SANTA MARIA LA SCALA, SICILY

THINK EXQUISITE

CROSSING TOGETHER

Crossing Together (Crossing the Rock and Casa alla Scala taken together) is a rare find indeed: top-quality accommodation with plenty of space for large groups of friends or family, sensational views, extensive panoramic grounds and terraces and a large pool: all at the heart of Santa Maria La Scala, one of eastern Sicily's most authentic and picturesque little fishing villages, with a range of seafood restaurants and a rocky-pebble beach.





PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

Service

Daily maid service, mid-week linen change and breakfast preparation

Features

Fabulous seafront pool
Extensive gardens and terraces
Exquisitely finished and furnished
Authentic fishing village location
Strolling distance to restaurants
Sea access in the village

Nearby

Catania
Taormina
Mount Etna

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

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ABOUT THE VILLA

16 GUESTS 8 BEDROOMS 7 BATHROOMS

Crossing Together is formed by two large independent apartments in a late 19th century *palazzo* overlooking the sea.

Crossing the Rock

Inside: Crossing the Rock occupies the second (top) floor of a seafront villa and is accessed either via an internal staircase or a private lift. The apartment is organised in a U shape, at the centre of which is a large, fully-furnished terrace looking out to sea.

The entrance hall, at the bottom right of the U leads on the right to two large, interconnecting, high-ceilinged reception rooms, both comfortably furnished with elegant sofas. The first has views onto the harbour, while the second has both sea and harbour views and access to the central terrace.

Behind the smaller of the two reception rooms is the dining room, which has its own terrace looking over the harbour and access, via a corridor, to the wonderful kitchen where the cook will prepare your meals.

A corridor at the base of the U is home to a double bedroom and two double-twins, each with large French windows opening onto the central sea-view terrace. Opposite them are two beautifully fitted shower rooms. At the end of the corridor another access to the kitchen, and a snug room with large flat-screen TV and access to a series of terraces, the gardens and the pool.

A corridor leads up the left-hand side of the U, where there is another double-twin bedrooms, a small study with laptop and printer, and two more lovely bathrooms (one with shower and one with tub). At the end of the corridor is another large, stunningly designed double, complete with access to the central terrace, and a private sitting area with treadmill looking out to sea. Furnishings and fittings throughout are of the highest quality.

Casa alla Scala

Inside: Casa alla Scala is on the first floor of a handsome sea-front house.

Stairs lead to the main entrance which opens into the comfortably furnished living area offering views of the harbour.

A central partition wall divides the living area from the luminous sea-view dining area, which itself accesses a wonderfully panoramic covered sea-front terrace. A small corridor leads from the living room to the well-equipped kitchen, perfectly placed for keeping an eye on the fishing boats arriving back in port!

Next to the kitchen is a double bedroom with en-suite bathroom with tub and shower, while back across the living area are the other bedrooms, a master double with en-suite shower room, and a double-twin with a shower room across the corridor. Both these two bedrooms have sea views and access to the balconies and terraces that run along in front of the apartment. The master bedroom may also host a single children's bed on request, bringing the total capacity up to seven. Once again, fittings and furnishing throughout are of the very highest quality.

Outside: Crossing the Rock offers no end of outside space, including the central sea-view terrace - the perfect spot for dining, lounging, aperitifs or just gazing out to sea - and the dining room terrace, which is another great option for meals.

The star of the outdoor areas, however, is the series of terraces, walkways and mature gardens to the left of the U. Here is the large pool, a canopied sea-view pergola, and a solarium area, ideal for soaking up the sun, relaxing or indulging in fun and games!

Casa alla Scala boasts three fabulous outside areas, all sea-facing, all interconnected via a walkway, and all accessible from Crossing the Rock via a series of gates and steps.

The first terrace is accessed directly from the indoor dining room and offers the perfect shady spot for breakfast or an evening aperitif. Its views of the harbour and the sea are spell-binding.

Following along a path one arrives at the solarium, a lawned terrace with sun-loungers with yet more divine sea views. The two front bedrooms both have direct access to this area.

Continuing along the path one comes to what will probably become most

guests' favourite spot, a large fully-furnished covered terrace with cushion-strewn lounge furniture, dining table and a fabulous outdoor kitchen including sink, dishwasher, hobs and a barbecue.

The icing on the cake is that the fishing village of Santa Maria La Scala (on the doorstep of your own private oasis) offers a series of excellent seafront fish restaurants, bars and lidos with bathing platforms.

Service: Crossing Together offers an impeccable level of service, including a member of staff who will prepare breakfast, and a maid who will carry out daily cleaning. A cook is available on request.

CONSIDERATIONS

The pool is natural and free of chemicals of any kind. It is filled with either sea water or with fresh water (depending on the season) which is completely changed every 3 to 4 days.

Please note that there is no real shallow end in the pool, whose minimum depth is 1.3m.

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.

The sea access in front of this property is via rocks and so may not be possible to use if the sea is rough. Please note that it is also immediately deep and therefore not ideal for less confident swimmers.

There is no private parking at this villa, though public parking is available nearby.

Parts of the route to this property include some quite steep twists and turns and/or narrow stretches of road. We recommend guests rent smaller car models rather than large people carriers or mini vans.

Crossing Together costs slightly more than the sum of the individual prices of Crossing the Rock and Casa alla Scala because the daily maid service at the former is extended to Casa alla Scala (where it is not usually included) when both properties are taken as Crossing Together.

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

Amenities

Accommodates (max)	16
Bedrooms	8
Double beds	4
Flexible (double or twin)	4
Bathrooms	7
... of which en suite	2
Pool	10x5m
Walkable to beach/sea [2]	✓
Sea views	✓
Walking distance to restaurant(s) [3]	✓
Outdoor kitchen	✓
Walking distance to shop(s) [3]	✓
Daily maid service	✓
Breakfast (excl. ingredients)	✓
Gym equipment	✓
Table tennis	✓
Barbecue	✓
Optional cook [1]	–
ADSL Wi-Fi Internet	✓
Air conditioning	✓
Fireplace	✓
Heating	✓
Lift	✓
Shopping delivery service	–

Stereo	✓
Satellite TV	✓
Sonos wireless music system	✓
Hairdryer	✓
Iron	✓
Washing machine	✓
Dishwasher	✓
Microwave	✓
Safe	✓

[1] the cook can provide lunches and dinners on request and depending on availability

[2] from the bathing platforms along the sea-front of Santa Maria La Scala

[3] there are a couple of restaurants, a café and a small shop in Santa Maria La Scala

✓ = yes/present

– = optional/on request

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

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EXPLORING THE LOCAL AREA

Santa Maria La Scala, on the sea below Acireale, is a characterful working fishing village, still relatively untouched by tourism except during August and summer weekends when it attracts locals from Catania in search of the sea. Its harbour (where you can hire a boat), sea-front fish restaurants, bar and bathing platforms are on Crossing Together's doorstep.

Other lovely fishing villages, such as Aci Castello and Acitrezza, dot the coastline, while nearby Acireale is great for food shopping.

Taormina is just a short drive up the coast, fascinating **Mount Etna** awaits exploration behind you and **Catania** is just a short drive down the coast. Further afield, **Siracusa** is about an hour's drive away, but also suitable for day trips are the UNESCO World Heritage towns of **Noto**, **Ragusa**, **Modica** and **Scicli**. There's even a golf course within striking distance if you fancy a round!

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

Distances

Catania airport: 35km-22miles-36mins

Palermo airport: 260km-161miles-3hr

Trapani airport: 339km-210miles-3hr45

Taormina: 43km-26miles-40mins

Mount Etna cable car: 57km-35miles-1hr

Catania centre: 21km-13miles-35mins

Siracusa: 87km-54miles-1hr05

Noto: 112km-70miles-1hr30

Modica: 154km-96miles-2hr20

Shops/restaurants: just outside your door

Nearest sea access: across the rocks in front of the villa or from the bathing platforms in Santa Maria La Scala (350m)

Nearest beaches: Fondachello and Marina di Cottone (between 35 and 45 minutes drive north)





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GALLERY





































































