



## PRESS PACK 2022



## ABOUT BORGO PIGNANO

Borgo Pignano is set in the heart of a picturesque 750-acre organic estate in Tuscany, where Etruscans were the first settlers. The estate is a short drive from the medieval hilltop towns of Volterra and San Gimignano and is only 1 hour's drive from Florence.

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



## ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is spread over the estate and includes:

- The 18<sup>th</sup> century Villa
- The Hamlet
- La Canonica (The Priest's House)
- Individual luxury villas



## THE VILLA

Borgo Pignano's main building is an 18th century noble house, surrounded by traditionally planted English gardens overlooking pristine landscapes of Tuscany that have changed little since Renaissance times.

The Villa offers 14 elegant rooms and suites, 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.

The main villa also features 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.

A separate, state of the art kitchen dedicated to cooking classes, is located in the main Villa. It accommodates classes for up to six guests, available six days a week.



## LA CANONICA

Dating back to the 13th century, 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.



## THE HAMLET

Once the barn, stables and woodshed, the hamlet is home to ten beautifully restored rustic apartments. Perfect for families and large groups of friends, guests can do their own food shopping at Borgo Pignano farm, which produces seasonal fruits and vegetables as well as grains. Those staying here have access to all comforts and facilities of Borgo Pignano, including the spa, restaurants and two heated pools, including the kids' pool.



## LUXURY VILLAS

Borgo Pignano offers four exclusive villas within an easy walk of the main villa, restaurant, gardens and infinity pool.

Each is secluded and designed and decorated in an elegant Tuscan style, offering heated private pools, sundecks and stunning terraces and verandas with spectacular views of the Tuscan countryside. The villas are perfect for families, multigenerational holidays, groups of friends as well as private events.



## VILLA: LA LAVANDAIA

This two-bedroom villa opened only last year. Located at the top of the hill on Borgo Pignano's estate, the villa features a stunning terrace with spectacular views of the surrounding Tuscan landscape. Guests can take advantage of their own private heated infinity pool and fully equipped kitchen.

This spectacular villa is located at a short distance from Borgo Pignano's main buildings and restaurants. It features two master bedrooms with king or twin beds, each with its own private bathroom.





## VILLA: LA FONTE

Surrounded by Mediterranean aromatic gardens, orchards and fields, Villa La Fonte sits beside one of the estate's natural lakes. The villa was renovated last year and has five bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms, a porch overlooking the lake and a heated private pool, this farmhouse can be booked in its entirety. Perfect for a large group of friends or a multigenerational holiday. This spectacular villa is located within walking distance to Borgo Pignano's main facilities.



## VILLA: CASA DEL LAGO

Casa del Lago is a peaceful and cosy luxury villa complete with its own heated pool and a covered porch with views over gently sloping fields and a small natural lake surrounded by poplar and alder trees.

Two double bedrooms with queen beds in each 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.



## VILLA: THE ARTISTS' HOUSE

The Artists' House is a large stone villa nestled in an oak and beech copse just 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, bathroom and terrace.

The woodlands in which The Artists' House is situated include a peaceful, outside lounging area and it offers its own heated pool.



## SUSTAINABILITY AT BORGO PIGNANO

Borgo Pignano has a strong focus on sustainability and is really raising the bar in Italy on the subject. In fact, 100% of the heating and hot water is now produced in-house using renewable energy, with a combination of woodchip-fired boilers, which are fed by timber from our 750-acre organic estate, as well as solar panels.

Moreover, the property has been refurbished using eco-conscious materials and toxic free paints and we only use eco-friendly cleaning products, thus reducing the usage of plastic materials.

The property is 70% self-sufficient when it comes to produce. Borgo Pignano grows heritage varieties of fruits and vegetables, organic olives, cereals from ancient seeds and biological crops. Traditional Tuscan techniques are used to make artisanal breads, organic pastas, jams as well as soaps and other toiletries.

Additionally, Borgo Pignano produces the finest Millefiori flavoured honey thanks to the bee colonies which play a key role in the ecosystem, helping with the pollination of vegetables and fruit trees.

Condé Nast Johansens acknowledged the property's sustainability efforts by awarding Borgo Pignano with "The Best Hotel in Europe and the Mediterranean for Sustainability" in 2019.



# BEYOND GREEN<sup>SM</sup>

Borgo Pignano is a founding member of Beyond Green – a global portfolio of hotels, resorts, and lodges that exemplify sustainable leadership. Launched on 17 November 2020, Beyond Green was created to provide a more purposeful way to explore the world where good guests meet good hosts, presenting genuine hospitality by the people for the planet.

As a member of Beyond Green, Borgo Pignano has committed to deliver on the three pillars of sustainable tourism – environmentally friendly practices that go beyond the basics; protection of natural and cultural heritage; and contribution to the social and economic wellbeing of local communities – and adhere to more than 50 sustainability indicators that align with global sustainable tourism criteria and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.



## SPA & WELLNESS

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

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 ACTIVITIES

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 are also all available.

Children's activities include swimming, nature trails, pizza-making, arts & crafts and a babysitting service upon request. 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 estate also has a sports area with a half basketball court and five-a-side football pitch, which can be also used as a tennis court. This new sports area is perfect for older children or teenagers who wish to enjoy outdoor activities.



## THE POOLS

Nestled on the slope of a hill beneath the villa, Borgo Pignano's infinity 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 longues and parasols. Adjacent to the pool area there is an outdoor bar and a manicured lawn for those seeking tranquillity.

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

Borgo Pignano is an exquisite location for weddings and honeymoons, chosen by couples from all over the world. The estate's Romanesque parish church, San Bartolomeo, dates back to the 13th 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 couples or wedding planners to make ceremonies and celebrations 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 has a unique vehicle exhibition 'Le Collezione Italiana' situated in a beautifully restored historic farm building. The exhibition features vehicles from the Golden Age of Italian design, from 1945 to 1975 and offers hotel guests the privilege of viewing an exceptional exhibition during their stay.



## 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, intact medieval walls and for its Etruscan Museum. The town's recently discovered Roman amphitheatre establishes a meaningful connection between Borgo Pignano and Volterra, as the quarry at Borgo Pignano was used by Romans to build Volterra's amphitheatre. This recent discovery is of great relevance not only because of its extraordinary state of conservation, but also because there was no knowledge of it beforehand, meaning that it can be studied and examined with no contamination or interference from previous excavations.

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 hour

Pisa – 1.5 hours

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



## BORGO PIGNANO FLORENCE OPENING 2024

A new Borgo Pignano boutique hotel will open in Florence in Spring 2024. Borgo Pignano *Florence* will share the same spirit and sensibility as Borgo Pignano *Tuscany*.

Borgo Pignano *Florence* will feature 30 suites and rooms located in a fully restored sixteenth century villa occupying the largest grounds of any hotel in Florence. The property, encompassing almost 12 acres, incorporates an olive grove and vineyard and will be a refuge from the bustle of the city, just ten minutes' walk from the Duomo and other major attractions.

Borgo Pignano's new Florentine hotel will continue the Group's commitment to sustainable practices. Ecologically sensitive materials will be used during the restoration and there will be an emphasis on a small energy footprint. Foods and wines will be sought from the best small, local suppliers and will be served alongside Borgo Pignano's own wines, olive oil, vinegars, pastas, and preserves.

Luciano Lusardi, Chairman of [Borgo Pignano](#), said, "Our new hotel in Florence will bring the soul of the Italian countryside to the heart of Florence. Borgo Pignano *Florence* will embody the virtues visitors to Borgo Pignano *Tuscany* cherish: suites and rooms with character and charm; a commitment to sustainability and locally sourced foods; generous public spaces; indoor and outdoor swimming pools; wellness facilities; and modern technology."

Borgo Pignano *Florence* will offer a suitable setting for group business meetings and corporate offsites and create the perfect backdrop for weddings. The hotel is less than a ten-minute ride from both Florence's Peretola airport and the city's intra-European train station, Stazione di Santa Maria Novella.



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**Borgo Pignano was named 'Best Countryside Hotel in Europe & the Mediterranean' in Condé Nast Johansens Awards for Excellence 2021**

**BORGOPIGNANO**  
THE TUSCAN HAVEN