

Palazzo Belmonte

Castellabate, Italy







A few minutes' walk just beyond the gates lies the unspoilt fishing village of Santa Maria, full of southern Italian character.



Arriving at Palazzo Belmonte is like entering another world

...the magic begins the moment you reach the courtyard where the scent of jasmine, rose and honeysuckle perfumes the air.

The 17th century Palazzo, where the Prince di Belmonte lives, is two hours south of Naples and just south of the Amalfi Coast, lying in an idyllic location recognised by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. The Palazzo was originally used as a hunting lodge by the Prince's ancestors, in the days when the Kings of Spain and the Two Sicilies came to hunt boar and quail on the surrounding estate.

There is a timeless and dreamlike quality to Palazzo Belmonte, as it combines understated modern comfort and elegance with the atmosphere and spirit of a private home.

The Palazzo, with its five acres of gardens, enjoys an elevated position above a glorious sandy beach. From the higher level of the gardens there are fantastic views over the sea, while mature trees, including pines and palms, provide shaded paths to the open air restaurant, as well as secluded spots for a quiet read or a siesta.





Palazzo Belmonte offers spacious suites and rooms of varied size and character.

Romantic sea-view rooms with balconies, or two bedroom apartments, or high-vaulted rooms with a mezzanine level giving a unique sense of space: all offer comfortable surroundings in which to enjoy the calm of the South.

The Palazzo's style unites simple colours with relaxed sea-side elegance, while carefully chosen antiques complement the light and airy rooms.



In a unique position on the sea, the Palazzo remains one of the best-kept secrets of the Mediterranean 'Best Private House Atmosphere' -Mail on Sunday



Casa di Edoardo offers the most luxurious and exclusive accomodation at Palazzo Belmonte and is reached from the central courtyard.

Each of the large suites is decorated with a combination of subtle shades of white, complemented by vibrant Mediterranean colours.

The Casa enjoys superb views, whether of the sea or of the Palazzo gardens, and presents a romantic setting, perfect for an unforgettable honeymoon. Some of the suites on the first and second floors have private terraces, with loungers to enjoy the sea views while drinking a cocktail in the evening. There are also a few ground floor suites which offer easy access for those who wish to avoid stairs.

Palazzo Belmonte is within reach of many of the cultural centres of southern Italy. Guests can seek out the spectacular temples of ancient Greece at Paestum, the wonders of Pompeii, and the magnificent 12th century monastery at Padula. Magical Capri, Ischia, Salerno, Naples and the towns of the Amalfi coast are all perfectly located for a day trip.

The jasmine-draped 17th century palazzo is romantic and laid-back, catering for honeymooners and entire extended families.

Harper's Bazaar











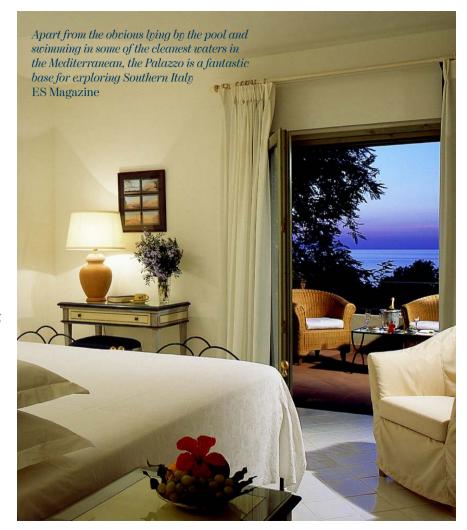


Two villas in the walled gardens offer guests a more modern and informal style of accommodation.

Each room has either a private terrace or a patio depending on the floor, with either leafy views of the gardens or aspects over the sea.

Commissioned by the Prince to complement the Palazzo, the villas are named after his daughters, Francesca and Maria-Sofia.

Guests at the villas enjoy the privacy of the surrounding gardens and are a short walk from the pool, the beach, the restaurant and the main Palazzo. Some rooms may be inter-connected on request, while those seeking a quieter or romantic stay may prefer the seclusion of rooms on the top floors.





The Palazzo has virtually an all season appeal, for every generations. With the South's temperate climate, it is ideal for enjoying the pleasure of early spring sun, when the gardens are at their most beautiful. During summer the glorious hot weather provides long, lazy days, while in autumn the warm sea is inviting and the evenings cooler.

Guests can feast on rustic homemade pasta and vegetables with buffalo mozzarella made that morning and fresh fish caught off the coast-as they watch the vivid crimson sunset. With so much to draw you to the Palazzo Belmonte, the Sirens hardly stand a chance.

TIME magazine





The 'Belvedere Restaurant' is a wonderful place to dine in the evening with a truly romantic atmosphere, from sitting under the stars watching fireflies, to listening to the waves lapping on the shore below, to catching a glimpse of the Amalfi coast's twinkling lights on a clear night.

Palazzo Belmonte's chef combines the best of local ingredients to spoil you with delicious Mediterranean dishes. An inspired local wine list is the perfect partner to the delicate flavours of fresh sea food, wonderful salads and regional favourites.

For those who want a change of scenery, the small unspoilt fishing village of Santa Maria is just outside the gates, offering a choice of local restaurants, cafes and bars. Here you will also find banks, a variety of shops and a local colourful market on the weekends.



lunch or a delicious ice cream while overlooking the sea.

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The easy going atmosphere makes it a wonderful place to while away a late lunch near the pool followed by a siesta.

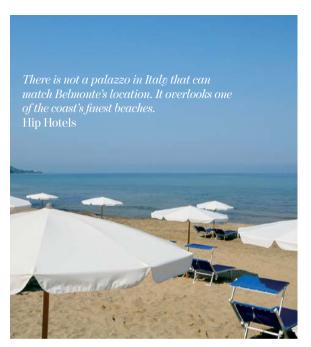




The Pool

The unusually large 24 metre fresh-water pool lies surrounded by the Palazzo gardens, framed by beautiful bougainvillea, honeysuckle and jasmine. Sunbeds, white umbrellas and wide steps for easy access makes contemplating a dip a real pleasure.

The relaxed atmosphere stimulates you to unwind slowly
The Observer

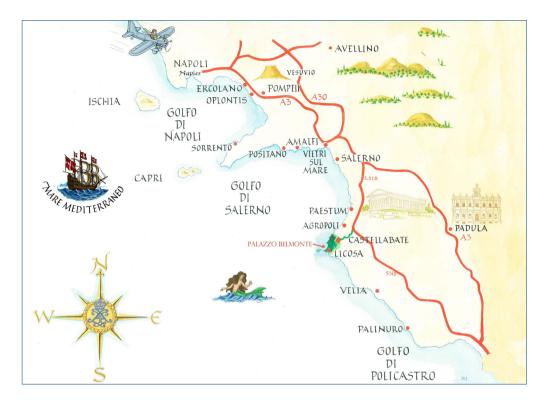


The Beach

A small door in the ancient Palazzo sea-wall opens up to wooden steps which lead to the golden sandy beach below. A private area of the beach is set aside for guests of the Palazzo, with a life-guard during swimming hours. The beach gently shelves into the calm, crystal clear sea, where swimming is easy for all ages. An early morning or evening stroll along the kilometre long beach is particularly special. Private boat trips to explore the coastline, scuba diving, snorkelling and other water sports are available.







Location:

Rome 320 km; Naples 120 km; Salerno 65 km; Agropoli 15 km.

Transportation:

- Private Limousine, Car with Driver available for Transfers to and from Naples or Rome Airport, Railway Stations and Excursions.
- Self-Drive Car Hire available directly through Palazzo Belmonte.
- Direct Rail Service from Rome / Naples to Salerno / Agropoli.
- Direct Rail Service from Rome Airport to Naples Mergellina (Railway Station).
- Helicopter transfers can be arranged.



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