

## Frequently Asked Questions

Here are a few frequently asked questions. If you have further queries, please do not hesitate to call us: 0044 1892 655 195 or [click on this link to email us](#).

### Where is 'Le Sarment'?

'Le Sarment' is in a hamlet called 'Grand Robert' close to the village of Escassefort, near the town of Marmande in the Lot et Garonne department. Marmande has a range of hotels, restaurants and shops, as well as a direct train link to Bordeaux.

### How do you get there?

There is easy access from the UK by air:

To Bordeaux from Gatwick and Heathrow. The airport is about 1½ hours by road from 'Le Sarment'.

Bergerac airport is about 45 minutes by car from 'Le Sarment'.

There is a good train service to Marmande from Paris. About 4/5 hours with a change in Bordeaux.

The roads from Eurotunnel are excellent. It is about a day's journey from the south of England and is a feasible drive, especially if it is possible to share the driving.

The coordinates for finding the Centre using a SatNav device are:

N 44° 33.632'

E 000° 13.030'

### How can I get around when I get there?

We may sometimes be able to lend you a vehicle or a bicycle. There is a small bakery in the local village of Escassefort which is within walking distance. There are of course a number of taxi services available.

### Where can I stay?

You are welcome to stay in the Centre for a minimal fee to be negotiated when needed. This may mean sleeping in a teaching or consulting room, without any luxuries, but with a modern, fully equipped bathroom. There are also a number of Gîtes in the area, easily found on the internet.

Here is a list of some of the **Hotels** in the local towns:

#### **Marmande:**

- Auberge du Lion d'Or (Marmande): [www.leliondor.fr](http://www.leliondor.fr)
- Hôtel Le Capricorne (Marmande): [www.lecapricorne-hotel.com](http://www.lecapricorne-hotel.com)
- Europ Hôtel (Marmande): [www.europ-hotel-marmande.com](http://www.europ-hotel-marmande.com)

**Allemands du Dropt** (30 mins drive; excellent cuisine):

- L'Etape Gasconne (Allemands du Dropt, 30 mins drive, excellent cuisine at reasonable prices):

[www.letapegasconne-hotel.com](http://www.letapegasconne-hotel.com) Good idea to reserve beforehand.

**Duras:**

- Hostellerie des Ducs Quality hotel and restaurant (Duras, 30 mins drive)

[www.hostellerieducs-duras.com](http://www.hostellerieducs-duras.com)

**Logis de France hotel chain:**

The English page of the 'Logis de France' chain: [www.logis-de-france.fr/uk/index.htm](http://www.logis-de-france.fr/uk/index.htm)

A practical guide to the region is available by ([clicking here](#)).

### **Do I need to book my own accommodation?**

Yes, unless you have arranged to stay at the centre, as mentioned above. Please try to book your own, but phone John on 0044 77 95 49 89 93 if you have a communication or other problem.

### **What other attractions are nearby?**

For those interested in history, the Centre is near to the ancient pilgrim route to Santiago de Compostella in Northern Spain. The area is steeped in history. It is surrounded by such medieval towns as St Emilion, with its tiny, winding streets, its fascinating little restaurants, bars, and of course its world famous wine.

For those interested in nature and wildlife, the Centre is set in 12 acres of unspoilt land, inhabited by innumerable birds, frogs, lizards, and other fascinating wild creatures.

For those with gastronomic interests, we could not be better placed for visits to excellent local restaurants, bars, and world-famous, vineyards, who usually let you taste their spectacular wines in situ.

### **Are there sporting and leisure activities nearby?**

There is a horse trekking centre very close to the centre, and the local town of Marmande has a swimming pool, gym, dance hall, golf course, a tennis facility, a museum and more. The town of [Marmande has its own tourism agency with a web site in English](#).

### **Can you provide an interpreter for me?**

We can translate into French on any course, and with some notice, into Spanish and German and Romanian, all without extra cost. We can also arrange Italian and other languages, but will have to pay the interpreter, so there would be an extra cost.

### **How do I pay?**

In Euros by cheque or direct bank to bank transfer over the internet. This is simple, quick and easy. Please make sure you reference your payment so that our accounts department can identify you.

Please [contact the head office in England](#) for the Bank Account details. If you have any questions please telephone the Institute in England on 0044 1892 655 195 Please send cheques to:

Wealden Institute France  
Le Sarment  
Grand Robert  
F-47350 ESCASSEFORT

### **What does the Course fee cover?**

The course fee covers the cost of the course itself, including any handouts that are provided. We also provide teas, coffees etc during break times, and a simple lunch, of for example, soup, bread, local cheese and fruit.

### **Do I have to pay at the time of booking?**

For courses of up to three days, we ask for the full fee, but for courses of longer duration it is possible to reserve a place by sending a deposit of £100, and to send the rest two weeks before the course starts.

### **Do you accept installments?**

Unfortunately we are not permitted under the law to accept installments, but it is possible to arrange to pay over time. Contact us to discuss your needs.

### **Do you accept credit cards?**

No, we are unable to accept payment by credit or debit card.

### **Are your courses fully accredited?**

All our TA and Gestalt courses are internationally recognised, and form part of advanced training towards qualification as a psychotherapist. Individual experiential workshops are run by a number of professionals who are qualified at various levels, and carry different levels of recognition.

### **Will the accreditation be recognised in my country?**

Most countries accept the qualifications in Transactional Analysis Psychotherapy without a requirement for additional training or qualifications to be held, but there are some exceptions. Anyone holding the Certified Transactional Analyst Qualification or who is a qualified Gestalt psychotherapist is entitled to obtain the European Certificate for Psychotherapy, which is recognised by all the national awarding associations of the European Association for Psychotherapy. For those outside Europe, the Global TA commission of certification has agreed to mutual recognition with Europe.

### **What does the TA psychotherapy training involve?**

We offer four 5-day workshops per year, which are run from Monday late morning to Friday early afternoon. These consist of an in-depth exploration of one TA topic. They comprise 30 hours of advanced TA training, and are suitable for anyone who has completed a TA101 course. They are multi-level, and participants are encouraged to share and exchange their knowledge skills and experience in a mutually enriching way. Everyone brings a unique richness of experience to offer, however much TA training they have already. Each course consists of approximately one-third theory

teaching, one- third experiential exercises, and one- third skills training.

Each workshop also functions as a stand-alone event for people who are interested in just furthering their knowledge of that topic.

### **What is entailed in Qualifying as a Transactional Analyst?**

The European Association for Transactional Analysis has set out a number of criteria for qualification as a Transactional Analyst. Full details may be downloaded by ([clicking here](#)), but in broad terms these are:

- The completion of an Introductory level course.
- 600 hours of professional training, of which 300 must be in TA.
- 150 hours of supervision, of which 150 must be with a TSTA or PTSTA, including - 40 with their Principal Supervisor.
- 750 hours of client contact, of which 500 hours must be TA.
- 500 hours of additional professional development.
- To have fulfilled the relevant requirements for certification of psychotherapists in their country.
- To have passed an open-book written examination.
- To have passed the oral examination.

Please note that countries differ in their national requirements. In the UK trainees must personal therapy throughout their training, at the rate of at least 40 hours per year.

### **How long does it take to qualify?**

People have different budgets and time available. People also vary in terms of whether they see clients as part of their existing work, or have to accumulate their hours of practice while employed in an unrelated field. Historically, some people qualified in the US by studying TA full time for two years, some people have taken six years or more. These days, most people take about four years to complete their studies and accumulate their hours of client work. They may then spend some further months, or even a year or more to prepare for the examination.