

# Casa Ortensia

*Live slowly.*

A SMALL HOUSE FOR SLOW LIVING

Monteggio · Malcantone · Ticino · Switzerland

# A quiet *invitation.*

This is not a hotel brochure. It is a small book about a house – a private home in the hills of the Malcantone, where the days follow the light and the meals follow the garden. The pages that follow gather the story, the images and the practical notes needed to tell it well.

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# A slower way *of being at home.*

Casa Ortensia was never meant to be a hotel. It is a private house where people come to slow down, reconnect and enjoy the simple rhythm of everyday life.

Here, mornings begin with coffee in the garden, afternoons unfold along forest trails or around the kitchen table, and evenings end under the stars. Time is measured by light, conversation and shared meals rather than schedules.

Designed for up to six guests, Casa Ortensia is intentionally intimate. Families, couples, friends, retreat organisers and remote workers all find the same thing: space to breathe, think and be present.

The organic kitchen garden, the fully fenced private garden and the Wish Tree create places to gather, reflect or simply do nothing at all. Dogs are not only welcome – they are part of the experience, with safe outdoor space and countless woodland paths to explore together.

Some visitors come to hike through the quiet landscapes of the Malcantone. Others organise yoga retreats, mindfulness weekends, photography workshops, creative writing residencies or small team off-sites. The house adapts naturally to every experience without ever losing its character.

*Casa Ortensia is not built around luxury or amenities. It is built around simplicity, nature and meaningful moments shared with the people – and dogs – you love.*





CASA ORTENSIA, FROM ABOVE — MONTEGGIO, MALCANTONE

# A house made for six, *not sixty.*

Casa Ortensia welcomes up to six guests in two comfortable bedrooms and a sofa bed in the living room. Rather than separating people, the house is designed to bring them together.

A fully equipped kitchen, generous indoor spaces and a covered patio naturally become places for conversation, shared meals and slow mornings.

The 150 m<sup>2</sup> fully fenced garden gives children and dogs the freedom to explore safely, while the Wish Tree offers a quiet corner for meditation, reading or simply doing nothing at all.

Nothing here is designed to impress. Everything is designed to make you feel at home. Natural materials, generous light and quiet surroundings invite you to slow down. Fast Wi-Fi is available when needed. Silence is available all the time.

6

GUESTS

2

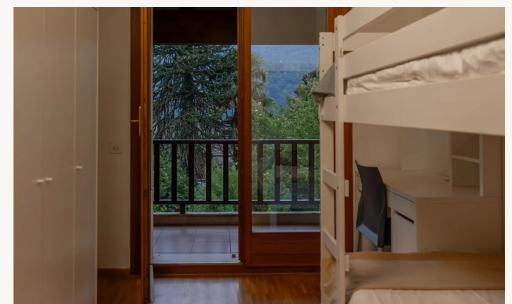
BEDROOMS

150

M<sup>2</sup> GARDEN

1

WISH TREE





THE GARDEN AT BLUE HOUR — CASA ORTENSIA, MONTEGGIO



## For dogs, not just *with dogs.*

Casa Ortensia is made for people who travel with their dogs, not in spite of them.

The 150 sqm fully fenced private garden gives dogs a safe place to run, play and rest in the shade, while the quiet trails, meadows and woodland paths of the Malcantone begin just beyond the house.

After a walk, muddy paws are part of the story. A dedicated outdoor dog shower lets guests rinse their dogs before returning indoors — simple, practical and made for real holidays.

150

SQM FENCED GARDEN

1

DOG SHOWER

0

LEASHES IN THE GARDEN

MANY

TRAILS TO EXPLORE

# Moments, *not amenities.*

A day at Casa Ortensia is measured in small gestures.  
These are a few of them.

- i.*      **Coffee in the garden**  
*While the dogs explore.*
- ii.*     **The morning markets**  
*Luino, Bellinzona, Ponte Tresa.*
- iii.*    **A walk through the Malcantone**  
*Quiet trails, birdsong, fresh mountain air.*
- iv.*     **Cooking together**  
*The kitchen invites conversation.*
- v.*      **The Wish Tree, at dusk**  
*Leave a wish. Ring the bell. Stay longer.*
- vi.*     **Stars from the patio**  
*The valley is dark enough to see them.*
- vii.*    **Reading on the patio**  
*While summer rain falls.*
- viii.*   **Time with the dog in the garden**  
*A fenced lawn, a ball, simple happiness.*





## A quiet act of art in the *garden.*

At the far end of the garden, a small group of camellias has been transformed into a site-specific landscape art installation by Swiss artist Ilaria Ratti Salvioni.

Built around a wooden platform, red-toned linen ribbons, metal elements, candles and ritual objects, the Wish Tree is a quiet focal point of the garden — a place to pause, reflect and leave an intention.

*Each ribbon carries an intention.*

RED	<i>for love.</i>
COGNAC	<i>for money.</i>
RASPBERRY	<i>for health.</i>
BURGUNDY	<i>for career.</i>
LOBSTER	<i>for luck.</i>

Guests choose a colour, make a wish and tie their ribbon to the tree. Over time, the wind, the rain and the seasons become part of the work.

*A place for reading.*

*For meditation.*

*For sitting still.*

INSTALLATION BY ILARIA RATTI SALVIONI · ILARIARATTI.COM ·



# Small by design. *Never more than six.*

Casa Ortensia is not a retreat centre. It is a private home that occasionally opens its doors to intimate gatherings — held by the garden and the quiet of the Malcantone.

The scale is the point. Everyone eats at the same table, walks the same trails, hears the bells at the Wish Tree. What you host, we simply hold the space for.

•  
Yoga

•  
Mindfulness

•  
Meditation

•  
Creative Writing

•  
Coaching

•  
Photography

•  
Painting

•  
Small Off-sites

*Not a retreat centre. A private home that occasionally opens its doors.*

# A place that time *forgot, kindly.*

West of Lugano, the Malcantone is one of Ticino's most varied and quietly surprising regions. Lakeside villages, wooded hills, open meadows, rivers, small lakes and panoramic peaks all sit within a short distance of one another.

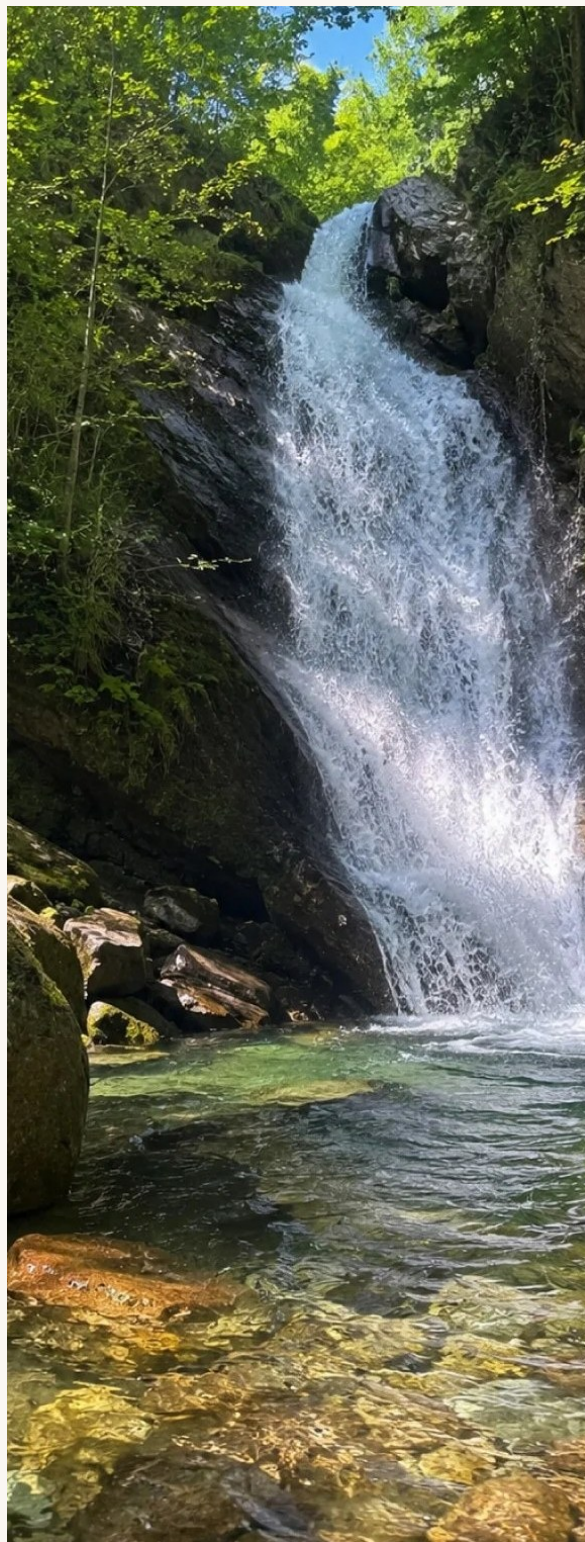
From Casa Ortensia in Monteggio, guests can walk, cycle, swim, visit local museums, discover the old gold mine of Sessa, taste wine and cheese from the region, explore Monte Lema, spend time by Lake Lugano or simply follow a quiet trail with the dog.

With more than 300 km of footpaths, MTB routes, family activities, cultural sites, traditional festivals and outdoor sports, the Malcantone offers much more than a beautiful landscape. It is a place for people who like to explore slowly – one village, one path, one view at a time.

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Lugano	Lakeside city – 25 min
Ponte Tresa	Border village & market – 10 min
Astano	Waterfall walk – 15 min
Monte Lema	Panorama at 1 620 m – 40 min
Luino	Italian lake town & Wed. market – 20 min
Locarno	Lakeside city & film festival – 55 min

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A gallery,  
*without words.*



# The facts, *gently kept.*

CAPACITY	Up to 6 guests · 2 bedrooms + sofa bed
LOCATION	Monteggio, Malcantone, Ticino — Switzerland
GARDEN	150 sqm fully enclosed — dog friendly
OUTDOOR	Covered patio · charcoal BBQ · Wish Tree platform
PARKING	1 free parking on site
NEAREST AIRPORT	Milano-Malpensa 60 min · Zürich 2h30
NEAREST STATION	Ponte Tresa 10 min (train to Lugano)
LANGUAGES	Italian · German · English · French
BOOKING	Booking.com · QUOKKA 360 (managing agency)

PRESS & COLLABORATIONS

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