La Dolce Vita

Region: Sicily **Sleeps:** 16

Overview

Capture the essence of southern Sicily at this wonderfully restored 19th century farmhouse for up to 16 guests, close to the exquisite Baroque towns of Ragusa, Modica and Montalbano's Scicli.

Staying at La Dolce Vita is a step back in time – wander up to the vast terrace and gaze out to Sicilian countryside which has barely changed for over a century. Belonging to the same family over the generations, its current owner has taken considerable time and care in bringing La Dolce Vita back to life, always preserving its authenticity and character whilst adding contemporary touches such as air-conditioned bedrooms, Wi-Fi and satellite TV with Netflix.

The rustic ground floor, where the chariot was once kept, has been transformed into a spacious living and dining area with original arched ceilings and a beautifully tiled kitchen. Three bedrooms, each with stone carved ceilings, king-size beds and private bathrooms, allow up to ten guests to rest here.

The upper floor was once an aristocratic holiday residence and is therefore more noble in style with three bedrooms and bathrooms for a further six guests, a relaxing room with fireplace as well as a pretty kitchen and dining area – a self-contained apartment in itself reached via the original stone stairs outside. But most of all, the two upper terraces will take your breath away – sit back with a glass of Cerasuolo di Vittoria from a local vineyard and admire the country views from either the east or west-facing terrace.

Set amongst the stone walls, the private swimming pool is another delight – cool off from the warm summer sun before seeking shade as you dine al-fresco beneath one









of the fruit trees. Depending on the season, look out for pomegranates, lemons and olive trees and be engulfed by the aromas of the garden – this is what Sicily should be all about.

Perfectly positioned between Ragusa and its marina, it's a wonderful spot for exploring south-eastern Sicily and its many Baroque towns which have gained UNESCO World Heritage status. Ragusa is like a museum with its historic architecture whilst Modica is home to stunning palazzi, churches and delicious chocolate. Scicli is also full of Baroque charm and is a must-visit for fans of the popular detective series, Montalbano.

The coastline around Marina di Ragusa is only 15km away whilst many more gorgeous beaches can be found at Donnalucata and Spiaggia di Randello with its nature reserve. Further afield, drive to Marzamemi, Noto and even Syracuse. Spend time discovering Sicily's archaeological sites from nearby Cava d'Ispica and Kamarina to Agrigento further east on this enchanting and wondrous island.

Facilities

Great Value • Walking/Hiking Paths • Romantic • Horse Riding • Watersports • Historical Sites • Cycling • Ideal for Kids • Scuba Diving • Boat Trips • Eco Friendly (Sustainable) • Working Fireplace/Woodburner • Private Pool • Stag/Hen Allowed • Wine Tasting • Fishing • Air-Con • Weddings • Catering Available • Special Offer • Dry Hire Option • Marquee Hire Permitted • Licensed for Marriage • Has Discount • Has Offer • Maid Service Available • Chef/Cook Available • Cots (Cribs) • Ideal for Teens • Pets on Request • Outdoor Ceremony • Ground Floor Bed & Bath • Flexible Catering Options • Wi-Fi/Internet • Allow External Caterers • No Corkage • Rural Location • No Curfew • Indoor Reception Available • Outstanding Landscapes • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Tourist Towns & Villages • Satellite TV • Heating • Caretaker/Owner on Site • Pre-Stocked Fridge Available • Wine-Tasting Available • Babysitting Available • Supports the local community (locally owned) • High Chair(s)

Interior & Grounds

Tourist License Number: 19088009B401147

Villa Interiors

Ground Floor

- Open-plan living and dining room
- Open-plan kitchen area, well-equipped including dishwasher, fridge, microwave, coffee machine
- Bedroom with king-size double bed
- Quad bedroom with king-size double bed and second king-size double bed on a mezzanine level
- Quad bedroom with king-size double bed and king-size sofa-bed
- 3 x en suite bathrooms with shower, WC and bidet
- One additional bathroom with shower, WC and bidet

First Floor Apartment (via external steps)

- Room with fireplace
- Kitchen
- Dining room
- 3 x double bedrooms
- 3 x bathrooms (one en suite) with shower, WC and bidet

Outside Grounds

- Swimming pool (6x12m, depth: 1.4m) open approximately May to end-October
- Poolside pergola and sun-loungers
- Al-fresco dining area
- Barbecue
- Two upper terraces (characterfully low walls)
- Stone patio (shared)
- Vegetable garden and fruit trees
- Surrounding farmland and olive grove

Facilities

- Wi-Fi
- Air-conditioning (all bedrooms and living room)
- Heating
- Satellite TV and Netflix
- Washing machine/dryer









Location & Local Information

In south-eastern Sicily, around 15km equidistant to both the heart of old Ragusa and Marina di Ragusa, La Dolce Vita is surrounded by typically Sicilian countryside, next to the caretaker/father's residence and a neighbouring agriturismo. It is brilliantly positioned for exploring both the coastline and Baroque towns of this enchanting island.

Many of the famous Baroque towns which have gained UNESCO World Heritage status are within easy reach – Ragusa being the nearest, just under a 20-minute drive away. Its historic beauty is astonishing from its grand cathedral in Ragusa Superiore to the enchanting warren of impressive palazzi, churches and squares in Ragusa Ibla. Dine out in one of the town's Michelin starred restaurants or find a charming osteria for authentic Sicilian fare.

Heading south from La Dolce Vita, Marina di Ragusa is also only 15km away with its sandy beaches, summer watersports and boat trips from its marina. It's a joyful place for an evening stroll and granita in the height of the summer or perhaps an aperitivo in one of the many bars and cafes. Beach-lovers should also discover the coastline around Donnalucata, especially popular with wind-surfers, and the wilder shores of Spiaggia di Randello set in a nature reserve.

There is still so much exploring to be done – both Scicli and Modica are about half an hour away, two further Baroque jewels which will take your breath away with their historic architecture. Inspector Montalbano fans will be eager to visit Scicli's townhall, one of the many scenes in the much-loved TV series, whilst chocoholics must try some of Sicily's famous chocolate in Modica.

Just over an hour away is the stunning town of Noto and of course the idyllic coastline of the Vendicari nature reserve. Alternatively, drive further towards Syracuse and the amazing island of Ortigia, yet another one of Sicily's UNESCO World Heritage sites.

History and nature lovers alike will appreciate the incredible beauty of Cava d'Ispica near Modica whilst there are so many more archaeological treasures to discover from Caucana and Kamarina to Agrigento.

Furthermore, visits to surrounding vineyards can be arranged – the well-known Cerasuolo di Vittoria is produced from local grapes and there are some excellent wineries to visit within a short drive.

Local Amenities

Nearest Airport	**Catania Airport (109km)**
Nearest Airport 2	**Palermo Airport (310km)**
Nearest Town	**Ragusa old town (15km)**









Nearest Restaurant	**Between Ragusa and Marina di Ragusa (10-minute drive)**
Nearest Supermarket	**Outskirts of Ragusa (12km)**
Nearest Beach	**Marina di Ragusa (15km)**

What we love

- Dating back to the 19th century, this Sicilian farmhouse has remained in the family for generations
- Such a beautiful restoration which has preserved La Dolce Vita's authenticity and historic elegance
- The views from the two upper terraces are timeless with landscapes that have barely changed over the last century
- Enjoy breakfasts al-fresco in the shade of one of the fruit trees – look out for lemons, pomegranates and olives
- It's only 15km to both the exquisite Baroque town of Ragusa and the sandy beaches of its marina and coastline
- A perfect position for visiting Modica, Scicli, Noto and many of Sicily's archaeological treasures

What you should know...

- The villa sleeps up to 16 guests across six bedrooms including two quad bedrooms with mezzanine levels (sloping ceilings), one of which features a large sofa-bed. From 2027 base rate is for 14 guests, with an additional cost for any extra person. Please enquire for more info.
- Air-conditioning is featured in all bedrooms and the living room.
- Youngsters will need to be supervised on the historic upper terraces
- The caretaker and the owner's father live on-site – whilst the swimming pool and garden are for your exclusive use, they share the large stone patio.

Terms & Conditions

- **Security deposit:** €500 charged to client's credit card as a pre-authorisation at least 2 weeks prior to arrival and refunded two weeks after departure, subject to full inspection.

- **Arrival time:** 4.00 p.m. Check-in outside this time may be subject to an extra cost. Please enquire for more details.

- **Departure time:** 10.00 a.m.

- **Energy costs included?:** Yes.

- **Linen & towels included?:** Yes.

- **Pets welcome?:** On request only and with prior agreement with the owner.

- **Other Ts and Cs:** Air-conditioning is featured in all bedrooms and the living room.
 Weddings, stag/hen parties and any special events are on request only and subject to prior arrangement with the owner and additional charges.
 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 home security devices may be installed at the villa, please enquire for further information.

- **Changeover day:** Saturday approximately end-June to end-August. Flexible all other periods.

- **End of stay cleaning:** Mandatory extra €360, payable locally. 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?:** Yes.

- **Other 2:** The caretaker and the owner's father live on-site – whilst the swimming pool and garden are for your exclusive use, they share the large stone patio.

- **Other 3:** From 2027 base rate is for up to 14 guests. Any additional person is charged as an extra.

- **Minimum stay:** 6 nights approximately from beginning-June to end-October. 4 nights during all other periods.

- **Heating costs included?:** Yes.

- **Tax:** Italian Visitors Tax payable locally in cash (typically costs €1-€10 per adult per night- please enquire if exact amount is required).

- **Internet access?:** Wi-Fi internet access included.

- **Pool towels included?:** Yes.

- **Pool opening dates?:** The pool is open approximately May 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.