

LA VILLA



CALVI

PRESS KIT 2021



THE FIELD

Cross the threshold of the Villa Calvi perched above the town, and you'll encounter one of the most beautiful sites on the Mediterranean, topped by Notre-Dame de la Serra, a place of worship and a spot from which you can take in the stunning panorama.

From within the Hotel La Villa, the grounds, the restaurant, the pools and the rooms afford an exceptional view. The town, with the fine silhouette of the citadel dating from the XII th century, the pinewood bordering the fine sandy beach that stretches for 4 km, and the charm of the Monte Grosso mountain culminate at over 2000 meters in altitude, offers subtle light variations at sunset.

Legend has it there was a monastery in these 3 hectares of land, which explains the need for harmoniously connected architectural structures, which are disseminated throughout the grounds with the lovely garden that is home to Mediterranean species where the olive tree reigns supreme, accompanied by cypress trees, pines, gomphrena, myrtle, lavender and thyme – every walk will be a wonder.

Villa Calvi has existed for almost 30 years.

In 2018, the hotel was completely renovated to adapt the spirit of the site to the needs of a clientele constantly looking for discovery and originality.

This address is a "reference" among the hotels of Corsica, where space and refinement come together.

It all blends harmoniously into the natural décor under the influence of the light, where fragrances and colors vary from one hour to the next.



THE SPIRIT OF THE PLACE

The Pinelli family, owners of Villa Calvi, has turned this place into one of the principle sites in Corsica, synonymous with harmony and serenity.

Jean-Pierre Pinelli, a native of the Balagne foothills, was raised by his aunt and his grandfather in the pure tradition of the agropastoral world, rich with its values and customs, a time where ecology, organic farming and environment were part of daily life.

Around the family table, they often spoke Corsican.

A few years later, he was attracted by Africa – which turned out to be an amazing opportunity: he found his parents and the life of an adventurer. Having become a bush pilot, Jean-Pierre Pinelli set off to discover this incredible continent – “Out of Africa” style.

In the 1970s/80s, he started to feel nostalgic for his country and had to return to his island. Then in 1990, he had to choose the location of the hotel: Hotel La Villa in Saint Barth or in Calvi, but his love for Corsica prevailed.

Marion Pinelli comes from northern France. She was aged 19 when she met Jean-Pierre for lunch in Paris. The holiday project in Corsica was realized, leading to the choice of another life: a project, namely that of the Villa Calvi in 1992, in the first instance, then a family, their children, Antoine and finally Marie.

Jean-Pierre Pinelli, with the soul of a builder, opened the villa in 1992. The hotel became a Relais & Chateaux member in 1995.

Marion Pinelli looked after the property, taking care of the artistic aspects and the decoration, right down to the slightest detail.

Surrounded by her favorite creators, she produced an atmosphere in keeping with the location.

Quite naturally, she surrounded herself with the best artists, such as Philippe Hurel, Porro and Moroso for the furniture, Julie Priscat for the lighting, Hartley's for the carpets, Pierre Frey and Jim Thomson for the fabrics, and Dedon, Sifas and Kettal for the exteriors.

To contribute to the artistic ambiance that is so particular to the site, each year Marion Pinelli invites artists for photography, painting and sculpture exhibitions: Julien Marinetto, Morio Matsui, JonOne, Dominique Reginensi, Toussaint Mufraggi, Pierre Pardon...





THE HOTEL / RENOVATIONS

Driven by his passion for architecture, Jean-Pierre renovated the establishment over the years, remaining at the cutting-edge of comfort and technology. In 2018, he had 48 rooms & suites, the restaurant and the kitchens as well as the private villas fully renovated. Marion, with her passion for decoration, found unique pieces by browsing fairs, to rejuvenate what she calls her “third child”.

LIVING AT THE VILLA

The restaurant - La Table by La Villa

The restaurant – the Table by La Villa: The chef, Mylo Levin overseen by the talented Christophe Saintagne, offers a taste experience in the restaurant, where simplicity and sincerity take pride of place, with flavors focusing on Mediterranean specialties.

Born in Caen in 1997, christophe spent his youth in pont-audemer, a hometown he shares with le Notre and Taillevent.

In 1997 he received his first formal training when he joined the small brigade of philippe grout, one of Robuchon's team members at l'Amphyclès.

In 1999 after cooking in the presidential kitchens of the Elysée's palace for president Chirac, he started working for his mentor Alain Ducasse at the 59 Poincaré. In 2002, he took over the kitchen at aux Lyonnais, which had been bought by Alain Ducasse.



In 2005 he changed direction by joining working as the deputy chef at the 2 star gastronomic restaurant les ambassadeurs at the hotel du Crillon.

In 2008 he became corporate chef to all Alain Ducasse restaurants overseeing 20 restaurants around the world. In 2010, Alain Ducasse offered him the top job at plaza Athenée with the goal of attaining Michelin 3 stars, which he accomplished. He developed a new menu creating the concept of “sustainable haute cuisine” (de la haute “goûture durable”) – introducing innovatively profound French culinary creations that used no more than 3 ingredients per dish.

In 2014, still working for Ducasse, he took over the kitchens of the hotel Meurice succeeding Yannick Alleno.

A new challenge for the talented young chef who again earned 3 Michelin stars.



Mylo : born in Paris in October 1992 to a French mother and an American father, both artists. It is therefore natural that I enter an art school and it is after high school that I turn to cooking. I start with a small job in a mediocre restaurant in Paris and I quickly understand that I will have to train for this beautiful job. I therefore applied to the Grégoire Ferrandi school in Paris. While waiting for the start of the school year, I was hired at the restaurant La Méditerranée on Place de l'Odéon with chef Denis Rippas.

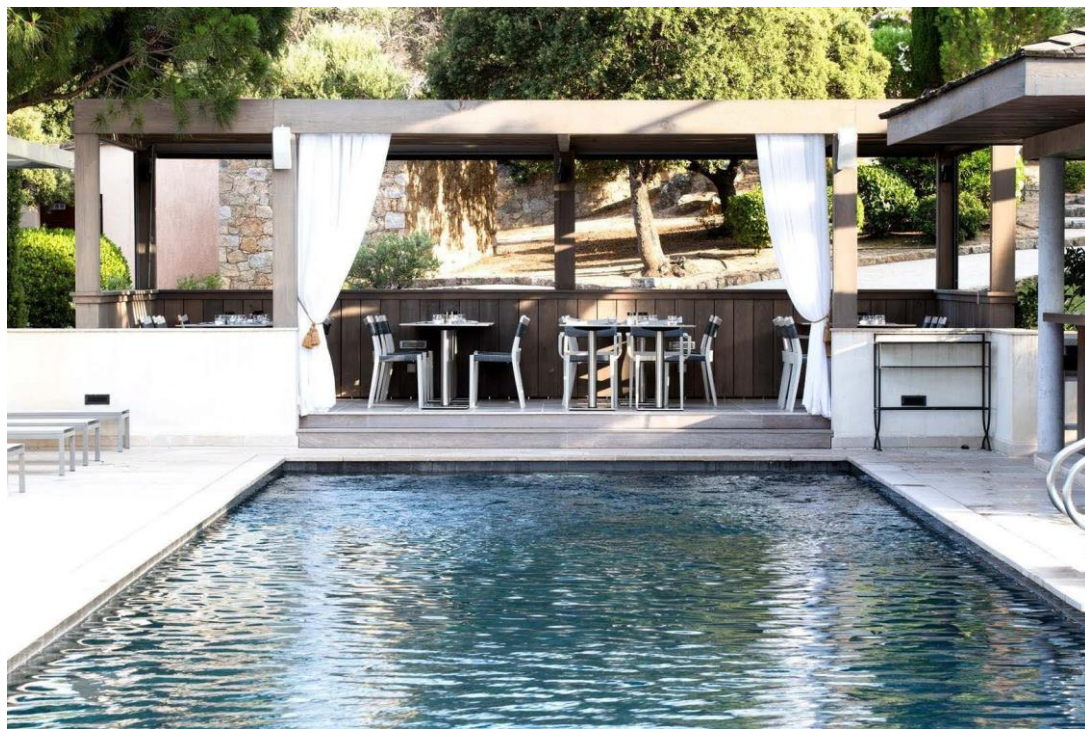
I discovered real professional cooking in the brigade, it was my crush. After a year of training and obtaining my CAP cooking, I was then hired at the Jamin restaurant where I had been an apprentice. After having mastered all the positions of this traditional cuisine, I decided to rub shoulders with haute cuisine. I meet chef Christophe Saintagne and return to Hotel Le Meurice (3 Michelin stars).

I am relearning everything I thought I knew and two years later, chef Christophe Saintagne offered to accompany me for the opening of his new Papillon restaurant in Paris. In 2017, I was entrusted with my first position as chef at the Pavillon Puebla, in the idyllic setting of the Buttes Chaumont. With my small team, we make simple and friendly Mediterranean cuisine and then with my wife, we decide to go on an adventure and move to Los Angeles, in the United States. I'm hired at Chef Sang Yoon's Lukshon restaurant. There I learned Southwest Asian cuisine and American management and then when our daughter was born, I briefly left the restaurant world and started cooking for a team of video game designers. This very different experience allows me to spend more time with my family while continuing to cook some exceptional California products.

Finally, I was contacted by the chef Saintagne who suggested that I take over the cuisine of Villa Calvi by his side. I realize that it was by his side that cooking had taken on all its meaning in my mind and that all the elements came together for a great project. So we pack our bags and go on an adventure!

The Pool Bar

Around the main pool, there is a lounge space, a friendly, musical spot, open from 15 June to 15 September. The chef offers light, quick snacks that change depending on what's available at the market. You can enjoy salads, fish or grilled meats, all pleasantly accompanied with a cocktail in the shade of the pine trees.



The Jo's Bar

This intimate place with a sober yet refined atmosphere will enchant all epicureans. Completely renovated this winter and decorated tastefully by Marion Pinelli, and open to pick-of-the-moment artists who adorn the walls, the bar looks over the terrace area around the pond with ducks, which in turn overlooks the citadel of Calvi. A perfect place to contemplate the sunset to the sound of a musical show.



The swimming pools

Squattered throughout the grounds, there are swimming four pools for pleasant relaxation.

The indoor swimming pool, located near the spa, lit from floor to-ceiling with bay windows, seems to blend perfectly with the garden that surrounds and illuminates it.

The two outdoor pools are scattered throughout the park and lined with vegetation, with a unique view over the citadel.

Finally, an elegant 25-meter swimming corridor is bordered by a beach bathed in the sun, a pool for children, all within the vicinity of the pool bar.

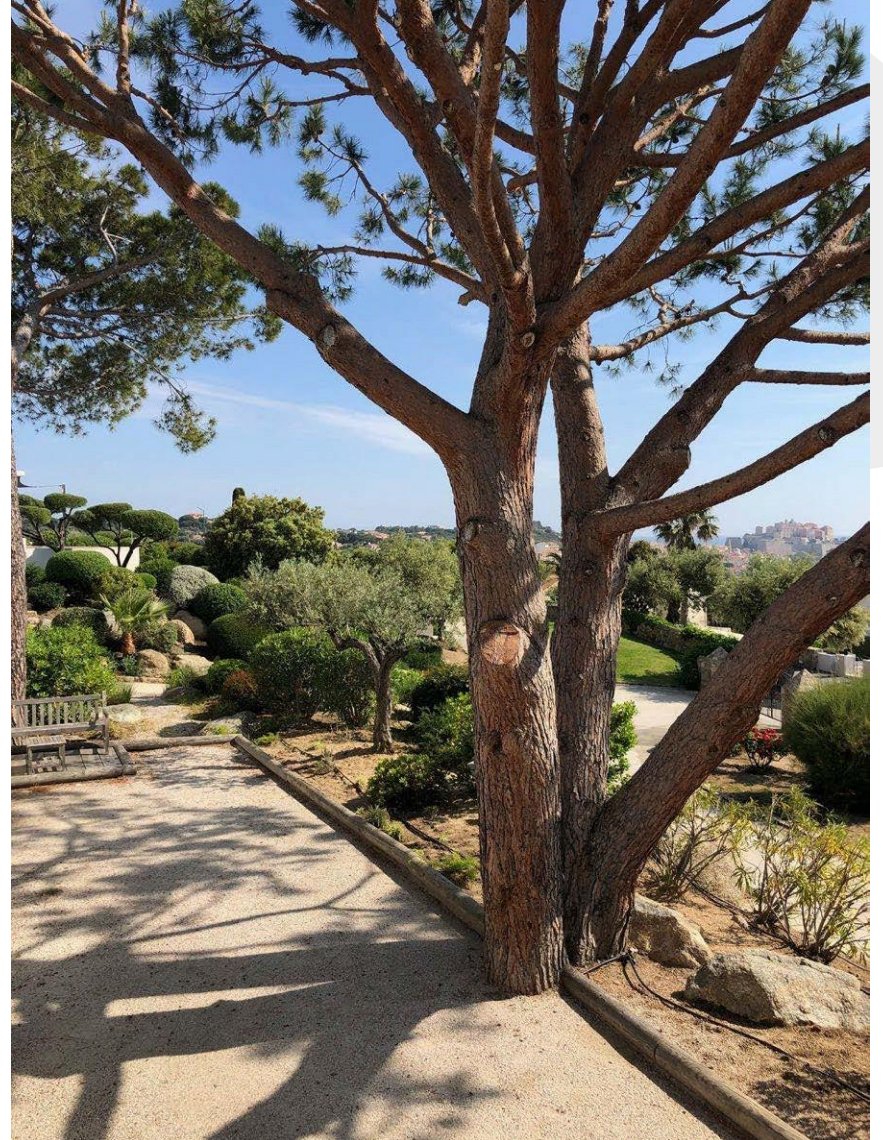
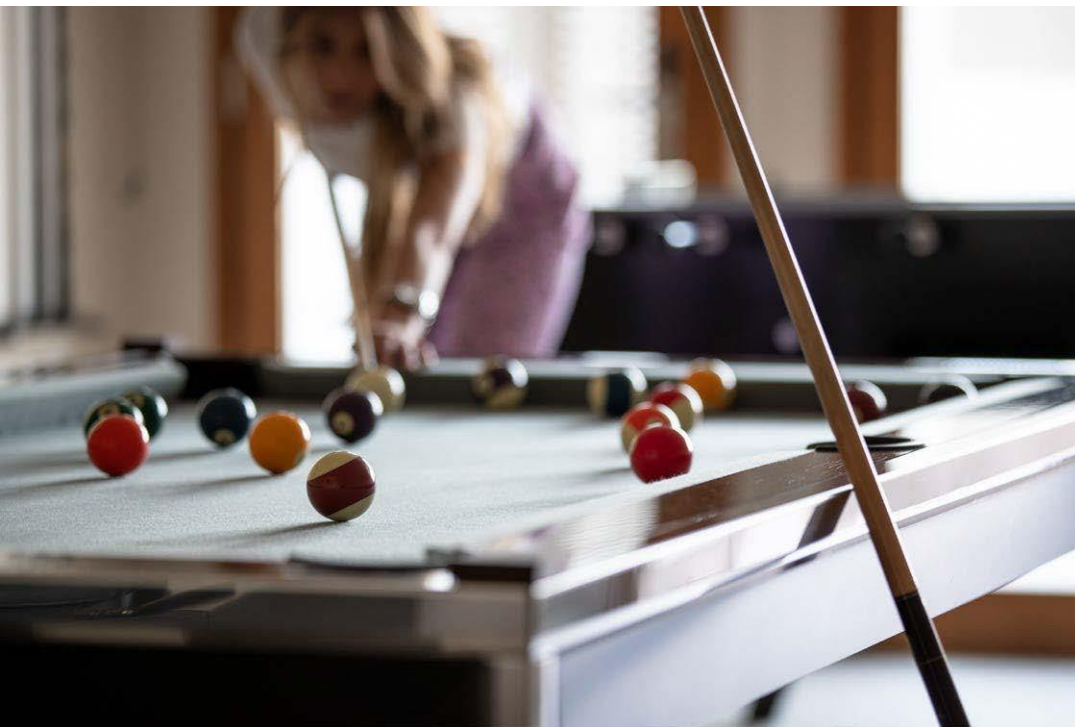
Tennis court

The clay tennis court is available for all clients of the hotel. Please reserve your court at the reception. A teacher can also give private lessons.



The Billiards room

The billiards room offers a very attractive Chevillotte table designed in keeping with the hotel's colors. Table football can also be played in this room.



The pétanque field

From time to time, world champions visit the Villa Calvi. It's wonderful to enjoy the atmosphere at the end of the afternoon while sipping an aperitif. .



VILL'ART

Villa Calvi has created a permanent exhibition of selected artists on the walls of the hotel and in the resident artists' and new talent gallery. The creativity and diversity of these artists help to add to the Arty ambiance in their very own way. Art exhibitions take place during the season, when you may have an opportunity to have a drink by the pool in the company of some of the artists. The paintings and sculptures can be purchased at the hotel or by contacting the artists' whose details may be given.

THE SPA

La Villa offers a vast range of personalized treatment areas using the with the arrival this year of the brand coming straight from California

DERMALOGICA and THEMAE brands to add to the hotel's lifestyle services.

Enjoy letting go with a method that is based on adapting each treatment to the needs of the body.

The spa can design complete treatment packages.



Massage, centered around relaxation and aromatherapy, takes place in the 4 cabins, one of which is a double. The spa, as a place of relaxation, has an covered swimming pool that is 14 meters long, a fitness room offering cutting-edge, effective equipment, as well as Pilates, yoga and aqua bikes classes by different coaches, a sports room, two hammams, all within a glass-covered zone that looks out on to the wooded garden. Know-how and relaxation guaranteed.

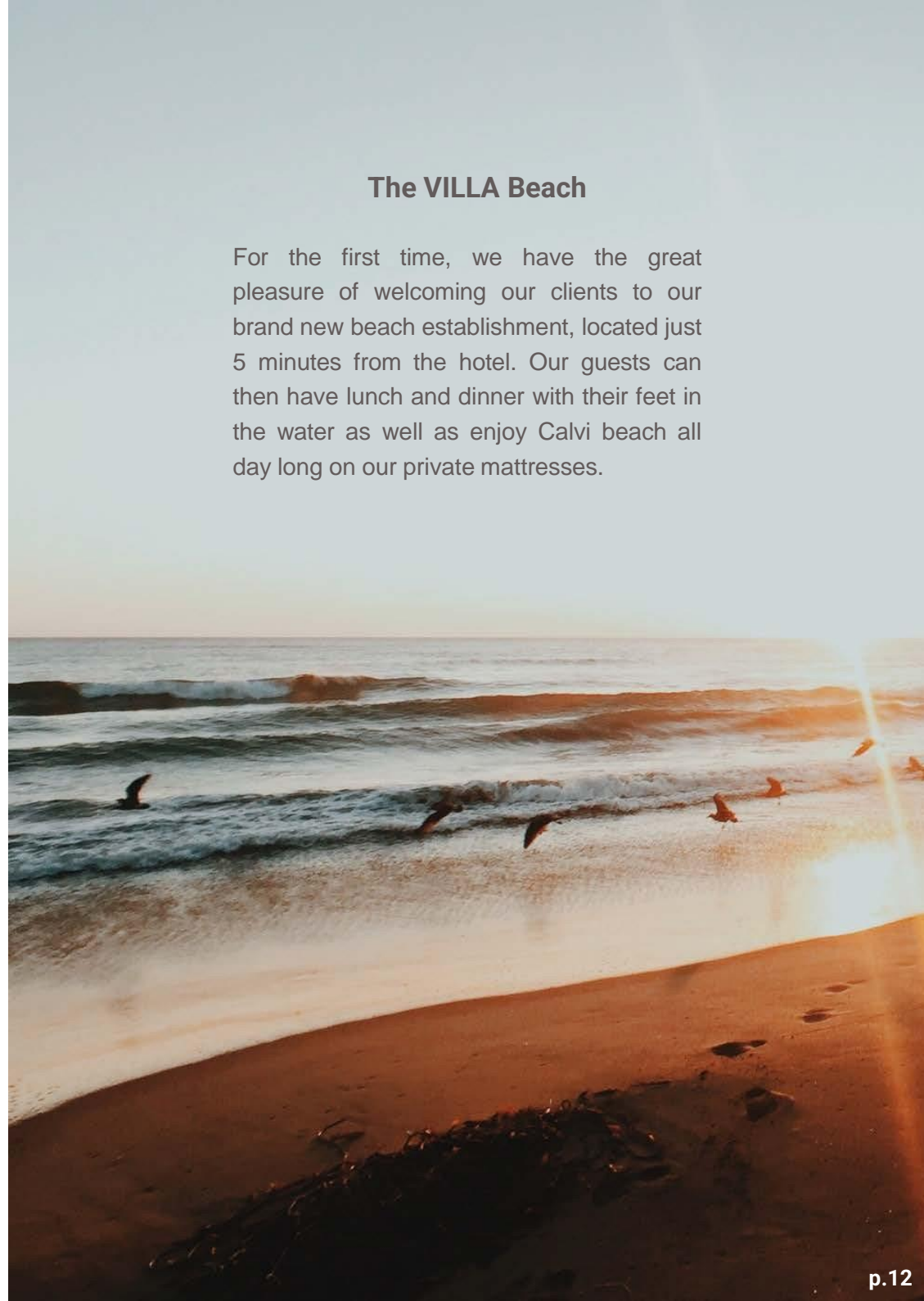


The VILLA spa shop

Marion Pinelli selects her favorite products and creators that she wants to promote within the hotel shop located within the spa.

The VILLA Beach

For the first time, we have the great pleasure of welcoming our clients to our brand new beach establishment, located just 5 minutes from the hotel. Our guests can then have lunch and dinner with their feet in the water as well as enjoy Calvi beach all day long on our private mattresses.





ACTIVITIES & LEISURE EXPERIENCES

The Villa can offer advice on and organize activities, excursions, visits, car and boat hire, walks, cycle rides, helicopters trips, quad biking and sports classes so you can enjoy stay tailored to your wishes.



OUR LOCAL FAVORITES

The Notre Dame de la Serra trail starting from the hotel offers an exceptional panorama and an opportunity to contemplate or pray.

The tour of the Revelata peninsula takes you along sandy coves where you can stop for a swim.

The abandoned village of D'Occi going back to the Middle Ages affords a stunning view over the Gulf of Calvi and of the Monto Grosso mountains.

The vineyard includes a historic tour by bicycle followed by a wine-tasting session.

Our tip: it is advisable to wear suitable shoes. You can be accompanied by a guide and the tour takes on average two hours.

Excursions and visit

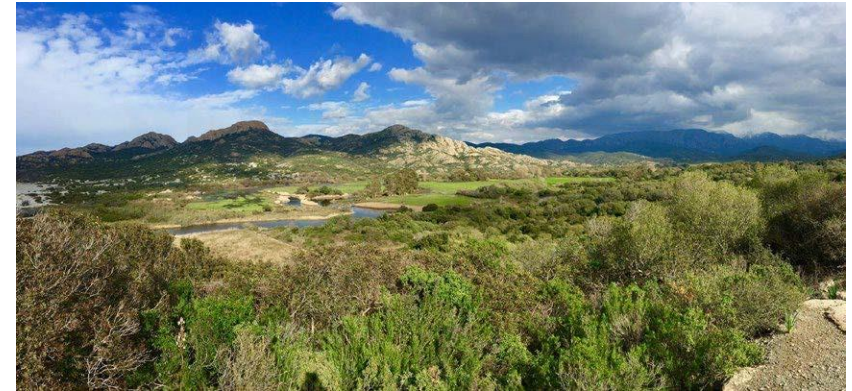
There is a range of tourist excursions for clients – trips into the mountain foothills and villages in Balagne for half a day, and boat trips depending on the weather.

Sport classes

Apart from outdoor activities, you will find yoga, Pilates, fitness and aqua bikes classes within the hotel, either in a group or on a one-to-one basis.

The Golf

The Reginu golf course, 45 minutes away from Calvi, is located in a magnificent setting in the Corsican mountains, in the beautiful Reginu valley. This course, lined with olive trees, with the scents of the bush, will take you on a pastoral amble through nature. The 9-hole course has been approved by the French golfing association. Take in the friendly atmosphere at the Reginu golf course from the moment you arrive at the club house.

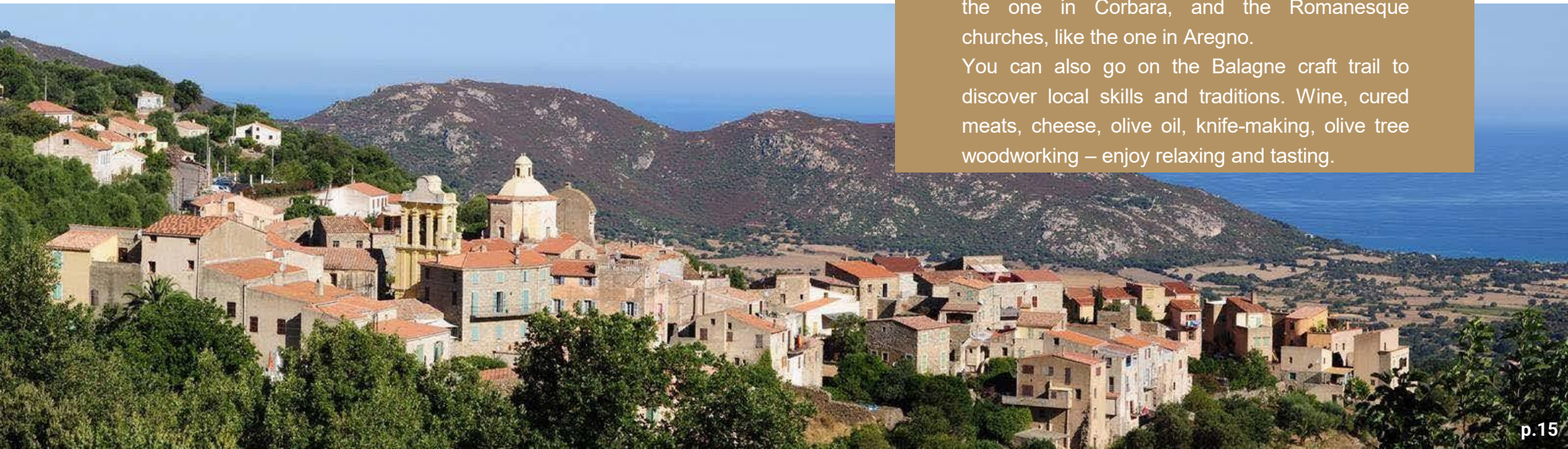


Balagne tour

The Balagne comprises the coastal area between Calvi and Ile Rousse, and the hills that overlook the sea. Referred to as the “Garden of Corsica”, Balagne is brimming with olive groves, fig trees, orchards, arbutus trees and gomphrena.

It owes its originality to the perched villages – with narrow streets and typical houses – such as Sant’Antonino, Spéloncato, Pigna, Lumio, Belgodère, and its superb Baroque churches such the one in Corbara, and the Romanesque churches, like the one in Aregno.

You can also go on the Balagne craft trail to discover local skills and traditions. Wine, cured meats, cheese, olive oil, knife-making, olive tree woodworking – enjoy relaxing and tasting.



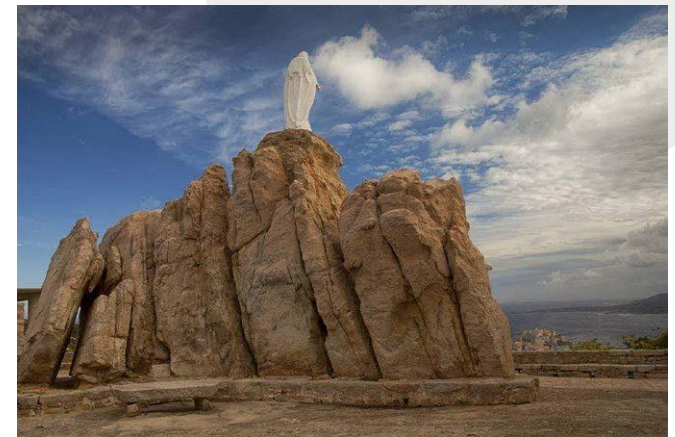


Boat trips

Corsica abounds with exceptional sites that can be viewed from the sea. You can visit the Scandola nature reserve, classed as a UNESCO world heritage site; the village of Girolata, only accessible from the sea; the Gulf of Porto, this unusual place where the Agriates desert meets the Saleccia beach, classed as one of the ten most beautiful beaches in the world.

Road trips

It's a day-long trip, starting in the morning, but how amazing it will be to take to the road of the Scala di Santa Regina, to cross Niolu, the Aitone forest, the Vergio pass, then to go back down to the Gulf of Porto and then at sunset take in the Piana coves, a gift of nature where you can let your imagination have free reign interpreting the shadows and the colours. As you return to Calvi, you'll be able to appreciate the magic of this Island of Beauty.





Calvi

The citadel, a Genovese structure from the 12th century, towers proudly on the rocky promontory, the perfect place to go for a walk. Majestic, it appears impervious to the passage of time. It is both a landmark and a symbol of history, and its motto is “semper fidelis”.

Inside its fortifications, the closely packed houses border the tiny, narrow, steep streets with their somewhat winding routes, leading to the Governors’ Palace, to Saint Jean-Baptiste Cathedral, while the ramparts that have been modified several times with the addition of bastions, cling to the relief of this rocky outcrop.

The sole entrance used to be guarded by a drawbridge, which is accessible from the square of Christopher Columbus, who, according to legend, was born in one of the houses in the citadel.

Nights out

At Tao: the oldest cabaret in Corsica (1935).

Father Tao, exiled from Russia in 1917, accompanied Prince Yusupov (who assassinated Rasputin). He decided to live in the citadel where over the years he came across all echelons of society, including the jet-set, from Winston Churchill to Serge Gainsbourg, Thomas Dutronc and where Jacques Higelin composed Tao’s ballad.

Jean Temir, who will welcome you, and Tao By, the amazing self-taught pianist, offer both poetry and rock during the first part of the evening. A DJ takes over at 1 am and continues until dawn, under the motto, “be happy today, for tomorrow it may be too late”.

THE ESSENTIAL

Price : starting 300 € the night including breakfast

- 17 rooms (35 to 40m²)
- 8 juniors suites (50m²)
- 21 suites (60 to 100m²)
- 1 apartment with 2 bedroom and 1 bathroom (130m²)
 - 1 luxury apartment (200m²)
- 3 villas (280 to 600m²) with private swimming pool
 - Facilities adapted for people with a handicap
 - Conference rooms
- 5 swimming pools, one of which is covered, and another for children
 - A billiards and table football room
 - Jeep and Smart hire





OPENINGS :

FROM MAY 3, 2021 TO OCTOBER 31, 2021

Memberships: Relais & Châteaux (1995), Cercle des Grandes Maisons Corses, Traveller Made

Owners: Marion and Jean-Pierre Pinelli

Management: Marion and Jean-Pierre Pinelli

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