

# BARRON'S

## For France's Former First Lady Carla Bruni-Sarkozy, the 'Garden of Eden' Is in Provence



Former first lady of France Carla Bruni-Sarkozy has multiple accolades to her name.

She's a former model and singer-songwriter who has sold more than 5 million albums. Now, Bruni-Sarkozy can add wine industry businesswoman to the list, as a co-owner of Roseblood D'Estoublon, a rosé that's produced in the Provence estate Château D'Estoublon, a place that she calls her "Garden of Eden."

Bruni-Sarkozy visited the property for the first time in 2020, with her husband, the former French president Nicolas Sarkozy, and says that she was taken with the beauty and paradise-like feel. Partnering with two French entrepreneurs, Stéphane Courbit and Jean-Guillaume Prats, to create a rosé brand has allowed her to have an ongoing connection to the chateau.

Bruni-Sarkozy was recently in New York to launch her flagship rosé, the Vintage 2023, and spoke to *Penta* about her favorite things.



**What I love most about rosé is...** that it's a light wine and pleasurable. It reflects the taste of life. Wine shouldn't make you drunk, and when you drink rosé, you taste how refreshing it is. You don't taste the alcohol.

**My favorite way to enjoy rosé is...** over an appetizer at dinner, especially with Mediterranean, Indian, or Japanese food. If I'm on holiday and have nothing to do, I enjoy a glass at lunch.

**The most beautiful parts of Provence are...** the area around Château D'Estoublon called Alpes-de-Haute. The land is special and full of olive and cypress trees. In the summer, roses are everywhere, and the air is fragrant. It's very hilly and lush.

**Provence's hidden gems include...** Gordes, a small medieval village that's a dream out of a storybook. You'll find great restaurants, the best sunsets, and incredible views.

**The best culinary indulgences in Provence are...** a tapenade made out of green or black olives and eaten with lots of bread and a glass of rosé. But the vegetables and fruits are so flavorful that I consider them an indulgence as well. The tomatoes, herbs, melons, and zucchini have an incredible taste that you don't get anywhere else.

**If I had to buy one thing in Provence, it would be...** a bottle of great olive oil.

**The restaurants I frequent the most in Paris are...** D'Alberto, an Italian restaurant in the 16th arrondissement where the pasta with artichokes and olives is delicious, and L'Ami Louis, a French bistro with classics like a roast chicken with a potato cake that I usually order. The cuisine is simple, and the menu doesn't change.

**For an insider Paris visit, I recommend...** going to Montmartre on Sunday evening to eat at a small restaurant, ideally a bistro. You avoid the tourists who come here during the day and are around Parisians who are in the area at night.

**The musicians I listen to the most are...** Chopin, Mozart. Classical music puts me in a serene place. I also love pop and folk music. Any kind of music, really.

**My go-to travel destinations include...** Sicily, where I like the island Pantelleria. Also, Greece, Turkey, outside of Bodrum, and Budapest.

**If I had to pick my next vacation spot, it would be...** Rajasthan, in India. But I think I need a month.

**I never leave home without...** my guitar.

**If I could pick one hotel to stay in again and again, it would be...** any Aman.

**When I'm not working, I like to...** read. I like classical novels a lot.

**The best advice I've received is...** to not get worried. Don't be anxious because what you're worried about may not ever happen.