

# Cognoscenti magazine

**Because life is short**

Marignolle Relais & Charme  
Florence, Italy

Anyone who has spend a restless night in a downtown hotel in Florence, Italy, listening to two-cycle motorcycles screaming up and down the narrow streets will adore **Marignolle Relais & Charme**, a luxury hotel located in a precious piece of countryside only a few kilometers outside the city.

This is a lodging establishment to which travelers who have spent a foot-weary day touring Florence's world-monuments and galleries can return in the evening—an oasis of serenity and calm. Turning off the busy approach streets, the change is stunning—a few hair-pin turns and instantly one is transported into a classic Tuscan country setting replete with grass, trees and vineyards.

Entering the gated hotel grounds, things only improve. Parking your vehicle in a secure area (yes, free parking!), a friendly staff member escorts you to your air-conditioned room. There, you'll find smooth-stained *cabreuva vermelha* wooden floors, tasteful furnishings in yellow, green and red, satellite television with plenty of English-language channels, plus a modern and stylish bathroom with double basins. Just the thing for the tired traveler!

The Bulleri family has owned the property for 20 years. As Hotel Director Lorenzo Bulleri explained to visiting **Cognoscenti Magazine** editors, Marignolle's two attractions are "relaxation and enjoyment." His excellent concierge service can prove highly useful in a city like Florence where getting tickets to anything can take the naïve visitor hours. We tested the service with a request for an adapter for a relatively ob-

scure Olympus digital camera; mere minutes later, we were at a nearby shop, which had already been contacted by the hotel and knew exactly what we needed.

Marignolle has no restaurant, although breakfast and



*The charm of rural Tuscany right in Florence*

a light lunch—salads and sandwiches—are available. For dinner, the nearby *Bibe* restaurant has an excellent reputation.

This article was written by Nicole Medvecky and other contributing editors to *Cognoscenti Magazine*. Photo courtesy of *Marignolle Relais & Charme*.

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