

Antoitalia markets rare former abbey complex in Tuscany

Milan-based Antoitalia is selling the historic Certosa di Pontignano complex in the Chianti district of Tuscany on a no-commission basis, on behalf of the University of Siena. The mandate to sell the property was conferred on the company by the Dean of the University, after official approval by the University's Board of Governors and the Academic Senate, having received consent for the sale from the Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance as well as the Ministry of University Education and Research.

Antoitalia has agreed to organise a public auction on behalf of Siena University to find a buyer for the property, the starting price for the auction being set at €68m. The exact procedure for the auction is currently being finalised, and full details will be announced in the coming months.

The Certosa di Pontignano, the historic former Chartreuse abbey complex, lies in the borough of Castelnuovo Berardenga (in the province of Siena), in the area known as Chianti Classico, around 8 km from Siena. This area of Tuscany is particularly renowned for its landscape made up of rolling hills and small hill-top towns and farmhouses. The hills are covered with vineyards and olive groves, as well as extensive woodlands.

The property has been owned by the University of Siena since 1959, and currently houses the University Conference Centre (Centro Congressi dell'Università). The historic monastery buildings were constructed from the 14th century onwards, and the

whole complex – including open spaces – comes to around 19,700 sq m (212,057 sq ft), plus an additional 11 hectares (27 acres) of surrounding agricultural land.

The Carthusian monks lived and worked in the abbey until the end of the 18th century. Then, after various owners and uses during the 19th and early 20th centuries, the complex was eventually acquired by the University of Siena in 1959 and turned into a university hall of residence.

The property is currently used for accommodation, conference and residential purposes. In fact the Chartreuse houses the University of Siena's conference centre (Centro Congressi dell'Università di Siena) with related accommodation and restaurant facilities, and as such is one of the foremost centres for conference-related tourism in Tuscany. The property comprises various buildings on several levels, which together cover a surface area of approx. 6,799 sq m (72,110 sq ft), excluding open areas, cloisters, porticos, stairwells and service/technical facilities.

The overall surface area, including open areas, the Italian-style garden and the orchard, is over 19,700 sq m (212,057 sq ft), including a total of 10,660 sq m (114,747 sq ft) of buildings and 9,075 sq m (97,686 sq ft) of cloisters and open spaces. In addition, there are around 11 hectares (27 acres) of surrounding agricultural land. From a planning point of view, the Chartreuse abbey is a listed property, classed as a building of historical and architectural significance and heritage.



Certosa di Pontignano