



# Fact sheet

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**OPENING DATE** March 2007

**LOCATION** In the southwest corner of designated Brunello di Montalcino growing area, Castello Banfi is located 16 kilometers west of the small city of Montalcino (about 20 minutes by car), 70 kilometers south of Siena (about 1 hour by car), 130 kilometers south of Florence (about 1.5 hours by car), and 240 kilometers north of Rome (about 2.5 hours by car).

**DESCRIPTION** The luxury rooms and suites of Castello Banfi - il Borgo are nestled into the homes that were built alongside the medieval fortress, historically known as Poggio alle Mura, in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries when it became safe to live outside of the thick walls and locked gates but prudent to be close for protection. The castle, since re-christened Castello Banfi, is hospitality center of the 7,100-acre (2,850 hectares) vineyard estate. Guests are nurtured in a warm and refined environment with attention to detail, befitting the world of fine wine. Culinary and cultural adventure, including cooking classes, wine tastings, vineyard treks and sightseeing, as well as simple relaxation, are the hallmark of these charming accommodations.

**OWNER** The Mariani Family of Castello Banfi

**GENERAL MANAGER** Juan Miquel

**ARCHITECT** Marco Matteucci of Montalcino was given the charge of preserving the historical character of the Borgo Buildings.

**INTERIOR DESIGNER** Federico Forquet of Cetona; one of Italy's most renowned designers, he worked with the Mariani family to create the elegant and comfortable interiors of the rooms and suites as well as the surrounding gardens.



**ACCOMMODATIONS** “Castello Banfi – il Borgo” offers 14 rooms and suites, varying in size, location and décor, all with carefully selected furnishings and fabrics, classic fixtures and luxuriant amenities. Each offers a King-sized bed, while the designated suites are additionally furnished with a Queen-size sofa bed in a separate room. The beds in three of the rooms and one of the suites can be separated to Twin beds.

### ROOM TYPES

- 2 Deluxe Room Riserva with vineyards view
- 7 Junior Suites with Borgo and vineyards view
- 3 Suites classic with vineyards view
- 1 Suite Riserva with vineyards view
- 1 Suite Poggio all’Oro with vineyards view

### FEATURES

**Accommodations** - Each room is equipped with flat screen television featuring international satellite programming and radio with a selection of jazz, classical and contemporary music; high-speed internet connection, direct telephone lines, valuables safe, and complementary soft drinks minibar and light snacks, nespresso coffee machine. Well-equipped bathrooms feature professional hair driers, towel warmers, large showers with oversized rainfall heads; several have an additional bathtub, and bath amenities include bath foam, shampoo, conditioner and body lotion made from Sangiovese grapes grown on the estate. Each spacious room is painted and furnished in a different color scheme and appointed with eclectic themed artwork; several include a separate dressing area, writing desk and breakfast table.

**Cooking Classes** – Spend a half day with our Chef, learning the secrets of the renowned Italian cooking. Hands-on 4-hour morning class with our Chef. Preparation of a 4-course Italian lunch that guests will enjoy with a selection of Banfi wines.

**Wine Tastings** – Our Enoteca/Wine bar recreates the atmosphere of a true Tuscan wine shop where, alongside Banfi wines, extra virgin olive oil, Condimento Balsamico Etrusco and grappa, you will find numerous local artisan food and crafts. Here, surrounded by the imposing views of the adjacent Castello di Poggio alle Mura, you will have the opportunity to pair our prestigious wines to outstanding local sheep’s cheese and classic Tuscan ham. The Enoteca is regularly opened from 10 AM to 6 PM, mid November till mid March, and from 10 AM to 7.30 PM, mid March – till Mid November.

**Music Festivals** – Castello Banfi is the sponsor of the Jazz & Wine festivals held in Montalcino each summer, with concerts in town as well as on the estate. Special concerts of Classical Music and Opera are also planned.

**Other Activities** – From among a wide range of customized activities, our concierge can set up hiking and cycling, massages, yoga, private tours.



**PUBLIC SPACES** A constellation of single vineyards occupies the choicest soils covering one third of the 7,100-acre domain; roughly another third is dedicated to olive groves, fruit orchards and grain fields, while the balance is Mediterranean woodland teeming with game. Daily tours are conducted at the winery in the valley below, and visitors to the castle compound enjoy several hospitality options.

**L'Enoteca** – A focal point for visitors to the estate, this shop offers the full range of wines from the Castello Banfi estate for retail bottle and case purchase or tasting by the glass. Wines from Banfi Piemonte, a sister estate in Piedmont, as well as secondary Banfi labels and imported wines from other family producers are also available, along with extra vergine olive oil, balsamic vinegar (Castello Banfi Condimento balsamico etrusco), honey and fruit from the estate, local artisan pasta, cookies, pottery and woolen goods; postcards, books, wine related jewelry and serving equipment, glassware, souvenir clothing, and framed prints.

**Il Museo** – The Giovanni F. Mariani Museum of Glass and Wine explores the relationship of these two elements from ancient times to modern day. The collection is housed on the ground floor of the castle keep.

**La Balsameria** – In a cool, dark environment, a reduction of grape must ages to rich perfection in batteries of small barrels of descending size and specific wood types. Castello Banfi Condimento balsamico etrusco ages for 12 years in this modified *Soleras* system before bottling.

**La Taverna** – In the vaulted ceilings beneath the castle, this restaurant serves the traditional dishes of Montalcino and Tuscany, enhanced by the freshness and authenticity of local ingredients.. Regularly open for lunch from February to mid December.

**Sala dei Grappoli** – In the shadow of the historical Castello Banfi, this restaurant welcomes you in an elegant and refined atmosphere, serving traditional Italian and Mediterranean dishes, presented with a modern touch. Regularly open for dinner from mid March to mid November.



## GUESTS ONLY

***The reading room*** – Quiet space between the castle’s porticoed courtyard is furnished with backgammon and chess tables, a small library of the family’s favorite novels and travelogues, comfortable furniture and a warming hearth.

***Pergola garden*** – Formally planted gardens and a shading pergola provide a tranquil outdoor space in a sun drenched lower courtyard of the Borgo, with dramatic views of the river valley and hills that roll gently toward the sea.

***Front Desk*** – The reception area within Il Borgo was once a meeting place for residents who would gather to exchange news and information; today it continues that role in updated fashion for our guests.

***Breakfast room*** – Tucked in a quiet corner of the Borgo, an arched room has been set aside to greet the morning with full buffet breakfast, featuring freshly brewed coffee, tea, home baked delicacies and other traditional dishes.

***Heated swimming Pool*** – Behind the castle’s western wall, a swimming pool is laid into the hillside overlooking lush vineyards and enjoys an envious vantage point for dramatic Tuscan sunsets. Weather permitting, light lunch and drinks are served by the pool.

***Fitness room*** – An elliptical machine, exercise bicycle and free weights are suited to allow interested guests to continue their normal fitness routine while visiting Castello Banfi.



## **CLIMATE** (Fahrenheit)

Summer – Average temperature from 79° to 95° F (26°-35° C)

Fall – Average temperature from 50° to 60° F (10°-15° C)

Winter – Average temperature from 35° to 50° F (2°-10° C)

Spring – Average temperature from 64° to 78° F (18°-26° C)

## **AIRPORTS**

Florence – 1.5 hours by car

Pisa – 2 hours by car

Bologna – 3 hours by car

Rome – 2.5 hours by car

Milan Malpensa – 5 hours by car

## **TRAIN STATIONS**

Grosseto – 30 minutes by car

Siena – 1 hour by car

Florence – 2 hours by car

Montalcino (Buonconvento) – 30 minutes by car

## **CAR SERVICE**

Private transportation to and from Castello Banfi- Il Borgo, and limousine service for day trips during your stay, is available. Assistance with rental car pick-up and drop-off can be provided as well.

## **AFFILIATIONS**

Virtuoso Hotels and Resorts

Andrew Harper

Kiwi Collection