



ONSCOLOMBE

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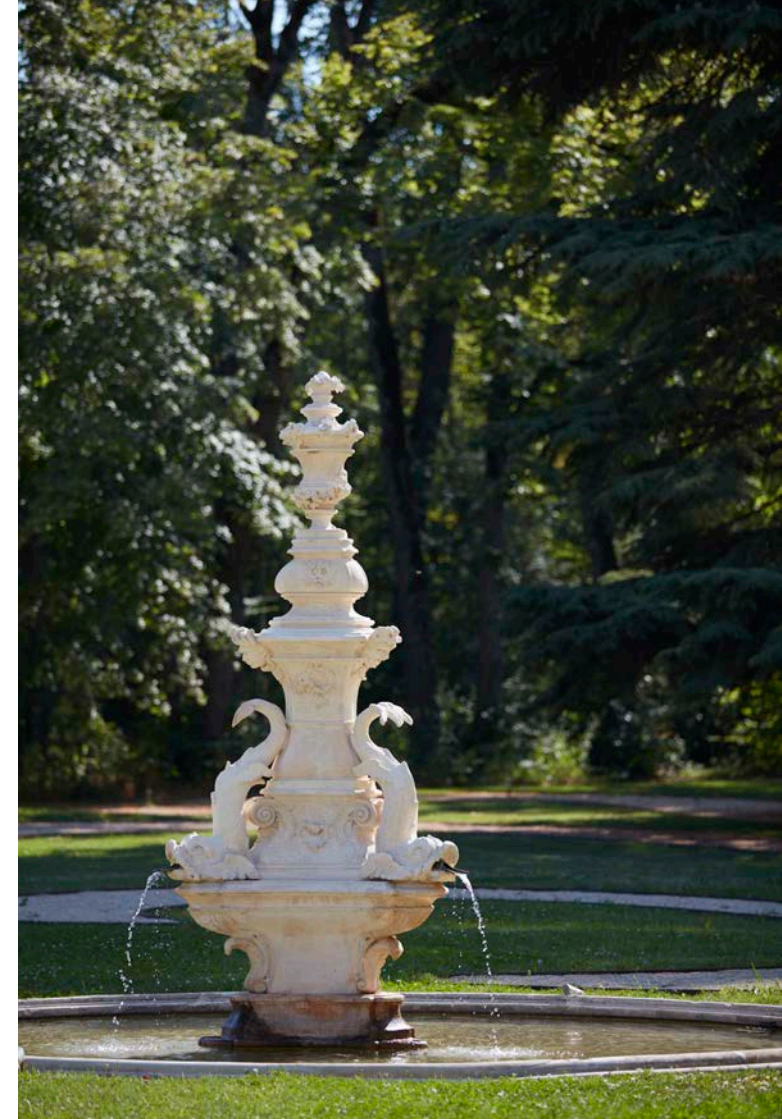




Chateau de Fonscolombe

Relais & Châteaux

18th century castle in the heart of Provence, Fonscolombe brings to life 3 centuries of French History. A family home accustomed to good spirits, where the soul and stories make time stop. Cherishing the French 'Art de Vivre', celebrating the good life, the hotel enables one to disconnect and dream.



The story of rebirth

A PLACE LOADED WITH HISTORY

Fonscolombe tells the story of a castle in Provence. Hidden between the Saint Victoire mountain nearby, and the Mont Ventoux, near to Aix-en-Provence.

Located around the crossing of vineyards and along a magical path of Lebanon cedars. Behind the gate of the castle, a building built around 1730, former home to great families of humanists, and classified as a Historic Monument.

Trader of fabrics in Aix-en-Provence, and a supplier to the King, the first owner, Boyer de Fonscolombe, lived inside the walls 5 months a year. “A life enabling to encounter educated people and scientists,” says Patrick Monnerais, “the chief historian” of the House. A life of commerce and exchange, where half of the village ran around the Quattrocento building.



BOTANICAL ART

Succeeding Boyer, the Marquis Gaston de Saporta brought to the Castle the magic of botanicals. It is he who mounted greenhouses, drawing a French Garden bordering the entrance of the castle and launching with industry experts a true research laboratory. Friend of Rabelais, he also became a faithful correspondent of Charles Darwin and succeeded in bringing more than 180 species of trees and plants from all over the world.

Around the 12-hectare park, the grounds and woods take guests on a protected promenade, the cicadas singing in the distance. One can encounter vestiges, an obelisk, an old reviving pond. Rare species of protected birds and bats have even been recorded, too.

A UNIQUE RESTAURATION

Fully exposed, the Château de Fonscolombe was the subject of a major restoration project in 2015 to preserve the heritage and soul of the place. A project initiated by Hélène Martel-Massignac, mother of the current owner Lorène Martel, who will be unveiled after 18 months of work.

In 2018, Château de Fonscolombe becomes a member of the prestigious Relais & Châteaux network. It is now part of 2L Collection, a gathering of luxury hotels (Le Château d’Audrieu and Hotel Cinq Codet) to the soul traveler celebrating the French Art de Vivre.



Castle Life

THE QUATTROCENTO STYLE

With its Italian-style Quattrocento facade, its row of balconies and tall windows, the Château de Fonscolombe foreshadows its construction in 1730 before the Renaissance. Discovering its backyard, Fonscolombe reveals its French garden, framed by two doves with green glazed tiles. On one of them, an inscription “CARPE DIEM” perfectly summarising the state of mind of the House.

In the gardens, the statues of the four seasons celebrate nature. Lying on the old outbuildings, Bacchus, the Roman god of wine, occupies the basin.

A SIGNED WORK

Château de Fonscolombe has been conceived as a vast family home where each space keeps its confidentiality. The spirit infused by the Martel family has been translated by a few signatures of architecture and interior designers among which Corrado Giulu Morghen (Fabrica Traceorum), heritage architect who has worked on many listed buildings and ancient gardens (the Nice Orthodox Cathedral, the Esterine Museum in Saint-Rémy-de-Provence), architect Vincent Bastie associated with Arnaud Behzadi and Cathy Crinon (Artefak).



HISTORICAL SALONS

At the top of the steps, the Château de Fonscolombe opens on History. On the first floor, grand piano and eighteenth-century crystal chandelier display the style of the house, elegant and authentic. The medallions on the walls make the angels speak, and introduce the historic salons of the house, where were organised many receptions, all furnished with original or minted pieces.

In the Grand Salon, the walls are covered with Genoa leather and Provençal ceilings, chandeliers and doorframes are the work of local artisans. Taking the time to discover the perfect winter lounge for a private meeting, a lounge also made for children, the Chinese living room with eighteenth-century tapestries hand painted in China, a writing room, with another additional room dedicated to billiards and relaxing in front of the fire. The secret library offers a view of the chapel and is the ideal place to isolate yourself, read a novel, dream ...



SLEEPING AT THE CHÂTEAU

By the Great Staircase are discovered the Suites of the Castle. The décor is inspired by Grand Classique tapestries with royal motifs or Toile de Jouy, carved woodwork, rare and silky fabrics, the Suites are spacious with dress floor tiles, and have large bathrooms in wood and marble, some with standing bathtubs ...

In the outbuildings, the Castle holds 37 rooms of different categories, most of them overlooking the park or the gardens, and all thought through in the same elegance, the canopy for the romantic touch, headboards for the artisan spirit. Behind their veil, the baths are in their own alcoves.

Sign of the good manners of the house, no classic display “do not disturb” is available. Tranquility is offered through poetry thanks to handkerchiefs to hang on the door announcing, “let us dream”.



The cuisine of The Orangerie

The main restaurant of the hotel, the Orangerie, former courtyard of the castle today occupied by a bright room of fifty tables and a covered terrace. On the menu, local produce is key, a cuisine with good Mediterranean products, from the organic garden and the best references in the region.



IN THE SHADOW OF THE LOW CYPRESS: TAPAS CULTURE

Under the low cypress and bordering the basin of Hercules and its cherubim, the tapas bar of Fonscolombe is open the whole summer and until the end of the sunny days.

Around the delivery tricycle, a menu inspired by Provence: pan-fried tomatoes, pickled peppers, cod brandade, Italian burrata and toasted bread ... Hot dishes include prawn skewers or duck breast, alpine lamb keftas, ratatouille mini-slippers and grandmother terrine of the Château raised with the organic wine of our vines.

THE DINING ROOM OF FONSCOLOMBE

Especially popular with lovers of candlelight dinners and romantic lunches, the historic dining room with its 80 seats invites guests to a moment of softness and refined elegance.



The wines of Fonscolombe

A true regional reference, the Fonscolombe wine estate takes root in the Roman period before being bought by the Marquis of Fonscolombe in 1700.

In Puy-Sainte-Réparate, at a place called “Fonscolombe”, the vineyard leans against the northern slope of the Trévaresse range to extend over the sedimentary basin of the Lower Durance. A mineral soil and a Mediterranean climate with a slightly continental tendency make their marks on the wines.

ORGANIC NAMES

Within the 31 hectares of vineyards, the estate boasts two organic appellations, including the Bouches du Rhône IGP and Coteaux d’Aix-en-Provence AOC (the first vines of which will be harvested in 2020).

The Fonscolombe vineyard has produced more than 20,000 bottles in 2019, including the Domaine de Fonscolombe PGI Bouches du Rhône Rosé bio (60% Merlot, 40% Caladoc), with its pale pink color, intense nose and red fruit notes. IGP Bouches du Rhône Organic white (Sauvignon, Chardonnay) with a pale yellow color, intense nose and notes of yellow flesh fruits.



TASTING AND EVENTS

Each year, the Château de Fonscolombe organises an event in its “Les Musicales dans les Vignes” vineyard, an event combining concerts and tastings of the Domaine’s wines.

Upon request, personalised tastings can be organized in the Château and the Cellar held by Sylvie Hanicotte.

The art of wellbeing

IN THE SHADES OF TALL TREES

Nurtured by Sacha the gardener and Patrick Monnerais, the nature of Fonscolombe reveals treasures in the image of the Atlas cedar planted by the Queen Mother of England in the 60s. Majestic, changing look and colors at each season, the bald cypress recalls the Louisiana of which it is of origin, and stands, giant, more than forty meters high. Majestic, the cedar of Lebanon planted here in 1779 offers shade and rest to good souls.

Soon, the park will propose its own botanical course.

LOUNGERS & SWIMMING POOL

Out of sight, the former “priest’s pool” opens a swimming pool surrounded by a wooden esplanade for relaxation and bronzing. Sunbeds in the shade and pool-house make the basic amenities. A single party-taken here: absolute relaxation.

Around the bar, the light menu “Côté Piscine” reveals summer salads (avocado and grapefruit, niçoise recipe ...), Andalusian gaspacho, club sandwich, cheeseburger and pan bagna. At any time, the house serves fresh fruit juice, natural fruit nectars, rosé wine, champagne ...

BEAUTY & WELLNESS

On request, the Château offers a massage and care service (face, body, manicure, pedicure) in the living room or bedroom. In a vaulted room, the hammam can be privatised. There is also a fitness area equipped with Nohrd: WaterGrinder for the upper body, water resistance, alters ... And in all rooms, a yoga mat is available to perform any decided postures.

PASSION “FOR PETANQUE”

A symbol of French art de vivre and inseparable from Provençal culture, pétanque is played at Fonscolombe on a site surrounded by hundred-year-old plane trees. Some families organised competitions amongst themselves at any given moment.

Ball games are lent to customers, the Château also offers luxury boxes sold in its own shop space.



BESPOKE

To answer to all requests, the Castle holds its Conciergerie. A shuttle service and a heliport run make it possible to receive guests in all circumstances. Electric charging stations can accommodate Tesla cars and other electric or hybrid vehicles.

THE CHAPEL OF FONSCOLOMBE

Completely restored and dressed in the colors of painter Malel, the chapel of Fonscolombe celebrates love and joy. A space to say yes, to celebrate christenings, communions ...

COURSE

Offered in the rooms, illustrated walking and jogging paths lead to the discovery of the surrounding areas.

At the disposal of the customers, bicycles offer other choices of strolls.

Children welcome

Adapted to the needs of families, Château de Fonscolombe imagines services dedicated exclusively to babies and children.

FOR BABIES

At the Château de Fonscolombe, mothers can travel peacefully. When babies arrive, the hotel provides “first necessity” accessories, such as a crib, a changing table, a bottle warmer, a sterilizer, a highchair and diapers. Available for purchase (and soon on the website), key accessories - teats, baby bottles, wipes, sleeping bags ... - simplify your baby's stay.

In the kitchen, recipes of compotes and small pots of fruits or seasonal and homemade bio vegetables are available on request.





Coloring sets designed by the illustrator Alain Bouldouyre open their creativity. A passport in the form of a flight diary invite to other coloring pages around the theme of aviation.

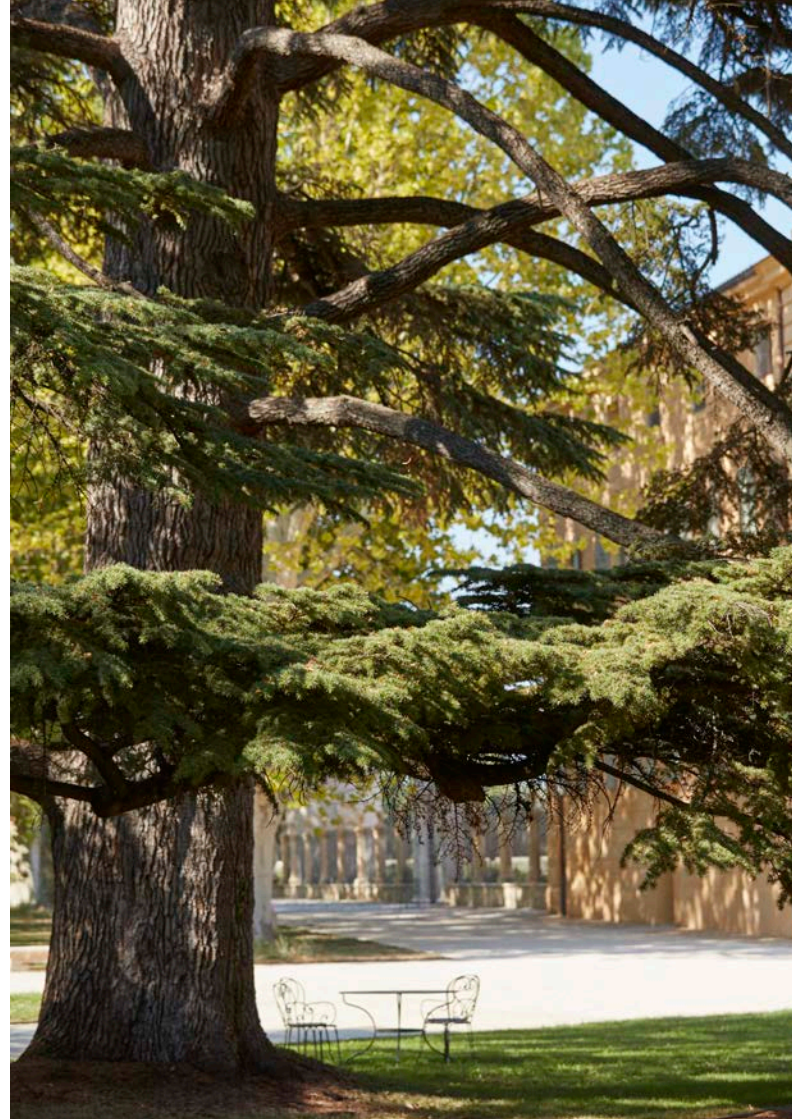
To awaken children's reading capabilities, the Château transforms a living room into a playroom and opens its library of children's books by Gallimard Jeunesse.



ATELIERS AND CUISINE

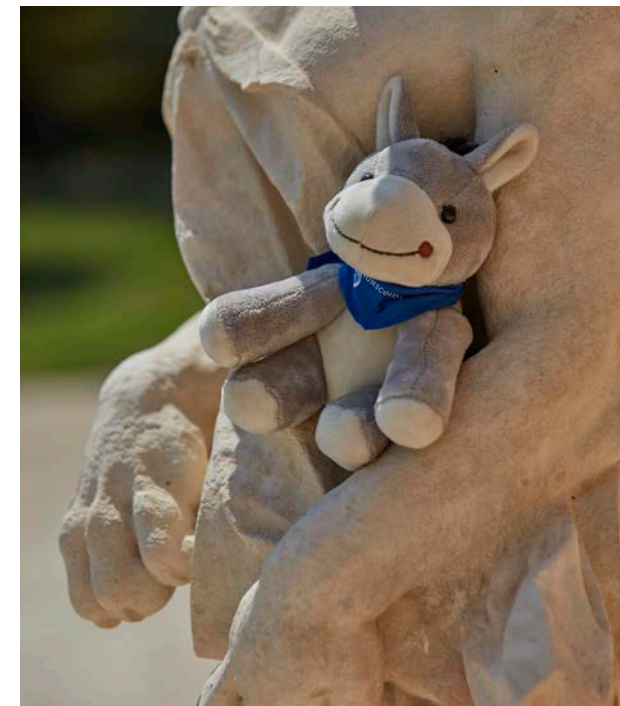
In addition to walks in the park, the Château invites children to picnic sessions on sunny days and regularly holds pastry workshops. Around the 180 species of trees that surround the Château, herbarium sessions are the perfect natural immersion.

On the menu, children can enjoy a "Special Menu Pichouns" at breakfast, lunch and dinner, taking into account the diet of each child (gluten-free, lactose-free ...).



THE DONKEY, THE MASCOT

As a welcome gift, the hotel offers every child a donkey soft toy with the 2L initials.





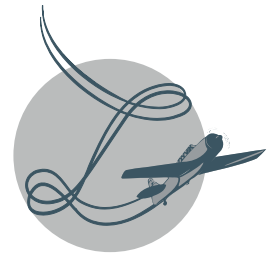
Celebrations & special dinners

Designed to receive and give sumptuous parties throughout the 18th century, Fonscolombe perpetuates these traditions by opening the Château to balls, seminars and major events.

Fonscolombe can be privatised for the most beautiful private events, weddings, baptisms, communions and big parties. Recently, it welcomed the privileged guests of the fashion show of the designer Simon Porte-Jacquemus, and received the General Staff of Renault Sport Racing who participated in the Grand Prix de France. A dedicated event service offers all tailor-made projects.

Around the Salon Caravelle (with a capacity of 80 people) and its 6 historic salons, the Château offers an ideal setting for the organization of seminars and meetings.





2L COLLECTION

About 2L Collection

2L Collection brings together hotels with a special atmosphere, where family spirit and the French way of life is portrayed. Founded by Pierre-André Martel and Hélène-Martel Massignac, now directed by Lorène Martel, 2L Collection has 3 houses in its collection: the Cinq Codet Hotel in Paris, the Château d'Audrieu in Normandy and the Château de Fonscolombe in Provence. Hotels that, as the logo states - a nod to the T6 aircraft driven by Pierre-André Martel - come alive with an infinite passion for travel and discovery.





CHÂTEAU DE FONSCOLOMBE

Route de Saint-Canadet . 13610 . Le Puy-Sainte-Réparate
Tél 04 42 21 13 13



2L COLLECTION

www.fonscolombe.fr