



THE HISTORY

For over a century the Neri family lives on the side of Mount Etna. Music has rendered this corner of the world the family's reign. In the early 1900s the knight Vincenzo Barletta, Antonina Neri's grandfather, moved to America with his brother Salvatore, a tenor who brought Italian operas to American theatres. Salvatore's beautiful voice conquered the cultured city of New York at the beginning of the century and the two brothers reached success. However, a few years later Salvatore got ill and, after his death, Vincenzo was left alone and jobless. Within a few years and with a lot of sacrifices, the two brothers had saved some money and, being Salvatore unmarried, Vincenzo returned to Sicily with both savings. He bought lands above Linguglossa and married to a beautiful countrywoman of the place. He built his house, which now is a welcoming b&b, amongst the vineyards and olive groves for both his family and those who worked the lands. In 2012, the grandchildren Salvo and Fabio Neri built Villa Neri Resort & Spa on a part of the owned lands. The Villa is a luxurious hotel run by the family under the supervision of the parents Santo and Antonina Neri.



THE HOTEL

The five-starred hotel Villa Neri Resort & Spa is located on the side of the highest volcano in Europe, Etna Unesco heritage since 2013. Situated above a natural terrace, where you can benefit of a spectacular view of the Taormina gulf, it's surrounded by the natural environment of the Etna Park. The hotel encompasses only 24 rooms, built according to the nowadays-available criteria. Just like the ancient noble houses, the outside is characterized by two colours: classic light blue and brick-red. The owner's colour is represented by the light one, on the other hand the dark colour stands for the servants' area. Natural materials from Sicily have been used for the buildings: coccio pesto (lime mixed with pottery fragments) for the light blue plaster and white stone of Ragusa, bright red and deep black for the courts, sandstone of Taormina for the outer paving and white marble for the inner one.

Villa Neri Resort & Spa preserves the environment also by using green energy: 75% of the hotel's energy requirements come from renewable sources. With solar energy, hot water is produced, and solar panels bring electricity with 120kWp power which reduces the CO2 emissions of 90 tons per year. Heating and air-conditioning systems are supplied by high rate heat pumps, whilst the sterilization of the swimming pool is obtained with salt and not chlorine. All the wastes are separated, in order to use the biofuels as fertilizers for the green areas. Of the 24 rooms, 9 are suites with hot tubs, lodges or terraces and small private wine cellars with a selection of red and white wines of the 80 local wineries and glasses apt for all wines.

THE RESTAURANT



The "Dodici fontane" restaurant has glass windows from which you can admire a view stretching out till the top of Mount Etna. In this setting, Sicily's scents and flavours become an unforgettable experience. Elia Russo, for three years now executive chef of the "Dodici fontane" restaurant, has evolved with Massimo Mantarro, 2 star Michelin and chef of the San Domenico Palace of Taormina. Chef Russo blends technical excellence with the respect for local ingredients, reproducing in a creative way local recipes and giving birth to incredible experiments and matches.

Amongst Elia's most appreciated dishes there's the Carnaroli Rice creamed with lemon and pepper on chopped fresh shrimps, yellowfin tuna with celeriac crème brulée, tips of mulled wine, orange blossom honey-glazed spring onions, piglet capocollo (for this recipe Elia uses the local breed Nero Siciliano) low-temperature cooked with fennel seeds roasted potato mousse and chicory leaves stir fried with garlic.

The endeavour and abilities of chef Russo brought the restaurant "Le dodici fontane" to be enlisted in the "Guida Identità Golose" and is also mentioned in the Michelin Guide.

ROOMS AND SUITES



Villa Neri Resort & Spa has only 24 rooms, 5 classic, 6 superior, 4 deluxe, 6 junior suites, 3 suites and 1 master suite. All rooms have the charm of the Sicilian noble mansions, but with a contemporary design touch and, by using local materials, you can appreciate the country both indoor and outdoor. You can easily perceive the white stone of Ragusa, the sandstone of Taormina for the external paving and the white marble for the inner one. In some of the rooms the furniture is enriched by workings of sculptors and Sicilian painters, such as masters Luigi Russo Papotto and Salvatore Incorpora.

From year 2014, Villa Neri has been enriched by 9 "Suite enoteca" (that means suite with wine cellars), that want celebrate Sicily and they bring the names of the major Etna countrysides with wine vocation.

Classic Room



The 5 Classic rooms are elegantly furnished and the architects have given a modern style to the evocations for local traditions; for example the grey or ivory headboards that evoke the ancient beds in wrought-iron have been transformed in an object of design.

Superior Room

6 wide rooms with a terrace or patio with garden or Mount Etna view. They are characterized by having furniture of design and some of them have open bathroom with marble and ceramic finishings which reproduce the ancient patterns of Sicily's patterns.

Deluxe Room

The 4 Deluxe rooms are all different both in style: researched and embellished by the artistic elements of the artist Salvatore Incorpora, native of Linguaglossa; and for the bathroom, enriched with precious marbles and a shower for couples with chromo-therapy. Furthermore, each room is provided of a small private cellar with a selection of wines from Etna: the white wines, cooled in the fridge, and the red ones whose names resemble the district ones of Mount Etna where they are produced. Whenever they wish, guests can choose to uncork a bottle of wine whilst benefitting of their suite privacy with the perfect glass apt for the selected wine. From the patio surrounded by the garden's green area, the view stretches out till Mount Etna or till the bay of Naxos Gardens.

Junior Suite

In the 6 comfortable Junior Suites, the furniture is the perfect mix of Sicily's tradition and modern comfort. The elegant bathroom is embellished with precious marbles, a personalized sink with decorated ceramics, a big bath and a shower with room view. The wide glass windows offer views of landscapes depicting the surrounding countryside of Mount Etna or of the Taormina sea.

Suite

The 3 suites benefit of a double room and a living area with a sofa bed or living room, the bathroom is refined with precious marbles and ceramics with drawings of ancient tiles and the shower is separated from the room by a glass window. The suites have also a bath and double bathroom. The two wide glass windows overlook the surrounding countryside, with views of either Mount Etna or the Taormina sea.



Master Suite

Is the ideal solution for a friend or family holiday: it offers a bright living room, 2 double rooms, 2 bathrooms, one equipped with bath and shower, the other one with a wide bathroom shower. Both of them have a room view and are characterized by marbles and handmade ceramics. The wonderful 60sm terrace is furnished with external furniture and with a big six-seater Jacuzzi bath with a view that embraces Mount Etna, the Nebrodi mountains and the sea.

PETRA SPA



In the wet area of the cozy Spa, with the bath tub, the sauna, the steam room, the multi-sensory shower and icefall, you can experiment a journey through water and heat, combined with lights, sounds and colours. The wellness centre also has three therapy cubicles and a relax area with warm waterbeds and herbal teas. Petra Spa offers a range of programmes and treatments whose main ingredients are the typical products of Sicily, massages with organic oil produced by Villa Neri or scrubs with Sicily's oranges. The therapies follow the cycle of the seasons and natural cosmetics are the main elements of the pleasant and successful Spa treatments.

EXPERIENCES

Etna's wines train

Aboard the *Ferrovia Circumetna* train, on narrow gauge, you travel along the Etna slopes, Europe's highest volcano, whilst admiring the panorama inside the lands of Etna Park and of Alcantara's Fluvial Park. With the Nebrodi mountains on one side and the Etna's north ridge on the other, the journey proceeds into a real paradise



made of lava, forests, sea and vineyards. At Randazzo you take the Wine Bus and, travelling along the Etna wine roads, discover the most beautiful cellars and the typical local products. This itinerary can be also admired in Carmen Consoli's music video of the song *Alba*.

Wine tour & testing

This experience is a walk through the vineyards and olive groves up to the districts' cellars of Etna where excellent wines are produced and the names resemble the ones of the places where they are made, for example Arcuria, San Lorenzo, Rampante, Marchesa, Feudo, Arrigo, Salice, Petto Dragone, Cavaliere, Scacchiere (these names are also found in the hotel's junior rooms and suites).

Volcanic Aperitif

At sunset, a romantic aperitif is served at 2000 m of height at the very top of Europe's highest volcano, with a breathtaking view of Sicily's Ionic coast.

SPORT

Villa Neri Resort & Spa offers a range of ecological, wine, gastronomic and sportive experiences.

Golf: the collaboration with the Little Golf Club, at only 7km from Villa Neri resort & Spa, offers the golfers the possibility to play on an 18-hole course with a par game of 72 on a 5870 metres track and with driving range, putting and pitching green. The golf course stretches along the Etna's slopes, in a unique landscape, with holes dug in the molten rock.

Trekking & Horse-riding: a walk or a ride amongst the olive trees and ancient pathways to discover close up the Etna natural park and the territory surrounding the housing.

Mountain Biking for nature-based trips: Villa Neri is equipped with bikes and mountain bikes available to clients so as to allow them to explore, in an environmental-friendly way, the surrounding landscapes. An example of this is the Alcantara bike tour from Linguaglossa to Calatabiano: almost 7km of abandoned railway from Linguaglossa to Castiglione. After said pathway, you enter into the valley of Alcantara, up to the Sea and the San Marco beach at Calatabiano.

Boat excursions: the boat trips start from Naxos bay or the Bella Island at Taormina. In the Riposto port it is possible to rent various kinds of boats.

Etna Trekking upon donkey: starting from Piano Provenzana through pathways and traffic-free roads, it is possible to stroll amongst the ancient pines of the Ragabo pine grove.

Etna in Quad: starting from Ragabo refuge, it is possible to reach Randazzo via the woods.

Etna Skiing: Villa Neri resort & Spa is located a couple of km away from the touristic station of the northern side of the Etna. It is equipped with skiing instalments and 5km ski slopes for cross-country skiing. Both of these are validated



for international competitions. The volcano is the ideal location for those who practice ski-mountaineering or to simply take a promenade in snowshoes. Skiing in high-altitude with good weather allows you to see up to the Ionian Sea and the Aeolian islands in the Tyrrhenian Sea.

SERVICES

Rooms

- Mini bar
- Wine cellar (Deluxe, Junior Suite and Suite)
- Wine exposition (Suite and Junior Suite)
- Boiler
- Coffee Machine (Suite and Junior Suite)
- Free Wi-Fi
- Safe
- Widescreen LCD TV
- Pay TV
- Satellite TV

Hotel

- Le dodici Fontane Restaurant
- Outdoor swimming pool up to 20m with solarium
- Private Parking space
- Free Mountain bikes
- Pet friendly
- Outdoor bar in good weather
- American Bar
- **Wellness Centre Petra SPA with indoor heated mini-pool**
- **Private Park of 2 hectares with olive trees and relax area.**
- Free Wi-Fi
- Itinerary through nature
- Exclusive use of the villa
- Meeting hall for up to 110 people;

Upon request:

- Transfer to and from: airport, touristic port and railway station
- Car renting
- Etna tours and all over Sicily with specialized guides
- Baby sitting (upon reservation).
- Helicopter and yacht reservations;
- Individual excursions (provided also in English);



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