



LA MAISON ALEX – FORMERLY - LES TROIS OLIVIERS

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Name Change

As we enter our 10th season of rentals we have decided to make several improvements to the holiday rental villa which you will have known as **Les Trois Oliviers**.

Firstly, we have changed the name to **La Maison Alex**. The main reason for the change is that our son, Alex who recently passed away, loved the villa and enjoyed many happy times there. It seemed fitting to us to recognize this by naming the villa after him.

Secondly, with the changes we have made to the back of the house, there are no longer three olive trees in the garden and so it seemed a logical move to change the name.

You will find our website at:

www.lamaisonalex.com

However, for the moment you will still find us if you go to www.lestroisolviers.com

but in the fullness of time this domain name will be closed. No booking fee.

Of course, we are also still on www.cheznous.com where we are property number 254320. No booking fee.

We are also on: www.holidaylettings.co.uk where we are property number 120535. This site is now owned by Trip Advisor so you can also find us by going to www.tripadvisor.co.uk and click on Holiday Rentals and type Pézenas in the search box. There is a fee charged to booking guests on these 2 sites.

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For winter long-let guests we are also still advertised on www.rentaplaceinfrance.com where we are property number 470.

Newspaper Article

Our last guest of this summer was a journalist with her family and friends. She subsequently wrote an article about the area which appeared in the Scottish Sunday Mail on 25th September. You can read the article at:

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/lifestyle/travel/glorious-languedoc-real-heart-soul-9070145>

We were not terribly impressed with the minimal references to the villa but the advocacy for the region and use of our photographs was gratifying

Improvements in 2015-16

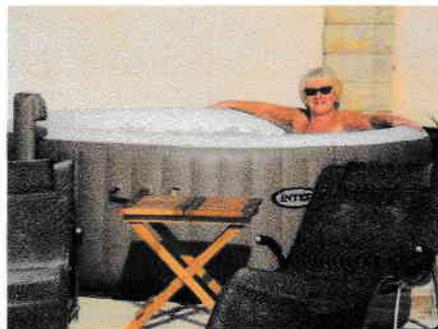
Outside

We made some significant changes both inside and outside in 2015-16. We dismantled and moved the brick barbecue and created a gas plancha style BBQ. Plancha is very popular in the region and is really a gas heated hot plate. It's great for fish, steak and burgers. Easier to clean and much quicker than the old charcoal brick BBQ. However, we have also refurbished the Weber charcoal kettle BBQ so if this is your preference it's still available.

We have increased the space available for sun bathing and added 2 new sun loungers, making a total of 4; so, there is more opportunity to soak up the sunshine.



Hot Tub



The Intex outdoor hot tub we introduced in 2015 has proved very popular. It's great to relax in the hot tub in the evenings in summer or any time in spring and autumn. It has a powerful 'bubbles' setting and is great place to relax after a day of sight-seeing.

Kitchen

We have completely refurbished the kitchen. It is much brighter and cleaner and the redesign means you can now prepare and cook whilst looking out the French doors over the Hérault valley. It is very well equipped and you should be able to

cook almost anything you would have cooked at home. We have also moved the BBQ closer to the kitchen so if you are preparing a meal which involves both the hob/oven and BBQ, it is a little easier.

The kitchen has much more workspace than before and the new electric oven/hob are easy to use and a vast improvement on the old kitchen.



Rear Fence

We have removed all the plants and weeds from the rear fence and replaced the wire fence with a wooden fence. The effect is much tidier with much greater privacy and a much more useful back patio for sunbathing in particular.



Painting & Shutters

The whole of the exterior has been given a fresh coat of paint and now looks very clean and fresh. We have kept the same peachy pink colour which is very common in the area.

We have replaced the front door with a very secure heavy metal door. Again, keeping the same colour as before.



Finally, we have now installed electric shutters on all the windows and French door. Previously we only had electric shutters on the back windows. This makes the house very secure when you are away and at night. We have kept the wooden shutters for decorative purposes.

We have also changed our agents for

New Agents

2016 onwards. Following a small number of complaints about cleaning, we are now using new agents. Our new agents are Property34 which is run by Shona and Robert Mooney and is based in nearby Gabian. They have an excellent track record and we expect they will provide an excellent service.

Planned Improvements in 2016-17

The next stage of our planned programme of improvements is to refurbish the living room and if time and budget permits, we would like to convert part of the cellar/basement to a usable room – possibly a games room.

Some of this work will hopefully be done in April 2017.