

THE THINKING TRAVELLER

TAORMINA, SICILY

VILLA CARMINE

With its gothic windows, its Moorish sensibilities, its leafy courtyard garden, and its façade in slender red brick and stone, Villa Carmine is quintessentially Taorminese. In the same family for decades, this evocative, soulful and charm-filled property has been sensitively and harmoniously restored by the latest generation of owners to create a ravishing 21st-century home for those who love to be at the centre of life.



**PRICES, AVAILABILITY
AND BOOKING**



Service

Features

Historic apartment
Contemporary interiors
Plunge pool
Leafy terraces
Taormina on the doorstep

Nearby

Restaurants, bars, cafés
The Graeco-Roman theatre
Beaches
Mount Etna

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

Villa Carmine 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 3 BATHROOMS

Inside: accommodation at Villa Carmine is laid out over one floor of a historic building with origins in the 16th century. Beautifully refurbished, the property's interiors ooze quality and style. Minimalist contemporary aesthetics provide a subtle backdrop for the many original architectural features, enhancing them and bringing them to the fore. The atmosphere throughout is one of tranquillity, airiness and refinement.

The main entrance leads in from a leafy terrace into a voluminous room partially divided in two. On the left is a sleek, well-equipped charcoal-black kitchen, while on the right is a dining area with oval table, illuminated by a black and gold Wever & Ducre' pendant light and surrounded by wooden chairs upholstered alternately in rich green and gold. Hardwood flooring and white-painted walls, both of which are found throughout the property, complete the picture.

A Moorish arched stone opening topped with a decorative rib leads into the generously proportioned living room. Furnished with sofas and armchairs in green and gold, this space is Janus-like in its aspect: one half focuses on the magnificent carved stone decorative fireplace, while the other gathers around a TV. The impressive coffered wooden ceiling, supported by a fine decorative band, and the pointed gothic windows attest to the property's history, while subtle contemporary light fixtures are a winning design touch. Just off the living room is a guest WC.

Back in the dining area, another opening leads into a hallway, off which one may access two of the three bedrooms. Both are double-aspect doubles (one has a contemporary wrought iron four-poster frame) with immaculate contemporary en-suite shower rooms in resin.

The third and final bedroom, a double-twin, is accessed from the kitchen. This airy room has its own en-suite shower room (also in resin), views of the gardens and access via steps down to the pool area.

Outside: topped by an ornamental mascarón, an impressive arched iron gate opens into a leafy courtyard shared with the restaurant-bar next door.

Steps lead up to Villa Carmine's private areas and the pool terrace, whose terracotta paving wraps around the inviting waters of the plunge pool. A cane-shaded pergola sits to one side, while there is space also for those who wish to enjoy the sun. Verdant trees and climbers and colourful flowers in terracotta pots enliven the atmosphere.

More steps lead from the pool area up to a most convivial al fresco dining terrace that's shaded by a canopy of fragrant wisteria.

Where Villa Carmine's al fresco areas end, Taormina's fascinating and utterly charming old town centre begins.

CONSIDERATIONS

Villa Carmine is located right in the centre of bustling Taormina and therefore has neighbours, including restaurants and bars which sometimes host live music events and DJ sets, and which are particularly popular in the summer months. The pool area is also overlooked from a couple of angles. If you're looking for seclusion and total peace, this is not the property for you. If you love being at the centre of a vibrant historic town, however, it's hard to beat.

Please note that the centre of Taormina is virtually car-free and there is no private parking at Villa Carmine. The nearest paid car park is at Porta Catania, about a 5-minute walk away. Taormina does get busy, especially in the summer months, so parking places can sometimes be difficult to find. This said, for everyday life at Villa Carmine, you won't need a car, as everything you need is right on your doorstep. If you wish to make the occasional excursion, why not let us arrange a driver?

You may also wish to know that the pool has a single depth of 1.2m.

CIN no. IT083097C2W5WE9850

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING



Amenities

Accommodates (max)	6
Bedrooms	3
Double beds	2
Flexible (double or twin)	1
Bathrooms	3
... of which en suite	3
Daily maid service	—
Plunge pool	6x2
Air conditioning	✓
Safe(s)	✓
Washing machine	✓
Dishwasher	✓
Microwave oven	✓
Smart TV	✓
Beach club access ¹	—
ADSL WI-FI Internet	✓
Barbecue	✓
Walking distance to restaurant(s)	✓
Walking distance to shop(s)	✓
The Thinking Traveller local support	✓

1 for our guests staying at Villa Carmine we can book Belmond Villa Sant'Andrea's exclusive beach club on the beach at Mazzarò

= yes/present

= optional/on request

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THINK ABOUT

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EXPLORING THE LOCAL AREA

Villa Carmine occupies a fabulous position right in the centre of the ancient, glorious, beguiling and perfectly positioned town of **Taormina**. The town's labyrinth of pretty streets, its panoramic *piazze*, its boutiques, its Michelin-starred restaurants and its chic bars are all on your doorstep, not to mention the myriad of historical and architectural treasures.

In the summer months, Taormina's world-famous Graeco-Roman theatre hosts numerous concerts, operas and other events, so you'll never be short of things to do in the evening.

The idyllic beaches of Mazzarò and Isola Bella below Taormina are just a cable car ride away, making it wonderfully easy for those who wish to spend time by and in the Ionian Sea.

Sicily's Ionian Riviera has much to offer besides Taormina, including the huge attraction of **Mount Etna** and the villages and towns that populate its flanks.

Guests staying at Villa Carmine are also within easy day trip range of **Catania** (a Baroque lava-stone city with vibrant streets markets and much more), ancient **Syracuse**, once the mightiest city in Magna Graecia, and the UNESCO World Heritage towns of **Noto**, **Modica**, **Ragusa** and **Scicli**.

PRICES, AVAILABILITY
AND BOOKING



Distances

Catania airport: 65km-41miles-45mins

Palermo airport: 290km-180miles-
3hr15

Trapani airport: 370km-231miles-3hr55

Taormina centre (restaurants, cafés,
shops, sights, etc): right outside the
garden gate

Nearest beaches: Isola Bella and
Mazzarò - a 10-minute walk and a 5-
minute cable car ride

Mount Etna cable car: 62km-38miles-
1hr10

Catania centre: 52km-32miles-45mins

Syracuse: 120km-73miles-1hr30

Noto: 145km-90miles-1hr45

Modica: 175km-110miles-2hr10



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GALLERY



