

# Cottage Elsa

Region: Tuscany Sleeps: 8

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## Overview

Set in a little hamlet only half an hour from San Gimignano, this beautifully renovated Tuscan cottage welcomes up to 8 guests with its stylish interiors, flower-filled garden and gorgeous swimming pool. Between Florence and Siena, this is a superb setting for experiencing the rich history, gastronomy and fine wine of Tuscany.

Cottage Elsa is a pretty air-conditioned house with a contemporary twist – step inside the upper level and admire the beautiful modern kitchen with its dining table and beamed ceiling, then stroll through the double doors to the light-filled lounge with picture book windows framing the views. Large glass doors bring the outside in – wander up to the idyllic terrace for al-fresco dining overlooking the treetops, or potter down the stairs to the garden, passing terracotta pots of flowers on the way.

The cottage sleeps up to 8 guests (plus an additional two children on request using additional beds or cots). There are four queen-size double bedrooms, two of which can be split into twins for flexible bed configurations. Four modern shower rooms also await, two of which are en suite. For multi-generational stays or weddings, consider renting alongside Castellare Corti (<https://www.oliverstravels.com/italy/tuscany/san-gimignano/castellare-corti/>), a handsome 7-bedroom residence in the same hamlet a short walk away.

Outside Cottage Elsa, admire manicured lawns, little paths, colourful flowers and many trees across the spacious grounds, stop off for a coffee or glass of local wine on the garden terrace, or head straight for the private pool with its loungers and verdant surroundings.

Pass olive groves, vines and cypresses as you explore the landscapes of the Chianti countryside and beyond. There's a handful of restaurants in nearby Tavarnelle Val di Pesa, only 2km away, or venture further to the likes of Castellina in Chianti and Greve in Chianti for Tuscan character and some of the finest wines in the region.

The enchanting towers of San Gimignano, the Etruscan legacy of Volterra and the artistic riches of Florence and Siena promise wonderful day trips. Meanwhile, the discreet yet welcoming owners are delighted to help curate tailored experiences, from wine tastings and cookery classes to private guided tours and even hot-air balloon rides, a spectacular way to take in the rolling Tuscan scenery.

## Facilities

Walking/Hiking Paths • Horse Riding • Historical Sites • Ideal for Kids • Tennis Nearby • Air-Con • Wine Tasting • Weddings • Private Pool •



Cycling • Chef/Cook Available • Ideal for Teens • Cots (Cribs) • Pets on Request • Has Discount • Special Offer • Maid Service Included • Cottage • <1hr to Airport • Parking Space • Wi-Fi/Internet • BBQ • Rural Location • Washing Machine • Outstanding Landscapes • Coffee Machine • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Hairdryer • Tourist Towns & Villages • TV • Tumble Dryer • Dishwasher • Heating • Caretaker/Owner on Site • Cooking Classes Available • Yoga Classes Available • Wine-Tasting Available • Ideal for Babies & Toddlers • High Chair(s)

# Interior & Grounds

## Cottage Interiors (approx. 250m<sup>2</sup>, different levels)

- Living room with doors opening to steps leading to upper dining terrace or garden
- Open-plan kitchen and dining area, well-equipped including dishwasher, oven, kettle, toaster, coffee maker (Italian moka and American machine), blender, fridge-freezer
- 2 x bedrooms with queen-size double bed
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- 4 x shower rooms (two en suite)

## Outside Grounds

- Private swimming pool (9x4m, depth: 1.4m), open approximately mid-May to mid-October
- Poolside sun beds and parasols
- Upper terrace with dining table and beautiful view
- Barbecue (on request)
- Garden terrace with small table and lounge chairs
- Garden with flowers, plants and trees
- Steps and different levels across the grounds
- Parking

## Facilities

- WiFi
- Air conditioning
- Washing machine and dryer
- Hairdryer
- TV
- Iron and ironing board



# Location & Local Information

Cottage Elsa is located in a little hamlet around 30km south of Florence, a fine setting for exploring this beautiful part of Tuscany. The hamlet is home to a historic church, other resident families (including the owner) and Castellare Corti (<https://www.oliverstravels.com/italy/tuscany/san-gimignano/castellare-corti/>) (a short walk away).

The small town of Tavarnelle Val di Pesa is just 2km away by car with its handful of restaurants, some useful shops and a small supermarket. Around a 20-minute drive away, Poggibonsi offers a wider selection of town amenities including larger supermarkets. Take time to explore this authentic town and its historic sites including Fortezza di Poggio Imperiale, an unfinished Medici Fortress which hosts summer concerts.

One of the many highlights of Tuscany is the picturesque village of San Gimignano (25km) with its enchanting towers and cobbled lanes, only half an hour by car. A little further afield, Volterra (51km) is a must for history lovers, a charming medieval town with Renaissance architecture as well as a fascinating Etruscan history.

Wonderful day trips include Florence (30km) and Siena (50km) or stay closer to home and visit delightful hilltop villages passing iconic Tuscan landscapes of rolling hills, vines, olive groves and cypresses en route.

If you can find the time, you could even venture to Pisa (83km) to soak up its vibrant ambience on Piazza dei Miracoli and of course admire its famous leaning tower. In the other direction, the grandeur of Arezzo (95km) awaits, just over an hour away, with its many museums, historic buildings and impressive main square.

## Local Amenities

Nearest Airport	<b>Florence Airport</b> (35km)
Nearest Airport 2	<b>Pisa Airport</b> (80km)
Nearest Bar/Pub	<b>Tavarnelle Val di Pesa</b> (2km)
Nearest City	<b>Florence</b> (30km)
Nearest Golf	<b>Circolo Golf dell'Ugolino</b> (31km)
Nearest Restaurant	<b>Tavarnelle Val di Pesa</b> (2km)
Nearest Supermarket	<b>Tavarnelle Val di Pesa</b> (2km)



Nearest Town	Tavarnelle Val di Pesa (2km)
Nearest Train Station	Certaldo (16km)

## What we love

- Pretty Tuscan cottage with elegant interiors and a contemporary twist
- Dine al-fresco on the upper terrace with a sleek glass balcony and treetop views
- Relax beside the private swimming pool, set within the flower-filled garden
- Ideally located between Florence and Siena, with San Gimignano just 30 minutes away
- Discover charming Chianti villages, top-rated wineries and authentic local cuisine

## What you should know...

- This beautiful and stylish cottage is set in a little hamlet with a historic church and other resident families. The hamlet is also home to Castellare Corti (<https://www.oliverstravels.com/italy/tuscany/san-gimignano/castellare-corti/>) a short walk away.
- Guests need to be able to safely manage steps (both inside and out) as well as different levels across the grounds.
- The quiet and non-intrusive owners live nearby with their dog – they are discreet yet also very welcoming and happy to help arrange activities for your stay.
- A car is needed to be able to reach amenities and explore Tuscany.

# Terms & Conditions

- **Security deposit:** €1500 paid in cash to the owner upon arrival and refunded after departure, subject to full security 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?:** Not allowed.
- **Other Ts and Cs:** Weddings, stag/hen parties and any special events are on request only and subject to prior arrangement with the owner and additional charges.
- **Changeover day:** Saturday. All other changeover days on request.
- **End of stay cleaning:** Standard changeover clean and mid-stay cleaning are included in the price. 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?:** Outside only.
- **Other 2:** Please note home security devices may be installed at the villa, please enquire for further information.
- **Other 3:** A cot and highchair are available on request.
- **Minimum stay:** 7 nights. All other durations on request.
- **Heating costs included?:** No. Extra cost based on consumption and payable locally in cash upon departure.
- **Pool heating charge?:** Not included, heated on request only and payable locally on consumption. Only available in the low season. Please note this is a different pool than the pool used for summer. Please note that like all heated pools, pool heating and water temperature are reliant on weather and outside temperatures.
- **Tax:** Italian Visitors Tax payable locally in cash (typically costs €1-€10 per person 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 from approximately mid-May to mid-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.