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La Bandita, a lovely little hotel in Val D'Orcia

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You won't reach **La Bandita** too easily. This refuge is located south of Siena, at the end of a long country road. But once you are there, **the magnificent views on the Val D'Orcia natural landscape** is breathtaking.

Halfway between an elegant private villa and a classy country house, La Bandita is a luxury hotel with 8 spacious rooms with air conditioning, free wifi and refined linen. The kitchen, where you find a large wooden table and a record player with its broad vinyl collection, is on the ground floor, while upstairs is the living room with a nice fireplace.

Outside, a **beautiful infinity pool** overlooks La Bandita two acres terrain.

Surrounded by undulating grazing fields, monasteries and small fortified villages which have remained almost the same as 500 years ago, it is not hard to lose track of time here. By the end of the day you

might even find yourself following some flock of sheep returning to its barn along the stone paths.

It was a couple from New York who turned La Bandita into one of the most sought-after destinations in Tuscany, bringing a touch of internationality among the hotels of the area.

Informal luxury, personalized service and contemporary design are the hallmarks of this once abandoned farm which was restored by the DA Studio in Florence and London designers Ab Rogers. Using traditional materials of the old Tuscan houses such as dark woods, heavy fabrics and small windows, they have reinvented their rustic aesthetics, creating a magnificent modern villa, airy and full of light.

For 'non lazy' guests there is a variety of activities offered by the owner, John Voigtmann. La Bandita is the ideal retreat for families and groups of friends who want to spend an unforgettable holiday together, immersed in the beautiful Tuscan countryside, enjoying chef

David's exceptional menu accompanied by a delicious Brunello di Montalcino, on the pergola. **It is possible to rent the entire facility for weddings and other special events.**



It ranges from **visiting movie sets of famous films such as Gladiator and The English Patient**, to cooking and yoga classes, sport activities such as golf in the Valdichiana and balloon

flights in Montisi, to wine tours.

In the immediate surroundings are in fact the vineyards of Montalcino and Montepulciano but also the medieval town Bagno Vignoni, a thermal resort, ancient monasteries, and the **beautiful village of Pienza**, a World Heritage Site. Florence is only an hour and a half away.

La Bandita:

- Località Lucciola Bella, Pienza (SI)
- +39 3334046704
- info@la-bandita.com
- www.la-bandita.com





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