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1.

Welcome

Château de Bois Giraud

Welcome to the Château!

We are delighted that you have chosen to spend your holiday here and hope that you enjoy staying here as much as we do. Our father bought the château in 2001 and used it as a holiday home until 2011, when he decided that at his age he did not need to be looking after such an enormous house! The three of us, Tanya, Katharine and Marian, now own the château and rent it out for others to enjoy, whilst still using it as a holiday home for us and our families.

We hope that you feel at home here for the duration of your stay, and whilst this is a self-catering property, feel free to use the washing up liquid, dish washing tablets and laundry tablets, and anything else you come across, replacing before you leave. Please leave the house and pool area in a clean and tidy state, and we ask that if you have broken any plates or glasses, leave a note in the kitchen, so that we can arrange for them to be replaced. Please advise us immediately of damage or breakages of a more serious nature, Thank you!

If you should experience any <u>maintenance</u> problems; lift, plumbing, heating etc, please contact Isabelle Pohu on 06628 76302, at a civilised hour. Isabelle speaks excellent English, and is very familiar with the chateau.

Please read through this manual as it contains important and relevant information about the château, and your stay here. We request that you leave the copies of tourist leaflets in the file but there are spares of most of them in the box file.

If you have any feedback that you would like to share with us, positive or otherwise, we would be very happy for you to share it with us. We welcome your thoughts and particularly any improvements you think we might make. Please email us enquiries@loirevalleychateau.com, or leave your comments in the post box in the wall next to the gates at the end of the drive.

Bonne vacances,

Tanya Field, Katharine Parker and Marian Parker

Important Information for Guests

Lift

The lift is for disabled access and luggage only. It is not designed to carry people up and down all the time and so misuse may cause the lift to break down. Only 2 people in the lift at one time please, and no children under 16 unless supervised by an adult over 25.

Pool

To open the gate to the pool, lift up the knob on the right hand side. The light switch for the pool lights is on the left of the gate, before you go in to the pool area.

Barbecue

Please can your clear your ash from the bbq before you leave by emptying it into the woods. Charcoal is available at the supermarkets.

Rotary Washing Line

Please wind up the rotary washing line when not in use.

Fuse box

Should the electricity trip, the main fuse box is in the laundry room should you need to reset it.

Flies

Unfortunately dead flies can be a problem in tall, old houses. In the château this mainly affects the gym, gym bathroom, master bedroom bathroom and the green room at the end of the first floor corridor. We employ a contractor to deal with this problem regularly and take every measure possible to keep this problem to a minimum. During the summer months, there shouldn't be a problem. We hope you do not experience any problems, but there are vacuum cleaners on every floor if you need them.

Trampoline

To the side of the pool is a trampoline. Using a trampoline can cause injuries, so please use at your own risk. Children must be supervised at all times whilst using the trampoline.

SAFETY INFORMATION REGARDING THE RUINS AND PONDS

Please do not enter or explore the ruins – they are not safe.

If you have children with you, please be aware that there are two ponds. One is on the other side of the ruin to the château and is fenced off. The second is to the right of the front of the house and has a natural bramble barrier; however this is not impenetrable.

PLEASE MAKE SURE EVERYONE IN YOUR PARTY IS AWARE OF THE SAFETY ISSUES REGARDING THE RUINS AND THE PONDS.

Hospital details and First Aid

Should you need an ambulance urgently please call 112.

The address for the chateau is

Chateau de Bois Giraud St Philbert en Mauges 49600

We are between Villedieu and St Philbert

The nearest general hospital is in Cholet – Cholet Centre Hospitalier

1 Rue Marengo

49325 Cholet

Tel.: 02.41.49.60.00

First aid boxes are located in the cabinet by the kitchen loo, a hallway cupboard with the first aid logo on the outside and with the travel cots on the top floor.

House Peculiarities

Porch

To open the door into the porch on the side of the house, please note that the key needs to go in and out of the lock horizontally. To open the second set of doors leading directly into the kitchen, turn the key fully round twice.

Insinkerator

The small white vertical button next to the tap by the sink on the island which should operate the insinkerator but only works intermittently. To operate the insinkerator please use the switch in the cupboard underneath the sink if the button doesn't work.

Hot Water

You may find that the water in the bathrooms takes a long time to heat up. This is an old house and it can take even longer than you can possibly imagine you might have to wait! So remember to turn on the shower 3 minutes before you want one, and start running a bath using only the hot tap until it runs warm.

Pool

Please avoid putting up the umbrella by the pool on a windy day. Weighting the umbrella down is also inadvisable as it can cause it to break in a strong wind. (We speak from experience!)

Bedrooms

In the **red twin room**, (up the stairs, turn left, first bedroom on the right) please **do not flush toilet paper** down the mechanical toilet as it will flood, but use the bags and bin provided. We cannot stress this point enough!

Cooker

The hobs on top of the cooker are gas but the in-built ignition spark does not work. Please use the hand operated ignition gadget.

Portable beds

The bar which is used to keep the bed closed is also used to secure the bed when it is open. Please use this bar to keep the middle legs together. Please take care with these beds as they are not designed to be jumped on or to be sat on and they will break if used in this fashion. They are purely for occasional use.

Shop Opening Times

The supermarkets listed here all have fuel stations

Villedieu la Blouére

InterMarché - Villedieu

Monday – closed Tuesday – Friday 0845- 1230, 1500 – 1900 Saturday – 0845 – 1230, 14.45 – 1900 Sunday –0900 – 1200

Pharmacy at InterMarché

Monday – Friday 0900 – 1215, 1430 – 1915 Saturday – 0900 – 1230

Post office (is at the Town Hall/Mairie)

Monday, Tuesday and Friday – 1400 – 1700 Thursday and Saturday 0900 – 1200

Credit Mutual Bank has an ATM

Boulangerie Patisserie Hamon - to the left of the post office

Monday to Friday - 0630 – 1300, 1530 – 1930 Saturday 0630 – 1300 – 1630 1930 Sunday and Bank holidays – 0630 – 1300 Closed Wednesday

Boulangerie, further down from the post office, before the roundabout

Monday – closed Tuesday – Saturday 0630 – 1330, 1500 – 1930 Sundays and holidays 0700 – 1300

Saint Macaire en Mauges

Super U

Monday – Thursday, and Saturday - 0845 – 1930 Friday - 0845 – 2000 Sunday - closed

Boulangerie on the roundabout in the centre of the older part of town

(Delices des Mauges, 2 Rue Choletaise) Tuesday – Saturday - 0630- 2000 Sunday - 0700 – 1300 Monday – closed InterMarché – open on Sunday Monday – Saturday - 0845 – 1930 Sunday – 0845 – 1200 (on outskirts of St Macaire towards the N249)

Cholet

Carrefour

Monday – Thursday 830 – 2100 Friday 830 – 2200 Saturday 830 – 2100 Sunday closed

Restaurants

Saint Macaire (less than 10 minutes by car)

Patchanka

Creperie, Saladerie and Pizzeria
44 Rue du Commerce, 49450 Saint-Macaire-en-Mauges
Tel: 02 41 64 91 41
Monday Closed
Tuesday and Wednesday 1200 to 1345
Thursday 1200 to 13.45 and 1900 to 2045
Friday and Saturday 1200 to 1345 and 1900 to 2200
(Inexpensive)

Hôtel Restaurant La Gâtine

4 rue de Vendée 49450 Saint Macaire en Mauges – Tel: 02 41 55 30 23

Beaupreau

(10 minutes by car)

Hôtel de France (wheel chair accessible though there is one step for the entrance) 4, place du Maréchal Leclerc 49600 Beaupreau
Te: 02 41 63 55 14
Restaurant closed on Saturday and Sunday
We recommend that you call beforehand

Le Logis d'Elbé (wheel chair accessible) La Loge 49600 Beaupreau Tel 02 41 75 63 75 It is possible to book online

Cholet (20 -25 minutes by car)

Cholet has a good selection of restaurants, particularly in the old part of town (follow signs for Centre Ville) where there are many bistros in the side streets off the main square and near the church. There are also larger chain restaurants on the ring road, near Carrefour. See tourist information leaflets and cards for more details.

If you wish to experience fine French cuisine, try La Touchetière or Au Passe Simple. Both have high standards of cuisine and the prices reflect this.

La Touchetière

41 Rue Docteur Roux, 49300 Cholet

Tel: 06 80 71 70 75

Monday closed, Tuesday to Friday and Sunday 0900 to 1500 and 1830 to 2200. Saturday 1800 to 2200

Grand Café

1 Place Travot, 49300 Cholet

Tel: 02 41 65 82 41

Excellent family restaurant/café, while it can accommodate large groups service is much quicker with 6 or less. Very central in the square close to the underground car park.

Clisson

(30 minutes by car)

By day or night, Clisson is an atmospheric place for a meal and our personal favourite for a meal out on our last evening. Clisson has a good selection of restaurant and bistros, several with great vies of the ruined chateau or picturesque river. At the night the old town is floodlit and delightful to wander around before or after a meal.

Restaurant de la Vallée

See website, wonderful river location with views of the château

01, rue de la Vallée 44190 Clisson-

Tel: 02 40 54 36 23

Monday closed, Tuesday to Thursday and Sunday 1200 to 1330, Friday and Saturday 1200 to 1330

and 1915 to 2030

www.restaurant-delavallee.com

Restaurant la bonne Auberge

Restaurant gastronomique 1, avenue Olivier de Clisson, 44190 Clisson

Tel: 02 40 54 01 90

La Pizzaiola

(Chic bistro/pizzeria – excellent food AND family friendly!)

1 Rie du Minage, 44190 Clisson

Monday and Tuesday 1200 to 1400, Wednesday closed, Thursday to Sunday 1200 to 1400 and 1930 to 2200

Chaudefonds-sur-Layon (near Chalonnes, 40 minutes)

La Table du Square Restaurant – (wheel chair accessible)

Domaine Saint Pierre 49290 Chaudefonds-sur-Layon

Tel. 02 41 78 04 21

www.latabledusquare.com email: contact@latabledusquare.com

Booking is essential. The restaurant serves bistro lunches and gourmet dinners – restaurant cuisine in the heart of the Coteaux du Layon vineyards. In the evening, there are no menus - you discover your meal when you get there... a unique dining experience! The restaurant is set in a beautiful location, surrounded by the vineyard. All wine served is from the family vineyard.

Bin Information

Please can you put the bins on the road as shown in this picture. They may not be collected if not correctly positioned. Thank you very much.



The bins get collected early on the following **Wednesdays (alternate)**. Please can you put them out the night before.

February 28 th	June 6 th	September 12 th	December 19 th
March 14 th	June 20 th	September 26 th	
March 28 th	July 4 th	October 10 th	
April 11 th	July 18 th	October 24 th	
April 25 th	August 1st	November 7 th	
May 9 th	Thurday August 16 th	November 21st	
Thursday May 24th	August 29 th	December 5 th	

It may be that your bin is not due to be collected during your stay. If this is the case, please still take it down to the end of the drive but leave it inside the gates.

If your bin is due to be collected during your visit and you find a full bin left by previous guests by the gates, please put it out for collection along with your own bin. When they have been emptied, please return them to just inside the gates. Thank you very much for helping in this way.

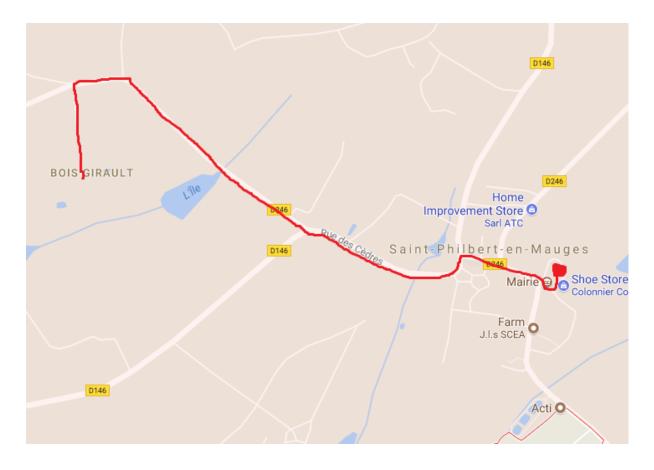
Waste (recycling and landfill) Information

The bins are kept at the top of the drive, just inside the gates.

The recycling bin has the yellow lid. Please put all plastics and metal tins/cans in this bin.

The landfill bin has a black lid. Please place everything else (including paper and cardboard) in this bin, other than glass.

Please take all glass to the glass recycling point behind the Mairie in St Philbert. Please see the map below:



Please be aware that we are charged for contaminated recycling bins, so make sure you dispose of your waste correctly. We are also charged to take glass to the recycling point if you haven't done this. We have to pass on charges incurred from guests to those guests if waste is not managed correctly. We really don't want this to happen. Please ensure that no waste is left in the Chateau at the end of your stay.

Internet Access

Internet connectivity is available throughout the entire chateau via a wireless LAN (Wi-Fi)

The SSID for this Wi-Fi is chateau-WLAN

The network security key is 26 characters long. It can be found in the Chateau manual.

The following instructions are designed to assist in setting up a connection for the first time using a Windows 7 laptop, but any device with Wi-Fi capability should be able to use the chateau internet connection.

- 1. Turn on wireless connectivity on your laptop
- 2. Click on the dicon in the bottom right hand corner of your screen
- 3. A list of available networks will display
- 4. Locate the 'chateau-WLAN' in the list of wireless network connections (in the example below the SSID of the router is 'Livebox-1BF1'):



5. Select the router from list and click 'Connect':



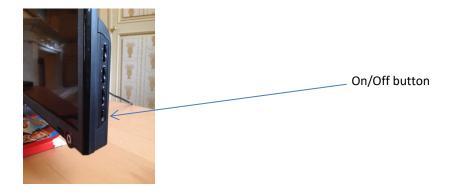
6. You should then be prompted to type the network security key.

TV operating instructions

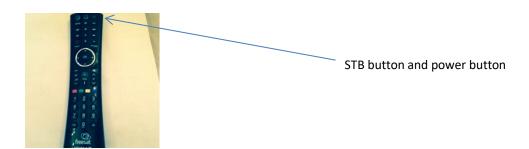
To watch Freesat channels

Please note when watching via Freesat – programs are on UK time e.g. the News at 10pm is on at 11pm.

1. Turn on the TV by pressing the bottom button on the controls on the right hand side of the TV as shown in the photo below.



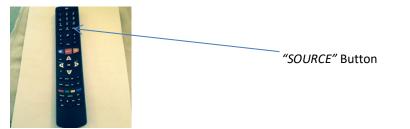
2. Turn on the Freesat box (**remote 2**) so the light changes to green. Press STB <u>and then</u> the power button – both on the top row of the remote and the Freesat box light will turn to green.



3. To change channels you will need the Freesat remote control (**remote 2**). Press "TV Guide" and scroll up or down to select your channel. Press "OK" when you have made your choice. There will then be a menu with the default "watch now". Press "OK" to watch your channel.

To watch a DVD

1. Use the remote shown below (remote 1) and press "SOURCE"



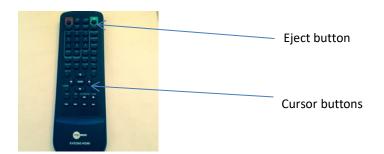
2. You will see the screen below. Select "HDMI 2" using the up/down arrows on the remote 1.



3. Press the power button the DVD player



4. Press the eject button (on either on DVD player or **remote 3**) which will open the DVD tray. Insert the DVD of your choice and press the eject button again button so the DVD goes in the player. Use the cursor buttons (**remote 3**) to navigate and play the DVD



Cooker

Hob

- 1. Choose the correct ring, turn the knob while depressing it.
- 2. Light using the hand operated ignition gadget
- 3. Keep depressing the gas knob until it has warmed up

Oven

Oven Settings

Clockwise from 12 are light, top and bottom heat, bottom heat, top heat, grill, grill and fan, top and bottom heat and fan, and just fan.

1. Choose your heating setting from above list

2. Choose your temperature (1-10)



Grill

1. Select temperature

Griddle

1. Light with spark etc

Croissant warmer

1. Choose temperature, use both knobs

The Washing Machine



Rincage – Rinse Essorage – Spin Vidage – Empty A Cotton 90°

B Cotton/Prewash 60°

C Cotton 60°

D Cotton 40°

E Synthetics 60°

F Synthetics/Prewash 40°

G Synthetics 40°

H Synthetics 30°

I Wool 40°

J Wool 30°

K Cold wool

L Fast wash



Depart/pause - Start/pause

Depart Differe - start differs

Arret Cuve pleine - stop rinse

Rincage supplementaire - Additional rinsing

- 1. Put detergent in the dispenser (try to break the tablet up as sometimes it doesn't get dissolved and goes in the wash but ends up as a lump in the dispenser).
- 2. Turn the dial to "P" (12 o'clock).
- 3. Decide which wash cycle you would like and turn the dial to the corresponding letter.
- 4. Decide the speed of the spin and turn to desired speed.
- 5. If you would like a different start/stop rinse/additional rinsing press the appropriate button.
- 6. Press Start/Pause button to start.

Drying Clothes

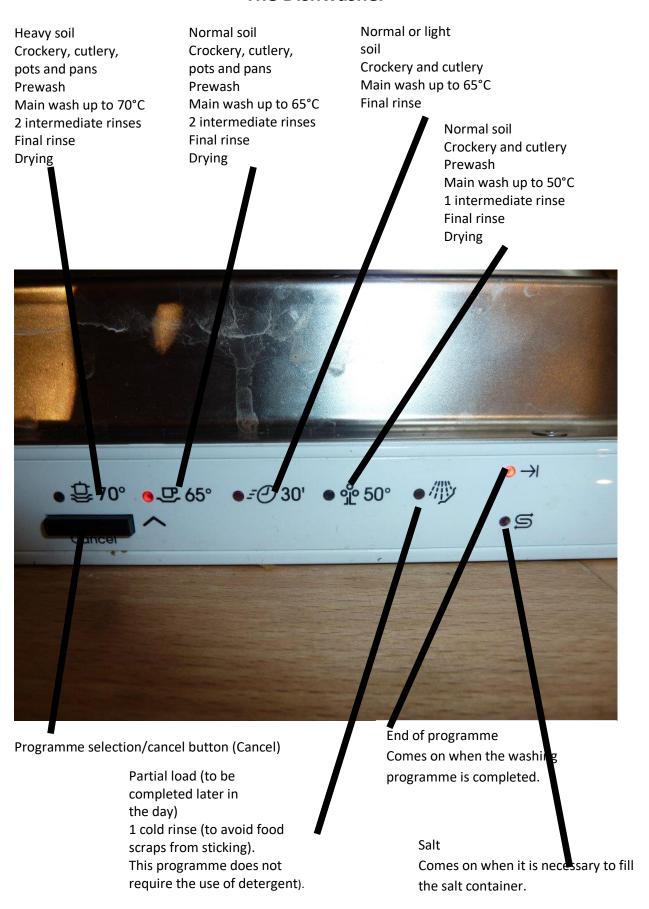
Please feel free to use both the washing lines outside. There is also a clothes horse in the laundry room, and a tumbler dryer which is simple to use.

Tumbler Dryer

- 1. Select either high or low heat option. Either press the button so it sticks out for **low** heat, or press it again so that the button stays in for high heat.
- 2. Turn the dial to select the number of minutes.
- 3. Press start.
- 4. At the end of the cycle, please remember to empty the lint trap, located at the bottom of the dryer doorway.



The Dishwasher



See overleaf for instructions

Dishwasher instructions

- 1. Set the washing programme with the door ajar. The washing programme only starts after you close the door. Until then it is possible to modify the settings
- 2. Make sure that the appliance is in setting mode. (The appliance is in setting mode when all the programme indicator lights are off and the end-of-programme indicator light flashes.)
- 3. Press the programme selection/cancel button again and again to set the preferred washing programme. The programme indicator light comes on.
- 4. Close the door.
 The washing programme starts automatically.

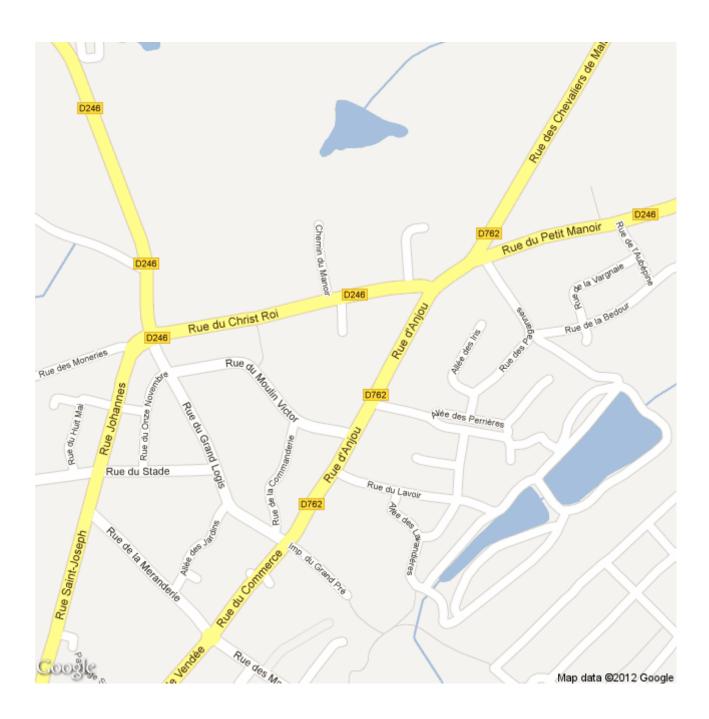
General Pool Maintenance



- 1. Open the pool cover using the key. (It will retract with the key automatically.) To put the pool cover back on the key needs to be held in the "close" position until the cover is on. This is a safety feature where as soon as you relax the turn of the key the pool cover stops unreeling.
- 2. Clear the 3 skimmer boxes of debris and ensure filters are clean. (Pull them out and tap them upside down.) The skimmer boxes are sunk into the ground and two are located between the pool cover and the hedge, and the other is by the key hole for the pool cover.
- 3. Use the skimming net on the pole to remove general leaf matter.
- 4. Around the steps there tends to be sediment. This is because the vacuum cleaner cannot access this area. The best thing is to disturb the sediment first thing in the day so it floats into the main pool and then it will be filtered.
- 5. We highly recommend that you put the pool cover on at the end of each day as it will help keep the pool temperature up. The pool can lose around 2 degrees of heat overnight if left uncovered!
- 6. There are metal studs around the pool which are used to secure the winter pool cover. These should be flush with the paving but can sometimes lift slightly becoming a hazard to toes. If this is a problem please contact Isabelle.

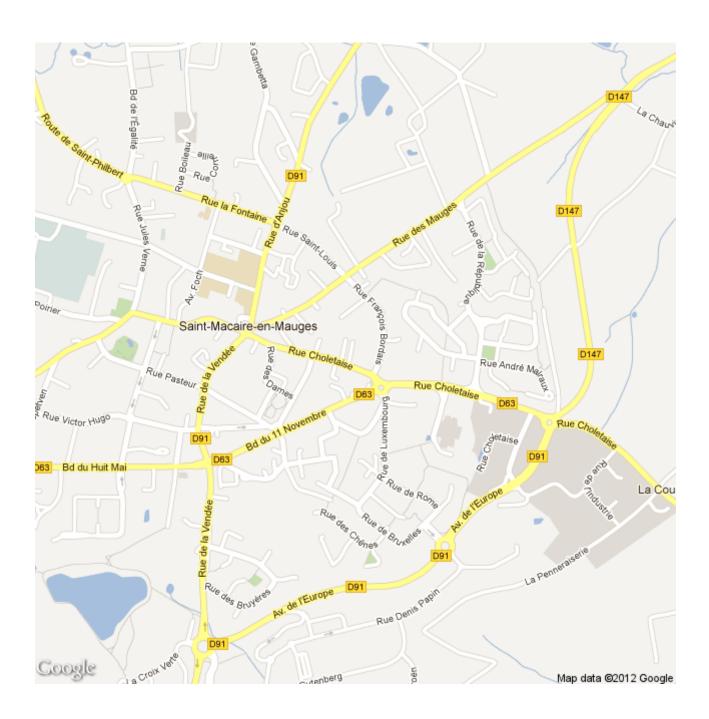


Street Map of Villedieu-la-Blouère



- 1. InterMarché, petrol, pharmacy and recycling
- 2. Boulangerie, Mairie (town hall) and Post office (in the town hall)
- 3. Boulangerie

Street Map of Saint Macaire



- 1 Boulangerie,
- 2 Patchanka, Creperie, Saladerie, Pizzeria
- 3 Super U, supermarket

Departure Day

We very much hope that you have enjoyed your stay at Château de bois Giraud. Check out time (unless you have been told otherwise) is 10 am, which enables the cleaners to get the house ready for the next guests. Please can you take note of the following requirements:

Please ensure that:

- all chairs, and any other furniture that may have been moved, have been returned to their original location.
- all tea towels that you have used have been washed and put away, other than the one you're using.
- all washing up has been done and put away, including emptying the dishwasher. Sinks should be left clean. Please ensure that the fridge, freezer, wine cooler, microwave and cooker/oven are empty and clean. The kitchen is one of the most time consuming areas to return to the condition which you found it, so please allow adequate time.
- the games room is tidy, with puzzles and toys put back on the shelves, and the table clear. This can be one of the most challenging rooms if children have been staying so please allow adequate time.
- all windows are closed (you may leave shutters open)
- the pool area is tidy, with chairs and tables as you found them, and all inflatable toys put back in the shed
- if you used the barbecue, please empty the ash and clean the utensils
- you leave a note with details of any breakages so that the items can be replaced
- all recycling (in our area, only plastics and metal tins/cans can be put recycling) is in the recycling wheelie bin at the top of the drive (it has the yellow lid)
- all landfill rubbish to be put in the landfill wheelie bin at the top of the drive (it has the black lid).
 Please put all cardboard and paper in landfill.
- all glass has been taken to the glass recycling point at the back of the Mairie in St Philbert
- please be aware that we are charged for contaminated recycling bins, so please make sure you
 dispose of your waste correctly. We are also charged to take glass to the recycling point if you
 haven't done this. We have to pass on charges incurred from guests to those guests if waste is not
 managed correctly. We really don't want this to happen.

Please note that if these requirements are not met, we will be charged extra by the cleaning company. This is a cost that will be passed directly on to you and deducted from your security deposit, as covered by the terms and conditions for rental. However, we very much wish to avoid this as the cleaning company do not like having to send additional cleaner/s at a moment's notice as it stressful.

At the back of this manual you will find spare check lists to help you remind you of how the Chateau must be left. Please feel free to take one or more of these, so that you can tick off the jobs as you do them.

Keys

Unless you have been told otherwise, as you leave, please post the key sets for the pool and the chateau in the post box in the wall at the end of the drive.

We greatly appreciate your cooperation in leaving the house tidy, and hope you have a safe journey home.

Leaving the Chateau after your visit

We very much hope that you have enjoyed your stay at Château de bois Giraud. Check out time (unless you have been told otherwise) is 10 am, which enables the cleaners to get the house ready for the next guests.

Please be aware that you must ensure that the Chateau is left as you found it. This might seem simple and obvious, but given the size of the house this takes much longer than you can think, especially if children are amongst the guests. We advise that you put aside several hours the afternoon before you leave for this task. To help remind you of how the Chateau must be left, we have created a check list below. Please feel free to tick off the jobs as you do them.

You need to ensure that:

- all chairs, and any other furniture that may have been moved, have been returned to their original location.
- all tea towels that you have used have been washed and put away, other than the one you're using.
- all washing up has been done and put away, including emptying the dishwasher. Sinks should be left clean. Please ensure that the fridge, freezer, wine cooler, microwave and cooker/oven are empty and clean. The kitchen is one of the most time consuming areas to return to the condition which you found it, so please allow adequate time.
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- all windows are closed (you may leave shutters open)
- the pool area is tidy, with chairs and tables as you found them, and all inflatable toys put back in the shed
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