

# Borgo Pignano

PRESS PACK 2020



**BORGOPIGNANO**  
THE TUSCAN HAVEN





## SUSTAINABILITY AT BORGO PIGNANO

Borgo Pignano announced that 100% of their heating and hot water is now produced in-house. No fossil fuels are used, only renewable energy: a combination of woodchip-fired boilers, which are fed by timber from the hotel's 750-acre organic estate, and solar panels.

In August 2019, Borgo Pignano joined National Geographic's prestigious Unique Lodges of the World programme as the 3rd 'Unique Lodge' on the European Mainland, acknowledging them as leaders in sustainability in the travel industry.

Condé Nast Johansens acknowledged the property's sustainability efforts by awarding Borgo Pignano with "The Best Hotel in Europe and the Mediterranean for Sustainability".



## 2020 NEWS

### **Villa La Fonte**

Villa La Fonte will undergo a major refurbishment lowering the number of bedrooms from seven to five. All bedrooms will feature en-suite luxury bathrooms. This project will be completed by March 2020.

La Fonte is perfect for celebratory breaks, extended families, groups of friends and retreats. With its private heated pool, fishing lake and beautiful gardens, La Fonte is the perfect Tuscan home-from-home.

### **Villa La Lavandaia**

Borgo Pignano is delighted to announce the addition of Villa La Lavandaia to its estate. Ready for guests from May 2020, the villa will feature two luxury bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms and a heated private pool. This unique villa has incredible views of the Tuscan rolling hills.



## ABOUT BORGO PIGNANO

Borgo Pignano is an elegant historical country estate in the heart of Tuscany, just a short drive from the hilltop towns of Volterra and San Gimignano; within easy reach of Florence and Siena and the vineyards of Chianti. Borgo Pignano sits in the centre of a much cherished 750-acre organic estate and features a magnificent 18th century villa and an Etruscan hamlet.

Today, this sensitively restored and privately-owned Borgo, offers warm and gracious hospitality in a tranquil setting about 500 metres above sea level, with some of the most commanding views in all of Tuscany.



# THE VILLA

You will find 14 elegant rooms and suites within the main villa, some with original frescoes and all with en-suite white marble and travertine bathrooms. A grand stone staircase leads to the upper floors also accessible by an elevator. Rooms are furnished with exquisite antiques, original artworks, Italian linens and chandeliers. Also, the main villa offers spacious common rooms that complete the country house atmosphere: the library, billiard room, ballroom and lounge offer a variety of environments where guests can relax.

In addition to the beautifully appointed accommodation set within the grand villa, Borgo Pignano also has ten maisonettes, two historic suites situated in an ancient Priest's House, two cottages and two country farmhouses. In total the Borgo Pignano estate can host more than 120 guests and is available for exclusive rental for events and weddings.



# LA CANONICA

This part of the property dates back to the 13th Century and provides an opportunity to stay in a historic building just a few steps from La Villa. La Canonica can be used as one large three-bedroomed house or, independently, divided as two separate suites.

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

The building offers a shared entrance hall, elegant sitting room, TV room and a fully equipped medieval kitchen with refectory table. A two-bedroom suite and one-bedroom suite are located on the upper floor.



# MAISONNETTES & COTTAGES

The original barn, stables and woodshed have been turned into ten beautifully restored apartments, two cottages and two villas.

The cottages and maisonettes are perfect for families and groups of friends, offering from one to five bedrooms. Guests can do their own food shopping at Borgo Pignano farm, which produces seasonal fruits and vegetables as well as grains.

Guests have access to all comforts and facilities of Borgo Pignano, including the spa, restaurants and two heated pools.



# SPA & WELLNESS

Discover Pignano's wellness centre in the heart of our historic hamlet and experience peace and tranquility.

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

Drawing inspiration from Pignano's unspoilt terrain, abundant gardens, wildflower meadows and organic farmland, each spa treatment has been created using organic ingredients grown on the estate. Pignano's trained herbalist uses flowers, herbs, plant extracts, oils and honey to promote a sense of relaxation.



# AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCES

Explore the organic farm, biodynamic vegetable gardens, olive groves, orchards, meadows, lakes, waterfalls and woodlands which can all be found within Pignano's beautifully managed grounds. Within the estate you will also find an Al-fresco restaurant with wood fired pizza oven, an infinity pool and kids' pool, a yoga studio, a bocce court, riding stables and a fitness suite.

Guests can partake in authentic Tuscan activities such as: cooking classes, farm tours, painting classes, horse-riding lessons and treks, Pilates, yoga and wine tasting. Truffle hunting, farm tours, honey-making, visits to the Chianti and Brunello wine-making regions, city tours of San Gimignano, Siena, Florence and Volterra, mountain biking and trekking.

Children's activities include swimming, nature trails, pizza-making, arts & crafts and a babysitting service is available. A designated family pool and woodland playground is located on a private lawn terrace. A nature lab is also available to children during their stay at Pignano.



# THE POOLS

Borgo Pignano's infinity pool is completely unique, nestled on the slope of a hill beneath the villa, it offers 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 lounges 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 families rests on a lawn terrace next to an adventure play zone and is perfect for younger guests.



## DINING EXPERIENCES

Gathered from the large vegetable garden and organic farm, each ingredient is treated with the utmost respect. From the flour ground in the mill to our organic bees who produce our honey.

Pignano's free-range pigs and hens provide meat and eggs for our restaurant, and each homegrown ingredient is handpicked when at its most delicious.

Pignano's creative approach to food can be enjoyed in two different dining experiences. The gastronomic restaurant Villa Pignano offers an innovative and creative menu. Here you can sample innovation and excellence, where the ingredients take centre stage. Okm cuisine is further complimented with an exquisite selection of organic and biodynamic wines from Tuscany. At Villa Pignano you will experience attentive, yet discreet service that defines Pignano's philosophy.

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



# AGRICULTURE & NATURE

At Pignano the links between countryside and daily life are evident everywhere: flowers from the gardens are displayed in arrangements throughout the Borgo; seasonal menus reflect vegetables and fruits that are at their freshest, bathroom toiletries are made from plants and flowers grown on the estate; in winter, open fireplaces glow with timber harvested from the surrounding woodlands.

Our chefs 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 activities.

Wherever possible, the estate tries to protect and support the natural environment and uses both innovative and traditional farming techniques.



## WEDDINGS & EVENTS

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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 wildflower 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.



# ART

Borgo Pignano and The Royal Drawing School in London 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 period of drawing and painting.

Borgo Pignano also 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.

Throughout the seasons you will discover a collection of inspiring exhibitions featuring contemporary artwork, sculpture and design.



# SURROUNDINGS

Borgo Pignano lies a short distance from Volterra and San Gimignano

Once an Etruscan settlement, Volterra is known for its alabaster workshops, the grand Piazza dei Priori, the town's recently discovered Roman amphitheater, intact medieval walls and for its Etruscan Museum.

San Gimignano, a World Heritage site, is a picturesque Italian town with 15 medieval towers (one of which can be climbed for its stunning views) and a cathedral. Its narrow streets are lined with small shops that sell locally produced Tuscan cheeses, meats and sausages, linens, ceramics, olive wood carvings and San Gimignano's famous gelato.

Volterra – 20 minutes  
San Gimignano – 30 minutes  
Casole d'Elsa – 20 minutes  
Siena – 1 hour  
Florence – 1.5 hours  
Pisa – 1.5 hours

Closest Airports - Florence (80km)  
Pisa (75km)



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