# Welcome to The Domaine de Vincenti "Sweeten your life"



## Vincenti, at the gates of Provence: for memorable moments with your family, friends or business retreats in all seasons.



Bernard & Brigitte de Valence and their children welcome you to the Domaine de Vincenti, our family estate for four centuries



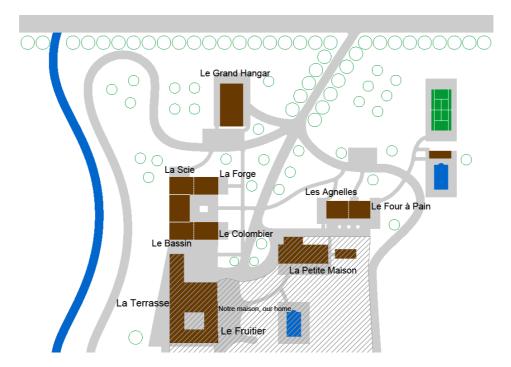
**Our estate**: Our parents, Etienne and Marie-Thérèse de Valence acquired Vincenti in the early sixties. For several centuries, it had been the Girardon's and their predecessors' country estate, our ancestors on our mother's side. Our parents were farmers, and they had profoundly modernized the old activities of the domain. They were producing fruits, wheat and hay. There were also a chicken farm and a large folk of sheep, for raising the famous lambs of the Drôme.

Since that time, farming techniques have again thoroughly evolved, and the large rural buildings gradually became unoccupied. We had the opportunity to completely restore them and to install several vacation villas in addition to our own residence. Some of these buildings are very old, but most of the present exterior volumes date from the second half of the 19th century. Originally, these buildings served as stables, barns, sheep pens..., and the local farmer's and our ancestors' residences.

As we restored these houses, our objective was to open our estate to families, groups of friends, business gatherings, in a beautiful, simple, and serene atmosphere. In all the arrangements we made, we have focused on creating comfortable environments, in harmony with the natural beauty of the Drôme Valley. We wish to offer you an elegant setting, with « pure and simple » decoration, plenty of light and open spaces, with attention on quality.

The park, with its century-old trees, is open to the vast surrounding countryside and it has been arranged to convey a peaceful, spacious and well-tended atmosphere, where everyone will feel in close touch with nature.

You will find hereunder more detailed explanations, preparing you for a great stay in Vincenti.



When you arrive, open the main gate with the security code, which protects the park.

**The Grand Hangar** (**the Large Barn**) will be on your right. It shelters a covered playground, firewood and the farm equipment of the estate.

Next, on your right will be a group of two buildings, separated by a courtyard and a barn with ancient stone columns. The first large building has two villas, **La Forge and La Scie.** The next building has again two villas: **Le Colombier and le Bassin.** 

On your left is a third large building, with two villas: Le Four à Pain and Les Agnelles.

At the end of the driveway, one finds on the left, **The Petite** *Maison.* 

And straight ahead, La Grande Maison sits behind a second iron gate, with our residence, its additions and La Terrasse and Le Fruitier.











**Your arrival**: before your trip to Vincenti, we will send you detailed directions to reach us. You can also find us on Google Maps, at "Domaine de Vincenti, 897 Route de Grâne, Divajeu". Unless otherwise agreed upon, we expect you to arrive in Vincenti between 4 and 7pm. Please let us know your approximate check-in time and call us about 45 minutes before your arrival, so we can be ready to personally welcome you.

Once we have introduced you to your villa and the estate, we will finalize the formalities of your stay.

*Your villa*: It offers you maximum comfort, with a large living and dining room, elegantly flowered, a fully equipped kitchen, which opens to the living area. You will find a TV, a home cinema, Wi-Fi... Plenty of firewood is available if you wish to build a fire in your fireplace or make a campfire outside, under the stars.

A half bathroom and a laundry room with washer, dryer and iron are also located on the ground floor.

Depending on the configuration of the villa you have rented, there are 3 to 7 bedrooms and 2, 3, 4 or 5 bathrooms with at least one attached. Most bedrooms can be configured with 2 single beds or a king-sized double bed. When you arrive, your beds will be ready with comfortable duvets. Additional blankets will be available in your closets. Fresh towels are also

provided in each bedroom. Highchairs and baby beds are also available.

*Outside, your villa is equipped with patio furniture, low* armchairs, and (except in winter), a fire pit and a gas barbecue. In summer, we add one or two umbrellas. The villa of the "Four à Pain" also includes a working traditional wood-burning bread oven.











Page **6** of **10** 

The interior decoration is simple and elegant, with plenty of light. Most of the old furniture comes from the Poor Sisters of St Claire's monastery in Lyon. We acquired them from the sisters when they merged their community with the one in Crest in 2007. They carry with them the heritage of the joyful and frugal monastic tradition of St Francis and St Claire of Assisi. <u>We kindly</u> <u>ask you to keep the interior furniture (chairs, tables,</u>

stools ...) <u>and household linen (</u>duvets, blankets, pillows...) <u>inside your villa.</u>

Upon your arrival in Vincenti, you will find a small supply of basic products in your villa, such as laundry and dishwasher detergent, soap, shampoo etc. As you settled in, you will be able to buy more of these items at the local supermarket. To ensure that your villa is perfectly clean, we do not keep any food products in the kitchen: remember then to bring your salt and pepper!

**Shopping**: You will find everything you need in Crest, less than 3 kilometers from Vincenti: 3 supermarkets, bookshops, bakeries, wine shops, butchers, a post office, fruit & vegetable

shops, organic food, hairdressers, pharmacies, doctors, gas, coffee shops... Every Tuesday and <u>mostly Saturday</u> <u>mornings</u>, are market day in Crest. Do not miss the one on Saturday! These traditional and picturesque markets will give you the opportunity you to meet local farmers and producers, and discover their goat cheese, fruits, vegetables, garlic, wine, olive oil, wood-oven baked bread... as well as their warm southern French accent.

#### The pools and the tennis court and the pétanque ball court:

There are 2 pools:

- The pool for La Forge, La Scie, Le Colombier, Le Bassin, Le Four à Pain and Les Agnelles. This 8 x 14 m pool is open from May 1st to September 30th.
- The pool for La Petite Maison, La Terrasse, Le Fruitier and our residence. This 6 x 12 m pool is heated at 25° and is open from May 1st till September 30th.

We gratefully ask you to bring your own pool towels. When you arrive in Vincenti and if your pool is open, we will ask you to read and sign the pool charter, and we will give you a personal access key. <u>Always maintaining perfect pool security is an absolute must.</u>

The tennis court is equipped with a training wall and a basketball net. Thank you for taking all your personal belongings with you when you have finished playing. As a matter of courtesy, if several guests wish to play, please only occupy the tennis court for one hour at a time. A registration board is available on the door of the supply room, next to the

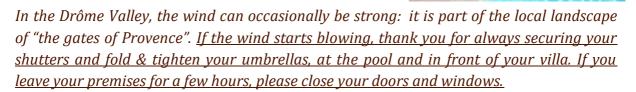




court. Bring your own tennis balls & rackets. A well-tended pétanque ball court is also available on the estate.

<u>*A few recommendations</u>: Here are now a few important suggestions to make the best of your stay:</u>* 

Upon arrival, we will explain to you the security guidelines for your pool area, if it is opened. Thank you for making sure that your family, friends and visitors scrupulously respect them: we must all team up to guarantee the perfect safety of this space for young children.



During the hot summer days, if you want to keep your villa cool, simply close your windows and partly close the shutters. In the evening, to prevent insects from entering your rooms, simply keep the windows closed until the lights are switched off.

In cooler seasons, if you wish to use the living-room fireplace, <u>open the latch of the chimney</u>. Once the fire is completely off and the ashes are cold, close the latch to conserve energy. Always keep the fire-grid in front of the fire to prevent sparks from flying into the living area.



Without imposing too many constraints, we would like you to follow these guidelines:

- Thank you for not smoking inside your villa, at the tennis court and at the pool.
- To keep your villa absolutely clean, we do not accept animals.
- <u>Thank you for keeping your cars, aligned, on one of the parking's</u>, to maintain the in the serenity of the park. Drive carefully to ensure the children's safety.
- Do not recharge your car in Vincenti. Recharging stations are available in Crest.
- Containers are available for bagged ordinary trash, just outside the main entrance gate. For recycling, we provide special bins. The drop-off points will be indicated to you. We also have special containers for compost and ashes.
- Do not use the outside the interior furniture and the household linen.
- In the evening, before going to bed, be sure to switch off all of the exterior lights, on both sides of your villa.
- <u>Thank you for not using external speakers outside or at the pool. After 10pm,</u> <u>respect the site's exterior quietness and calm.</u>

**Your departure:** Unless otherwise agreed upon, check-out is planned between 8:30 and 9:30 am, with departure before 10:00 am. On Sundays and public holidays, check-out is planned between 4:30 and 5:30 pm, with departure before 6 pm. On the day of your departure, we will quickly check with you the condition of your villa and the respect of our "departure checklist" before returning your safety deposit.

*Here is some advice on how to prepare your departure to simplify and speed up the checkout process:* 

- Perform a quick clean-up of your villa to leave it like your own home. Make sure you do not forget anything and leave it in good condition.
- Undo your beds and fold your bedsheets and your towels at the bed's foot.
- Take all your remaining food with you, as we will not keep it.
- *Empty all your trash cans, including the bathrooms' ones and the recycling.*
- Empty your dishwasher, the kitchen's sink and return all tableware, kitchen utensils to their original place.
- If you moved some furniture around, reorganize the villa the way you found it.
- Make sure you have returned the two sets of keys and (in season) the pool's one.

#### <u>Security</u>:

### In case of an emergency, call **112**, and precisely spell our address: <u>Domaine de</u> <u>Vincenti, 897 Route de Grâne, Divajeu, Drôme</u>.

- A fire extinguisher is located in or near the laundry room or the back-kitchen. A smoke detector is located upstairs in the corridor, near the bedrooms. If a false alarm starts (in case something burns in the kitchen or the fireplace is smoking), simply open the windows for a few minutes to renew the air. The alarm will stop.
- The electrical panel and the main power switch for your villa sit in your laundry room, or in the back-kitchen (Colombier) or in the Private Reserve (Petite Maison). Let us know if something is not functioning properly.
- For the pool: <u>strictly follow the security guidelines for the pool area. No exceptions</u> <u>will be authorized.</u>
- Drive carefully when coming in and out of the property: cars drive fast on the main road.
- Please make sure your kids do not play on the wood pile or on the farm equipment parked under the barn
- A small stream, the Rif-Noir, flows down the hill, on the west side of the estate. It is not dangerous for older children. Keep an eye on your younger ones if they want to explore this area.

#### Our mobile phone numbers are:

- Laure-Astrid Vulin : +33 6 32 94 12 27
- <u>Brigitte de Valence</u> : +33 6 23 42 34 25
- Bernard de Valence : +33 6 73 43 91 52
- In case of absolute necessity, our guardian, Nathan Gueffier: + 33 6 07 66 63 34

#### Medical emergencies and pharmacies:

- <u>Medical emergencies</u>: Hôpital de Crest, Quartier Mazorel Nord, 26400 Crest Tel: +33 4 75 25 37 00.
- <u>Medical emergencies requiring a specialist</u>: Centre Hospitalier de Valence, 179 Boulevard Maréchal Juin, 26000 Valence - Tel: +33 4 75 75 75.
- <u>Pharmacies</u>: several are available nearby, in Crest, Grâne and Allex. In Crest, the most practical one (parking) is the Pharmacie Centrale, 7 Rue Lieutenant Michel Prunet.

<u>The surrounding region</u>: The Drôme Valley is at the Gate of Provence. It enjoys 2400 hours of sun per year, versus 1630 in Paris, 1460 in London, 1585 in Brussels and about 1550 in Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Frankfurt, and Zurich.

The Drôme River flows down the valley and its water is very clean, allowing excellent water games and kayak rides in warm weather. The Domaine of Vincenti is in the countryside and the pace of life there is tranquil and peaceful, giving you the opportunity to enjoy a wonderful time, even by simply staying on-site.

But there are also numerous hikes, from easy to challenging, available close by or further away in the wilderness. The Pre-Alps, the Vercors Mountains, and the Forest of Saoû offer unlimited opportunities.

For the sports oriented, the area offers many other possibilities: jogging, mountain hiking, rock climbing, biking, horseback riding, kayaking, acrobranching, via-ferrata...



Local Tourist office website: http://www.mairie-crest.fr/-L-office-de-tourisme-.html

*Visits, gastronomy and wines*: Right in Crest, discover the spectacular medieval tower, which has dominated the city for over 900 years and offers exceptional panoramic views of the valley.

The Drôme is full of charming old villages, often perched on hilltops, with their ancient streets, local artisans, bistros, and small restaurants.

Our region offers enchanting and varied landscapes: colorful rural plains and valleys, vineyards, lavender fields, fruit and truffle tree plantations, hills and wild mountains with Provencal accents, which are beautiful in all seasons.

Within a radius of 15 to 60 kms, visit the famous and extensive wine country of the Côte du Rhône: Clairette de Die, Crozes-Hermitage, Cornas, Saint-Joseph... tasteful Provencal wines from Nyons and Grignan have been produced since the Roman times...



Welcome to Vincenti!

Bernard & Brigitte