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SIAS

LES HORTENSIAS DU LAC



LUXURY SURF LODGE IN
HOSSEGOR



THE SPIRIT OF DOMAINES DE FONTENILLE

From Luberon to Marseille,
and Menorca to Hossegor...

A collection of singular sites enriched
by the Fontenille spirit

Frédéric Biousse and Guillaume Foucher, a duo passionate about nature and beauty, add a new gem to their collection of remarkable properties with Les Hortensias du Lac.

The ex-CEO of Sandro-Maje-Claudie Pierlot and former contemporary art gallery owner entered the hotels sector almost by accident in 2013, after falling in love with the Domaine de Fontenille in Lauris, Provence. A change of life, a change of pace, back to the roots, basics and the earth... The splendid 18th century bastide surrounded by a vineyard, which had been lying dormant, has been entirely transformed into a charming hotel replete with a Michelin-starred restaurant, contemporary art centre and permaculture kitchen garden.



In 2018, their attention turned to Les Bords de Mer in Marseille. The duo revamped a magnificent Art Deco building on the coastline facing the Frioul archipelago. Hotel, restaurant, spa on the rocks, pools and rooftop bar with panoramic views of the Mediterranean, on a charming cove by the Plage des Catalans. Warm and fond memories of the past relived in a modern style.

In Menorca, Fontenille Menorca is composed of two fincas with a totally different - yet perfectly complementary - style: Santa Ponsa and Torre Vella, with 20 hectares of organic grapevines and a winery, 20 hectares of aromatic plants, a medicinal essential oil distillery, an oil press and a honey house, plus 5000m2 of permaculture kitchen gardens to supply the restaurants.

LES DOMAINES DE FONTENILLE HOSSEGOR

The journey continues...

After the Mediterranean, they headed to the Atlantic with a new destination, Les Hortensias du Lac at Hossegor. A legendary spot on the Landes coast, metamorphosed to become part of the Domaines de Fontenille collection. Bordering the lake, a few steps away from the wide beaches of the Atlantic, Les Hortensias du Lac exudes the chic & cool vibe of the Hamptons in a surf lodge that blends Art Deco heritage and 1960s Californian culture. 25 rooms and suites, a glass-fronted restaurant suspended above the lake, a 450m2 mineral spa, plus an ocean-front cabin to watch the sunset over the waves with a cocktail in your hand...

Frédéric Biousse and Guillaume Foucher's latest project remains true to the original spirit of luxury signature hotels that represent their personal vision all the way down to the finest details. Luxurious simplicity, utmost respect for national heritage, history, and architecture. An exquisitely authentic lifestyle and commitment to the environment. Les Hortensias du Lac offers modern travellers an experience to delight the senses.



THE CONCEPT

Les Hortensias du Lac

Good vibrations

The scent of sea spray in the breeze, the sun's silver sparkles on the wide open ocean, the sand dunes under your bare feet, a shimmering horizon, and THE wave. That wave surfers await with fixed gaze and bated breath.

Although at Hossegor, in the Côte d'Argent, you don't need to be a surfer to feel the magic of being at one with the elements. You can be hypnotised by the foam on the gracefully breaking waves that go on and on, savouring the relaxed warmth, away from social norms and close to wild nature.

This long-forgotten joie de vivre inspired Frédéric Biousse and Guillaume Foucher to create the first ever luxury surf lodge in France, the 5th addition to the Domaines de Fontenille.





An iconic property on the west bank of the lake

At the edge of the Hossegor seawater lake, only 200 metres away from the infinite beaches of the Atlantic, Les Hortensias du Lac has formed part of Landes' legendary haunts since the '50s. Nestled within a protected enclave on the west bank of the lake, the hotel is bathed in absolute peace, contrasting with the wild energy of the nearby ocean and the vibrant city centre, a lovely 15-minute walk away on the coastal path.

Under the auspices of the new owners, this Art Deco villa shaded by pine trees has been fully revamped to become a cool & chic refuge, blending vintage elegance with the laid-back spirit of the Hamptons. There is only one ocean from Hossegor to Montauk... Connected by the immense Atlantic, the East Coast of America and the West Coast of France share the same seaside culture, and the same values as those of the Domaines de Fontenille: refined simplicity, authenticity and reclaimed hedonism.





Living life on the edge...of the world

At Les Hortensias du Lac, diverse influences mix in a joyous symphony of styles, by the side of the sumptuous infinity pool in emerald-green mosaics. Naturally, surf boards are lined up along the façade, its architecture typical of the Basque and Landes style, with its huge rounded bay windows and dark woodwork against bright white walls. A little further on, bicycles await those who want to explore. Here, the pace of life slows down to make way for genuine relaxation, where the natural power of the ocean lends a different dimension to holidays.



DECOR & ROOMS

A holiday home atmosphere

Designed by Guillaume Foucher and Beryl Le Lasseur, the decor in Les Hortensias du Lac gives it a laid-back ambiance whilst highlighting the original villa's architecture with its surprisingly contemporary vaulted ceilings. Inside, white backgrounds reign supreme as a canvas for the light woods and organic materials, an interplay of linen, rope and vegetable fibres. Surrounding the grand piano in the veranda lounge on the ground floor, vintage objects make the perfect accompaniment to the fifties-style furniture and prints typical of the Landes area.

A similar interplay of light and shade is reflected in the 25 rooms, 6 of which are suites, all with views to the outside and the lake, thanks to their private terraces and balconies. The panelled white walls are reminiscent of elegant seaside villas. Here and there, a touch of mineral grey, terracotta or linden green produce a calming atmosphere. The rooms exude comfort and serenity. Nothing fussy, nothing busy, simply visual purity that brings you inner peace.



Outside, the Adirondack sofas that adorn all Long Island terraces have been replaced by local creations with simple lines, made with Landes craftsmanship. Why not start the day on these comfortable cushioned wooden sofas to admire the first rays of sunlight that break through the hortensia next to the sand? At any time of the day, the chilled vibe makes you feel as though you're at a friend's house.



RESTAURANT

Savour the refined flavours of the sea with lakeside views

The spectacular glass-fronted restaurant was created as an extension to the historic villa, overlooking the seawater lake. The huge bay windows open wide to give you the feeling of being outside, and an immense terrace with a contemporary “guinguette” feel extends from the main room. Open to all, the restaurant at Les Hortensias du Lac welcomes gourmets who worship fresh and delicious flavours from breakfast to dinner. Those who prefer to get a tan or read by the pool can improvise a picnic with a sharing plate of local charcuterie or cheese, a carpaccio of heirloom tomatoes and Burrata with pesto, or foie on toasted bread, thanks to the brilliant ideas on the bar menu.



From the Mediterranean to the Atlantic

Originally from Marseille, chef Philippe Moreno worked for a long time in the kitchens of Gérard Passédat at Petit Nice, the famous 3-Michelin-starred restaurant in his city of origin. An expert in seafood, he gets inspiration from the products of the region, sourced from the best producers, to create a menu to delight locavores, divided in two tones: the classics of the south-west, and contemporary creations with more daring signature dishes. Everyone, whatever their taste, can enjoy the delicacies of Gascony thanks to the chef’s culinary virtuosity and his tried and tested dishes, that are a feast for the eyes as well as the taste buds.

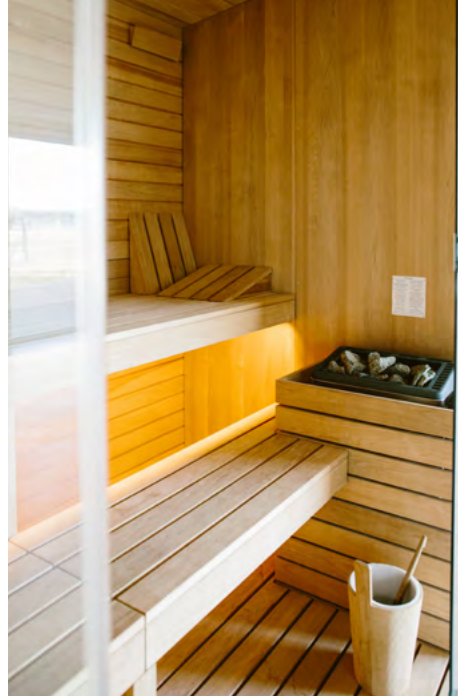


Fresh fish straight from the Capbreton fish market marries with Dupérier duck foie gras with smoked eel and nori, or Aquitaine “Ossetra” caviar with heirloom tomato gazpacho and fresh sheep’s cheese, or even roast Landes chicken with chanterelle spelt risotto, stirred with herbs and parmesan. For dessert, how about some irresistible ‘cannelés bordelais’ to honour tradition? Or a ‘Totfait’ with Itxassou cherries and vanilla ice-cream? Those with a sweet tooth will be hard-pressed to choose

SPA

Purity & Simplicity

Inspired by the characteristic lakeside landscape, the curved architecture of the spa evokes undulating waves through natural materials, such as the omnipresent sandstone, light wood-panelled walls and sand-coloured ceramics. Spanning 450m2, there is everything here to take care of your body and mind, like nowhere else in or around Hossegor: hydromassage and massage cabins, cold baths, whirlpool, outdoor Nordic bath, sauna, tea room, and fitness room with WaterRower equipment...



First L:A Bruket spa in France

The treatments are signed L:A Bruket, exclusive in France, but a perfect fit since the brand originates from Varberg, a famous surf resort on the west coast of Sweden. This is where their natural products for the face and body are made, with organic ingredients from the marine ecosystem, such as seaweed, sea salts and medicinal herbs. Choose from a 'Retour d'Escapade' treatment after a day of surfing or paddle boarding, or a 'Pure Plénitude' for future mums, or even 'Ressourçant Expert jeunesse' for firm, toned and brighter skin, or a half-day spa package with lunch... The holistic view of art-de-vivre, L:A Bruket echoes the values of the Domaines de Fontenille and the specific spirit of Les Hortensias du Lac. Respect for the environment, hedonistic minimalism, harmony with nature... "Lagom", a lifestyle composed of small comforts, with the balance and simplicity so treasured by Swedes is perfectly at home at Hossegor.

DESTINATION & ACTIVITIES

Open air, open sea, open views

The lake and ocean bordered by the wide sandy beaches of Landes make Les Hortensias du Lac a destination for getting in shape or relaxing by the water, where you can live life to the full. A refreshing dip for the weekend or holidays, or team motivation for a corporate seminar... Between the surf, water sports, SUPs and boats, nautical activities are king in this ocean-facing region, France's answer to California or the Hamptons. The cool and chilled atmosphere that reigns around the Adour is born from a love of the ocean, a way of life in harmony with the elements where you can recover your true nature.

A dream destination for holidays in the open air, Les Hortensias du Lac invites guests to admire panoramic views over the spectacle offered by nature. There's a date with the sunset every evening at the bar on Lou Cabanou beach. Or how about exploring the grand forests of Landes, with a standard or electric bike provided to guests, to make the most of the good vibrations and absorb the energy of the trees? Breathing, moving, dreaming, delighting... These simple yet powerful emotions will boost your optimism and hone your happiness skills in no time at all.



Photography : ©Yann Deret

Les Hortensias du Lac

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LES DOMAINES DE

FONTENILLE