ANSEDONIA, TUSCANY

LA BANDITA

Immersed in nearly 1,000 acres of woodland, olive groves, and manicured lawned gardens, La Bandita is a pure Tuscan oasis of tranquillity, privacy and seclusion. Disarmingly simple, but carefully and imaginatively designed, the two houses combines roomy, light-filled interiors with effortless al fresco pleasures and a sense of summery fun. A holiday at La Bandita is all about carefree living, clean air, a sense of freedom, and being at one with nature.





PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

Service

Features

Exquisite seclusion and privacy
Spacious and modern light-filled interiors
In-villa cook service for three meals a day
Irresistible pool
Extensive gardens in 1,000-acre grounds
Close proximity to beaches

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
La Bandita is exclusively available through The Thinking Traveller, you won't find it anywhere else.

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ABOUT THE VILLA

14 GUESTS 7 BEDROOMS 7 BATHROOMS

Inside: accommodation at La Bandita is laid out over a main house on two floors and guesthouse, which is located about 50m away.

The main house:

The entrance to the main house leads into a voluminous central hallway, which provides access to the two wings and a guest WC. The first wing hosts the communal areas, while the other is given over to sleeping quarters.

The focal point of the communal areas is a generously proportioned, open-concept space featuring cool terrazzo flooring, lofty beamed ceilings, light-giving skylights, and large glass doors opening outside. To one side, gathered around an impressive fireplace, are a pair of sofas, a couple of easy chairs and a coffee table. To the right is a large, square dining table and a second comfortably furnished sitting area. The room culminates with a triangular glass gable end rising above a wall of books, which envelopes a pair of glass doors opening out onto the main terrace.

A door near the dining table opens into the well-equipped kitchen, which features a large, centrally positioned, marble-topped prep table. Opposite the kitchen, accessed via a door from near the main sitting area, is a snug room with a day bed, the perfect spot for booklovers.

Heading back to the central hallway, a glass door opens into the second wing, whose roomy atrium, illuminated by skylights and enlivened by wine-red resin flooring, provides access to the main house's four bedrooms:

• a spacious principal double bedroom with a skylight, an en-suite bathroom with tub and separate shower, and a glass garden room accessing a porticoed terrace
• two double bedrooms with en-suite shower rooms
• a quadruple with a skylight, two sets of bunk beds, an en-suite shower room, and a glass garden room accessing a porticoed terrace

Accommodation in the main house is completed by a lower ground floor, which is accessed via a staircase from the central hallway. Here there is a games room, a guest WC, and a super home cinema with a large screen and a huge, wall-to-wall, red-velvet sofa on two levels.

The guesthouse

The guesthouse has been designed, finished and furnished in a similar style to the main house and offers everything necessary for independent living.

Glass doors lead in from a shady terrace to a wide, open-plan communal area with wine-red resin flooring. At the centre is a comfortably cushioned built-in sitting area and a dining table with banquet seating. Four steps above the dining area is a small but well-equipped kitchen, while on the opposite side, just above the sitting area, is a little TV snug, furnished with a sofa.

Three steps between the living area and the dining table lead up to a central hallway, off which are the bedrooms, each one with cork flooring and lofty, beamed ceilings:

• a principal double bedroom with an en-suite bathroom with tub and separate shower
• a double bedroom
• a bunk-bed room with glass doors opening out into the surrounding gardens

The latter two bedrooms share a shower room

Outside: al fresco life at La Bandita is hard to beat, thanks not only to the sheers size of the beautifully landscaped gardens (which extend for around 2.5 acres of the property's 1,000 acres), but also to the total privacy and seclusion that the grounds afford.

Long, porticoed terraces, shaded by the extension of the sloping roof, extend down two sides of the main house. Dotted with sitting areas, they offer plenty of options for gazing out at the gardens, chatting over a coffee, or settling down with a good book.

The main house's principal terrace, which is accessed from the open-plan communal hub, is a thing of beauty. Two long pergolas, topped with leafy vegetation and cane, have been furnished with an abundance of comfy outdoor

sofas and chairs, as well as a pair of dining tables that can be joined together for larger groups.

Where the terraces end, the gardens begin, with wide-open swathes of immaculate lawn delimited by and dotted with an array of mature trees. Between the main house and the guesthouse, the lawn wraps around the beautiful azure pool, which is served by a typically ingenious, built-in lounge area that extends over several levels and incorporates plenty of mattresses and a retractable awning.

The guesthouse itself has its own extremely convivial, shaded terrace that's furnished for both sitting and dining. A large construction to one end incorporates both a barbecue and a pizza oven, making this the spot for those who love al fresco cooking.

Other highlights of the grounds include: a fruit and vegetable garden with geometric beds criss-crossed by vine-covered walkways; a football pitch; and an expanse of olive groves.

Proud cypress trees line La Bandita's private access road, and on the other side of that, the property's woodland rises up into the hills, framing the whole in an emerald green canopy.

CONSIDERATIONS

Please note that although La Bandita technically sleeps 16, the maximum occupancy is limited to 14, children included.

La Bandita is located within a working agricultural estate with olive groves and woodland. There is also a securely fenced area where a horse and a donkey are kept, as well as a chicken coop. On occasion, the owners' dogs may also be present when they are on site. All the animals are gentle and pose no risk, but guests are asked not to feed them and to supervise children at all times when exploring the extensive grounds.

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

Amenities	
Accommodates (max)	14
Bedrooms	7
Double beds	5
Quad beds	1
Bunk beds	1
Bathrooms	7
... of which en suite	5
Fully serviced [2]	✓
Pool	8x5m
Home cinema	✓
Football pitch	✓
Pizza oven [4]	✓
Daily maid service [1]	✓
Barbecue	✓

Table tennis	✓
Vegetable garden	✓
Private parking	✓
5G Wi-Fi Internet	✓
Air conditioning [3]	✓
Underfloor heating	✓
Smart TV	✓
Bluetooth speakers	✓
Hairdryer	✓
Iron	✓
Filtered drinking water	✓
Washing machine	✓
Dishwasher	✓
Microwave	✓

[1] Monday to Saturday (Sundays and Bank Holidays on request, depending on availability)

[2] 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.

[3] in the bedrooms

[4] a wood-burning pizza oven.

✓ = yes/present

– = optional/on request

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

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THINK ABOUT

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EXPLORING THE LOCAL AREA

La Bandita sits in a supremely private 1,000-acre country estate but is less than 10km as the crow flies from the beaches of Orbetello, Monte Argentario and Ansedonia.

Monte Argentario, a mountainous peninsula connected by a pair of slender isthmuses to mainland Italy, offers a great mix of beaches, hidden coves, crystalline waters, hiking trails, water sports, hill-top fortresses and two historic towns: Porto Santo Stefano in the north, and Porto Ercole in the southeast. Both have a great selection of restaurants, cafés, bars and shops.

For the closes restaurants, shops and other amenities, there's a good choice in the pleasant little lagoon town of Orbetello. Also nearby is the captivating mediaeval centre of Capalbio, whose web of streets also host a selection of restaurants.

La Bandita is perfectly placed for those who love to combine pastoral relaxation with a little life on the coast, and there are several **beaches** within a 15-to-20-minute drive. Running all along the southern isthmus that links Monte Argentario to the mainland is the 6km-long sandy beach of Feniglia. It’s a heavenly, south-facing spot that’s hard to resist. There are a few lidos dotted around, mainly at the eastern and western ends of the beach, but little in the central section.

A 17-minute drive southwest, meanwhile, will take you Ansedonia beach and the start of a 17km-long stretch of sand, most of which is entirely unspoilt. Here and there are a few beach clubs with restaurants, such as the ones at Carmen Bay and Macchiatonda, but you'll have no problem finding your own spot.

Many of the bays and coves along the west coast of Monte Argentario, including Cala Grande, Caletta dell'Amore, Cala del Gesso and Cala Piccola are most easily accessed, or only accessible, by boat, and we heartily recommend you rent one for a day or more to explore the fascinating coastline.

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

Distances

Rome–Fiumicino airport: 128km-79miles-1hr20
Rome Ciampino airport: 148km-92miles-1hr50
Florence airport: 199km-124miles-2hr35
Pisa airport: 208km-129miles-2hr15
Orbetello (amenities, restaurants and shops): 15km-9.3miles-15mins
Capalbio: 17km-10.5miles-20mins
Porto Ercole (on Monte Argentario): 22.5km-14miles-30mins
Porto San Stefano (on Monte Argentario): 27.5km-17miles-35mins
Nearest beaches: Ansedonia beach - 9.3km-5.8miles-13mins; Feniglia - 12km-7.4miles-18mins
Ansedonia and the archaeological site of Cosa: 12km-7.5miles-17mins
Magliano in Toscana: 32km-20miles-30mins
Grosseto: 53km-33miles-45mins
Manciano: 45km-28miles-45mins
Pitigliano: 31km-39miles-1hr5
Castiglione della Pescaia: 72km-45miles-1hr5

Other places worth visiting include: the Roman archaeological site of Cosa, on top of the hill above Ansedonia; the mediaeval hill-top towns of Magliano in Toscana, Manciano and Pitigliano; historic **Grosseto**, the capital of the Maremma; the coastal gem of Castiglione della Pescaia; and, just over the border in neighbouring Lazio, Viterbo.

Last but not least is the little island of Giannutri, which can be reached by private boat charter from Porto Santo Stefano on Monte Argentario.





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GALLERY











