

Villa Oliva

Region: Lucca & Pisa **Sleeps:** 8

Overview

Constructed in the 16th century, Villa Oliva was used for hundreds of years as the olive press for the villagers of Vorno. The beautiful, ochre-coloured villa has now been carefully restored and is used as a home for relaxing holidays in the Tuscan countryside. The house is part of a small collection of homes that comprise an idyllic rural estate which boasts vast grounds, a chapel and sporting facilities.

Villa Oliva is a sumptuously decorated farmhouse-style home with well-preserved historic features sitting alongside all of the modern amenities we have come to rely on in day-to-day life. Walking around this 500-year-old home, you will see details such as terracotta floor tiles, wooden ceiling beams and carved stonework. These touches fill the home with charm and character and allow you to imagine life here in times gone by. On top of the historical details, the rooms are decorated in a period style with rich colours and antique furnishings.

The house is spacious and welcoming, with the rooms set over two floors. On the ground floor, you will find the communal spaces, starting with the living room in deep yellow tones with red-hued sofas, armchairs and rugs. The room has a grand feel and is an excellent place for guests to gather. Just next door, there is an open-plan kitchen and dining space. The kitchen is typically Tuscan in style, with country-style units and vaulted ceilings. All of the appliances, crockery and gadgets you need for cooking are available here unless you wish to book a private chef so that you can simply unwind.

Heading up the stairs, you will see the four large bedrooms. Three rooms boast double beds and en-suite bathrooms, while the fourth bedroom can be set up as either a double room or a room with two single beds and an en-suite bathroom. All rooms here are atmospheric, colourful and filled with antique furniture, and you will have a restful night in whichever room you choose.

Villa Oliva is perfectly set up for outdoor living as the home has outdoor seating areas, expansive lawns and an inviting private swimming pool. Guests can spend plenty of time out here, lounging in the sun or enjoying a barbecue together. You can also use the sports courts and pitches of the luxury estate and head out on walks around the parkland.

Though the villa is nestled amongst Tuscany's rolling hills, the closest village is only 2km away. For a broader range of shops, restaurants and historic attractions, you can head into the gorgeous city of Lucca, which is 8km away.



The city's towers can be seen in the distance from the garden, and at night, you will see the city's twinkling lights from the house. Lucca has something to keep everyone entertained, from wine-tasting tours to fantastic museums.

A little further afield, you are also well-placed to visit the city of Pisa, which is 22km away or spend a lazy day at the beach, the nearest of which is a 30km drive from the home.

Facilities

- Wow Factor • **Recommended** • Heritage Collection • Private Pool • Heated Pool • Beach Nearby • Ideal for Babies & Toddlers • Ideal for Kids • Ideal for Teens • Wi-Fi/Internet • Air-Con • Pets on Request • Walk to Restaurant • <1hr to Airport • BBQ • Washing Machine • Dishwasher • Microwave • Coffee Machine • Safety Deposit Box • Hairdryer • All Bedrooms En-Suite • Ideal for Parties • Satellite TV • TV • DVD • Heating • Cot(s) • High Chair(s) • Parking Space • Rural Location • Walking/Hiking Paths • Wine Tasting • Golf Nearby • Tennis Nearby • Cycling • Horse Riding • Fishing • Outstanding Landscapes • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Tourist Towns & Villages • Historical Sites • Romantic • Chapel on Site

Interior & Grounds

Villa Interior (400m2)

Ground Floor

- Living room with sofas, armchairs and flatscreen TV
- Fully-fitted kitchen with oven, hob, fridge freezer, microwave, dishwasher, kettle, toaster, wine fridge and coffee maker
- Dining area with table seating 8
- Bathroom

First Floor

- 2 x Bedrooms with double beds, seating area and en-suite bathrooms with shower, sink and WC
- Bedroom with double bed and en-suite bathroom with bath, shower, sink and WC
- Bedroom with double bed or two single beds with en-suite bathroom with shower, sink and WC

Outside Grounds

- Private swimming pool with floodlighting in evening (8m x 4m, max depth: 1.8m) Heated on request
- Large leafy garden with lawns and terraces
- Access to shared sports fields and courts
- Outdoor seating
- Al-fresco dining areas
- Pool side sun loungers and parasols
- Shared tennis court nearby
- Barbecue
- Parking

Facilities

- Wi-Fi
- Air conditioning
- Central heating
- Satellite TVs
- Music system
- DVD player and library
- Washing machine
- Iron and ironing board
- Hairdryers



Location & Local Information

The local village is Vorno, a mere 2km from the home. This 1000-year-old village is surrounded by farms, growing produce such as olives and chestnuts. A few restaurants are here, including a traditional Italian restaurant and a family-friendly pizzeria. Vorno also offers access to an abundance of walking and hiking routes through the beautiful landscape, such as the pathways of the ancient pilgrim routes of the *Via Francigena*, which wind down to the *Rio di Vorno River*.

For a broader range of eateries, bars and shops, you should visit Lucca, which is 8km away. Lucca is a stunning walled city with a long history as the city began life as a Roman settlement. Hidden away in a valley at the bottom of the Apuan Alps, the city is quite different from the usual hilltop towns of Tuscany. To protect the city from attack, it was surrounded by thick, imposing walls which still stand today, though now they are used as a scenic pedestrian walkway and are enclosed by leafy parks where you can go cycling or enjoy picnics. A great way to get your bearings is to book a guided tour of Lucca early on in your trip so that you can stroll around the sights with a knowledgeable guide and list some more places to visit during the holiday. Plenty of tours are available, catering to all interests, from foodie tours to art tours. There is so much to see and do in Lucca that you will want to visit more than once; some of the main attractions here are *Amphitheatre Square*, *Guinigi Tower*, *Palazzo Mansi* and the *National Art Gallery*.

If you wish to visit another Tuscan city, why not drive 22km to Pisa, a fantastic city with much more to it than the famous Leaning Tower. Of course, you should see the tower that has stood for over 800 years and is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Close by, you will also find the impressive Pisa Cathedral with breathtaking interiors. Some other key attractions include the *Piazza dei Cavalieri*, a historic square which has been the site of a Roman Forum and a university founded by Napoleon. These bustling squares are the centre of Italian city life, and leading off from here, you can find streets filled with shops, restaurants, cafes and bars.

Not far from Pisa, you will also find the closest beaches just over 30km away by car. One great beach you can visit is Oasi Mare e Dune, which is a gorgeous sandy stretch with chic beach clubs and backed by protected parkland. If you prefer a secluded, wild swimming cove, you can also find one of these nearby.



Local Amenities

Nearest Airport	Pisa Airport (22km)
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Nearest Ferry Port	Viareggio (30km)
Nearest Village	Vorno (2km)
Nearest Town/City	Lucca (8km)
Nearest Restaurant	Local Village (1km)
Nearest Bar/Pub	Local Village (2km)
Nearest Beach	Oasi Mare e Dune (30km)
Nearest Golf	(4km)
Nearest City	Pisa (22km)
Nearest Tennis	(4km)

What we love

- Villa Oliva is a beautiful Tuscan olive press used by local villagers. It has recently been transformed to create a delightful four-bedroom home
- The gardens here are a serene oasis which look out over the nearby olive groves and down to the historic towers of Lucca in the distance
- The concierge team, porter and pool attendant are all on hand to make sure your break is as relaxing as possible

What you should know...

- There is a lovely chapel within the estate grounds; weddings can be held here with prior arrangement.
- While staying at Villa Oliva, guests can book a range of extras such as a private chef, driver service, grocery shopping, additional beds and excursions.
- Due to the rural setting, we recommend that you arrive at the home by car to explore more of your surroundings.
- There are a few other villas which are part of the wider estate. These will not cause any disturbance to you as Villa Oliva has an expansive, private garden.

Terms & Conditions

- Security deposit: €5000 charged to client's credit card as a pre-authorisation at least 2 weeks prior to arrival and refunded two weeks after departure, subject to full inspection.
- Arrival time: 4.00 p.m.
- Departure time: 10.00 a.m.
- Energy costs included?: Up to 500kHw a week, excess charged extra, payable locally.
- Linen & towels included?: Yes. Changed on a Saturday and Wednesday. Additional change of linen and towels are subject to an extra cost.
- Pets welcome?: On request only and with prior agreement with the owner.
- Changeover day: Saturday from June to end-September. Flexible during all other periods.
- Smoking Allowed?: Not allowed.
- Insurance: Guests are required to be in possession of a valid insurance policy, which covers them for cancellations, loss of personal belongings, personal liability and any accidental damage caused during their stay.
- Minimum stay: 7 nights June to end-September. 3 nights during all other periods.
- Heating costs included?: Up to 500kHw a week, excess charged extra, payable locally.
- Pool towels included?: Yes.
- End of stay cleaning included?: Yes. However, guests are required to leave the accommodation clean, tidy and in the same condition as on their arrival. Any extra cleaning, laundry, maintenance and/or rubbish disposal required will be charged against the security deposit.
- Pool heating charge?: Available on request and extra cost, payable locally. Please note that like all heated pools, pool heating and water temperature are reliant on weather and outside temperatures.
- Tax: Italian Visitors Tax payable locally in cash (typically costs €1-€10 per adult per night - please enquire if exact amount is required).
- Other Ts and Cs: Weddings, stag/hen parties and any special events are on request only and subject to prior arrangement with the owner and additional charges.
- Other Ts and Cs: Extra beds available on request, payable locally.
- Other Ts and Cs: Highchairs and cots are available on request for an extra €125 per item per week, payable locally.