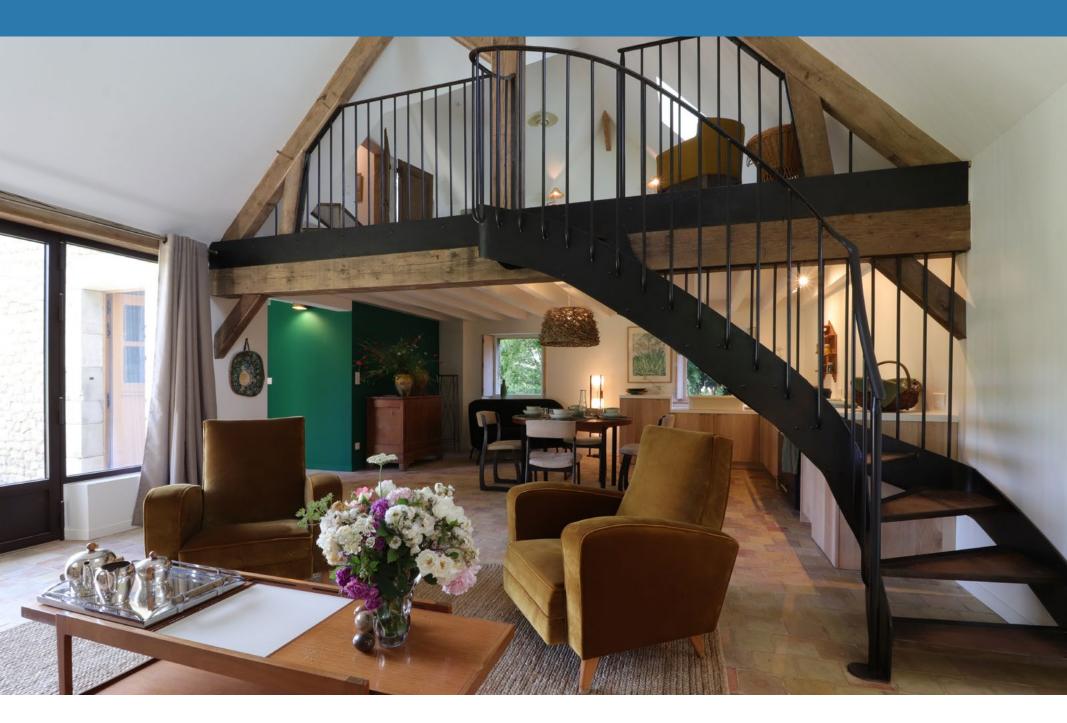
FRANCE

The 30 best self-catering stays in France

Fancy a rustic Provence retreat or a boho bolt hole on Île de Ré? James Stewart picks the best digs



La Petite Gaulardière, Perche-en-Nocé, Normandy

La Petite Gaulardière, Perche-en-Nocé

James Stewart | THURSDAY JANUARY 22 2022, The Times

Follow Paris's bobos (bohemian bourgeoisie) to the hills of Normandy's Le Perche: beautiful walks, fine food in the handsome market town of Bellême, treasure hunting in the flea markets of your dreams. Opened in August 2021 in the heart of the region, 10km from Bellême, this gîte in a private nature reserve strikes the right note of rustic cool, with mid-century modern style in an open-plan living area, a mezzanine bedroom and a pleasingly simple wooden bathroom. A hamper of local goodies welcomes you. Bikes are available to borrow. Details Seven nights' self-catering for three from £766 (lapetitegaulardiere.com). Take the train to Montparnasse

Voir l'article sur www.thetimes.co.uk

29 La Petite Gaulardière Normandy

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holiday ideas see







Travel 47



Fancy a rustic Provence retreat or boho digs on Île de Ré? James Stewart picks the best stays

IES Saturday January 22 2

Travel 45

Maison Bertiniere

46 Travel



I the the Prairie Brittany Ritary is busines with radioal store gives. These six farmstars on the Cdits of Armon, Pikm west of Saint-Bries, are not those. Its family owners have clarify spering a wedge converting accomposation — Jow those internal gauss walls — and then introducing a lowely mix of modern and vitage pieces, the uphol is a quiry Frenchenes that makes you feel as if you are storing with makes you feel as if you are storing with makes you feel as if you are storing with works on the store the storing with the store in the store of the store work of the store of the store works of the store of the store work of the store of the store of the the store to St Malo or ity to Bennes:

2 La Baraquette

2 La Baraquette Languedoc-Roussillon Canai-laced Stehas been shortlisted as France's Capital of Culture, and there's of us ving what a blow it is to those and the strain of the strain of the strain of us ving what a blow it is to those about the best working harbour in Mediterranean France. A former summer retreat, hillside La Baraquette puls you 15 minutes' walk from the seafood restaurants. It's bright and simple, a coastal bolt hole of whore life revolves amout the pool and diming terra chard. The summer you can watch the water-jousting competition on the canais. Details Seven nights' self-catering for four from SBM Gawdays.co.uk). Fly to Montpellier

3 Maison Merindot

5 PitalSOII (PECT INSERT Ile de Ré Life at Maison Merindot, deep within the cosy nest of Port de Saint-Martin, is meant to be sourced slowly-breakfasts in a courtyard, books in bohemian rooms styled by the interior-designer owner, artists' ateliers beyond the door. There's just time for lunch and a siesta before aperitifs and dinner beside the harbour. We howeven... except for the parking. Just time to future to the harbour. It's heaven... except for the parking. You should holiday as the French do, ditching the car in favour of bikes to tour the pancake-flat island. Details Seven night's self-catering for four from £1605 (simpsontravel.com). Fly to La Rochelle

4 Le Clos Colombier

4 Le Clos Colombier Dordogne Outside its the Dordogne of house-party dreams white butters and ity on 900-year-old walls. Within this new rental is 28t-century laid-back houry. Adults will low the crisp battmoons and a Gagenau kitchen as well appointed as you'd expect of an owner who runs a Michelin-star restrumnt (a catering team is available). Children will prefer the Bin pool and growining gardens. Understand the constraint of the star croisants in the nearest village. Veyrac. Images is a 20-minute drive. Details Seven right's self-catering for 16 from 62.8310 (sumpsofravel.com). Fy to Limoges

5 Quai d'Anjou III 6 Chalet Blanc Paris You can of course self-cater in the capital, and you want this lle de la Cité stay for pure Parisian romance. Think breakfasts on the Seine-side balcony reached through French windows; Most Alpine chalets are ersatz. This is the real deal: a restored 19th-century number in the Mont Blanc region that's equal measure cabin heaven and Interchants to the Semichaid failure productions to the Semichaid failure politial glamor in parquet floors and foxed-glass mirrors and a marble bathroom. Note-Dame and the Left Bank ten minutes away on foot. Smart architecture has maximised what is architecture has maximised what is studio by adding a smezzinite hedroom beneath the beams. Access to the buildings palace is via a private gate and contryant. Details Seven nights' self-catering for two people from E2.720 (the Eurostar

TOOON

mesaure cabin heaven and socially distanced getaway. Accessed by a five-minute walk (or sledge) from the car park, it styles up oid beams and store valls with a copper slipper balls in on suites. There's a hot tub among the trees. Planceters pite is 4.5km away. Willager Samt-Gervais-les-Bains is ten minist's self-calering for four from ELOS2 (dayonedegree.com). Phy to Lyono - Genera

S OF

Bonjour France!

It's good to be back

reach a horizon-stretching beach 3km away. Belle depoque Barneville-Carteret is 19km away. Details Seven nights' self-catering for six from £1,130 (snaptrip.com). Take the ferry to Cherbourg

8 Villa Serenity Provence

UVilla Bumortu, Corsie

8 Villa Serenity Provence There are date paths in the garden and vineyards beside the pool. VE 81 Tropez it is glamorous besi just Illim away. This beautiful six-bedroom house – trancota tiles, cau-de-all shutters, tables on a veranda – gives you the best of both works in Provence. Rusti-chi-pale gro-y-bine. Serenity indeed. At least init the children discover the latest addition – a treehouse and adventure play area. Details Seven night's self-catering for B form 64,750 Gayonedegree.com. Fy to Toulon-Hyères or Nice

9 Le Colombier

9 Le Colombier Tarm-et-Garonne Find French romance in this recently renovated divector in the Tarn valley, et al. (1990) and the target of the target of the weight of the target of the target of the restrict open-plan living above, reached year la startise, a canopied four-poster bed. Near by is Alh and more of the country of ficial" most beautiful vallages "than in any other region. But bet you spend you time around the spining something child as sunset light the surrounding hills. Details Seven night's self-catering for two from EG2 Owinagetravel.co.uk. Py to Toulouse

Fy to Toulouse 10 Villa Buronettu Conscient Villa Buronettu sa ill about ils conversation-stopping views. Dich those good interdions to read – whether by open-plan living arras with jelass walls vour attention is continually drawn over maguis-scrubbed hills to the sparking culi of Valino coast. You're right, its irresistible – the baech and restaurnats Offento are Skin away, lazzy Defails Sween night's self-catering for four home Tays, including flights and car hire (corsica.culu

11 Gil's Workshop Dordogne

Controller Given the second second second second second of rench romance (antique desk and chandlers) and moder finditus (a mart Art huiding: that retains a class of industria (a class value) second industria (a class value) second industria (a class value) second a terrace with a hot tub. The owner

go. This is a splendid choice for two-family holdsys, with a pair of hright self-contained houses that are close (but not too close). Between them is a saltwater pool with a care and waterfall, pulse a sum, all with progrous views. Yet the most luxurious offer here is freedom — children have a two-and-a-half-are estate to explore, plus the option of nights in a trevhouse and shepherd's hut.

off in 2020 after 14 years' renovation. Architectural extensions have introduced to its farmhouse the minimalist glamour of an interiors magazine shoot all shimmering glass and polished concrete against original stone walls. Accommodation is split between a house and a studio, sharing a pool. A private yoga instructor and mountain-bike guide are available. Junifully slow write? You are available. Junifully slow write? The inform 123 poly welcomebeyond.com). Fly to Marseilles or Grenoble shepherd's hut. Details Seven nights' self-catering for eight from £2,800 (oneoffplaces.co.uk). Fly to Béziers or Montpellier

13 Palais D'Or Loire 16 Château du Chevalier

Chateau du Chevatier Borged cutatins and enandilers in Swaged cutatins and enandilers in like in 54 arcs of grounds cheve. We could do with some scapism, sol ive out your Escape to the Onhaeu fantasies in his bits-century pad. The original stating, less other heated pool. If your sourg the search of the original stating, less other heated pool. If your proping is bager than 15, optional state building add apace for another 20. Desting Search anglet. State and the state of the search of the search of the state of the search of th 13 Patats D'Or Lotre The white-stone citadel (Cité Royale de Loches is a poster boy of the Indre-et-Loire region, and this newcomer does it proud. It's a genuine 18th-century palace placed among Lawns and orchards. You will wake in high-ceilinged bedrooms, dine beneath antique chandeliers and sit in front of crackling chandeliers and sit in front of crackling fires in a grand reception room. Don't worry: there's also table football and ping-pong for the youngesters, plus cycling and canceing near by. Fill the house and it's good value compared with Provence too. Di from E3.400 followerstravets.com). Pluton E3.400 followerstravets.com). Ply to Tours Val de Loire

14 The Provence Retreat

Provence You're deep in Peter Mayle territory here, just 3km from the dreamy Luberon village described in Al Year in Provence. Like his guff, it's an old farmhouse with terracotta floors in the kitchen, tables set beneath the pergola, a vinequ'at and low teress and fountains in the garden. This villa is also effortlessly

17 Maison des 17 Maison des Lavande Corbières This taky in Thezar-des-Corbières, inland from Narbonne, is Corbières life in Its sumy simplicity. Five pretty vintage besk, window kowes and balcony after a trip to the boulangerie around the corner. What more do you





glamorous bedrooms and a daily maid service. There's also a turret retreat and agames room for children, plus a L2m heated pool in acress of garden. Oxtside is the Gers, the thinking person's alternative to the Dordogne, La Romies 'lillinge is from multes' drive away. Details Seven night's self-catering for 12 from ES282 (purefrance.com). Fly to Toulouse

19 Maison Tarrisse

HOSSEGOT You're here for Europe's California — surf beaches stretching to infini

