

TOP BRASSERIE

Offering lots of potential for new owners, this brasserie-restaurant for sale in a popular Corrèze citadel is enough to make **Ruth Wood's** mouth water

€472,500



You can't miss Turenne. Topped with towers and castle ruins, it sits on a steep limestone cliff that rises out of the forests and lush countryside of Corrèze, close to the Lot and Dordogne borders.

If Mont St-Michel springs to mind as you approach, you may be interested to know that the buildings in both citadels are roofed in slate from the same Corrèze quarry, although Turenne's handsome houses are of pale limestone rather than grey granite.

Bearing the name of a powerful viscounty that ruled over the region for almost 1,000 years, Turenne is officially one of the most beautiful villages in France and attracts a lot of tourists. Visitors are urged to leave their cars in one of the free car parks at the entrance to the village and walk up through the winding streets. Many arrive thus in the pretty Place de la Halle. What better place then for a restaurant, perhaps with a B&B above? That's why Paul Farla bought the Brasserie Restaurant La Vicomté in 2005 and has enjoyed running it and living above it for the past 13 years.

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so when I took it on, I preserved the original features but gave it a fresh new look and updated the kitchen and restaurant facilities," said the restaurateur, who hails from the Netherlands. "It's been hard work but a success and I'm pleased with the reviews we've had."

Now aged 51, Paul is ready for a new adventure and has reluctantly put the property on the market for €472,500.

"It's a large building with almost 300m² of space on each of the three floors, plus three

cellars, so there are many possibilities," says Paul. "It could easily be a restaurant and family home with a *chambres d'hôtes*."

At the front of the restaurant is a terrace that can accommodate up to 40 diners. Inside are a huge entrance hall and two big rooms where currently up to 85 diners can be served. Also on the ground floor is a professional kitchen of 24m² and access to the cellars, two of which are vaulted.

The first floor comprises a large living room with inglenook fireplace, a dining room, a study/bedroom, a bathroom and four large rooms, all with parquet flooring. There is a large attic to convert and a beautiful courtyard with a small south-west-facing garden offering views over the village.

Turenne is only 15 minutes' drive from Brive-Souillac international airport and only 20 minutes from Brive-la-Gaillarde and the Dordogne or Vézère rivers. ■

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