



*The magic and  
beauty of Masseria  
Specchia!*

## Masseria Specchia

*Ruffano, Salento, Puglia*

Entering into Masseria Specchia is like walking into the secret garden – a hidden paradise of beauty, tranquility and serenity. This fabulous home set amidst the countryside of Salento, not far from sandy beaches, is a really fantastic retreat.

Set in the middle of an olive grove between the two beautifully preserved villages of Ruffano and Specchia, Masseria Specchia dates back to 1790 and was built as a hunting lodge. On arrival at the property one cannot fail to be impressed by the fabulous baroque façade and on entering one discovers a home rich in atmosphere, great taste and absolute comfort.

Masseria Specchia has been featured in numerous magazines and one can understand why. With its splendid interiors and furnishings combined with unique walled gardens and pool area the Masseria is a photographer's dream. Dating back to the end of the 18th century, the garden was conceived at the same time as the house and structured according to philosophical conceptions, giving it a quite unique atmosphere. It comprises a large, walled rectangle, with beautiful niches at the cardinal points and a stone pergola running along the perimeter. Two paved pathways divide the rectangle into four parts, a symbol of paradise, with a champion magnolia tree at the centre, providing a haven of peace and shade. The collection of plants, notably wisteria,

climbing roses and cacti, will delight garden lovers and here one can truly experience Puglian vegetation at its very best.

A renowned architect designed the swimming pool so as not to disrupt this ancient symmetry. The two parts of the pool, on either side of the pathway, are linked by an underwater passage making it not only beautiful to view but also great fun for youngsters on holiday! From the garden a stone staircase leads to a roof terrace with a shaded seating area from which one can enjoy the view of the garden with aperitivi as the sun sets – delightful and atmospheric.

Inside the main house are the two large master bedrooms with four-poster beds and en-suite marble bathrooms. The is a wonderful spacious sitting room with open fire and the kitchen, steeped in character and extremely well equipped, is a cook's paradise. A famous contemporary artist created murals for the entrance hall and the whole building enjoys underfloor heating, making it comfortable in all seasons. There are lateral patios on either

side of the main house and one of them is shaded for outdoor dining.

The former stables have been transformed to accommodate five twin bedrooms, each accessed from the garden, with en-suite bathrooms opening onto their own small, secluded patio. A second kitchen, with outdoor area, a further double-room and bathroom, facing the service entrance, and a laundry room complete the building. The furnishings throughout are aesthetically pleasing - stylish and tasteful - but also authentic and in keeping with the origins of the Masseria.

The superb staff have been with the owners for many years and look after the house and guests with dedication and care. Masseria Specchia is ideal for a large gathering of family or friends. If one can drag oneself away there are numerous places to visit be it the sandy beaches of the Ionian, the spectacular rocky Adriatic coast, or historic towns of Lecce, Otranto and Gallipoli. You may find, however, that you simply cannot draw yourself away from the magic and beauty of Masseria Specchia!

## Information

**Sleeps: 14 + 2**

### Service:

- Maid 4 hours per day 5 days per week
- Cook service on request payable locally

### Accommodation:

Main house

- Entrance hall
- Huge kitchen
- Living room with mezzanine are above
- TV room
- Two master double four poster bedrooms with bathrooms en suite

Stables

- Five twin bedrooms with bathrooms en suite (four with a terrace)
- Large kitchen
- Double bedroom with en suite bathroom
- Laundry

### Amenities:

- Private pool 4m x 23m
- BBQ
- Outdoor showers
- Roof terrace
- Cot
- Underfloor heating & air conditioning (payable locally)
- Solar panels
- Well water & filtering system

### Attractions nearby:

- Specchia 5mins
- Adriatic coast 15 mins
- Ionian coast 25 mins
- Sant Maria di Leuca 30mins
- Lecce 40mins
- Otranto 40mins

### Airports:

- Brindisi 90mins
- Bari 2hrs 30 mins



# *Merrion Charles*

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