



France

CRILLON LE BRAVE

A peaceful, pampering Provençal retreat for those who love the outdoors

A romantic idyll atop a hillside deep in Provence, Crillon le Brave is a hotel like no other, comprising eight historic houses in a near-perfect village. Located between Avignon and Marseille, this rural retreat is a luxurious boutique hotel offering seamless service, gourmet experiences (the region is known for its truffles) and the delightful Spa des Ecuries.

A private hideaway for couples, Crillon le Brave even offers a special weekend programme for two, which comes complete with gifts and champagne, as well as spa treatments. It is also an ideal family destination, particularly with its two-bedroomed village house, La Sousto, which also allows access to the hotel's facilities.

While the hotel is ideal for those simply wishing to relax and refresh with its spa and pool (outdoor but heated), it is also in an area renowned for cycling and hiking. In fact, Crillon le Brave offers a special cycling weekend each autumn for those wishing to explore some of Provence's most beautiful roads, including the

PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID LOFTUS

cyclist's dream route of Mont Ventoux. For guests on a gentler break, there are visits to local vineyards and fromageries, and the antique market of l'Isle sur la Sorgue is but a short distance away. But then of course there is the Spa des Ecuries, which promises to relax tired bodies and calm overstressed minds. With spa treatments curated by the Colswolds organic brand Bamford, guests will be cosseted and pampered with bespoke therapies. On offer is a choice of wraps and massages, which include a scrub and shine treatment, facials, manicure and pedicure, a pregnancy treatment and a leg and foot massage for cyclists and walkers. The Bamford Signature Facial begins with a soothing foot bath and a deep-tissue back massage before moving on to the face and neck. **VF LOVES** the Jade Hot and Cool Stones Massage. The stone helps retain heat and conduct energy, which, when combined with organic oils, has a profoundly relaxing effect on the muscles.

www.crillonlebrave.com