

TOMBOLINO BOLGHERI

The Tombolino estate is the summer residence of a well known Florentine aristocratic family. This marvellous stretch of land which runs along the famous Maremma coastline lies 1 hour south of Pisa very close to the famous village of Bolgheri which The New York Times ranked 11th out of 44 places to go in 2009.

This is what the New York Times wrote: „Four words: George Clooney was here. The Italian coast of Maremma, a raw landscape of pebbled beaches in southern Tuscany, has, for some years, been the summer playground of Italian and English aristocrats. But now the beau monde is all abuzz about Mr. Clooney's visit. And Bulgari is reportedly looking at the coastline for a resort. A clubby waterfront bar in San Vincenzo, or the two Michelin-star restaurant next door, Gambero Rosso, which the estimable food critic of Le Figaro, François Simon, once called his favorite restaurant in the world.“

The estate is made up of the main Villa, a separate apartment in the Villa, and two small houses, with their own private garden.

The villa and the houses have their own access to the beach which is reached by a path leading through a beautiful pineta (umbrella pine-tree wood). Guests are given their private key to the beach. The walk alone is a joy amongst the pine trees, shrubs and succulent plants typical of this shore. At the end of the walk a comfortable wooden cabin equipped with fridge, fresh water, towels, and a shaded deck with table and chairs is perfect for picnics after a nice swim in the sea.

The villa's orchard, pergola, terraces and lawns provide ample space for outdoor living.

The villa and the cottages have been newly refurbished (2008) to a high standard. The privacy of the villa and its grounds belies the fact that, as can be seen from the approach through the popular holiday resort Marina di Bibbona, it is within easy walking distance of restaurants, shops, playgrounds and sports facilities of all kinds.

Distances: Bolgheri 10 minutes, Pisa 1 hour, Lucca 1 hour, Florence, 1,50 hour, Siena 1,50 hour, Volterra 1 hour, Massa Marittima 1 hour, Populonia 25 minutes, Baratti 25 minutes, Casale Marittimo 25 minutes, Guardistallo 25 minutes, Bosco della Magona just behind Bibbona, San Gimignano 1 hour, San Vincenzo 20 minutes where you can rent private boat to go to Elba island, Piombino, where you can take the ferry to Elba 30 minutes, Roma 3,30 hour

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Daily Life

The village of Marina di Bibbona , at less than 3 minutes from the estate, offers excellent shopping facilities. You will find a small supermarket, a bar, a bank and a post office, as well as a typical trattoria specialised in the regional country fare.

Grocery shop: Centro Commerciale H Marina di Bibbona Via dei Melograni 26
+ Opening 8 am to 8 pm.

Supermarket: CONAD - big supermarket with very good food in Cecina (Via Pisana Livornese). Otherwise there is a small supermarket in Marina di Bibbona (Centro Commerciale H).

Greengrocer: Centro Commerciale H (see above), otherwise along the main road driving towards Bolgheri you can buy fruit and veg directly from the producer.

Pastry Shop: Pasticceria Celli, Via Aurelia Nord 30, La California.

Bakery: „Il Paniere“ in the Centro H in Marina di Bibbona is a good bakery or Panetteria Celli Lauro, Via Aurelia Nord 1, La California

Fresh fish: very good Fish at CONAD supermarket or ask the caretaker Giulietta or her husband.

Shopping on a Sunday: All shops are open on Sunday in July and August, during the other months try the market at Cecina Mare.

Markets: Cecina Mare: Sunday, Rosignano: Monday, Cecina: Tuesday, Pisa: Saturday, Livorno: Friday, Marina di Bibbona: Wednesday, Bibbona&Castiglioncello: Thursday. Markets are open until 1 pm.

Bank:

Cassa di Risparmio di Volterra
Via dei Cavalleggeri Nord, Marina di Bibbona

Cassa di Risparmio di Livorno, Filiale di Bolgheri
Piazza Bianca Maria 6 - 57020 Bolgheri (LI)
Tel&Fax: 0565 762008

Post office: Via 1 Maggio 28 La California and in the village of Bolgheri, open from 8.15am to 1.30 pm

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Tourist Office:

„Ufficio Informazioni La California“, Via Aurelia Nord 6 , Bibbona, phone:
(+39)0586 677581 (open all the year)

„Ufficio Informazioni“ Via dei Cavalleggeri Nord, Marina di Bibbona, phone:
(+39)0586 600699

International newspapers: Centro Commerciale H, Marina di Bibbona, Via dei Melograni 26, open 8 am to 8 pm.

Pharmacy:

Farmacia Giuseppe Gentili

Via Della Camminata 3, La California

Telephone + 39 0586-677242;

Private Doctor: Dott. Prunetti + 39 0586 677 516

Train station: the nearest and most convenient train stations are Cecina (9km) and Donoratico (10km). Timetables are available on : www.trenitalia.it The site exists in English.

Bus station:

In front of the Bolgheri train station and the Cecina train station

ATM Piombino : + 39 848.580.028 - <http://www.atm.li.it/orari.asp>

Autobus ATL Cecina + 39 0586.680583

Petrol station: There is a petrol station just after the first roundabout before entering the resort of Marina di Bibbona

Taxi: Barsotti + 39 0586.600703 or + 39 338.8536249 or +39 328.4880494

Car Rental:

Palazzo Galleria, Viale Italia, 45

57023 Cecina

Phone : (0586) 635742

Fax : (0586) 638866

Opening hours

08:30am to 12:30pm and 3pm to 7pm from Monday to Friday

08:30am to 12:30pm on Saturdays. Sunday closed

or

Pisa Airport

Internet:

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The villa is equipped with an fast internet connection.
Guests of the smaller houses can find an internet café in Cecina:
Bar Jolly, v. Pietro Gori n°37 - Cecina - Tel: 0586.681304

Sports

Tennis:

Camping Free Time

Via dei Cipressi,

Marina di Bibbona (LI), Italy – Tuscany

<http://www.freetimecamping.it/camping-etruscan-coast-bungalow-livorno-campsite-pool-tuscany.asp>

Golf:

4 golf courses can be reached from here. The most famous, the 18 hole Punta Ala golf club is at a 50 minute drive.

1) <http://www.golftirrenia.it/en/index.asp>

2) <http://www.golfclubtoscana.com/>

3) <http://www.puntaala.net/golf/>

4) <http://www.versiliagolf.it/>

Bike rental: <http://www.emeraldtrail.com/tuscany-italy-bicycle-tours.php>

The area is excellent for biking. Many champions come here to do their training.

Horse Riding: Centro „Ippico La California Club“, Via Melograni 2 - 57020 Bibbona. phone/fax 0586 600294. As from 8 years.

Sub Diving: „Centro sub cecina“, Via Ginori, 59, 57023 - Marina di Cecina, phone:tel. 0586 622412, tel. 339 2693845, website: www.centro-sub.com

Windsurf/ Sailing/ Boat Rental (catamaran, canoe, pedalo, sailing boat) : „Spot One“, Cecina, Loc. Capocavallo Le Gorette, Cecina Mare, phone 328 5444823 - 347 6121518, website: www.spot1.it. Lessons for children and adults.
Rental of umbrellas with sunbeds.

Beaches

The coast between Livorno and Piombino is a succession of famous resorts and well-maintained clean beaches, many of which have been awarded Europe's Blue Flag various times. Click here for more information:

www.blueflag.org/Menu/Criteria/Beach+Criteria.

Castiglioncello

Clear blue sea and sandy beaches surrounded by pinewoods and hills that fall right down to the sea forming cliffs. Castiglioncello has long been celebrated by artists, writers and leading cultural figures.

Vada to the south of Rosignano

Is a peaceful vacation spot known for its fine white sand beach and clean sea often used as set for films and photo reportages

Marina di Cecina

Largest beach resort on the Etruscan Coast. Marina di Cecina offers numerous beach concessions equipped for practicing all kind of marine sports, windsurf and sailing schools.

San Vincenzo

Sandy beaches, beach clubs.

Rimigliano Park

Is located along the coast road leading from San Vincenzo to Piombino. It is a natural oasis characterized by sandy dunes.

Golfo di Baratti beach

A beach in one of the most beautiful gulfs of the coast; it has a pinewood.

Le Gorette - North of Cecina

Large beach of dark fine gravel.

Spiaggia del gineprino - Marina di Bibbona,

Wide sandy beach sculpted by sand dunes.

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Spa

The Tombolo Talasso Resort

Beautifully Thalasso and Spa resort featuring 5 sea water pools in an enchanting grotto and a wide selection of treatments brimming with the benefits of seawater, salts, algae, and mud as well as relaxing, holistic, oriental and beauty massages.

Via del Corallo 3, - 57024 - Marina di Castagneto Carducci (LI)

phone: +39 0565 74530 - fax: +39 0565 744052 - www.tombolotalasso.it

Terme Valle del Sole di Venturina

Venturina, Via Aurelia nord 18, phone +39 0565 851066,

www.termediventurina.it

The hot springs of the Valle del Sole were already known by the Romans and the Etruscans who appreciated their curative properties. The spa facility "Valle del Sole" was build around the hot springs. It has been recently renewed, enlarged and equipped with a beauty centre that offers crenotherapy, beauty treatments, hot water swimming pool and hydromassage.

Calidario Terme Etrusche, Via del Bottaccio, 40, 57021 Venturina (LI) – Toscana, phone 0565 851504. www.calidario.it

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Wine and Food

It is here that Bolgheri DOC wines are produced – world-class wines such as Sassicaia, Guado al Tasso and Ornellaia as well as numerous others of the highest quality. This "Eldorado of Italian wine" as it has been called, is the result of nature's generosity, the climate and the talent of its wine makers. Bolgheri has become one of the most interesting and gifted areas in the whole universe of wine thanks to some illuminated personages, among such as Mario Incisa della Rocchetta, the oenologist Giacomo Tachis and the Marchesi Piero and Lodovico Antinori. The experimental use of "international" grape varieties such as Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, and the constant research for innovation and quality has attracted the interest and support of the best world wine critics such as Veronelli, Marvin Shenker and well know national and international wine producers.

WINERIES

Sassicaia

<http://www.sassicaia.com>

Frescobaldi

Tenuta dell'Ornellaia

Via Bolgherese 191, Bolgheri

57022 Castagneto Carducci (LI)

tel. 0565 718 242 fax. 0565 718 240

www.ornellaia.com

Wine tasting and Dinner. Reservation required.

Antinori wine estate

Bottega di Guado al Tasso

Strada Aurelia Km. 267

Loc. Scalabrone

57024 - Donoratico (Li)

tel. 0565 / 74 97 35

E-Mail: guadoaltasso@antinori.it

The shop sells the farm's typical products such as cured meats made from its own Cinta Senese pigs, organic tomato sauce, oil, organic spelt and, obviously, the wines made on the estate.

Opening times:

April to September

Monday – Friday 8.00am-5.00pm

Saturday 10.00am-7.00pm

1st October to 31st March

Monday – Friday 8.00am-5.00pm

In December and in March we are open on Saturdays from 9.00am-6.00pm

Closed on Christmas Day, New Year's Day and Easter Day.

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TOMBOLINO BOLGHERI

Frattoni

Enoteca Argentiera

Via Aurelia, 410 Km 260

57024 Donoratico (LI)

ITALIA

Tel. +39 0656 773176

e-mail: enoteca@argentiera.eu

www.argentiera.eu/eng/enoteca.html

Visit of the winery and wine tasting. Reservation required.

Where there is great wine there tends to be great food and the Gambero Rosso, voted the best restaurant in Italy and with 2 Michelin stars, is in one of the seaside resorts along the coast.

RESTAURANTS IN THE AREA

Ristorante Gambero Rosso di San Vincenzo

Piazza della Vittoria 13, San Vincenzo (LI)

Tel.: 00390565701021

Ristorante Da Andrea

Via Baldissera 3 Marina di Cecina

Tel.: 00390586 620143

Ristorante La Pineta di Luciano Zazzeri

Via dei Cavalleggeri Nord

Marina di Bibbona

Tel.: 0039 0586 600016

One of the best fish restaurants in the area recommend to reserve a table much in advance as it is quite booked in high season.

Osteria Magona

Piazza Ugo 2/3

Bolgheri

Tel.: 0039 0565 762 173

Enoteca Tognoni

via Lauretta 5, Bolgheri

57020 Castagneto Carducci

Tel.: 0039 0565 762001

Ristorante La Carabaccia

<http://www.lacarabaccia.it/>

Enoteca San Guido – Bolgheri

<http://www.enotecasanguido.com/ita/index.asp>

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Surroundings

Bolgheri

Bolgheri is a small village, a group of houses gathered around the two squares and owes its fame to the majestic avenue of cypress trees planted in 1831, connecting in San Guido, known for being a source of inspiration of the poet Giosuè Carducci. The poet lived in Bolgheri from 1838 to 1848 and many of his works told of life, character and environment of the small village. The village is entered through a 16th century castle in red brick. The historical center has kept its original aspect and you feel the sensation that time has stopped.

Castagneto Carducci

An enchanting medieval village built around the Gherardesca Castle. In 1907 the name of this municipality was changed in honour of poet Giosuè Carducci who spent a year here with his family. The medieval castle has been enriched in time and offers stunning views of the valley while the church of the Madonna del Carmine was built in neo gothic style in 1786. Each spring Castagneto is the venue for a major gourmet festival which attracts enthusiasts from all over Italy.

Suvereto

The town is a splendid medieval village whose origins date back to before the year 1000. Situated on the slopes of the hills overlooking the Costa degli Etruschi, it is a true jewel, rich in history and art, set in the green valley of the River Cornia. The town keeps its antique traditions alive through magical festivals inspired by historic and folklore that are held throughout the year, thanks to the mild climate. One of the most looked forward to events, "Serate medievali", is held in July.

Sassetta

Sassetta is a charming little historical village on the Costa degli Etruschi, set among woods and stands of chestnuts on a hilltop overlooking the sea. This Medieval stronghold still contains reminders of its past, such as the Romanesque baptismal font, a 15th century painting of the Virgin, a rock crystal crucifix (15th-16th century) and other paintings which are to be found in the ancient church of St Andrew Apostle.

Campiglia Marittima

Situated on a hill overlooking the sea and the surrounding countryside, Campiglia Marittima is one of the loveliest old hill towns on the Etruscan Coast. This hill town, formerly a medieval castle, is full of history and tradition. The streets, the paved alleys and the buildings are harmoniously arranged in concentric semi-circles, and city walls enclose the old town.

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Piombino

Piombino is situated on a promontory jutting out into the sea. It was the capital of an ancient Italian state and is heir to classical and medieval, as well as Etruscan metalworking traditions.

What was once the port of Falesia (to which there are historical references dating back to the 5th century A.D.) is today Tuscany's most important passenger port, connecting the mainland with the Island of Elba, the Tuscan Archipelago, Sardinia and Corsica.

Massa Marittima.

Here, in one of Etruria's oldest and most prosperous communities, the same minerals that were extracted 2,500 years ago are still being mined. The first miner's code in Europe was drawn up here in 1310. Three years earlier, the graceful Romanesque-Gothic cathedral was completed. Decorated with three orders of arches and slender columns supported by lion-headed capitals, it stands on a steep flight of stairs above the square that contains Massa's medieval buildings, an architectural grouping characteristic of 13th-century Tuscan cities: the travertine Palazzo Pretoria of 1230 with its escutcheons of former mayors, the Palazzo Comunale, formed of three crenelated tower-houses and decorated with frescoes, among them a Lorenzetti Madonna.

Populonia

Populonia was the only ancient Etruscan city situated on the sea. It is situated on the top of a hill, with the sea all around. The walls which are of medieval origin were built for defence against the Barbary pirates. Within the walls there is a quaint little village with some elegant shops. From the top of the fortress there is a magnificent view of the Tuscan Archipelago.

The Parks of the Val di Cornia

The parks stretch along the coastal strip opposite the Island of Elba.

The various archaeological and natural sites of the Parks make this area an interesting alternative to the traditional tourist destinations: a place where nature and archaeology converge to let you discover the charm of the "Toscana Minore". More information on www.parchivaldicornia.it

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Events

Sporting events connected with the sea, gastronomic events, historical re-enactments are just some of the main attractions held year round on the Costa degli Etruschi. Among the most interesting sea-going events are:

Effetto Venezia

Ten days of music, performances, entertainments in Livorno. „Effetto Venezia“ takes place during the first days of August amidst the canals, squares and bridges of Venezia Nuova. You can find a programme on:
www.effettovenezia.it

Accademia Navale e Città di Livorno Trophy - end of April.

Sailing regatta which began in 1981 to celebrate the Naval Academy's 100th anniversary. The regatta lasts for a week and teams from all over the world take part in the various races. A number of related events also take place in the town, especially in the port area, during that week

Palio Marinaro

Livorno's most important rowing race of the year. It takes place on the second Sunday in July. The venue for the Palio is the open sea, opposite the Terrazza Mascagni.

Coppa dei Risiatori

The first of the three most important rowing races that take place in Livorno every year. It takes place on the second Sunday in June.

Coppa Ilio Barontini

The Coppa Ilio Barontini takes place after dark on the last Saturday in June.

Other suggestions...

Convivia i Bibbona

An enogastronomic festival with tasting of wines and typical Tuscan products (like the wine D.O.C. "Terratico di Bibbona") gladdened by various performances and itinerant music. In August.

Castagneto a Tavola

Castagneto Carducci celebrates its enogastronomic traditions with the "Castagneto Tavola" festival in April which offers wine tastings, themed dinners, workshops and open cellar visits.

"Festivity of autumn"

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Festival that takes place in Sassetta in October and that devote particular interest to the typical gastronomy.

Gioco del Ponte (Battle of the Bridge)

Teams from the two banks of the Arno grapple with one another on the Mezzo Bridge in Pisa. In June

Candlelight Pisa Festivities in Pisa Luminara di S Ranieri Pisa

This event takes place on the eve of the patron saint's feast day (June 16) the event before the Regata St Ranieri Pisa and transforms the lungarni into a phantasmagoric fairy-tale setting. Sham architecture ('machines') and a firework spectacle at the Cittadella Vecchia make this event, which dates back to 1688, even more fascinating.