

THE THINKING TRAVELLER

NOTO, SICILY

BELLADONNA

Designed by the owners to blend simplicity, elegance, minimalist modernity and timeless charm, BellaDonna is a luxuriously appointed retreat that celebrates the magical landscape from which it rises. Perfect for anyone seeking tranquillity, refined Mediterranean living, luminosity, and an immersion in nature, it encapsulates the very essence of Sicily's charm-filled southeastern corner.



**PRICES, AVAILABILITY
AND BOOKING** →

Service

Features

20m-long infinity pool

Heated mini pool with hydromassage

Harmonious contemporary
architecture

Open, airy interiors

Views of the sea and Vendicari Nature
Reserve

Custom-made and design furnishings

Nearby

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ABOUT THE VILLA

6 GUESTS 3 BEDROOMS 3 BATHROOMS

Inside: BellaDonna is a sanctuary of light and air. The open-plan living area is dominated by walls of fully extendable sliding glass doors blur the lines between indoor and outdoor living, while at the same time rendering the property transparent from certain angles outside and offering uninterrupted views from olive and almond grove to the sea.

The design is at once refined and contemporary, with concrete floors, feature walls in buttery local stone, huge mirrors, warm-hued handmade glazed tiles, and carefully chosen high level lighting. These harmonious features extend throughout the property, creating a pleasing homogeneity of style.

The living area is furnished with custom-designed sofas, Paola Lenti chaise lounge and an Eames armchair, which gather convivially around a bespoke coffee table. Large monstera plants bring green vivacity from outside and a suspended iconic design fireplace (decorative only) adds to the inimitable sense of style.

The large, central living space flows effortlessly into the dining and kitchen areas, emphasizing the house's open, airy feel. The kitchen is a chef's dream, boasting sleek cabinetry, high-end appliances and a large island that serves as the focal point for culinary creativity. It extends outside enriched with an additional induction hob and sink, electric bbq and wine cooler to serve the sheltered al fresco dining area with seamless ease. Two handmade large tables, the inside one is topped with amaranth-colored oxides applied on lava stone while the outside one under the portico is in natural lava stone.

The three double bedrooms at BellaDonna have been conceived as private retreats, where guests can relax in their own luxurious space. One is accessed from near the kitchen while two of them are accessed independently from the outside terrace. Like the communal areas, the bedrooms feature clean lines, neutral color palettes, and natural materials. Sliding glass doors frame scenic views and open out onto private sections of terrace, each with an al fresco shower in lava stone that provide a spa-like atmosphere. Their beautifully

finished en-suite shower rooms with hand-glazed terracotta tiles have skylights that create atmospheric, shape-shifting shadow patterns as the sun moves across the Sicilian firmament. All the bedrooms have a mini fridge, a Nespresso coffee maker, flat screen TV, Bluetooth speakers, ceiling fans and air conditioning.

Outside: BellaDonna’s restful al fresco areas have been designed and furnished with the same level of detail and thoughtfulness as the interiors. External walls of creamy pietra di Noto (a local stone) root the building in its terroir and soften the clean, contemporary lines of the architecture, merging seamlessly with the surrounding landscape planted with olive and almond trees which whisper gently in the sea breeze; the terraces mix shade-giving carob trees, vibrantly colored bougainvillea and other Mediterranean flora.

Via walls of sliding doors, the internal spaces flow outside with the minimum of fuss. To the front is a secluded, well-shaded al fresco dining area that’s served by its own outdoor kitchen, an extension of the one inside. Next to this, gazing out through the trees to the sea, is a gorgeous sitting area with Paola Lenti outdoor furniture.

The terraces wrap around both sides of the house, pausing here and there to incorporate private areas (and al fresco showers) for each of the bedrooms, before reuniting in enchanting fashion at the glorious pool area.

A sleek infinity pool, extending for 20m, sits in pride of place and stretches out toward the horizon, creating a visual connection with the olive groves and the rolling almond hills beyond. Flanking it is a variety of lounge areas and, on one side, a bioclimatic pergola and a heated mini pool with hydromassage set on a teak terrace. Once installed here, it is highly unlikely that you'll wish to leave your home from home to explore.

CONSIDERATIONS

Due to the nature of the property, which includes custom and design furniture both indoors and outdoors as well as some elevated terraces, children are accepted from the age of 10. However, they must always be supervised by adults.

The estate surrounding BellaDonna is home to another of our villas, **TerraMia**, which is located around 120m away. Owned by the same family, the villas can be accessed on foot via a path in the grounds but each enjoys total privacy. If

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Amenities	
Accommodates (max)	6
Bedrooms	3
Double beds	3
Bathrooms	3
... of which en suite	3
Infinity pool	20x2.5m

you're travelling in a large group or with another family, why not take both of them.

Sea views	✓
Hydromassage pool	✓
Outdoor kitchen	✓
Barbecue	✓
Private parking	✓
Optional cook ¹	—
Air conditioning	✓
Satellite Wi-Fi Internet	✓
Photovoltaic system	✓
Shopping delivery service	—
Smart TV ²	✓
Bluetooth speakers ²	✓
Hairdryer	✓
Iron	✓
Washing machine	✓
Dishwasher	✓
Microwave	✓
Safe	✓
¹ the cook can provide breakfasts and dinners on request and depending on availability	
² in all three bedrooms	
³ in two of the bedrooms	
✓ = yes/present	
— = optional/on request	

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THINK ABOUT

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EXPLORING THE LOCAL AREA

BellaDonna offers fabulous views of and easy access to **Vendicari Nature Reserve**, with its array of beaches, and its unspoilt coastal habitat. The closest entrance to the reserve is about 4km away (please remember that there are no lidos or bars on the beaches of the reserve so you should take your own supplies/facilities with you). Other gorgeous sandy beaches nearby include those of San Lorenzo and Marzamemi, which are 10 and 15 minutes' drive away respectively. Both have facilities.

The nearest major town, fascinating, gorgeous **Noto** (15mins drive), is the most easterly of a chain of baroque towns (protected as a UNESCO World Heritage Site), that includes **Modica**, **Ragusa** and **Scicli**. All were rebuilt in flamboyant style following a major earthquake in 1693 and are certainly worth a visit. Just south of Vendicari is the pretty little fishing village of **Marzamemi**, which is a great spot for an evening stroll and a seafront dinner. Quiet and unassuming for most of the year, it comes to life in the summer months with bars and restaurants spilling out onto the lovely square and narrow streets. A little beyond this is Portopalo di Capo Passero, Sicily's southeasternmost point.

A stay in this part of Sicily, however, wouldn't be complete without a visit to **Syracuse**, once the mightiest city in Magna Graecia, and one of Italy's most lovely historic centres.

If hiking or horse riding in the hills is your thing, then there is some spectacular scenery in the rushing streams, waterfalls and gorges of Cassibile and Pantalica, a Paleolithic burial site near Syracuse.

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Distances

Catania airport: 93km-58miles-1hr

Comiso airport: 77km-48miles-1hr20

Palermo airport: 320km-200miles-3hr30

Trapani airport: 400km-248miles-5hrs

Nearest beaches: at Vendicari Nature Reserve - 4km-2.5miles-7mins; San Lorenzo - 6km-3.7miles-10mins

Noto (nearest shops, restaurants and amenities.): 13km-8miles-20mins

Marzamemi: 11km-7.5miles-13mins

Syracuse: 45km-27miles-35mins

Modica: 36km-22miles-45mins

Scicli: 45km-30miles-1hr

Ragusa: 53km-33miles-1hr15







