

THE YORKSHIRE VISIT TO THE CHATEAU LE MONT EPINGUET

Tuesday 12th to Friday 15th September 2017

The Chateau Le Mont Epinguet is owned by Mark & Fiona Berridge who, many years ago, went to France to buy a cottage and ended up buying a castle! It is situated in quiet countryside in Normandy just a short ride south from the port of Cherbourg. The Yorkshire Section and other Sections of the Club have been visiting off and on for many years. The house is large and much restored with a cosy and eclectic atmosphere throughout. There is a comfortable lounge for guests with an informal bar arrangement in the corner. (A booze fridge with a money box on top!). The dining room has nicely furnished and the walls are panelled. In front there are large gardens with a sweeping drive and at the side there are buildings providing plenty of covered bike parking. On the top floor there is a cosy communal lounge with wood burning stove, comfy settees and chairs plus a kitchenette for tea and coffee or heating up light lunches. In the past this lounge has been well used during inclement weather! There are a total of about 12 double/twin rooms available and a couple of singles. Just two of the twin/double rooms have some ensuite facilities and the rest have to share bathrooms and shower rooms on the first and second floors. In all the time we've been going there the sharing of bathrooms has never caused any problems that we know of.

We have booked the whole of the main house for the three nights as above and can offer half board for a fantastic £149 per person. That's three course dinner including wine each evening. Continental breakfast each morning is usually tea/coffee, cereals, French bread with preserves and croissants.

There are plenty of places to visit in the area including, of course, the Normandy Beaches and associated museums and visitor centres, the Bayeux Tapestry and Le Mont Saint Michel are amongst a host of attractions. The owner, Mark, is full of information and only too pleased to recommend places of interest to visit. If you've not had enough food with breakfast and dinner, there are some lovely restaurants especially in the coastal resorts that specialise in sea food!

Sea crossings to France are an extra that you'll have to book and pay for yourselves. Many members in the past have varied their crossing methods including some using Hull-Zeebrugge and having an extra night on the way. Some have used the Tunnel for economy purposes and then planned an enjoyable route over to Normandy. Whatever you decide, it's a good idea to plan to arrive at the Chateau during the Tuesday afternoon. That way you can settle in, relax and enjoy a pre-dinner aperitif! (In the garden if the weather's suitable). The dinner menus are fixed each night but change from night to night. Special dietary requirements should be notified in advance.

Why not extend your stay? Although the stay at the Chateau is very economical, adding the cost of the ferry crossing can make it seem expensive so why not extend your stay? In the past, Club members have used their stay as just the start of a longer adventure over the channel and moved on further in to France or even much further afield too. Some have done this the opposite way round and arrive back from their long trip to finish up at the Chateau. Have a think about that. Either way, we'll just be booking the Chateau and leave it to you to plan any other accommodation. If you are staying longer, have a look in the back of the Journal. There are a number of places advertising B&B and Gites to rent and they deserve our custom!

We are open to take bookings right now. Room allocation will be on a first come first served basis so the singles and the ensuite rooms will go quickly. We do have to reserve the right to vary the room allocations (e.g. if we get loads of singles booking they'll have to share and therefore cannot reasonably take the double bedded rooms!!). We will need a £50 deposit pre-paid for each person with the balance to pay in July 2017 (We'll send a request). Deposits can only be refunded up to the end of June 2017 and only if we can find a replacement taker for your cancelled room. You should have adequate travel insurance and bike repatriation insurance if the worst should happen during your stay.

For more information or to make a booking please contact:

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