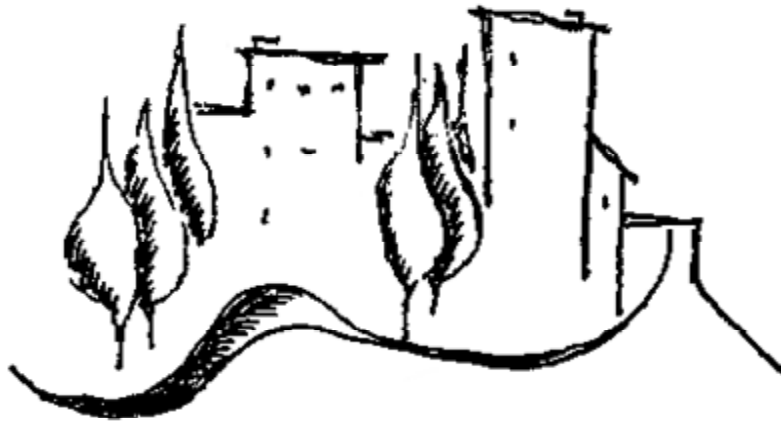


Cappella Residence



Tuscany

Practical guide

Access

How to get to Tuscany?

Route from western Switzerland:

Grand Saint-Bernard – Aoste – Santhia – Alessandria – Genoa – La Spezia – motorway exit Viareggio (approximately 420 km from the Grand Saint-Bernard tunnel; 4h30-5h)

Route from eastern Switzerland:

Gotthard or San Bernardino – Chiasso – Milan – Parma – La Spezia – motorway exit Viareggio (approximately 430 km from the Gotthard tunnel)

How to get to the Cappella Residence?

From the motorway exit Viareggio, follow the road signs to Massa, Lido di Camaiore, Viareggio Nord and after about 300 m. the signs indicating Camaiore. At the big roundabout, take the second exit signed Camaiore (6-kilometre drive).

When you get to Camaiore, follow *Centro* (on the left). After about 900 m., take a narrow street on the left (opposite a hair salon), indicated by blue road signs: *Montebello, Vado, Lombrici, ...*

Always follow the signs indicating *Montebello*. When you arrive at Montebello, drive up the road until you get to the junction. Take on the left, pass behind the church and then left again on a downward street. Cross a small bridge, drive up an unsealed road for 400m. After two consecutive tight turns, you made it! Welcome to the Cappella Residence! You may take possession of your accomodation between 4 and 7 p.m. In case of late arrival, please contact Lorenzo and Piera (see **help** section).

Address

Cappella Residence
Colli di Versona 444
I-55041 CAMAIORE (Italy) ;
GPS : 43°56'44.84"N 10°17'13.03"E
or : 43.945529 10.287283

International calling codes:

Italy: 0039

Switzerland: 0041

Germany: 0049

France: 0033

Banks:

The banks in Camaiore:

Banca di Toscana, Via XX Settembre
Cassa di Risparmio di Lucca
Monte dei Paschi di Siena, midway along the Via
XX Settembre, with an international cash machine.

Viareggio, Pisa and all the important towns in the area have international cash machines as well as currency exchange machines.

Bathing:

The Mediterranean Sea exerts a strong appeal and it is very pleasant to go bathing from mid May to October.

There are numerous beaches in the area.

If you are seeking comfort:

Viareggio, Lido di Camaiore, Marina di Pietrasanta offer a great variety of paying services such as deckchairs, parasols, bars and restaurants.

If you are seeking authenticity:

The sandy beaches south to the harbour of Viareggio and further towards Pisa are not « organized », but they offer more space and freedom.

If you are looking for creeks:

Portovenere, south to La Spezia, and all the picturesque fishing villages of the Cinque Terre, west to La Spezia, offer many wonderful bathing spots.

If you are more sensitive to the cold:

Camaiore has a modern indoor swimming pool, close to the football ground.

If you would rather stay at the residence:

You can enjoy the private pool at the residence (8m x 4m, 1.2m deep).

Botticelli:

Sandro Botticelli was born in Florence in 1445. He was an early talent and by his thirties, he was the favourite painter of the Medicis family. Between 1476 and 1480, he painted « The Spring », result of his intense intellectual exchanges with his

Platonist friends. After a short stay in Rome, where he came upon Pope Sixtus V's request to decorate the Sistine Chapel, he went back to Florence. He then painted « The Birth of Venus », « The Barnabas Altarpiece » and many other masterpieces. From this moment on, Botticelli's health was in slow decline. At the beginning of the 16th century, he was surpassed by the new generation with Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael and Michelangelo. He died on the 17th of May 1510, alone and abandoned.

Camaiore:

This little town with its provincial charm is nonetheless the nerve centre of a commune of 30'000 inhabitants. Its « *Collegiata* », collegial church tracing back to 1278, with its tower built in 1365, is well worth visiting.

The pedestrian street (Via XX Settembre) with its numerous boutiques is a tempting invitation to stroll around and indulge in the *dolce vita*.

Cars:

Only a short loading and unloading time is admitted in the courtyard. Please park your vehicle on the lawn intended for this purpose, on the right after the main entrance gate.

It is highly recommended to lock your car and to avoid keeping valuables in it (mobile phones, cameras, I-pads, I-phones, luggage, etc.).

In case of breakdown: ACI (phone: 116)

Cinque Terre:

Region north-west to the gulf of La Spezia (approximately 75km. from La Cappella). The steep slopes of the mountains around form a shoreline which is not easy to access. Picturesque fishing villages and scenic coast paths are major features of this part of the Ligurian coast.

The main villages are:

Riomaggiore, with its closely packed houses in a narrow valley.

Monterosso, with its beautiful beach.

Tip: to get from a village to another, try to favour walking or the train, since the area is well served by rail.

Cookers:

In all our accommodation units, there are gas stoves (bottles, except in Puccini, Fra Angelico and Tosca, which are directly connected to the central cistern). In case of shortage, please ask our caretaker who will replace the bottle free of charge.

Please check the tightness of the pressure regulator and make sure you ventilate the kitchen.

Dentists and doctors:

See the **emergency** section.

Excursions:

La Cappella is a good starting point for excursions in the region, without having to drive for more than 90 minutes to reach your destination. You should by no means miss Florence, Lucca, Pisa, as well as smaller centres such as Carrare, Pietrasanta, Portovenere. The magnificent villas near Lucca are also worth a look.

The bookshops in Camaiore sell pedestrian maps of the region.

Florence:

Can be reached within 90 minutes via the motorway, from Viareggio.

Forte dei Marmi:

Small sea resort, one of the trendiest at the moment in Italy. The centre is full of shops with fashionable items. Great fireworks every year on the 28th of August.

Fra Angelico:

The birthdate of Guido di Piero, aka Fra Angelico, priest and Dominican friar, is uncertain. It is believed to be short before 1400, near Florence. Painter imbued with religious culture, Fra Angelico mastered the art of altarpieces and frescos. Fra Angelico died in Rome in 1455.

Games:

Children and adults have access to the pool, as well as the nearby slide and swings.

There is also a bocchia court that you are welcome to use, as well as a football goal and a volleyball net.

Playing is not allowed on the gravel around the houses.

Heating:Fireplace/Wood stove

Firewood can be bought from Lorenzo and Piera at a modest price.

Bread oven (Botticelli)

Wood can be bought from Lorenzo and Piera.

Central heating via radiators (Puccini and Tosca)

The guest must pay for the consumed gas based on meter readings (not included in the rent)

Help:

Lorenzo and Piera live at La Cappella. Here are their personal phone numbers:

Lorenzo: 0039 335 617 11 25

Piera: 0039 347 630 35 87

In case of emergency:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| <i>Carabinieri</i> (police): | 112 |
| <i>Polizia</i> (municipal police): | 113 |
| Fire department: | 115 |
| <i>TCI</i> (Italian automobile club): | 116 |
| Doctor (with ambulance) | 118 |
| Camaiore pharmacy | 0584 98 04 78 |

Hospital:

There is a large state hospital in Lido di Camaiore (See the **help** section).

Household waste

There is no refuse collection at La Cappella. Garbage and glass containers are to be found in Montebello, close to the church. We kindly ask you to use them.

Markets

In Camaiore on Friday morning

In Viareggio: permanent market at the centre of the town. There is also a flea market on Saturday morning.

In Forte dei Marmi on Wednesday morning (very popular with ladies)

In Lido di Camaiore on Monday morning

Michelangelo

Michelangelo was born on the 5th of March 1475. At the age of 13, he was apprenticed to Ghirlandaio, who owned the largest painting workshop in Florence at the time. Still a teenager, he caught Lorenzo de Medici's eye, who welcomed him to his palace.

After his first stay in Rome, he was commissioned to carve a Pietà, in marble he chose personally in Carrara. The Pietà is now located at Saint Peter's Basilica.

Michelangelo then divided his time between Florence and Rome. In 1512, he completed the painting of the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in Rome. He excelled not only at painting and carving, but also at architecture.

Michelangelo probably reached his peak in Rome, where the Pope commissioned him many works. He died on the 18th of February 1564. He was buried in Florence, at the Basilica of Santa Croce.

Noise:

The Cappella Residence is a calm and quiet place. We therefore urge you to respect this tranquility. Televisions and radios may be used inside, as long as the sound is not audible outside the accommodation. Night rest must be respected.

Olive oil:

The olive grove at the Cappella Residence consists of about 1500 olive trees. The precious olive oil is extracted at the mill situated at the estate. Lorenzo will happily show you around.

You can purchase oil from the estate (Cappella Residence Extra Virgin) in limited quantity.

Pets:

Pets must not disturb the neighbours. Dogs must be kept on a leash around the houses and may not be left unattended (untimely barking).

There is a vet in Camaiore: **Dr. Nanda Dalle Luche**, tel. 0584 98 35 60.

Phone, fax, internet

There are no more landlines in the houses, but there is a landline and a fax in Lorenzo's office at the residence. Phone: 0584 98 38 13

Possible internet connection.

Puccini

Giacomo Puccini was born in Lucca in 1858, to a family of organists (4 generations). As a teenager, he was influenced by the success of *Aï da* the opera by Verdi which he attended in Pisa and turned towards opera.

Puccini's great operas are *Manon Lescaut* (1893), *La Bohème* (1896), *Tosca* (1900) and *Madame Butterfly* (1904). Puccini lived in a beautiful villa in Torre del Lago, by lake Massaciucoli, between Viareggio and Pisa. He died from throat cancer in 1924.

Restaurants

Restaurants with elements of added value: quality of the food, of the wines, of the setting, etc.

- **Emilio e Bona, Lombrici**, phone: 0584 98 92 89. Former mill set in a gorge. Very nice dining room. Quality food and service. Follow the road signs **Lombrici**.
- **Da Alan**, via Vitt. Emanuele 26/28 Camaiore ; Good meat restaurant
- **La Dogana, Capezzano Pianore**, phone: 0584 91 51 59 (closed on Monday). On the road Camaiore-Pietrasanta.

- **Il Vignaccio, Santa Lucia**, phone: 0584 914 200. Drive up the road after the grocery store near the church in Montebello; winding road. Follow the road signs Santa Lucia. Terrace, nice view.
- **Ristorante Bernardone, Via Nocchi 110, Camaiore**, phone: 95 11 18. Just outside Camaiore in the direction of Lucca (closed on Wednesday). Wonderful setting. Typical regional cuisine.
- **Il Cavallino, Bianco Piazza XXIX Maggio**, phone: 0584 98 10 85. Good meat restaurant.
- **Il Vignaccio, Santa Lucia**, phone: 0584 91 42 00. Typical regional cuisine.
- **Da Beppino, via di Valdicastello** (direction Pietrasanta), phone: 0584 79 04 00. Brochettes. Typical cuisine.
- **Buonamico, via s. andrea 27, Viareggio**, phone: 0584 94 32 66. Good fish restaurant.

Pizzerias

- **La Piazza, Piazza San Bernardino, Camaiore**, phone: 0584 98 93 94. Very good pizza on the village square in summer.
- **Europa**, on the beach, **Lido di Camaiore**. Good, not expensive.
- **Enoteca Marcucci, Pietrasanta**; pedestrian zone.
- **Ristorante Colosseo, via Tabarrini, Camaiore**
- **Ristorante Le Monache, Camaiore**
- **Ristorante Il Capriccio, Via Provinciale 2, Camaiore**

Lorenzo and Piera will gladly recommend a restaurant to your taste.

Shops:

In Montebello

Food and grocery store: next to the church and at the lower end of the village

Bakery: at the lower end of the village, at the junction

Butcher's shop: at the lower end of the village, at the junction

In Camaiore

All types of shops. During the summer season, the supermarket Conad is also open on Sunday morning.

The shops are closed on Wednesday afternoon from 1 p.m. and on Sunday.

In the evening, shops usually close at 7.30 p.m .

Strikes:

Strikes sometimes disrupt the traffic, in particular when the fuel pump attendants are on strike. Service stations on the motorway provide fuel at any time, even when strikes take place. Rather than wait for hours at the Camaiore fuel station, you should drive to the motorway where you will find a service station between the Viareggio and Versilia exits.

Swimming pool

Pool of 8m. x 4m., 1,2m. deep.

The parents are liable for their children. They have to ensure their safety. They also have to make sure no damage is caused by their children.

Tosca:

Famous opera by Puccini. The central figure of the plot is Floria Tosca, famous singer.

Toscanini:

Reference to the famous Italian conductor. Born in Parma in 1867, Toscanini conducted the biggest orchestras in the world, from the Scala in Milan to the Metropolitan Opera in New York.

Water:

If your kitchen is equipped with two cold water taps, drinking water from the network is supplied by the isolated tap.

Water from the cistern is distributed by the tap in battery pack.

It is wiser to boil your water.

Weather:

The climate in Camaiore is mild.

The Cappella Residence, set on a hill, benefits from healthy and clean air, well above the mist of the shore.

Temperature is mild from May to October. However, the nights can be cool in the transitional months of spring and autumn.

If you are unfortunate enough to experience cold temperatures, spend an evening by the fireplace or by the wood stove, which all work very well. Our caretaker Luciano will provide the firewood. (See the **heating** section)

Weather forecast: phone 1911