

THE THINKING TRAVELLER

VENDICARI, SICILY

SOLE DI VADDEDDI

On arrival at Sole di Vaddeddi, the first thing one notices are the flourishing mature gardens that wrap around the house to create a sense of tranquillity, charm and seclusion. On further exploration of this oasis of delight, from the tempting pool and the sea views, to the intimate shady terraces and the bright interiors, it quickly becomes apparent that this is a true home with an authentic, welcoming soul.



PRICES, AVAILABILITY
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Service

Daily maid service and mid-week linen change

Features

Authentic Sicilian atmosphere
Luxuriant gardens
Lovely pool
Flexible accommodation

Nearby

Vendicari Nature Reserve
Sandy beaches
Noto, Marzamemi and Scicli
Syracuse

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ABOUT THE VILLA

10 GUESTS 6 BEDROOMS 8 BATHROOMS

Inside: accommodation at Sole di Vaddeddi is spread over a main house on two levels and a guesthouse a few metres away in the grounds.

One of the entrances to the main house opens into a long, luminous living area that gives us the first taste of the property's style. Three sets of traditional wooden French windows open out onto shady surrounding terraces, lofty white-washed wood-beamed ceilings create an airy feel, a contemporary L-shaped sofa adds a dash of soft comfort, and a pair of retro designer chairs complete the look. The muted, neutral colour scheme, meanwhile, is the perfect foil to the verdant exuberance of the leafy gardens just outside, and the atmosphere is at once natural, stylish and warm.

A door at one end of the living room leads into the first of three bedrooms on the ground floor, a double with en-suite shower room and garden access.

Running at right-angles to, and flowing organically from the living area, is another long, open space, home to a convivial dining table and a well-equipped country kitchen with central island. Two sets of French windows connect this space to a pair of al fresco dining areas.

A door halfway along the kitchen opens into a short corridor, off which is a guest WC, a storage room, and two good-sized bedrooms:

- the main double, with en-suite shower room (with a two-person walk-in shower) and access to the surrounding terraces and gardens
- a double with en-suite shower room

The first floor of the main house is accessed via an external flight of steps from one of the terraces outside the kitchen, and comprises:

- a living area with access to the sea-view terrace
- a double-twin bedroom with access to the sea-view terrace
- a double bedroom

- two shower rooms

The garden guesthouse is situated a few metres from the main house down a path of shallow steps. Here there is:

- a comfortably furnished, bright living room with a wall of windows looking out to the surrounding countryside
- a double bedroom with en-suite bathroom with tub
- a shared shower room

Antique terracotta-tiled floors run throughout the guesthouse, and the atmosphere is luminous, airy and welcoming, like the main house.

Outside: covering around three acres, the grounds at Sole di Vaddeddi are a joy to behold and spend time in. In the well-established gardens, towering candelabra cacti rub shoulders with swaying palms, centuries-old olives and carobs provide cooling shade, bougainvillea and jasmine climb with colourful abandon, and bushy flowering shrubs add a scented backdrop to the whole. Here and there, through the foliage, one is treated to tantalising glimpses of the glistening sea.

A curvaceous terrace, delimited by manicured emerald lawns, wraps around the main house, offering a series of cane-shaded areas for carefree al fresco life, and all the ground floor rooms (with the exception of one of the bedrooms) commune directly with these spaces. The kitchen serves a trio of dining areas, including one that's evocatively set under a whispering olive tree.

The various areas of the grounds are bounded by creamy dry stone walls so typical of the area, and a gate in one of these leads to a wide-open expanse of grass dotted with venerable olive trees and offering views out to sea. Sitting in pride of place at the centre is the wonderful pool, which is served by a shady pergola with a table and chairs.

An original stone path with wide, shallow steps (along which the laundry room is located) leads from the main terrace down to the guesthouse, which boasts its own large terracotta-tiled terrace, part of which is shaded and furnished with chairs and a coffee table.

On the roof of the guesthouse, meanwhile, is a wonderfully panoramic terrace offering views out over the surrounding countryside and down to Vendicari Nature Reserve. Easily accessed via a path from the main house's terrace, and

furnished with sofas and armchairs, this may well become your favorite spot for the evening *aperitivo* ritual.

CONSIDERATIONS

Due to the nature of the property including terraces low walls and several drops around the grounds, children must be supervised at all times.

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Amenities		
Accommodates (max)	10	
Bedrooms	6	
Double beds	4	
Flexible (double or twin)	2	
Bathrooms	8	
... of which en suite	4	
Pool ²	16x4m	
Outdoor dining area		✓
Daily maid service ¹		✓
Gym equipment		✓
Bowling green		✓
Table tennis		✓
Barbecue		✓
Private parking		✓
Air conditioning		✓
Starlink High-Speed Wi-Fi		✓
Heating		✓
Satellite TV ³		✓
Sonos wireless music system		✓
Smart TV		✓
Hairdryer		✓
Iron		✓
Ice maker		✓
Washing machine		✓
Tumble dryer		✓
Safe		✓
Dishwasher		✓
Microwave		✓
¹ from Monday to Saturday		
² salt water pool		
³ includes Sky Cinema		
✓ = yes/present		
— = optional/on request		

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THINK ABOUT

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EXPLORING THE LOCAL AREA

Sole di Vaddeddi is situated just a couple of kilometres as the crow flies to the west of **Vendicari Nature Reserve**, renowned for its fabulous array of sandy beaches, and its unspoilt coastal habitat. There are no lidos or bars on the beaches of the reserve so you should take your own supplies/facilities with you).

Other gorgeous sandy beaches nearby include those of San Lorenzo and Marzamemi, which are around 15 minutes drive away. Both have facilities.

The nearest major town, fascinating, gorgeous **Noto** (15mins drive), is the most easterly of a chain of baroque towns (protected as a UNESCO World Heritage Site), that includes **Modica**, **Ragusa** and **Scicli**. All were rebuilt in flamboyant style following a major earthquake in 1693 and are certainly worth a visit.

Just south of Vendicari is the pretty little fishing village of **Marzamemi**, which is a great spot for an evening stroll and a seafront dinner. Quiet and unassuming for most of the year, it comes to life in the summer months with bars and restaurants spilling out onto the lovely square and narrow streets. A little beyond this is Portopalo di Capo Passero, Sicily's southeasternmost point.

A stay in this part of Sicily, however, wouldn't be complete without a visit to **Syracuse**, once the mightiest city in Magna Graecia, and one of Italy's most lovely historic centres.

If hiking or horse riding in the hills is your thing, then there is some spectacular scenery in the rushing streams, waterfalls and gorges of Cassibile and Pantalica, a Paleolithic burial site near Syracuse.

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Distances

Catania airport: 93km-58miles-1hr

Comiso airport: 77km-48miles-1hr20

Palermo airport: 320km-200miles-3hr30

Trapani airport: 400km-248miles-5hrs

Nearest beaches: at Vendicari Nature Reserve - 3km-1.9miles-6mins (to the car park); San Lorenzo - 10.5km-6.5miles-13mins

Noto (nearest shops, restaurants and amenities.): 9km-5.7miles-15mins

Marzamemi: 14km-8.5miles-18mins

Syracuse: 45km-27miles-35mins

Modica: 36km-22miles-45mins

Scicli: 45km-30miles-1hr

Ragusa: 53km-33miles-1hr15



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GALLERY



