English speaking Reverend who can take either. The Church can be approached by car, horse & cart, or by foot in 5 minutes. We can also hire a guitarist that plays in the church and then leads the Bridal couple and guests back down to the Chateau by foot.



Wedding Day Catering

The wedding 'breakfast' or banquet, is one of the most important aspects of any wedding, especially in France, but as outside caterers can vary in quality and value, we have our own small but exceptional, in-house team. Our head Chef Lily specializes in superb cuisine at affordable prices that can cater for small groups up to 160.

Lily will discuss a large variety of banquet menus to suit your taste, and can cater for any dietary or religious needs. Let us know your group size including young children, and we can send you an accurate price guide for all the wedding day catering comprising the canapés and banquet, discounted menus for kids under 10, and a midnight snack.

Lily also creates the most amazing wedding cakes on-site, and can offer the typical 'French' wedding cake called a 'croquembouche', or a wide range of decorated cakes.





Catering on days either side of the wedding.

Our on-site catering is available exclusively for your group for the entire period of your stay. That takes all the pressure off the Bridal couple as guests will assume some catering has been arranged for them. Even though they will expect to pay for their own evening meals (apart from the wedding day), they certainly won't want to search for low-priced restaurants after they have checked-in or after travelling.

The low-cost 'shoulder' evening meals we serve are intended for the whole group, even those staying off-site, and are an important way for guests to feel welcome on this unique occasion.

On the evening of arrival our '**Welcome Buffet**' allows everyone to relax and make new friends, and then on the day after the Wedding the '**Farewell BBQ**' is a lovely way to finish off your group's stay.

There is also an optional **Breakfast & Lunch service** each day so guests can relax by the pool and not have to go off-site if they don't wish too. We also have a fully stocked bar that is open from midday onwards each day and offers a good range of regional wines, beers and spirits. We source the **perfect wines** for the wedding banquet that will instantly taste great as guests are chatting and having fun. Your price guide will include all the champagne & wines we recommend and estimate you will need, including an allowance for soft drinks.



Party time – on the Wedding Day.

- After the banquet and speeches, many bridal couples start the party with a first dance. This is when everyone can let their hair down and party until 2am if they wish.
- The dancing takes place in the Reception Hall which adjoins the courtyard where the banquet is held and gives your guests the choice of dancing, or chatting to friends in the courtyard if they prefer.
- Next to the dance floor is a fully stocked bar that from the 1st dance onwards, can either be a 'pay-bar' for guests to buy their own drinks, or from where guests can enjoy drinks provided by the bridal couple if that is their preference.
- We can provide a good selection of musicians, bands or DJ's to suit most tastes and budgets, and will arrange all bookings, payments and insurance. We can also suggest many genres of softer live music for the Champagne Reception in the afternoon if desired.



Exclusive group accommodation at Chateau Du Puits Es Pratz.

Our **Standard 3-night package** applies to any weekend or mid-week booking between May to end of October, with **no 'high-season' rate**. It offers exclusive occupancy of all on-site bedrooms and provides for up to **50** guests. **Additional nights** can be booked exclusively for your whole group, or on a per-room basis. Discounts are available for group bookings outside May-Oct.

Guests accommodation comprises a Bridal Suite of 2-rooms with balcony, 17 double rooms and 3 twin rooms. In addition there are 8 single or twin options in some of the rooms that are priced separately at a low rate to help parents coming with children.

There is **outside accommodation** within walking distance of the Chateau for a further 20-30 guests and plenty more only a short drive away. This way, none of your guests will have far to travel, and a list of outside accommodation is available on booking.

Tarif options: The bridal couple usually pay for their own room and ask their guests to contribute a share of the total accommodation price.

Tarif includes all bed linen for 3 nights, towels & toiletries, TV and free wi-fi. Hair-dryers are available in most shower rooms.

Full details of all the accommodation with floor plans is available on request.

Your Wedding Planner at Chateau Du Puits Es Pratx

- There is no extra charge for a Wedding Planner as that is all part of the service we offer. After many years experience from when Sasha was a couture wedding-dress designer in Chelsea, London, our Daughter Lily now looks after every aspect of the planning process. She will discuss every detail leading up to your wedding by email, video or telephone, and organize all you need so everything runs smoothly.
- Planning a Wedding in another country can be complicated, especially in another language, but we have a good links with services like hair-dressing/make-up, photography/videography, vintage car-hire, horse & cart (church weddings), musicians/DJ's and bouncy castles.
- We can provide a personalized Blessing ceremony to suit your exact requirements, and program & play the accompanying music of your choice. We can hire a Celebrant to perform non-religious blessings at the Chateau, or an English-speaking Priest for religious weddings in the village church.
- A full flower arranging service is included in your package comprising the Bride & Maid's bouquets, boutonnieres, wedding arch flowers and table vases. After following Pinterest and discussing colour preferences, the Bride can choose her flowers from our own 'bamboo' flower tunnel (subject to season), or we'll order them from our wholesaler.
- We can suggest different table layouts and offer a wide range of vases and decorations we keep in stock. We also encourage couples who want to individualize the event and bring their own decorations.

Why not visit and reserve a 'Taste & Stay'

Many book their wedding without being able to see the venue first, especially those living in the US or Australia, but couples are very welcome to book a **'Taste & Stay'** if they prefer to see the venue before deciding.

The package we offer is for an en-suite bedroom at a discounted rate that includes breakfast, but if a couple chooses our venue for their wedding, we deduct this from their wedding invoice as a 'thank you'.

As catering is possibly one of the most important aspects of a wedding in France, a benefit of this package is the **'Taster-menu'** where couples experience the quality of our catering. Before dinner we serve a complimentary glass of bubbly and during the meal you will have the chance to taste some of the lovely wines typically served at weddings.

The added advantage of a 'stay-over' is that it provides enough time for us to discuss your needs along with every aspect of getting married at the venue. This way you can depart under no obligation but having experienced exactly what we can offer you.

Please email lily@chateaudupuitsespratx.com for full details and if you would like to reserve a date we recommend booking either side of our main wedding season to avoid disappointment (May-Nov) .

Financial planning and the payment structure

A small deposit will secure your chosen wedding dates followed later by 3 stage payments to make the financial planning of your wedding more manageable. Some venues may charge for aspects you will assume are included eg; cleaning, but we prefer to be transparent from the start so you have no unexpected costs. All items listed here are included in our **Wedding Services & Venue Fee** and are part of the standard package.



- **Fully maintained venue** with gardens, vineyard, terraces & courtyard
- **Staffed reception hall** with all-day & evening assistance
- **All cleaning and maintenance** at the venue
- **Large heated swimming pool** with decking area, sun beds & towels
- **Beautiful reception hall** for dancing, catering & wet weather options
- **Fully stocked Bar**, staffed from 12pm-12am (2am on the big day)
- **Setting-up/reinstatement** on the wedding day
- **Free parking and wifi**

also included,

- **Choice of Blessing locations**; the Vineyard or formal front gardens
- **White carpet & Chairs** including white covers and laundry
- **Materials & drapes** for wedding arch or gazebo + confetti
- **Flower arranging** eg, bouquets, boutonnieres, blessing arch, tables etc
- **Programmed music for the blessing**, or live music options.
- **Garden furniture** for the Champagne Reception
- **Standard banquet tables & chairs**
- **White linen tablecloths, serviettes and tableware**
- **Selection of Wedding cake lace drapes**, display stands & table
- **Wide choice of flower vases** for the banquet tables
- **Large choice of table decorations** and courtyard displays.
- **Table candles & fairy lights** in the courtyard trees
- **Sound system +mic** for ceremony, speeches, playlists/recorded music
- **Reception hall stage** with choice of lighting for DJ or live music



Amenities at Chateau Du Puits Es Pratx

When choosing a venue be sure that the pool is heated because even in the south of France, an un-heated pool, 12x6m, rarely reaches 22°. Our pool is kept at a constant 28° and is available to all your guests who will love you for it.

We also have an option of a 7-seater Jacuzzi for use by the Bride & Bridesmaids.





Wedding Photography.

All photographs in this brochure and website were taken by **Tim Hazael**, our resident Photographer. Before moving to France, Tim was a professional free-lance photographer in London and specialised in people & life-style photography. From a career achieving the highest standards required by the advertising and design industry, he now offers his talent and service to Bridal couples. There is no obligation to commission Tim but if you do, he will bring an extra dimension and timeless quality to your wedding photographs, and provide a lifetime of unique memories.



Videos, Web and Blog sites.

Please see some of these videos to experience the atmosphere.

<https://vimeo.com/136708383>

<https://vimeo.com/137944149>

<https://vimeo.com/106670296>

There are lots of photos on our **Instagram**, **Facebook** & **Pinterest** pages and please like us if you want too....

https://www.instagram.com/weddings_pratx/

<http://www.facebook.com/ChateauduPuitsesPratx>

<http://www.pinterest.com/puitsespratx/>

and read about the venue on the following blog sites

<http://www.rockmywedding.co.uk/rebecca-sam/>

<https://www.frenchweddingstyle.com/summer-wedding-in-languedoc-france/>

<https://www.frenchweddingstyle.com/fine-art-chateau-du-puits-es-pratx-real-wedding/>

<https://www.frenchweddingstyle.com/real-life-weddings-south-west-france/>



Some Client reviews.

"This unique place is to die for I'm not sure where to start"!

OMG the team at this STUNNING venue were SUPERHUMAN! The words I'm about to write to describe the 4 days of our wedding event are in no way good enough. My wife and I had the most amazing, beautiful, special, stunning, incredible days of our life for our "out of this world" wedding and everything ran perfectly and went to plan! From the amazing Venue and staff to the "West End" quality food not only tasted beyond delicious but every day it looked like a work of art. This unique place is to die for and many of our 97 friends and family said it was the BEST wedding they had ever been too, even better than their own wedding!!

The bands that you recommended were ALL hugely talented and thank you for recommending them. We would like to thank Tim, Sasha, and everyone else behind the scenes so hard work to make it the best day of our lives. Thank you again, **Scott and Victoria.**

"if you are thinking about getting married here - do it!"

We got married at the Chateau in September and literally could not have been more delighted with how everything went. We had 80 guests, 35 of whom stayed on site and the rest in B&Bs and houses around the village. Sasha and Tim are wonderful hosts and the Chateau provides a magical backdrop to get married in. Lots of people told us it was the best wedding they had ever been to and even now four months on people are still talking to us wistfully about the magical 4 days they spent in the South of France for our wedding.

If food is important to you, (as it certainly was to us) I would highly recommend this as a venue. Sasha produced a gastronomic feast every evening of our stay and the wedding breakfast in particular was out of this world. How they managed to cook steak perfectly and to order for that many people I will never know. One of our guests was dismayed to discover upon returning home that he had gained 3.5KG over the course of the weekend - I think that says it all.

Having your wedding here is like having all the best parts of being hosted by a family but in a hotel at the same time. This means that you get to enjoy Tim and Sasha's warm hospitality but at the same time get a level of service you would expect in a hotel. Basically, if you are thinking about getting married here - do it - you won't regret it! **Lyndsey and Will.**

"After 3 nights we booked without a hesitation."

Food, venue, location are all perfect. The owners make you feel like you are staying with family. Nothing is ever too much. The food is amazing. Every dish is so delicious. If you are a foodie, this place is the one. Trust their judgment on the wine too, every bottle has been delicious... highly recommended. **Nick and Kelly.**

"Our wedding was OUTSTANDING!"

The Chateau is stunning, the food amazing and just as importantly, the staff are incredible! Stephanie is exceptional and goes above and beyond to make everyone feel at home. Sasha did a wonderful job with the flowers and decorations and Tim's wine tasting event was also a particular highlight!

All our guests were blown away with the venue, the wedding, and the week they had in Ginestas. We fully recommend this venue and now have the perfect wedding memories to last us a lifetime! **Jessica and Aaron**

"Idyllic wedding venue"

Just home from an absolutely incredible wedding celebration of our daughters wedding in Chateau du Puits es Pratx. Excellent venue a magical and unique experience embellished with the attention to detail provided by a 5 star hotel.. Tim Sasha Luke Lily and Stephanie could not have been more accommodating and helpful for all our needs. We would highly recommend this idyllic secluded vineyard gem as a perfect wedding venue. **Ray and Ann**

"Amazing wedding of my dreams"

From the moment I contacted the Chateau to departing, the whole experience was a pleasure. My Husband and I, plus 50 family and friends, arrived for a 3-day wedding and had the best time. Lovely rooms, Lovely staff and a great venue, all planned very well by Tim and Sasha. I definitely recommend. **Maria and Joe.**

“Spectacular Wedding”

This is truly the most magical venue you'll find anywhere, if you're looking for a wedding venue then look no further!!

The scene is captivating, everywhere you look there's a wonderful setting but it is the staff is what sets the venue apart. Tim and Sasha are the most wonderful hosts and take your wedding on with pride and passion, you would think this is their first wedding with the thought and attention they give you. Lilly is an amazing chef and her cuisine just adds to the magnificence, duck on the wedding menu was a particular delight and favourite in our wedding party. Luke is a superhero, running the operation in an assured and composed fashion that gives you the peace of mind you need, he lets you focus on the enjoyment of your wedding rather than worrying about this and that, you are in great hands!

The wonderful Stephanie, she runs the front of house with her bubbly personality and enthusiasm and nothing is too much to ask and she looks after the guests like you were her own family. That's where this venue really excels, the staff blend into your group and almost become part of the wedding party, I can honestly say they added so much to the wedding experience that saying goodbye was a sad day.

The setting/grounds, staff and food made the wedding a memory none of us will ever forget. **Neil and family.**

“Wonderful Wedding Weekend”

Not sure how to start this as words don't really do The Chateau justice but the place is a magical and stunning location to celebrate a wedding. We were there for my Daughter's wedding and every single member of staff was amazing and made our weekend wonderful. They went above and beyond to make sure the whole wedding weekend went to plan.

On the first night we had a 3-course meal so all the wedding party could get to know each other and it was delicious. Well, as for the wedding day, I cannot fault the attention to detail. All the time the Chateau was a hive of activity with all the staff organising the venue and making sure the rest of the guests were totally looked after.

The organisation of the ceremony was outstanding and everything was perfectly timed. We had a champagne reception after the blessing and then went to the courtyard for the wedding banquet and needless to say the courtyard looked amazing. It was wonderful, full of flowers and candles – it was o pretty. The catering and the service was fantastic and on the 3rd day we were given a wonderful bbq that rounded off the most amazing wedding.

I know it was my Daughter's wedding, but it certainly was one of the best weddings I had been too. This was the last weekend in October and we were blessed with the weather; it was even warm enough to eat outside in the courtyard on the wedding day. This is a big thank you to Sasha, Tim, Lily, Stephanie and the wonderful Luke who helped out driving one of our guests back to their B and B a couple of times.

So if you have any hesitation, please don't think twice it was wonderful experience and one to remember. **Susan**

“Our Magical Day”

We honestly don't know where to begin to give this wonderful chateau and people the credit they truly deserve. Our guests and both of us have left our wedding with a feeling of such elation, not only from our wedding alone, but from the utmost care, attention, professionalism and friendless from Tim, Sasha and their wonderful team.

This venue just radiates a family loving ethos and this certainly was demonstrated from the moment we arrived. The incredible standard of the food, flowers and photos was just top notch. Their wealth of experience in all these areas is certainly obvious and we're indebted to them for their wonderful guidance throughout any decision made.

The level of flexibility and genuine attentiveness to any requests from either us, or our guests, with a continued smile on their faces was just refreshing.

Since booking the venue in February to this magical weekend, we can honestly not thank Tim, Sasha and their amazing team enough for making this whole experience and weekend the best one of our lives.

We've gained a little family in Ginestas and can't wait to get back and see them next year already! **Jen & Lisa xxx**

Contact details and airport links

There are more international airports and links to northern Europe than in any other region of France that makes the UK, Ireland, Belgium, Holland, Germany & Sweden easily accessible with an average flight time of 1h40
(Always check, airport links may change over time)



Chateau Du Puits Es Pratx

40 Avenue Du Minervois,

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tel: **0033 468 465 833**

info@chateaudupuitsespratx.com

www.chateaudupuitsespratx.com

www.facebook.com/ChateauduPuitsesPratx

Travel options by Air, Train or Road.

times indicated are by road from the airport or station to the Chateau

BY AIR: the nearest airports are:-

Carcassonne: (40 mins) Ryanair from the UK and Ireland + other European countries, (please check as routes can change).

Beziers: (40 mins) Ryanair from the UK and Ireland + other European countries, (please check as routes can change).

Perpignan: (60 mins) Ryanair from the UK and Ireland + other European countries, (please check as routes can change).

Montpellier: (75 mins) Ryanair & Air France. flights from the UK and other European countries, (please check as routes can change).

Nimes: (90 mins) Ryanair from the UK and Ireland, (please check as routes can change).

Toulouse: (90 mins) Ryanair & BA. Flights from the UK and Ireland + other European countries, (please check as routes can change).

Barcelona: (GRO-Girona) (100 mins) Flights from the Northern Europe and the UK.

Barcelona: (REU)(180 mins) International flights from all over the world and is far closer to the venue than Paris.



BY TRAIN: the nearest stations are:-

Narbonne: (20 mins) 2.5hours from Barcelona.

Montpellier: (45 mins)TGV direct from Paris, (Gare de Lyon 4 hrs),

Eurostar: St Pancras to Montpellier via a change at Lille and at Montpellier for direct line to Narbonne.

Barcelona: airport provides a shuttle service to the main Station with direct trains to Narbonne.

BY ROAD: (times are approximate)

from **Calais** allow 10 hours over 2 days, or 12 hours in one day. The most direct route and cheapest in tolls is via Paris, Orleans, Vierzon, Millau & Narbonne. An alternative route is via Rheims, Dijon, Lyon, Narbonne. From **Cherbourg or Le Havre** via Rouen, Evreux, Dreux, Orleans, Vierzon, Milau, Narbonne.

COACH TRANSFERS:

Prices can be provided for 55-seater or half-size coaches, to-from airports based on arrival at any one airport on the same flight. Taxis are always available but expensive. For guests flying out as a couple or singly, car hire is often cheaper though the airline they travel with.