

Villa Il Gufo

Region: Tuscany **Sleeps:** 20

Overview

Nestled within the small medieval village of Anghiari, Villa il Gufo is comprised of several Tuscan farmhouses, restored with love and passion to create a magical estate of distinctive earthy colour tones and subtle aromas of jasmine and rose.

The property consists of three units dating back to 1000, that include a monastery that housed Camaldolesi monks for over a thousand years, a main house spread over three stories with private terracotta terraces, and a charming stone cottage about 30m away from the main building. All of these fascinating buildings have long and varied histories, and have been restored with respect to their heritage, keeping many of the original features such as the floor tiles, stone steps and thick wooden trusses.

Surrounding the buildings are carefully maintained landscaped gardens boasting a wide array of colourful blossoms, and a further five acres of woodland home to one of the oldest cypresses in the valley and many resident squirrels, hares, deer, pheasants, and owls. This strong connection to nature is one of the standout attractions of the property, where guests can relax in the sun by the large outdoor swimming pool, hide away in a small wooden snug secluded among the olive trees, enjoy the children's playground with hammocks and games, or dine al-fresco on a veranda surrounded by roses.

It's a foragers paradise too with mushrooms, truffles, blackberries and all sorts of spices - the owners would be delighted to accompany you into the fruitful woodland.

Indeed, the family behind the renovation of this wonderful property is extremely passionate about the experience that each guest enjoys and encourage you to specify any needs you may have before you arrive in order for them to ensure they can provide you with the perfect tailor-made service. To ensure that the culinary heritage is fully appreciated, the owners who live in a cottage opposite the villa, are on hand to help organise meals, wine and oil tastings in many oil mills and wineries in the area. They can even arrange all of this within the estate so you never have to leave the comfort of Villa il Gufo! For ceremonies, the villa can host civil ones as the municipality is only a kilometre away. The villa is also well suited as the living room can comfortably sit 24 people and room for a 40 person standing buffet.

As mentioned in... (https://www.thetimes.com/travel/destinations/europe-travel/italy/amalfi-coast/best-holiday-villas-in-italy-tuscany-sorrento-puglia-bmjrqj2z?gaa_at=eafs)



THE TIMES

Facilities

Private Pool • Wine Tasting • Weddings • Villa • Recommended • Eco Friendly (Sustainable) • Tennis Nearby • Historical Sites • Horse Riding • Fishing • Walking/Hiking Paths • Walk to Village • Ideal for Kids • Air-Con • Golf Nearby • Ideal for Teens • Cots (Cribs) • Maid Service Available • Quirky (Unique) • Has Offer • Special Offer • Chef/Cook Available • All Bedrooms En-Suite • Outdoor Ceremony • Ground Floor Bed & Bath • <1hr to Airport • Flexible Catering Options • Heritage Collection • Wi-Fi/Internet • Rural Location • Indoor Reception Available • Nearby Church/Chapel • Outstanding Landscapes • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Tourist Towns & Villages • TV • Table Tennis • DVD • Outdoor Games • Working Fireplace/Woodburner • Heating • Cooking Classes Available • Wine-Tasting Available • Transfers Available • Catering Available • Board games • On-Site Concierge • Children's videos/DVDs • Children's books • Property host • Supports the local community (locally owned) • Ideal for Babies & Toddlers • Booster seat • Bath toys • High Chair(s) • Fenced Grounds

Interior & Grounds

1) 4 double bedrooms (8 guests). The main villa is at guests' disposal. The other bedrooms will be closed.

2) 7 double bedrooms (14 guests). The number of bedrooms at guests' disposal will depend on the group composition, though some bedrooms might be closed.

3) 7 double bedrooms + sofa beds (20 guests). All rooms and sofa-beds at guests' disposal.

The Villa (access to the villa is from 3 different entrances: one from the kitchen, one from the leaving room and an entrance that leads directly to the bedrooms).

Ground Floor

- Large living room with huge antique fireplace, Steinway piano, 3 sofas, 5 square tables and chairs
- Small sitting area with armchairs
- Fully-equipped kitchen with 6 burners, a large oven, 2 large fridges, two sinks, a dishwasher (that completes a full load in 60 seconds!), washing machine, coffee machine, kettle, microwave, dryer, toaster, deep fryer and a kitchen table next to a working fireplace

First Floor

- Living room with original working fireplace
- Large terrace with stunning views
- Suite with a double bed, ensuite bathroom and a corner bath tub
- Suite with a double bed, ensuite shower room and access to the terrace
- Suite with a sitting area with a double sofa bed (suitable for two guests), ensuite bathroom and French doors leading to the terrace. This room can also sleep 4 (2 children on the sofa bed)

Second Floor (said to be an old watchtower)

- Mezzanine library
- Suite with a double bed and a living room with fireplace and double sofa bed (the two rooms are separated by a door but share the same en-suite bathroom)

The Cottage

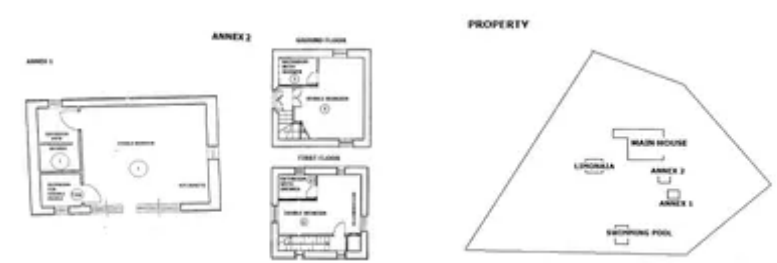
- Master bedroom with two bathrooms (a disabled toilet and a bathroom with hydro-massage shower)
- Compact kitchen
- Garden with table and chairs, suitable for 2 or 3 people

Former Chapel

Ground Floor

- Suite with a double bed and en-suite shower room

First Floor



- Suite with a master bedroom and en-suite bathroom with shower
- Kitchenette with refrigerator

Outside Grounds (1 hectare)

- Swimming Pool (12m x 6m, depth: 1.5m), open approximately beginning-June to mid-September
- Large outdoor terrace furnished with sun loungers, tables, chairs and parasols
- Extensive lush gardens
- Ancient well
- Games area with table tennis, hammocks, rackets and balls
- Pergola with a table and chairs near the kitchen and another by the pool
- 5 acres of woodland
- Laundry room with a washing machine and tumble dryer
- Parking

Facilities

- Wi-Fi
- Heating (available for use from 1st November, unless requested in advance)
- Air-conditioning (bedrooms)
- TVs (in each bedroom)
- DVDs
- Stereo with CD player
- Mini-bar (in each bedroom)
- Hairdryers
- Books and magazines
- Guides and information about the area
- Board games
- Iron and ironing board
- Mosquito screens

Extra Sustainability Gems About the Property

The owners have installed solar panels to provide hot water, the park is home to centuries-old plants and the property benefits from no air pollution meaning the starry skies, sunrises and sunsets are truly amazing.

Location & Local Information

Just 1km from the property, in the village of Tavernelle di Anghiari, you will find the basic necessities and a couple of restaurants.

Anghiari (5 mins drive away) is a small gem known throughout the world for its art and culture, antique shops, local crafts, excellent restaurants and its medieval history. Built around the flow of the Arno and Tiber rivers it is dotted with churches, medieval houses, monasteries and archaeological sites. From the top you can see the entire valley - a truly magnificent view. Its narrow streets and squares are home to masterpieces of painting and sculpture that in recent years have received recognition from the Italian touring club who declared it one of the most beautiful villages of Italy.

Over the years various famous artists have lived here including Michelangelo Buonarroti, Piero della Francesca, Luca Pacioli and Leonardo da Vinci who painted here at the famous Battle of Anghiari.

The food, the art, the history, the culture can all be felt everywhere, from the farmer's market on Wednesday to the Tuesday and Saturday markets in Sansepolcro, during the many festivals held throughout the year, and especially in the summer music festivals.

The house's location is an ideal base from which to visit the most popular places in Tuscany such as Florence, Siena, Assisi, Perugia, which are all less than 100km from the house, or in just over two hours you can reach Lucca and Pisa.

An easy drive takes you to the lesser known but charming villages of Sansepolcro, Cortona (famous for the book and film "Under the Tuscan Sun" by Frances Mayes), Citerna and Monterchi. Also nearby is the beautiful hermitage of La Verna where Francis of Assisi received the stigmata and Arezzo, famous for the film "Life is Beautiful" where every first weekend of the month one of the most famous antiques fairs in Italy is held here.

Being on the border with Umbria, it is well worth a walk in Città di Castello, Gubbio and Lake Trasimeno up to Spello, or visit Deruta which is known worldwide for its famous handmade pottery.

If your passion is fishing there are many lakes where you will find trout and chub, and you can also fish at the dam of Montedoglio, that is full of pike and carp.

If shopping is your thing then there are many outlets (the mall, Prada, Valdichiana outlet, Befane) that can be reached in less than an hour's drive. Tennis courts and bowling can be found in Anghiari and Sansepolcro, where there are also gyms and fitness centres. Meanwhile there is a stunning 9-hole golf course in Perugia.



Local Amenities

Nearest Airport	Perugia Airport (77km)
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Nearest Airport 2	Florence Airport (110km)
Nearest Train Station	Arezzo (27km)
Nearest Village	Tavernelle di Anghiari (1km)
Nearest Town/City	Anghiari (3km)
Nearest Beach	Adriatic Coast (150km)
Nearest Golf	Perugia (80km)

What we love

- The sense of history and character around you is incredible
- Admire gorgeous sunsets from the wonderful terrace
- Spend winter months drinking red wine by the antique fireplace and Steinway piano
- All bedrooms have air-conditioning, TVs, mini-bars and lovely views
- You are surrounded by beautiful private parkland with a huge variety of flowers - forage in the woodland amongst century-old trees looking for mushrooms, truffles, blackberries and more
- You are also close to the medieval town of Anghiari, famous around the world for its art and culture
- A full service can be offered by the dedicated owner who can organise everything you need and help you to unlock the many joys the local area has to offer

What you should know...

- An exceptionally friendly owner lives in the cottage directly opposite and is always at hand, both for carrying out usual property maintenance tasks as well as for providing optional catering and range of local services.
- During winter the old buildings can get a little chilly, so make sure you request the heating be turned on (charges apply). The antique fireplace also creates a warm ambience in cooler months.
- The pool is accessed via a staircase with wooden steps.
- The cottage benefits from having a disabled toilet for guests with reduced mobility.
- The first floor of the main villa can also be accessed via an external staircase from the garden.
- When minimum occupancies are booked, certain rooms may not be accessible (subject to owner's discretion) - best to enquire with us beforehand.

Terms & Conditions

- **Security deposit:** €2000 paid in cash to the owner upon arrival and refunded upon 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:** 9.30 a.m.
- **Energy costs included?:** Extra €650 per week, paid locally in cash. Please this fee also applies to stays under a week.
- **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. Villa can be rented with the following capacities: 8 guests: 4 double bedrooms. The main villa is at guests' disposal. The other bedrooms will be closed. 9-14 guests: 7 double bedrooms. The number of bedrooms at guests' disposal depends upon the group composition, though some bedrooms might be closed. 20 guests: 7 double bedrooms + sofa beds. All rooms and sofa-beds are at guests' disposal. A cot (excluding cot linen) and high chair are available on request. A second cot can be provided for an extra charge of €85, payable in cash locally. Please note that, for bookings of 2-weeks or more weeks additional cleaning is mandatory after the first week at a cost of €450 in 2024 and €500 in 2025, payable in cash locally. Please note that the barbecue is only available on request, at an extra cost. An exceptionally friendly owner lives in the cottage directly opposite and is always at hand, both for carrying out usual property maintenance tasks as well as for providing optional catering and range of local services. Please note that the use of any external caterers and/or contractors is not permitted. 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. All other days on request.
- **End of stay cleaning available?:** Extra €650 per week, paid in cash locally. Please this fee also applies stays under a week. For stays of 2 weeks, cleaning of the villa is mandatory after the first week at a cost of €500, payable locally. However, 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.
- **Minimum stay:** 7 nights in 2025 and high season 2026. 4 nights during all other periods.
- **Heating costs included?:** Extra €850 per week, paid in cash locally. Please note that this fee also applies stays under a week.
- **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?:** No. On request and at an extra cost.
- **Pool opening dates?:** The pool is open approximately early June to mid-September. Early openings and postponed closings of the swimming pool can be arranged at an extra cost with at least 2 months' notice, to be agreed with the owner at the time of booking. 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.
- **Property Licence Number:** CIN IT051001B47SZXEYCW