## Tuscany's Enticing New Spa is a Minimalist Paradise With Soaking Tubs

by Katie James August 24, 2015









## Treatments feature products from an apothecary founded by 13th-century Dominican friars.

It's hard to imagine why a traveler in Tuscany would have need to relax—what with the Italian countryside's rolling landscapes, cobblestone towns, and heavenly array of meats, cheeses, and wines.

But, then again, it's easy to see how a wellness retreat like Monteverdi Tuscany's new spa fits in here.

Set the medieval village of Castiglioncello del Trinoro, Monteverdi Tuscany is 12-room boutique hotel, with a contemporary art gallery, fine-dining restaurant, and pretty much perfect outdoor swimming pool.

The hotel's new star, however, is undoubtedly the on-site spa, which opened this month.

Treatments will feature products exclusively from Farmaceutica di Santa Maria Novella, one of the world's oldest pharmacies. The ancient apothecary—founded in the 13th-century by Dominican friars—follows age-old recipes that combine local herbs, plants, and flowers.

The space itself is a study in austere beauty—from light wooden floors to exposed ceiling beams. Not for decoration are the spa's soaking tubs, which sit on an outdoor patio overlooking the Val d'Orcia. They're used during treatments like the Full Monteverdi, a heavenly full-body experience that begins with an exfoliating salt scrub, followed by 30 minutes of soaking, and finishing with a revitalizing 75-minute massage. *Paradiso*, indeed.