



PRESS KIT

Pirrera Carved Oasis

Six houses inside a calcarenite quarry. Favignana, Egadi Islands.

management@pirreraoasis.com · +39 392 475 2643 · pirreraoasis.com

Pirrera Carved Oasis is a serviced residence carved inside a pirrera, a calcarenite quarry on the island of Favignana. Six houses, between 28 and 43 square metres, sit beneath eighteen metres of stone cut by hand over generations. The walls have not been clad and the grooves left by the quarrymen have not been smoothed: the perimeter of the building is the perimeter of the cut. Where the quarry stopped being a quarry, there is now a swimming pool.

01 THE MATERIAL

A stone you can saw like timber

The calcarenite of Favignana is white, porous, laid down here more than two million years ago. A sixteenth-century source describes it as sawable "like wood": soft to work, remarkably durable once in place. It is the stone half of western Sicily is built from, and the reason the island is riddled with hundreds of quarries.

The men who cut them were called pirriaturi. They worked the bank horizontally, in galleries, to avoid removing the hard surface layer: which is why the quarries of Favignana are not pits, they are rooms. Cutting downwards and inwards they left vertical walls, corridors, shafts of light. An involuntary architecture, produced by a trade with no aesthetic intentions.



02 THE PROJECT

Everything else is subtraction

The conversion was conceived to speak with the stone, not to cover it. The walls remain quarry. The entrances follow the original cuts. The windows look for light where light already arrives, which is where the quarrymen opened the bank.

Seen from above, the residence is not placed against the quarry: it is the quarry that changed trade. The perimeter of the building is the perimeter of the excavation, and where the bank ended the wall ends too. The one genuinely added element is the pool, on the floor of the quarry, where the pirriaturi stopped cutting. Everything else is subtraction: stone removed, shade left where it was.



03 THE WATER

Eighteen metres of stone, then water

The pool sits on the quarry floor, on a wooden deck enclosed by vertical calcarenite walls. The grooves above the head of anyone swimming are the marks of the cut: they have not been smoothed, and they will not be.

Beside it is the lawn. Higher up, the panoramic terrace, from which you can see Levanzo, the coast of Trapani and, on clear days, Marettimo.



04 THE SERVICE

Six houses, no reception desk

Pirrerà is not a hotel and has no programme. One building, six houses with kitchens, each named after a place on the island, each with its own private outdoor space.

The transfer to and from the airport and the shuttle from the hydrofoil are included. Groceries are ordered at the time of booking and waiting on arrival. Electric cars, bicycles, scooters and boats are hired on site. Half board at Scalo Cavallo, three hundred metres away, is available on request.

Nine kilometres of island

Favignana is the largest of the Egadi Islands and can be crossed by bicycle in half an hour. Pirrera is three kilometres from the town, three hundred metres from Scalo Cavallo and one kilometre from Cala Rossa.

You arrive from Trapani by hydrofoil, around thirty minutes, with frequent departures throughout the day. Trapani Birgi airport is half an hour from the harbour, Palermo Punta Raisi one hour and forty minutes. From 15 June to 30 September, vehicles belonging to non-residents cannot land on the island unless they qualify for an exemption: a car is simply not needed.

The six houses

Each is named after a place on Favignana. All have a fitted kitchen, bathroom with shower, air conditioning, Wi-Fi and a private outdoor space.

A	Pozzo	40 m ²	2+2
B	Prèveto	36 m ²	2+2
C	Lo Scivolo	28 m ²	2
D	Pirreca	37 m ²	2+2
E	Lido Burrone	43 m ²	2
F	Cala Grande	28 m ²	2

Where two numbers are given, the second one is the sofa bed in the living area: two places of a different kind, not two equivalent ones.

Photographs

30 photographs cleared for editorial use, ready for print. Every image is a link: one click downloads it at the size shown.

The quarry



The quarry in the landscape of Favignana

JPEG 2400 × 1610 PX



The quarry cuts against the sky

JPEG 2000 × 1333 PX



The corridor between two cut walls

JPEG 1000 × 1334 PX

The architecture



The building inside the excavation, from directly above

JPEG 2400 × 1792 PX



The loggia cantilevered over the quarry

JPEG 2400 × 1792 PX



The timber loggias of the houses

JPEG 2400 × 1792 PX



The timber volume on the stone front

JPEG 2200 × 1467 PX



The timber screen against the calcarenite

JPEG 2400 × 1601 PX



A private outdoor space, from directly above

JPEG 2400 × 1792 PX

Material and planting



Calcarenite, up close
JPEG 2000 × 1333 PX



A citrus tree against the quarry
wall
JPEG 1467 × 2200 PX



Lavender on the pale gravel
JPEG 1601 × 2400 PX

The water



The pool enclosed by
calcarenite walls
JPEG 2400 × 1792 PX



The wall reflected in the water
JPEG 2000 × 1333 PX



The stone steps down to the
water
JPEG 2400 × 1792 PX

The houses



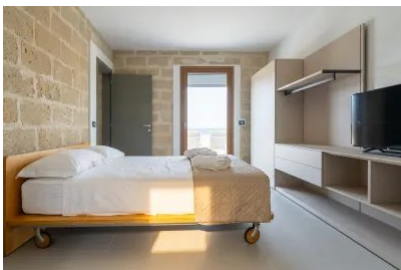
Pozzo, the bedroom
JPEG 2000 × 1334 PX



Pozzo, the kitchen
JPEG 2000 × 1334 PX



Pozzo, the living area
JPEG 1334 × 2000 PX



Lido Burrone, the bedroom
JPEG 2000 × 1334 PX



Lido Burrone, the bathroom
JPEG 1334 × 2000 PX



Prèveto, the living area
JPEG 2000 × 1334 PX

The terraces



The private terrace of a house

JPEG 2400 × 1792 PX



The panoramic terrace towards the Egadi

JPEG 2400 × 1792 PX



Breakfast on the terrace of Prèveto

JPEG 2000 × 1334 PX

The island



A cove on Favignana

JPEG 2000 × 1500 PX



Boats anchored over the shallows of Favignana

JPEG 2000 × 1500 PX



The former Florio tuna factory

JPEG 720 × 1080 PX



La Camparia, in the evening

JPEG 549 × 775 PX



The harbour of Levanzo and its fishing boats

JPEG 2200 × 1466 PX



The cliffs and the former quarries by the sea

JPEG 2000 × 1500 PX

Credit required: Pirrera Carved Oasis. Original files, over thirty megabytes each, are available on request.
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Fact sheet

TYPE	Serviced residence (RTA)
UNITS	Six houses, 28 to 43 m ²
TOTAL INTERIOR AREA	212 m ²
GUESTS	2 to 4 per house
SHARED SPACES	Pool on the quarry floor, deck, lawn, panoramic terrace
LOCATION	Favignana (TP), Egadi Islands, Sicily
COORDINATES	37.92609, 12.34881
CIN	IT081009A1G47AGOG6
CIR	19081009A668473
COMPANY	Egadi Residential Services S.r.l., Palermo

Press contact

NICOLE RALLO	Managing Director
EMAIL	management@pirreraoasis.c
PHONE	+39 392 475 2643
WEBSITE	pirreraoasis.com
INSTAGRAM	@pirrera_carved_oasis

