

One of the elegant apartments at Chateau Le Carrasses. Below: Its spectacular exterior



CHÂTEAU LES CARRASSES, QUARANTE, FRANCE

In the Languedoc, the sunniest region in France, the restored 19th-century Château Les Carrasses is self-catering at its finest. Inside are 28 stylish suites, apartments and villas, each with a uniquely elegant, boutique feel. Whether you want a cosy weekend away *à deux*, or a classy hen do, Les Carrasses has it covered, from the infinity pool to the floodlit clay tennis court. Spend the days on long walks and bike rides with picnics (which you can book in advance). Come evening, if you don't fancy cooking, order in from the château kitchen, or wander up to the brasserie for the best of Mediterranean cuisine and a fruity vin rosé from its own vineyard.

Château Les Carrasses, Route de Capestang, 34310 Quarante, France; 0845 686 8067; lescarrasses.com. Doubles from £108, room only. [easyJet \(easyjet.com\)](http://easyjet.com) has return flights to Montpellier from London Gatwick, from around £95. Car hire with Rental Cars (rentalcars.com), from £35 per day.



HOT WEEKENDS

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THE CUTTLEFISH, MOUSEHOLE

In the lavender-scented hills of Mousehole, a sweet fishing village on the southernmost point of Cornwall, The Cuttlefish is an impossibly pretty, two-bedroom cottage. Owners Chris and Camilla, a former TV director and a producer who moved here from London, did up the cottage as their first foray into hospitality. Each detail feels personal, from the freshly picked lavender in vintage glass bottles, to the sea salt in jam jars of homemade, herb-infused bath scrub, which comes right from the nearby Cornish waters. Outside, there are stunning panoramic sea views and a three-tiered garden.

The Cuttlefish, 2 Treen Villas, Mousehole, Penzance TR19 6RH; 01872 553 491, boutique-retreats.co.uk. Sleeps four, £186pp for three nights. First Great Western Trains (gwr.com) operates from Paddington to Penzance from £52 return. Then just take a taxi to Mousehole.



The Cuttlefish's stylishly welcoming kitchen. Above: One of its calming bedrooms