



## MARSILIANA MAREMMA, TUSCANY

### INTRODUCTION

- DAILY LIFE
- WINE AND FOOD
- WINERIES
- RESTAURANTS
- SURROUNDINGS
- SPORTS

### INTRODUCTION

A lesser known and therefore all the more captivating part of Tuscany, the Maremma extends along the southern Tuscan coast. As it moves away from the sea, the land slowly rises, shaping hills covered in olive groves, fields and woods.

From the distance, Marsiliana might look like a castle, but as you reach the top of the hill and drive through the gate it resembles an informal hamlet. The surrounding 2800 Ha property is comparable to a natural preserve where wild boars, porcupines, roebucks, tortoises, badgers and herons live in an undisturbed surrounding. The hamlet of Marsiliana stands on top of the first small hill, only 14 kms from the sea. It is the centre of a property which consists mainly of woodland and mediterranean macchia. The views from the Castello della Marsiliana are marvelous, looking out onto the sea to one direction, onto olive groves, farstretching fields and rolling hills on the other. The Estate was originally 8000 Hectares, reduced to 3000 by state expropriation. Over 95% remains woodland, and of the remaining 150, just 18 hectares of the finest land has been transformed into vineyards by Duccio Corsini, since 1995. In 1759 the Corsini family brought agriculture to the previously malaria infested swamp that was the Maremma. Today it is the new frontier for Tuscan agriculture. Here Duccio continues to forge new ground and is at the forefront of those bringing new wine making techniques to the region.

### A Brief History of the Family

The first Corsini of which there are documented records is Don Tommaso, a capable entrepreneur, who in the year 1316 settled in Florence. By placing his sons and nephews in all the influential positions such as the Church, politics and trade, he set the foundations of what was to become one of the most important and powerful families in Italy. Andrea, Bishop of Fiesole in the late fourteenth century, was made a saint three centuries later. Pietro became cardinal and was responsible for the Pope's return to Rome from exile in Avignon. Matteo made a fortune by trading wool, silk and other merchandise between England and Italy in the 14th Century. In 1730 Cardinal Lorenzo Corsini was elected Pope Clemente XII. A patron of the arts he founded the Capitol Museums in Rome and commissioned the Trevi Fountain and the facade of the basilica of San Giovanni in Laterano. Over the following centuries the Corsinis extended their properties by acquiring large estates in Tuscany Umbria and Latium, at the same time built palaces in Rome and in Florence. Their interest in arts is visible in the celebrated painting collection in Florence, which still belongs to the Family. Today the family is involved in many activities linked to past traditions but with an eye to the future. Wine and olive oil are produced according to the most up-to-date technologies at the Family's Estate Le Corti in Chianti and Marsiliana in Maremma. Shooting and farming are just some of the activities in Marsiliana. Whilst two younger members of the family are successful painters and decorators.

## MARSILIANA

2/7

INTRODUCTION

**DAILY LIFE**

WINE AND FOOD

WINERIES

RESTAURANTS

SURROUNDINGS

SPORTS

### DAILY LIFE

Closest shopping facility plus bank, bar and post office are at the bottom of the hill at less than one km in hamlet of Marsiliana .

**Supermarket** - the village of Albinia, has quite a variety of grocery shops and a couple of Supermarkets, a bakery a very good "Pasta Fresca" shop and a butcher . Freshfish can be bought on the docks in Porto Santo Stefano. In high season ( July and August ) shops are open on Sunday morning.

**Banks** - there is a bank in Marsiliana next to the Despar supermarket called Credito Cooperativo di Saturnia. Albinia has 2 banks ; opening hours are 8.30am - 12.30pm. All banks have a cash point which work with major credit cards .

**Post office** - there is a post office in Marsiliana close to the church. Hours : 8 am - 1pm from Monday to Friday and only in the mornings on Saturday. Stamps can be bought in any tobacconist shop.

**International News Paper** - in the village of Albinia there is a newsagent that sells international newspapers.

**Trains** - the nearest and most convenient train station is Orbetello which is directly connected to Rome. As you turn off the Aurelia highway towards Orbetello, watch out for the signs saying " Stazione" , which means train station. Tel 0564-862105

**Doctors** - for any emergency call the first aid number 118. Otherwise the hospital in Orbetello (25 min. drive) has a first aid service Tel . 0564869202. If you need a doctor at any time dial 0564-625643. The chemist's is in Marsiliana, few steps by the church.

**Car Rental** - you can rent a car in Orbetello from Sig. Evio Pantini , Via Dante.

The phone number is : 0564 660233 or mobile phone: 0335 6438433.

Otherwise in Grosseto: Europcar Italia 0564-418508

#### Markets

All villages and towns have a market once a week which usually lasts from 9 am to 1 pm. Markets are excellent for buying fruit and vegetable as well as cheese. They also have endless stalls with clothes , household ware and sometimes second hand clothes which can be fun. Orbetello on Saturday is considered the best market , even though it is in a modern part of the town.

Albinia: Friday in the main square

Grosseto: Thursday in the main square

## MARSILIANA

3/7

INTRODUCTION

DAILY LIFE

WINE AND FOOD

WINERIES

RESTAURANTS

SURROUNDINGS

SPORTS

### WINE AND FOOD

The area has many appealing restaurants and trattorias of which you will find a list in the house. The gastronomical traditions of the Maremma are rich and varied, fresh vegetables, tender salads, ripe tomatoes and artichokes, „tortelli di ricotta e spinaci“ (large home made tortellini), „zuppa di funghi“ (mushroom soup), wild boar and excellent fish dishes as for instance „spaghetti allo scoglio“, Pecorino - the local sheep cheese which can be bought directly from a nearby producer. The local red wine - Morellino di Scansano - has lately been gaining considerable attention from connoisseurs all over the world. Many famous wine producers from northern Tuscany have bought farms in the area as they believe in the enormous potential of the Maremma.

### WINERIES

#### Wine tasting at Marsiliana estate

Some of the restaurants we recommended have Tenuta Marsiliana's wines in their wine lists . Anyway if you are interested on the wines we produce we kindly arrange for some wine tasting ( for a group of 5 persons minimum) :

Choice of wine:

Birillo Bianco 2006 Birillo Rosso 2005 Birillo Rosso 2005 Marsiliana 2000

Birillo Rosso 2005 Marsiliana 2001 Chianti Classico 2004 Marsiliana 2001

Marsiliana 2004 Marsiliana 2004 Marsiliana 2004 Marsiliana 2002

Marsiliana 2003

Special for our guests we can organize small wine tastings based on our home wine production. After a short visit to the vineyards we will take you to the CLUBE at the Castle of Marsiliana where a selection of our wines will be presented and tasted. Wines will be tasted together with bread and typical local products.

#### Wine estate Pianese

A 15 Ha family-run wine estate which produces very agreeable and reasonably priced organic wines. Wine can be bought on the premises. The estate lies behind the village of Capalbio.

Azienda Agricola Pianese

Strada Lagaccioli 28

Località Pianese - Capalbio

Telephone/Fax +39 0564 89 64 24, Mobil phone +39 335 39 13 77

www.capalbiiodoc.it

## MARSILIANA

4/7

INTRODUCTION

DAILY LIFE

WINE AND FOOD

WINERIES

RESTAURANTS

SURROUNDINGS

SPORTS

## RESTAURANTS

In the surroundings

**La Vallerana** - tel 0564-896211 (closed on Wednesdays ) serves mostly meat , the specialty there is the “Bistecca Alla Fiorentina” . From the village of Marsiliana make a right towards Manciano, at Sgrillozzo follow signs for Vallerana.

**Petronio** - tel 0564-606345, 100m along the road towards Albinia on the left . Always remember to call and book a table.

**Al Fontanile dei Caprai** - tel 0564-896526 (only open on weekends ) specializing in game; wildboar , hare, rabbit . From the village of Marsiliana make a left towards Capalbio after 7-8 Km make a right on a dirt road, the restaurant looks like a hut in the middle of nowhere, but we recommend it all the same!

**Bagno Florida** - the beach club Florida ( see the chapter on the Sea further down) has an excellent seafood restaurant on the beach. An absolute must . Cal l 0564-818776

In Ansedonia

**Il Pescatore** - Excellent fish, average price. They are never shut. Very busy in July and August.

Tel. +39 0564 881201. Credit cards accepted.

To reach Ansedonia, at the gate turn right , then right again at the first crossing, direction Chiarone, a small train station. After the station turn to the left following the signs for Ansedonia, drive under the railway and turn to the right still towards Ansedonia. This is a lovely road. You will reach Ansedonia after about 10 minutes drive. Follow the signs to the restaurant Il Pescatore.

In Orbetello

**Gallery Restaurant** - it is in the centre, close to the main street, near the post office. Tel.+39 0564-860474.

**L'ovosodo** - it is in the centre close to the newsagent's that you find as you arrive in Orbetello

**Il Cantuccio** - it is in the centre but in a small street connected to the main one.

Tel.+39 0564-867587.

In Capalbio

**Ristorante Tullio** - Via Nuova 27, as you drive up to the old village on the right . Has a garden, excellent typical Tuscan food (no fish) and good wine list . Closed on Wednesdays . Credit Cards Master and Visa.

Tel . +39 0564896196

**Da Maria** - on the square in front of the portal of the village wall . The first restaurant which opened in Capalbio. Unfortunately no garden. Excellent food, good service and wine list . Closed on Tuesday. Credit Cards accepted. Tel.+39 0564 896014

**Ristorante “ Il Frantoio”** - built in the old oil -mill of this part of Maremma is considered one of the most typical and characteristic restaurant in the area. Inside you can still see part of the old oil mill structure and objects which remind it . 0564-896484

Within the village walls you will find a number of nice restaurants.

**Talamone Da Flavia** - +39 0564-887091, charming terrace for summer dinners good food. Closed on Tuesdays during winter.

**La Buca** - +390564-887067, in the old part of Talamone very charming delicious sea food, always call and make reservations.

## MARSILIANA

5/7

INTRODUCTION

DAILY LIFE

WINE AND FOOD

WINERIES

RESTAURANTS

SURROUNDINGS

SPORTS

In Porto Santo Stefano

All the restaurants are specialized in seafood.

**Ristorante da Siro** - it is in Corso Umberto, the main street of Porto Santo Stefano 0564-812538**La Caletta** - it is in a nice position, very close to the sea 0564-812939 or 0564-817506.**I due Pini** - it is on the beach along the way towards Porto Santo Stefano. As the winding road towards the port starts keep an eye on your right side and you will find easily the restaurant.

In Porto Ercole

**Ristorante Braccio** - it is not in the port but in a resort called Feniglia, one of the two natural tombolos (narrow strips of sand) which connect Monte Argentario to the Tyrrhenian coast. It is a restaurant on the beach, one of the most appreciated in the area. Tel.+39 0564-834210.**Osteria dei Nobili Santi** - it is in the centre of the village (via dell'ospizion. 8) and it is specialized in seafood. Tel.+39 0564-833015.

*Should you discover other restaurants in the area you would like to recommend, please mention them!! Thank you.*

## SURROUNDINGS

Beach and Sea

**Giannella** - a strip of land which connects the tyrrhenian coast to the peninsula of Argentario, there are a couple of "stabilimenti Balneari" - these are organized beaches where you can rent a parasol with deck chairs and sun beds, for a day or longer. A stabilimento is a convenient way of spending time on the beach, because they normally provide showers, a WC, and most of the time they also have a bar and sometimes a small restaurant. We would recommend: Bagno Florida 0564-820214**The beach Club Bagno Florida** is the one we prefer in the close vicinity of Marsiliana. You can hire a cabin and the sunbeds on the beach. To reach the Bagno Florida, when you are in Albinia follow the signs to Giannella and keep going towards Porto Santo Stefano. The telephone number is 0564-818776. They have a small restaurant with very good sea food which is lovely in the evenings and offers great views onto the setting sun.**Feniglia** - is the other narrow strip of land that connects the Argentario to the coast. Here you can rent a bike and reach the centre of the beach riding along a dirt road in the park. It is beautiful here but remember to bring water with you because there are no bars around.**L'ultima Spiaggia** - lies further south, about a 25 minutes drive, The locality is Chiarone-Capalbio Scalo and the telephone number is 0564-890295. Very trendy, nice food, not on the cheap side.**The islands** - from Porto Santo Stefano there is a ferry service to the island of **Giglio**, call 0564-810803 to find out about timetable. The trip takes about one hour and it is really worth it. There is a service also to the island of **Giannutri** tel: 0564-812920**Hiring a boat** - in Porto Santo Stefano at half an hour's drive from Marsiliana, you can hire a motor boat with a „captain“ which will take you to the islands of Giglio and Giannutri off the Tuscan coast. The attraction of such an expedition lies not only in the trip itself. Giglio has a charming main village and castle, and many creeks hidden between the cliffs which can only be reached by boat. Giannutri, its bare coastline dominated by ruins of a Roman villa overlooking the sea recalls some of the Greek islands, while deep-sea divers can look for sunken Roman Roman galleons on the sea bed. There are quite a few companies from which you can hire a boat. The one we suggest is Biba Boat: 0564-820116 or 0335-234763.

## MARSILIANA

6/7

INTRODUCTION

DAILY LIFE

WINE AND FOOD

WINERIES

RESTAURANTS

SURROUNDINGS

SPORTS

## Sightseeing

**The Parco dell'Uccellina** - officially the Parco Nazionale della Maremma, is about 40 kilometres away from Marsiliana and a rewarding place for nature lovers. Marked footpaths will lead you through incredibly beautiful pine woods to hidden creeks, past romantic ruins of fortified watch-towers and the abbey of San Rabano, built by monks who arrived from Rhodes in the 10th century. One of the entrances is at the village Alberese. The telephone number is 0564 407098.

**Bosco di Patanella** - at Orbetello, Natural Park managed by the WWF. They organise a guided tour from September to April, on Thursdays from 10 am to 2 pm. To reach the entrance drive on the Aurelia until the km. 150.

**The WWF Oasis Lago di Burano** - a 30 kilometer drive south, a fresh water lake separated from the sea by a thin strip of land. Many migratory birds pause here, and birdwatching expeditions are organised by the management of the park on Saturdays from 10am to 2.30 pm. The telephone number is 0564 898829. To reach the entrance drive on to the Aurelia towards north and turn off to the left at the sign (small sign) km. 131.

**Sovana, Sorano and Pitigliano** - these three towns stand close to each other at about 1 hours drive from Marsiliana. Sovana is often considered the most interesting spot of southern Tuscany, boasting a magnificent Etruscan necropolis and 2 remarkable Romanic churches. Pitigliano is a medieval town with a dramatic location, interestingly enough with a Jewish quarter and also known for the white wine produced here, Bianco di Pitigliano.

**Northern Latium** - In many ways northern Latium is the opposite of Tuscany. The first is straightforward, harmonious and clearly marked by human presence, the other is mysterious, untamed and full of contradictions. Papal power and Roman aristocracy undermined any development of the middle classes for centuries, and still today you will find villages and cities in Latium more backward than in close-by Tuscany. Whereas the towns in Latium cannot be compared to Tuscany's splendour, the villages here are culturally far more interesting and of breathtaking beauty. Discovering Latium is a question of time and feeling. In the area of the **Lago di Vico** you should of course visit **Viterbo**, residence of the Pope in the 12th and 13th century, but also the lovely town of **S.Martino al Cimino** built around a fine 13th century Cistercian abbey. A little further away are **Caprarola**, dominated by the Villa Farnese, a fascinating pentagonal castle with a „secret garden“ full of azaleas and rhododendrons leading up to a sculpture garden, and **Civita Castellana**, the most important town in the region. The Duomo is one of the gems of Lazio.

**The Argentario peninsula** - just south from Marsiliana deserves a mention, even though it is not quite clear under which heading it should be included. Cliffs above the sea, archeological excavations, Mediterranean macchia with a large number of self-propagating wild flowers, and jet-set holiday resorts such as Porto Santo Stefano all come together here. And then there is the town of Orbetello, charming and of historical interest.

**The hot springs of Saturnia** - Tuscany is famous for its hot springs, belonging to a geothermal system that more or less encircles the Monte Amiata. Saturnia, at a 35 minutes drive, is the most spectacular, with hot waterfalls in the middle of nature, open to everyone. In summer one might prefer coming here in the evening or, even better, at night.

**The Tarot-Garden of Niki de Saint-Phalle** - on one of the hills not far from Marsiliana the famous French artist has built her „Jardin des Tarots“, twenty two giant sculptures in ceramic and coloured glass inspired by the figures of the magic tarot cards. The park is open daily from 2.30 to 7.30 in the afternoon, and is shut on Sundays and holidays. The first Saturday of every month the entrance is free. For further information call 0564 895122.

**“Cosa”** - was a Latin colony founded under Roman influence in 273 BC, perhaps on land confiscated from the Etruscan. The Etruscan side may have been where modern Orbetello stands. Cosa is about 20 minutes drive from Marsiliana and to reach it just follow the Aurelia direction Rome and exit to Ansedonia. As you arrive in Ansedonia follow the signs for COSA. The entrance is free and you will be at 113 meters above sea level in the middle of the ruins of the city surrounded by trees and Mediterranean macchia.

Very suggestive sunsets on the water give you the possibility to take very nice and particular photos.

## MARSILIANA

7/7

INTRODUCTION

DAILY LIFE

WINE AND FOOD

WINERIES

RESTAURANTS

SURROUNDINGS

SPORTS

## SPORT

## Tennis

Halfway between Marsiliana and Albinia there is a group of houses called "La Polverosa" You will see the church and the bar. Call to make a reservation at 0564-878314. The court is lit at night so one can also play after the sun has set.

## Riding

On the Aurelia road heading south just before Orbetello on the left hand side is a good stable with fine horses to go on fun treks around the area. Call and make arrangements 0564-606551

**Centro di Equitazione**, tel 0564-870577 or 0337-714790 or 0766-899716. You will find this nice riding center on the road that goes from Albinia to Porto Santo Stefano more or less in the middle to the right going towards Porto Santo Stefano. Treks will be organised on the beach and in the WWF Oasis, call for arrangements

## Golf

**The Golf Club Punta Ala** - is at 50 minutes drive from here. You have to be member of a club, bring membership card along, which should indicate your handicap. It has 18 holes, PAR 72 - S.S.S.72.

The telephone number is 0564 922121, they speak English and German. [www.puntaala.net](http://www.puntaala.net)

**The Circolo Golf Maremmello** - at 20 minutes drive from Marsiliana. Take the Aurelia towards Rome. Get off at the exit Talamone - Fontebianca and head for Querciolaie. From there it is another 2,8 kms to the club. It has 9 holes par 36. The telephone number is 0564 885463.

## Spa

**The hot springs of Saturnia** - Tuscany is famous for its hot springs, belonging to a geothermal system that more or less encircles the Monte Amiata. Saturnia, at a 35 minute drive from Marsiliana, is the most spectacular, with hot waterfalls in the middle of nature, open to everyone. In summer one might prefer coming here in the evening or, even better, at night. The Hotel "Terme di Saturnia" has three big pools with the hot water coming directly from the waterfalls opened from 9.30 am to 7.30 pm. For the price list of Terme di Saturnia health and beauty treatments ask to Silva in the office.