

# BORGOPIGNANO

THE TUSCAN HAVEN



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## THE ESTATE

Borgo Pignano is an elegant historical country estate in the heart of the Tuscan countryside, just a short drive from the historic, hilltop towns of Volterra and San Gimignano and within easy reach of the medieval cities of Florence and Siena and the vineyards of Chianti.

Borgo Pignano sits in the center of a much cherished 750-acre organic estate and features a magnificent luxury 18th century villa and a hamlet first settled in during Etruscan times.

Today, this sensitively restored and privately owned Borgo, offers warm and gracious hospitality in a tranquil setting about 500 meters above sea level, with some of the most commanding views in all of Tuscany that can stretch to the Mediterranean. Borgo Pignano provides a unique experience, steeped in history that captures the soul of Tuscany.

Explore the organic farm, biodynamic kitchen gardens, olive groves, orchards, meadows, lakes, waterfalls and woodlands which can all be found within Pignano's beautifully managed grounds.





## LOCATION

Borgo Pignano is a convenient spot from which to explore Tuscany and is less than thirty minutes from the Medieval towns of Volterra and San Gimignano.

It is also within an hour's drive of Siena and Florence and the smaller towns of Casole d'Elsa, Colle val d'Elsa, Monteriggioni, Certaldo, and Bolgheri. Lucca, Arezzo and Pisa are also within driving distance as are the wine growing areas of Montepulciano, Montalcino, Castellina in Chianti, Radda and Gaiole.

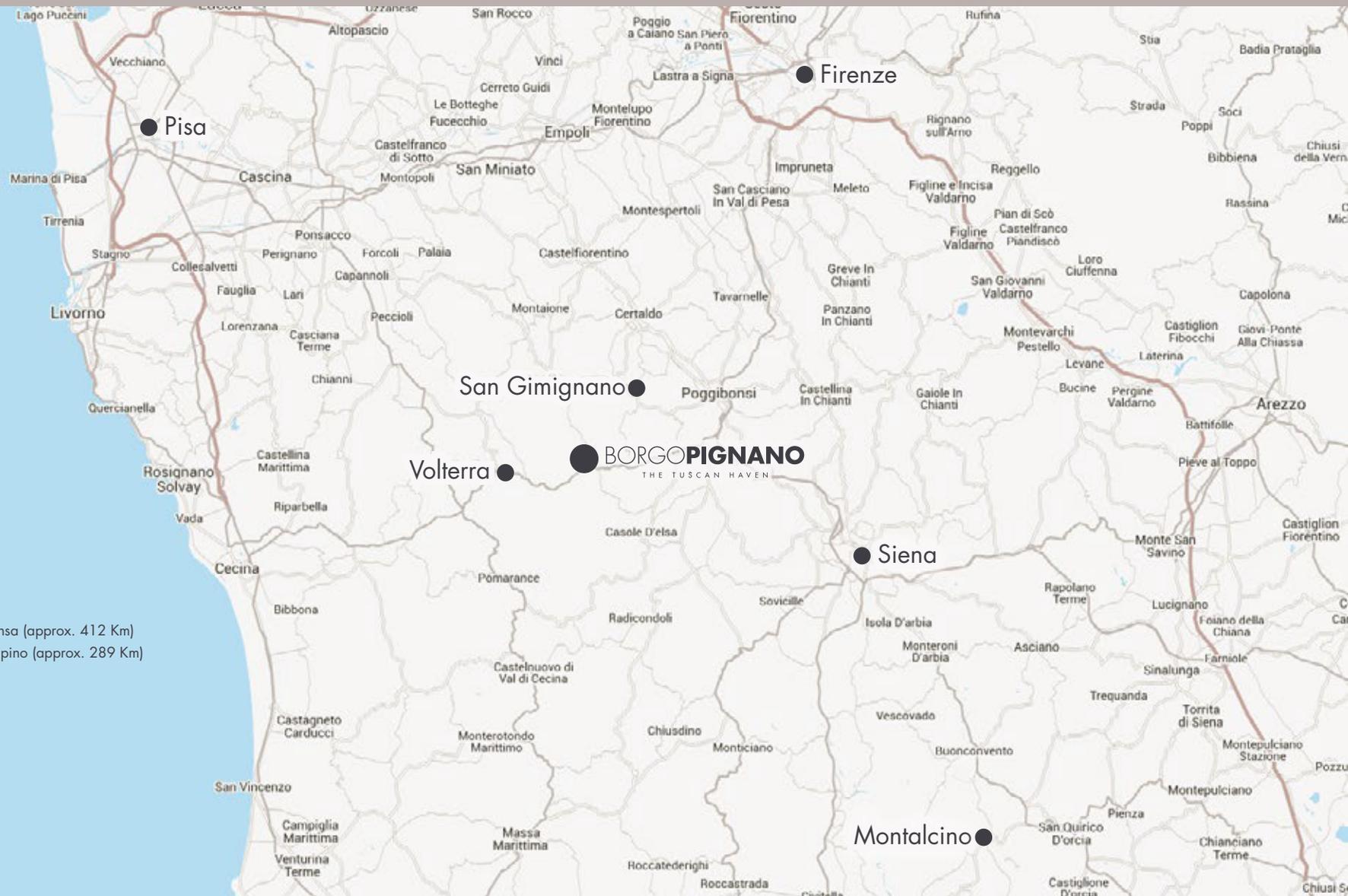
Guided tours of Volterra and San Gimignano can be arranged on request and tailored to suit a guest's individual interests - Art, History, Artisans, Culture and Cuisine.

The medieval hilltop towns in the vicinity of Borgo Pignano have churches and monuments of note and many have small museums and frescoed cloisters.

Throughout the region you will find thermal springs, Etruscan ruins and tombs, Renaissance palaces, museums and weekly markets.

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By plane, via the closest airports of:

- MILANO - Linate (approx. 358 Km) and Malpensa (approx. 412 Km)
- ROMA - Fiumicino (approx. 306 Km) and Ciampino (approx. 289 Km)
- FIRENZE - Amerigo Vespucci (approx. 75 Km)
- BOLOGNA - Borgo Panigale (approx. 165 Km)
- PISA - Galileo Galilei (approx. 74 Km)

## THE 18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY VILLA AND LA CANONICA

Borgo Pignano's main building is an 18th century villa surrounded by traditionally planted English gardens overlooking pristine landscapes of Tuscany that have changed little since Renaissance times. Perched on a hilltop, the villa accommodation offers stunning views of olive groves, vineyards, fields and woods.

There are fourteen elegant rooms and suites, some with original frescoes and all with en-suite marble and travertine bathrooms. A grand stone staircase leads to the upper stories and an elevator serves all floors of the villa. Wi-Fi is available throughout the estate.

La Canonica, the Priest's house, adjoins the ancient church of San Bartolomeo and contains exceptional original features such as medieval stonework, archways, columns, vaulted ceilings, terracotta floors and restored medieval frescoes.

This property dates from the 13th Century and provides an opportunity to stay in an architecturally significant building a few steps across the courtyard from the villa. La Canonica can be used as one large three bedroomed house or independently divided as two separate suites.

It's also possible to stay in our exclusive maisonettes and countryside cottages, which are within an easy walk of the main villa, restaurant, gardens and infinity pool. Each individual property is designed and decorated in an elegant Tuscan style offering privacy and seclusion.



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## ROOMS

### ROOMS WITH CHARM

These beautifully furnished rooms offer views of the forests and the English herb gardens. This accommodation offers luxury Tuscan style interiors and many feature original architectural details such as vaulted ceilings, sash windows, frescoes, antique furnishings and Italian linens. These spacious, tranquil rooms have either queen or twin beds and each enjoy opulent marble and travertine en-suite bathrooms, with a bath and shower.

### ROOMS WITH A VIEW

These sophisticated rooms offer views of Pignano's terraced gardens and infinity pool and sweeping prospects of Volterra and other nearby hilltop towns. Impeccably furnished with antiques and Italian fabrics, these elegant rooms feature queen beds and en-suite bathrooms with bath or shower.

## SUITES WITH CHARM

These consist of two spacious suites with independent access and a shared marble and travertine bathroom with bath and shower. One is composed of two large double rooms and the other has a large double room and an adjoining single room. These suites of the villa have enchanting views of the woods and the formal English gardens.

## SUITES WITH A VIEW

The Music Room is one of the villa's largest rooms with high ceilings and gothic style windows overlooking the sweeping landscape. This spacious luxury suite features a four-poster bed and an en-suite frescoed bathroom with a bath illuminated by a skylight. The room has a private sitting area with comfortable couches, working fireplace and grand piano.

A second luxury suite with spectacular views is located on the first floor of the villa. The master bedroom features frescoed motifs, a canopied queen bed and an en-suite bathroom with bath and shower. The adjoining bedroom has artisan frescos giving it a Moroccan atmosphere and an antique Napoleonic sleigh bed suitable for one person.



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## SIGNATURE SUITES

Our two signature suites offer total seclusion and have exceptional views of Tuscany. These suites have king or queen beds, a sitting room and capacious luxurious en-suite bathrooms with freestanding roll-top baths and glass enclosed showers. One suite features a ceiling with original period frescoes and a small balcony overlooking the lawned terrace. The other suite of the villa can accommodate one or two couples and has views of the swimming pool and countryside.

## LA CANONICA

La Canonica can be used as one large three bedroomed, private house or independently as two separate suites. The building offers a shared entrance hall, elegant sitting room, TV room and a fully equipped mediaeval kitchen with refectory table. A 2-bedroom suite and 1-bedroom Suite are located on the upper floor.

La Canonica also features a courtyard garden draped in vines and provides a quiet spot for a morning coffee or pre-dinner aperitivo.

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## MAISONETTES AND COTTAGES

### MAISONETTE IL GRANAIO

Located on the ground floor of the ancient hamlet just steps away from the main villa, this elegant maisonette features a comfortable living and dining room with kitchen facilities, a large master bedroom with a queen double bed and a second bedroom with twin beds. Both bedrooms have en-suite bathrooms with independent access.

A private terrace provides stunning views of the Tuscan countryside and the medieval town of Volterra. Il Granaio is ideal for families.

### MAISONETTE IL POZZO

Located in front of the hamlet's old well, this charming three-tiered maisonette features a spacious and comfortable living and dining room with a fully equipped country kitchen, a wood burning stove and a guest bathroom on the ground floor. Il Pozzo has a twin bedroom with an en-suite bathroom on the second level and a master bedroom with a queen bed and en-suite bathroom on the third level.

Guests at Il Pozzo can enjoy a shared al-fresco lounge and dining area with views of the fortress hilltop town, Casole d'Elsa.



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## MAISONETTE IL FIENILE

Il Fienile is located just in front of the imposing stone archway that leads to Borgo Pignano's main villa. This attractive maisonette features a spacious master bedroom, a loft that overlooks a large living and dining room, an original wood burning stove and a fully equipped kitchen. The master bedroom includes an en-suite bathroom and an intimate balcony that overlooks Pignano's grounds. There is also a separate bedroom with twin beds, making Il Fienile a good choice for families.

## MAISONETTE LA PICCIONAIA

This lovely split level maisonette offers beautiful views of the rolling Tuscan hills and the medieval town of Volterra. The first floor features a comfortable living and dining room with a fully equipped kitchen and bathroom. The second floor has a large master bedroom with a queen double bed and en-suite bathroom, a loft with tatamis, a single bedroom and a charming pocket balcony.

Guests in La Piccionaia can also enjoy a shared al-fresco lounge and dining area.

## MAISONETTE LA LEGNAIA

La Legnaia was originally used to store firewood and can be found in a quiet corner of the ancient hamlet.

Built on two levels, it features a comfortable living room with a corner kitchen on the first level and a bedroom with a queen French (140 cm) bed, an en-suite bathroom and a small private terrace on the second level.

## CASA DEL LAGO COTTAGE

Casa del Lago is a peaceful cottage, a mini luxury villa, with a covered porch with views over gently sloping fields and a small natural lake surrounded by poplars and alders. The cottage features a fully equipped kitchen and dining room, a comfortable living room with a fireplace and a bathroom on the ground floor. Two double bedrooms with queen beds share a bathroom and a small balcony on the first floor. Casa del Lago is ideal for honeymoon couples or for families yearning for a tranquil, secluded setting.



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## FARMHOUSE LA FONTE

Our Farmhouse la Fonte is surrounded by Mediterranean aromatic gardens, orchards and fields and sits beside one of the estate's natural lakes. La Fonte is suitable for couples, families and groups of friends or colleagues. It works well for courses, workshops, retreats or family reunions. Yoga, painting, music, cooking and cycling groups have all lodged here. This farmhouse can either be rented in its entirety or in four separate parts.

This house has seven comfortable bedrooms with queen beds and five of these feature a loft with tatamis. There are seven full bathrooms, a spacious dining and living room with a wood-burning stove, a generous, well-equipped kitchen and a small adjacent annex (which contains a traditional, outdoor wood-fired oven). A large covered pergola has views of the lake.

## CAILLE - THE ARTIST'S HOUSE

The Artists' Studio and house is a large stone farmhouse nestled in an oak and beech copse a short walk away from the main villa. The ground floor contains a spacious studio with a wood-burning stove, fully equipped kitchen, dining area and bedroom with an antique Napoleonic sleigh bed and bathroom with large walk-in shower. A flight of stairs leads to the master bedroom, which has a king bed, en-suite bathroom and terrace. The woodlands in which Caille is sited include a peaceful, outside lounging area.

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## ART

Borgo Pignano recently opened a unique Art Gallery and inviting exhibition space situated in a beautifully restored historic farm building. The Pignano Gallery offers a tranquil yet sophisticated environment for artists to exhibit their work and allows hotel guests the privilege of viewing exceptional art during their stay. The new Pignano Art Gallery features classic vaulted ceilings and original brickwork floors and is surrounded by beautiful gardens, woodlands and open countryside. Throughout the seasons you will discover a collection of inspiring exhibitions featuring contemporary artwork, sculpture and design.

Borgo Pignano and The Royal Drawing School have a long-established collaborative relationship, where both organisations actively support the work of talented artists in the form of residential programmes in Tuscany. Students of the Royal Drawing School's MA-level postgraduate programme, The Drawing Year, visit Pignano every summer as part of their studies. For these talented young professional artists, the light and beauty of Tuscany, framed by the welcoming hospitality of Pignano, offers an intensive, concentrated and often transformative period of drawing and painting in the landscape.





## CUISINE

The dining experience at Borgo Pignano is filled with a sense of natural abundance and wellbeing. Gathered from our large vegetable garden and organic farm, each ingredient is treated with the utmost respect. From the flour we grind in our mill to our organic bees who produce our honey. Our culinary creations work in harmony with the seasons and by what the land offers, day by day.

The gastronomic restaurant Villa Pignano proposes a refined and innovative menu. Here you can sample fine dining where the ingredients take centre stage. Our 0km cuisine is further complimented with an exquisite selection of organic and biodynamic wines from Tuscany.

During the summer, our traditional Trattoria Al Fresco offers an informal, relaxed dining experience set within a beautiful garden environment. Guests can savour authentic Tuscan recipes, such as grilled meat, stone-baked pizza cooked in a classic wood-fired oven, together with homemade organic beers and wines.

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## SPA

Borgo Pignano is delighted to announce the opening of our new Spa and Wellness area located just a few steps beyond the grand 18th Century Tuscan Villa.

The new wellness area harmoniously combines elements of Pignano's wellbeing philosophy which includes history, nature, health and relaxation, all set within a beautifully designed and elegant spa.

Drawing inspiration from Pignano's unspoilt terrain, abundant gardens, wild flower meadows and organic farmland, each of our natural spa treatments and wellbeing therapies have been created using organic ingredients grown on the estate. Our trained herbalist uses flowers, herbs, plant extracts, oils and honeys that promote a sense wellbeing and relaxation.

Enjoy our dry sauna and steam bath or book a treatment in our private wellness suites. Unwind with a choice of herbal tisanes in the intimate spa lounge and soak up the unique atmosphere of Pignano's medieval well- house.





## EXPERIENCES

Visitors at Borgo Pignano are spoiled for choice when it comes to experiencing the unmistakable atmosphere of their surroundings. Some guests are just seduced by the serenity of the estate and do not wander far: they swim in the infinity pool, soak up the sun, paint, read and draw or stroll among the orchards, gardens and woodland paths.

Others practice yoga, or go horse riding or mountain biking.

Borgo Pignano often plays host to groups of enthusiastic cyclists who enjoy the rigor of 30 to 120 km rides along Tuscany's winding country roads. Runners and hikers can test their mettle on the paths and roads surrounding the Borgo.

## GUIDED TOURS

The tours of the estate provide a peek behind the scenes and provide a sense of our natural approach to agriculture and food production. Visitors learn about how our farm works and can inspect the beehives and assist with the collection of organic honey, take a tour of our vegetable gardens and discover how our kitchens use the herbs grown in our aromatic gardens.

## YOGA AND PILATES

Borgo Pignano is the ideal place for a luxury yoga retreat. Yoga sessions combine private, or group classes in relaxation and meditation techniques and are held in the indoor yoga room, the large open hall at the La Fonte farmhouse or, outside, on the lawned terrace of the main villa. It is often possible to join a yoga retreat conducted by other guests.

Yoga students find Borgo Pignano's setting therapeutic and the sessions are very popular with guests. For those wishing to maintain their fitness programme whilst on holiday, Pilates sessions can be arranged.

## GYM

A small purpose built gym featuring the essential fitness equipment is located near the main villa and its private use can be reserved at the Reception desk.

We can also arrange a personal fitness instructor on request for one-off sessions or regular daily fitness routines.



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## PAINTING CLASSES

Pignano is a hub for artists who draw inspiration from the landscapes and exceptional Tuscan light. The surroundings often tempt visitors with no previous artistic experience to pick up a brush or pencil during their retreats.

We frequently host group and individual art classes and the villa is well equipped with artists' supplies that guests can use.



## COOKING CLASSES

Our cooking classes are devoted to the old Tuscan ways of making bread, focaccia and pizza.

Borgo Pignano welcomes you to our cooking classes in Tuscany to discover the secrets of the rising and cooking times of our typical, simple yet healthy doughs.

## FOR CHILDREN

At Pignano children of all ages can enjoy a relaxed atmosphere where they can play and take part in activities that combine both nature and art in the great outdoors.

Our country location and endless gardens and woodlands provide the perfect playground for children to run, play, build and learn the pleasure of life outdoors.

Art and education play an important part in our seasonal activities. During the summer months, we have staff who take care of children and work to foster their creative impulses through outdoor painting, coloring and creating dyes with flowers and spices, clay modeling and creating sculptures from natural materials.

A small swimming pool, built specially for children, is scheduled to open for the summer of 2017.



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## TREKKING AND MOUNTAIN BIKING

Borgo Pignano lies within a major game reserve and is at the crossroads of two natural reserves: Berignone and Castelvecchio which lend themselves to short, and more challenging treks. The estate's virgin woodland and fields, with its protected flora and fauna, is ideal for long walking tours. Partridge, pheasants, ducks, geese, cranes, storks and the occasional small kestrel and osprey can all be spotted. Closer to the villa, swifts and swallows are plentiful and owls and doves can often be heard. Wild boar, roe deer, hare, badgers, foxes and porcupines make their homes in the surrounding woods.

We can help you map trails and, on request, accompany guests on nature walks and trails. Mountain bikes available for guests' use.



## HORSEBACK RIDING

Borgo Pignano is home to a group of gentle and well-trained horses. Our instructor provides riding lessons for beginners within the safety of a full-size, secluded arena.

We also organize guided horse-riding excursions that allow guests to soak up the pleasures of Tuscany from the saddle. Experienced horse riders are free to journey alone and follow the well-marked trails through the woods and fields.

## THE POOLS

Borgo Pignano's infinity pool is completely unique, nestled on the slope of a hill beneath the villa, it provides expansive views of the Tuscan countryside. The pool was carved from an ancient limestone quarry, which supplied most of the stone used to build Porta dell'Arco, one of the principal gateways of Volterra as well as Pignano's own buildings.

The spacious pool is surrounded by a limestone terrace with chaises longues and parasols. Adjacent to the pool area there is an outdoor bar and a manicured lawn for those seeking tranquility.

A separate, smaller pool for children is scheduled to open during the 2017 season.



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## WEDDINGS

Pignano offers a heart-stopping location for weddings and honeymoons chosen by couples from all over the world. The estate's Romanesque parish church, San Bartolomeo, has served Pignano since the thirteenth century and still rings out its bells for weddings and celebrations.

Weddings can be held on the villa's lawned terrace overlooking Volterra; inside the 18th Century villa; amidst the wild flower meadows; or by the ancient staircase of the 12th Century church. We can work with you or your wedding planner to make your ceremony and celebration unforgettable. Pignano is beautifully appointed for both intimate weddings and larger celebrations, which can be held within the grounds of the hamlet.

## LIVING WITH NATURE

The link between the countryside and the interiors are evident everywhere: flowers from the gardens are displayed in arrangements throughout the villa, farmhouses and apartments; seasonal menus reflect vegetables and fruits that are at their finest; bathrooms stock toiletries made from plants and flowers grown on the estate; and, in winter, open fireplaces glow with timber harvested from the surrounding woodlands.

We make artisanal breads, organic pastas, stone-ground flours, cold pressed olive oil, honey, herbs, jams, soaps and other toiletries using traditional Tuscan techniques. All are available for sale.

The sustainable infrastructure at Borgo Pignano provides the backbone for all our activities. Wherever possible, we protect and support our natural environment and use both innovative and traditional farming techniques. We are actively improving the soil conditions and decreasing the need for irrigation.



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