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Pension Edelweiss

Marseille, Côte d'Azur, France

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8/10 Telegraph expert rating

" This new-wave b&b is a bit like staying with a flamboyant distant cousin, thanks to the exemplary hosting skills of the owner. The five rooms are comfortable, breakfasts are generous in size, and it's handily located, near the station. "

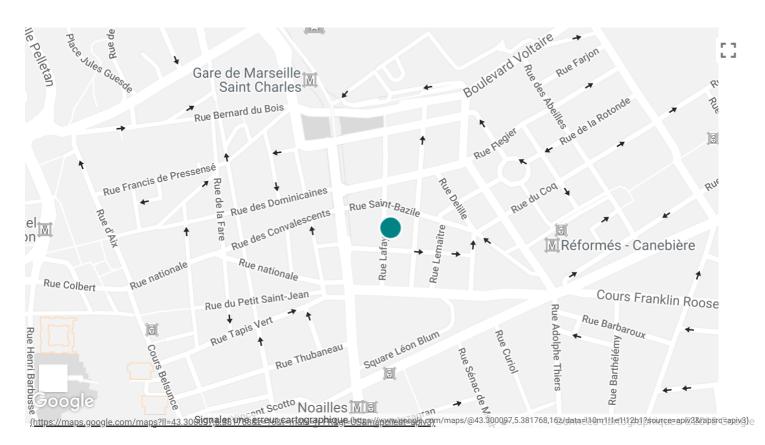


By Anthony Peregrine, DESTINATION EXPERT

Location

6/10

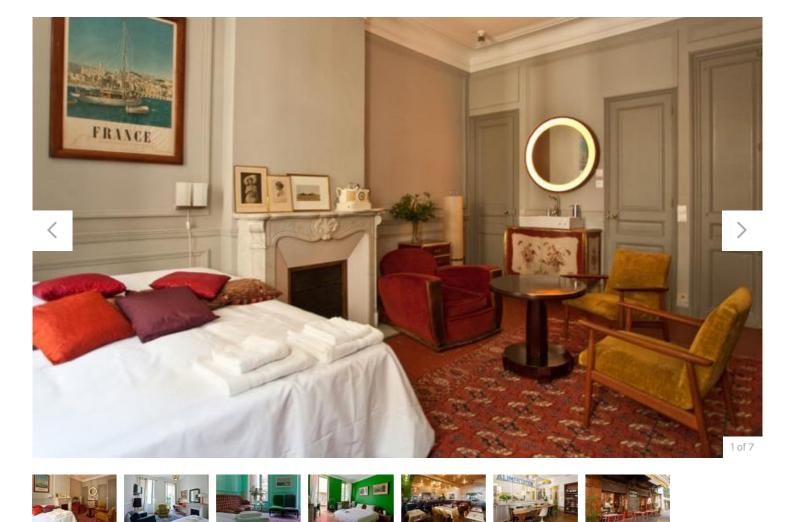
On a smaller central street two minutes walk from the station, five from La Canebière and 10 from the Vieux Port.



Style & character

9/10

This is a b&b (or, in French, chambres-d'hôtes) and so, as French law requires of such places, you're lodging in the hosts' own home. It's a little like going to stay with a distant, welcoming cousin - a style established by Swiss-born Bernadette Rochat, who has since sold up. But with Véronique Bieger at the helm, the establishment retains the same character and style - and more panache than your cousins ever had. Four of the bedrooms are up the fine wooden staircase on the second floor, which is tricky for those not so good on their pins. But friendliness and warmth waft throughout, and there'll be help with the bags, if you need it...



Service & facilities

Probably wrong to call it "service"; it's more like "hosting". Whatever the tag, though, this couple do it well, with smiles, concern and as much advice as you need on getting the best out of Marseille.



Rooms

If the hostess is a distant cousin, the guest rooms look, initially anyway, as if they've been left over from your old auntie's time. There are fireplaces, old-fashioned armchairs and button sofas, carpets from another age and parquet flooring. In truth, they are themed 1930sthrough-1970s and, certainly, the history of lights and light-fittings is covered, from pre-war onwards. But the whole is freshened by light or bright colours, excellent use of considerable space and a mild sense of irony. It works splendidly. These are interesting retro-rooms, and comfortable, to boot. One has a little balcony and another, painted mainly green, a charming terrace.





Food & drink

7/10

Breakfasts are copious and good.

Access for guests with disabilities?

No.

Family-friendly?

Yes - there's that family room on the ground floor (see above), and it opens onto a little yard.

6, rue Lafayette, 13001 Marseille, France.
00 33 9 51 23 35 11
pension-edelweiss.fr (http://www.pension-edelweiss.fr/EN/index.htm)

Rooms from £67 per night



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