

Secret hotels of Provence - Budget Travel

Graveson: Le Cadran Solaire

Once a postal-relay inn, this old stone building in the residential part of a very small town has thick walls, a trellised garden, and a tranquil atmosphere (reinforced by the absence of TVs in the rooms). With high-beamed ceilings and garden views, the rooms are luminous; modern, ornate iron bedsteads, period reproduction furniture, and muted colors complete the decor. The friendly owners try to make it feel like a private home, and by and large they succeed. Though not neighboring any big tourist sites, Graveson is within a half-hour drive of most Provençal highlights, and the town itself has a relaxed southern charm--huge plane trees shade a tiny canal that cuts across the main square. Doubles \$69-\$90; 12 rooms. 5 rue de Cabaret Neuf, 011-33/4-90-95-71-79, fax 011-33/4-90-90-55-04, hotel-en-provence.com/.