

POOL RULES

All users and visitors must accept the *Pool Rules*. These are non-optional and are necessary first for safety reasons, but also because misuse can cost you and us large sums of money.

Pool Security:

From 2004, the French Government introduced strict laws relating to swimming pools. Regrettably, this has been due to the large number of deaths from drowning, particularly of children. There is the choice of either secure childproof fencing, or an electronic alarm in the pool. Originally, we installed an electronic alarm, but we found that it required positive actions by users, which depended upon a full understanding of the operating instructions. We have now installed child-proof fencing, as it is passive in operation, and relatively fool-proof.

Please, if you are responsible for children, do not forget that your responsibilities continue despite the sun and the wine.

All swimming pools in France must have an approved security system.

When the Pool Cover is in Place:

If the cover is on the pool (typically November to March/April), do not take the cover off, and do not under any circumstances swim in the pool. The cover keeps dead leaves out, and reduces maintenance costs drastically. The water is dosed with chemicals to minimise maintenance. This means the water has a raised alkaline level, and you will suffer mild burns if you swim. (Mild they may be, but they will be all over!) Every pool will be the same – it isn't us being awkward!

Pool Area:

The pool area is simply that area enclosed by the fencing, and requiring access through one of the child-proof gates.

Pool Rules:

- 1 Children under 16 years old shall not enter this area unsupervised, **whether they can swim or not.**
- 2 No items of glass, crockery or sharp objects are allowed in this area whatsoever. This includes bottles, plates cups etc. Ample plastic or stainless steel items are available for use, including plastic insulated jugs (for cold drinks or wine) and cafetiere for coffee. Broken glass can cause severe injuries to bare feet, and can be an expensive disaster in a swimming pool.
- 3 No sharp objects are to be taken into the pool. This may sound silly, but people do odd things on holiday.
- 4 No items are to be thrown into the pool that could damage the liner or the filter. Food and plants ruin the water quality, and heavy objects easily damage the liner.

The above have major implications on safety and costs. Please remember that although you are on holiday, relaxed and carefree, that your obligations to your family and friends don't go away.

The following are not in the same league, but nevertheless are important:

- a. The light in the filter unit is not a step. Please do not use it as such, or it may break off.
- b. Do not operate the pool light for more than 2 hours at a time. (Yes, we find it difficult to understand, too.) Please, therefore, turn it off at the end of the evening. (The light control is situated in one of the small wall cupboards in the twin bedroom, along with the pool controls.)
- c. Do not change the filter pump timer settings without consulting with Rachel beforehand.

Any broken glass or other object requiring special measures to remove from or repair to the pool will result in the occupant being charged the **full cost** of the work necessary to rectify the situation. Liner repair, and drainage/refilling the pool will involve substantial costs, including possible compensation to other guests. The water to fill the pool alone costs approximately £250.

If you accept and keep to these rules, you will still have a great holiday, but will not run the risk of accident or substantial costs.