



IL BOTTACCIO

*Boutique Art Hotel  
in Tuscany*



**RELAIS &  
CHATEAUX**

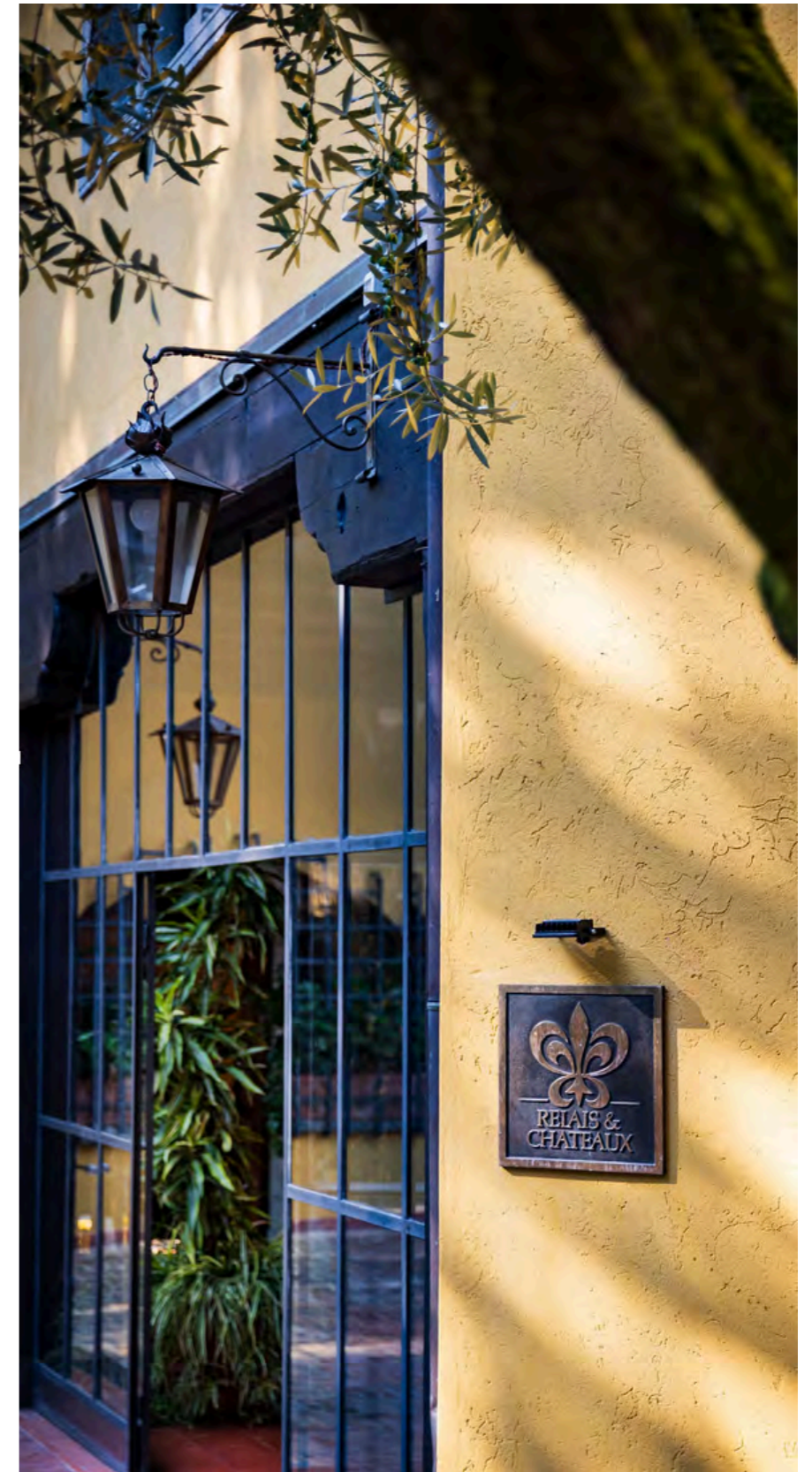
# Origins

Tucked away in a tranquil corner at the foot of the Apuan Alps, Il Bottaccio comes with its fair share of exciting history. It all started with a late 18<sup>th</sup> century mill, put in place by a wealthy citizen, Paquale Boldrini, who built a house around it in Montignoso. The name itself is quintessentially Tuscan and it refers to a basin where water is collected to supply mills and olive presses.

Over the years, this fascinating building was acquired by a renowned heart surgeon, Gaetano Azzolina, who restored it and embellished it as a private home in the 1970s. Elio d'Anna, a mercurial, brilliantly witty, illuminated musician, philosopher and entrepreneur subsequently acquired it. The hotel opened in 1983 and entered the prestigious Relais&Chateau family in 1988.

A home rather than a hospitality business, the idea behind it all was - and still is - that of offering respite and pleasure to gourmet travellers in search of matchless sensory experiences.

The general atmosphere is one of enticing elegance and charm, epitomised by the highly unique décor, and yet an overall sense of familiarity embraces you as you step in, making every stay a memorable one.



# Fact Sheet

Il Bottaccio is open year-round and has never closed since 1983.

Guest amenities include a full service gourmet restaurant, Il Bottaccio Lounge Bar, a seasonal indoor pool, a beautiful garden and Otzium Wellness. Since 1st March 2022 we only use green energy and set a high value on eco-sustainability and biodegradable measures.

The unique setting of Il Bottaccio, suspended among the sea nearby and the Apuanian Alps, contributes to its original cuisine where the sea flavours combine with the musky aromas of the woods and the mountains. The food retains the Mediterranean light - airy and delicate, full-bodied and light. The perceptions, sensations and the emotions, which the place inspires, add a unique flavour to the food - Il Bottaccio, has the quintessential qualities that turn professional catering into a form of Art.

Ownership, Elio D'Anna

General Manager and Executive Chef, Antonio Mosca

Location: Via Bottaccio, 1 - Montignoso - 54038 (MS), Tuscany

Contact:

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# Ownership

Il Bottaccio is the product of its latest owner, the visionary artist, producer and entrepreneur Elio d'Anna. A unique figure, he immediately fell in love with this building and followed his dream of transforming it into a hotel unlike any other one, a home for friends.

Stemming from the vibrant city of Naples, Elio transferred his penchant for harmony and balance onto the property, along with his vision of recreating a dream. He clearly brought his love of art with him and his passion for the various artistic media is blatant throughout the property.

A clever, delicate and refined combination of styles permeates in every room and exudes harmony, as well as the constant research and willingness to introduce new and contemporary artists.

Elio owns two art galleries, in Florence and London, which act as point of liaison with Il Bottaccio, where many artworks are displayed.

He has also always been keen on education and founded the European School of Economics, present in several cities across Europe., whose motto was "Economics is the art of dreaming",

A tireless mind, Elio offers a unique and constantly evolving and yet very familiar space to his guests, who will want to come back, again and again.

Ownership, Elio D'Anna

General Manager, Antonio Mosca

Executive Chef, Antonio Mosca

Location: Via Bottaccio, 1 - Montignoso - 54038 (MS), Tuscany

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*"The world is our masterpiece.  
We are its artists and its creators  
even when we have forgotten to be so."*

- Elio D'Anna

# About Relais&Châteaux



Established in 1954, Relais & Châteaux is an association of more than 580 landmark hotels and restaurants operated by independent innkeepers, chefs, and owners who share a passion for their businesses and a desire for authenticity in their relationships with their clientele.

Relais & Châteaux is established around the globe, from the Napa Valley vineyards and French Provence to the beaches of the Indian Ocean. It offers an introduction to a lifestyle inspired by local culture and a unique dip into human history.

Relais & Châteaux members have a driving desire to protect and promote the richness and diversity of the world's cuisine and traditions of hospitality. They are committed to preserving local heritage and the environment, as encompassed in the Charter presented to UNESCO in November 2014.

## Relais & Châteaux values and experiences

Relais & Châteaux is defined by the values it shares with its Members throughout the world.

A local anchor - Our properties are the living expression of a place, its history, environment and culture.

The human aspect - The Relais & Châteaux spirit lies not only in the respect shown toward one's hosts and colleagues, but also toward the men and women who evolve around our properties and embody the places and cultures they are part of.

Sharing - Every *Maître de Maison* conveys his or her passion to our customers.

Commitment - Relais & Châteaux Members help to enrich the history of cuisine and hospitality.

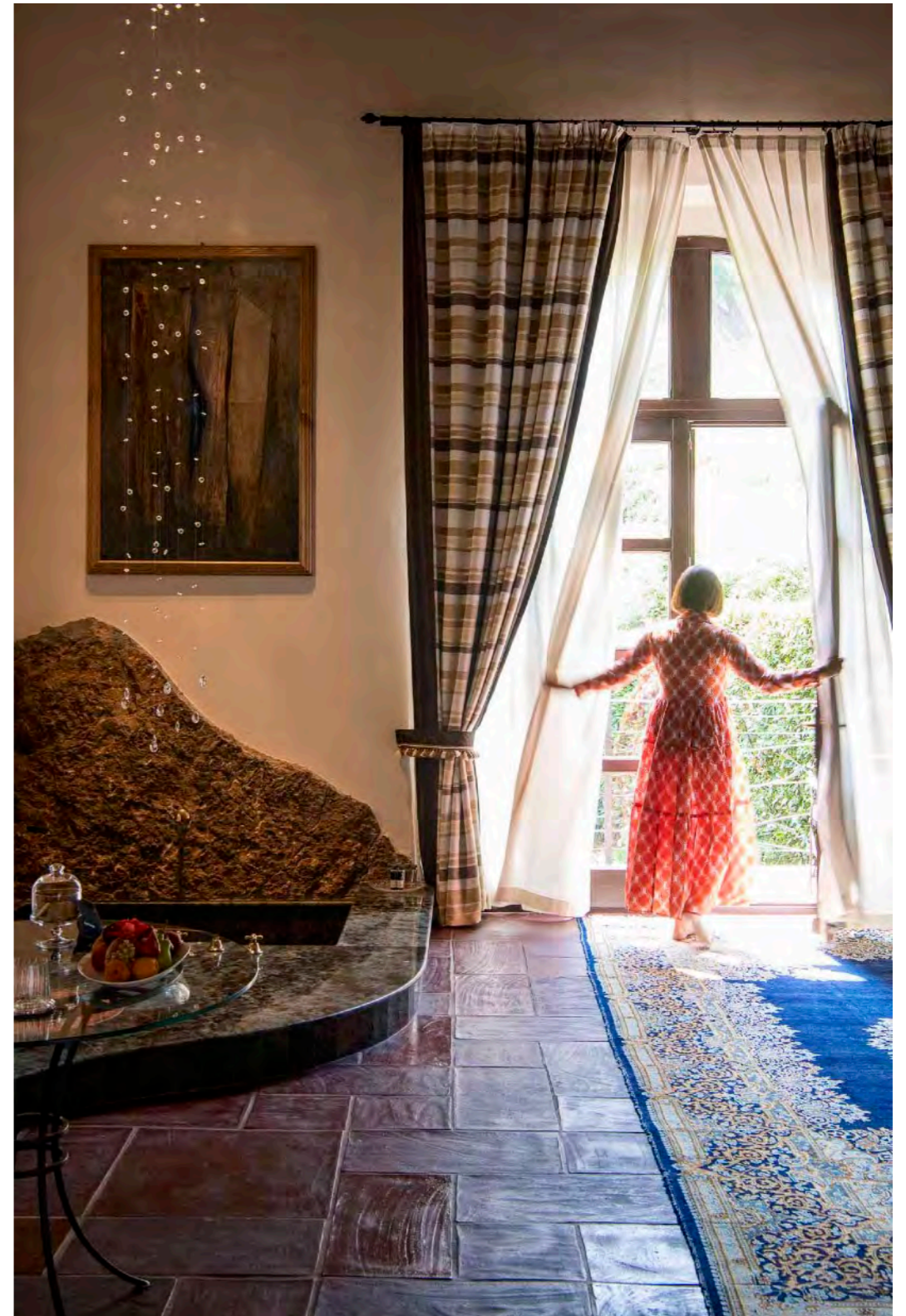
The experiences one has at Relais & Châteaux properties give one the feeling of total immersion in a place and its culture, allowing them to be discovered from up close with all that they have to offer. The attentiveness and sincerity of our team give you a sense of enjoyment that comes paired with respect for every person's privacy, all through a warm and privileged relationship.

# Accommodation

The art of seduction meets the genius of an impeccably stylish décor. Art triumphs everywhere at Il Bottaccio and it is precisely this blend of several epochs, styles and tastes that conjures up a matchless property. But we may well define it a home, your home.

Sleeping here means sensing the embrace of an old friend, feeling the warmth of sincere hospitality. Walking from the lovely gardens to the main hall, dining beside a refreshing swimming pool, tasting the most delicious food Tuscany - and beyond - has to offer, prepared with love: Il Bottaccio is your gateway to a journey of the senses that knows no boundaries.

Eight rooms studied and designed with care and a great passion for art, where original paintings and works by contemporary artists blend well with traditional furnishings, fine Persian rugs enrich handcrafted terracotta floors and the bathrooms shine with the brightest marble. Original and well-orchestrated notes where every detail, from exposed beams to rare stone bas-reliefs, invites you to rest and enjoy quietness.



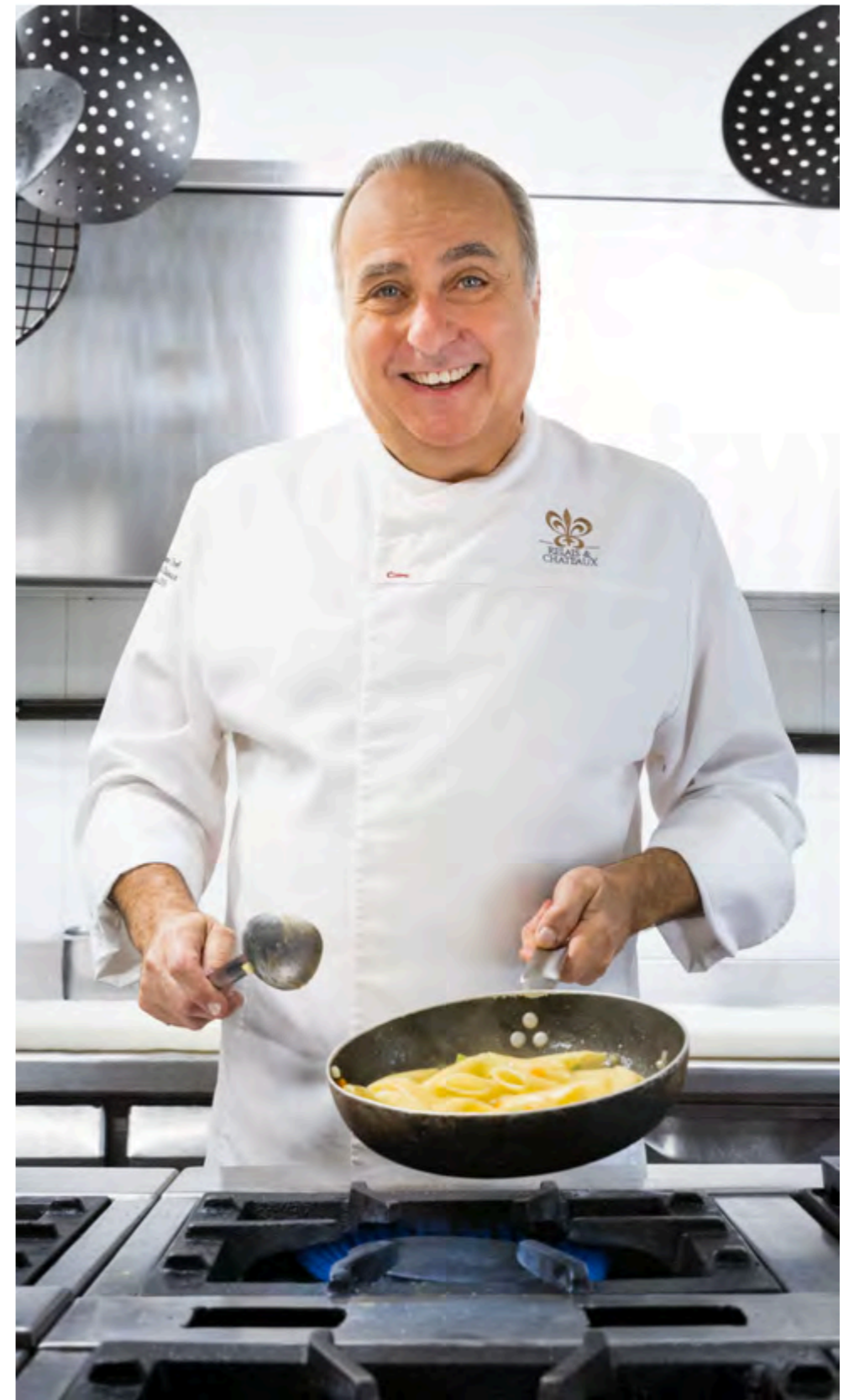
# Dining

Fine dining is an art in itself and Italy is a matchless culinary powerhouse that often exceeds expectations. Each region offers a triumph of tastes and the cuisine of Il Bottaccio originates from an intriguing blend of the sea and the mountains, in an area that is typically Tuscan. Guests feel the embrace of an intimate space and dine surrounded by artworks and a highly original swimming pool. Every meal thus becomes an experience that elevates the senses.

Sitting and gazing over the glass doors and onto the garden, the talent and skill of a gifted chef comes to the fore, for every dish is clearly the product of love. Head chef Nino Mosca, a musician and artist himself, translates his love for experimentation onto the menu: his creativity and constant research give rise to an outstanding gourmet experience. Every meal offers home made products, such as fresh bread or delicious cakes, whose exquisite tastes leave a lasting memory.

The freshest ingredients are sourced daily and reinvented to give them a novel twist: think shrimp salad with miso mayo, monk fish medallion with citrusy mashed potatoes, wild boar and beef tartare with Garfagnana Pecorino or beef braised with Colonnata lard.

The simplicity of genuine ingredients cooked with love, along with the splendid surroundings, make every meal at Il Bottaccio a superb one.



# Otzium Wellness



The art of living and making a masterpiece of oneself. Il Bottaccio has created an oasis of wellbeing around this philosophy - a luxury boutique spa - for anyone believing that the body and spirit are reflections of one another, that a healthy body creates a healthy world, and that the two should be nurtured and cared for together. Its very name, 'Otzium,' springs from the Latin word that means "not doing anything" - "ozio". Here, stripped of every role, and abandoning every identification with the clamour of daily life, time is suspended. The body begins to dream again, in contact with the truest and most sincere part of itself.

Two wooden doors, originally from a Florence palazzo, invite you to an exclusive experience. The SPA Otzium at Il Bottaccio is a uniquely private experience that is shaped to bring joy and relaxation to your senses. Here, too, you'll feel like entering a private home, the luxury of time spent looking after ourselves a most precious one.

You can choose among a selection of treatments and massages, from an ayurvedic one to a meridian massage that focuses on balance and harmony, employing a Gua Sha technique. Reaching for the Yin and Yang

forces within us, essential oils are used to obtain a special massage to reach for our inner self.

You may also choose a full path that includes a hammam, Arabian black soap and a sensory shower.

Go in search of long-lost emotions, let yourself go and rediscover a world of harmony and restored balance.





# The beauty of the Tuscany inland

One of the most loved regions in Italy, Tuscany awakens feelings of delight, with the charming harmonies of its landscapes and its deep-seated identity. It is easy to get lost among the sweet, rolling hills and its never-ending sceneries, the many colours of its flower fields and the pleasant rows of vineyards; still, Tuscany is on most people's maps also because of its sublime food - certainly one of its best features. In addition to producing some of the finest wines in the world, old-world culinary traditions are renewed and mingle with innovative aromas, combined in a journey of tastes where simple, yet strong flavours take the lead, as well as unique, authentic zests. Discovering Tuscany also means delving into its little hamlets, its seducing borghi, rich in energy and splendour, and its cities where art and beauty are combined, offering unique scenarios: the discovery of an extraordinary region starts right here.

## [Pietrasanta, the city of artists](#)

True to its reputation, Pietrasanta radiates energy in a tangible way. Called "Little Athens", this town is pretty, fascinating and delightful: a glance at Piazza Duomo is all it takes to fall in love with it. The 15th century Duomo di San Martino, enriched by shine white marble, and its unfinished brick tower interact with the permanent contemporary sculpture that takes place in the square, a peaceful conversation that mirrors the innate love for art that resides in this magical place. Founded by Guiscardo da Pietrasanta in 1255, the then magistrate in Lucca, Pietrasanta boasts Roman origins and a marked preference for art: visit the delightful Museo dei Bozzetti and you will be amazed, as it retraces the story of modern sculpture through more than 700 maquettes and

casts. The Baptistery, close to the Duomo, holds two remarkable baptismal fonts that date back to the Trecento and Cinquecento and they bestow a lovely atmosphere to the place. Have a meander through the town's pleasant streets, go up Via della Rocca to admire the city from above and you will understand why so many contemporary artists, from Botero to Mitoraj and Vanji, chose Pietrasanta as their home, a real paradise where creativity is in the air.

## [Captivating white - Carrara](#)

Carrara stands for one thing only: white marble. A priceless heritage that still retains the charm of an area loved since the Romans, this territory was already explored 2000 years ago; worshipped by Michelangelo and Canova, Rodin as well as contemporary artists such as Christian Lemmerz, the passion for this remarkable white treasure never fades. The quarries in the valleys of Torano, Miseglia and Bedisano are still going strong to this day and look like snow landscapes from a distance - the name marble stems from Greek marmaros, meaning "shiny stone" - and certainly Colonnata reflects its own light: a monument to quarrymen pays homage to a tough and dangerous job, and gourmet travellers will love the local delicacy, the Lardo di Colonnata DOP, a delight seasoned with salt, garlic, pepper and rosemary, left ageing in marble basins for six months. You should try it with the exquisite, salt-free Tuscan bread for a journey of superb enjoyment. The charm of marble, its perfume, its almost blinding glare, the story it narrates and the value that characterise it make every trip to this area an unforgettable experience.

### The Apuan Alps, the mountains looking on to the sea

Wild and remote, the Apuan Alps are part of a Regional Natural Park set up in 1985 to protect a marvellous and fragile area. Made up by a series of peaks - the tallest, Mount Pisanino, reaches 1945m - the Apuan Alps belong to the UNESCO heritage as a Geopark: from here, your gaze extends to the sea and their presence decorates the horizon from the coast. A harmony where the mountains and the sea live as one and is reflected in the surroundings, in the local cuisine and in the unique atmosphere of an extraordinary place. Visited by hikers looking for adventure, the park extends to the Garfagnana area, where Dante was sent into exile, as far as Massa Carrara: a paradise for speleologists, with more than 1,300 recorded caves, among which the Antro del Corchia in Stazzema, the deepest chasm in Italy, but also the Grotte del Vento in Vergemoli. You will also find botanical rarities, to be admired in the Pietro Pellegrino Botanical Garden, and numerous wildlife species such as the golden eagle and the chough. Do not miss the many artificial lakes, as beautiful as the Vaglia and Isola Santa lakes, created to obtain energy that have now become lovely destinations full of charm.

### Lucca, a small jewel with a refined soul

There is no telling of how many people have been struck by the delicacy of the Tomb of Ilaria del Carretto, a precious marble sculpture by Jacopo della Quercia. You will find it in the supreme Cattedrale di San Martino, and it is so refined that you will feel like touching the young bride of Paolo Giunigi, who died in childbirth aged 24. Dating back to 1406-1408, this work alone is worth a trip, but the cathedral is adorned with other surprises, such as Domenico Ghirlandaio's 1479 Holy Conversation and

Jacopo Tintoretto's Last Supper. Lucca is a small jewel with a refined soul, its Piazza Anfiteatro one of the most famous in Tuscany and the views from the belltower close to the Duomo just sensational. This is where Giacomo Puccini was born in 1858 and a festival - Puccini e la sua Lucca - celebrate his figure with a series of operas and concerts. If you love comic strips and graphic novels, do not miss Lucca Comics & Games (now Lucca Changes), with exhibitions, interviews and screenings, and the Lucca Summer Festival hosts internationally acclaimed authors. And when the sun is shining, visit the extraordinary villas around the city: Villa Oliva, Grabau and Reale are splendid and will make you fall in love with a splendid town.



# Sea Delights: 5 Terre to Versilia

In a land with an overwhelming 7,500 km-long shoreline, it comes as no surprise that memories linked to the sea resonate strongly when reminiscing over a holiday in Italy. We jealously hold on to sensations and the mind wanders in search of that bluer-than-blue, infinite expanse of water, a mesmerising sequence of gulfs and coves, natural docking places and colourful hamlets perched high on a headland: this beauty is timeless. And then it's long, sandy beaches, days spent searching for hidden treasures and the amazement of coming face to face with natural wonders: cliffs shaped by the wind and caves that show the touch of a deity.

## The Cinque Terre - welcome to Paradise

Monterosso, Vernazza, Corniglia, Manarola and Riomaggiore. Five seaside villages but one mind-blowing beauty, where the force of nature matches well with man's intervention. Walking on breath-taking paths along rugged shores to admire emerald waters. Vineyards, stretches of citrus fruits - the famous Monterosso lemons amaze with their scents - and olive trees, in a succession of picture-postcard sceneries. The Cinque Terre can seduce even less attentive tourists, invariably capturing their hearts. You may choose the Alta Via delle Cinque Terre path, which extends over 38 km from Porto Venere to Levanto, or the Sentiero Azzurro, that once connected all five villages and can now only be undertaken in very charming parts. A Cinque Terre wine route is under consideration and it will start in Monterosso: getting lost amid the scents and colours of the vineyards will be a pleasure.

Going in search of various spellbinding beaches in the shadow of

evocative capes, the marvellous pastel-coloured houses in the background: this is a never-ending charm within a fabulous national park. Reaching the Cinque Terre by boat is perhaps the best way to take in all its beauty, setting off from Bocca di Magra and arriving at Vernazza: visiting the 11th century Castello Doria and the Trecento Saint Margaret's church feels like a fairytale. Pretty much like the one you will tell after having visited these splendours. Let's not forget the Ligurian delights, from pesto focaccia to the delicate olive oil and superb wines. Joy is within reach.

## Porto Venere and the Gulf of Poets

Reaching Porto Venere feels like a dream. A surprising amphitheatre where the Palazzata welcomes us, a row of coloured houses that looks out onto the marina in a theatrical manner, once part of the fortified walls. The evocative Saint Peter's church, on a promontory sheer from the sea, combines gothic and Romanesque elements in its structure and offers unique vistas along with superb sensations. Walk down the steps to reach Byron's cave, for this is the Gulf of the Poets: the stretch between Portovenere and Lerici was in fact loved by countless English Romantic poets, who loved spending time here. Rumour has it that Lord Byron loved swimming from here to Lerici to meet his friend Shelley. Portovenere also sports its own archipelago: Palmaria is the biggest and hosts an astonishing 36 caves, with the islands of Tino and Tinetto to keep it company. All this with a UNESCO-heritage area: to all intents and purposes, this is the "Sixth land" and it lies within the superb Ligurian beauty.

### Forte dei Marmi, a style icon

A famous place ever since the 60s, Forte dei Marmi exudes old-time charm for moments of delight and fabulous evasion. People come here to stroll along chic boutiques and luxury workshops, taste an appetizing street food, armed with a great desire to have fun, observing the pretty Apuane Alps from a distance. The sea and the mountains meet in Forte dei Marmi and offer countless emotions. Walking on the pier is fabulous: the one and only pier in Versilia, it has been copied in neighbouring locations. Here you will find fishermen, locals exchanging a few cheerful words and tourists in search of a souvenir photo. Initially built to carry marbles on to ships between 1876 and 1877, a project by Giovanni Costantini later improved it and made it more functional.

Destroyed in WWII, the 275 meter-long pier we see today is a faithful reconstruction. From here you can go to the Fort, built in 1788, and then visit the famous weekly markets. What about the exceptional Festa di Sant'Ermete, taking place at the end of August? Complete with a historical cortege, a bonfire and firework display, you should not miss this event. Attend the Festival of Satire for many laughs and then dance into the night at the Capannina, allegedly the oldest disco in the world. Is it true? Go and find out.

### A journey between intellectuals and natural reserves

Culture is in the air at Forte dei Marmi, once the meeting place of numerous intellectuals, from Thomas Mann to Aldous Huxley, Gabriele D'Annunzio and Eugenio Montale. You can still sense the world of these eminent writers and great minds, as is the case with the Carlo Carrà and the light at Forte dei Marmi itinerary: thirty copies of paintings by the

famous Futurist artist embellish various places in the city. What about the famous villas? Discover them thanks to a lovely cycle path and head to the Roma Imperiale quarter: stupendous houses surrounded by greenery, the rationalism of Villa Antonietta or Villa Mann-Borghese, looking like a transatlantic, or Villa Bertelli for concerts and various events.

If you want to head south, the Island of Elba will exceed your expectations. The third Italian island by extension, it is part of the Tuscan Archipelago National Park. Turquoise waters and dream-like coves abound here, as well as exciting mountain bike trails and a fascinating hiking tour (GTE - Grande Traverata Elbana): it's sensational vistas galore. A short distance from Piombino, this is the adventure you were looking for.



# Art for Lovers

taly. There goes without saying that this is the country of art, the place where cultivated patrons commissioned treasures the whole world wishes to see, the land that provides inspiration for countless artistic productions and the nation that leaves us speechless with its stunning natural landscapes. Favoured by artists and poets, writers and dreamers, there is something special about the entire peninsula: from north to south, cities and villages, be they close to the mountains or dotting silvery shores, you are bound to fall in love with the plethora of artistic splendour. Where does this beauty lead us if not to the enjoyment of life, the refinement of our existence and the pure display of talent and skill?

Sure enough, first-time visitors to Tuscany may feel overwhelmed: immensely beautiful villages perched on ethereal hills, vistas so gorgeous that defy belief and the honesty of its people that brings tears to your eyes. This region has seen its fair share of extraordinary people crafting masterpieces, and back in the days as in modern times, artists have coloured the lives of many-a-person: will you be part of this magic aura?

## [Carrara - a never-ending Love affair with marble](#)

Among the many marvels that made this country famous is the white beauty that stole the heart of countless sculptors, Michelangelo being most renowned - the marble for his Rome Pietà came from here - but also Canova, Rodin and many more. A natural resource that is hard to the touch, but speaks with the language of poetry and love, touching upon the soul of those who employ it to craft art and those who admire it.

The story of Carrara marbles, however, is not only strewn with famous statues and renowned creations, but it also speaks of the daring men who worked in the quarries. The cavatori - as they are known in Italian - were committed to a dangerous job and many lives were lost with the lizzaturatechnique, the system that "slid" blocks of marble from the mountains down to the sea.

Beyond fascinating, the story of these quarries dates back to pre-Roman times and you can learn all about it by visiting the marble quarries of Torano, Fantiscritti and Colonnata.

## [Colonnata - where food exudes the love of life](#)

If you take a tour of the ancient Ferrovia Marmifera, the marble rail track, it'll feel like entering a time machine. Although now disused, this engineering marvel is still visible in its bridges, viaducts and tunnels: you will gaze in awe at the quarries and will learn to respect this precious stone. While Fantiscritti may be at the heart of the quarries, Colonnata certainly hosts the biggest one: a mere look at the Gioia quarries will stir emotions, all those centuries of toil and sweat combined in one single image.

Beyond the artistic productions, however, marble is also employed in the creation of an exquisite delicacy: Colonnata lard. Stored in marble basins from the Canaloni quarry for at least six months, this treat is seasoned with salt, garlic and rosemary. Some say that even Michelangelo went mad about it: isn't this the product of love?

### Palazzo Mediceo at Seravezza

Perhaps the most famous Italian family of all times, the Medici brought immense cultural and secular riches to the city of Florence and the entire region. Through their most celebrated member, Lorenzo il Magnifico, art was elevated to a level that had been unthinkable before then, at a time when man was regaining his place in the great scheme of things. The legacy of the Medici is everywhere in Florence, but also in the Tuscan countryside by means of exceptional villas: Palazzo Mediceo in Seravezza is one such example.

All twelve Medici Villas and two gardens across Tuscany are part of the UNESCO world heritage list: this adds to their relevance and status. Symmetrical and sober from the outside, the interior of the palazzo displays lavish decorations: a summer residency for the Medici and pivotal Tuscan families, the building is now an exciting cultural powerhouse that hosts contemporary and modern art exhibitions, theatre performances and is home to the Museum of Versilia Popular Traditions. The Terre Medicee Foundation is the cultural mind behind it all: as well as running the Palazzo, the Foundation sees culture as the way forward in the world.

### Arkad Foundation and Artco

Contemporary art and projects form the playbooks of another relevant presence in the area: the Arkad Foundation. A hotbed of cutting edge performances, art exhibitions, concerts and conferences, the foundation offers a lab, various artist's studios, flats to host artists in residence and exhibition spaces. The idea is to encourage cultural exchanges, in the form of learning academies as well, in an environment that looks at art as a

means of spreading knowledge. Part of the Polo Mediceo, ARTCO Studio hosts the Foundation and is a prominent cultural livewire: founded by Cynthia Sah and Nicolas Bertoux in 1998, the Studio lies next to the Palazzo Mediceo and is housed in a pre-industrial building. Here, again, the poetry of marble strikes a chord as it is employed in a vast number of projects: come and admire the endless possibilities of such a versatile material.



### Cooking School

Join us for a 'hands-on' Masterclass at Il Bottaccio - an exclusive opportunity to work with two chefs from the Il Bottaccio team in producing a beautiful seasonal menu.

Spend a few hours in the purpose-built Cooking School kitchen working with the region's best produce. It includes a 3-hour cooking session, sit-down lunch with dishes prepared during the lesson, wine and a folder of recipes for you to keep.

### Art Lessons

A unique and immersive experience in the historical center of Pietrasanta. The relational artist Paola Michela Mineo will welcome you to her studio in the heart of the town and she will tell you the story of this magical place. An ancient marble workshop where the most the most important monuments were crafted. . She now shares her studio with her partner, the Danish sculptor Misja Rasmussen. You will be introduced to the artistic technique of human plaster casts and after this short lesson you will start to create your own cast.





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PSA 40 km  
 FLR 108 km  
 GOA 131 km  
 MXP 293 km  
 LIN 239 km



N 43° 58' 48"  
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