

Accommodation etc around Castello Vicchiomaggio

Castello Vicchiomaggio

Via Vicchiomaggio 4, 50022 Greve in Chianti (FI), Italy
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Email Vicchiomaggio@vicchiomaggio.it web site www.vicchiomaggio.it

John Matta, the vineyard owner, and his able assistants Crisitina and Sandra will welcome you to this beautiful castle. Staying at the castle itself is highly recommended. The rooms are all self-catering with their own kitchen containing a gas hob, fridge, sink and storage space. Some basic provisions such as tea, coffee, portions of cereal and packet toast are provided. With a dining area, seating for relaxing, a television, safe, bathroom and comfortable beds, the suites are well presented and a perfect base for exploring the area.

Rooms can be booked via the web site or by phone and a 50% deposit is taken when you place your reservation. Remember to mention your WineShare membership to receive a 10% discount of the room hire. Do book for dinner at the castle as part of your stay; to enjoy the talents of their chef Francesco; in one of the fabulous dining rooms. Room costs vary depending on the size of the suite, from €100 per night for a double room. As the apartments are self-catering, breakfast is not included. (Minimum stay of three nights usually requested)

Corte di Valle

Azienda Agraria, SS 222 – Chiantigiana, Le Bolle 50022, Greve in Chianti.
Tel. (+39) 055 853 939 Fax. (+39) 055 854 4163
www.cortedivalle.it or www.cortedivalle.com

If you drive from Florence along the SS.222 you will find 'Corte di Valle' on the right, after exiting the small town of Chiochchio. If you get to the turning to Castello Vicchiomaggio, turn around, you've come too far. The barrel at the roadside should grab your attention.

Very convenient for the Castello, but on a busy road so walking to and from is not advised – especially at night. Currently they do not accept credit cards. For the weekend of the vintage rooms a special rate of €90 per double room has been negotiated (usually €110) for bed and breakfast. The Villa Padronale, the main house, offers a romantic atmosphere whilst the Cassa di Caccia, the hunting lodge, and the Casa del Bosco, the wood house, are more traditionally furnished. All rooms have satellite television, mini bar and a private bathroom. In a beautiful setting, with it's own pool, bar, terrace, and restaurant for breakfasts (and evening meals on request).

Locando de Gallo

Via Lando Conti, 16-18- 50020 Chiochchio, Greve in Chianti.
Tel. / Fax. (+39) 055 857 2266
www.locandailgallo.it email mail@locandailgallo.it

This hotel is both a fantastic restaurant and a comfortable place to stay. Tessa Cain ate here whilst visiting the area and reports great food at good prices and an extensive but not expensive wine list. All rooms have a refrigerator, air conditioning/heating, TV, private bathroom, hairdryer, telephone and safe. Expect to pay from €80 for a double room, €55 for single occupancy (Price includes breakfast). It is worth noting that there is a 10% discount on stays longer than three days. Coming from Florence direction, Locanda il Gallo is on the left. There is parking on the opposite side of the road. Registered with 'Logis d'Italia'. Everybody who stayed here thoroughly enjoyed the experience. The hotel owner arranges coaches for all the events over the vintage weekend.

Albergo del Chianti

Piazza G. Matteotti, 86 50022 Greve in Chianti
Tel. (+39) 055 853 763 Fax. (+39) 055 853 764
www.albergodelchianti.it email. info@albergodelchianti.it or delchianti@venere.com

Situated in the main square in the town of Greve, this hotel is just a few kilometres from the vineyard. In the corner of the square the frontage hides its large garden, pool and terraced dining area at the rear, for summer enjoyment. All 16 rooms are equipped with shower, WC, mini-bar, telephone, air conditioning / heating, and satellite television. €95 for a double room including buffet style breakfast.

Il leccio

Via Case Sparse, 35 50027 Strada in Chianti
Tel (+39)055 858 6103 Fax (+39) 055 858 6106
www.agriturismoilleccio.it

A WineShare member stayed here in October 2004 and found it to be 'very comfortable, charming and inexpensive'. About 10 minutes drive from Castello Vicchiomaggio. Evening meals are served three times a week and breakfast is buffet style.

PLACES TO VISIT, SHOP OR EAT AT

GREVE-IN-CHIANTI

This is the closest town to the Castello, about 4km to the south. They have a mixed food and clothes market on a Saturday morning and an antique market on a Sunday morning.

Wine Shop (Cantine)

A shop, small wine related museum and fun tasting area. This is a must if you want to try 60+ wines in one place. You buy a credit card for €10 to €25 and then charge your tasting sample to your card. It's fun and informative. You'll find the Cantine located behind and to the right of the Coop supermarket on the main street through Greve. It is open all day and you can buy a plate of mixed bruschette to munch on while you taste.

LBG

A leather factory with a discount shop and factory tour. Situated on the outskirts of Greve in Via G. Pastore (to the left of the main road as you head north out of town). They are open mornings Monday to Saturday and afternoons Monday to Friday. Call 0055 8544720 – Stephania de Bianco speaks perfect English and she is the PR Manager. We bought fantastic quality wallets and handbags there at rather keen prices.

Ristorante Nerbone

A small cantine located in the town square of Greve. On the side nearest the main road. A limited menu and wine list, but the food was tasty and filling. Remember Spaghetti and Bolognese sauce don't exist in Tuscany, its Pappardelle and Pomodoro sauce! Three of us each had a large bowl of pasta with a bottle of 1997 Chianti Classico Riserva and the bill was €51 (roughly £36) in October 2004.

SAN GIMIGNANO

About 1½ hours drive south and west of the Castello, but beware, it takes longer to drive back. The Tourist information centre has a superb map of the town. It is located in the town square, so just head for the tallest tower. Sit a while in the lower square and enjoy the tourists wandering by with glass of Vernaccia di San Gimignano, their local white wine that is quite delicious.

Museo Storico della Tortura

We could not decide whether to visit this or the church in the main square or the torture museum, and the coin fell this side up. It costs €8 per person; the museum is interesting and has graphic English descriptions of how each contraption was used. Interesting, but not somewhere I wanted to go to twice.

Musei Civici di San Gimignano

This encompasses the tallest tower in the town that you can climb up through to the bell tower roof. Worth the climb as the views are fantastic. It costs just €5 per person and includes some lower rooms with some amusing 13th century frescos and various religious relics and paintings.

PANZANO

Located five minutes drive south of Greve-in-Chianti. They have a market here on a Saturday morning, which is a mix of food and car-boot.

Cantaride

Hand made leather clothes, shoes and lady's handbags. The shop is open all week and the staff speak English. The clothes are of a very high quality and made on the premises (in front of you). Ladies shoes start from €90 and men's jackets from €440. Although they have a range on show for you to buy off the peg, you can order a tailored item and they will ship it to the UK for you, the only additional cost is the shipping. They are located in Via G da Verrazano, which feeds off to the right from the middle of the village (top of the hill as you bend to the left when driving south).



Castello Vicchiomaggio

Apartments on a wine estate (Agriturismo)

Castello Vicchiomaggio is a splendid Renaissance castle with holiday apartments in the main Castle building and two external farmhouses. The architecture of the rooms is original 16th century and earlier. All apartments, available all year, have a modern bathroom, fully equipped kitchen, TV sat, safe, hairdryer and iron.

A splendid swimming pool, south facing, with unique views over the Greve valley and a large sun bed area, will be open from 1st May 2007 to 16th October 2007.

Quoted prices include sheets, towels, heating and breakfast supplies. For each night booked, you will be provided with: milk, butter, biscuits, jam, tea, coffee and sugar.

Bed making and cleaning is not included. This service is available, if desired (Sunday excluded) on request.

TYPE A: 1 double bedroom, sitting room with double divan bed for 2, kitchen/dining room, bathroom.

TYPE B: 1 double bedroom, kitchen/living room with double divan bed for 2, bathroom.

TYPE C: 1 large double bedroom/living room, small kitchen, bathroom, *+ 1 child's bed.

TYPE D: a country farm house 800 mt. from the main Castle building, 3 double bedrooms, kitchen, sitting room, one bathroom.

TYPE E: 100 m from the castle, a delightful 2 room individual stone farm house with views over the Greve Valley. Double bedroom with balcony and bathroom on 1st floor, kitchen-dining room with terrace on ground floor, *+ 1 small child's bed in dining room (max. 4 years old).

TYPE F: 2 double bedrooms, vast sitting room with divan bed for *2 children, kitchen/dining room, 2 bathrooms.

TYPE G: 2 double bedrooms*, sitting room/kitchen, bathroom. a child's bed up To 10 years old can be placed in a bedroom.

APARTMENT TYPE	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
NUMBER OF ROOMS	3	2	1	5	2	4	3
CAN ACCOMODATE	2/4	2/4	2+1*	6	2+1*	4+2*	4+1*
23rd September 06 to 6 th April 07 4 th November 2007 to 22nd March 08 Daily rate in Euro	141	127	100	160	110	189	158
7 th April 07 to 3 rd November 07 Daily rate in Euro	151	136	112	195	125	198	166

"Early booking week": stay 7 nights, Saturday to Saturday pay only 6, valid for any week of the year providing reservation is confirmed 3 months before.

TO MAKE A DEFINITIVE RESERVATION WE REQUEST A 50% NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT, WHICH CAN BE PAID USING YOUR VISA OR MASTERCARD. BALANCE TO BE SETTLED ON ARRIVAL.

Check in time is from 14:30 to 17:00 hrs, late arrivals are not possible as we have no concierge.

Arrivals on Saturdays between 3 and 5 p.m. - Departures on Saturdays by 9:00 am.

No dogs (any size) or other animals permitted.

For further information please contact Castello Vicchiomaggio

Tel. 055/854.079, fax 055/853.911 - www.vicchiomaggio.it - vicchiomaggio@vicchiomaggio.it info@vicchiomaggio.it

This list supersedes all previous ones.