BELMOND OPENS ITS AUTHENTIC COUNTRY ESCAPE IN THE HEART OF RURAL TUSCANY
BELMOND CASTELLO DI CASOLE

14th May 2018 - Today, Belmond Castello di Casole joins the Belmond portfolio, a truly authentic Tuscan retreat, steeped in Etruscan history, fully encapsulating ‘The Art of Good Living’ and connecting guests with local culture and rich heritage.

Joining its Tuscan sister hotel, Belmond Villa San Michele in Florence, the storied castle hotel and grounds sit within an untouched nature reserve in the Tuscan hills between Siena and Florence. A cypress tree lined private road ascends to the historical estate which is situated atop rolling hills with panoramic views of the surrounding villages and patchwork farmland, including olive groves and vineyards, producing the property’s own olive oil and ‘C’ private-label signature wines.

Built in the year 998 and originally named Querceto Manor, the iconic property was restored by the aristocratic Bargagli family in the 20th century and sits within its own medieval village, featuring original Etruscan artifacts and architecture.

ROMANTIC LUXURY IN TRUE TUSCANY

Located in the former medieval village in the grounds, the Essere spa offers a sanctuary to connect with Etruscan history and disconnect from modern day living. Set in the old wine cellar, the tranquil space features original stone walls and Etruscan artifacts dating back to the 4th century, owned by the Bargagli Collection. The spa terrace is a space to relax and enjoy sunrise yoga with long views over the expansive golden valley.
Rejuvenating signature treatments using local ingredients – rosemary, grape seed and olive oil – and ancient Etruscan methods, reflect the spirit of Tuscany and connect guests with the rich surrounding landscapes. The Divino Ritual is inspired by Belmond Castello di Casole's vineyards, featuring a red wine bath and hydro-massage enriched with red wine extracts.

Belmond Castello di Casole offers a dynamic mix of local Tuscan and Italian flavours. Classic Venetian dishes such as tender carpaccio and tagliolini verdi are served in the sun-lit courtyard of Cip’s Club by sister property, Belmond Hotel Cipriani. Old Tuscan traditional dishes with modern flair can be found at Tosca, using ingredients grown in the hotel gardens.

With classic marble detailing, Bar Visconti is named after previous occupier and cinematographic legend, Luchino Visconti. The legendary filmmaker hosted notable social events at the castle, inviting Hollywood glitterati such as Sophia Loren and Helmut Berger. Overlooking the calm infinity pool, the bar is the perfect spot to enjoy the sunset or gaze at the stars from the panoramic terrace.

ETRUSCAN DREAMS

Each of the castello’s 39 all-suite rooms capture the spirit of the region. Throughout the property, design features include original stone flooring, terracotta colours and traditional alabaster from the local region of Volterra, reflecting the estate’s rich history. Suites located in the original 10th century medieval tower, feature original fireplaces and stone wall detailing.

WILD AND RUSTIC TUSCANY

The vast acres surrounding the property provide an unrivalled backdrop for a range of activities, offering access to the region’s hidden secrets. Guests are invited to head out with the estate rangers for a sunset safari to see the plethora of wildlife, including deer, wild boars, pheasants, foxes and hares, or discover truffle hunting, explore the estate from the many hiking trails and cycle along the tracks amongst the vineyards.

TOWN AND COUNTRY

Guests can journey between Belmond Villa San Michele in Fiesole, Florence and Belmond Castello di Casole for the ultimate Tuscan adventure.

Prices start from 500 Euros per night + 10% VAT, based on two sharing and including breakfast. Visit Belmond.com/castellodicasole for more information and bookings.

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About Belmond:

Belmond (belmond.com) is a global collection of exceptional hotel and luxury travel adventures in some of the world's most inspiring and enriching destinations. Established almost 40 years ago with the acquisition of Belmond Hotel Cipriani in Venice, its unique and distinctive portfolio now embraces 47 hotel, rail and river cruise experiences, including one scheduled for a 2018 opening in London, in many of the world's most celebrated destinations. From city landmarks to intimate resorts, the collection includes Belmond Grand Hotel Europe, St. Petersburg; Belmond Copacabana Palace, Rio de Janeiro; Belmond Maroma Resort & Spa, Riviera Maya; and Belmond El Encanto, Santa Barbara. Belmond also encompasses safaris, eight luxury tourist trains, including the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express, and three river cruises. Belmond also operates '21' Club, one of New York's most storied restaurants. belmond.com

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