

Villa Ai Colli Berici

Region: Venice & Veneto **Sleeps:** 12

Overview

Grandeur, beauty and history are abundant in this comfortable and characterful villa which sits on a tranquil hillside overlooking the idyllic “Valley of Silence” on the edge of the historic city of Vicenza, easily accessible to Verona, Padua and Venice. Once lived in by a famous Italian author, it is now owned by his descendants and has hosted many distinguished guests over the years.

Villa Ai Colli Berici is just ideal for a group of friends or family who would like to explore this glorious part of Italy but would also relish spending days by the pool in a beautiful setting. The ancient trees in the lovely garden have shaded generations while roses, lilies and osmanthus bring sensory delight to contemporary visitors. The pool area, offering a fine view of nearby Villa Valmarana, has lounge chairs, a changing room and fridge for that post swim, pre-croquet refreshment.

A large sitting room opens onto the terrace for al fresco breakfasts and there's a log fire for chillier days indoors. The pretty bow window annexe in the dining room has views of the garden, the perfect spot for a quiet read. Four of the comfortable furnished bedrooms are en suite while two have an adjacent shower room and bathroom - the master bedroom enjoys sitting and dressing areas and direct access to the garden and pool, tempting for an early morning swim.

Vicenza, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is a beautiful town, mainly due to the fine architecture of sixteenth century architect Andrea Palladio. “La Rotonda” and Teatro Olimpico are two of his finest pieces but there is so much else to see and explore here. The splendours of Venice, only 45 minutes away by train, are sure to tempt you but there are other historic places to visit nearer home.

Padua is a picturesque Renaissance city of squares and bridges with magnificent Giotto frescoes in Scrovegni Chapel. Verona is known as one of the most romantic cities in the world - look out for Juliet's balcony and the atmospheric Roman amphitheatre hosting concerts and opera productions.



Visit the canals of Treviso or sample some cheese in the hillside village of Asiago. Travel further afield to reach the crystal clear waters of Lake Garda or the seaside town of Chioggia.

Facilities

Easy By Train • Private Pool • Ideal for Babies & Toddlers • Ideal for Kids • Ideal for Teens • Wi-Fi/Internet • Air-Con • Walk to Village • Walk to Restaurant • <1hr to Airport • BBQ • Hairdryer • Ground Floor Bed & Bath • Satellite TV • Outdoor Games • DVD • Heating • Caretaker/Owner on Site • Cot(s) • High Chair(s) • Fenced Grounds • Wine Tasting • Golf Nearby • Tennis Nearby • Cycling • Horse Riding • Outstanding Landscapes • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Tourist Towns & Villages • Historical Sites • Romantic

Interior & Grounds

Villa Interiors

Ground Floor (split-level)

- Living room with doors leading to terrace
- Dining room with TV area
- Master bedroom with double bed, air-conditioning, living area, dressing room and en suite bathroom with bath and shower. Doors lead to garden and pool
- Bedroom with double bed (small queen-size) and en suite bathroom with shower.
- Guest WC

Lower Ground Floor

- Kitchen, well-equipped including dishwasher, range with electric oven, gas hobs, fridge-freezer, kettle, toaster, microwave, blender, food lift (to dining room) and fireplace
- Staff accommodation
- Laundry room (staff use only)

First Floor

- Bedroom with double/twin bed and en suite bathroom with bath and shower
- Bedroom with double/twin bed and en suite bathroom with bath and shower
- Bedroom with double/twin bed
- Bedroom with double/twin bed
- Study with sofa-bed (can be converted into single bedroom on request)
- Bathroom with bath
- Small bathroom with shower

Please request if you would prefer double or twin beds.

Outside Grounds

- Swimming pool (5x8m, depth: 2m). Open approximately mid-May to end-September
- Changing rooms with fridge
- Shower
- Sun-loungers
- Terrace with log-burning fire (for winter)
- Barbecue
- Garden
- Badminton and croquet



- Enclosed and gated grounds
- Parking

Facilities

- Wi-Fi
- Air-conditioning (living room, master bedroom, first floor communal area and attic room only)
- Ceiling fans (other bedrooms)
- Heating
- Satellite TV (Sky and international channels)
- DVD player
- Hairdryer (in each bathroom)
- Alarm system

Location & Local Information

Villa Ai Colli Berici can be found on a hillside on the edge of Vicenza, in the Veneto region of northeastern Italy with great views across the “Valley of Silence”.

In a beautiful setting, you are within striking distance to all that Vicenza has to offer – the heart of the town is around 2.5km away, a leisurely stroll in around half an hour. Even closer are local restaurants and a good supermarket. Stop off for a coffee or lunch in the pretty café-bar in the nearby 17th century villa which is open to the public, just a very short walk away, famous for its Tiepolo frescoes.

A UNESCO World Heritage site, Vicenza was a prosperous town under Venetian rule and much of its fine architecture survives, mainly due to sixteenth century architect Andrea Palladio whose villas give the town its distinctive character. Palladio's greatest masterpieces are “La Rotonda” and Teatro Olimpico whilst Palazzo Chiericati houses the museum and art gallery. The town is also famous for its jewellery production whilst wine-lovers will be able to arrange tastings in the villa or visit vineyards in the surrounding area and Prosecco DOC wineries.

Of course, the wonderful city of Venice (70km) is around a 45-minute train ride away so take a boat trip on the Grand Canal, sip a coffee in St Mark's Square or just follow the trail of tiny squares and canals until you are away from the tourists. The romantic town of Verona (54km), also easily accessed by train, is associated with Romeo and Juliet and you can still visit that famous square and balcony.

Nearby Padua (37km) is a picturesque Renaissance city of squares and bridges, home to an ancient university and has a lively studenty feel. Book tickets beforehand for the popular Scrovegni Chapel and view the amazing Giotto frescoes or marvel at the world famous Basilica di Sant'Antonio da Padova. Browse in the markets around Palazzo della Ragione or picnic in the gardens near Corso del Popolo.

Bassano del Grappa (34km) is another great day trip, a pretty town known for its wooden 13th century Ponte Vecchio Bridge designed by Palladio. It's situated where the flat Veneto plains reach the hills leading to the Alps. Call into the elegant medieval city of Marostica (29km) on the way back from Bassano to see the 14th century Piazza Castello with its markets, bars restaurants and shops - a lovely spot to while away an hour or two. In the middle of the square is a huge chess board where people are the chess pieces!

The village of Asiago (64km) stands on its namesake plateau and is a popular



holiday destination during winter and summer. It's famous for its cheese, honey and jam and is a great place for outdoor activities - the old train road for walkers or cyclists connects it to the other nearby villages and there is skiing and snowboarding during the winter.

Local Amenities

Nearest Airport	Verona Airport (64km)
Nearest Airport 2	Venice Marco Polo (75km)
Nearest Train Station	Vicenza (2km)
Nearest Town/City	Vicenza (Within 2.5km)
Nearest Restaurant	Neighbouring cafe for lunch (Within 500m)
Nearest Supermarket	Surrounding area (Within 1km)
Nearest Tennis	Vicenza (2.5km)
Nearest Golf	Golf Club Vicenza (8km)

What Oliver loves...

- A beautiful holiday home with so much character and history which has hosted many distinguished guests over the decades
- Lovely outside space with private pool, dining terrace and glorious gardens planted with ancient trees and scented flowers
- Gorgeous hillside setting overlooking the glorious “Valley of Silence” yet only 2.5km from everything wonderful Vicenza has to offer
- Enjoy mesmerising sunsets as you relax with a glass of prosecco after visiting vineyards across this region
- So many exquisite towns are easily reached by train including romantic Verona, picturesque Padua and magnificent Venice

What you should know...

- Air-conditioning is featured in the living room, master bedroom, first floor communal area and attic room only.
- The sixth bedroom is a study with a sofa-bed which can be converted into a single bedroom, on request
- There is a resident housekeeper - staff accommodation is on the lower ground floor (with a separate entrance). The laundry room is for staff's exclusive use only (no personal laundry)
- Events are on request only and subject to specific rules regarding catering etc - please contact us for further details at the time of booking.

Terms & Conditions

- Security deposit: €700 paid in cash to the owner upon arrival and refunded upon departure, subject to full inspection.
- Arrival time: 4.00 p.m. - 7.00 p.m.
- Departure time: By 11.00 a.m.
- Energy costs included?: Yes.
- Heating costs included?: Yes.
- Linen & towels included?: Yes, bath towels changed mid-week.
- End of stay cleaning included?: Yes and 3hrs daily cleaning also included. However, guests are required to leave the accommodation clean, tidy and in the same condition as on their arrival. Any extra cleaning, laundry, maintenance and/or rubbish disposal required will be charged against the security deposit.
- Pool towels included?: Yes.
- Pool opening dates?: The pool is open approximately mid-May to end-September. Please note that pool opening dates are subject to local weather conditions and pool maintenance requirements and that cooler months may not be suitable for swimming.
- Tax: Italian Visitors Tax payable locally in cash (typically costs €1-€3 per adult per night- please enquire if exact amount is required).
- Minimum stay: 3 nights.
- Changeover day: Flexible.
- Pets welcome?: Not allowed.
- Smoking Allowed?: Outside only.
- Other Ts and Cs: Breakfast preparation (laying out of the table, no cooking) is included but there is an extra cost for the food/drink, payable locally.
- Other Ts and Cs: One baby kit with a baby bed/linen (up to age 4), highchair, potty, baby bath and changing mat is available free of charge on request. Please request any further baby kits in advance - they will be subject to an extra charge, payable locally.
- Insurance: Guests are required to be in possession of a valid insurance policy, which covers them for cancellations, personal belongings, public liability and any accidental damage caused during their stay.
- Other Ts and Cs: Air-conditioning is featured in the living room, master bedroom, first floor communal area and attic room only.
- Other Ts and Cs: Weddings, stag/hen parties and any special events are on request only and subject to prior arrangement with the owner and additional charges. All events are also subject to specific rules regarding catering etc. Please enquire for further details at the time of booking.
- Internet access?: Wi-Fi internet access included.
- Other Ts and Cs: The sixth bedroom is a study with a sofa-bed which can be converted into a single bedroom, on request.
- Other Ts and Cs: There is a resident housekeeper - staff accommodation is on the lower ground floor (with a separate entrance). The laundry room is for staff's exclusive use only (no personal laundry).