



La Bastide

A French Country Inn and Restaurant

Interesting facts

Translated, La Bastide means a place of refuge and was commonly considered the most secure building in the towns dotting the French countryside. Often times a farmhouse, Mayor's house, monastery, or winery, La Bastide was known as the gathering place that offered safety and care.

La Bastide stays quiet thanks to its floors, which are steel covered in half a foot of concrete, topped with white oak hardwoods taken from an old North Carolina tobacco warehouse.

After sitting for 70 years following a strike that forced the quarry's closure in 1932, 880 tons of Winnsboro Blue Granite, quarried from Winnsboro, South Carolina, were used to construct La Bastide's fireplaces, breakfast room walls, and staircase.

The wrought-iron banister was forged on site by Paps Blacksmith of Easley, South Carolina. After shaping the banister's grapes and vines to replicate the inn's own vineyards, Ned, the blacksmith, changed his profession and became a recognized and featured artist.

Over \$6,000 of Austrian crystal grapes adorn our wall sconces.

In the Library, you'll find every issue of National Geographic to the 1960's.

The conference room table is carved from walnut found underwater in Norfolk Harbor, Virginia, and weighs 1,600 pounds. The conference room's French maps are originals from 1719.

The main building's roof is constructed of 200 year old red tiles, previously used on the old Administration Building at Tulane University and is the nation's only known triple corbelled roof.

Weighing 900 pounds and suspended by 2,000-pound logging chains, our restaurant's chandelier hangs from a 50-foot timber carved from a single tree.

The average time a guest spends in our dining room is 2 hours, 13 minutes. Everything in our kitchen is made from scratch each day.

Each of the fourteen rooms in our Inn is completely unique. The fabrics, bathroom tiles and fixtures, lighting, furniture, and even drapery rods and finials in this room are unlike no other at La Bastide. Every piece of furniture in this room is either a bona fide French antique or a high-quality reproduction of a French antique.

The Park Place mattress on which you will sleep is handmade, 17 inches thick, and supported by ten-inch box springs. The thickness of the mattress and box springs is so great that, if placed on a traditional bed frame, they would require your using a step ladder to get into bed.

Our Egyptian Cotton sheets and pillowcases are sewn with 450 thread count (450 threads per inch of fabric). Covering you are duvets stuffed with 60 percent goose and 40 percent duck down, the softest feathers taken from a fowl's underbelly.

You can count on a quiet's night sleep. Beneath the carpet underfoot lay steel covered with half a foot of concrete.