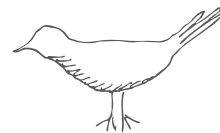




VILLA CORDEVIGO

*Wine Relais*

★★★★★ L



*ristorante oseleta*



*Villa Cordevigo*

## Indice

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2. Villa Cordevigo
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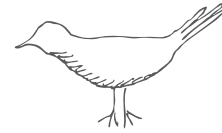




VILLA CORDEVIGO

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*ristorante oseleta*



*Italian garden and view of the little church  
A glimpse of the garden*

Villa Cordevigo itself dates back to the 16th century although the first traces of occupation go back even further, as far as Roman times.

**For over 500 years, Villa Cordevigo** has been a richly unique location and today it **encapsulates a distant world of harmony and beauty** thanks to the Cristoforetti and Delibori families' loving restoration and their loving eye for detail, returning it to its former splendour.

**Initially Villa Cordevigo was a private mansion and farm** with a series of country outbuildings, testified to by the "brolo", a vegetable garden and orchard typically providing fresh produce for the main house. Between 1700 and 1800 this was converted into a large garden and park, a material demonstration of the wealth and power of the families residing there. Among their riches is Bishop of Crema Marcantonio Lombardo's fine collection of over 3000 "reliques", holy relics. He owned the villa in the 18th century and catalogued each piece. The collection is still today kept in the Church which was extended for the purpose at that time although a little church had always stood on the spot from the 14th century onwards.

So, four different owning families followed each other through the ages: the Pignolati, the Lombardo or Lombardi, the Saladini and the Dolci.

The Pignolati family, according to early documents, settled in Villa Cordevigo from the 1500s. The family name probably derived from the profession of one of its heads, "pignolà" – a draper. We see from Marco Pignolati's last will and testament that the Pignolati family remained at Villa Cordevigo until the early 1600s as he had no direct heirs, the property passing into the hands of his closest relatives, the children of his female cousin, Giobatta Lombardo.

In 1630 over a third of the population lost their lives in the plague and it is likely most of the Pignolati and Lombardo families also died, explaining why the latter were heirs through the female line, all male heirs having died out.

There are records of the Lombardo family in the Cavaion Veronese area from 1500 onwards. At the beginning of the 1600s they inherited Villa Cordevigo which remained in the family until 1700, when the name Moreschi began to appear in documents.

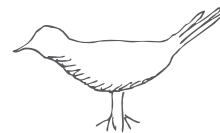
## 1. HISTORY



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*ristorante oseleta*



*Details of the villa exterior*

Moreschi was a creditor of Ottaviano Lombardo and consequently Domenico Moreschi acquired the property at the beginning of the 1800s when the main line of the Lombardo family died out. Domenico Moreschi left the property to his great nephew Francesco, a member of the Saladini family, as his 1817 will and testament testifies.

In 1830 Francesco Saladini became sole heir on condition he add Moreschi to his own surname. But Francesco died unexpectedly in 1840 and the property passed into the hands of his son, Pietro, who was just 4 years of age. The Saladini remained in Villa Cordevigo until the early 1900s when the family fortunes took a turn for the worse and their daughter Giuseppina's marriage to the merchant and property owner, Gaetano Dolci, effectively saved Cordevigo from ruin. Gaetano and Giuseppina had three children, Luisa, Carlo and Franco. Franco married Valda Balestri in 1952 but they died without issue and the property passed into the hands of Valda's brother's numerous children.

Today **Villa Cordevigo belongs to the Delibori and Cristoforetti families**, owners of the winery Vigneti Villabella, who purchased the property at the end of the 1990's. The interwoven story of these two families goes back to the 1960's when Walter Delibori and Giorgio Cristoforetti started to work together selling grapes and in 1971 decided to start a winemaking business and wholesalers together. The winery business developed rapidly and so the two founding partners decided to concentrate their strengths on winemaking, selling the wholesalers, as they had realised that quality comes from good land and is consolidated thanks to optimum management of the production cycle. In the 80s they added considerably to the vineyards they owned and in 1988 they began building the new winery in Calmasino, allowing them to go direct to the consumer with their own brand Vigneti Villabella.

## I. HISTORY

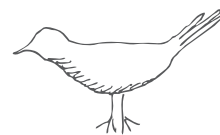




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*ristorante oseleta*



In 2004, the two families started work on the restoration of Villa Cordevigo. They were most attentive to the project, conserving its very soul, and today the sensation is one of being in a happy place where time stands still. For all these reasons, in 2011 Villa Cordevigo was converted into a Wine Relais, a 5 star hotel set against the backdrop of its own vineyards and an exclusive destination for all who love a warm welcome and relaxing experience, fine gourmet food accompanied by the top wines of the Region.

*Historical details of the villa*

## I. HISTORY

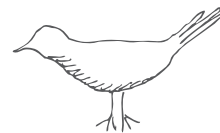




VILLA CORDEVIGO

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*ristorante oseleta*



*Villa Cordevigo's "Umbrella Room"*  
*The pool surrounded by the estate vineyards*

Villa Cordevigo is a charming **18th century country mansion**, in the Cavaion Veronese area between stunning Lake Garda and romantic Verona, surrounded by an estate of 100 hectares of vine and olive groves belonging to the Villabella winery. For centuries it was the residence of historical, noble families who over time added many an artistic detail to the villa's sumptuous salons, enriching them with frescoes and works of art. After an ambitious restoration project which has left the soul of the villa intact, this estate has become one of Italy's most sought-after hotels, abounding in art and history. It is in the heart of lush countryside where even a short stay will restore guests' inner harmony. Flowers, fruit trees, lavender and rosemary exhilarate and caress the senses, perfect companions to the harmony of body and soul. The Villa Cordevigo Essentia Spa is a haven of peace where one can care for both body and spirit.

A large part of Villa Cordevigo is dedicated to the **"Oseleta" gourmet restaurant** which offers a typically warm welcome and fine Mediterranean cuisine embracing local traditions but also with an eye for innovation.

Anything but a standard place to stay, Villa Cordevigo offers guests an enchanting break in one of its **36 rooms and suites each of which is like a page in the villa's own storybook**. They are located in various parts of the villa, in the main house as well as in the two lateral wings called "barchessa". Each is individually appointed and all offer a stylish elegance typical of the 19th century married with the beauty of modern design. The richly elegant country house furnishings, fine fabrics, warm colours, local marbles and quality finishes lend unique character to each room and suite.

Villa Cordevigo also offers what may be described as **the perfect combination of work and luxury**: two well-appointed meeting rooms are the ideal solution for elegant corporate events, inspirational training sessions and meetings. **A business lunch or gala dinner in the "Oseleta" restaurant** will be an unforgettably relaxing experience.

## 2. VILLA CORDEVIGO

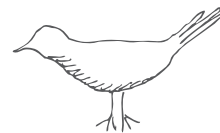




VILLA CORDEVIGO

*Wine Relais*

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*ristorante oseleta*



*The Oseleta veranda*  
*The Cordevigo bistro*

The gastronomic arts take a leading role in Villa Cordevigo. In a separate area of the villa with a dedicated entrance, one of the lateral wings is the kingdom of the **Ristorante “Oseleta”**: charming, elegant and richly atmospheric, it is reminiscent of the kind of fascination that belongs to times past. Loving care for diners’ personal pleasure and the ultimate vision of food as a work of art are the two distinctive marks of the “Oseleta” cuisine, offering guests a unique opportunity to savour flavours and delicacies of Italian and Mediterranean cuisine that will delight the most discerning palate.

### OSELETA RESTAURANT AND BISTRO

The “Oseleta” Restaurant **was awarded the coveted Michelin star in November 2013**. This enormous recognition represented a proud new starting point, generating the positive energy for growth and competition in the world of the media and gastronomic critics, never losing sight, however, of the aim to offer the utmost satisfaction to diners.

A meal at Villa Cordevigo, is always a pleasure whether guests choose the gourmet Oseleta restaurant or the more informal **Bistro**, which from May to September is a temple to **alfresco dining pleasures**. Ideal for a light lunch between sessions in the swimming pool or a leisurely candlelit dinner in a romantic atmosphere, the Villa Cordevigo Bistro caters to all tastes and palates at both lunch and dinner.

### 3. OSELETA RESTAURANT AND BISTRO

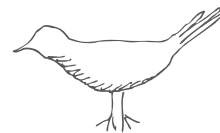




VILLA CORDEVIGO

*Wine Relais*

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*ristorante oseleta*



*Jacuzzi tub and massage cabin in the Essentia Spa*

## ESSENTIA SPA

A realm of peace and sublime well-being that enables the guest to leave daily stress far behind. A warm haven to pamper body and soul in, allowing expert hands to lead you pleasantly along the harmonious paths to complete well-being.

**Villa Cordevigo's Essentia Spa** offers guests a **journey though well-being** where a broad range of treatments, for both the full body and the face, will improve functioning of the tissues thanks to careful selection of the **exclusive Vinoble range**, natural cosmetics whose active ingredients are wine and grapes with their properties ensuring lasting rebalancing.

Essentia Spa is a sophisticated and exclusive place which promotes good health, balance and well-being, pampering guests with moments of exquisite relaxation: Finnish sauna, infrared sauna, Turkish bath, jacuzzi baths, sensory showers, Ayurveda treatments and massages, gym and relaxation room with herbal teas, these are just a few of the amenities present in the spa, all to stimulate a new level of physical and mental balance.

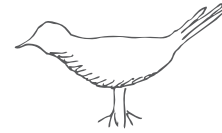




VILLA CORDEVIGO

*Wine Relais*

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*ristorante oseleta*



*Vineyards at Villa Cordevigo's Estate*  
*Bees at work*

## SUSTAINABILITY at Villa Cordevigo

**Sustainability** today is not only a priority but a mission; Villa Cordevigo is making constant concerted **efforts to reduce its carbon footprint**, endorsing and promoting a healthier lifestyle to benefit the planet and its inhabitants, both animals and plants. First and foremost, Villa Cordevigo is a Wine Relais, owned by the Villabella Winery, so all 23 hectares of land and vineyards surrounding it are **cultivated organically**. It has its own-label range of wines and three of these, Chardonnay, Bardolino and Rosé are organic. Furthermore, Villabella owns a total of 250 hectares under vine and follows the indications of the **European code of conduct for integrated production and cultivation**.

“With a fine dining Michelin star restaurant and a bistro for both our guests and the public, we are focused on the need for **locally sourced produce of the finest quality**. Supporting our local farmers and producers is an absolute must! And to give our local countryside a boost we have recently introduced **beekeeping on the Villa Cordevigo estate**. 5 hives”, confides **Lorenza Delibori, General Manager**, “each containing 50,000 bees working away to give us honey, propolis, royal jelly, honeycombs and the assurance that the benefits of pollination and cross pollination will never be lost to our local residents and visitors.”

Not only local farmers and producers benefit from the mission to sustain local communities, members of staff are mostly from the surrounding area too and they devote their time and efforts to the property and its guests, as members of the extended Villa Cordevigo family. They are offered training to exacting standards and opportunities for self-improvement and professional development, inculcating the owning families’ professional ethics and philosophy and putting them on the road to a solid career in hospitality.

Among priorities are guests and diners’ individual needs. Whether it is a **gluten or other intolerances, allergies or simply the choice of vegan or vegetarian food**, Villa Cordevigo’s restaurants offer tasty and healthy options that are good for Nature too.

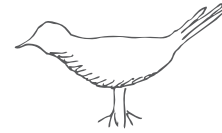




VILLA CORDEVIGO

*Wine Relais*

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*ristorante oseleta*



*Villa Cordevigo Organic Wines*

Lorenza explains: “**We are also championing the cause of bio-diversity**, helping to avoid excessive concentration of crops in our area. The Villa is surrounded by our organic vineyards, but the Azienda Vinicola Villabella has land under vine in all the local Veneto areas producing the finest wine. Not only the most famous local grapes such as Corvino Veronese and Rondinella are grown, but also lesser known varieties, such as **Oseleta, an ancient variety** which has given its name to our much loved award-winning restaurant, and even **autochthonous ones** such as **Turbiana giving us the Lugana white** that hails from our vineyards on the southern shores of Lake Garda”.

Lake Garda is Italy's only lake that, while close to the Alps, benefits from a **Mediterranean microclimate**. Hence the area is a rich and abundant producer of wines the world has long known and loved, such as **Amarone and Valpolicella**, but also offers a marvellous **extra virgin olive oil** and a surprising amount of **lemons which are used both in local cuisine and Limoncello**. Villa Cordevigo also produces a very fine own-label extra virgin olive oil which makes a wonderful gift to take home for family and friends.

Villa Cordevigo also actively promotes awareness of **water as a precious resource**, inviting savings in the use of water for its laundry; all **hot water in the hotel is produced using solar energy**. While at the current time individual packaging is once again being favoured for amenities, in the near future, single use plastic will gradually be abandoned in a concerted attempt to reduce if not eliminate the use of this material, not only in rooms but also in the bar, restaurants and Spa, where products are based on the natural active ingredients of grapes and wine.

Last but not least, our guests come to **discover the magnificent area between Lake Garda and Verona**. We make 8 bikes available to them, two of which are electric, and we have also put together a range of walks and bike rides for the enjoyment of all who wish for sustainable, active holidays. For guests arriving with their electric or hybrid vehicles, or a Tesla, Villa Cordevigo offers them the use of a complimentary re-charging station. And, of course, our four-legged friends are more than welcome in dedicated rooms with doggy beds and bowls!

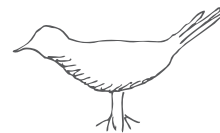




VILLA CORDEVIGO

*Wine Relais*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ L



*ristorante oseleta*



*The Red Kitchen  
Bicycles for guests' use*

**A world of experiences** and a truly fabulous atmosphere awaits guests at Villa Cordevigo. Dedicated packages have been carefully created to highlight the beauty, essence and harmony of this enchanting place. The Cristoforetti and Delibori, families, producers of fine wines in the Valpolicella area, love to share the beauties and historical interest of Villa Cordevigo with guests. For this reason that they have appointed a warm-hearted Local Expert with knowledge of the main European languages and a sommelier's qualification, to accompany visitors with typically Italian simpatia, guiding them through the charming experiences selected to ensure guests will know and love the colourful surrounding area: the lake, the countryside, the art towns and cities around Verona.

### **Cooking lessons**

Two kinds of culinary experience can be enjoyed by our guests. Both last about two hours.

One takes place in the **Villa's dedicated Red Kitchen** and is led by a member of the Michelin starred brigade. During the two hours of lesson, well-known Italian dishes and personal creations of the chef will be prepared.

The second is a cooking lesson held in **Nonna Antonia's private kitchen**, a truly exclusive experience of Italian hospitality at home.

In both versions, the recipes may vary according to the seasons and requirements. However, these are a **uniquely creative way to learn how to cook authentic Italian dishes**. At the end of the lesson, it is possible to eat lunch and enjoy the dishes guests have cooked, paired, of course, with Villabella wines.

### **From Grape to Glass**

The vineyards at Villa Cordevigo start just beyond the pool and these can be the setting for a fascinating half day of pleasure and new knowledge. A wine expert will accompany guests either on foot or by bike, or even by golf cart on occasion, into the vineyards and **share technical knowledge and secrets of the cultivation of vines** that produce the finest wines in the Veneto area. He will also share his knowledge of the seasons and the moon, how they can influence and impact the vines and the wine itself. This may be followed, on request and depending on numbers, by a visit to the Villabella winery where vinification and aging is carried out in oak casks. Lastly, guests enjoy a tasting of the fruits of the vintners' labours in the tasting room in Villa Cordevigo.

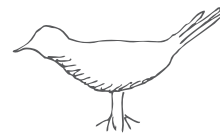
## **6. EXPERIENCES**



VILLA CORDEVIGO

*Wine Relais*

★★★★★ L



*ristorante oseleta*



*Punta San Vigilio at Garda*

*View of Verona from above the city*

### Lake Garda by boat

Lake Garda, despite being overlooked by the spectacular Dolomites, is by definition a **Mediterranean Lake with a special microclimate**. It is also the largest of the northern Italian lakes, offering massive scope for full day excursions on the lake. Villa Cordevigo will arrange a **private motor boat ride** from either Bardolino (transfer 15 minutes) or Sirmione (transfer 35 minutes), with the opportunity to enjoy a walk round these gorgeous lakeside villages before your tour on the lake. If you choose to embark in Bardolino, at the end of the boat ride, get off at Torri del Benaco and savour an aperitif or lunch at the picturesque lakeside village (transfer to Villa Cordevigo about 20 minutes).

**Sunsets on Lake Garda** are spectacular and a motor boat might not quite be romantic enough for some so rental of a classic sail boat or a Riva, with aperitif on board at sunset can also be arranged, as can tours on board an **electric passenger boat** for larger groups (up to 20). The novelty of travelling around this picturesque lake at a sedate pace and with no more noise than the sound of the wind in your hair and the water whooshing is a wonderfully sustainable treat!

### Visit to Verona and a winery and cellar in Valpolicella

A full day in Juliet's romantic city of love. An itinerary to be customised with a qualified guide, with knowledge of the guest's language, leading you to the discovery of this beautiful city and its many treasures, from the **Roman Arena** to the **world-famous little balcony where Juliet spoke her famous soliloquy**. Lunch can be arranged according to guests' tastes, choosing from the many options this city offers, from gourmet restaurants to wine bars and the highly popular pizzeria.

The magical end to this day in Verona is a visit, on the way back to Villa Cordevigo, to a highly interesting local winery and its architecturally impressive cellars and, why not, a wine tasting.

During summer evenings open air performances are a must; the Roman Arena's opera season from June to September offers not just opera but also ballet and concerts. Villa Cordevigo will arrange bookings and transfers for the various performances and the chance to experience an enchanting evening in the incomparable setting of Verona's Arena.

## 6. EXPERIENCES

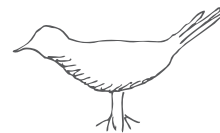




VILLA CORDEVIGO

*Wine Relais*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ L



*ristorante oseleta*



*A glimpse of Borghetto, close to Valeggio sul Mincio in the area round Verona*

### **Visit to the village of Borghetto and a Valpolicella winery**

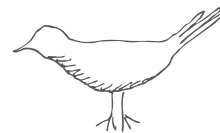
A visit to the charmingly picturesque villages of **Valeggio and Borghetto**, one of the 100 most beautiful Borghi (walled villages) in Italy where time seems to stand still. Borghetto is on the River Mincio, not far from Peschiera del Garda and just half an hour from Villa Cordevigo. Valeggio is known for being the place tortellini have their origin, according to medieval legend, and each year on the second Tuesday in June, the “Love Knot Festival” is held in Borghetto with an enormous table laid across the Visconteo Bridge and literally thousands of people eat a menu rigorously composed of ... Valeggio tortellini, of course! The evening traditionally winds up with an impressive firework display. The day finishes off with a visit to a well-known winery in Valpolicella and a wine-tasting.



VILLA CORDEVIGO

*Wine Relais*

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*ristorante oseleta*



The **Vigneti Villabella winery** and estate was founded in 1971 by Walter Delibori and Giorgio Cristoforetti and has its head office in Calmasino, in the heart of the Bardolino Classico area, on the hills overlooking Lake Garda; it is still under ownership of both families who personally carry out its management.

Production includes all the great classic of the Verona area such as Bardolino, Lugana, Custoza, Soave, Valpolicella, Ripasso and Amarone and last but certainly not least the great IGT reds and whites from autochthonous grapes that have always been grown in the Province of Verona. Currently, Vigneti Villabella has approximately **220 hectares under vineyards**, either owned or under their sole management.

Acquisition of **Villa Cordevigo**, which is also located in the Bardolino Classico area, represented a culmination of second generation owners Franco Cristoforetti and Tiziano Delibori's passion for fine taste and hospitality and their Villabella project. Their philosophy centres on **conservation and promotion of the territory and its traditions** and the quest for the intrinsic quality of autochthonous wines, starting from **respect for the land** and care for the vineyards. This impressive estate regales consumers worldwide with a prestigious selection, a typically Italian one, of fine wines produced in a unique setting. Furthermore, their utmost respect for nature, has seen steps being taken over the last few years toward **conversion to organic cultivation** and currently around Villa Cordevigo 10 hectares are certified while another 13 are still undergoing conversion.

Vigneti Villabella has a historical memory of the utmost importance and today fine dining in Villa Cordevigo's restaurants offers a superb selection of the most renowned Italian and international labels, side by side with its own award-winning Villabella production.

*A few wines from the Vigneti Villabella winery  
Villa Cordevigo Bianco 2007*

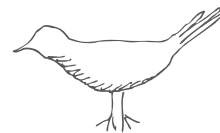




VILLA CORDEVIGO

*Wine Relais*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ L



*ristorante oseleta*



*View of the pool from the ancient park*

### **Villa Cordevigo Wine Relais**

Località Cordevigo

37010 Cavaion Veronese (VR) Italia

Tel. +39 045 72 35 287

E-mail: [info@villacordevigo.com](mailto:info@villacordevigo.com)

[www.villacordevigo.com](http://www.villacordevigo.com)

Facebook: Villa Cordevigo Wine Relais

Instagram: VillaCordevigo

Twitter: @VillaCordevigo

### **Ristorante Oseleta**

Tel. +39 045 72 35 287

E-mail: [info@ristoranteoseleta.it](mailto:info@ristoranteoseleta.it)

[www.ristoranteoseleta.it](http://www.ristoranteoseleta.it)

Facebook: Ristorante Oseleta

Instagram: RistoranteOseleta

Twitter: @Oseleta

For further information:

### **Francesca Blench**

Tel. +39 0163 564479 / +39 333 8959077

[francesca.blench@villacordevigo.com](mailto:francesca.blench@villacordevigo.com)