



DONNA CARMELA
RESORT & LODGES

OUR RESORT



Between the Ionian Sea and Mount Etna stands **Donna Carmela Resort**, a late 19th century manor house surrounded by lush gardens that overlooks a nursery of Mediterranean and subtropical plants. A synthesis of Sicilian hospitality, convivial pleasure and ancient *otium*, to return an authentic experience while enjoying unspoiled nature just a few steps from the sea and the unique riches of the area.

The resort was born from the desire to allow its guests to have comfort and elegance in an original setting where a skilful restoration has been able to combine personality and respect for architectural elements linked to the history of the building and the place. Each space is surrounded by Mediterranean vegetation and more and hides corners of relaxation and privacy. The courtyards in lava stone and river pebbles, the ancient cistern, the swimming pool surrounded by centuries-old olive trees, the lounge areas located in the greenery, the reserved reading room, the large lounges, and the familiar dining room: everything is designed and reserved and built for a unique stay, rich in tradition. The characterizing element is the presence of gardens, which creates a continuous dialogue between internal and external environments, allowing you to experience a stay in harmony with nature.

Since 2021 the Donna Carmela resort is part of the family of Small Luxury Hotels of the world, the international brand of affiliation that gathers around itself some of the most luxurious small hotels and independent resorts in the world with which we share the same philosophy of hospitality.

SMALL
LUXURY
HOTELS
OF THE WORLD

SUITE AND ECO-LODGES



Donna Carmela has **8 eco-lodges** built respecting bio-architecture rules thanks to the use of solar thermal panels, natural insulation and ventilated flat roofs, immersed in the Mediterranean 'jungle' and overlooking the blue Sicilian Sea, for a truly extraordinary stay.

In addition to these, there are **18 suites** surrounded by gardens with more than 5,000 varieties of bushes and flowers that diffuse the fragrance of citrus fruits and jasmine, and from which one can enjoy evocative uncontaminated views suspended in time. Today, after a process of refurbishment and expansion that began in 2020, these suites have been renovated in terms of design, creating a composite whole where the dominant element is the use and exaltation of local materials, giving priority to uncommon dimensions (starting from a surface area of 60 square metres).

Guests can choose from 5 junior suites arranged on a single level and with living space and bedrooms, overlooking the sea or with views of Mount Etna, or 4 two-floor junior suites, on two levels, all designed to accommodate families, providing optimal enjoyment of space. Those in search of original details will find 3 deluxe suites, the uniqueness of design and concept reveal a different way of experiencing space, from the unique views of Etna, close to the energy of the volcano, to the energy of antique wood that brings back an atmosphere of a natural well-being. Then there are 3 superior rooms, which give a modern interpretation of the atmosphere and comfort of the bedrooms of a typical sicilian manor house: large spaces, sophisticated furniture mixed with ancient and original elements of a long time ago; 1 exclusive suite with private pool and a large 120-square-metre terrace, for those who desire greater privacy and enjoy the gardens at any time of the day without ever leaving their room; and finally, 1 grand suite, in a panoramic position, with three bedrooms, each with its own bathroom, living space, and a 150-square-metre terrace overlooking the resort's lush nursery, with a private pool, the ideal solution for small groups of friends or families who make Donna Carmela their Sicilian home. Lastly, there is the Jacuzzi Sicilian Villa, not far from the main structure, with two bedrooms, a living area, a covered terrace with a kitchen and an outdoor Jacuzzi for those who want the independence of a villa with the hotel's services at hand.

The presence of suites and lodges with heated swimming pools make the Donna Carmela resort an ideal all-year-round destination, enjoying the Mediterranean microclimate and comfort.

The resort focuses on energy and sustainability aspects. In fact, 2023 will mark the beginning of the eco-resort's energy efficient process, which can now boast the installation of photovoltaic panels, the optimisation of the waste-to-energy plants, the use of electric cars in the resort's green areas (there are also three charging stations), as well as the gradual elimination of plastic in the resort's daily use. All this will guarantee a lower environmental impact, for a hospitality that is eco-friendly and respectful of nature, contributing, through everyday gestures of responsibility, to safeguarding our Mediterranean habitat.

THE EXPERIENCES

Stay at Donna Carmela and enjoy a unique experience.

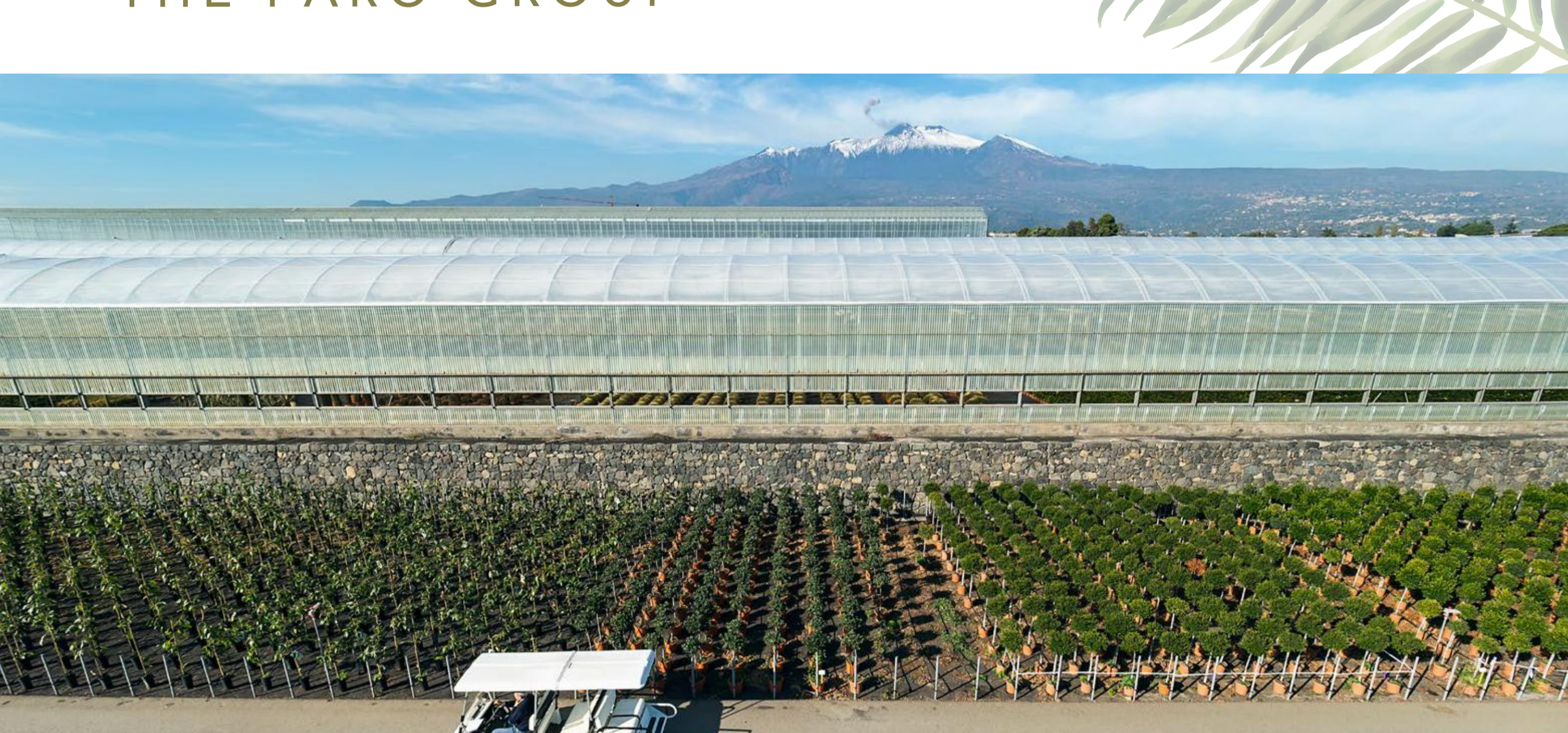


La **Cucina di Donna Carmela** is the realm of the young chef Piergiorgio Alecci who, using the raw materials available in the garden of the structure, guarantees a 0 km cuisine characterized by genuine flavours wisely interpreted by his young curiosity, which leads him to propose Mediterranean dishes in a contemporary key, creating unusual combinations but with a strong taste. Alongside the experiences of the gourmet restaurant, guests can enjoy delicious fresh and immediate proposals in the garden thanks to the Sintesi, a terrace surrounded by greenery near the swimming pool. The Rizo Bar is always open, the kingdom of Giuseppe Costanzo, an expert barman who offers signature drinks such as Donna Amara and Citrange Lemon sour. Great and personalized cocktails with a Sicilian touch.

The **wine cellar** of the resort, finally, offers a "trip" between the most famous labels of Sicily and Etna without forgetting a wide selection of wines of the Faro family, that with the Pietradolce winery have brought back to life ancient vineyards that give notes of volcanic to ancient. It is possible to organize visits to the winery discovering evocative remote places, listen to ancient stories and walk among vineyards wisely preserved, which are the oldest in the territory, as well as guided tours and explorations to discover the world's most active volcano.

The **Radicepura Botanical Park**, a few minutes far from the resort, offers guests an extraordinary experience, walking through permanent gardens and installations created by some of the most important Italian and non-Italian landscapers, to the small collection hosted by the Radicepura Foundation. This is an opportunity to get in touch with the world of the Faro family, which in this park holds its own history as landscape nurserymen and promotes the culture of the Mediterranean landscape through festivals, events, exhibitions and finally the Radicepura Festival, this year in its fourth edition, dedicated to the Garden of Plants. It will be possible to organize specific itineraries and guided tours to discover 14 gardens, 4 installations, and open-air works of art and explore the plants of the Faro family's botanical collections.

THE FARO GROUP



The **Piante Faro** nursery, created by Cav. Venerando Faro, carried on with his sons Michele and Mario, represents one of the most important companies in Sicily, leader in the international and professional horticultural sector and specialized in the production and supply of Mediterranean, subtropical, and arid-climate plants. In 2020, Piante Faro celebrated the 50 years anniversary of activity and now more than ever the family want to promote the sustainable development and the preservation of biodiversity. Piante Faro means over 600 hectares of cultivated area, a production of over 800 plant species and more than 5000 varieties of Mediterranean and exotic plants, trees, unique and majestic specimens even millennial, aromatic herbs, over 30 varieties of citrus, and the continuous search for rare essences, exported to more than 60 countries worldwide.

The company has two innovative laboratories, thanks to which they can guarantee absolute phytosanitary quality. Finally, a centralized computer system allows them to know the traceability of each individual plant, providing at all times information on the entire production cycle. From the agronomic practices to the analyses and laboratory tests.

Love for the nature means respect for life and for the environment: the company has achieved a significant reduction in water use, an important fight against pollution using zero-emission electric cars, reduction in the use of fertilizers and chemical pesticides and finally a significant energy saving thanks to the production of photovoltaic energy.

The same care and passion for botany and the landscape, which for 50 years supported the actions of the Faro family, finds a natural extension in the other activities of the group such as the **Donna Carmela Resort & Lodges** and in the **Pietradolce** winery, convinced that the care of the territory also includes an economic enhancement of the natural resources present. Last but not least, with the **Radicepura Foundation** and the homonymous botanical park, the Faro family is personally committed to safeguarding and caring for the cultural and natural heritage of the Mediterranean landscape.

Il nostro lusso è vivere green

Our luxury is "green"

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