

PORTO PALO DI MENFI, SICILY

AL PROFONDO BLU

Set on a gorgeous, secluded stretch of sandy beach, Al Profondo Blu takes its name from the enticing colour of the sea that gently caresses the surf just beyond the garden gate. Sun-baked Mediterranean maquis, shady trees and succulent plants make up the 15 hectares of private nature reserve that envelope the house in a cocoon of fragrant tranquility, providing the perfect retreat for those wishing to get away from the rigours of everyday life.



PRICES, AVAILABILITY
AND BOOKING →

Service

Features

Garden access to a quiet sandy beach

Set in a private nature reserve

Walking to a beachfront restaurant

Nearby

Menfi

Selinunte

Agrigento

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ABOUT THE VILLA

6 GUESTS 3 BEDROOMS 2 BATHROOMS

Inside: accommodation at Al Profondo Blu is all on one level and is accessed from a shady, sheltered courtyard.

The first thing you notice on entering the house is the view straight out to sea from the large, luminous open-plan living and dining area. French windows bring in the sunlight and provide access to the delightful seafront terraces.

Next to the dining area is the well-equipped, traditional Sicilian kitchen, which also opens onto the seafront terrace and the inviting al fresco dining area. A corridor leads from the living area to the sleeping quarters, where there is a double and a double-twin bedroom sharing a shower room and the main double bedroom with its own en-suite shower room.

Outside: the focal point for guests at Al Profondo Blu is without doubt the large panoramic sea-view terrace.

Cushioned sofas are arranged to maximise the views from under shady gazebos, while the al fresco dining area is served seamlessly from the indoor kitchen, an outdoor wood-burning pizza oven and a barbecue area. A gentle path leads for about 50m from the terrace down to Al Profondo Blu's truly unique feature: a sea gate opening onto a divine sandy beach.

There are few, if any houses in western Sicily that have such easy access to such a quiet beach and even in the height of summer you will find only a few people on 'your' stretch of sand. Turn right along the beach and you'll soon be at La Pineta, one of the best seafood restaurants in the area.

Behind the house is a large sheltered courtyard terrace, offering an alternative dining and relaxing area, a table tennis table, and a cool, shady wood that is part of the 15 private hectares of pristine nature reserve. Paths lead around the grounds, making it perfect for anyone wishing to run off their pasta or stroll amongst the fascinating variety of indigenous Sicilian flora that flourishes unperturbed in the reserve.

CONSIDERATIONS

Cycling in the Menfi area is a very pleasurable pastime, thanks to both the quiet back roads and the purpose-built cycle track along and around the old railway line between Menfi, Porto Palo and Sciacca. We'd be delighted to have bikes delivered to your villa and, if anyone in your group is an inveterate pedaller, arrange for a local guide to show them the best routes.

The final section of the access road to Al Profondo Blu is a little rough, so we recommend guests hire a 4x4 or one with high ground clearance.

Please note that this villa does not have a pool.

The owners' donkeys are left free to roam the reserve. They are not dangerous and cannot get close to the house, which is surrounded by a wooden fence. Cats may also be seen in the villa grounds, where the staff provide food for them; they will not enter the house unless encouraged to do so, however we cannot guarantee that they will stay away from outdoor furniture.

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

The number of steps that must be negotiated to get into and/or around this property might make it unsuitable for people with mobility problems.

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

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING



Amenities

Accommodates (max)	6
Bedrooms	3
Flexible doubles/twins	3
Bathrooms	2
... of which en suite	1
Cook	—
Pizza chef	—
Garden gate beach/sea access	✓
Air conditioning ¹	✓
Fireplace/log burner	✓
Safe(s)	✓
Washing machine	✓
Dishwasher	✓
Microwave oven	✓
Satellite TV	✓
DVD player	✓
Bluetooth speakers	✓
Satellite Wi-Fi Internet	✓
Barbecue	✓
Wood-burning pizza oven ²	✓
Private Parking	✓
Shopping service	—
Sea views	✓
Easy walk to beach/sea access	✓
Walking distance to restaurant(s) ³	✓
The Thinking Traveller local support	✓

¹ in bedrooms and living area

² the pizza oven cannot be used by the guests on their own as it can be quite technical to operate. You can enjoy wonderful pizzas by booking our Pizza Night service during weekdays.

³ La Pineta, one of the area's best restaurants, is about a 3.5km walk away. Please note the walk is along the

sandy beach, so appropriate footwear is necessary. There is no lighting in the evening, so we recommend the walk only during the day. Halfway along, the small Belice river meets the beach, so, depending on tide times, this could mean walking through knee-high water to the other side.

✓ = yes/present

— = optional/on request

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THINK ABOUT

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EXPLORING THE LOCAL AREA

The beauty and peace of your own personal nature reserve may make it difficult to get out and explore but you really should visit **Selinunte** and the **Cave di Cusa** and have a superb lunch or dinner at the seafront restaurant La Pineta. La Pineta is a 3.5km walk from the villa along the beach of the **Belice Nature Reserve**. Several of the towns nearby are also well worth a visit. **Sciacca** and **Mazara del Vallo** both have charming old centres, some great restaurants and working ports with large fishing fleets that work the Mediterranean daily. A little further afield but still in easy day-trip distance are **Marsala**, **Trapani** and **Erice**. Caltabellotta is spectacularly situated in the craggy hills overlooking both coast and interior, while **Menfi** itself is an up-and-coming centre of excellence for the wine trade.

The beaches in the area of Porto Palo-Menfi have received 20 consecutive "Blue Flags", attesting to the cleanliness of the water and their general ecological excellence.

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Distances

Trapani Airport: 100km-62miles-1hr20

Palermo Airport: 102km-63miles-1hr15

Catania Airport: 251km-156miles-3hr30

Comiso Airport: 200km-125miles-3hr5

Sandy beach: a 2-minute stroll down the path below the house or at Porto Palo (about 10mins drive)

Shops and amenities at Menfi (13km-7.5miles-20mins) or Castelvetro (18km-11miles-25mins)

Nearest restaurants: La Pineta (about a 3.5km walk along the beach) or in Porto Palo, Menfi and the surrounding area (10-20mins drive)

Cycle path: 550m-3min to asphalted road. Then 8km-4.9miles-20-30mins to cycle path

Sciacca: 30km-19miles-35mins

Selinunte: 12km-8miles-20mins

Mazara del Vallo: 38km-23miles-35mins

Agrigento: 88km-55miles-1hr30



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GALLERY



