

# CROATIA GEMS

## Villa Celine, Merisce, Central Istria

Sleeps 2-4 | 1 Double & 2 Sofa beds (a double and a single) | 1 Bathroom



### Description

Villa Celine is a beautifully renovated Istrian stone house located in a hilltop village with stunning views to the Adriatic. It sleeps 2 to 4, is 10km from the coast and has a golf course 15min away! Located in a spectacular position in the village of Merisce in central Istria, an area of great natural beauty often compared to Tuscany. It is on a high ridge with stunning and uninterrupted views of the Adriatic and the Italian coast in the distance. The village also looks out towards other hilltop towns including the ruined tower of the 13th century castle at Momjan and Buje with its striking high church steeple. Merisce is no more than 10 kilometres from the coast. In this region of Croatia, Italian is the principal language.



View from terrace

Villa Celestina is over 100 years old and we have restored it so as to retain many of the original features with full use of the natural materials of which it is built. Beautifully furnished in Mediterranean colours and in a truly breathtaking and peaceful location Villa Celestina provides a unique holiday experience. The villa is fully air conditioned. For the winter months there is under-floor heating on the ground floor and bathrooms and the bedroom has warm air heating.

## GROUND FLOOR

The Kitchen and Dining area lead into the Living Room through a wide stone archway. The Living Room opens out onto a terrace and has a direct view to the Adriatic from a full length window. A comfortable sofa in the living room can fold out to provide an additional double bed.



The kitchen units have been built in Tuscan style with stone sink and worktops made by local craftsmen. The kitchen is fitted with electric oven and hob, microwave and dishwasher. A fridge freezer and washer/dryer are housed in a walk in store room. A downstairs WC and hand basin facilitates the use of the sitting room for additional sleeping accommodation if required.

## FIRST FLOOR

A stone staircase leads to the first floor where the bedroom, with king size double bed, has a galleried ceiling and access to large terrace with 180 degree panoramic views over vineyards and olive groves and with the Adriatic spanning the horizon. An alcove contains a built-in settee that can convert into an additional single bed. The shower room and WC are accessed from the bedroom.



## OUTSIDE

The ground floor terrace has a large covered area with grill, table and chairs and is ideal for outside dining. The first floor sun terrace has magnificent views of the Adriatic and surrounding countryside. Below the house there is a steeply sloping garden area with fruit trees.





### **MERISCE AND SURROUNDING AREA**

Merisce is one of those rare places where a sense of peace and tranquility prevails. The village of some 45 houses is set along a ridge 250 metres above sea level and provides breathtaking views in all directions. The road through the village becomes a farm track and footpath leading to a delightful chapel. There is no through traffic. The principal town of the area, Buje, is only six kilometres away and is easily reached via a scenic rural road. Buje provides for all shopping and other services, and is itself a charming historic town.

### **Eating Out**

This region of Istria is studded with excellent restaurants of the highest quality as well as bars and café serving simpler fare. Closest, and highly recommended, is Restaurant Marino in the nearby village of Kremenje. Like all the restaurants in Central Istria, Marino specialises in dishes incorporating truffles gathered from the local woodlands. This first class restaurant also offers its own prize winning Kabola Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Malvazia wines.

Momjan, just 2 km from Merisce boasts two excellent restaurants providing home cooking (pasta and grilled meat and fish) in a convivial atmosphere. Restaurant Zigante in Livade in the valley between Motuvun and Oprtalj is unquestionably one of the finest restaurants in Istria. The imaginative menu includes many dishes that incorporate truffles and there is a first class wine list. There are several other good restaurants within a 15 kilometre radius.



Momjan -13th Century Tower



Oprtalj

### **Beaches**

There are many beaches within a 12 to 20 kilometre range from Villa Celestina. The closest beach is at Kanegra on the Piranski Zaljev (Bay of Piran) and is less than 15 minutes drive.

There are also beaches that can easily be reached just over the border in Slovenia at Portoroz and Piran. Novigrad, about 20 km drive, is a charming town and you can swim from immediately outside the town walls which is ideal if you want to combine walking round the town with a swim. Along the coast between Novigrad and Umag there are plenty of places to swim and Umag itself has beaches.



Kanegra



Novigrad

To book please call us on 0871 8551031 from the UK or 0044 (0)117 9732643 from outside the UK or email us on [info@croatiagems.com](mailto:info@croatiagems.com).

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