



WE LOVE

HOTEL MONTEVERDI

Exquisitely restored ancient stone buildings, modern rustic décor and breathtaking views combine to create this little piece of heaven in central Italy

Nestled in the medieval hilltop hamlet of Castiglioncello del Trinoro, in the Unesco World Heritage Site of Val d'Orcia in Tuscany, is the beautiful Hotel Monteverdi. Spine-tingling views of the surrounding valleys and hills are balanced by the palpable sense of calm that radiates from its stone walls, while the interior has been sensitively restored by designer Ilaria Miani to create a perfect harmony of old and new.

Ancient beams, arches and stairways provide the backdrop for the finest linens, fabrics and furniture, designed and produced by local artisans. All of the rooms exude rustic sophistication, with open fireplaces,

large private gardens, 18th-century copper baths and waterfall showers stocked with heavenly organic La Saponaria toiletries. The whole experience is a tonic for the senses.

Once your equilibrium has been restored, there's plenty to see and do. Wander along the village's picturesque cobblestone streets, home to a fine dining restaurant, wine bar, contemporary art gallery, church and even an Etruscan dig. Or choose from one of the hotel's cooking classes or farm and wine tours to learn more about the fascinating culinary and social history of the area. However you spend your time in this magical location, you'll return enlightened and enriched.

NEED TO KNOW

- Hotel Monteverdi has three buildings, with four rooms and six suites, from €450 per night.
- **Dine in the Oreade restaurant, where chef Giancarla Bodoni's dishes are made from fresh, seasonal Tuscan ingredients.**
- This year sees the launch of the Monteverdi Cooking Academy, which will take place in spring (2 to 6 April) and autumn (26 to 30 October).
- **The hotel runs a yearly artist- and scholar-in-residence programme and a gallery.**
- Via di Mezzo, Castiglioncello del Trinoro, 53047 Sarteano. 0039 0578 268146. monteverdituscany.com. □

TAKE IT HOME *Ideas for recreating the rustic-chic style of the rooms*



Pom Pom blanket in Multicoloured, 200x300cm, **£149**, Maud Interiors, 020 8675 4637, maudinteriors.com.



Brucs small old pine chest, H35x W60xD40cm, **£348**, Occa-Home, 0330 363 0330, occa-home.co.uk.

Arabesque standing lamp, H136xW48 xD19cm, **£190**, Oka, 0844 815 7380, okadirect.com.



Le Parc armchair, H71xW70xD85cm, **£2,480**, Minotti, 020 7323 3233, minottilondon.com.