

# *Casa Principessa*

*A Restored Italian Farmhouse*

## **Guestbook Comments**

**2010/2011/2012**

### **Guests from America - July 2012**

Principessa is an ideal place for a relaxing, real experience in Italy. The farmhouse has been beautifully restored. It's incredible views of rolling hillside, grazing sheep, and Sibillini mountains never ceased to amaze. The town of Gualdo could not be any sweeter. The shopkeepers and neighbors are incredibly warm and friendly. There are many darling hill towns to visit, and some good restaurants, but our group enjoyed cooking at home (have the Coal market get a kilo or two of homemade gnocchi), and swimming in the pool best. We hope to return soon. Thank you for a beautiful experience.

### **Guests from Australia - May 2012**

We recently spent six wonderful days at Casa Principessa and loved every aspect of this beautifully restored property. The home is large, luxuriously appointed, and the warm and friendly owners have provided everything needed to make time spent here a special experience. We particularly loved the pool, the open fireplace (the nights were still a little cool), the views from inside the house and on the terrace, the country kitchen and the spacious, beautifully decorated bedrooms. The surrounding countryside is almost picture perfect, but you are never far away from an array of villages, each with fascinating histories, delightful buildings, but also modern conveniences. The owners' directory highlights a range of local cafes and restaurants for those not wishing to self-cater. Casa Principessa ticks all the boxes. It is the ideal base for a luxury holiday to explore the Le Marche area and we look forward to coming back again to discover more of its gems.

### **Guests from Germany - August 2011**

We, two families with kids, very much enjoyed our stay at Casa Principessa. It offers absolutely everything necessary for a vacation in great comfort. We found everything we needed in the house. Casa Principessa is perfectly located in a rural area with a stunning view from the terrace/pool. This allowed us to achieve and enjoy our main objective - relaxing holidays. The spacious swimming pool is an eye-catcher not only when illuminated at night. A special Thank You goes to Janet who was one of the gems we found at Casa Principessa. We absolutely recommend Casa Principessa.

### **Guests from Denmark - July 2011**

When we booked our two-week holiday in the Marche, Casa Principessa was only available for our first week and we really hated leaving this wonderful place. The house is very nicely decorated, sober, but using fine materials. It's almost better equipped than our own house. The location is superb: a great view from the pool and terrace on Gualdo village and on the surrounding Sibillini mountains. Two terraces, so you are always sure to eat outside in the shadow. As for visiting the area, we'd recommend the smaller villages, such as San Ginesio, Sant'Angelo in Pontano, Caldarola, Amandola ..... not famous, but real-unspoiled villages .... and of course Ascoli Piceno (a one hour drive). Great place, great destination and great (and cheap!) local restaurants ..... we'll be back ;)

### **Guests from Australia - June 2011**

Our week at Casa Principessa was absolutely perfect - a stunning location, gorgeous house, and great weather. The region is stunning and has a lot to offer in terms of day trips, restaurants, and general sight seeing but you may have to force yourself to leave the house and the poolside. Casa Principessa is homely and comfortable, beautifully furnished and extensively equipped with every detail covered to help ensure an enjoyable stay. What a fabulous kitchen in which to cook meals with produce from the local markets! Lovely dining areas and lounge areas to eat and relax ... books, games, DVDs. We highly recommend arranging a visit from Elide and Adriana who can come to the house and cook for you. We can't speak highly enough of this lovely house and the hospitality of the hosts as well as the welcoming local community.

### **Guests from Australia & England - June 2011**

What a wonderful place to spend a relaxing week! The girls really enjoyed the pool - morning, noon and night!!! Coffee in Gualdo was a favourite. Views were very much appreciated and helped us all to relax and unwind. Check out the local markets if you're a shoe fan! The pizza oven was a real winner - delicious. Hope to return.

### **Guests from London, Germany & Australia - June 2011**

10 of us came to stay at Casa Principessa in the beginning of June. The photos of the property looked great but looked even better when we actually got there. We had more than we could ever ask for. The view of the hills, the mountains in the back drop, the pool and the villa were breathtaking. The serenity and all the comfort provided made our holiday something to remember. Sue and Rob thought of absolutely everything to make our stay and everyone's as relaxed and joyful as possible. When 10 people stay under one roof together sometimes issues can arise such as running out of plates, cups or cutlery but we had no such issues. They even gave us 2 potato peelers. We never ran out of anything. All information was very easy and simple to follow and filled our days with loads of joy. Thank you Sue and Rob for such a wonderful time and we will make sure we come back again.

### **Guests - August 2010**

What a wonderful time here and we had perfect weather until the last day. The markets were a treat and loved Macerata with and without the markets. The pool was lovely and we loved swimming at night with the lights on. We all loved Lago di Fiastra - a lake in the mountains. We had an amazing meal at Pippo & Gabrielle's restaurant. In the mornings a few of us would go to the cafe in Gualdo. We recommend getting bread from the baker.

### **Guests from Sussex, England - August 2010**

Casa Principessa is a wonderful place for a perfect Italian holiday. The house is unusually well equipped and therefore perfect for those who wish to take advantage of excellent Italian produce. It is also surrounded by a number of very good restaurants for those who holiday to escape the kitchen. The lovely thing about the house is that it is far enough from the village to be isolated but near enough so that it is not lonely. We spent a lot of time with our teenage (and younger) children by the pool, venturing out on cultural and shopping trips from time to time - excellent and really good value shoe and leather outlet shops are 40 minutes or so away. In the other direction is the very elegant Ascoli

Piceno which was holding the basil festival on the day we visited - which meant a Verdi Brass Band travelled through town after which there was what was obviously a serious cycle race within the city walls. The last time we had been there many of the hills around the city had caught fire. There's always something! There is a fabulous vinyard just outside Serrapetrona (40 minutes or so away) which has a special pudding wine (Sommo) and a delicious rich red (Robionne). The views in to the mountains (you must visit Castel Lucia for lentils) are wonderful. A strong recommendation from us.

#### **Guests from Belgium - July 2010**

What a lovely place! We all enjoyed the charming house, which is decorated with good taste and the superb views and nature. This was a real 'zen' experience. Special thanks to David and Janet who made us feel welcome and at home. We hope we can come again!

#### **Guests from Chicago, US - July 2010**

We've had a wonderful week at Casa Principessa! Only went too fast. We have rented many vacation homes over the years and this was the best! The pool was a real treat, as were the views and the firefly laser-show in the evening walking up the road. Only complaint: we couldn't seem to access the FIFA games on Sky, but Wimbledon was a good substitute. We especially appreciated the welcome from Janet and the initial provisions: a really nice touch! Also the travel suggestions were a great help. Hope to be back soon.

#### **Guests from Belgium - July 2010**

We had a great time in Casa Principessa. The weather was tropic, the stay in the lovely house was perfect. We have to come back again to see more of this lovely region.

#### **Guests from London, England - July 2010**

We had a wonderful week at this gorgeous house. Extremely comfortable and well equipped. The property is very well maintained and the level of service and information provided before and during the holiday was excellent. The area has some of the most stunning scenery I have encountered and it was a joy to drive to neighbouring towns and villages to explore. It is a five minute drive to the nearest village and local shops where we were able to buy everything we needed during our stay without the need to visit a super-market. This is a super house in a lovely area and we very much hope to return in the future.

### **Guests from Melbourne, Australia - June 2010**

Our time at Casa Principessa was the highlight of our travels around Europe! The drive from Rome through the countryside went by quickly as we planned our activities for the next five days - sleeping, reading, swimming, wining and dining. Having heard fabulous things about the villa from friends, our expectations were pretty high but Casa Principessa did not disappoint. The house has been beautifully restored, with the owners' care to maintain the original charm very apparent. The fit out is rustic luxury with provincial style furniture such as big wooden tables, wrought iron beds and cosy couches combined with modern luxuries including dishwasher, temperature settings in the showers and wireless internet. Arriving in June, the temperature sat around 27 degrees so a lot of our time was spent by the pool. The view from here is AMAZING! Even though it was summer, the mountains in the distance still had snow on their peaks and the sun shining into the valley lit up the nearby villages of Sonarno and Gualdo. This was the perfect spot to relax and do absolutely nothing. Being in Italy, a major focus of our holiday was food, and the region offered some of the yummiest experiences of my life. On our first night, the owners had kindly arranged for two local ladies to come to the house and cook dinner using fresh produce from their own gardens. Delicious doesn't even begin to describe the meal that came out of the kitchen that night - bruschetta, frittata, tagliatelle and two desserts. Needless to say we felt very spoiled. Other foodie adventures included morning coffee and pastry in Sonarno, pistachio gelato by the pool, buying fresh produce at the Gualdo markets for a pizza party and a 12 course degustation in an old castle where each course highlighted traditional dishes from the area. Something that is so endearing about the area is how endlessly friendly the locals are. We were told that the people from that part of Italy have one of the longest life spans in the world and after spending time there; it's easy to see why. Everybody is so relaxed and makes it a priority to enjoy the best things in life. Casa Principessa is a wonderful home and place to relax, spend time with friends and immerse yourself in Italian culture. The villa has every comfort of modern civilization while still offering that wonderful feeling of remoteness and escape. The owners' love for the home and the area is obvious and it's clear they want every guest to fall in love with it too.

