FONTEBLANDA, TUSCANY

THINK EXQUISITE

VILLA TALAMO

Rising serenely above the Tyrrhenian Sea and gazing out towards the Bay of Talamone, Monte Argentario and the island of Giglio, Villa Talamo is an 18th-century former monastery that has been lovingly restored to create an enchanting, character-filled Tuscan home. Cocooned in a private 10-acre coastal estate with pool and direct sea access, the property offers exquisite seclusion, space in abundance, and a level of hospitality that has few rivals.





PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

Service

Features

19m-long infinity pool with bar

Garden gate sea access

10-acre coastal estate

Unforgettable sea views

In-villa cook service for three meals a day

History and character in abundance

Nearby

Email us: info@thethinkingtraveller.com
Or call us: +44 (0)20 7377 8518 or toll free in the US or Canada 1-800-490-1107
Villa Talamo is exclusively available through The Thinking Traveller, you won't find it anywhere else.

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ABOUT THE VILLA

20 GUESTS 10 BEDROOMS 10 BATHROOMS

Inside: accommodation at Villa Talamo is laid out over three floors.

At the centre of the ground floor is a welcoming entrance hall, off which most of the communal areas flow. Its terracotta-tiled floors, wood-beamed ceilings and fireplace perfectly encapsulate what's to come.

A door to the left of the entrance hall opens into the main living room, a generously proportioned, classically furnished, luminous space, whose many attractive features - lofty ceilings, in-laid marble floors, colourful artwork and *objets*, and flourishing house plants – are to be found throughout the property. To one side is a lounge area with a sofa and a couple of armchairs, while in the centre, flanking a monumental fireplace, is another sitting area with a triptych of sofas. French doors allow the space to flow out onto the main terrace while at the same time bringing in tempting views of the sea.

A pair of doors - one at each end of a wall - lead into a second reception room, an airy space with an assortment of sofas and armchairs, a TV, a desk, and an exotic atmosphere. Three more sets of French doors open out onto the surrounding terraces.

Back in the main living room, a third door opens into a snug reading room with bookcase-lined walls, a fireplace, sea views, a sofa and a couple of easy chairs.

The snug in turn connects to a central hallway with stairs leading up to the first floor, and two doors opening out onto the main sea-view terrace. This space also loops back round to the main entrance hall, passing a guest bathroom and the lift on the way.

Off the central hallway is the splendid dining room, which comes with sea views. A door to one side provides access to a second hallway with another staircase leading up to the first floor, and a few steps further on one comes to the kitchen, the realm of your in-house chef.

The first floor is home to seven of Villa Talamo's ten bedrooms. Five are accessed from the central staircase and the lift:

• two bedrooms that are part of a huge, stately suite. The first bedroom, a double named Argentario, has sea views, a dressing area, and an en-suite bathroom with free-standing roll-top tub and a separate shower; the second, a double-twin called Gorgona, has garden views and an en-suite shower room. Both rooms have access to the suite's kitchen and dining area, and its spacious living room with a large L-shaped sofa, a desk and more of those mesmerising sea views.
• two double bedrooms – Sparviero and Isolotto - each with garden views and en-suite bathrooms with tub and shower attachments
• Giannutri, a double-twin with sea views and a private bathroom with tub and shower attachment just across the landing

The other two bedrooms on the first floor are accessed from the staircase near the dining room:

• Giglio, a double with sea views and private bathroom with tub and shower attachment just across the landing
• Elba, a double with garden views and en-suite bathroom with tub and shower attachment

Accommodation at Villa Talamo is completed by three more bedrooms on the second floor, which are accessed via the central staircase and the lift:

• Capraia, a double-twin with sea views and a private bathroom with tub and shower attachments just across the landing
• Isola Rossa, a double with garden views, an en-suite bathroom with tub and shower attachment, and a mezzanine-level with a single bed (suitable for a teenager). The mezzanine-level is in the tower, the highest view point of the house
• Montecristo, a double with sea views, a sitting area and an en-suite bathroom with tub and shower attachment

Outside: ensconced in a 10-acre estate just above the sea, Villa Talamo offers an embarrassment of riches when it comes to stylish, carefree al fresco living. Secluded by a verdant canopy of towering Mediterranean pines, exotic palms, saluting cypresses, and wild olive trees, privacy and tranquillity are a given. No matter where you roam in the grounds, you will find delightful spots in which to unwind, relax and soak up the privileged atmosphere.

Sweeping 180-degree views take in the Gulf of Talamone and its eponymous town (presided over by the mighty Rocca Aldobrandesca fortress), the Tyrrhenian Sea, the peninsula of Monte Argentario, and the islands of Giglio, Montecristo and even, on a clear day, Corsica. Rising up beside the property, is a wooded hill topped by the remains of the Etruscan Temple of Talamonaccio.

Wrapping around the villa is a large expanse of gravelled terrace. To the front, looking out to sea, are a pair of characteristically elegant sitting areas and an al fresco dining area with a long table strategically placed under a clutch of shady trees. To one side is a rose garden and an organic vegetable and herb garden, from where your chef will source many of the ingredients for your meals. On the land side, meanwhile, is a sheltered, walled courtyard, where you may wish to dine al fresco if the sea breezes become stronger.

Following a path down through the gardens for about 60m, one soon comes to the splendid pool area, which is surrounded by manicured lawn and low-lying shrubs, and secluded by mature trees. The pool itself is a thing of beauty, a sleek, 19m-long heatable expanse of placid water that blends unobtrusively with its surroundings as its infinity edge inches out to sea. Nearby is a large shady pergola equipped with a bar and furnished with sofas and easy chairs. Further on, down towards the shoreline, is a beautiful sea-view yoga deck.

Following your nose towards the sea, a path below the bar takes you to some steps, at the bottom of which is a small secluded pebbly beach - the perfect spot for a morning swim in the azure waters of the Tyrrhenian.

CONSIDERATIONS

Due to the nature of the property including terraces, low walls and several drops around the extensive grounds, children must be supervised at all times.

Boats may moor in the bay, especially in the high season, and the seafront area is public and may be used by other people. The access to the small beach in front of the house needs to be negotiated and may not be suitable for all

Because of natural changes to the coastline from season to season, the sea access in front of this property may not look as it does in the photos.

A cat may be seen in the villa's grounds, but he will not enter the house unless encouraged to do so.

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

Amenities	
Accommodates (max)	20
Bedrooms	10
Double beds	7
Flexible (double or twin)	3
Bathrooms	10
... of which en suite	7
Fully serviced [1]	✓
Garden gate beach/sea access	✓
Heatable infinity pool [2]	19x4m

Sea views	✓
Library	✓
Daily maid service	✓
Children's play area	✓
Table tennis	✓
Barbecue	✓
Vegetable garden	✓
Herb garden	✓
Private parking	✓
Transfer service	–
ADSL Wi-Fi Internet	✓
Air conditioning [3]	✓
Smart TV	✓
Lift	✓
Hairdryer	✓
Iron	✓
Washing machine	✓
Tumble dryer	✓
Dishwasher	✓
Safe	✓
Staff on the grounds	✓

[1] including a cook, who will prepare breakfast, lunch and dinner daily. Please note that the cost of ingredients is not included and should be paid for locally.

[2] the pool may be heated on request outside the summer months for a weekly fee of €950 payable in advance. Please give us at least a week's notice if you would like the pool heated.

[3] in the bedrooms only

✓ = yes/present

– = optional/on request

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

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EXPLORING THE LOCAL AREA

Located on the sea in the south of Tuscany, Villa Talamo is perfectly positioned for those who wish to experience some of the region's lesser-visited gems.

In terms of **beaches** (apart from the sea access at the bottom of the garden), there are numerous options nearby, including the long stretch of sand at Spiaggia dell'Osa, which is just a few minutes' drive away. Heading a little further south, a 20-minute drive will take you to the long, pine-fringed beach of Feniglia, which connects Monte Argentario to the mainland. Just to the north, the Parco Naturale della Maremma (also know as the Parco Naturale dell'Uccellina) is home to a series of gloriously unspoilt beaches, including Cala di Forno and Marina di Alberese. The park also offers great cycling, walking trails and plenty of organised activities.

There are numerous fascinating and beautiful towns and cities to visit within about a 30-minute drive. These include: **Grosseto**, with its fine historic centre, its 13th-century Cathedral of San Lorenzo and its Museo Archeologico e d'Arte della Maremma; Orbetello, the gateway to Monte Argentario; and the twin port towns of Porto Santo Stefano and Porto Ercole on the northern and southern sides of Monte Argentario.

A little further afield is the picturesque coastal town of Castiglione della Pescaia (50mins), the mediaeval wine-producing town of Montalcino (1hr), and **Siena** (1hr). Should you wish to visit Tuscany's northern gems, including **Pisa**, Lucca and Florence, you'll be there in about two and a half hours.

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

Distances

Rome Fiumicino Airport: 150km-93miles-1hr40

Rome Ciampino Airport: 170km-105miles-2hours

Pisa Airport: 180km-112miles-1hr50

Florence Airport: 174km-108miles-2hr10

Nearest beaches (apart from the direct sea access): Spiaggia dell'Osa - 3mins; Feniglia - 23km-14miles-33mins; Marina di Alberese: 32km-20miles-35mins; Marina di Grosseto - 45km-28miles-40mins

Nearest shops, restaurants and amenities: Albinia - 7.5km-4.7miles-8mins

Grosseto: 34km-21miles-32mins

Orbetello: 18.5km-11.5miles-20mins

Porto Santo Stefano and Porto Ercole (Monte Argentario): 25mins approx.

The island of Giglio: approx. 1hr from Porto Santo Stefano

Parco Naturale della Maremma (aka Parco Naturale dell'Uccellina): 15-20mins depending on where you enter

Castiglione della Pescaia: 55km-34miles-50mins

Montalcino: 88km-55miles-1hr15

Siena: 108km-67miles-1hr25

Pisa: 193km-120miles-2hr10

Lucca: 214km-133miles-2hr20

Florence: 183km-113miles-2hr30





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GALLERY























































































