

25A MAGAZINE

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JETSET 25A



BORGO PIGNANO

A Retreat Fit for Renaissance Royalty

By Christopher A. Pape & Jennifer Pelaez

Perched on a hilltop originally occupied by the ancient Etruscans, Borgo Pignano is everything you would expect from an 18th-century Tuscan estate turned luxury hotel. Strategically set in the heart of Tuscany, perfectly situated near the towns of Siena, Florence, and Pisa, this magnificent boutique hideaway is a sprawling 750-acres of natural beauty surrounded by woods, fields with organically growing crops, olive groves, ponds, and vegetable gardens.

The borgo, which translates into hamlet, is comprised of the main villa, a charming small 13th-century church, and several restored stone farmhouses which are tended by a group of locals and friends committed to a healthy and sustainable way of life. The ethos at the well-run Borgo Pignano is one

of community and slow living, offering that bohemian hospitality while also imparting comfort and the grandeur of a noble estate.

The character, atmosphere, and the design of Borgo Pignano are certainly traditional and old-world, however in function and decor it has kept up with the times. Spread out on three floors, the estate boasts 14 elegant bedrooms and suites, several public rooms, a library, music room, wine cellars, and a medieval banquet room and ballroom. Inside, Italian etchings hang throughout the main house and original frescoes adorn the walls of many guest rooms which are each distinct and decorated in period Italian style. Luxury amenities like fine linens, deluxe state-of-the-art fixtures, and travertine bathrooms remind you that you are indeed in a five-star hotel.



Whether you choose to stay in a luxurious suite, a cozy apartment, or your very own private maisonnette, you will relish in the exceptional service and feel inspired by the aura of the glorious days of the Renaissance.

Whether you are looking to relax on the estate or explore the nearby medieval towns, cities and Etruscan sites, there are enough activities for the whole family to enjoy.

Soak up the sun next to the spectacular infinity-edge salt-water swimming pool carved from an ancient limestone quarry or get a workout by taking a climb up to the villa's small tower from where on a clear day you can take in the brilliant views from Monte Amiata to Corsica. Get in touch with your creative self by take a painting or cooking class. Reboot your inner peace with a yoga class in the spectacular ballroom or engage in some competitive gaming with some bocce ball. Appreciate mother nature as you stroll through one of several gardens which are not only vibrant and aromatic but in harmony with the rest of the beautiful landscape.

If you wish to explore outside the hamlet, Borgo Pignano can customize itineraries for any type of excursion that may interest you, from thermal baths to shopping jaunts, to scenic back road driving adventures. Be sure to tour some of the best vineyards and cellars in the Chianti and Brunello regions with a stop in nearby San Gimignano which is known for its superb white wines.

Back at Borgo Pignano, immerse yourself in the flavors of Tuscany with a wide range of organic dishes made from the freshest ingredients sourced right on the property and neighboring farms. Bread, honey, jams, olive oil, just to name a few, are all made on site and focus on quality and maintaining the integrity of each product. The menus are adjusted seasonally and reflect the simplicity and natural goodness of the borgo. These delicious flavors pair perfectly with the impressive list of local wines, a constant reminder you are in one of the world's most notable wine regions. Combined with the tranquil setting, a trip to Borgo Pignano is pure escapism and serenity.

borgopignano.com
condenastjohansens.com