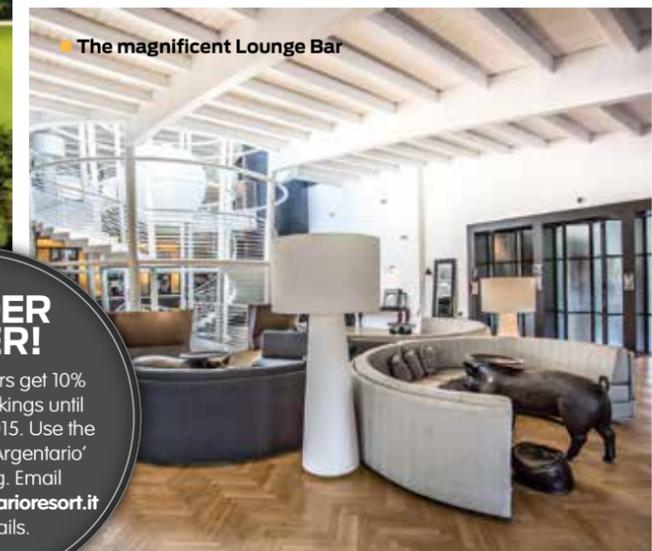


■ The course at the Argentario Golf Resort & Spa



■ Great views over the course are available throughout the resort



■ The magnificent Lounge Bar

ITALY

A Tuscan gem

Experience the luxurious splendour of the five-star Argentario Golf Resort & Spa in the heart of Italy's magical Maremma

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bunkered readers get 10% off selected bookings until December 25, 2015. Use the code 'BunkeredArgentario' when booking. Email booking@argentarioresort.it for full details.

The success of some of the country's most exciting professional golfers - including the Molinari brothers, Francesco and Edoardo, as well as Matteo Manassero - has helped to put golf in Italy firmly on the map in recent years. That, in turn, has raised the profile of some of its finest courses and resorts, resulting in the discovery of some true gems - gems like the Argentario Golf Resort & Spa.

Located in the Maremma, a protected Mediterranean oasis on the west coast of Italy, Argentario is a five-star destination that overlooks the Orbetello Lagoon. It comprises 73 design rooms and an exclusive cottage, each featuring a private terrace with views of either the breathtaking landscape or the beautiful golf course (more of which shortly).

There is also a stylish Espace Wellness

Centre and MediSpa on-site, where you can pamper yourself and indulge in some unrivalled relaxation, whilst the on-site dining is exceptional. The Dama Dama Restaurant is the perfect place to sample the very best in locally-sourced Italian cuisine, including legumes, fine cheeses, mushrooms, olives, truffles and Florentine steak. It's quite outstanding.

The resort is also ideally situated if you wish to explore the wider area, with all of Tuscany's main towns and cities with easy reach of the resort. Day trips to Florence, Pisa and Siena are particularly highly recommended.

However, we dare say that you will be most interested in the golf on offer. Fortunately, Argentario doesn't disappoint. Its 18-hole championship layout was originally designed by Baldovino Dassu and has since been

reworked and improved upon, resulting in a course that has been described as 'varied, spectacular and technically challenging'. If that doesn't get the juices flowing then we really don't know what will!

Its greens are small and perfectly manicured. Hitting them and then mastering the speed of them are the keys to scoring well. In truth, though, it doesn't particularly matter how well you play; you will still have a fantastic day on the course soaking up the sumptuous views of the Orbetello Lagoon.

The resort also has excellent practice facilities should you be interested in trying to brush up on your skills during your break. You'll be following in famous footsteps if you do, too, with the likes of former Ryder Cup captain Jose Maria Olazabal - the mastermind of the 'Miracle at Medinah' - and the

forementioned Matteo Manassero both having been known to practice there from time to time.

The on-site golf academy, meanwhile, is kitted out with the latest technology and is headed-up by former Johnnie Walker Championship winner Emanuele Canonica. The big-hitting former European Tour star is on-hand to offer advice and lessons - you'd be mad to pass up the opportunity to learn from him!

With a warm climate all year round

the Argentario resort is the perfect place to visit. No matter what the weather is like back home, you can rest assured of mild temperatures on the Maremma, enabling you to play golf all 12 months of the year.

The resort has also recently launched a collaboration with a famous Italian biologist and nutritionist called Luca Naitana. Together, they are promoting spa packages called 'Wellbeing Escape' that allow guests to have a visit and complete detailed check-up with Naitana

whilst on holiday. A personal nutritional program is created for each and every guest, with dedicated dishes prepared at Dama Dama Restaurant, mostly using local organic products. Guests will discover how delicious and creative the dietetic cuisine can be.

On top of that, you will also receive customised massages, personalised fitness courses with a dedicated personal trainer as well as free use of the driving range and 50% off 18-hole green fees. Full details and up-to-the-minute prices are available at argentariogolfresortspa.com

Whatever it is that you look for in a golf holiday, you will find it all year round at the beautiful, luxurious Argentario Golf Resort & Spa.

To find out more about the Argentario Golf Resort & Spa, log-on to argentarioresort.com

'THE LIKES OF JOSE MARIA OLAZABAL AND MATTEO MANASSERO HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO PRACTICE AT ARGENTARIO'