

# THE THINKING TRAVELLER

NOTO, SICILY

SAIA

Looking out over a peaceful valley planted with olive groves and citrus orchards, Saia thrums to the calming rhythms of country life. If, after a couple of days enjoying all this by your pool, you're ready to explore further afield, it's good to know that the fascinating towns and the long sandy beaches of the Val di Noto are just a short drive away.



PRICES, AVAILABILITY  
AND BOOKING

→

Service

Daily maid service and mid-week linen change

Features

Panoramic pool

Stylish architect design

Wide-ranging vistas

Peace and quiet

Nearby

Noto

Sandy beaches

Vendicari Nature Reserve

Modica

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## ABOUT THE VILLA

10 GUESTS   5 BEDROOMS   5 BATHROOMS

**Inside:** accommodation at Saia is spread over two floors and two wings that are connected by a covered walkway.

The main entrance takes one into a spacious living area with creamy stone flooring, comfy sofas and armchairs, a TV, and a pair of large sliding windows opening out onto a panoramic lounge and dining terrace above the pool. To the right of the living area is the sleek, contemporary kitchen-diner, which also opens out onto the al fresco dining area.

Heading back through the living area, a door leads outside, where there is a shower room with wc and a flight of steps. Go down, and one arrives at the pool area. Head up, and one comes to the second wing, home to three bedrooms, each accessed independently from a covered walkway:

- the main bedroom is a double with en-suite shower room and its own large terrace with views over the pool, the gardens, the surrounding countryside, and, in the distance, the sea
- the middle bedroom is a double with en-suite shower room and its own shady terrace to the side
- the third, also a double, has an en-suite WC, an external shower and a little private terrace.

Back in the entrance hall of the first wing, stairs lead down to the lower ground floor, which is home to a double bedroom, a double-twin bedroom, and a bathroom with tub. Both bedrooms have access to a terrace, from which a path leads up through the gardens to the pool area.

**Outside:** most of your waking hours at Saia will be spent in two main al fresco areas outside. The first is the extensive terrace accessed from the kitchen, the hallway and the living area. Here there is a large, shaded al fresco dining area, offering views over the pool, the surrounding countryside and out to sea.

The second is the pool area itself, flanked by three old olive trees and a stretch

of lawn on one side, and wooden decking, aromatic plants and cacti on the others.

Paths of local stone fan out from the pool area, connecting the communal al fresco areas to the private terraces of the bedrooms and delimiting the low-lying shrubbery and rock gardens that surround the house.

Another path leads to a viewing point, whose wide-open vistas take in the olive and citrus-planted plain stretching into the distance and out to sea.

### CONSIDERATIONS

For larger groups that require more than two bedrooms, Saia can be booked in combination with its sister villa, **Tula**.

Saia features a fantastic infinity pool, offering swimmers stunning views while in the pool. There is a drop off the infinity side so we recommend children are supervised at all times. Please refer to our **general safety page** if you would like more information about infinity pools.

You may also wish to know that the pool has a single depth of 1.5m.

There is a neighbouring property about 50m away from Saia on the other side of the car parking area. It is occasionally occupied during the summer but doesn't overlook any of Saia's outdoor areas (ie the al fresco dining area, the pool area or the gardens).

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.

Parts of the route to this property are unpaved and a little rough. We, therefore, recommend guests hire a 4-wheel drive car or one with high ground clearance.

As the property is unfenced, stray cats and the neighbour's dogs may approach the house from time to time, however they will not enter the house unless encouraged to do so.

| PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING                                                                  |       | → |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|---|
| Amenities                                                                                         |       |   |
| Accommodates (max)                                                                                | 10    |   |
| Bedrooms                                                                                          | 5     |   |
| Double beds                                                                                       | 4     |   |
| Flexible (double or twin)                                                                         | 1     |   |
| Bathrooms                                                                                         | 5     |   |
| ... of which en suite                                                                             | 3     |   |
| Infinity pool                                                                                     | 14x3m |   |
| Sea views                                                                                         |       | ✓ |
| Daily maid service                                                                                |       | ✓ |
| Barbecue                                                                                          |       | ✓ |
| Private parking                                                                                   |       | ✓ |
| Optional cook <sup>1</sup>                                                                        |       | — |
| Air conditioning                                                                                  |       | ✓ |
| Starlink High-Speed Wi-Fi                                                                         |       | ✓ |
| Smart TV <sup>2</sup>                                                                             |       | ✓ |
| Bluetooth speakers                                                                                |       | ✓ |
| Shopping delivery service                                                                         |       | — |
| Hairdryer                                                                                         |       | ✓ |
| Iron                                                                                              |       | ✓ |
| Washing machine                                                                                   |       | ✓ |
| Dishwasher                                                                                        |       | ✓ |
| Microwave                                                                                         |       | ✓ |
| Safe                                                                                              |       | ✓ |
| <sup>1</sup> the cook can provide breakfasts and dinners on request and depending on availability |       |   |
| <sup>2</sup> includes SKY Movies                                                                  |       |   |

- ✓ = yes/present
- = optional/on request

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THINK ABOUT

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EXPLORING THE LOCAL AREA

Saia is set above a fertile plain between the fascinating Baroque town of **Noto** and the beautiful natural reserve of **Vendicari**.

Noto is the most easterly of a chain of baroque towns, including **Modica**, **Ragusa**, and **Scicli**. All were all rebuilt in flamboyant style following a major earthquake in 1693 and today they are protected as part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Val di Noto.

Vendicari Nature Reserve, meanwhile, boasts some of the finest sandy beaches in Sicily, which are pleasingly under populated even in the height of summer. Vendicari is also home to thousands of migrating flamingos and other species of bird, not to mention the sea turtles that nest on its beaches. Just to the west of Vendicari are the remains and superb mosaics of Villa Romana del Telleraro, a 4th century Roman villa.

If hiking in the hills is your thing, then there is some spectacular scenery in the rushing streams and waterfalls of Cassibile and at the Paleolithic burial sites in the dramatic valley of **Pantalica**, which, along with fascinating, historic **Syracuse** form another UNESCO World Heritage Site.

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Distances

Catania airport: 90km-56miles-1hr

Palermo airport: 320km-200miles-3hr20

Trapani airport: 40km-250miles-4hr10

Comiso airport: 78km-49miles-1hr25

Nearest beaches at Vendicari Nature Reserve: 8km-5miles-10/15mins

Nearest supermarket: 10mins drive

Noto (nearest shops, bars and restaurants): 10km-6miles-15mins

Syracuse: 40km-20miles-40mins

Modica: 38km-23miles-50mins

Ragusa: 55km-34miles-1hr5



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GALLERY



