

Reviews www.vrbo.com/315260

Appartamento indipendente – Independent apartment

▲ **Memorable stay in Tuscany!**

Guest Enchanted (Michigan, USA)

▲ **Date of stay** 03/16/12

▲ **Review Submitted** 09/14/12

This suite felt more like a whole house rather than the end of the main villa which occupies a space in the middle of a vast, picturesque olive orchard. Our hosts could not have been more accommodating, especially when we had a flat tire on our way from the airport and could not find help from anyone on the busy Friday afternoon. Signor Passigli was on the phone with us throughout the whole crisis until we arrived at the door of our rental suite late at night, well after the earlier time of day when we were supposed to arrive. The house was very well appointed and comfortable, and every morning the sun would stream through the window of our second-storey bedroom, beckoning us out for the day's activities. The views from the front door are breath-taking, verdant hills dotted with olive orchards occasionally accented by the tall cypress trees so typical of the Tuscan landscape. If you are lucky enough to persuade Lorenzo, Signor Passigli's son and co-host of the rental property, to take you on a hike through those orchards and along the hillside trails, your stay will be complete! I would recommend this beautiful house with all its charm - and charming people - to anyone looking for a peaceful, aesthetically pleasing stay in the hills near Florence.

Recommended for: Sightseeing, age 55+, girls getaway, romantic getaway.

▲ **A Home Away From Home!**

Guest Amy (Denver, Colorado)

▲ **Date of stay** 06/25/12

▲ **Review Submitted** 07/03/12

When I was searching for a place to stay in Tuscany, I narrowed my search to this place and one other. I selected this villa because of the rave reviews. Even the reviews do not do this magical place justice! Like every great teacher I have ever known, Andrea is patient and kind and has a wonderful sense of humor. When we arrived, we got HOPELESSLY lost trying to find it - even with a GPS. Andrea sent his daughter and her friend to "rescue" us. When we arrived, we were delighted to find some staples at the villa so that

we did not have to go to the grocery store right away. The countryside retreat was SO comfortable and was the PERFECT place to relax after hitting the pavement all day. Andrea provided directions to different sites and suggested restaurants, as well. The salt water swimming pool remained refreshing in spite of the record breaking heat! My two daughters loved the pet cats, too. I hope to return here one day. It was absolutely wonderful!

Recommended for: Families with teenagers, girls getaway, romantic getaway, families with young children.

^ The Highlight of Our Trip

Guest Craig (Lake Oswego, Oregon, USA)

^ **Date of stay** 10/17/11

^ **Review Submitted** 11/23/11

I don't know if I can find enough good things to say about this property and about our host, Andrea. To say that the property is beautiful is not enough. It is warm, comfortable, and located in a stunning setting on an organic olive farm. Andrea is a delightful host, warm and friendly, with a fascinating background, and always helpful. You must have a car, and be willing to tackle the narrow, steep and rough road to the house. Once you arrive, however, your efforts are more than amply rewarded. We were fortunate to be there at the start of the olive harvest, and Andrea was more than happy to show us the process and explain how the olive get to the press. (Unfortunately, we missed the press by one day.) I am happy to second all the comments in the other reviews. When (not if!) I go back to Italy, I will definitely schedule another stay with Andrea.

Recommended for: Age 55+, families with teenagers, girls getaway, romantic getaway, families with young children.

^ **A beautiful country stay, only minutes from the heart of Florence**

Guest Paul (Sydney, Australia)

^ **Date of stay** 09/20/11

^ **Review Submitted** 10/24/11

We toured Italy for a month, and without a doubt, our stay at this property was a highlight of our trip. Don't be perturbed by the title of "music professor", as Andrea was the the most unassuming, hospitable, friendly and helpful host you could wish for. A fluent english speaker, he was always available to provide tips and advice on days trips, etc. The apartment, which is actually a part of the main farmhouse, was very spacious, even for our family of 5. It has been recently totally renovated with modern appliances and quality fittings, and is decorated and furnished in authentic Tuscan villa style. Staying here was an absolute joy, and my family suggested scrapping our itinerary and staying here for the rest of our holiday. The only drawback is that despite being only a kilometer from the train station, the road to the property is fairly steep, so having a car almost a necessity. We always found car parking (free) at the train station to be plentiful, with trains to Florence departing hourly and taking about 15 minutes. (Andrea kindly provided us with a timetable). Day trips to Pisa, Sienna, etc. were also easily made by train. The wi-fi internet was trouble free.

Recommended for: Sightseeing, age 55+, families with teenagers, romantic getaway, families with young children.

^ **Charming Italian Farmhouse**

Guest Rick (Colorado Springs, CO)

^ **Date of stay** 10/06/11

^ **Review Submitted** 10/22/11

This property is everything as advertised and more. The owners are extremely friendly and helpful and live right on the property. The directions provided by the owner were accurate and easy to follow. The property was very clean and comfortable. The location is even better than advertised as there is a train station 5 minutes from the house that you can use to easily access Florence in less than 30 minutes. The owners directed us to several good restaurants in the area. We would definitely stay at this property again if traveling to the area. A car is required, and for those planning on driving around Tuscany, we would recommend using GPS because the roads in and around Florence can be a bit confusing. Be prepared to drive on narrow hilly roads.

Recommended for: Sightseeing, age 55+, families with teenagers,

romantic getaway.

⤴ **A Wonderful Retreat!**

Guest Sarah (Canada)

⤴ **Date of stay** 06/25/11

⤴ **Review Submitted** 10/08/11

We stayed here with another couple in June of 2011 and absolutley loved it! The private apartment occupies two stories in a beautiful old country house which has been tastefully refurbished. It's in a lovely setting perched high in the hills above Florence, surrounded by olive orchards. Andrea and his family were most welcoming - very friendly, kind and helpful with every detail of our stay. Andrea was able to recommend several wonderful restaurants in nearby Caldine and Fiesole and he showed us the station at the bottom of the hill where we could catch a regularly scheduled train which put us into the heart of Florence in about 20 minutes. The property with its quiet surroundings and large swimming pool was a wonderful retreat after a day spent in the heat and hustle of the city. We dined al fresco every evening. The kitchen and living area are spacious and comfortable and well equipped. All in all, it was a very relaxed and enjoyable holiday. We definitely hope to return!

Recommended for: Sightseeing, age 55+, adventure seekers, girls getaway, romantic getaway, families with young children.

Helpful votes: 1/1

⤴ **Wonderful! we all raved about our**

Guest Sheila (Canada)

stay

⤴ **Date of stay** 02/27/11

⤴ **Review Submitted** 05/02/11

After a long trip from the airport, after having lost a knapsack with a camara in it, we were concerned about finding our accomodation at 11 at night. Andrea came to meet us at a gas station - thank goodness! we are not sure we would have found it on our own. The complimentary wine, AMAZING olive oil, the gift of parmesan cheese when we decided to cook up some pasta was delightful. Andrea lent us a camara, gave us hints of where to go, how to get there. The highlight had to be when he invited us into his studio - wow. We would love to go back, here's hoping!

Recommended for: Sightseeing, age 55+, families with teenagers, girls getaway, romantic getaway.

Helpful votes: 2/2

▲ **Highly Recommend!!**

Guest Debbie (Bucks County, Pennsylvania)

▲ **Date of stay** 10/01/10

▲ **Review Submitted** 10/28/10

We stayed here in early October (2010) and were completely satisfied with the apartment and location. We had the advantage of seeing Florence daily while avoiding the congestion of staying there. Only 15-20 minutes by bus, train or car, Caldine is an ideal location if relaxation is part of your vacation objective. The owners are delightful people and always available for information and assistance, if needed. The pictures do not do the apartment justice; it is ample and new with all the modern amenities of wireless and cable in addition to the charming fireplace and alfresco patio. Everything you might need is here. We sincerely regret not getting to know the town of Fiesole, but were repeatedly drawn into Florence. We can not wait to return.

Recommended for: Sightseeing, families with teenagers, girls getaway, romantic getaway.

Owner response: Thank you Debbie for your nice review. We are glad you enjoyed your stay and we definitely will try to keep up with the expectations! Andrea

Helpful votes: 2/2

[FLIPKEY.COM](http://www.flipkey.com)

<http://www.flipkey.com/fiesole-condo-rentals/p284279/>

"sorry to leave"

We really enjoyed this spacious and tastefully decorated apartment in a country home, situated in the hills just outside Florence. We stayed there for only one week and were very sorry to leave. The large swimming pool, containing salted water, is very refreshing on a hot Tuscan summer's day. The owner, Andrea, and his son Lorenzo are fantastic hosts who really make you feel at home.

[HOMELIDAYS.IT](http://www.homelidays.it)

Voto globale dell'affittuario : 5/5

Data 07/01/2012

"Il Sig. Andrea, Lorenzo il figlio e la madre, sono stati molto accoglienti nonostante il nostro arrivo in tarda serata. Disponibili tutti e sempre discreti, gentili. La villa pulitissima, calda, le foto non dimostrano la vera grandezza insomma è molto grande, spaziosa, luminosa e funzionale. Raccomando vivamente questo angolo di paradiso. Complimenti,"

Simone B. (Italia)

Voto globale dell'affittuario : 5/5

Data 07/09/2011

"E' un posto meraviglioso per chi vuole stare in mezzo alla natura e fuori dai rumori delle città."

Vladimir D. (Italia)

Voto globale dell'affittuario : 5/5

Data 14/10/2010

"la maison correspondait totalement à nos attentes, beaucoup de charme, propre, très calme, bien équipée, facile d'accès pour visiter Florence, très bon accueil. Bel environnement manquant un petit peu de vue."

Gilone d. (Francia)

Voto globale dell'affittuario : 5/5

Data 06/10/2010

"Un lieu de séjour fantastique. Les propriétaires sont charmants, extrêmement accueillants et très attentifs aux besoins des locataires. Nous avons apprécié le calme de la campagne toscane, au milieu des oliviers ainsi que le charme de la demeure très bien arrangée, confortable et décorée avec beaucoup de goût. Un très bel endroit que nous recommandons vivement. Un grand MERCI ! Grazie infinite !"

armelle f. (Francia)

Voto globale dell'affittuario : 5/5

Data 09/09/2010

"Spacieux, propre, bien équipé. Le propriétaire parle très bien français, attentif sans être intrusif. Environnement idyllique au coeur des oliveraies. Grand calme, piscine agréable. La gare située à 3 minutes du gîte permet d'aller en train à Florence (1.20€...) et évite le stationnement impossible dans Florence! A recommander!"

Isabelle Q. (Francia)