

A-Z

INFORMATION FOR GUESTS

Informazioni per gli ospiti

Lo Scopeto, 55021 Palleggio, Bagni di Lucca (LU)

Welcome to Lo Scopeto! We are delighted you have chosen to stay here and hope you will have a very relaxing and happy holiday. Lo Scopeto is our home. It is very special to us. Please do treat it with the care and respect it deserves.

Emma, Christian, Charlie & Nico Flackett

Ants

If you leave food outside or do not wipe the outside table after dinner each night, you will be rewarded with.....big, juicy ants! Boiling water usually does the trick....

Bars

Santina's San Cassiano (up the hill)

Paulo's Ponte a Serraglio (far end of Bagni di Lucca)

Breakages

If you break something, please replace it or let us know so we can!

Children & Babies

Charlie and Nico are 2yrs and 4 months respectively, at the time of writing, so Lo Scopeto is a child-friendly house with stair gates, 2 cots, highchairs, a blender, plastic tableware and some toys & DVDs available. With prior notice, we can arrange for you to use our Phil & Ted buggy while you are staying. Please treat anything you use with care & leave it clean and ready for use by the next guests when you leave. If you wish to rent any

other equipment this can be arranged through www.bambinoequipmenthire.com

The pool is enclosed and gated but we still urge you to exercise the appropriate caution required when small children are around swimming pools.

“CONAD” supermarket (see under Shopping) in Bagni di Lucca stocks the usual brands of nappies & wipes. The chemists stock standard infant formula milks e.g. Aptamil etc but for more exotic formula milks, baby products, baby food, toys, clothes etc, head to “Baby Gioca”, Via del Brennero, Bagni di Lucca.....drive towards Bagni di Lucca on the SS12, continue past the town, and it is on the right past “JoJos” night club. Don’t forget Italian opening hours apply.

Comments

We hope all our guests will experience Lo Scopeto at its best. If you don’t, please let us know so we can put it right for the future. All comments, suggestions and constructive criticism to emmasalisbury@doctors.org.uk

Doctor

There is a doctor in San Cassiano, next to Santina's bar. Surgery times are variable.

There is also the "Croce Rossa" clinic in Bagni di Lucca.

In an emergency:

Doctor "on-call": 118

Ambulance "Croce Rossa": (0)583 805454

Don't forget the Italian dialling code if calling from a UK mobile: 0039-

You will need to explain where you are:

"Siamo allo Scopeto da Bagni di Lucca; SS12 (*pronounced: ess-ess-do-ditchi*) direzione Abetone. Dopo diechi kilometri, giri a sinistra, direzione Palleggio. La casa si trova a l'altra parte di Palleggio. Due centro metri a destra"

The nearest large hospital with full maternity & neonatal services is in Barga.

There is a first aid kit in the cabinet in the downstairs loo. Please replace anything you use.

Electricity

In case of a power cut, check all the trip switches in the laundry cupboard off the kitchen and boiler cupboard (under the stairs) are “ON”. Particularly after a thunderstorm, you may need to check the external trip switches located in the wooden box 10 metres beyond the pergola (walk through the pergola to get to it). The key is the little black one hanging in the hall.

Fires

In the summer the ground gets extremely dry. One misplaced cigarette butt can result in disaster....please be careful to extinguish them properly with water and dispose of them in the bin.

Guidebook

There is a *Bagni di Lucca* guidebook in the bookcase.

Internet access

Available at the tourist office in Bagni di Lucca. You will need to take your passport with you. We

hope to have a wireless internet connection at the house by next year!

Maps

There is a large and detailed map of the surrounding area hanging on the kitchen wall. In addition, you will find various map books in the bookcase.

Mass

Sunday 9.30am Palleggio

11.30am San Cassiano

Both services are in Italian but very lovely. Visitors are welcomed.

Outside lights

The lights that up-light the front of the house can be turned on by the front door. At the back of the house, the switch for the “balls” and tree up-lighters can be turned on by the back door. Lights around the pool are turned on by a switch next to the pump house (under the pool) and the pool lights themselves can be turned on inside the pump

house. PLEASE PLEASE turn ALL the outside lights off before you go to bed.

Police

Polizia Stradale (0)583 805615

Carabinieri (0)583 87216

Public holidays

There are a number of these – please see the back of the *Bagni di Lucca Guidebook* in the bookcase for details.

Rubbish

There are municipal bins up the hill, before you get to San Cassiano, or down the hill at Palleggio and beyond. These include recycling facilities for cardboard and glass.

Please do not leave your rubbish up by the pool but bring it down to the house.

Restaurants & cafes

Eating out is a joy in the many local ristorante and generally very cheap. These are a few of our favourites:

Da Vinicio Ponte a Serraglio (far end of Bagni di Lucca)

Delicious homemade pizza, pasta and “chicken in a brick”. The owner and chef, Marco, is a raging fascist and there used to be pictures of Mussolini all over the walls!

Santina's San Cassiano (up hill)

No menu, no tourists.....just locals and Santina's delicious home cooking.

Bucca di San Antonio Lucca

For something more special, you will need to head to Lucca. This place is a favourite of Michael Winner, and very good!

If you would like to arrange for a special meal to be cooked for you at Lo Scopeto, contact Paola: paola.mori@alice.it She speaks English.

Shopping/local amenities

San Cassiano – just up the hill

- Elena's General Store (opposite church).
Elena sells everything from washing-up liquid

& meats to postcards (limited!), cheese, fresh bread, ham & wine.

- Post Office: tiny building to the left of the church. It looks like it closed down years ago...but it hasn't and is opened on Monday and Thursday mornings.
- Butcher: left of Elena's store. Always has a good selection but you might have to order if you have a particular cut in mind.

If you have complex requirements when shopping in San Cassiano, you will need to take your Italian with you – no one speaks English! But a dictionary and acting skills are well received.

Bagni di Lucca

- “CONAD” supermarket...far side of the square with the river Lima on your left. Monday – Sat 8am–8pm, Sunday 8am–1pm.
- In addition, there is a smaller supermarket, pharmacy, stationer etc

Opening times for virtually everything is 8/9am–1pm & 4pm–7pm.

There is a very big “F. Leclerc” supermarket in Gallicano which is open all day on Sundays and on public holidays. There are a number of these – please see the back of the Bagni di Lucca Guidebook in the bookcase for details.

Snakes & Scorpions

These do exist! Bang your shoes together before putting them on, and please kill any scorpions you see in the house. They are usually small and shy. Regarding snakes, just exercise a degree of common sense: don't walk through woodland bare foot turning up logs!

Sun loungers

We would be so grateful if you would put the cushions for the sun loungers in the pool house each night....and the parasol if you anticipate rain. The parasol should be closed each night.

Taxis

1) + 39 (0) 583 804169

mobile: + 39 348 8146192

2) + 39 (0) 583 867709

mobile: + 39 348 5150282

Tennis

Courts can be booked in Bagni di Lucca

Things to do

- *Visit the Bagni Caldi & Spa* for which Bagni di Lucca has been famed throughout the ages. Byron & Shelley were regulars. A menu of available treatments is in the drawer in the chest in the hall. 10 minutes in the sulphurous thermal springs is entertaining for everyone!
- *Drive up to Prato Fiorito* – the beautiful beautiful plateau on the mountain top behind the house. It is about a 30-minute drive. Pack a picnic, wander & enjoy the spectacular view.
- *Drive on into the nature reserve & visit Orrido di Bottri.*
- *Visit the medieval hill top town of Barga.* It has a beautiful cathedral & good places for lunch.

- *Lucca*. Everybody has to visit Lucca. Hire a tandem and cycle around the walls – it takes about 20 minutes. You will need your passport to hire the bikes. Then, wander through the streets taking in the churches, arts and fabulous shopping!
- *Florence* is only 1.5 hrs drive away...A favourite restaurant is trattoria Sostanza ditto Il Troia, Via Porcellana, 25/r 055 212691.
- *Shopping: The Mall (an outlet mall)*
www.themall.it is a 30-minute drive from Florence. The centre now hosts Bottega Veneta, Ermenegildo Zegna, Fendi, Gucci, Hogan, La Perla, Loro Piana, Salvatore Ferragamo, Sergio rossi, Tod's, Valentino and Yves Saint Laurent outlets. The Prada/Miu Miu factory is also located nearby.
- *Forte dei Marmi*, located along the northern Tuscany coast between the Marinas of Ronci and Pietrasanta, offers its rich villa dwellers a fabulous Wednesday market that deals in designer clothing, cashmere, homewares etc.

The town is centred around the market and the marble fortress built in 1788. The area is known for its clean, sandy beaches.

- *Beaches:*

If you want to book a private umbrella and sun loungers in *Pietrasanta* (right next to *Forte di Marmi* – see shopping note above), book Bagno Dalia by phoning Signora Tiziana on (0)58420929.

Viareggio is 30–minutes north of Pisa airport and was voted one of the *Telegraph's* best beaches. This is the full–on Italian beach experience: miles of *ombrelloni* & deckchairs, beach volleyball, *gelato*.... Stop for an espresso or a Campari at the Gran Caffè Margherita, the most famous of Viareggio's Liberty–style buildings or lunch at Trattoria Buonamico, via Sant–Andrea 27: 584 943266. It has been going since 1901 and was one of the Fiat–owning Agnelli family's favourite haunts.

- Or just enjoy the swimming pool and peace of Lo Scopeto!

Tourist Information

On the main street in Bagni di Lucca. If you want to use the computers (internet access), you will need to bring I.D. such as a passport.

Towels

Please DO take your dark swimming towels up to the poolside or to the beach, BUT please leave your white bath towel in the bathroom!

Visitors' Book

Please do sign this before you leave!

Who's Who?

Alessandra & Alessandro Gentilini live in Palleggio. Alessandra cleans Lo Scopeto, makes up the beds and keeps it looking lovely. Alessandro is the local builder who did all the work rebuilding and restoring Lo Scopeto from day 1! He looks after the swimming pool etc. We could not survive without them.

Mario Tolomei lives in Bagni di Lucca. He and his son are the local architects. Together with Alessandro, he has worked on the restoration of Lo Scopeto from day 1.

Santina & Demograzia run Santina's bar in San Cassiano. Their authentic Italian cooking is truly wonderful. They took Christian under their wing when he first arrived in Bagni di Lucca to oversee the restoration project. They would iron his shirt ready for Monday morning back in the office in London!

Remo Barseletti owns the shed/hut at the bottom of the drive. He will not sell! He organises the local wild boar hunting and will show you the kill each week, during the season, if you are interested!

Pierangelo Barseletti is no relation of Remo. He is the local highly skilled carpenter who made the doors, shutters, staircase, outside table, bookshelves etc at Lo Scopeto. His wife, Sofia, grew up in England and speaks English fluently.

Marcello is the local goat-herder. The goats live in Palleggio but in the summer he takes them up to Prato Fiorito to graze.

Finally, if you have any problems during your stay, please telephone Christian on + 44 (0)7771 676373 and he will endeavour to resolve the issue as soon as possible.