

THE THINKING TRAVELLER

MENFI, SICILY

ARETE

Nestling in the vineyards that so characterise the Menfi area, Arete offers guests contemporary yet practical accommodation, a warm, welcoming ambience and a pure Mediterranean lifestyle. With an irresistible infinity pool to chill by and a host of sublime sandy beaches, picturesque towns and fascinating archaeological sites on your doorstep, you'll be spoilt for choice.



**PRICES, AVAILABILITY
AND BOOKING**



Service

Mid-week clean and linen change.

Features

Restful sea and vineyard views

Easy walk to a restaurant

Cool, easy contemporary design

Nearby

Gold sandy beaches

Selinunte

Mazara del Vallo

Sciacca

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

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

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ABOUT THE VILLA

6 GUESTS 3 BEDROOMS 2 BATHROOMS

Inside: accommodation at Arete is spread over one floor. The design is both pleasingly functional and aesthetically satisfying. Furniture and furnishings have been chosen with an eclectic eye, white-painted beamed ceilings make for an airy atmosphere, and concrete floors flow throughout, uniting each space in a sweep of polished grey.

The main entrance takes one into a light-filled, open-concept communal area. A sunken living area is comfortably furnished with a sofa and armchairs gathered around a designer fireplace. Large sliding glass doors lead out onto the pool terrace and bring the views inside.

A few steps lead up to the dining area and kitchen, one separated from the other by a central work station with induction hobs. Here too there are large glass windows accessing the main terrace.

A corridor leads from the kitchen to the sleeping quarters, which comprise three bedrooms: two double bedrooms with views over and access to the main terrace and pool, and a double-twin with access to a side terrace. One of the doubles has its own en-suite shower room, while the other two bedrooms share a family shower room.

Outside: outdoor living revolves around the large area of terrace to the front of the house. From here views stretch out over the surrounding vineyards and out to sea.

A large covered area, accessed from the living and dining areas and two of the bedrooms, hosts an al fresco lounge area and dining table. A couple of steps from here takes one down to the splendid infinity pool, which points out to sea, offering more of those wonderful views.

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

PRICES, AVAILABILITY
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Amenities

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.

Arete features a fantastic infinity pool, offering swimmers stunning views while in the pool. 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.

Due to the nature of this property, we cannot accept bookings with children under 5.

This property has an air cooling system.

This property is surrounded by countryside, some of which is unfenced and may include drops or steep slopes. We therefore recommend that younger children are supervised by an adult when exploring the grounds.

Accommodates (max)	6
Bedrooms	3
Double beds	2
Flexible (double or twin)	1
Bathrooms	2
... of which en suite	1
Infinity pool (LxW in m) ¹	10x4
Air conditioning ¹	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Air cooling system ¹	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fireplace/log burner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Safe(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Washing machine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dishwasher	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Microwave oven	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Satellite TV ²	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DVD player	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bluetooth speakers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Satellite Wi-Fi Internet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Barbecue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Private parking	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sea views	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The Thinking Traveller local support	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

¹ an eco-friendly (min. temperature 24°C) integrated water-cooled system runs through the bedrooms only, in the living room there is a standard air-conditioning unit

² including Netflix

= 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**, Porto Palo and Menfi, are just a few minutes drive from Arete.

Not to be missed is the superb archaeological site of **Selinunte** and the **Cave di Cusa**, followed, maybe, by a superb lunch or dinner at the seafront restaurant (La Pineta in 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 "Bandiere Blu", attesting to the cleanliness of the water and their general ecological excellence.

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.

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Distances

Trapani airport: 108km-67miles-1hr20

Palermo airport: 102km-61miles-1hr30

Catania airport: 249km-154miles-3hr30

Comiso airport: 195km-120miles-3hr

Sandy beach: 5-10mins drive at Porto Palo, Lido Fiori or the the Belice Nature Reserve

Nearest shops and amenities: Menfi, 6km-4miles-10mins or Castelvetro, 19km-12-25mins

Nearest restaurants: Planeta's La Foresteria restaurant is a 2min drive away. Others are within a 5-10 minute drive on the way to and in Porto Palo
Cycle path: 700m-4min to asphalted road. Then 1.2km-0.7miles-6mins to cycling path

Sciacca: 30km-19miles-30mins

Selinunte: 14km-9miles-25mins

Agrigento: 88km-55miles-1hr20



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GALLERY



