

Masseria Trapana, Puglia, Italy

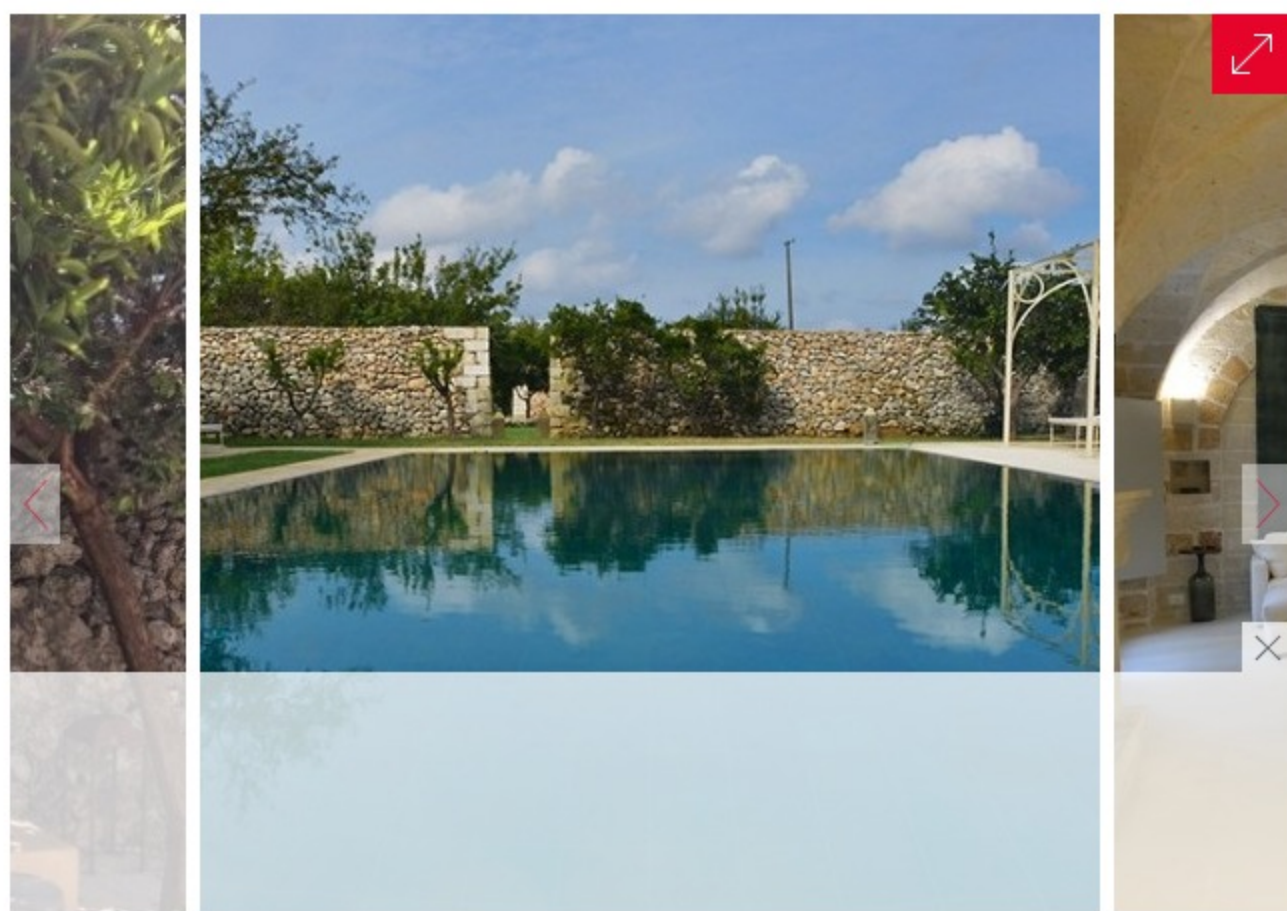


LECCE, ITALY | FROM ££250 PER ROOM, PER NIGHT



By Oonagh Brennan Posted on August 14, 2017

A twinkling oasis set amongst olive and lemon trees



BOUTIQUE / ROMANTIC GETAWAY

Strada Provinciale 236, Surbo, Lecce, 73100, Italy

Red Review

I love new experiences and fresh adventures, so there aren't many hotels I would happily return to every holiday for the rest of my life. But then not many hotels are Masseria Trapana, a twinkling oasis set amongst olive and lemon trees nestled right down in the heel of Italy. This is the one place in the world I would happily re-book time and time again.

From the moment my partner and I arrived at the hotel's imposing 16th century wooden door and stepped into the lantern lit courtyard we felt like we'd come home. Only to a much much better version of home, because here cold glasses of champagne are handed to you as you walk through the door, huge bottles of Aesop products line the marble shelves in the bathroom, there's an outdoor bath in your own private garden big enough for two and the beds are so impressive I had to take a running jump to get in.

There are also sun hats piled up by the pool for guests to use and the sun beds are indulgently large, the size of a small double bed in fact.

In this home the rooms magically tidy themselves while you laze around the grounds or have a **private yoga lesson** in the gardens; big bottles of muscle relaxing magnesium salts are left by your bath tub, mineral water appears by your bedside every night and there's a direct line to the bar from your room.

Australian-owner Rob really puts his guests right at the heart of his nine bedroom Masseria but in the most relaxed way. Don't expect obsequious waiters, fussy service or formality of any kind. Here you can freely pad barefoot around the chic open plan sitting area and eat breakfast whenever you wake up (breakfast is served until the last guest rises. Rumour has it one guest slept in until 3pm, so **breakfast** was served until teatime. Now that's my kind of hotel).

It's big enough for peace and tranquillity (you never have to reserve any of the hammocks dotted about the tranquil gardens for an afternoon snooze) but also small enough that staff remember you like a skinny cappuccino every morning (which I do). Here the pressures of everyday life melt away on the lemon scented air, you don't even need to choose your evening meal, there's a set menu each night served on the terrace (all preferences catered for, of course) so you get what you're given, just like at home.

For our trip we flew to Bari airport which is a good two hours' drive from the hotel, (taxis are punishingly expensive so car hire is a must). The great news is that BA has now started flying direct from Heathrow's T5 to Brindisi airport which is only about 30 mins away making a **long weekend** tantalisingly easy for me.

Should you wish to tear yourself away from the sanctuary of the hotel, the beautiful Baroque city of Lecce is just a 10 minute drive away and two beach clubs Bacino Grande and Mora Mora around 40mins, the hotel has a partnership with both and will arrange transfers on request. But with the very exciting news of a spa being built underneath the hotel ready for 2018, I intend to stay firmly behind that big wooden door happily hauled up in my home away from home.

Rob get my cappuccino ready, I'm on my way back.

Highs

The stunning swimming pool and extra large loungers. Heaven

The outdoor bath tub. It's big enough for two in your own private garden

The atmosphere. Relaxed, happy, healing and restorative

The bedrooms. Cloud like mattresses, sumptuous linen, Aesop products.

Breakfast. Have it whenever you wake up.

Lows

If you like options at dinner there is only a nightly set menu at the Trapana although nearby Lecce has plenty of options if you want to adventure out.

Need to Know

Suites : 9

Pool : Yes

Check In: 3pm

Check Out: Noon

Private Parking: Yes

Child Friendly: No

Pet Friendly: No

To Book: Visit www.trapana.com



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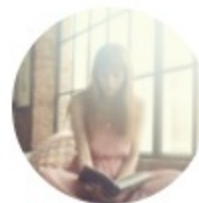
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