



*A stunning home situated  
in an area rich in history,  
natural beauty and culture.*

## Villa La Foce

*La Foce Estate, Val d'Orcia, Tuscany*

This fabulous villa with famous garden created by Iris Origo and Cecil Pinsent, is a haven of tranquility and luxury in the beautiful Val d'Orcia.

Villa La Foce is the main house on La Foce Estate, consisting today of 450 hectares of farmland and several farmhouses. It was originally built at the end of the XVth century as a wayside tavern, but soon became the centre of an estate belonging to the great Hospital of Santa Maria della Scala in Siena. In 1924 it was bought by Antonio and Iris Origo and turned into their comfortable home, from where they farmed and developed the land.

Villa La Foce is built on three levels, following the lie of the hill, and is surrounded by the now famous garden created by Iris Origo and the English architect Cecil Pinsent – a 'labour of love' lasting many years. The house is full of old-world charm, unpretentious, but with beautiful antique furniture and comfortable beds.

There are many cultural activities organized by and around La Foce, held mainly in the 'Castelluccio', a medieval castle only 1 mile away. Here numerous music and art lovers gather to this

beautiful and unspoilt part of Tuscany, the Val d'Orcia, that has recently been included among the World Heritage sites of UNESCO.

Three gardeners look after the premises, including the swimming pool opposite the 'limonaia' (orangerie). Two full-time maids (including a local cook) and an extra daily help care for the house and its guests. Meals are often held under the pergola in the garden, where guests can relax in the shade of roses and wisteria, lulled by the sound of water in the fountain nearby.

The main villa consists of five double bedrooms, three singles, five bathrooms and a cloakroom with WC. There is a delightful library with a fireplace and sofas, a sunlit living room with satellite TV, a central frescoed and balconied dining room for very special evenings, and a study – all on the raised ground floor. A large music and living room, with fireplace and two pianos, and several sofas and armchairs, offers plenty of room for

entertaining friends and family gatherings, on a lower floor. A large kitchen and a second dining room are also on a lower floor, plus a breakfast room with double glass doors, facing the inner 'fountain' garden. All rooms have stunning views over the garden and valley in addition to which there is an independent apartment on the second floor, with its own kitchen: a perfect retreat for children and nannies, or younger guests.

Villa La Foce is a very special find – not only is it a stunning home with enchanting gardens and excellent staff but it is also situated in an area rich in history, natural beauty and culture – somewhere truly magical.

## Information

**Sleeps: 14/19**

### Main Villa

Sleeps: 14

#### Accommodation:

##### Raised Ground Floor:

- Entrance hallway
- Cloakroom with guest WC
- Library
- Study
- Dining room with frescoes
- Living room with satellite TV
- Two suites, one with 1 double and 1 single bedroom, and one with 1 double and 1 twin bedroom

##### First Floor:

(overlooking the balconied dining-room)

- 1 double bedroom with en-suite bathroom
- 1 double bedroom with its own bathroom across the corridor
- 1 attic bedroom with 1 single bed (large)

##### Lower Floor:

- Large living room with fireplace, opening onto the garden and pool (in another wing)
- Breakfast room with french windows opening onto the garden pergola
- Dining room
- Kitchen

### First floor separate apartment

Sleeps: 5

- 1 double bedroom with en-suite bathroom and dressing room
- 1 twin bedroom
- 1 single bedroom
- 2 bathrooms
- Large living room.
- The view from all these windows overlooks the garden and the valley – this used to be the private apartment of Iris Origo.
- Kitchen with dining table and fireplace.



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A washing machine and dryer, and an ironing table, are available for all the guests in the upstairs 'linen room'.

## Arrivals on Saturday afternoons.

### The rent includes:

- electricity, water, heating, firewood
- 2 fulltime maids 6 days per week (from 9 am to 3 pm & from 6 pm to 9 pm for the 2 evening dinners)
- gardeners, pool maintenance
- time of the maids to do the shopping (not wines – guests are encouraged to choose their own)
- toiletries and hair dryer in every bathroom
- time of the maids to prepare meals (not on Sundays): these include continental breakfast, lunch, plus 2 evening meals per week
- bi-weekly change of bed-linen, bath and pool towels

### The rent does not include:

- telephone
- wines and food for all the meals
- personal ironing and laundry
- use of the house telephone, mobile phone or internet
- babysitting

### Garden:

The garden at La Foce is completely at the disposal of La Foce guests, except on Wednesday afternoons, when it is open to the public from 3 to 7 pm (this is a requisite for most 'Heritage' houses and gardens in Italy). From March to October the gardens will be open to visits also on Saturdays, 10am to 1pm / 3pm to 7pm (in addition to Wednesdays). Visitors are not free to wander, but are taken on strictly guided tours. An additional rental fee is requested if the garden is used for weddings, receptions and other special events.

