

# Villa Vulcano

Region: Eastern Sicily **Sleeps: 6 - 8**

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## Overview

Nestled into the hillside at the foot of Mount Etna and surrounded by unspoilt countryside is Villa Vulcano. With sweeping views out towards the famous volcano as well as the Alcantara Valley and the Nebrodi Park, you'll be lucky to find a better spot in north-east Sicily.

A long driveway leading up to the villa gives you ample opportunity to take in the beauty of this country estate, which has been lovingly restored to retain much of its original character. With its old stone walls, terracotta roof and bright red shutters, the house boasts a striking façade.

Step inside and you will find a blend of authentic pieces and contemporary style, which creates a homey yet elegant feel throughout. Each bedroom has its own charming en-suite while built into the loft (available when renting for 8 guests) there is a spacious suite featuring a living area, double bedroom and bathroom, ideal for those seeking a little privacy from the rest of the house.

Outside is a 2000m<sup>2</sup> oasis of grassy lawns and greenery, with a dining table and chairs for everyone to gather and enjoy a delicious home-cooked or chef-prepared meal. From the sun loungers, comfy seating area and 15m infinity pool you can admire the stunning scenery around you. The sight of the sun beaming down on the often-snowy tip of Mount Etna never gets old!

A quaint little village can be found just a 10-minute drive away, with a couple of bars and useful amenities such as a butcher's, grocery store and petrol station. Castiglione di Sicilia is an archetypal hilltop village just 8km away. As well as ancient churches, here you will find an array of restaurants and supermarkets for stocking up on essentials.

Other towns nearby include Randazzo, Linguaglossa and Piedimonte, while dotting the landscape in between them are dozens of vineyards, many of which offer tours and tasting sessions.

Around an hour's drive takes you to the glistening coastline and the resort of Giardini Naxos and popular town of Taormina. Beautiful beaches, including Isola Bella, and azure waters await, as well as boat trips and snorkelling.



The still-active volcano and UNESCO World Heritage Site of Mount Etna can be explored on foot on a variety of expeditions. There are hikes for all abilities and those adventurous enough can climb all the way to the summit to experience some incredible views of the island.

## Facilities

Private Pool • Ideal for Babies & Toddlers • Ideal for Kids • Ideal for Teens • Wi-Fi/Internet • Air-Con • Pets on Request • BBQ • Safety Deposit Box • Hairdryer • All Bedrooms En-Suite • Ground Floor Bed & Bath • Satellite TV • DVD • Heating • Cot(s) • High Chair(s) • Watersports • Rural Location • Walking/Hiking Paths • Wine Tasting • Golf Nearby • Tennis Nearby • Cycling • Horse Riding • Outstanding Landscapes • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Tourist Towns & Villages • Historical Sites • Scuba Diving • Boat Trips

# Interior & Grounds

1) 6 guest rate: only the ground floor and first floor are available

2) 8 guest rate: entire property is available

## Villa Interiors (300m2)

### Ground Floor:

- Open-plan kitchen/dining room with oven, hob, fridge, freezer, microwave, kettle, mixer, Nespresso machine, toaster, coffee percolator, dining table and chairs
- Living room with sofas and TV
- WC

### First Floor:

- 2 x bedrooms with double beds and en-suite bathrooms with showers and WCs
- Bedroom with twin beds and en-suite bathroom with shower and WC

### Second Floor (loft):

- Suite with sofas, TV, bedroom with double bed and en-suite bathroom with bath, shower and WC

## Outside Grounds (2000m2)

- Saltwater swimming pool (5m x 15m, depth: 0.6m – 1.5m) with steps. Open approximately April to end-October
- Outdoor shower
- Terrace
- Outdoor lounge area
- Al-fresco dining table and chairs
- BBQ
- Sun loungers and umbrella
- Organic vegetable garden
- Garden with grassy lawns
- Parking

## Facilities

- Wi-Fi
- Air-conditioning
- Underfloor heating and radiators (6 heating pumps)
- TV and DVD player
- Hi-Fi system and CD player
- Washing machine
- Iron



## Location & Local Information

Villa Vulcano is located on a hillside at the foot of the slopes of Mount Etna, a still-active volcano and UNESCO World Heritage Site. Explore the striking terrain and experience incredible landscape of north-east Sicily as you hike or cycle around the foothills or take part in a guided tour up the volcano itself. With expeditions for varying levels, there's something for everyone, including trips to the summit for the most adventurous walkers. From the top you can admire sweeping views across the countryside below and out towards the island's Ionian coast.

Volcanic soil provides the perfect conditions for lush orchards and the immediate area encircling the villa is littered with vineyards. Many of them offer tours and wine-tasting and are part of the Etna wine routes.

As well as countless wineries, the surrounding countryside is dotted with charming hilltop villages and the nearest one is just 4km away. It has a few useful amenities including a butcher's, pharmacy and a couple of cafés.

Also nearby is Castiglione di Sicilia, an ancient village 8km away with a 17th-century church, baroque basilica and the impressive Lauria Castle, which was erected by the Normans. Along the winding alleys and sloping streets you will also find a handful of restaurants serving delicious local dishes.

Other towns nearby include Linguaglossa, Piedimonte and Randazzo, which is known as the 'Black Town' due to its gothic buildings constructed from dark lava blocks. The best example of Randazzo's unique architecture is its cathedral which dates back to the 13th century. Just a 15-minute drive away, the town is also home to several museums and historic churches.

For a change of scene, drive to Sicily's eastern shore in around an hour. Popular spots to visit include the resort of Giardini Naxos, with its sandy stretch of beach and crystal-clear water. At certain points along the beach sun loungers and umbrellas are available to rent while an assortment of restaurants and summer beach bars line the seafront promenade, making it a wonderful place to spend the day. A number of boat trips depart from the port, including snorkelling and scuba diving expeditions.

The town of Taormina is also home to another lovely beach, from which you can reach the scenic island and nature reserve of Isola Bella. The town, which can be reached in just under an hour, also has a hilltop centre with sites including a Greek amphitheatre. Take the cable car from the beach to the old town and admire the fantastic views out to sea and inland towards Mount Etna as you go.



## Local Amenities

Nearest Airport	<b>Catania (74km)</b>
Nearest Train Station	<b>Randazzo (10km)</b>
Nearest Village	<b>(4km)</b>
Nearest Restaurant	<b>(4km)</b>
Nearest Bar/Pub	<b>(4km)</b>
Nearest Shop	<b>(4km)</b>
Nearest Supermarket	<b>Castiglione di Sicilia (8km)</b>
Nearest City	<b>Catania (74km)</b>
Nearest Beach	<b>Giardini Naxos (29km)</b>
Nearest Tennis	<b>Randazzo (10km)</b>
Nearest Golf	<b>8km (Castiglione di Sicilia)</b>

## What we love

- Villa Vulcano is a beautifully restored country estate where original features create a characterful home
- Outside is an oasis of greenery, with pristine grassy lawns, shady trees and a driveway framed by lush orchards leading up to the villa
- The infinity pool looks out over the surrounding countryside and is the perfect place to enjoy the panoramic views of Mount Etna
- Visit the nearby towns of Castiglione di Sicilia and Randazzo or drive to the coast where you will find gorgeous sandy beaches at Giardini Naxos and Taormina
- The area offers a variety of walking and cycling routes, while taking part in a guided hike up Mount Etna is a truly unforgettable experience

## What you should know...

- To make the most of the amazing views, the infinity pool is unfenced so please take note of the steep drop from the sides
- Please note that the 6 guest rate (which does not include the second floor) is not available in June, July & August.
- Please note that published rates are only valid for the current year. Any bookings for subsequent years will be on request only and correct rates will be confirmed at the time of booking
- Please note that your booking will only be confirmed once we have checked availability with the owner or their property manager
- Please note that the use of any external caterers and/or contractors is not permitted

# Terms & Conditions

- Security deposit: €1000 paid in cash to the owner upon arrival and refunded upon departure, subject to full inspection.
- Arrival time: 4.00 p.m. - 9.00 p.m. Late arrivals, if agreed, will be subject to a €30 fee, to be paid on arrival.
- Departure time: 8.00 a.m. - 10.00 a.m.
- Energy costs included?: Yes.
- Heating costs 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.
- Changeover day: Saturday in August. Flexible during all other periods.
- Minimum stay: 7 nights in August. 5 nights during all other periods.
- Linen & towels included?: Yes, including mid-week change of towels.
- Pool towels included?: Yes.
- Pool opening dates?: The pool is open approximately April to end-October. 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.
- Pets welcome?: On request only and with prior agreement with the owner. If accepted, a pet supplement of €200 per pet will apply (payable locally).
- Smoking Allowed?: Outside only.
- Internet access?: Wi-Fi internet access included.
- Tax: Italian Visitors Tax payable locally in cash (typically costs €1-€3 per adult per night- please enquire if exact amount is required).
- Other Ts and Cs: Please note that published rates are only valid for the current year. Any bookings for subsequent years will be on request only and correct rates will be confirmed at the time of booking.
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