

“La Casa all’Italiana”

Villa Ego..... a Villa Donegani history.....



Every building has to be a contribution to making the expression of life on our coast more beautiful, enchanting, enamouring and appealing”.

Gio Ponti, 1941

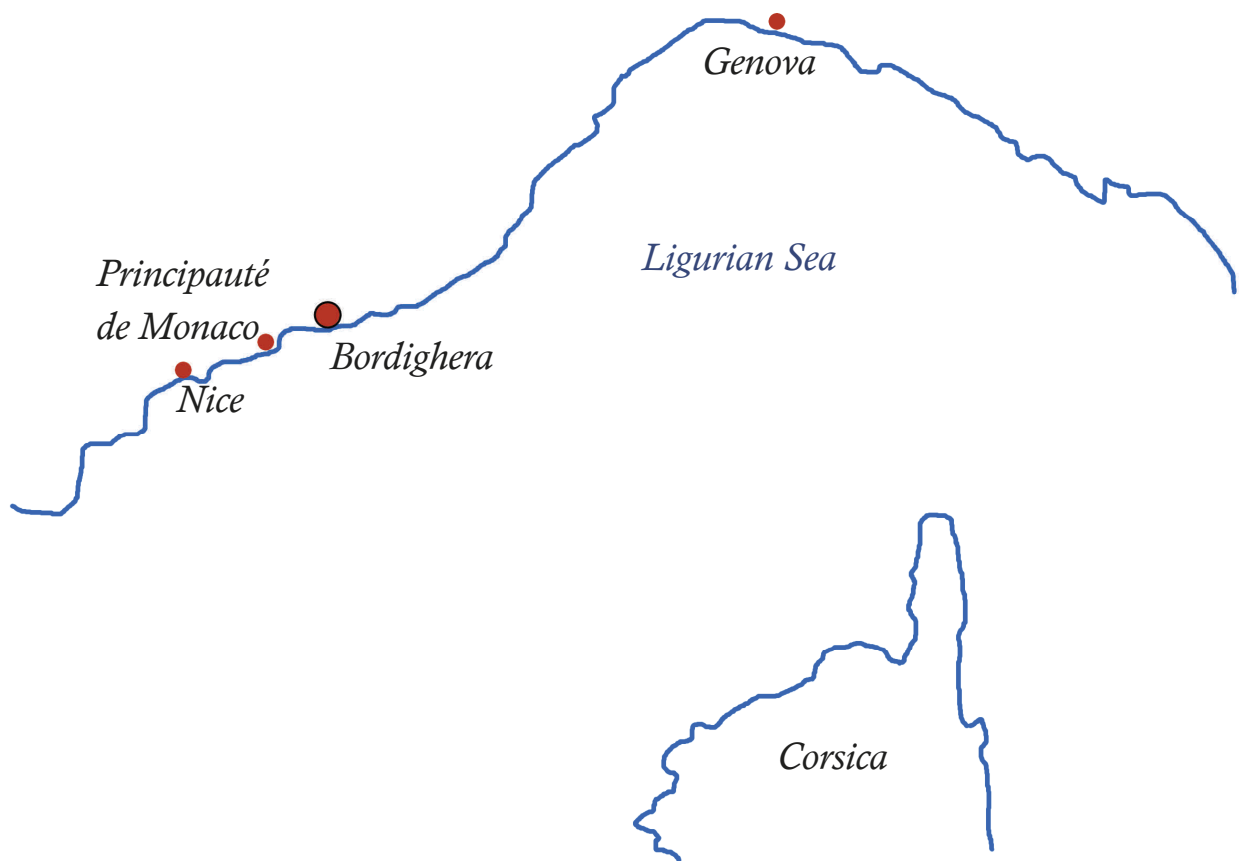
*The union of historical periods and state-of-art architectural techniques
through the various epochs of Italian and international architecture
has woven an impalpable web represented
by works of art set deep in the panorama and corners of the park.*

*Finally a unique, Italian object with a universal atmosphere:
Villa Ego previously Villa Donegani.*

From 1939.....until the end of times...

Boundaries.....

*We are in 1939,
Bordighera, located in the splendid Liguria among rocky slopes overlooking the sea.
Among its beautiful terraces populated by marvellous plants you can breathe
the air of nature and of the sea.
The property borders on the “Casa del Mattone”, today a private residence,
that the writer Giovanni Ruffini mentioned in his novel
“Il Dottor Antonio” in the 19th century.
This novel was very lucky and it promoted British tourism in Bordighera.
A few steps away there is another famous site,
the “Winter Park of the Madonna della Ruota”.
In this corner of paradise palms, olive trees, citrus trees and many other fine flowers
can be admired.
Near to France (Mentone, Montecarlo, Nizza) it is the ideal place for holidays
but also to live in a magic atmosphere.*





History.....

The villa has an important historical past.

*In the years '40 - '45, during the war,
the Duce Benito Mussolini used to visit the property hosted by the man who built it,
Giudo Donegani, owner of the company Montecatini that
successively was fused with Edison creating, in this way,
the company called Montedison.*

*In those times people used to travel by train, and the train
used to stop in the middle of the property
where the Duce used to get off and walk through the garden entrance.*

*Today you can still see the historical three steps
that connected the railway to the entrance.*

*Up to 1955 the villa was owned by Guido Donegani
who married for a second time the Countess Montagù, who had a son,
and when Donegani died, he inherited the villa.*

*Countess Montagù owned the villa up to the 60s when it was purchased by
a famous industrialist from Biella, Serafino Trbalto Tonia who kept it up to 1976.*

*Since the years 1993 the villa was purchased by an English society and was named
Villa Ego.....*

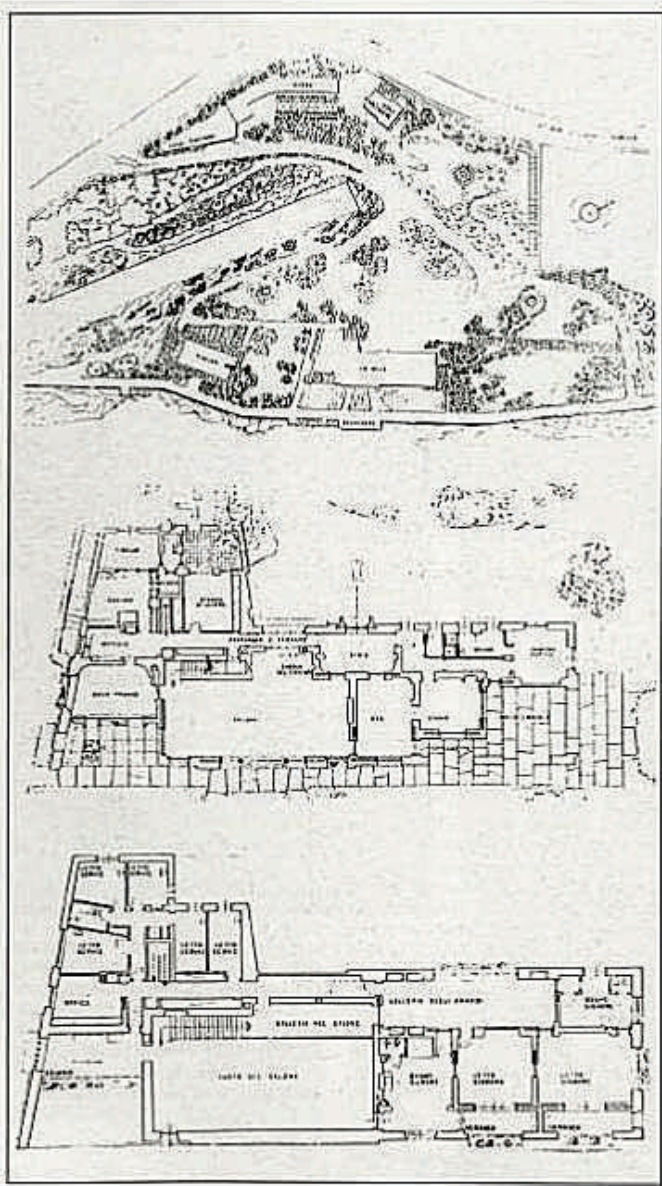


The Architects and the rooms.....

*The villa, commissioned by Guido Donegani - then president of Montecatini - ,
was designed by the famous architect Gio Ponti
and was built in the years 1939/1940.*

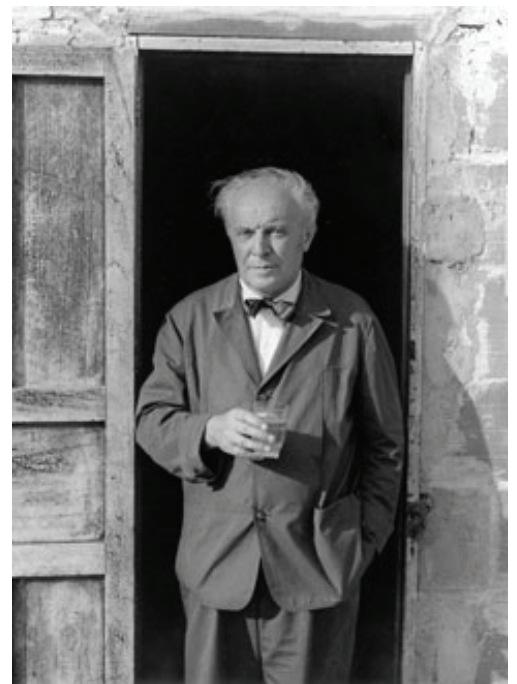
*The basic structure is enriched by a play of light and shade emphasised
by the pure white of the plaster and by the apertures, which,
seen as a whole, give the impression of being “incisions in the wall”.*





Gio Ponti, Villa Donegani
 (From: F. Irace, *Gio Ponti*, Electa ed. Mi 1988)

The Donegani L-shaped villa has a front lounge, which overlooks the sea.



Gio Ponti 1891– 1979

The Architects and the rooms.....



Gio Ponti, Villa Donegani
(From F. Irace, *Gio Ponti, Electa ed. Mi 1988*)

.....*Historical photographs of the Villa*



Gio Ponti, Villa Donegani
(From: F. Irace, *Gio Ponti, Electa ed. Mi 1988*)



Photographs taken by Stefano Bricarelli 1889_1989

The Architects and the rooms.....

After years of “doings up” the villa was restored by Piero Pinto who endeavoured to bring it back to its original splendour.

Moreover, as the work was carried out over the years without the original plans Pinto was able to re-organise the room spaces thus making it more up-to-date.

Piero Pinto tried to re-establish the continuity between the inside and the outside by opening the apertures that had previously been walled up.



Photo Vogue 1981

..... Historical photographs of the villa



Photo Vogue 1981

Piero Pinto exploited the entire height of the volume but left space enough to create another room that overlooks the splendid lounge.

The stairway that leads to the upper floor is an integral part of the interior decoration and the terracotta and slate floor creates the illusion of a large carpet.

The great decò fireplace is an authentic piece of Charles Garnier.

The beds are designed by Mies van der Rohe for Knoll International.





View of the Garden



..... *The shore*





*The property has a long walkway in travertine
that was built in order to enjoy and admire the beach.
This path ends in a great mirror which creates an illusory continuity.*





..... *The Architects and the rooms*



*The spacious lounge has a large window overlooking the sea.
Take note of the great fireplace in decò art style by Charles Garnier, which
was taken from another house, and the table designed by Piero Pinto.*

The Office area



The entrance to the study and the living room is guarded by two bronze panthers.

On the next page:

*The ground floor study is dominated by a large window that overlooks the garden
and even here the floor space is terracotta and slate.*

*At the back a collection of antique walking sticks can be seen and on the right an antique
Italian bookcase of the early 1800's.*

.....Particulars



The Architects and the rooms.....



The terracotta and slate floor of the dining room has an inverted pattern respect to the front room.



The kitchen, which has pieces and shelves in black marble of the “Quercia Nera” (“Black Oak”) series produced by Arcum Poggenpohl , has a “peninsula” which can be used both as a working top and as a dining table. The design of the “peninsula” is mirrored in the shelf that hangs from the ceiling on which a collection of Islamic vases can be seen.

The Architect and the rooms



.....Particulars



*The architect Piero Pinto built a fireplace on the first floor,
creating a small chill out corner with a divan and
cushions upholstered in old decò carpets.*

The writing desk is an English piece from the early 1800's.

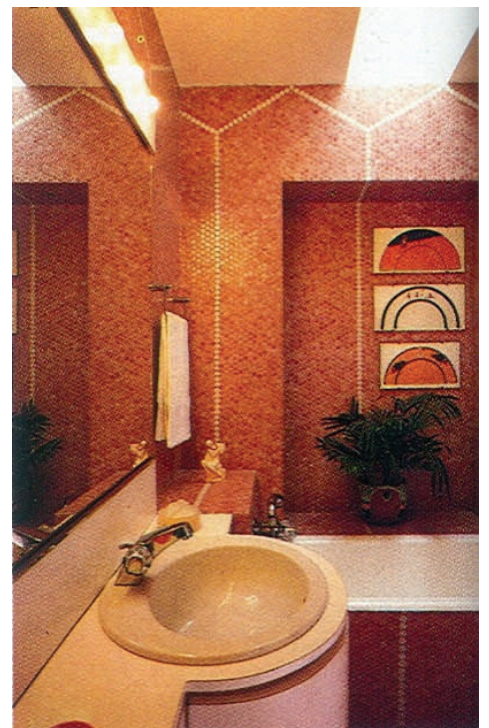
The Architects and the rooms.....



The great bed in Empire style of Italian origin is near the window and has a prominent position in the room.



*The main bathroom has a slate bath that contrasts with the light colour of the walls.
(Photo Vogue 1981)*



*The guest bathroom is designed by Piero Pinto
and decorated with a French “briare” type mosaic.*

*On the walls three preliminary
sketches of Art Decò fans can be seen.
(Photo Vogue 1981)*

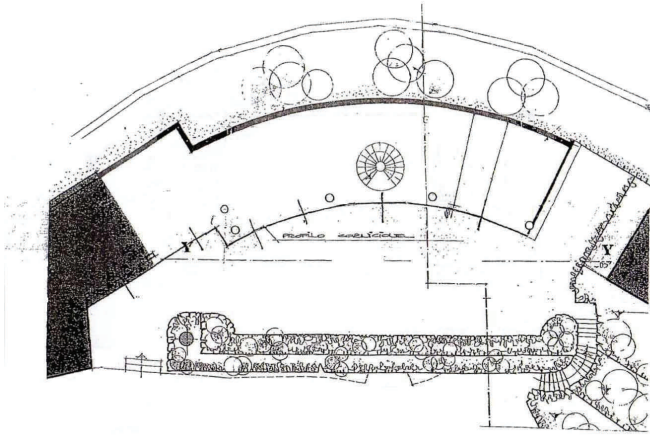
Well-being Area.....





Private gymnasium overlooking the garden.

Kenzo Tange and the car museum.....



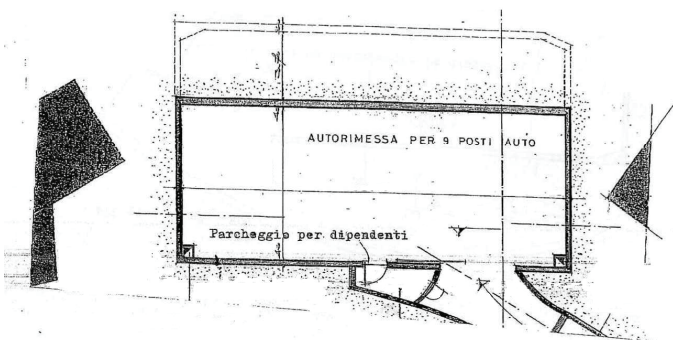
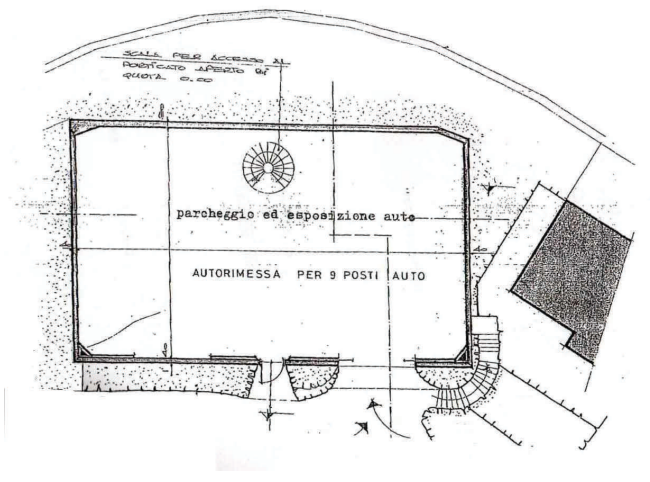
The architect Kenzo Tange in 1984/85 realised a museum for cars that, in that epoch, housed 25 Ferraris.

It is designed on three levels:

Office space adjacent to the courtyard;

Under road level – the showroom for the cars;

Under showroom level – private garage.





The Garden and the Magic of Art



The garden with its palms, high trees of valuable varieties and hundred-year old olive trees give the property a magical atmosphere.

Deep in this magic we can admire works of art which are positioned in various parts of the garden so as to create evocative corners.







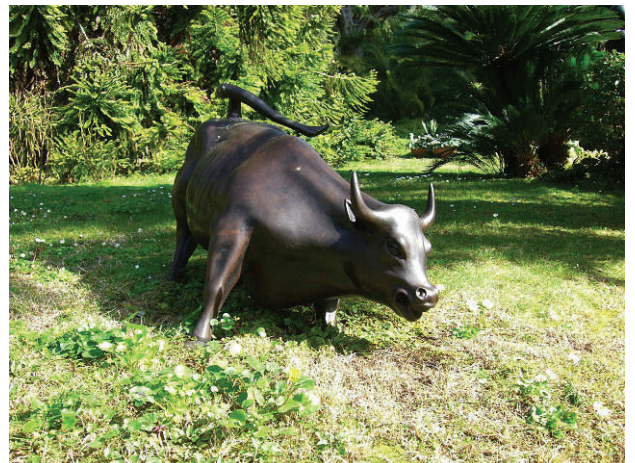


..... *The Park*

Arturo Di Modica
Wall Street Charging Bull's artist.....



On the next page:
A fine specimen of Araucaria Agustifolia.





Copy of DE CHIRICO francobollo 1988

Taken from the sculpture



Giorgio De Chirico, Gli Archeologi







Giorgio De Chirico, Ettore e Andromaca





Particulars





Sculpture of Armand Pierre Fernandez, known as Arman.

*On the next page:
Sculpture of Ettore Colla.*



Sculpture of *Giovanni Maria Manganelli: Donna al sole*



On the next page:
Giorgio De Chirico, Il grande Metafisico









Giovanni Maria Manganelli, Nuotatrice







Luis Alberto Muñoz, Dalla terra al cielo





Giovanni Maria Manganelli, Tuffatrice

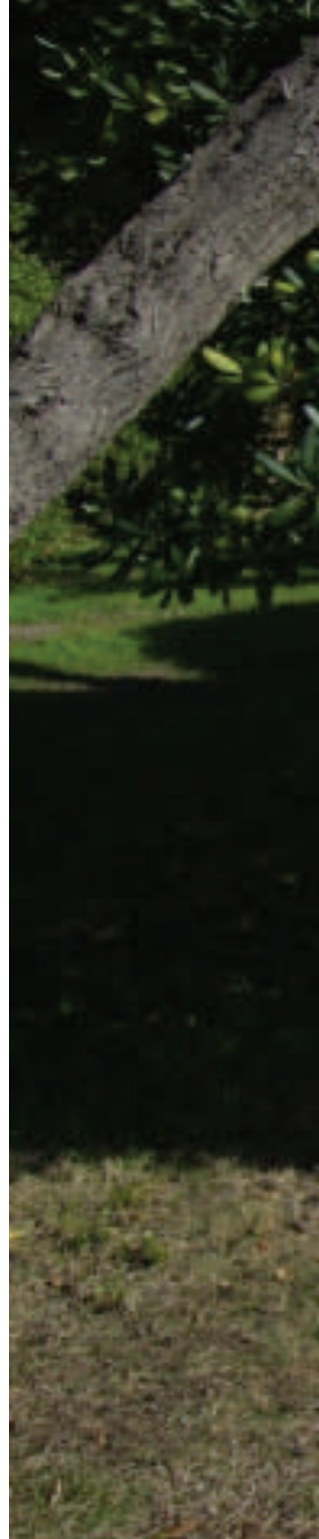




Luis Alberto Muñoz, Madre Terra

*On the next page:
Two puttos frame the veranda that overlooks the sea.
Sculpture of Italo Griselli*







Sculpture of Antonio Maraini, Venere



Sculpture of Italo Griselli , Dea dell'Abbondanza



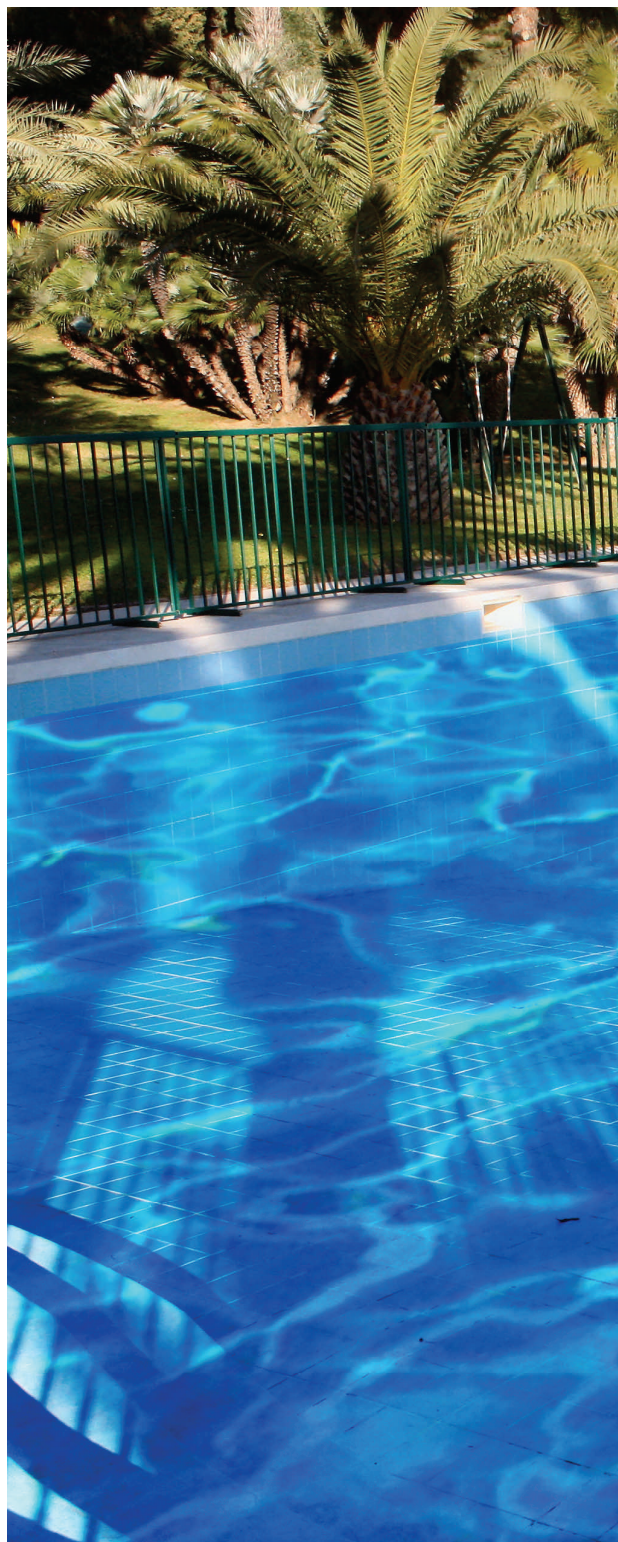


Roman style bas-relief

*On the next page:
Sculpture of Italo Griselli, Dio del Mare*



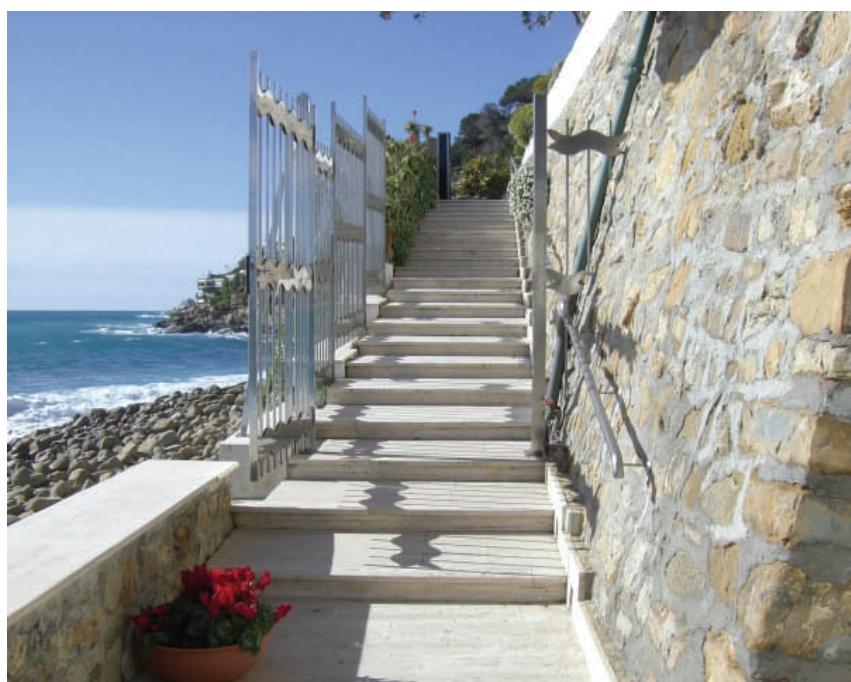
Prestigious aspects.....





The access to the big swimming pool is visible from the dining room and was designed by Gio Ponti making the steps seem like waves.

Even the pool is surrounded by a great garden with many palm trees.



..... Prestigious aspects



*At sea level there is a swimming pool with a pool for thalassotherapy
fed by heated sea-water and built in the years 2000.*

Prestigious aspects.....



PRIVATE HELIPORT

Coordinates of the Heliport:

43°47'24,99 N

7°41'33,96 E

.....Resort

Securty Resort



Residence Resort



Details.....

PROPERTY:

23,055 sqm with 600 sqm of State Maritime Permission.

Destination: park, wood and olive grove.

Internal closed circuit cameras for security.

MAIN BUILDING:

Building on two levels plus basement.

Architectural work: Gio Ponti in 1939/1940.

Ground floor: 500 sqm

First floor: 400 sqm

Basement: SPA of 150 sqm

ENTRANCE APARTMENTS:

Two apartments of 324 sqm each

GUEST RESIDENCE:

Composed of three receiving structures:

Ground floor, 1st and 2nd floor 214 sqm

LOBBY area Kenzo Tange:

Polyfunctional building: 300 sqm office space with adjoining courtyard of 200 sqm

SHOWROOM SPACE:

1st floor, 500 sqm showroom below road level

GARAGE:

2nd floor, 350 sqm below road level

PRIVATE AREA:

Open-air swimming pool with sea water 200 sqm

Changing room and pertinences 59 sqm

Therapeutic pool 70 sqm

Garage entrance 64 sqm

Service areas 70 sqm

Private seafront of circa 260 mt with private beaches.

Runway for helicopter. Coordinates of heliport: 43 ° 47 '24,99 N - 7 ° 41' 33,96 E

.....Bibliografy

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Dunia Mittner, Chiara Visentin .
- *F. Irace, Gio Ponti. La casa all'italiana, Electa, Milano, 1997.*
- *Casa Vogue Ottobre 1981—n. 123*
- *Ponti—Graziella Roccella Ed. Taschen*





*The information on surfaces and accessories are protected.
For a guided tour details to be agreed with the Security of property*

*L'informazione sulle superfici e gli accessori sono protette.
Per una visita accompagnata occorre concordare i dettagli con la
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*सतहों और सामान के बारे में जानकारी सुरक्षित हैं.
के लिए एक निर्देशित दौरे विवरण संपत्ति की सुरक्षा के साथ हो लिए सहमत*

Dania Minotti
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