



## **Christmas, New Year, Spring Antona is always worth a visit**

The holiday homes in Italy are always available for rent, but only a few times a year will there also be opportunity to play bridge.



*In Circolo La Moretta in Carrar, Wim and Hans were invited to the Twelfth Night meal. All the members had made their own traditional dishes. It was a unique, authentic experience. We are invited to come again this year.*

The board of Bridge Club the Looier makes regular visits to Tuscany. As they enjoy playing bridge, they usually combine their visit with a Bridge Event. They would like to be of service and introduce you to the local bridge clubs. The first opportunity presents itself in the Christmas week, from Saturday 23 to Saturday 30 December. There are 2- and 4-person apartments for rent in this period.

Wim and Hans will also be in Antona for the New Year. The apartments are also available for the New Year and the first week of January, when at only an hour's drive from Antona, a large international Bridge tournament will be held. We usually play the in their pairs competition. We have room in our car for one other pair, if you decide to book a flight without renting a car. Having your own transport is convenient, though, because the local restaurant, where

we plan to celebrate the New Year, only opens on Saturdays in winter. There are facilities for cooking of course, but with all those delicious and cheap restaurants in the area, it would be a great shame.

High-season prices apply in the Christmas and New Year period. The prices for the apartments, including electricity and final cleaning, are as follows:

€ 232,- for 'Il Primitivo' 2-person, 2-room apartment, with a terrace and a sea view, a shower and toilet/bidet in the bathroom. No kitchen!

€ 462,- for 'Il Focolare' 2- to 4 persons; bedroom, sitting room, dining room, with sofa bed, open kitchen and open fire.

€ 662,- for 'Nido di Rondine', 2- to 4-person apartment, 2 rooms, separate Kitchen and Italian balcony with sea view.

We would like to use 'Il Lussuoso' ourselves, and 'The Studio', we will only rent out if the number of bookings requires it, the reason being that it has a telephone and Internet connection.

De Duizenddichter beheert de nalatenschap van Herman Ouwersloot. Hij kreeg de functie van executeur testamentair van de familie van Herman, omdat Willem het best met de zaken van Herman op de hoogte is. Willem vond duizenden foto's van bekende en onbekende Nederlanders wier foto's in Hermans archief zijn achtergebleven. De opnames dateren uit de jaren 70 en 80 en Willem heeft een plannetje. Een portretgalerij van kilometers in de Looier tentoongesteld en te koop. Jeugdopnames van Jan Lenferink, Willem Oltmans, Willem Nijholt, Elly van Stekelenburg, Lida Polak (waarvan Willem een prachtige poster heeft laten maken, waar Herman zelf eveneens op is afgebeeld), vele foto's van anonieme travestieten enz... Of course, you can also book these apartments if you are not a bridge player. Wim and Hans speak Italian, know the best places to visit and can give you practical advice if you need any. Would you like to join us?

If you have other plans for the holiday season, it may be good to know that we are planning another visit in the spring. In the week of Ascension Day, from 12 to 19 May, we will also be in Antona. Obviously, we will also be available to play bridge in that week. You can view the apartments on [www.looiersuites.nl](http://www.looiersuites.nl)

## **A week at seaside?**

From Friday 8 to Friday 22 June Wim and Hans will be using the large apartment 3.01 in Callantsoog. The 2- to 4-person apartments are still available for rent. If you enjoy playing bridge and would like to spend a week at the seaside, why not book one of the apartments. Even if it rains, we can

have a wonderful time playing bridge.

## Prices Callantsoger Staete 2007

<b>Apartments</b>	<b>1.11</b>	<b>2.11</b>	<b>3.01</b>	<b>3.01</b>
<b>Period</b>	<b>2 pers.</b>	<b>4 pers.</b>	<b>6 pers.</b>	<b>8 pers.</b>
22/12 - 05/01/2007	€ 465,-	€ 555,-	€ 590,-	€ 625,-
05/01 - 30/03/2007	€ 295,-	€ 360,-	€ 380,-	€ 395,-
30/03 - 13/04/2007	€ 465,-	€ 555,-	€ 590,-	€ 625,-
13/04 - 11/05/2007	€ 360,-	€ 435,-	€ 465,-	€ 490,-
11/05 - 22/06/2007	€ 445,-	€ 545,-	€ 580,-	€ 610,-
22/06 - 25/08/2007	€ 660,-	€ 795,-	€ 850,-	€ 895,-
25/08 - 21/09/2007	€ 360,-	€ 435,-	€ 465,-	€ 490,-
21/09 - 26/10/2007	€ 465,-	€ 555,-	€ 590,-	€ 625,-
26/10 - 21/12/2007	€ 295,-	€ 360,-	€ 380,-	€ 395,-
21/12 - 06/01/2008	€ 465,-	€ 555,-	€ 590,-	€ 625,-
Cleaning costs	€ 55.00 for the entire stay			
Tourist tax	€ 0.81 per person per night			

**Additional costs (compulsory):** Additional guest € 7.50 per person per night. Use of duvet cover etc. € 7.50 per person per change. Use of bath linen € 5.00 per person per change. Use of child's bed or chair € 7.50 for the entire stay Bringing a pet € 4.00 per night.

Below is part 19 of the ongoing story about one of our houses in Tuscany, which is currently offered as holiday accommodation.

### OUR SECOND CHRISTMAS DINNER

*(From the book Buon Natale in Antona)*

*part 20* We wake at 8 p.m., time to eat yet again. Wim suggests preparing something at home. I think it's an excellent idea. It's a good opportunity to eat some of all that food we brought over from Holland. We decide to use the table grill this time, and have a barbecue. There were sausages in one of our Christmas hampers and Wim had bought a great selection of barbecue meat which can be grilled on our table grill that came with the 'Princess' cooking set. All the ingredients and sauces from Holland are put on the table. A good way to finish off some of those old bottles.

Of course we light all the candles again. While Wim is busy getting all the ingredients out, I start preparing the table. The gold glitter candles from Wim's Christmas hamper are proving to be a bit of a challenge. Two out of the six of the candles will not light. It so happens that there is a little pyromaniac hidden in me. I had already been busy trying to light all six candles on Christmas Day. Four of them burned beautifully, the thin layer of glitter sliding down evenly as the candle burned down. The two candles I had finally managed to light using matches and wood chips had burned down on just one side and were dripping horribly. I used to soft candle-grease to reshape them

best I could, and any other leaks that occurred were skilfully sealed using small pieces of wax. A brilliant way to pass away the time. I love playing with candles. I can never stop myself from playing with the ones in restaurants either. I always try to stop them dripping, and it gives me tremendous pleasure if I succeed. I wonder if it has some kind of sexual meaning behind it. It would seem a bit ridiculous otherwise, a man of almost sixty years old enjoying himself so much playing with a candle.

The food is a success. The sauces are finally finished, the meat is lovely, Wim had put together a salad, and we had a tin of mushrooms instead of vegetables. Happy and with our stomachs nice and full we wander off to the square for coffee and tea, as we do after every meal. We finish the evening off with a nightcap at Nanda en Gildo, and go to bed relatively early.

## 27 DECEMBER

27 December – the shops are open again! We can finally buy the bulbs for those bed side table lamps we bought. No more having to find the toilet in the dark at night. And it will significantly reduce the chances of falling down the stairwell. Of course, we have a quiet start to the day! First we have a nice soak in our Jacuzzi. It is past eleven when we finally venture out. We go to San Carlo first. Next to the hotel where I stayed last time I came over to check the house, there is a shop that sells absolutely everything. As the local shopkeepers are crucial to the continued existence of a village community, we try that one first. We were looking for two 25 Watt bulbs with a small screw fitting. They had *one*. We bought it of course, but we still had to go to Massa to buy the second one. It didn't matter, because we needed to get some other things anyway. There is an electrical shop in the centre of Massa where I had been with the architect to choose some light switches. It was a good idea to go there for the other bulb, because I still knew how to get there. We parked our car on the same spot as where we started our search for the cane furniture shop on Christmas Eve. It was close to where we needed to be. We got what we needed from the electrical shop, and when we crossed the street, we saw a department store called Standa.

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## Up and coming special events at the Looier

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| <b>Friday</b>   | <b>1 December</b>  |
| Bridge          | 7.15 p.m. Start of the 'de Patton Club' Competition.                 |
| <b>Saturday</b> | <b>2 December</b>  |
| Market          | 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. One day Art Fair                                    |
| <b>Monday</b>   | <b>4 December</b>  |
| Auction         | 2 – 4.30 p.m. Auction of drawings and other art work                 |
| <b>Tuesday</b>  | <b>5 December</b>  |
| Bridge          | 12.45 a.m. – 6 p.m. <b>Sinterklaas Drive.</b> Please book in advance |
| <b>Saturday</b> | <b>9 December</b>  |
| Market          | 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. <b>Photographic items Fair</b>                      |
| <b>Monday</b>   | <b>11 December</b>   |
| Auction         | 2 – 4 p.m. <b>Auction of the Herman Ouwersloot Photo Studio</b>      |
| <b>Saturday</b> | <b>16 December</b>   |

Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Christmas Fair**  
**Monday 18 December**  
Auction 2 p.m. – 4.30 p.m. Limited Time Auction 'Christmas at the Looier' New items can be submitted

**Thursday 21 December**

Bridge 1 p.m. – 5.30 p.m. Christmas Drive. Participation € 15.00

**Monday 25 & Tuesday 26 December Looier closed**

**Wednesday 27 December**

Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Three-Day Flee Market € 25 for all three days.

Bridge 11 a.m. – 5. p.m. Rubber Bridge – if sufficient interest.

The Bridge Club will be closed until 2 January.

**Thursday 28 December**

Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Three-Day Flee Market € 25 for all three days.

Bridge 12 – 5 p.m. Old Dutch Games Day with Barry.

The Bridge Club will be closed until 2 January.

**Saturday 30 December**

Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Three-Day Flee Market € 25 for all three days.

Bridge 11 a.m. – 5. p.m. Rubber Bridge – if sufficient interest.

**Sunday 31 December & Monday 1 January Looier closed**

**Wednesday 3 January**

Bridge 7.15 – 11.15 p.m. Start of the 'Gay Prize Bridge' Competition.

**Thursday 11 January**

Bridge 1 – 5.30 p.m. **New Year's Reception Drive**

**Saturday 13 January**

Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Toys Fair**

**Monday 15 January**

Market 2 – 4 p.m. **Toy's auction**

Bridge 7.- 10.30 p.m. **Free trial bridge lesson**

**Saturday 20 January**

Market 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. **Gramophone and Vinyl Fair**

**Monday 15 January**

Market 2 - 5 p.m. **Gramophone and Vinyl Auction**

Bridge 7 – 10.30 p.m. **Bridge Introduction Course**

**Zaterdag 20 januari**

Markt 11.00 – 17.00 **Grammofoon en Platenbeurs**

**Maandag 22 januari**

Markt 14.00 – 16.30 **Grammofoon en Platen veiling**

Bridge 19.00 – 22.30 **Instapcursus bridge**

**What does the average week at the Looier look like?**

**Saturday**

Market 10.30 – 11.00 a.m. Watch the unpacking of items € 5.

11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Fair or Flee Market. Entrance free.

11 a.m. – 5 p.m. the Art & Antiques centre is open

Internet 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Free wireless Internet for laptop users

Bridge 11 a.m. – 5. p.m. Rubber Bridge – if sufficient interest

## Sunday

Markt 10.30 – 11.00 a.m. Watch the unpacking of items € 5.

**11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Flee Market. Entrance free.**

11 a.m. – 5 p.m. the Art & Antiques centre is open

Internet 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Free wireless Internet for laptop users.

Bridge 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Rubber Bridge – if sufficient interest.

## Monday

Markt 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. the Art & Antiques centre is open

Internet 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Free wireless Internet for laptop users.

Auction 2 – 4 p.m. Auction – if sufficient supply.

Bridge 6.45 p.m. – 7.15 p.m. Registration (players & stand-by players)

7.30 – 10.30 Looier Individual Players Club. Participation free.

## Tuesday

Markt 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. the Art & Antiques centre is open

Internet 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Free wireless Internet for laptop users.

Auction 11.30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Drop-off, pick-up and payments

Bridge 12.00 p.m. – 12.45 p.m. Registration (players & stand-by players)

1 – 5.30 p.m. The Eggnog Drive. Participation € 5.

## Wednesday

Markt 10.30 – 11.00 a.m. Watch the unpacking of items. Entry € 5.00

11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Flee market free entry.

11 a.m. – 5 p.m. the Art & Antiques centre is open

Internet 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Free wireless Internet for laptop users.

Auction 11.30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Drop-off, pick-up and payments

Bridge 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Rubber Bridge – if sufficient interest.

6.45 p.m. – 7.15 p.m. Registration (players & stand-by players)

7.30 – 11 p.m. Gay Prize Bridge. Participation € 5

## Thursday

Markt 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. the Art & Antiques centre is open

Internet 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Free wireless Internet for laptop users.

Auction 11.30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Drop-off, pick-up and payments

Bridge 12.00 p.m. – 12.45 p.m. Registration (players & stand-by players)

1 – 5 p.m. 'The Tea Drive'. Participate for € 5.

6.45 p.m. – 7.15 p.m. Registration (players & stand-by players)

7.30 – 11 p.m. 'The Smokers' Club'. Participate for € 5.

## Friday

Bridge 6.45 – 7.15 p.m. Registration (players & stand-by players)

7.30 – 11 p.m. 'The Patton Club'. Participate for € 5.

Magic 6.45 – 7.15 p.m. Registration

7.30 – 12 p.m. Fridaynight Magic.