**WELCOME!**

Thank you so much for booking your holiday in Casoli. Welcome to your Tuscan Home in Casoli and we hope you'll enjoy your stay. We have put together a few details which we hope will assist you.

**THE VILLAGE OF CASOLI**

Casoli is a small hilltop village 12km from the nearest town of Bagni di Lucca. The village dates as a settlement from pre-historic times but grew in the late medieval period when there was castle at the top of the village, the remains of which still exist.

**THE HOUSE**

The house was built in the mid-16th century as a store house for the local monastery. It is now a beautiful home with incredible views looking out onto the Apennine Mountains. It is situated at the top of the village of Casoli by the church.

**THE GARDEN**

The terraced garden is a very short walk from the property. You turn left out of the front door and walk up the hill and before you get to the church, take the first turning to your left down a cobbled path and then to the right through the arch and you are in the garden. There is a garden table and chairs for al fresco dining! It has beautiful views but children should not be left unaccompanied as there is a steep drop.

Amelia and Yogi own the property and live in the UK. Do contact them with any queries on +447501275170. Kirstie is the house manager and lives in the village and can help with all local queries.

**DIRECTIONS TO THE HOUSE**

If you are coming by car and using a Sat Nav, its Casoli, Bagni di Lucca as there is another Casoli near Camaiore (don’t go to that one!). When you are five minutes away you will get to a sharp right turn to Casoli over a bridge, (if you are coming from the direction of Lucca and it is easy to miss) and you will go up a steep winding hill. It is advisable to sound your horn when approaching the tight bends and listen for approaching traffic.

You need to park in the car park/piazza at the bottom of the village and walk up the cobbled hill on Via Chiesa until you come to 33, Via Chiesa just before the church at the top of the hill. The hill is quite steep, and it is about 200m to the house. If you have a lot of luggage or mobility issues a golf cart can usually be available to get you up the hill so please let us know and we will see if we can arrange this.

**CHECK IN AND CHECK OUT TIMES**

We would be grateful if you would let us know your estimated time of arrival, which, if possible, should be any time after 4pm on your arrival date, so our manager can make sure the house is prepared for you. Check out time is at 10am on the day of your departure.

**WHAT IS PROVIDED**

We provide at the house for you:

- wood and kindling etc for the open fire in the sitting room and the wood burning stove in the Cantina.

- Cutlery, plates bowls etc, pans and cooking equipment for the electric oven and stove. There is also a Mocha Pot.

--Some starter essentials including olive oil, Balsamic vinegar, salt and pepper, coffee and tea etc

-Bedding, towels and throws etc.

-a TV and Games

**LOCAL ATTRACTIONS AND AMENITIES**

**RESTAURANTS**

**Casoli**

Ristorante da Marina

This is a lovely Tuscan restaurant /bar just down the bottom of Via di Chiesa off the town square and serves traditional Tuscan food.

Corsa Umberto 1 550022 Casoli

Contact number for reservations and to check opening times: 0039 0583 995519.

**Vico Pancellorum**

A neighbouring hilltop village about a 10-minute drive:

Buca Di Baldabo

A wonderful restaurant with lovely Tuscan food.

Via Prati, 11 55022 Vico Pancellorum

Contact number for reservations and to check opening times: 0039 0583800171 or

0039 3402207736

**Bagni Di Lucca**

There are many lovely restaurants in this lovely old spa town but there is a great cafe which makes amazing pizzas called Bar La Ruota Di Riccardo Franchi.

**Viale Papa Giovanni X XIII, 29 55022 Bagni Di Lucca**

**Contact number: 0039 0583 87894**

**SHOPPING**

There are no shops in Casoli so it is a good idea to bring some supplies with you for your arrival. The lovely restaurant in the village Marinas will sell you some supplies when it is open. There is a small village shop in Casabasciana and you can either walk there across the hills or drive. There are also many shops in Bagni di Lucca there are supermarkets close by car: including Conad, City Viale Roma 9/a Bagni di Lucca and Carrefour Supermarket in Chifenti.

**ACTIVITIES**

**Walk to Casabasciana**

There are lovely walks from Casoli including a hill-top walk to the neighbouring village of Casabasciana which has a café and well stocked local shop above the bar. It takes about an hour to wall each way. You find the footpath by walking past Marina’s from the house and take the immediate turn to the right up a hill. You will see a cemetery on your right and walk past this and keep along the good footpath along the hill side. You will see a turn to the signposted to a hotel/bed and breakfast. Do not turn left but keep straight on the footpath until you get to the road to Casabasciana and take the right-hand fork. Walk along the road and at a T junction turn left and walk to the carpark. At the left-hand corner of the carpark go up a little alleyway and continue and that will take you the main piazza where there is a traditional bar and a shop above it. At the time of writing these are open in the mornings.

**Other Walks**

There are other lovely walks behind the church on the hilltop. There are many other local walks within a few minutes’ drive by car. There are plenty of maps and guidebooks in the house. Nearby is the beautiful Orrido di Botri canyon and nature reserve.

**Swimming**

There is fabulous swimming in the River Lima. Do ask Kirstie for directions for the best place to swim in the Lima as she is an expert. One place to enter is at the bottom of the road to Casoli behind the garage and café, under the medieval bridge. The toilets in the café are a good place also to change! You can also drive a little bit further on the road to Bagni di Lucca and do ask Kirstie for details on where to park. If you’d like guided more formal swimming do go with one of the Canyon guides and details are below. There is also a lovely large outdoor pool in Bagni di Lucca.

**Canyon Park**

This is a wonderful natural adventure park and is only a five-minute drive from your house on the River Lima. There are zip wires, SUP boarding standup paddle boarding, natural slides, rocky trails and climbing. There is also a very natural peaceful yoga.

Contact numbers for reservations and to check opening times:

0039 5831748094

Email [info@canyonpark.it](mailto:info@canyonpark.it)

**Seaside**

Viareggio with its beautiful sandy beaches is about an hour away and is also famous for its carnival and nightlife.

**Skiing**

There is excellent skiing close by at Abetone, about a 45-minute drive.

**Historic Cities**

The famous walled city of Lucca is close by with its beautiful churches and galleries and of course the famous cities of Pisa and Florence are within driving distance.