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BORGO SCOPETO RELAIS

Behold the Charms of the Italian Countryside

By JULIE SAGOSKIN

Prepared to be amazed by the beauty of Borgo Scopeto Relais, a member of the prestigious Condé Nast Johansens and a four-star stately Tuscan estate perched in the Chianti Hills with stunning views of Siena. Restoration efforts have brought the original elegance of the Borgo back to life, so you can go back in time while enjoying all of Tuscany's treasures both on and around the property. From spacious suites to your own private villa, you can enjoy the best of the Borgo Scopeto Relais, including breathtaking scenery of nearby towns and vineyards, so get ready to raise a glass to your Tuscan trip with the Borgo's own Chianti Classico, of course!

Get cozy at this countryside estate, the former residence of the Sozzini dynasty for over five decades, which is now one of the area's most exclusive hotels. Steeped in history with stunning views of the Mangia Tower, the rolling Chianti hills and the cathedral's belfry, this is one of the most desirable and unique properties in all of Italy. With international touches and a spa, pool and products made right on the premises, you can become instantly immersed in Italian culture.

The classic and deluxe rooms which are comprised of either one double bed or twin beds, exude Old School charm but are also equipped with modern appliances and amenities. Relax in the Junior Suite or the more spacious Executive Suite which is big enough to fit your family and friends, or take in the views on the terrace at your own villa, a beautifully appointed apartment with an individual entrance, private garden, and a separate living room with a sofa bed.

Step into the old cellars of the Borgo and enjoy a rustic yet romantic ambiance complete with brick arches at their La Tinaia restaurant. Each divine dish tastes even more delicious when you're surrounded by traditional décor and the sunset overlooking Siena. La Tinaia, which showcases

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the region's local flavors, is known for putting innovative twists on traditional recipes – chow down!

With olive trees on the property and the nearby Borgo Scopeto winery with vineyards containing Sangiovese grapes, you are going to want to bring home some of their Chianti Classico and Extra Virgin olive oil. Their Dop Oil, made from Moraiolo, Leccino and Frantoio olives have a savory and spicy flavor complete with aromatic notes of dried fruit. The oil is dietetic and easy to digest with low acidity - forget about farm to table, it's all about vineyard to table!

Find serenity at the property's Wellness Centre, the former stable area, where you can forget about life's distractions while you detoxify surrounded by the vapors of the hammam and the heat of the sauna. Enjoy herbal teas, infusions and even an herb garden in their relaxation area set amidst the charming Tuscan countryside. The Borgo also boasts their own cosmetics products which are made with the grapes and olive trees around the property, so you can keep your Mediterranean glow all year long. The Oil and Sage line nourishes skin naturally with the unique properties of their olive oil, while the Grape and Cypress line moisturizes and oxygenates, so you can continue to soak up the sun.

Dive into their outdoor swimming pools, take in the sun on the solarium terrace or get in shape with their state-of-the-art gym equipment so you can eat all the pizza and pasta you want on your Tuscan trip! Guests can also use the hotel's racquets on one of their two tennis courts or grab a bike – or Vespa - which was invented in Tuscany, and explore the Borgo Scopeto wines, Chianti Sculpture Park, medieval castles, stone villages and villas between vineyards and rows of cypress. You can also rent go-karts or Alfa Romeo sports cars nearby or even find some Italian fashions at the area's outlet malls.

From meetings to memorable events, the Borgo Scopeto Relais is the perfect place to gather a group for any occasion. From cocktails in the gardens to receptions on the terrace or in the old wine cellar, your boardroom meeting, or big day, is sure to be taken to new Tuscan heights! With two meeting rooms, from the modern La Balzana to the cozy Del Caminetto featuring an old fireplace, you will be able to get your work done while enjoying scenic views and world-class cuisine - if you are able to focus on your work, that is! The staff, along with Italy's leading wedding planners, work together to ensure you have the best day of your life - all of your guests will feel like they're on their own honeymoon when they stay at this charming estate. The estate's elegance and rustic appeal have also been featured in films including Letters to Juliet - it doesn't get any more romantic than that! +

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