



*Villa Gonzola is stylish,
luxurious and a wonderful
place to escape!*

Villa Gonzola

La Foce Estate, nr Montepulciano, Val d'Orcia, Tuscany

A luxurious and tastefully restored farmhouse in the heart of the Val d'Orcia, Villa Gonzola is hard to beat.

The property of La Foce extends over the hills overlooking the Val d'Orcia, an enchanting and miraculously unspoilt valley in southern Tuscany, listed as UNESCO world heritage in 2004. Midway between Florence and Rome, La Foce is also within easy reach of Siena, Arezzo, Perugia, Assisi and Orvieto. Renaissance and medieval gems such as Pienza, Montepulciano, Monticchiello and Montalcino and the abbey of Sant'Antimo are only a few miles away from the private and stunning Villa Gonzola.

In 1924 the Irish-American Iris Origo - the famous author - and her Italian husband, Marchese Antonio Origo, acquired the La Foce estate- a combination of olive groves, widespread cultivated fields and woodland. In those days, their management of La Foce brought prosperity and cultural and social changes to the poverty-ridden land it was then. Today their daughters, Benedetta and Donata, run the La Foce estate and their personality pervades in the hospitable atmosphere.

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Villa Gonzola lies in the middle of open farmland, surrounded by wheat and sunflowers to one side and a small wood and the famous crete senesi to the other. A traditional Tuscan farmhouse, Gonzola exudes charm and comfort. The walls of the kitchen have been painted in a stunning blue chalk wash which is typical of traditional Tuscan farms and the hues of the bedroom walls were equally inspired by traditional peasant colour schemes, light pinks, yellows and transparent blues. Rooms are light and spacious and

Merrion Charles

PRIVATE TRAVEL CONSULTANT

Tel: +39 0585 92098 | Mobile: +39 392 155 1464 | Email: info@merrioncharles.com
Via Ariosto 32, Cotto, Fivizzano 54013, MS, Italy

the large summer room is fabulous for children whilst the living room provides the perfect venue to relax with a book and a glass of wine.

The garden was landscaped by Peter Curzon and the plants he chose blend in naturally with the surrounding fields creating a gentle harmony with the pergola for meals outside, the pool house and the pool itself, which is exposed to the sun all day long. It is hard to draw one's self away from this magical place and one can understand from where Iris Origo gained her inspiration.

The closest village is Contignano which lies at a distance of 7 kms from the house. Here guests will find a basic food shop (alimentari), a bar, a butcher and a fruit and vegetable shop and one should not miss a visit to the local dairy which produces some of the best pecorino (local sheep cheese) of the region. The countryside around La Foce abounds in lovely walks in the woods and the typical "crete senesi" (clay hills) of the region. The food is considered the best in Tuscany and famous wines such as VIno Nobile di Montepulciano and Brunello di Montalcino can be sampled in the local cellars.

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Information

Sleeps: 10

Service:

- 2 hours maid service per day
- Cook service, shopping, arrival meal and additional maid service available on request

Accommodation:

Ground floor:

- Very large summer room with ping pong table,
- Twin bedroom with bathroom en suite,
- WC

First Floor:

- Large living room with open fireplace
- Large kitchen with dining table
- Two double bedrooms with bathrooms en suite
- Double bedroom
- Twin bedroom
- Bathroom

Garden:

- Poolhouse with summer kitchen and spacious pergola for al fresco meals
- WC and changing room

General:

- Private Pool 6m x 12m
- Covered parking space
- CD-stereo, satellite TV
- Dishwasher, washing machine
- Ping pong
- High chair and cot available
- Wireless Internet connection is available in the upstairs living room (free of charge)

Places of Interest:

- Pienza
- Montepulciano
- Montalcino
- Cetona
- Sarteano (tennis)
- 4 hot spas and beauty farms 20-30 mins

Transport:

- Airports
- Rome 2 hours
- Florence 1.5 hours

