Château de la Boutinière

# A Truly Romantic 'Fairy-tale' Château



Southern elevation

Château de la Boutinière is a truly romantic 'fairy-tale' Château surrounded by a 'mystical' forest. The 150-year-old 'La Boutinière' Estate comprises 52 acres of beautiful, French countryside, which includes a romantic 'English Park' featuring centuries old trees and a wild-flower meadow. This imposing Château, in its magical setting, creates a beautiful backdrop for weddings and events.



Northern façade of the chateau

#### Poitou - Charentes - Vendee

#### TRADITION ET PASSION DE LA PIERRE ET DE LA TERRE

# Your Wedding Venue

Depending upon the individual 'look & feel' you wish to create for the celebration of your special day, we have several locations around the Château for you to choose from.

Your package includes exclusive use over 3 days (72 hours) of the 52-acre château estate, including its wedding garden, hunting lodge, and inside the chateau, its principal salons and guest facilities. You can arrive the day before your wedding, which will give you ample



time to settle-in, relax and enjoy this unique setting, before adding your finishing touches in advance of your special day. After your wedding day you will still have ample time to relax and reflect with your family and friends whilst enjoying the chateau grounds.

## Your Wedding Ceremony

Your vows can be exchanged in our small chapel inside the Château (up to a maximum of 20-25 people), or on the grand rear steps of the Château, over-looking our 'English Park' and wild-flower meadow; or, if you prefer a more informal setting, on the steps of our beautiful hunting lodge, set in the woods. You could even have the ceremony in a clearing in the woods - if you have the imagination, we have the location!





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We should make you aware that to officially marry in France the civil ceremony must take place in the local town hall in the Maire's office. There are also various conditions and paperwork the couple must complete. For all the details see <a href="https://www.expatica.com/fr/living/love/getting-married-in-france-101112/#costs">https://www.expatica.com/fr/living/love/getting-married-in-france-101112/#costs</a>), so be sure to give yourself plenty of preparation time.

# Wedding Photo opportunities

A photo with all your guests on the front steps of Château de la Boutinière, with you on the romantic 'Romeo & Juliet' balcony, above them is a must! Opposite the Château's southern elevation, we are in the final stages of creating a beautifully landscaped wedding garden with a fountain and with the chateau as its dramatic backdrop (illuminated at night). The wedding garden is also being thoughtfully designed to provide photo opportunities at every turn for you and your guests, including a flower-arch, a rope swing adorned with flowers and an illuminated ornamental pond. The garden terrace will be set-up with tables and chairs for relaxing with your friends and family. If you are having a celebration marquee (we can suggest a local marquee supplier) the garden will lead guests to the marquee.





To the rear of the château there are lots more opportunities for wedding photos, including our beautiful wildflower meadow, in the 'English Park', with the château as a backdrop.

# Wedding Breakfast & Celebration Spaces

We have a wide choice of spaces you can use during your special day, which will depend on the number of guests you are intending to invite (see below).

#### Larger weddings (up to 150 guests)

We work closely with the 'La Bonne Fete' marquee company who offer beautiful marquees of different sizes, which can be constructed in our wedding garden, with dramatic views of the château. There are 3 different 'Petal marquee' sizes to choose from, each comes with integral floor, circular or rectangular tables, and a choice of festoon, or chandelier lighting. All designed with your wedding feast and partying very much in mind! Please note, the cost of a wedding marquee is in addition to the basic venue price.



#### Intimate weddings (up to 12 guests)

'Petal' Marquee photo by La Bonne Fete

In addition to the above, inside the chateau we have a small chapel which could be used for small wedding ceremonies. Our 'Painted Salon' or Dining Hall are suitable for inside dining, or you can choose to dine inside or outside (weather permitting) our Hunting Lodge in the château grounds.





La Boutinière Chapel

The 'Painted Salon'

## *The Bridal Suite – our complimentary gift to you!*

Our bridal suite is the 'jewel in our crown'. Completed in 2022 and revealed on UK Channel 4's 'Château DIY' & 'Château XXL' in France). It comprises a majestic bedroom with

relaxation area, 'Emperor' size bed, with unique Moroccan style headboard (Zion's own handiwork!), two fireplaces and a unique wedding dress 'safe'. Adjoining the bedroom is a luxurious ensuite bathroom with a traditional 'slipper' bath in front of a fireplace, and a 'Hammam' style steam shower for two people. There is also a south-facing, private balcony overlooking our wedding garden. The ensuite leads into a separate dressing room & WC closet with bidet.







Our gift to you is exclusive use of our Bridal Suite for 3 nights over your wedding, included in the venue price. \in addition we will serve you a 'continental' style breakfast each morning, served in the suite, or in our beautiful 'Painted Salon'.

Cost - exclusive venue hire for 3 days from €5,664 (plus marquee hire if required from €3,200) \*prices for season 2026

# Items to consider at addition cost to venue hire:

Wedding Banquet & Drinks Château de la Boutinière is a 'venue only' location, which means we don't provide food ourselves. Instead, we work closely with recommended local French Traiteurs (caterers) who will provide sumptuous food for your wedding banquet and ensure your feast is truly French! We can forward menus on request. Alternatively, we are equally happy to work with your own choice of caterer and bespoke menu. If you require meals to be provided on other days/times during your stay, this can be arranged in advance with the traiteur (quote upon request).

We don't yet have a drinks licence, so your chosen traiteur can also provide your celebration banquet drinks. Alternatively, you are welcome to bring your own drinks (or have them delivered to us) and we will happily provide refrigeration space and ice. We don't charge a corkage fee.

For a 'table service' banquet your French Traiteur will also provide waiting staff on the wedding day, to serve drinks and the wedding banquet (cost included in your food quote). Rest assured, we will be on-hand before, through-out and after your event to help coordinate everything, to answer questions and to make sure everything runs smoothly!



Hunting Lodge interior

Hunting Lodge

~ Example price for buffet-style, set-menu from €50 per head (food only). A sit-down meal with table service is also available (auote upon request)

## Music & Dancing

We provide for your use a state-of-the-art Bluetooth, Bose speaker which you can link to your smart phone play-list (or we will happily play our own selection of music). Being wireless and portable, the speaker can be used inside or outside in any location, so you can have music wherever you go! We also have a microphone you can use for those all-important speeches!

If you plan to use a DJ, we can either work closely with your own DJ or help to source one locally. Alternatively, if you prefer 'live' music, we can suggest local musicians and/or live bands to create your ultimate party. One such band is Elon Kane, a great French 4-piece party band. You can listen to them here: <u>www.elonakane.com</u>. After the wedding banquet, the marquee, or our hunting lodge can be transformed into a party venue with lights, music and dancing throughout the evening and into the night (we don't have a curfew here!).



The 'Painted Salon'

~ Quotes for musicians/bands/can be obtained upon request.

## Photography, Flowers & Finishing Touches

In our experience, couples prefer to create their own, exclusive 'look & feel' for their wedding venue, so you are welcome to bring your own decorations for your ceremony and banqueting spaces. with which to replace or add our La Boutinière decorations. We will also happily introduce you to local suppliers of flowers and decorative objects/tableware/wedding cake etc, with whom we will liaise to further transform the chateau into the wedding venue of your dreams! For example, we have have a local flower farm whom, with sufficient notice, will grow your favourite flowers to order!

If you and your bridal party would like to have your hair and make-up done professionally, before the ceremony, or perhaps have a relaxing massage, we will happily introduce you to and help you to book local beauticians and Karin, our local masseuse.





We can suggest photographers, videographers, cakemakers, for you to choose from, or you are welcome to use your own and, if all this sounds too much for you to organise and you'd prefer to hire a professional 'wedding planner', we will happily work with them too. Rest assured that, from the moment you book Château de la Boutinière as your chosen venue, we will help you every step-of-the-way to curate the wedding of your dreams and ensure you make unique memories, which will stay with you for ever!

~ Quotes for external suppliers will be obtained upon request

#### Guest Accommodation

In addition to the 'venue' price we can offer accommodation at very reasonable rates. We

have 5 double bedroom suites available inside the chateau for a maximum of 15 guests (including children). In addition, we can currently offer 4 luxury gîte cottages in the grounds of the Château. We are in the process of refurbishing more gîtes, so our capacity is growing all the time!

Our château bedroom suites comprise a double, or twin bedroom, with an ensuite, or dedicated shower room. Please note that several suites are situated on  $2^{nd}$  floor of the château which has 76 stairs and no lift!



The Josephine Suite



 Cost per château suite from €150 per night (including luxury continental style breakfast)

The Chapel Suite

The 4 gîte cottages in the château grounds each have a double bed and shower room and several also have small kitchens. They all have coffee machines, a fridge, and microwave.



Several of the gîtes share a south-facing terrace surrounded by beautiful old stone barns, and they all share a garden which over-looks the château, and is suitable for al-fresco dining. Bed linen, towels and a 'welcome basket' of products (tea/coffee/milk) are included in the price. There is a shared utility room, with a washing machine for guests' use.



Gîte Sylvie

#### ~ Cost per gîte from €85 per night (self-catering)

Additional accommodation is available close-by in Saint-Pierre-de-Maillé where our friends and neighbours also run gîtes, with most being only 5-7 minutes' drive from the château. Please be aware local gîtes are very popular, so are often booked 12 months in advance. There are also several hotels in the nearby spa town of La Roche Posay (15 minutes' drive), which has a fabulous golf course and casino. We will happily provide a list of accommodation with prices and contact details upon request.

#### ~ Cost for off-site hotel/gite accommodation from €100–€290 per night

## Getting to Us



For your guests who intend flying to France, our closest international airports are Poitiers (40 minutes' away by car) and Tours (1 hr drive) and Limoges (1hr 45 mins drive). Served by Ryan Air, they all have regular flights from the UK. Car hire is available close to Poitiers and Limoges airports.

Poitiers also has a mainline train station (1hr 50 mins from Paris). There is an airport hotel and several other hotels close to the train station so, if enough guests choose to stay

in Central Poitiers, we will happily arrange a quote for a return coach transfer from their hotel(s) to Château de la Boutinière, on the day of your ceremony, otherwise, we can help to arrange taxis/private car transfers.

~ Cost for car transfers in each direction allow 50–70€ (depending upon which airport)

# In Summary:

We appreciate that it's important for your budget to know exactly what is and what isn't included in our pricing, so here goes....

# The following items are <u>included</u> in our 'venue only' price:

- > Exclusive use of the château's 'Painted Salon' and dining hall, the hunting lodge and château grounds over a 3-day (72-hour) period
- > 3 nights in our Bridal Suite for the Bridal Couple (including 'continental' style breakfast each morning)
- > Wedding Celebrant role/witness (if required & Performed by us)
- > Use of a refrigerator and provision of ice for drinks
- > Use of portable Bose speaker & microphone
- > Wedding ceremony chairs for guests (up to 150)
- > Guest WC facilities
- > On-site parking
- > Cost of heating/fuel/utilities
- > Venue insurance



# The following items are <u>in addition</u> to our 'venue only' price:

- > Marquee hire (for weddings of up to 150 guests)
- > Wedding Breakfast food, drinks & serving staff (see 'Catering Options' above)
- > Other food & refreshments over the 72-hour period
- > Guest accommodation (see "Château & Gîte accommodation' above)
- > Additional children's beds (25€ each to cover laundry)
- > Wedding cake (if required). We have a local artisan cake-maker if you would like details.
- > Wedding flowers & table/chair decorations (if required in addition to our own château decorations)
- > Bridal party flowers & buttonholes we have a flower farm close-by who, with sufficient notice, will grow your favourite flowers to order!
- > Bridal party professional hair & make-up/massage
- > Photographer/videographer
- > Live music &/or DJ
- > Child-minder/baby-sitting (if required)
- > Coach/car transfer from/to the venue from off-site guest accommodation.

We will be happy to help co-ordinate all your external suppliers, from obtaining quotes, to accepting deliveries and helping them set-up for your event.

## For more information...

Further information on our gites, plus images and the history of Château de la Boutinière can be found on our website www.chateaudelaboutiniere.com

We would LOVE to host your wedding here at Château de la Boutinière, so if you have any questions Alison is on-hand to answer them and to help you curate your perfect day! Even better, why don't you visit us? We would love to meet you both in person and show you around our beautiful venue. Afterwards, we can sit down (with a drink!) and hear first-hand all your hopes and dreams for your perfect wedding. If you come to visit, we will happily include a night's accommodation in one of our gîtes.

À Bien tot,

Alison (& Zion

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Our local Village Saint Pierre de Maillé