

Forte dei Marmi beach, which still retains  
the vintage charm of the 1960  
(ph. Pasquale Paradiso)

152754

# THOSE ENDLESS SUMMERS

LUCA CALVANI TELLS US ABOUT HIS FORTE DEI MARMI,  
WITH THE SAME ENCHANTMENT IN HIS EYES AS WHEN HE WAS A BOY  
*LUCA CALVANI CI RACCONTA LA SUA FORTE DEI MARMI,  
CON LO STESSO INCANTO NEGLI OCCHI DI QUANDO ERA BAMBINO*

text Francesca Lombardi

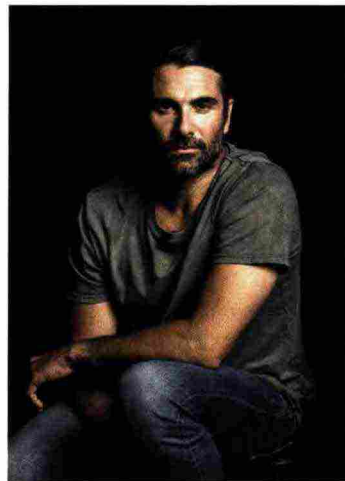


## FORTE DEI MARMI ITINERARY

Today his place of the heart is a verdant valley among Versilia's best-known mountains - Matanna, Gabberi and Prana - an atypical area, close to the sea, but where you can breathe mountain air and it feels almost like being in England. However, for Luca Calvani, nearby Forte dei Marmi is not only the place of his adolescent summers, but a lively, charming place he still frequents and loves. Speaking to him, it is not difficult to understand why he chose this place nestled between the Apuan Alps and the Tyrrhenian Sea. "For me, the seaside has always been this, - he tells us rummaging through childhood memories - evenings riding bikes with friends, ice cream in the square, the bag of hot focaccine. I'm lucky to have spent my summers here".

As a model in his teen years, his 1.90m height and perfect, Roman god-like face were bound to be his springboard to success. But Luca Calvani has always had something more than good looks, he has had a lot of head and a lot of heart since he was a kid. Fashion was not enough for him, he moved to New York and enrolled in Actors Studios. It was the start of a brilliant career that took him to big Italian, but above all American film sets. Films he has appeared in include Özpetek's *The Ignorant Fairies* and Brizzi's *Maschi contro Femmine*, Woody Allen's *To Rome with Love*, *When in Rome*, where he appeared alongside Danny De Vito, Kristen Bell and Anjelica Huston, and *The Man from U.N.C.L.E.*, as well as appearances in *Sex and the City* and *The Bold and the Beautiful*.

Now, between one set and another, he has chosen Versilia as his *buen retiro*, specifically Camaiore, where he opened *Le Gusciane*, a totally renovated farmhouse where you can find Tuscan hospitality and cuisine. Here he shares with us the addresses of places that are linked to memories, but with a far from nostalgic eye that looks for the authenticity that Forte still retains and only those who have frequented it for a long time know well.



**LUCA CALVANI,  
ACTOR AND  
DIRECTOR. HE HAS  
BEEN LIVING IN  
VERSILIA, CAMAIORE,  
FOR SOME YEARS**

all'Actors Studios. È l'inizio di una brillante carriera che lo porta su importanti set italiani, ma soprattutto americani. Sono tanti i titoli interessanti al suo attivo: *Le fate ignoranti* di Özpetek, *Maschi contro femmine* di Brizzi; e poi Hollywood: *To Rome with Love* di Woody Allen, *When in Rome* in cui ha recita con Danny De Vito, Kristen Bell e Anjelica Huston, *Operazione U.N.C.L.E.* e la partecipazione a *Sex and the City*, *Beautiful...*

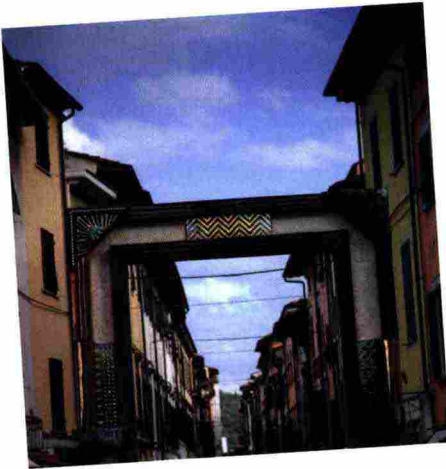
Ora, tra un set e l'altro, ha eletto come *buen retiro* la Versilia, Camaiore in particolare dove ha aperto *Le Gusciane*, un casale completamente ristrutturato dove scoprire l'ospitalità e la cucina toscana. Ci ha svelato in queste pagine in suo *carnet de address*, dove i luoghi sono legati ai ricordi ma con uno sguardo che - lontano dall'essere nostalgico - ricerca quella autenticità che il Forte conserva e che solo chi la frequenta da tempo conosce bene



A glimpse of the shopping quadrilateral in Forte dei Marmi: four streets with the most famous names in Italian and international shopping (ph. Pasquale Paradiso)

FORTE DEI MARMI ITINERARY

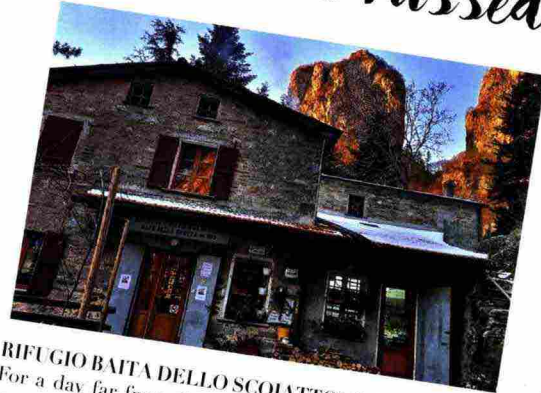
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PIETRASANTA

Open air art, galleries and little restaurants in the street; more conceptual than Forte dei Marmi but no less worldly. One name? Galleria Poggiali, an international reference point for art.

5 places  
not to be missed



RIFUGIO BAITA DELLO SCOIATTOLO DA ERMETE  
For a day far from the seashore, an easy walk in the woods an hour from the coast takes you to a breathtaking view and last but not least, super food.

2

3



OASI LIPU

(Italian Bird Protection League)  
An oasis of peace and biodiversity on the eastern shore of Lake Massaciuccoli, protecting the beautiful nature of this coast since 1979.



LA VERSILIANA

Cool morning walks, meeting up at the *Caffè* after the beach, the theatre in the evening. Far from the glamour of Forte dei Marmi, here you experience an old, authentic Versilia.

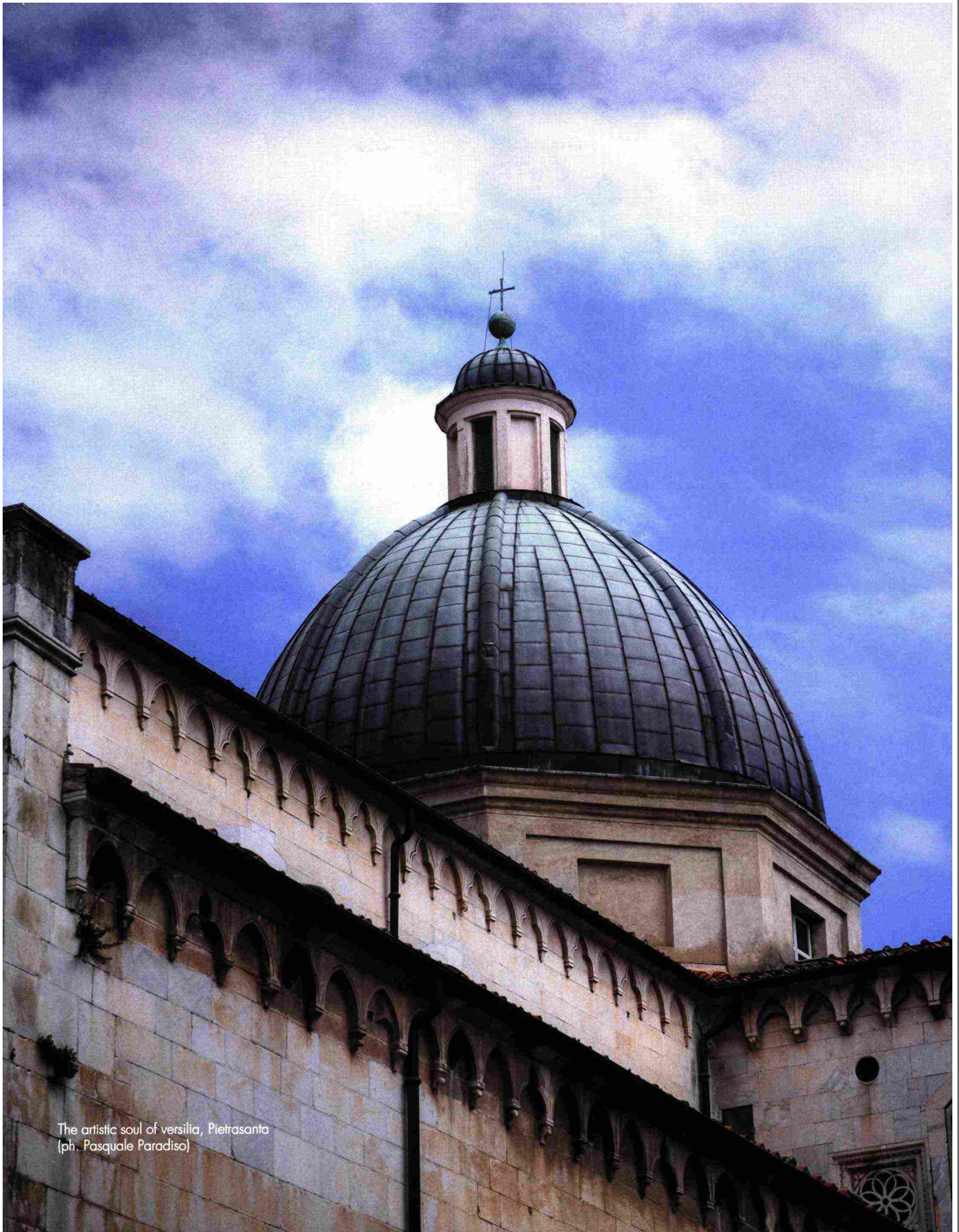
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LA CAPANNINA

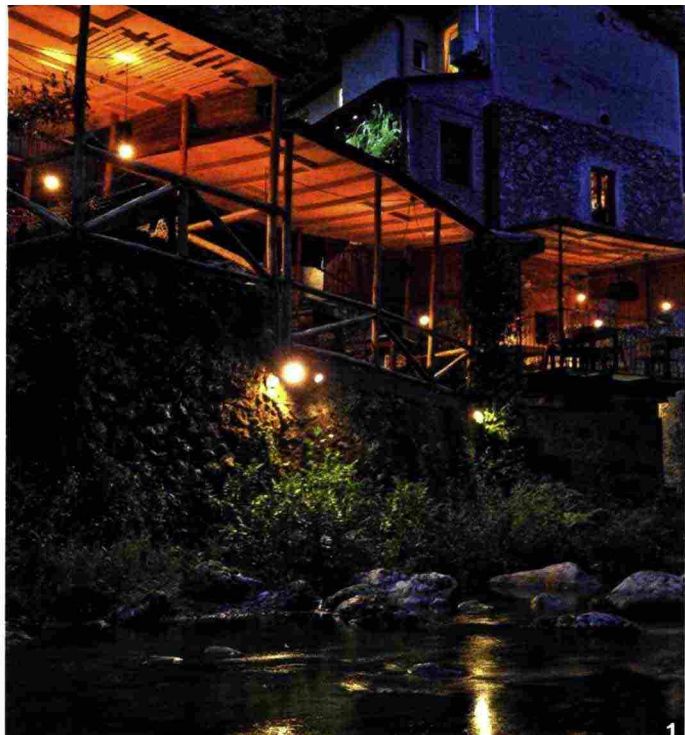
The symbol of Forte dei Marmi: the wooden dance floor, the chairs with square cushions, the sofas, the bands ... and our first evenings out as kids, with our parents keeping a watchful eye from the piano bar!

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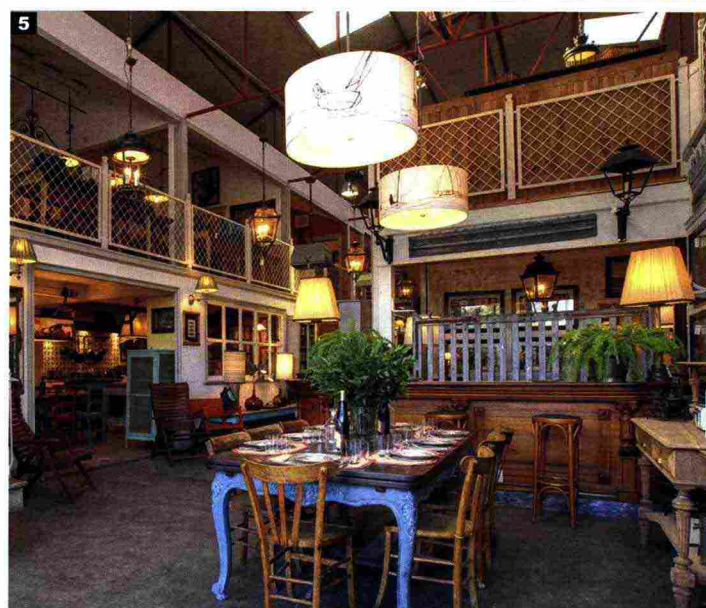


The artistic soul of versilia, Pietrasanta  
(ph. Pasquale Paradiso)

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1. Osteria Candalla
2. Alle Boe
3. Bambaissa, Augustus Beach Club
4. Hortus Contemporaneo
5. Riccardo Barthel, Forte dei Marmi



## FORTE DEI MARMI ITINERARY



## Shopping, crafts, food & wine

Between the sea and the mountains: Luca's addresses are equally

divided between the coast and the hinterland. On the one hand, Forte dei Marmi, on the other Camaiore, historical names but also new projects to discover an area that beyond its international worldly soul, is looking to the future from an eco-perspective.

Here are his places for an aperitif, lunch by the shore, dinner in the woods and... a little shopping.

**Augustus Beach Club and Bambaissa** An iconic beach - 70 tents with exclusive queen-size beds, a saltwater pool, and the lounge bar with white sails moving in the breeze. At *Il Bambaissa*, the Beach Club's restaurant, local specialties combine with international cuisine for a first class culinary experience.

**Alle Bœ** Managed on behalf of Forte dei Marmi Town Council by the owners of Bagno Piero, it has become one of the chicest meeting places in Forte dei Marmi, where you can sip a Negroni at sunset and experience the authentic magic of the old bathing beaches with wooden tables and colourful deck chairs.

**Hortus Contemporaneo** A nursery that seems like a country garden, where they practice cultivation that's respectful of nature and evoke true botanical emotions, whether they are gardens, event settings or a simple bunch of flowers.

**L'Osteria Candalla** You have to journey away from Fort a little but it's really worth it: at the foot of the Camaiore mountains, in an old water mill, is a special, intimate place. I have a special bond with them: they were the first to buy my *Helichrysum* gin and to believe in the project I share with friend and partner Alessandro Franchini.

**Riccardo Barthel** Vintage and innovative at the same time, Riccardo Barthel is perfectly balanced magic, where interior design ranges from past and future without entangling itself in useless definitions. I come here to shop, look for antique furniture or simply find inspiration.

Tra mare e monti: gli indirizzi di Luca sono ugualmente divisi tra costa e entroterra. Da una parte Forte dei Marmi dall'altra Camaiore, i nomi storici ma anche nuovi progetti per scoprire una terra che oltre l'anima mondana internazionale, ha voglia di fare ricerca e guardare al futuro in ottica eco.

Ecco qui i suoi luoghi per un aperitivo, un pranzo sul mare, una cena nel bosco e... un po' di shopping.

**Augustus Beach Club e Bambaissa** Una spiaggia iconica: 70 tende con l'esclusivo queen bed, la piscina di acqua salata, il lounge bar con le vele bianche mosse dal vento. Il ristorante del Beach Club è da sempre *Il Bambaissa*, dove specialità locali si fondono con la cucina internazionale per una esperienza culinaria di alto livello e ricerca.

**Alle Bœ** Gestito per conto del Comune di Forte dei Marmi dalla proprietà del Bagno Piero, è diventato uno dei ritrovi più chic di Forte dei Marmi, dove consumare un Negroni al tramonto e respirare l'autentica magia dei vecchi stabilimenti balneari con tavoli di legno e sdraio colorate.

**Hortus Contemporaneo** Un vivaio che sembra una sorta giardino di campagna dove praticano una coltivazione rispettosa della natura e regalano vere e proprie emozioni botaniche, che siano giardini, allestimenti o anche un semplice mazzo di fiori.

**L'Osteria Candalla** Bisogna allontanarsi un po' dal Forte ma ne vale veramente la pena: ai piedi dei monti di Camaiore, all'interno di un antico mulino, è un luogo intimo e speciale. Ho un legame particolare con loro: sono stati i primi a comprare il mio gin *Helichrysum* e a credere nel progetto e a credere nel progetto che condivido con Alessandro Franchini, amico e socio.

**Riccardo Barthel** Vintage e innovativo allo stesso tempo, Riccardo Barthel è una magia in equilibrio perfetto dove l'interior design spazia tra passato e futuro senza imbrigliarsi in inutili definizioni. Vengo qui per acquistare, cercare mobili d'antan o semplicemente trovare una ispirazione.