



Palazzo Negri Dosi

Pontremoli, Lunigiana, Tuscany

Utterly enchanting from the moment one opens the heavy wooden doors and enters this beautiful and captivating historic oasis of elegance, luxury and tranquility.

Situated in the heart of Pontremoli in northern Tuscany, Palazzo Negri Dosi provides a unique Italian vacation experience. This is a villa in the true meaning of the word with meticulously manicured Italian garden, numerous frescoes, glorious roof top pool and informal garden overlooking the river. Just a short walk from the delightful main piazza and numerous excellent restaurants, Palazzo Negri Dosi cannot fail to impress even the most discerning guests and is a rare find indeed.

Palazzo Negri Dosi was built during the second half of the seventeenth

century as the elegant country residence of the Negri family, a wealthy merchant family originally from Pietrasanta, who chose Pontremoli for its strategic location along the important trade route linking the Tyrrhenian Sea with the Po Valley. Its architecture reflects the refined taste of the great Roman residences of the Baroque period.

Beyond the doorway lies a magnificent Italian formal garden, designed according to strict geometric principles and framed by ancient box hedges. At its far end stands the monumental Belvedere,

an impressive architectural feature crossed by a long perspective gallery that draws the eye towards the River Magra, creating what seventeenth-century architects described as a true perspective telescope. In the eighteenth century, the painter Antonio Contestabili described the palace without hesitation as “the foremost among the residences of the noble families of Pontremoli.” Here within the Belvedere guests can enjoy the magical private massage area and the unique and spectacular pool cleverly positioned along the gallery with glorious views and lounging corner.

Around 1675, the Florentine painter Alessandro Gherardini, one of the leading artists of his age, frescoed the great hall with scenes from the lives of Solomon and Samson. Sadly, a significant portion of these paintings was lost in the early twentieth century. What survives, however, still bears witness to the exceptional quality of the original masterpiece. A few decades later, Giovan Battista Natali, a master of quadratura—the art of painting imaginary architectural spaces so convincingly that they deceive the eye—together with his brother-in-law Antonio Contestabili, created the spectacular illusionistic decorations of the Grand Staircase and the main reception hall. Columns, balconies, open skies and painted architectural vistas seem to dissolve the boundaries between reality and illusion, making the interiors appear far larger than they truly are.



For more than a century, the palace remained in the hands of the Negri family, who financed its construction and its earliest decorative schemes. Following the marriage of Ippolita Negri, the last descendant of the family, ownership passed first to the Pavesi family and, during the nineteenth century, to the Counts Corradi. This marked the beginning of a long period of gradual decline. Over the years the residence lost



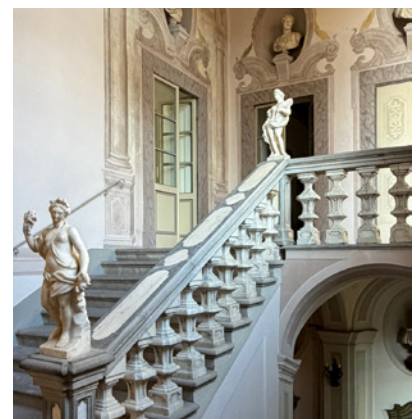
much of its former splendour and came close to falling into irreparable decay. Its revival began in the twentieth century, when the palace was acquired by Marquis Francesco Dosi.

The Dosi family undertook an extensive restoration project. The historic interiors were carefully restored, the surviving frescoes conserved, the formal garden returned to its original design, and dignity was restored to a building that had seemed destined for ruin. Thanks to this long and patient commitment to conservation, Palazzo Negri Dosi remains today a private family residence, lovingly cared for by the Dosi family and, only recently, opened to guests so that others may share the immense joy of experiencing this extraordinary home.

The palace is spread over two floors and, whilst being grand and expansive, it also maintains the feeling of a much loved and intimate home. Every small detail has been taken into consideration successfully maintaining the atmosphere of a grand historic palazzo whilst incorporating all modern mod cons and luxuries and impeccable taste and style. Overlooking the Italian garden on the ground floor of the southern wing is the Foresteria with sitting and dining room, kitchen and three bedrooms plus an outdoor area for breakfast. Across from here in the northern wing is the quite stunning Limonaia comprising a wonderfully characteristic and stylishly furnished sitting room with fireplace, an elegant dining room and a fabulous open plan kitchen leading onto the Italian garden and another outdoor area for breakfast or aperitivi. The grand palatial staircase leads to the piano nobile with its magnificent living rooms



including a massive fireplace and a gigantic painting depicting the story of the nativity. On this floor there is further accommodation on both wings of the palazzo and a contrast in style and interiors between traditional and more contemporary. The very best linens, toiletries and furnishings have been incorporated throughout to ensure absolute comfort and luxury.



Palazzo Negri Dosi cannot be too highly recommended and I am thrilled to have the privilege to include it within my handpicked portfolio. A very special and unique property in an area of outstanding area of natural beauty and away from the crowds.

With so much to explore in the immediate area, with the coast a short drive away as well as easy

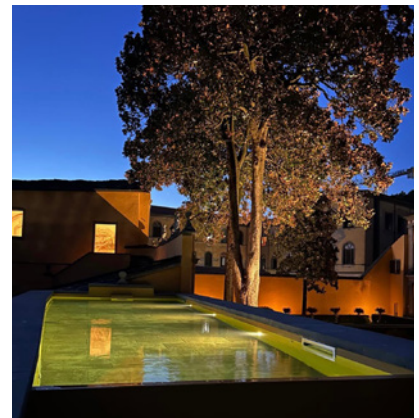


access to important towns such as Parma, Pisa and Lucca, guests will be spoilt for choice of things to do as and when they can draw themselves away from the magic of Palazzo Negri Dosi!





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unique property in an
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Information

Sleeps

• 15

Service:

- Daily maid service and breakfast, Pool cleaning/gardener
- Cook on request

Accommodation

Ground floor:

Foresteria apartment (southern wing):

- Three double/twin bedrooms with bathrooms en suite
- Sitting room
- Dining room
- Kitchen

La Limonaia (northern wing):

- Sitting room
- Dining room
- Fully equipped kitchen leading on the the garden

Piano Nobile (southern wing):

- Two bedrooms comprising one double & one single
- Four spacious and grand sitting rooms
- Study
- Dining room
- Billiard room leading to (northern wing)
- Three double bedrooms with en suite bathrooms

- Outdoor pergola area for lunch and dinner al fresco (situated the other side of the Italianate garden from the main palazzo)

Facilities:

- WIFI
- Private pool 10m x 3m
- Barbecue
- B Corp certified Comfort zone toiletries
- Kitchen garden
- Chapel
- Private massage area
- Billiards
- Lift in the secondary staircase

Local Information:

- Pontremoli with lots of restaurants, shops & bars
- Museo Statue Stele
- Cinque Terre
- Forte dei Marmi
- Pisa
- Lucca
- Parma

Airport

- Pisa 45minutes