

FREE

*Shared only with a troop of polo ponies,
this serene spot is home to a caravan that
celebrates the freedom of living off-grid*

REIN

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'The idea

was to create a place to play,' says Paola Moretti of the compact, vintage caravan that she and her teenage son, Orso, and golden retriever, Bel Ami, have so often escaped to over the past six years. The interior design consultant and stylist, who's known for her work with brands such as Dimore Studio, has holidayed in southern Tuscany's Maremma since childhood. So, it felt entirely natural that here, on the estate of retired polo player Marco Semprini, is where she should park her precious camper.

Paola's carefully chosen spot is a hidden cove lapped by the Tyrrhenian Sea – the perfect rural retreat, which is shared with Semprini's former steeds. 'It's a wild place,' she says. 'Everyone, including us, goes riding and you still see the Tuscan cowboys or *butteri*.'

The little 1960s 'Roller Super 3' had been destined for the scrapheap when it was given to them by a family friend. But for the Morettis, it was love at first sight. They spent the summer sprucing it up: first painting the aluminium exterior a shade of deep green that blends harmoniously with the nearby pine trees, before sourcing missing drawers and shelves for the kitchenette. It's a process Paola likens to 'playing a decorative game'. Much of the décor comes from decades spent working in the world of interiors. But it was Orso who selected the ethereal wallpaper patterns and curtain fabric: Cole & Son's renderings of Fornasetti's clouds and owl designs, which vividly evoke being *en plein air*.

Without electricity (after dark, it's lit by solar lanterns) or running water (they wash with the horses' hose), and a mere 2m x 3.5m, the caravan is made for one, but comfortably accommodates three. Days here are spent swimming, riding, cooking on an open fire, or napping in the hammock. 'It's a free and simple life,' says Paola. 'You realise that you don't need much to live. The greatest luxury is the feeling that the outdoors belongs only to you.' Now that her son is older, though, Paola is looking to pass on the caravan's special magic, so that others, too, can create their own campfire memories under the bright Tuscan stars. paolamoretti.eu







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