



ONE WAY TICKET ONLY, PLEASE

Ever been too relaxed to even think of leaving your holiday paradise?

That would be us

ow, we love a cultural city break or a proper holiday adventure as much as the next girl. We can museum hop and wallow in architectural wonders with the best of them. We've trekked through remote jungles and taken rickety buses stuffed with chickens and friendly locals in search of ancient tribal grounds.

But sometimes, we just want to go on holiday. You know, that whole 'lie in the sun somewhere beautiful with a good book' thing. Yep, we'd like a gorgeous pool, fab food, and the option to do something active if we want

to, thanks very much. Sound tempting? Then the luxurious Borgo Egnazia in Puglia, Italy, has your name written all over it. You could explore the nearby little fishing village, Savelletri di Fasano, or the gorgeous trulli houses in nearby Alberobello, but you won't ever *need* to leave this fairytale-like resort (and – heads up – you won't want to).

It's a designer Apulian village, complete with cobbled streets, Roman bathhouse and piazza – but one conceived and built on a seriously luxe scale (don't be fooled by the rustic appearance – this holiday is all about making you feel fabulous). You'll even be given a map upon arrival, to help you navigate its delights.



DC

Do? What do you mean do? We have Lying Next To The Pool to occupy us – and there are three – count 'em – pools by which to do so. But if you must, there are two private beach clubs – where you can sunbathe on a four-poster sun lounger, a tennis academy, the cooking school (where you can learn to replicate the hotel's culinary magic and cook local specialities such as orecchiette pasta and polpettine meatballs), a games room, library, sailing, wind and kite surfing.



SLEEP

Here's the clever bit: Borgo Egnazia (or "our new home", as we took to thinking of it) is divided into three areas: La Corte boutique hotel, the Borgo (aka village) and private villas. So you can opt for the hotel (private terrace for two, please); the rustic village or splurge on your own private villa (very Brad and Angelina en famille).



SPA

The Vair is Spa Heaven, with 14 treatment rooms, a spa suite with a garden, an iyengar yoga studio,

a heated indoor pool, steam room and the salt and basil-infused Apulian sauna.

Treatments take their cue from local traditions – try the Roman-Apulian wet experience (going from the Ancient Roman bath through different tepidarium and caldarium zones). Or opt for a body scrub – we loved the Apulian pink-salt body scrub or try the Spirt V, which includes having the juice from a whole orange squeezed over your skin.



Due Camini (below) is set in the main building serving traditional Pugliese food (which is almost all grown on the premises, so the menu changes seasonally). La Frasca, perched next to the Borgo pool, is more casual – head here for a barbecue – or go local at A Pizzeri (no prizes for guessing the dish of the day). Trattoria Mia Cucina serves local dishes – and houses a cookery school.



WANT TO GO RIGHT NOW?

Italian specialist Classic Collection Holidays (0800 008 7299) offers seven nights at the Borgo Egnazia in Puglia, Italy, from £1,567 per person. Price based on two adults sharing a La Corte Bella room on a bed-and-breakfast basis and includes return flights from London Gatwick to Bari airport and private transfers. Sea-view room supplements start from an extra £22 per person per night. classic-collection.co.uk ▶