

The Olive Mill – Agriturismo Farmhouse: Puglia

Summary

If you've ever dreamed of giving up the rat race, this charming farmhouse in Puglia will certainly inspire you. Its proud owners, did just that 12 years ago when they bought this enchanting 500 year old agriturismo farmhouse in the heart of Puglia (Apulia), and set about making it into the peaceful retreat it is today. Dedicated to the enjoyment of the finer things in life, the Olive Mill exudes style and taste. The romantic and stylish farmhouse makes a perfect base from which to explore Puglia, although with a vast estate and delicious food and wine on your doorstep, you may never want to set foot outside the grounds.

Details

Once you have settled in you will be shown around the farmhouse's many hidden treasures. Inside the house you will find salons (all beautifully furnished with period pieces and family heirlooms) and a library of antique books. There's even a gramophone complete with 1940's records. The bedrooms, all with patiently restored terracotta floors, are furnished in period country style.

Outside the farmhouse is an elegant stone courtyard dotted with exotic palm trees. A breakfast of home-baked cakes, breads and jams is served here every morning. Guests can stroll around the walled citrus gardens, given a romantic air at night by candlelit pathways, or the several levels of terraced herb and flower gardens.

Standing in the welcome cool breeze enjoyed by these raised gardens (which the owner calls "God's air conditioning"), he will point out to you the ingredients that will later be used for dinner.

The agriturismo restaurant at the farmhouse enjoys a reputation next to none in the area, so it's well worth booking early. An incredible 11 dishes will be served to you with accompanying wines, all made from the organic and wild ingredients from the gardens. Beyond the walled courtyard of the Olive Mill lie 72 hectares of estate to explore. You can burn off any overindulgence by hiking, mountain biking, or even horse-riding from the farmhouse stables. For a more sedate alternative, your host will give you a tour of the estate in his vintage car.

For more images see www.c-boutiquehotels.com
To book this hotel call **08717 500070**



Facts & Figures

8 Guest Rooms:

- Double/Twin - one with balcony and some with kitchenettes
 - Superior Double - Some featuring a beautiful view over the lawn and the private courtyard, these comfortable rooms are tastefully furnished with wrought-iron beds and gorgeous floors. Robes and house farm products are included
 - Self-Catering Apartment with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and kitchen
- All rooms have - Ensuite bathrooms – Fans*

Farmhouse Facilities: Terrace - Gardens and 72 hectare estate - Chapel - Restaurant (open at least once a week; more often in high season); Lunches on request - Own products available for purchase, e.g. preserves, olive oil -

Also Available at and around hotel (extra cost): Access to nearby private beaches (with free umbrella, chairs and towels) -Tours of grounds in vintage car - Horse-riding - Mountain bikes - Guided walks

Regional Highlights

- Horse-riding and biking in the olive groves and vineyards; water-sports
- Golf at one of the Puglia's 5 PGA coastal courses
- Ostuni, Cisternino, Fasano and Martina Franca – all typical hilltop white-washed towns packed with sights of historic and cultural importance
- Alberobello, the fairytale town composed entirely of Puglia's characteristic conical peasant houses
- Tour of the grottoes at Castellana, famous for their gargantuan rock formations
- Lecce, known as "The Florence of the South" and Galatina, both medieval towns with florid baroque architecture
- At and around the hotel – tour the 72 hectare estate in a vintage car, enjoy an 11 course dinner, go horse-riding to the beach
- For the children – a trip to the Zoosafari near Fasano

Location

Nearest airport:	Bari or Brindisi (c.45min)
Domestic flight connections:	Rome, Venice, Milan
Nearest direct flight from London:	Bari
Nearest train station:	Fasano (c.15min drive)
Beach:	c.5km
Nearest shops and restaurants:	c.2km

