FAVIGNANA, THE EGADI ISLANDS, SICILY

ZU NILLU

Perched above its own labyrinthine Roman stone quarry, into which a beautiful pool and a Mediterranean garden have been inserted, Zu Nillu combines theatricality, charm, simplicity and humour to create a truly unique proposition. And then there's its location: the only house on Favignana with a private garden overlooking (and accessing) the island's mythical Cala Rossa, one of the Mediterranean's most beautiful sea spots.





PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

Service

On request

Features

Unique setting above Cala Rossa
Garden gate sea access and pool
Extraordinary gardens and sea views

Nearby

Cala Rossa
Favignana Town
Sea access
Trapani

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

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ABOUT THE VILLA

8 GUESTS 4 BEDROOMS 4 BATHROOMS

Inside: accommodation at Zu Nillu laid out over a main house and a separate sleeping wing on three levels.

The front door of the main house opens into a cosy dining room with tuff-stone vaulted ceilings, a chandelier, and antique tiled floors. The style of the space - authentic and simple but with a dash of theatrical panache - is the calling card for the rest of the property.

Straight on from the dining room is the master bedroom, a double with a wrought-iron four-poster bed and a characterful en-suite bathroom with sunken bath and shower.

The dining room also flows into a living room, which in turn accesses a small but practical and typically original kitchen.

Across the shady terrace outside the main house and down a few steps is an externally accessed shower room. A few more steps lead down to the second part of the house, a three-level "tower" built into the quarry. Connected by an internal staircase, each floor is home to three bedrooms:
• a double on the top-level bedroom makes use of the externally accessed shower room accessed from the terrace outside the main house;
• the middle-floor bedroom has toilet facilities accessed just outside the room, as well as an al fresco shower;
• the lower-floor bedroom, finally, has an external shower room next door.

Outside: al fresco living is what Zu Nillu is all about. If the bedrooms, kitchen and living areas are imbued with a stylish charm, the rest of the property is just out of this world. Starting from the top, on the roof of the main house, there are a couple of terraces with truly jaw-dropping views over Cala Rossa, the sea, Favignana and even Trapani and Erice on the Sicilian "mainland".

Outside the main house, is a shady dining terrace served by a barbecue and hobs, ideal for long lazy lunches. Steps lead down to a second terrace and then

down into the vibrantly fertile Mediterranean quarry garden.

Paths weave through the fig, pomegranate and carob trees towards the glorious pool, a private outdoor theatre, and an inspirational al fresco bathroom! Exploration of these gardens throws up continual surprises and you'll soon be chuckling at the wonder of it all.

Across the public path in front of the main house, meanwhile, is a second private garden with shady trees and a panoramic "belvedere" overlooking the translucent waters of Cala Rossa, one of the most beautiful stretches of coastline anywhere in the Mediterranean. No one else has these views because there are no other houses nearby - you are in a truly unique position, privileged indeed!

And if that wasn't enough, a gate leads from the garden to a private path that takes you down to the bay below. Out of the peak summer weeks, when it gets busy, Cala Rossa will be pretty much all yours too!

CONSIDERATIONS

Due to Favignana becoming an increasingly popular island, there has been an increase in the number of tourists in the area surrounding Zu Nillu, especially during August and the summer months.

Guests at Zu Nillu are struck by the theatricality of the house and its grounds and so it might not be much of a surprise to learn that it is owned by one of Italy's most illustrious cinematic families!

Due to the nature of this property, we cannot accept bookings with children.

The extremely discreet and helpful caretaker is present on a daily basis

Please note that there is no real shallow end in the pool, whose minimum depth is over 1.5m.

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

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

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

Amenities

Accommodates (max)	8
Bedrooms	4
Double beds	4
Bathrooms	4
... of which en suite	1
Garden gate beach/sea access	✓
Pool	4.5x8m
Walkable to beach/sea	✓
Sea views	✓
Walking distance to restaurant(s) [2]	✓
Daily maid service	–
Barbecue	✓
Private parking	✓
Satellite Wi-Fi Internet	✓
Air conditioning [1]	✓
Heating	✓
Shopping delivery service	–

As this villa is located on an island, we recommend extra caution when booking your flights to avoid problems or delays with ferries and hydrofoils. It may be advisable to arrive a day earlier and depart a day later. Please contact us for any information or advice.

Satellite TV	✓
Bluetooth speakers	✓
Hairdryer	✓
Iron	✓
Washing machine	✓
Dishwasher	✓
Microwave	✓
Safe	✓

[1] in the bedrooms

[2] Osteria Cavallo and Restaurant Azziza (Hotel Il Baglio Sul Acqua) are a 25 and a 30mins walk away respectively

✓ = yes/present

– = optional/on request

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

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THINK ABOUT

Find out more about **getting to the Egadi Islands**

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EXPLORING THE LOCAL AREA

Favignana, or La Farfalla as it is often referred to thanks to its butterfly shape, is the largest and most important of the **Egadi Islands**. It lies some 10 miles of the **Trapani** coast and is a popular holiday destination in the summer months largely thanks to its crystalline azure waters in bays such as Cala Rossa (right below Zu Nillu!).

The main town, just 10 minutes' drive away, is also known as Favignana. It has a small port and is dominated by the Fort of Santa Caterina, originally built by the Arabs, a beautiful sandy beach and two main piazzas, flanked by restaurants, gelaterie and cafés. It is also home to two buildings testifying to the influence of the Florio family: Palazzo Florio, built in 1876 near the harbour, and the large, abandoned skeleton of the Florio tuna fishery.

But what most people come here for are the crystalline waters offering excellent swimming and good scuba-diving possibilities, especially in the sea caves such as Grotta Azzurra, Grotta dei Sospiri (sospiri means “sighs”), and Grotta degli Innamorati (the Lovers’ Grotto).

While staying on Favignana, we recommend a little island-hopping to the other two islands, Levanzo and Marettimo.

Favignana is just a 20-minute hop on the hydrofoil (regular services year round) or 45 minutes on the car ferry from Trapani (whose airport is 15 minutes outside town). Trapani is less than one hour’s drive from **Palermo** airport.

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

Distances

Trapani airport to Trapani port: 25mins

Palermo airport to Trapani port: 90km-55miles-1hr

Catania airport to Trapani port: 315km-195miles-3hr35

Comiso airport to Trapani port: 340km-211miles-4hr

Hydrofoil from Trapani to Favignana: 30-40mins

Nearest sea access: Cala Rossa, at the bottom of the garden

The harbour, town and beach of Favignana Town: 4.4km-2.7miles-15mins

Nearest restaurants: there's one restaurant about a 30-minute walk away and a good selection in Favignana Town (see above)

The other Egadi Islands, Levanzo and Marettimo: 10mins and 30mins respectively.





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GALLERY























































