



Château Bussière is situated in a hidden valley in the southern part of the Touraine area in the greater (Loire) Valley, 250 kms from Paris via the A10 motorway. The closest station is Tours St Pierre des Corps which is one hour away from Paris on the express TGV train, and 55 minutes from Roissy airport. It is one hour away from both Poitiers and Tours Nord airports (with a direct Tours to London flight). The closest town, Loche, is 5 kms away and has an International school.

Its name comes from the “Marquis do Bussière” of the Maussabré family who lived there for four centuries, up until 1936.

“Maussabré” was the name of an ancestor, a knight who was mutilated during the crusades and whose companions then called “le mal sabré” (badly hacked with a sabre) which later became Maussabré.

The castle was first mentioned in 1234, probable date of its construction, in the archives of the city of Tours. Refurbished during the Renaissance, its elements reveal the magnificence of the period, as shown, for instance, in the exceptional medallions.

The slate roof is in perfect condition and has been regularly checked and repaired in true traditional manner. It also contains handsome architectural elements, typical of the Renaissance.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the chapel in which the famous French author Alfred de Vigny was christened, was transformed into a white-stone main stairway which leads to the first floor, (to the gallery that has a marble floor with various patterns “à l’italienne” and bedrooms on one side).

The four large bedrooms have kept their formal characteristics, i.e. doors leading from one room to another without having to use the gallery. The Royal suite, traditionally maintained in case the king paid a visit, is separate, in the West wing. On the eastern side of the gallery are two bedrooms and a large suite.

All the floors are covered with elaborate 18<sup>th</sup> century tiles. Many of the ceilings have exposed beams and some are magnificently painted.

The walls of the whole house are covered with beautiful materials from Braquenier or P. Frey or silks made specially in Lyons for the Château. More recently tastefully refurbished and decorated by J. J. Debout (a well-known French singer of the 70's).

The grand manor has two round towers on either side, originating from the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Galleries run from one to the other on two floors and with three arches; there is a magnificent spiral staircase dating from the 14<sup>th</sup> century leading past murder holes from where arches shot arrows from their crossbows.

The ground floor has a superb gallery with seven arches on one side and on the other, a series of reception rooms. The floors are covered with ancient flagstones and the formal drawing room has a Versailles parquet floor with a "rose de vents" design. All the reception rooms have Renaissance fireplaces.

There are six main reception rooms, one of them with the Versailles parquet flooring: a formal dining room, a "Chinese" sitting room (with a guest bath in a tower), a media room and an office.

A large country kitchen (part of it in a tower) with exquisite stove, a large pantry, and a hunt (sitting) room with an exit. In this room, there is a trapdoor in the floor leading to the 12<sup>th</sup> century cellar and old underground passages.

There are also stairs leading to a two-roomed apartment with a kitchenette and bath for the staff. In the basement, there is a boiler room with two huge Wissman boilers, a linen room, toilet and exit. Water is provided by three wells.

On the first floor there are 5 bedrooms with 4 bathrooms and two shower rooms, 5 toilets, and dressing rooms. The two bedrooms (one of them with a toilet in the tower) of the Master suite are separated by a bathroom and dressing room.

West wing: 2 bedrooms with bathrooms and toilets.

One large suite with a bedroom, sitting room, dressing room, shower room, toilet and kitchenette. The bedrooms and some of the towers have Renaissance fireplaces. The bathroom walls are tiled with handmade tiles. All the materials used for the bedrooms are of top quality.

In all there are 20 rooms in addition to 2 long galleries including 8 bedrooms, 8 baths and X square feet of finished living space.

Dependencies include a 19<sup>th</sup> century two-car garage with outdoor lighting and comfortable apartment above. Stable with 2 stalls are attached.

Pool house with bath, an inviting heated swimming pool with palm trees along a stone alley. A large stone table under the mulberry trees is the perfect place for meals while listening to the fountain playing and drinking icy water straight from the source! The huge estate gate (surmounted with the crown of the "marquis") is opened and closed by remote control.

In the second stable there are four large stalls, a hot-water shower for the horses, a solarium, and an old-style tack room with grooming quarters. The tennis court has temporarily been converted into a 40 x 20 metre outdoor riding arena.

The property consists of thirty hectares (roughly 70 acres) of park like grounds, cleared woods and pasture. At the bottom of the fields is a small lake fed by a spring (discovered in the Middle Ages).

The entire property has been beautifully maintained and is in perfect condition. Château Bussière is offered at €4M and is also available fully furnished.

**SUMMARY:**

1000 square-metre

20 entirely furnished rooms (or not)

giving onto two long galleries

Cellar

Linen room and boiler room in the basement

Total habitable surface: about 800 square metres

Of which:

7 bedrooms with bathrooms

plus 1 suite with bathroom

Game/hunt room

Pantry

Kitchen containing its old stove

Dining room

Main drawing room

Red (or Chinese) sitting room

Television or cinema room

Office