

Châteaude la Messardière Hôtel & Spa \*\*\*\* Saint-Tropez PALACE



Press Eile



# Welcome to the Château de la Messardière

For more than 25 years, we have happily and proudly welcomed guests to our current establishment between April and October. A peaceful haven, it supports the arts and spans the centuries with an opulence that never fades. From year to year, we have raised our standards to the highest level. Expansion, creation, renovation and innovation have resulted in the excellence of a quiet, authentic luxury hotel.

We continuously seek the best ways to offer our guests an unforgettable stay worthy of the château. We offer fragrances specifically chosen for us by the perfumer Blaise Mautin, for instance, who drew inspiration from his walks in our tenhectare park.

As the years went by, a similar road led me to forge closer ties between the château and the grounds. Thus, for three years our bees have produced honey that we offer with our cheese platter at the restaurant. And our centuries-old olive trees, and the olive grove specially planted on the hillside above our pond, where a pair of white swans reign, yield a quality oil we gift to our long-staying guests. More recently, the exquisite memory of acacia blossom fritters—a speciality by our Executive Chef Pierrick Berthier—and the climb to the hotel with its mimosas (scientific name, 'acacia') prompted me to rename our gourmet restaurant L'Acacia as a way of combining a quest for meaning and a quest for the extraordinary.

That quest introduced me to different cultures at a very young age, bringing me to Italy, the Middle East and North Africa. It was strengthened early in my career at distinguished hotels in Paris and, later, London. In 1991, I took up a new challenge: structuring the Château de la Messardière, which had opened a year before. This was supposed to be a "temporary" job, but I ended up staying in here, in an environment that is constantly regenerating, given the hotel's seasonal nature. Since 2010 I have been the Managing Director of this prestigious hotel, helping to make it grow and thrive. Married and with three grown-up daughters, I am passionate in my desire to enthral our guests and make the estate a shining beacon. The Palace distinction bestowed in June 2012 rewarded the determination of myself and my co-workers' to see the Château de la Messardière join the ranks of France's most prestigious internationally-recognised hotels. I enjoy being involved in many different tasks: supervising and supporting my teams (as many as 180 people in high season); launching many renovation projects to ensure the comfort of guests; looking after our guests throughout their stay; and introducing ground-breaking concepts such as the Messardière Summer Novel Prize, which started in 2011. Since early 2013 I have been president and artistic director of the "Société Tropézienne des Amis de la Musique", which organises classical music recitals in Saint-Tropez in spring and autumn. I am also a huge supporter of humanitarian organisation "Tidène-Wells of the Desert" that helps people in northern Niger. This is an issue close to my heart, especially since making a wonderful linguistic discovery that sums up the road I've travelled: the word 'mai' means "water" in classical Arabic—and "life" in Provençal.

Enjoy your stay at the Château de la Messardière.

**Alexandre Durand-Viel** Managing Director

# A jewel at the heart of Saint-Tropez

The Château de la Messardière overlooks Saint-Tropez, perched on top of a hill.

The Var's biggest five-star hotel has earned the "Palace" distinction,

contributing to the renown of this legendary village.



A stunning location, a pristine setting, luxurious amenities and bespoke service mean the Château de la Messardière is unrivalled among luxury hotels.

A demanding international clientele, uninterested in soulless hotels, regularly stays at this exceptional home to rest and relax.

These historic venues are steeped in a quiet, bright atmosphere.

#### The sun of Provence

Beneath a sun that shines more than 300 days a year, the Var abounds with beauty at every turn: abundant nature with more than 400 km of coastline, a contrasting and majestic hinterland, a rich historical and cultural heritage and an enviable art of living.

Ideally located between Monaco and Provence, the Château de la Messardière is three minutes from the beaches of Pampelonne and the heart of Saint-Tropez.

The most beautiful locations in Provence are less than 130 kilometres away and can be seen in a day.

To the east: La Croisette in Cannes, Nice and its promenade, Monaco and its casino.

To the west: Aix-en-Provence, the Cassis coves, etc.

To the north: the Upper Var, the Verdon Gorges, Thoronet Abbey and more.



# La Messardière, château of light

The narrow, winding road ends at the majestic gate. Then, a long drive lined by shimmering flowerbeds takes you to the heart of the estate. The silence is broken only by birds at this preserved refuge as the hum of Saint-Tropez fades away.

In the eternal heat, every spot at the Château de la Messardière affords the most beautiful views of the Gulf of Saint-Tropez, vineyards of Ramatuelle and beaches of Pampelonne.



The château, an authentic 19th-century home, was restored and extended in 1989. Turrets, cupolas, vaults and colonnades enhance the light, shape the space and underscore the power of this architecture with harmonious perspectives without altering the charm and character of a bygone era.

Today it is a Mediterranean-style hotel in the heart of a 10-hectare pine grove. Its walls reflect bright nuances.

The ochre tones of Provence rival the azure blue of the sky and the velvety coolness of the rooms turns the burning rays of the sun into a comfortable glow.

Over the years, a subtle marriage of styles emerged, with wrought-iron scrollwork, Carrara marble, terra cotta, an English bar, Art Deco inspirations and Florentine flourishes.



# Suites and rooms with a view

The 57 suites and 60 guest rooms have private terraces or gardens, offering guests magic little moments, such as in the morning when they enjoy sublime views over a delicious breakfast.





Located in the château or on the estate, the suites and guest rooms are available in ten sizes, ranging from 25m<sup>2</sup> à 65 m<sup>2</sup>.

All are extremely comfortable and offer outstanding amenities.

The most beautiful suites have complimentary services.





The hotel's character is reflected in the carefully designed décor of terra cotta, lava stone, silky fabrics, plush embroidered terry-cloth, and the olfactory signature created by perfumer Blaise Mautin.



# The Château cuisine

# Pierrick Berthier, Executive Chef

Lightness and a spirit of subtlety are the key ingredients this year in the gourmet restaurant L'Acacia. New chef Pierrick Berthier is reinvigorating the Château de la Messardière kitchens.

From Saint Malo to Saint Tropez by way of Corsica and the snowy slopes of Courchevel – with more than twenty years as head chef in a host of Relais & Châteaux and luxury hotels under his belt, Pierrick Berthier has now taken to the helm at Château de la Messardière; a château that has a special place in his heart.

This season, Executive Chef Berthier is bringing a new vitality to L'Acacia restaurant. The spirit is simple, delicate and light, expressing a desire to stir the senses with flavourful and attractive ingredients that showcase the best of local produce.

Kitchen Chef Kevin Altier and Pastry Chef Thomas Civalleri bring added expertise to the new team, preparing to take the château's culinary accomplishments to new heights. A great team with a passion for fine food!

Berthier brings a modern interpretation to traditional dishes in the menu he has created for the coming season at L'Acacia gourmet restaurant. The chef also adds dishes inspired by that morning's visit to the market, serving diners the very best of local ingredients throughout the season.





"Join us for dinner and enjoy simple, sophisticated cuisine and a wonderful culinary experience"



# Restaurants & Bar

#### L'Acacia

Colour, transparency, materials and light reveal a space that is luxurious but not showy, sophisticated but low-key.

This theatrical and classic, contemporary yet timeless décor emanates all the personality of the Château de la Messardière.

Several influences, including Art Deco, Art Nouveau, Venice, Florence and contemporary design, contribute to the lavish décor, details and atmosphere. The restaurant boasts a panoramic terrace with views of the Pampelonne beaches and the Ramatuelle vineyards.



These à la carte suggestions are also available two set-price menus accompanied by lovely little surprises:

Mimosa Menu: The Flavour of Provence – four courses: €80 Tasting Menu: Sharing My Favourites – seven courses: €120

## A list of over 300 wines and champagnes

Each year our Head Sommelier introduces us to new wines and the treasures of our cellar, which boasts over 300 wines, combining innovation with great classics.



## **Open Air**

Enjoy a gourmet lunch next to the spacious reflecting pool. On the menu: the catch of the day, grilled meats, salads, club sandwiches, pasta and the chef's suggestions accompanied by a glass of elegant Provence rosé are served from 12:30 to 4:00 pm. Try our delicious homemade pastries at tea time.

#### The château bar

The delightful prelude to a lovely evening, the aperitif hour is a time for sharing enjoyable moments.

Meet friends in the refined, very English library room.

Give in to the temptation of delicious cocktails while comfortably ensconced on the bar's terrace, soaking up the soothing atmosphere of a warm, starry night.





# The Valmont & Cinq Mondes Spa

The Château de la Messardière, which enjoys a long-standing reputation with well-informed guests as the height of

sophisticated Saint-Tropez luxury, has become a fully-fledged wellness destination with its 465m<sup>2</sup> spa.

Tucked away at the heart of the hotel, "it looks as though it's always been there," comment Château regulars, delighted at discovering this magnificent wellness space.

There is no room for flashy luxury here. The very spacious spa reflects the "bespoke" craftsmanship of the finest artisans with ceilings letting in shafts of light, Versailles oak parquet floors, stained glass, wrought-iron scrollwork, vaults and colonnades in dressed stone, paving in white Croatian stone, mosaics and more.





Bathed in natural light, opening out onto a magnificent Italian garden, the spa invites nature into this world of serenity.

A relaxation area shares this space.

The relaxation area has a counter-current swimming pool, Jacuzzi, men's steam bath with showers and a locker room, women's steam bath with showers and a locker room and a fitness room with cardio and Technogym weight-training machines.

Gentle facials, body treatments, massages, manicures and pedicures are offered in the spa's three treatment rooms: the Thai massage room, the mixed treatment room with steam bath and the manicure and pedicure room.

The spa offers a range of treatments in partnership with famous cosmetic brands **Valmont** and **Cinq Mondes**, offering guests the best facial and massage treatments from around the world.

Valmont has specially created *Soleil de la Messardière*, an exclusive 90-minute treatment to soothe and regenerate the skin of the face and neckline weakened by prolonged exposure to the sun.



# The artistic soul of the château

For years the Château de la Messardière has been a showcase for painting, sculpture, classical music, literature, film and other arts with Managing Director Alexandre Durand-Viel nurturing many artistic talents.

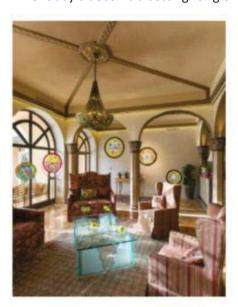
#### Victoire de la Messardière, honoured artist

It's only natural for Montpellier-based artist Victoire de la Messardière to exhibit her work in her ancestors' château.

This eclectic, multi-talented artist expresses her passion in a variety of media, including pastel, collage, oil on canvas and wood, fabrics, trimmings and stained glass.

The walls of the château's guest rooms and lobby are decorated with many works of art, including some based on Oswald Wirth's tarot cards.

The lobby's décor is a setting for glowing stained-glass windows.



## The sculpture garden

Sumptuous evocations of femininity, Jean-Philippe Richard's female sculptures have been brightening up the château's bar and restaurant for several years.

Dazzled by the ten-hectare landscaped park, the artist invited his "beautiful demoiselles".

Twelve enigmatic young women line the paths of the grounds, tucked away here and there in the nooks of this verdant setting.

# The Messardière Summer Novel Prize: an original, unusual award

This literary adventure launched in 2011 involves books from many publishers.

The prize is awarded to a French novel published in the spring.

While most major literary prizes are handed out in autumn,

this one is awarded just in time for summer, a season for leisure and pleasure reading.

The jury singles out a work of escapist popular fiction

in any genre: romance, adventure, travel, exoticism, etc.

#### A passion for classical music

The management of the Château de la Messardière is pursuing its partnership with classical music this year and investing in prestigious events.

The hotel invites its guests to share the emotions elicited by classical music by offering them VIP tickets to various festivals, including the Société Tropézienne des Amis de la Musique and Musicales de Grimaud all year round and Les Nuits Classiques de Ramatuelle and Les Nuits du Château de la Moutte in summer. Since 2013, Managing Director Alexandre Durand-Viel

has been president of the Société Tropézienne des Amis de la Musique and, as its music director, organises the Festival de Printemps de Saint-Tropez and the Automne Musical de Saint-Tropez, participating in the cultural life of Saint-Tropez.



# **Sports & Leisure**

#### Golf

Gassin Golf Country Club, Beauvallon Golf Club, Golf Blue Green Sainte-Maxime: three 18-hole golf courses less than 10 km from the Château de la Messardière.

## The Messardiere Golf Cup: joy on the green!

More than 1000 participants are expected across all of the prestigious rounds of the Messardiere Golf Cup, Race to Saint-Tropez 2015.

What inspired this project?

A very simple observation: Saint-Tropez had the potential to become a key destination in a flourishing segment of the market (golfers) that had yet to be properly tapped into by the Mediterranean city.

The third 'Messardiere Golf Cup, Race to Saint-Tropez' Circuit is already well-known outside of France by a host of top-flight international golfers, particularly Europe and Asia.

Running between April and October, this unique circuit of amateur competitions comprises around 30 individual competitions, which all bear the label of the event title sponsor, Château de la Messardière.

Who is the competition aimed at?

All amateur golfers from France or abroad having signed up to one or more qualifying rounds on the circuit.

# **Tennis**

The Saint-Tropez Tennis Club, Centre Pierre Philippot, is located on Route des Plages, eight minutes from the Château de la Messardière. It offers eight courts, including five with synthetic surfaces and three GreenSet-type hard surfaces.

Our Concierge team will be delighted to book a court for you.

The hardcourts are €20 an hour and the synthetic surface courts €25 an hour.

A Club House and changing rooms are at your disposal. Our Concierges may also schedule you a lesson with a qualified instructor for €70 an hour.



#### The Tropézina beach: the Château's partner beach

#### Guest beach

Beneath the window of your room unfurls a magical coastline with rocky outcrops contrasting with sandy beaches. Welcome to the legendary Pampelonne Bay!

The private Tropézina Beach—a Château de la Messardière partner—nestles dreamlike on the shore, playing host to our guests in the summer months.

This incredible natural space is envied the world over. Cape Camarat and Cape Pinet mark out the peninsula's most prized assets: the sea in myriad shades of blue, fringed with deep pine forests and proud vineyards. Four kilometres of fine sand glitter languorously in the sun in a landscape more beautiful than a postcard. Since the 1950s, holidaymakers from around the world have been flocking to this paradise to enjoy the seaside charms in a relaxing or party spirit, depending on their mood.

A few hundred metres from the hotel and a two-minute drive, the Tropézina Beach in the quaint neighbourhood of Pinet encapsulates the Pampelonne magic with a little added extra: abundant Mediterranean vegetation in immediate proximity, forming an actual sea garden! The private Château de la Messardière shuttle allows guests to travel there as and when they please, without worrying about the journey or traffic. Château towels are available for your comfort. There is also the option to sign for your beverages. It's time to dive deep into your holidays!



## Committed to nature

#### A charter to reconcile luxury with respect for the environment

Château de la Messardière Management believes that luxurious services should neither waste precious resources nor create excessive pollution.

In 2010 they drafted an environmental charter to better preserve the château's magnificent setting.

The charter defines the actions under way to encourage ever-more responsible behaviour and describes the few simple gestures guests can make during their stay to contribute. The steps taken have many benefits. The combination of luxury and respect for the environment ensures the lasting comfort of guests now and in future generations.

#### The water: a haven of peace

Designed as a wildlife reserve, the pond perpetuates the commitment with the Ligue pour la Protection des Oiseaux (LPO/Bird Life International) that led to the introduction of swans, ducks and fish in the water.

Guests love walking on the trails of this refuge, which was laid out for ecological reasons and the enjoyment of all.





The château's honey

The grounds' biodiversity, made up mainly of local species and plants, including many melliferous ones, combined with the avoidance of insecticides and pesticides, which are very harmful to bees, mean that the château's hives produce quality honey, a symbol of its managers' respect.

The meticulously jarred honey is given to guests for their personal enjoyment during their stay and as a little going-away gift.

It is also on the menu of the gourmet restaurant L'Acacia.



# Services and Information

Opening period: April to October

#### **Reception and personalisation**

The "Golden Keys" Head Concierge and his co-workers meet guests' every need to organise tailor-made days and unforgettable nights.

They also handle all the necessary bookings (flights, cars, etc.)

#### A 10-hectare park

The relaxing, subtly-scented Mediterranean park has been beautifully laid out with botanical trails. Pine, mimosa, cypress, palm, olive and boxwood trees receive tender loving care that protects the environment.

The Château de la Messardière is the only hotel in France with the official Bird Life International refuge label.

## A heated reflecting swimming pool

The big 24m x 12m swimming pool and its solarium overlook the Bay of Saint-Tropez. White mattresses and parasols, sofas and wide armchairs beckon guests to relax and take it easy.

#### Tropézina Beach

Guests who feel like doing nothing more than stretching out and loafing around enjoy this beautiful beach of golden sand and its restaurant several hundred metres from the hotel.

#### Shuttle and free Wi-Fi

A 24-hour shuttle whisks guests to the beach and to the centre of Saint-Tropez in three minutes. The Wi-Fi is self-service and easy to connect to at Château de la Messardière. These services are very popular with guests.

#### **Room Service**

With round-the-clock room service, anything from light snacks to full-course meals is available in less than 20 minutes.

## **Reception and seminar rooms**

The château has 650m² dedicated to events and business tourism.

The Canebiers Room, bathed in natural light and extended by a huge terrace overlooking the gardens and the Gulf of Saint-Tropez, is a wonderful setting for unique, exceptional events.

# **Affiliations and Certifications**





















