

THE THINKING TRAVELLER

MENFI, SICILY

OLIVA

Oliva is an architect-designed, luxurious take on a traditional Sicilian *baglio*, characterised by a shady internal courtyard garden enclosed on each side by living and sleeping quarters. Beyond is the panoramic pool and the whispering olive groves that so characterise south-western Sicily.



**PRICES, AVAILABILITY
AND BOOKING**



Service

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

Features

Beautifully designed
Flexible accommodation
Panoramic sea-view pool
Tranquil olive grove setting

Nearby

Sandy beaches
Selinunte
Agrigento

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
Oliva 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 8 BATHROOMS

Inside: accommodation at Oliva is spread over the main house and two guesthouses arranged around an internal courtyard.

The main house, which looks south towards the sea, has a splendidly large, high-ceilinged living area furnished with quality, sink-in sofas and decorated in soft, calming greys and whites, a theme that runs throughout the house. Large glass doors provide access to the internal courtyard on one side and the pool area on the other.

Off one side of the living area is a dining room and a modern, well-equipped kitchen, while off the other is the gorgeous main suite, complete with en-suite bathroom with separate shower and tub. A flight of stairs leads from the living area up to another bright, panoramic double bedroom, which also has an en-suite shower room.

Heading from the living area into and across the internal courtyard one comes to the two guesthouses, one on either side. The first, on the right, has three bedrooms – two twins downstairs and a double upstairs, all with en-suite shower rooms - a private living area and a small kitchen.

Accommodation in the second guesthouse is spread over two floors: the ground floor has a twin bedroom with en-suite shower room, a little living area, and a kitchenette, while the first floor, which is accessed from an external flight of steps, is home to a double bedroom with en-suite shower room. Please note that this bedroom is under the sloping eaves and some of the beams are quite low (perhaps not ideal for adults but fine for younger adults and teenagers).

Outside: al fresco living at Oliva is full of possibilities!.The internal courtyard, the real heart of the property, has a large covered dining area, ideal for lunch when the sun is at its hottest.

Passing through the living room and out of the other side, is another covered living and dining area and, beyond that, raised up, the panoramic pool, from

whose decked solarium you may look out over the olive groves to the sea.

A further shaded area, between the master bedroom and the pool completes the "functional" outdoor areas, though the extensive grounds surrounding Oliva are perfect for active kids with energy to burn.

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.

A friendly cat may be seen in the villa's grounds, but he will not enter the house unless encouraged to do so. He is also discouraged from roaming the grounds, but we cannot guarantee that he won't be tempted to sit on the outdoor furniture. We ask all guests not to feed him or to allow him inside.

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING		→
Amenities		
Accommodates (max)	14	
Bedrooms	7	
Double beds	4	
Twin beds	3	
Bathrooms	8	
... of which en suite	7	
Infinity pool ²	10.5x5m	
Sea views		✓
Daily maid service		✓
Gym equipment		✓
Barbecue		✓
Private parking		✓
Beach club access		—
Optional cook ¹		—
Air conditioning		✓
Satellite Wi-Fi Internet ⁴		✓
Fireplace		✓
Heating		✓
Laundry service		—
Shopping delivery service		—
Stereo		✓
Satellite TV ³		✓
Bluetooth speakers		✓
Hairdryer		✓
Iron		✓
Washing machine		✓
Dishwasher		✓
Microwave		✓
Safe		✓
¹ the cook can provide dinners on request and depending on availability		

2 pool open from Easter to end of October

3 includes SKY and Netflix (for the TV in the main house)

4 in the main house and pool area

 = yes/present

 = optional/on request

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THINK ABOUT

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EXPLORING THE LOCAL AREA

Some of Sicily's best beaches run along the coast between Mazara del Vallo and Agrigento and many of these, including the ones at the **Belice Nature Reserve** and Porto Palo, are just a few minutes' drive from Oliva.

Not to be missed is the superb archaeological site of **Selinunte** and the **Cave di Cusa**, followed, perhaps, by a superb lunch or dinner at the seafront restaurant La Pineta on 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 seafood restaurants and working ports with large fishing fleets working 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 over 20 consecutive "Bandiere Blu", attesting to the cleanliness of the water and their general ecological excellence.

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Distances

Trapani airport: 75km-47miles-1hr5

Palermo airport: 102km-63miles-1hr15

Catania airport: 140km-87miles-3hr

Comiso airport: 198km-123miles-3hr

Sandy beach: a 5-minute drive away at the Belice Nature Reserve and 10-minute drive to Porto Palo

Shops and restaurants: Menfi12km-7.5miles-15mins and Castelvetro20mins drive

Sciacca: 30km-19miles-35mins

Selinunte: 20km-12.5miles-20mins

Agrigento: 88km-55miles-1hr30



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GALLERY





