



Le Gentil Retreat

AUTUMN NEWS

Reflecting on our first season of holiday rentals,
and plans for the Autumn season.



www.legentilretreat.com

Our website is now
live!

We're delighted to have launched our website. Please have a browse to see lots of pictures and information about the area. More to follow in the coming months!



First guests...

Our first rental season was a great success. We welcomed guests from the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, France and the UK! The weather was glorious, the evenings long, and many an interesting conversation was enjoyed over an apéro.



2022 Summer Highlights

The hay meadow was cut in July. The sunny weather was fantastic but it was so dry this year that sadly there were some forest fires in the region. Water restrictions were put in place and we ran out of stored rain water. Even the horse chestnut tree in the courtyard shed its leaves by July!

Brocantes

The highlight of many French holiday trips. Visitors went home with many treasures! We sourced some interesting finds to upcycle, paint and revamp during the winter months.



Markets

Our guests loved shopping at the local markets. It's always an enjoyable trip out come rain or shine. Ribérac is a favourite market destination on a Friday morning.



Time out...

We managed a few trips out during the summer, including St Emilion, visiting friends from the UK who were house hunting.



The lake beach at Beau Vallon, peaceful and quiet, it's ideal for a stroll or swim and coffee or snack from the bar.



Wildlife



The meadow, woodland and garden are home to many species of birds, bees, butterflies, tree frogs, lizards, salamander, hares, foxes and deer to mention just a few. Wild boar have been spotted in the woods, and red squirrels!

Our aim is to continue encouraging wildlife into our garden by planting beneficial plants and creating habitats for insects. The hay is cut just once a year, to allow the wild flower seeds to disperse, and the wild orchids to be left undisturbed.



Pet Friends

We were kept entertained by some very lovely dogs on holiday with their owners. The dogs were very well behaved, and enjoyed exploring the meadow and woods.



Le Petit Chat!



We were joined by Monsieur Ferguson, aka 'Olliver'. He decided to take up residence with us as he was finding life a little busy at the animal sanctuary. We are looking after him and making sure he gets plenty of cuddles. Olliver has renal problems and needs a special diet and medication, and lots of attention!



Autumn Works

The first job we have started is removal of a further line of overgrown conifers around the pool. This will allow more sunlight through, to warm the pool water and open up the view. The chippings will all be composted down and used on paths and borders.

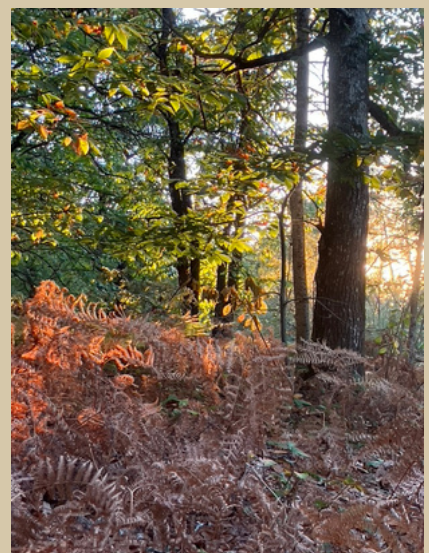


New gutter pipes are being installed to collect more rainwater for use in the potager and garden.



Work has commenced on the third gîte. This will be a one bedroom rental, with less cobwebs and updated decor!

Earthy Autumn Vibes



Thank you for reading!

