



# GUIDE TO GÎTE SUPPORT

As gîte owners, we are often in need of gîte-specific **advice, information and support.**

## GÎTE ADVICE

<b>Legal matters, taxation, business registration, classification</b>	<b>WHERE TO GET ADVICE</b>
<p>Since 2020, gîte owners have dealt with the impact on their businesses from Brexit, the pandemic, new EU regulations and since 2023 the political discussions around gîte taxation. It is very important that we are all informed about these changes.</p> <p>Social media is brilliant at alerting you to these changes, but it often offers incorrect information, or information not specific to your situation.</p> <p>For instance several Facebook groups are aiding both gîtes and B&amp;Bs, whilst their fiscal and legal requirements are very different.</p>	<p>Your accountant or fiscal lawyer</p> <p>Valerie Aston from <a href="#">Start Business in France</a> helps freelancers moving to France and setting up a business here. Lots of information and help offered. Including her monthly Live Q&amp;A when you can ask her questions for free!</p> <p>Follow her on <a href="#">Instagram</a> for more info.</p> <p><a href="#">Strictly Fiscal France</a> (in English) Facebook group tackles tax, insurance and financial aspects of living and working in France.</p> <p>To keep up to date with French politics (in English) subscribe to <a href="#">The Local</a> or <a href="#">Connexion France</a>.</p>
<p><b>Gîte Guru advice:</b> join Facebook gîte groups and follow Gîte Guru to be kept up to date, BUT do not take legal advice from us, seek that from an accountant or lawyer.</p>	<p>Gîte Guru (us!) offers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Everyone free information, updates and guides on <a href="#">Instagram</a>, <a href="#">Facebook</a> and on our <a href="#">website</a></li><li>• Clients <a href="#">paid consultancy</a> concerning gîte business matters, layouts and interiors, marketing and communication</li></ul>

# GÎTE INFORMATION

Laundry, cleaning, best practices	WHERE TO GET ADVICE
<p>You'll have lots of questions about how to deal with different aspects of running a gîte, and posing a question about how to get a stain out of bedsheets, clean your garden furniture, or how to get BBC channels.</p>	<p><a href="#">Lay My Hat Forum</a> is one of the first international forums to ask questions and get information, well worth dipping into.</p>
<p><b>Gîte Guru advice:</b> social media groups are brilliant for information, tips and tricks. When posting a question, be as specific as possible about your situation and question.</p>	<p>See the Facebook groups listed below</p>

# GÎTE SUPPORT

Community help and support	WHERE TO GET ADVICE
<p>There will be times when running your gîte (or guests!) will get you down. Having a community to be able to complain to or ask for support from is important.</p>	<p>Your own gîte owners support hub (see our advice on the left)</p>
<p><b>Gîte Guru advice:</b> create your own support hub by contacting 3 or 4 other gîtes in your area who have similar target groups. Meet up and if there's a click, start a Whatsapp group chat and meet up every few months. Our group has been invaluable over the years!</p>	<p>See the Facebook groups listed below.</p> <p><b>The negative side of social media</b> Stay positive by following these rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Be kind and courteous</li><li>● No hate speech or bullying</li><li>● No promotions or spam</li></ul> <p>The administrators of Facebook groups have absolute power and work hard at ensuring that their groups are a safe place for all. Don't cross the admins or contravene their rules, as most admins will block you without any discussion.</p>

## FACEBOOK GROUPS - IN ENGLISH

NAME	MEMBERS	INFO
<a href="#">Gîte Life</a>	2,400	A forum for discussions around all aspects of running a gîte.
<a href="#">Gîte Owners Demystified</a>	1,900	<p>Group to help “navigate an increasingly complex fiscal and technical environment.”</p> <p>Set up by former admins of <i>Gossip for Gîte Owners</i> who want to focus on fiscal and technical questions. GOD offers lots of free information and is great for updates but always get professional advice from an accountant or lawyer.</p> <p>The principal GOD admin has a paid consultancy business in gîte fiscal and technical matters, which they promote through GOD (for instance in their start-up guide).</p>
<a href="#">Gossip - for Gite Owners</a>	1,700	<p>A forum where many discussions are about cleaning, how to deal with issues or unhappy guests, where to advertise etc.</p> <p>They are honest about how to use their group: “Advice is shared here with the best will and generosity of our members but ultimately it is up to each individual to verify that it is suitable for their circumstances. Please remember the views expressed are no substitute for professional advice.”</p>

## FACEBOOK GROUPS - IN FRENCH

NAME	MEMBERS	INFO
<a href="#">Airbnb Propriétaires France</a>	33,200	For all questions about (Airbnb) rental properties in France
<a href="#">Entraide maisons d'hôtes et gîtes pour propriétaires</a>	7,500	“A self-help community for owners of chambres d'hôtes and gîtes, as well as project owners. Information, tips, advice, friendliness and good humour”
<a href="#">Créer et faire vivre sa maison d'hôtes et ses gîtes</a>	2,000	A forum for discussing any aspect of running a gîte.
<a href="#">Entraide Maisons d'hôtes et Gîtes</a>	2,000	This group brings together caring guest house and gîte owners who want to learn, exchange and share.

**If you have any more recommendations,  
then please get in touch and I'll add them to this list.**