

Cognoscenti magazine

Because life is short

CASA BERMEJA
VALDEVERDEJA, SPAIN

Only one hour from West from Madrid, in sleepy Valdeverdeja, lies the **Casa Bermeja**, a place of flowers and sun.

When the current owners began restoration on the existing structure, it was practically in ruin. After a year's renovation, the hotel's current shape began to take shape. Owner Angela Gonzalez, an interior decorator from Madrid, left intact the stone walls that separated the premises from the town center. This offers poolside sunbathers privacy, yet keeps the fine vista of neighborhood rooftops and of the ancient church that dominates the town.

The result? A kind of oasis, conjured up by expanses of red tiled deck, a glittering blue swimming pool, vines of red and white roses, and darting birds. Our suite was a comfortable, if slightly plain, two-room apartment reached by its own private staircase. Cheerful yellow walls and furnishings in wood, glass and fabric made it a pleasure to lounge around, and a fully equipped kitchenette made snacking easy.

At night, dinner was served in an *al fresco* courtyard, where guests radiant from the sun relaxed in the cooling evening breeze. Later, the village grew quiet, and sleep came easily to tired travelers.



Sunny courtyard with pool.
Below, a comfortable salon.



This article was written by contributing editors to *Cognoscenti Magazine*.

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