

GREAT ESCAPES

your essential guide to honeymoons and weddings abroad



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tucked away in Tuscany

Deep in the Italian countryside lies the Relais La Suvera a unique heirloom-filled hotel where history and *la dolce vita* live side by side

A WELL-TRAVELLED BRIDE RECENTLY RETURNED FROM HER HONEYMOON SPENT AT RELAIS LA SUVERA and gushed that it was, "the nicest place I've ever been." Set in the Italian hills 45 minutes by car from Siena, surrounded by fields of sunflowers and vineyards, La Suvera is rich in history. The site dates back to the 10th century and was once given to Pope Julius II, the Renaissance Pope best remembered for being a patron of Michelangelo and Raffaello. In 1989, the current owners, Marchese Ricci and his wife decided to transform their country home into a 32-room hotel featuring art, antiques and themed rooms. Our bride stayed in the Maria Gabriella of Savoy suite which is dedicated to the great, great grandmother of the current Marchese. Family heirlooms on display include family portraits, tapestries and Louis XVI console tables. The hotel's comfort level is high, as it feels more cosy than commercial. And of course, visiting Italy means eating well and La Suvera's restaurant is memorable. Guests feast on mouth-watering dishes, including a special Tuscan steak, while enjoying oodles of wine produced in the hotel's own cellars. Gliding back to the room, wafts of herbs from the lavender-filled pots that line the hallways delight the senses. It's La Suvera's attention to the detail and fascinating history that sets it apart and leaves guests brimming with fond memories.



Clockwise from top left:

From Relais La Suvera's pool, witness hundreds of years of architectural history. The hotel's suites are filled with the Marchese's heirlooms and antiques. An ariel view of the hotel's Villa Papale. Breakfast is served on a balcony overlooking the hills

contacts...

For more information about the Relais La Suvera and other Italian destinations or to make a reservation please telephone Exclusive Destinations on 020 8256 0231 or visit www.exclusivedestinations.co.uk

