

Villetta Mimma Vittoria

FAQ

Traveling on vacation and renting a villa can be an exciting adventure, so we try our best to educate our clients on what to expect so there's no surprises. Below are answers to many FAQ you may have before you book and confirm our villa. If there's something that we haven't covered please contact us and we'll be happy to get back with you within 48 hours.

- 1- How do I book your villa?
- 2- What is the Exterior description of the villa?
- 3- What is the interior description of the villa?
- 4- What can we do to relax at the villa?
- 5- How do we get to the villa?
- 6- What's the weather like in Calabria?
- 7- Can we use the kitchen?
- 8- What's the best way to get around the area?
- 9- What kind of gifts can we bring back home for friends and family?
- 10- How do we stay in touch via telephone & internet?
- 11- What are your rates?

1- BOOKING OUR VILLA:

We book on a first come first served basis. Please review our calendar below and advise/confirm with us of your choice week(s). A 50% deposit is required to book the villa and take your selected week(s) off the market and the balance is due 60 days prior to the arrival date. It can be paid online via a secure site called Paypal (you can use any credit card) or by bank transfer wire or cashiers check to our account in the USA. (if you decide on the later we will send you our banking information and address). A 500 Euro (or USD Equivalent) security/damage deposit is required to be paid in cash upon your arrival to the keyholder. If there is no damage to our villa, it will be returned to you 21 days within your departure. If you choose to not use our telecom services the security/damage deposit will be returned to you soon upon departure. Please review our Booking Terms & Conditions attached in order that you book with more confidence.

Once final payment is made, we will send you our 'world famous' complete and extensive voucher package that contains many info sheets, directions, tips, brochures, maps, itineraries, music CD etc to help you plan a safe, successful and memorable vacation in Calabria. (Please review our Sample Itinerary fact sheet attached... you'll receive as an example of what's in the voucher package).

2- EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION:

A charming townhouse in the small seaside port village of Gioia Tauro (southern Italy -tip of the boot), the Villetta (1000 meters distant from the beach) features exposed beam ceilings and terra cotta floors. It is decorated in a tasteful, minimalist style and offers all modern amenities. A gated walkway outside the property is equipped with an outdoor shower, barbecue, and storage space for beach gear and rental bikes.

Gioia Tauro has both a train station (500 m away at Piazza Marconi) and a bus station (1 km away). The nearest food shop (20m), supermarket (100m,) restaurant (300m), and Laundromat (400m) are within easy reach on foot. The nearest town over is Palmi (7 km). There's a telephone/fax and internet connection at the property, cell phones which operate with a prepaid Telephone card are available for rental. Parking is available on the street in front of the property. The ground floor is handicap accessible (there is a full size sofa bed). The closest airports are Reggio Calabria (50 km away) or Lamezia Terme (70 km away).

3- INTERIOR DESCRIPTION:

Two floors: Ground floor- There is an open plan living room with double leather sofa bed, a dining room with wood burning Franklin fireplace, and a Stainless Steel American-style kitchen. There is one bathroom with toilet, sink and handheld shower. A marble staircase leads to the first floor. First floor- There is a large double bedroom queen-size bed with skylight, walk-in closet, and small balcony. There is a second, smaller bedroom queen-size bed with custom built-in closet. The bedrooms share one large bathroom with tub and 10 inch rain shower head. All windows are equipped with screens. The amenities include air conditioning, telephone, fax, internet connection, barbecue, microwave, freezer, oven, full stereo system, TV, VCR, DVD, hair dryer, washing machine, and espresso /American coffee maker. Extra amenities at (an additional cost) include electric/heating, cook, maid service, cell phone rental at 25 Euros per week plus the cost of a pre-paid Tel card, and extra linen changes.

4- RELAXING AT OUR VILLA:

Villetta Mimma Vittoria has been tastefully renovated to the highest North American standards with all modern amenities and is posted as a Non Smoking home. It has been in our family for generations and we look forward to sharing it with travelers ready for a Calabrian adventure.

We pride ourselves on personalized service, and know Calabria very well. As a result we have received all positive comments from past rental clients. Click on our guest book link below to read what others have said about Villetta Mimma Vittoria.

5- GETTING THERE:

Acceptable arrival times are from 4-8pm on Saturdays and departure is by 9am on Saturdays. We book a minimum of 7 days. (Saturday to Saturday).

The region of Calabria is at the tip of the Italian peninsula. Please click on our mapping service below and zoom out to see where we are located in relation to the rest of Italy. We would suggest you fly into Reggio Calabria airport (50 Km from the villa) however, there are at least 5 other airports to choose from depending on your travel plans. Auto rentals are available at all the airports... as well as a Mercedes Benz auto rental establishment in Gioia Tauro.

FYI...we can help arrange Round Trip airport car service for you once you let us know your travel itinerary. If you need a driver/guide to get around in Calabria please advise, as our keyholder (can be hired to help you with this).

If you wish to arrive by train, Gioia Tauro's train station is a short 6 minute walk away. As a courtesy we can have the keyholder pick you and your luggage up at the station. Just give us your travel itinerary 1 week before and he'll be waiting for you.

We're attaching a proximity chart for your review, so you can see all the wonderful points of interest and amenities near our villa.

6- THE SEASONS:

Calabrians enjoy summer weather 6 months of the year. If you prefer a sunbathing vacation and book our villa during mid-high-peak seasons, the weather is predictably hot in Calabria. There are many festivities and free outdoor concerts held in our town of Gioia Tauro. The boardwalk (Lungomare) has several lido/restaurants that one can enjoy the light breeze coming in from the Mediterranean Sea while dining. FYI... because it's very hot in Calabria during the summer months and great for going to the beach to cool down, we have an outdoor shower/foot wash upon ones return from the Gioia Tauro pebble/sand beach which (1.2 km) is only a 13 minute walk from the villetta. See our Climate in Calabria chart for your review on our website. www.villettamimmavittoria.com/ Once you're inside the spa-like villa...no worries...Our villetta is a sanctuary and has climate control Air Conditioning & Heating throughout...a rarity in Calabria.

If you prefer traveling during the olive harvest (when it's cool, less crowded and more affordable), book our villa during the low season. We would suggest you bring layered clothing wear if your plans are to go into the Calabrian National park/Aspromonte Mountains (30 minutes from the villa). Most of our relatives in town bring out their fine cashmere sweaters and jackets during the Olive oil harvest. (Nov to March)

Heat in the villetta is provided by various means...Fire wood for the Franklin fireplace is stocked in the outdoor shed and replenished by the keyholder and included in our price. We have a few portable DeLonghi oil filled radiators to keep the bathrooms nice and toasty and the dual setting wall mounted climate control units can be set to give you warm vented air.

We provide 300 thread count linen or flannel sheets, feather pillow top beds and goose down filled comforters to make your stay as enjoyable as possible. The floors are terra cotta and cool to the touch, so make sure you bring your house slippers with you.

7- DINING:

This is a self catering villa (where you have the use of the kitchen to cook your own meals) however, there are several fabulous restaurants in the area where you may want to treat yourself to a great Calabrian meal. There's also deliciously prepared dishes for takeout nearby and if you wish to have a personal chef shop and cook you some Calabrian meal(s) that can be arranged as well for an extra fee.

8- GETTING AROUND:

Having a car in Gioia Tauro will give you the most independence, however the train station is a short 6 minute walk away and there is limited public transportation in town. But for those who want to shed some of those pounds gained eating the wonderful Italian food, we have 2 adult bicycles at the villa for our rental clients to enjoy as well. You will always find parking (and it's permitted) on the street in front of the villa at all times.

9- BRINGING BACK GIFTS:

We make our private reserve products such as First cold pressed – extra virgin Olive Oil, Home made Red table wine and tasteful Tomato Sauce available exclusively to our rental clients for sale. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of these products benefit S.S. Maria del Portosalvo of Gioia Tauro (Gioia Tauro's patron saint of Sailors).

10- COMMUNICATION:

The keyholder with some hesitancy speaks some English and will answer your most urgent questions. He is very charming, hospitable and loves languages and will be happy if you teach him a few new words or phrases. Gioia Tauro is not a very trendy - touristy place and hence off the beaten path, so thus you will occasionally find someone who speaks English on the street or in shops. If you're looking to improve your Italian, Gioia Tauro is the place for the total Italian immersion experience. So far, all of our North American clients have commented on the warmth and hospitality of the Calabrian people. You would be surprised how far a few pleasantries in Italian will get you in Calabria. If you wish to purchase a Pocket Translator please visit our website and scroll down and click on the Ectaco logo. (please note that if you do and provide us with proof of purchase with Ectaco, we'll extend you a further discount on our base rental rate).

11- Rates:

Please e-mail us for our weekly rates. Villettamimma@nyc.rr.com

Renting a vacation home is a terrific way to experience Calabria. We very much appreciate your time and look forward to hearing from you with the hopes that you'll want to spend your vacation exploring Calabria, Italy.

Cheers,

Michele Castaldo
212-947-7271

Villetta Mimma Vittoria
Where the Sea Meets the Sky
Stylish Villa Rental in Calabria, Italy

www.villettamimmavittoria.com