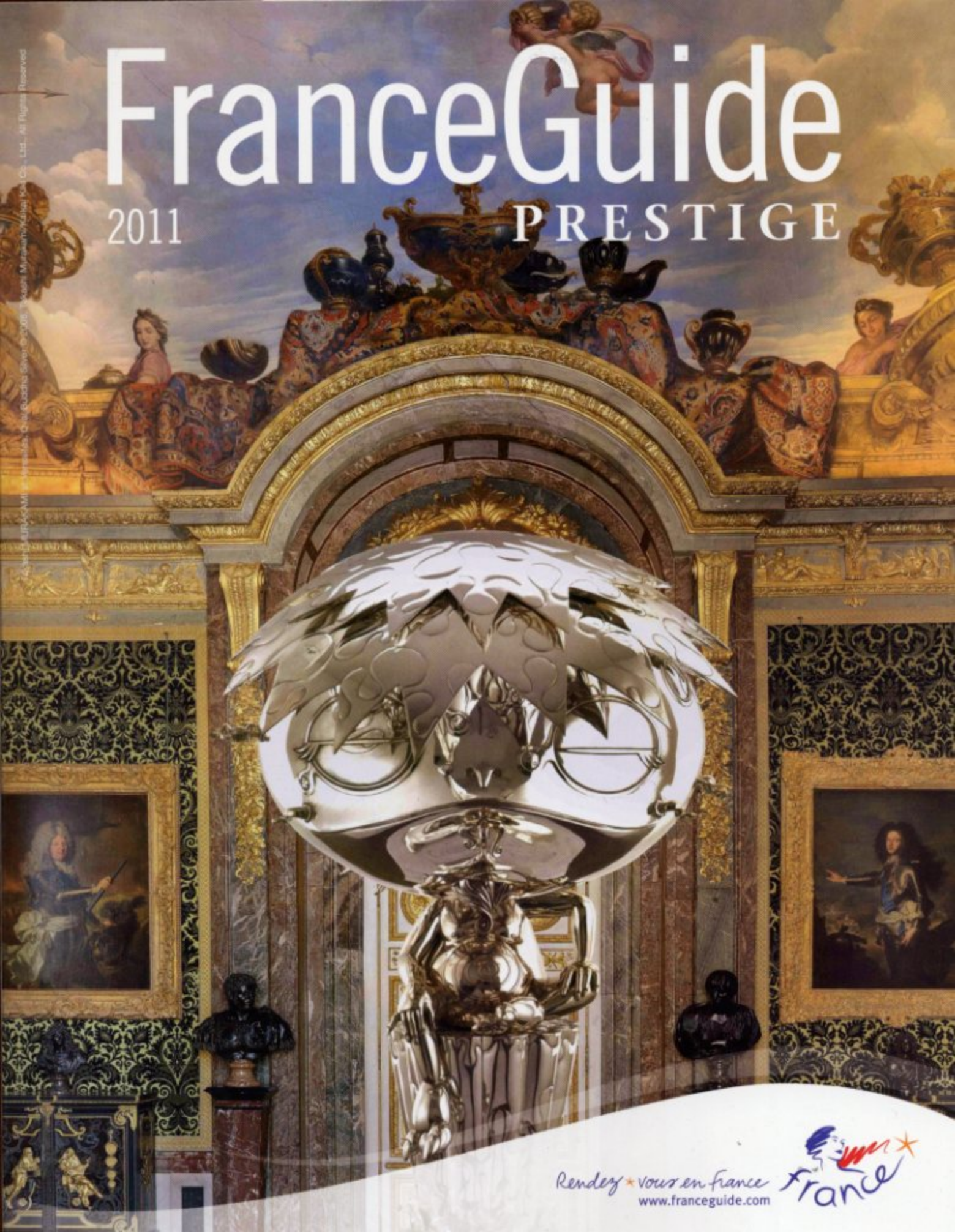


# FranceGuide

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PRESTIGE



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© Eden Rock St. Barths

# BE YOUR OWN rock star

By Amy Laughinghouse

**Bono wanna-bes**, check out—and check into—these rocking accommodations with private recording studios.

## Villa Rockstar at Eden Rock: St. Barths

Imagine cutting your own album, using the same console employed by John Lennon to record *Imagine* in a studio designed in part by Allen Sides, the sound engineer responsible for Michael Jackson's legendary *Thriller* album. Inspired by the sun, sand and surf of St. Barths, that's just how guests roll at *Villa Rockstar*, a pimped-out seaside pad at the exclusive *Relais & Chateaux Eden Rock* resort.

With 16,000 square feet, four master suites, two additional guest cabins, dining facilities for a dozen, two pools, and garages equipped with a Land Rover and a Mini Cooper, there's plenty of room for outsized egos.

Of course, all work and no play makes for a very dull album. So you owe it to yourself and your adoring fans to slip on your Speedo and head to St. Barths' beaches. You might just run across such toned and tanned celebrity visitors as Kate Moss, Claudia Schiffer, Gisele Bündchen and Tom Cruise, or even jam with Jimmy Buffett, who has been known to host free concerts on the isle. (*Le Select*, a popular watering hole in the capital of Gustavia, is one of countless Caribbean bars where Buffett is said to have found his meaty muse for the hit *Cheeseburger in Paradise*.)

Meanwhile, back at the villa, are tensions among band mates running higher than an Eagles reunion tour? A guitar through the television set is soooo last millennium. Solve your creative differences over the villa's pool table, golf putting green, croquet lawn or Wii and Playstation 3. Then kick back in your private 20-seat Cinemascope screening room, lift some heavy metal in your own gym, or contemplate your next platinum single in a circular bathroom finished in white gold tiles.

Groupies not included—but you do get a butler.

[www.edenrockhotel.com](http://www.edenrockhotel.com)



© Eden Rock, St. Barths

St. Barths' Villa Rockstar comes equipped with top of the line vintage instruments, plus inspirational, tropical benefits.

### La Fabrique: Saint-Rémy de Provence

For a mellower vibe, make tracks to lay tracks at *La Fabrique* in Saint-Rémy de Provence. Situated on five bucolic acres, this property features a 200-year-old mill built entirely of stone, producing a rich reverberation that makes acoustic guitars, harps, strings, drums and voices truly sing. The control room and the main studio are situated in *The Library*, a sunlit 1,600-square-foot wood and glass space filled with 30,000 movies, thousands of books, and more than 200,000 vinyl records from one of Europe's largest classical music collections.

Nine bedrooms—three of which are en-suite—are located nearby in *Le Mas des Artistes*, a traditional farmhouse overlooking the gardens. Need a solo sanctuary? The intimate *Loft* serves as a writing/pre-production/overdub studio with its own private kitchen and bedroom. If you'd rather share the experience with other pros, check out [www.mixwiththemasters.com](http://www.mixwiththemasters.com). You could end up spending an intense skills-building week with A-list mixing engineer, Michael Brauer, who's won a string of awards and worked with Coldplay, The Rolling Stones and Aretha Franklin, no less.

While at *La Fabrique*, fuel your spirit with authentic French cuisine that can be adapted to your dietary preferences, served on-site by a chef, so you need never leave the property. But you may find inspiration among the winding streets of Saint-Rémy de Provence at the foot of the Alpilles Mountains, where Vincent Van Gogh painted some of his most beautiful works and where musicians often play in the plane tree-shaded squares.

[www.studioslafabrique.com](http://www.studioslafabrique.com)



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Jean-Louis Albert warms up on *La Fabrique's* grand piano while Maxime and his father Hervé adjust their mixing equipment for the ultimate sound.