

Villa Il Gufo

Region: Chianti & Arezzo Sleeps: 8 - 20

Overview

Nestled within the small medieval village of Anghiari, Villa il Gufo is comprised of several Tuscan farmhouses, restored with love and passion to create a magical estate of distinctive earthy colour tones and subtle aromas of Jasmine and Primrose.

The property consists of three units dating back to 1600, that include a monastery that housed Camaldolesi monks for over a thousand years, a main house spread over three stories with private terracotta terraces, and a charming stone cottage about 30m away from the main building. All of these fascinating buildings have long and varied histories, and have been restored with respect to their heritage, keeping many of the original features such as the floor tiles, stone steps and thick wooden trusses.

Surrounding the buildings are carefully maintained landscaped gardens boasting a wide array of colourful blossoms, and a further five acres of woodland home to one of the oldest cypresses in the valley and many resident squirrels, hares, deer, pheasants, and owls. This strong connection to nature is one of the standout attractions of the property, where guests can relax in the sun by the large outdoor swimming pool, hide away in a small wooden snug secluded among the olive trees, enjoy the children's playground with hammocks and games, or dine al-fresco on a veranda surrounded by roses.

The family behind the renovation of this wonderful property is extremely passionate about the experience that each guest enjoys and encourage you to specify any needs you may have before you arrive in order for them to ensure they can provide you with the perfect tailor-made service. To ensure that the culinary heritage is fully appreciated, the owners can organise meals, wine and oil tastings in many oil mills and wineries in the area. They can even organise all this within the estate so you never have to leave the comfort of Villa il Gufo!

AS MENTIONED IN THE

Daily Mail



Facilities

Quirky • Sustainable Collection • **Recommended** • **Exclusive** • Private Pool • Ideal for Babies & Toddlers • Ideal for Kids • Ideal for Teens • Wi-Fi/Internet • Air-Con • Walk to Village • <1hr to Airport • BBQ • All Bedrooms En-Suite • Ground Floor Bed & Bath • Cable TV • Outdoor Games • Table Tennis • DVD • Working Fireplace • Cot(s) • High Chair(s) • Fenced Grounds • Rural Location • Walking/Hiking Paths • Wine Tasting • Golf Nearby • Tennis Nearby • Fishing • Outstanding Landscapes • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Tourist Towns & Villages • Historical Sites

Interior & Grounds

- 1) 4 double bedrooms (8 guests)
- 2) 7 double bedrooms (14 guests)
- 3) 7 double bedrooms + sofa beds (20 guests)

The Villa (access to the main house is from two sides: the kitchen and the living room)

Ground Floor

- Large living room with huge fireplace, Steinway piano, 3 sofas, 5 square tables and chairs
- Small sitting area with armchairs
- Fully-equipped kitchen with 6 burners, a large oven, 2 large fridges, two sinks, a dishwasher (that completes a full load in 60 seconds!), washing machine, coffee machine, kettle, microwave, dryer, toaster, deep fryer and a kitchen table next to a working fireplace

First Floor

- Living room with original working fireplace
- Large terrace with stunning views
- Suite with a double bed, ensuite bathroom and a corner bath tub
- Suite with a double bed, ensuite shower room and access to the terrace
- Suite with a sitting area with a double sofa bed (suitable for two guests), ensuite bathroom and French doors leading to the terrace

Second Floor (said to be an old watchtower)

- Mezzanine library
- Suite with a double bed and a living room with fireplace and double sofa bed (the two rooms are separated by a door but share the same en-suite bathroom)

The Cottage

- Master bedroom with two bathrooms (a disabled toilet and a bathroom with hydro-massage shower)
- Compact kitchen
- Garden with table and chairs, suitable for 2 or 3 people

Former Chapel

Ground Floor

- Suite with a double bed and en-suite shower room



First Floor

- Suite with a master bedroom and en-suite bathroom with shower
- Kitchenette with refrigerator

Outside Grounds (1 hectare)

- Swimming Pool (12m x 6m, depth: 1.5m), open approximately mid-May to end-September
- Large outdoor shower solarium area furnished with sun loungers, tables, chairs and parasols
- Laundry room with a washing machine and tumble dryer
- Extensive lush gardens
- Ancient well
- Games area with table tennis, hammocks, rackets and balls
- Pergola with a table and chairs near the kitchen and another by the pool
- 5 acres of woodland
- Parking

Facilities

- Wi-Fi
- Heating (available for use from 1st November, unless requested in advance)
- TVs
- DVDs
- Stereo with CD player
- Hairdryers
- Books and magazines
- Guides and information about the area
- Board games
- Iron and ironing board
- Mosquito screens

Location & Local Information

Just 1km from the property, in the village of Tavernelle di Anghiari, you will find the basic necessities and a couple of restaurants.

Anghiari (5 mins drive away) is a small gem known throughout the world for its art and culture, antique shops, local crafts, excellent restaurants and its medieval history. Built around the flow of the Arno and Tiber rivers it is dotted with churches, medieval houses, monasteries and archaeological sites. From the top you can see the entire valley - a truly magnificent view. Its narrow streets and squares are home to masterpieces of painting and sculpture that in recent years have received recognition from the Italian touring club who declared it one of the most beautiful villages of Italy.

Over the years various famous artists have lived here including Michelangelo Buonarroti, Piero della Francesca, Luca Pacioli and Leonardo da Vinci who painted here at the famous Battle of Anghiari.

The food, the art, the history, the culture can all be felt everywhere, from the farmer's market on Wednesday to the Tuesday and Saturday markets in Sansepolcro, during the many festivals held throughout the year, and especially in the summer music festivals.

The house's location is an ideal base from which to visit the most popular places in Tuscany such as Florence, Siena, Assisi, Perugia, which are all less than 100km from the house, or in just over two hours you can reach Lucca and Pisa.

An easy drive takes you to the lesser known but charming villages of Sansepolcro, Cortona (famous for the book and film "Under the Tuscan Sun" by Frances Mayes), Citerna and Monterchi. Also nearby is the beautiful hermitage of La Verna where Francis of Assisi received the stigmata and Arezzo, famous for the film "Life is Beautiful" where every first weekend of the month one of the most famous antiques fairs in Italy is held here.

Being on the border with Umbria, it is well worth a walk in Città di Castello, Gubbio and Lake Trasimeno up to Spello, or visit Deruta which is known worldwide for its famous handmade pottery.

If your passion is fishing there are many lakes where you will find trout and chub, and you can also fish at the dam of Montedoglio, that is full of pike and carp.

If shopping is your thing then there are many outlets (the mall, Prada, Valdichiana outlet, Befane) that can be reached in less than an hour's drive. Tennis courts and bowling can be found in Anghiari and Sansepolcro, where



there are also gyms and fitness centres. Meanwhile there is a stunning 9-hole golf course in Perugia.

Local Amenities

Nearest Airport	Perugia Airport (77km)
Nearest Airport 2	Florence Airport (100km)
Nearest Train Station	Arezzo (27km)
Nearest Village	Tavernelle di Anghiari (1km)
Nearest Town/City	Anghiari (3km)
Nearest Beach	Adriatic Coast (150km)
Nearest Golf	Perugia (80km)

What Oliver loves...

- The villa is surrounded by beautiful private parkland with a huge variety of flowers, yet is within walking distance of the medieval town of Anghiari, famous around the world for its art and culture
- A full service can be offered by the dedicated owner who can organise everything you need and help you to unlock the many joys the local area has to offer
- All the bedrooms are en-suite so there is no fighting over the best rooms
- Enjoy the enormous fireplace each evening as nights are mild in Tuscany

What you should know...

- An exceptionally friendly owner lives in the cottage directly opposite and is always at hand, both for carrying out usual property maintenance tasks as well as for providing optional catering and range of local services
- During winter the old buildings can get a little chilly, so make sure you request the heating be turned on
- The pool is accessed via a staircase with wooden steps
- The cottage benefits from having a disabled toilet for guests with reduced mobility
- The first floor of the main villa can also be accessed via an external staircase from the garden
- When minimum occupancy is booked, certain rooms may not be accessible (subject to owner's discretion) - best to enquire with us beforehand

Terms & Conditions

- Security deposit: €1800 paid in cash to the owner upon arrival and refunded upon departure, subject to full inspection.
- Arrival time: 4.00 p.m.
- Departure time: 9.30 a.m.
- Energy costs included?: Extra €400 per week, paid locally.
- Linen & towels included?: Yes, changed twice per week.
- Pets welcome?: Not allowed.
- End of stay cleaning included?: Extra €400 per stay, paid locally. 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.
- Smoking Allowed?: Outside only.
- Insurance: It is recommended that all guests take out insurance to cover against potential cancellation and any accidental damage caused during your stay at the property.
- Changeover day: Saturday.
- Heating costs included?: Extra €580 per week, paid locally. Heating available from 1st November.
- Internet access?: Wi-Fi internet access included.
- 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.
- Pool towels included?: Yes.
- Pool opening dates?: The pool is open approximately mid-May to end-September. Please note that pool opening dates are subject to local weather conditions and pool maintenance requirements and that cooler months may not be suitable for swimming.
- Other Ts and Cs: When minimum occupancy is booked, certain rooms may not be accessible (subject to owner's discretion) - best to enquire with us beforehand.
- Other Ts and Cs: A cot (excluding cot linen) and high chair are available on request.
- Minimum stay: 7 nights during high season, 5 nights during low season.