

France

Villefranche sur Mer

Ref FVF1

This quite extraordinary property is situated on the water's edge in Villefranche sur Mer with views across to St Jean Cap Ferrat. It consists of two adjoining villas and one waterside cottage set in 3 hectares of fabulous gardens running right down to the water's edge. There is private parking for several cars, day and night security guards and video surveillance making this one of the most secure and private estates on the Cote d'Azur. It is also possible to moor a boat just off the grounds and come in by tender.

Uniquely in addition to a path meandering through the beautifully maintained gardens down to the water there is also a funicular railway running from the villa down to the waterside area of the gardens.

The main villa has 8 bedrooms and the second villa has 7 thus the entire property can sleep up to 30 guests with a possibility of staff accommodation available upon request. Both villas have Belle époque exteriors and date back to 1883, they have, however, been totally renovated and the interiors have a more contemporary feel with a Moroccan influence mixed with some exceptional antiques and modern works of art.

The main villa is entered at street level but as it is built on the hillside it spreads both above and below this level. There is a dramatic marble staircase with ornate wrought iron handrail and frescoed walls linking all floors and there is also an elevator.

On the top floor of the house there are two bedrooms, the master with private dressing room, en suite bathroom with stand-alone tub and shower, private sitting room and two private balconies. The second bedroom on this floor is also a double with en-suite bathroom with tub and separate shower and a dressing room. On the level below (entry level) is a guest cloakroom, billiard room, sitting room with superb sea views, an office with internet access and the formal dining room, all beautifully furnished and decorated.

One level down is the large fully equipped kitchen and access to the swimming pool. The 16 x 6 metre pool is a superb feature of the house with glass walls and ceiling which can be pulled back in the summer and an overflow feeding a small rockery and pool in the garden. Here you will also find a further 2 bedrooms, a twin with en-suite bathroom with tub and a double with en suite shower room.

All bedrooms are very spacious and each has a safe, air-conditioning and television. Each bathroom has a unique design or feature and all come with bathrobes. One level down are a further four double bedrooms each with en-suite bathroom. At pool level the gardens have lawned and stepped terraces for sun bathing and a summer kitchen. To the rear of the kitchen there is a large terrace with table and chairs for outside dining. The gardens are vast and incorporate fruit orchards and formal rose gardens with chairs for outside dining. Close to the water's edge is what was once a fisherman's cottage with a kitchenette and terrace with barbeque. From here staff can prepare a waterside lunch for guests.

The second villa is connected by a short pathway from the kitchen level, passing a small grotto with fish pond. This villa is equally impressive with an open air gym and Jacuzzi with sea views and a television room with bar which can double up as a massage room as adjacent to the gym. There is fully fitted kitchen, ideal for preparing breakfast on the terrace, and a further 7 bedrooms, one a small double with en-suite shower room which is more suited to staff.

The master suite in this villa has a private sitting room, balcony, a double bedroom with dressing room and bathroom with Jacuzzi and huge overhead shower. There is another double bedroom with ball and claw bath with overhead shower and a twin with the same style en-suite bathroom. Bedroom 5 is a double with dressing room, sitting room and direct access to the terrace. This has an en suite bathroom with multi jet massage shower. There are a further two double bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms, one with private balcony.

The entire property is maintained to the highest standard and we would recommend a personal viewing in order to appreciate the full scale of it.

The property can be rented in one of 2 configurations – the main 8 bedroom villa and the gym and TV room in the second villa, or the entire 15 bedroom estate.