



# Villa Letting - Fraudulent Websites



- ✚ There is an increasing number of fraudulent and cloned websites advertising holiday properties for rental. Learn how to identify and avoid these.
- ✚ Is it clear, who is the owner of the site? Does it have business registration details which can be verified?
- ✚ Does the website have credible contact details, including name, telephone numbers, address and email address which you can reach and verify?
- ✚ Check that the company is located at the address given. Is the phone number, if a landline, actually in the same area or country as the address?
- ✚ Look carefully at content and photos on the website – do they look original or copied and are they related to the company's services? Check grammar.
- ✚ Does everything on the website function properly including the links?
- ✚ Check where the website is located. Is the domain host country one which is renowned for on-line fraud, such as in eastern Europe, Russia or China?
- ✚ Check out the address bar – is the site verified by google? Type the company's name into a major search engine to see if they appear in search results and to see if they are mentioned anywhere else on the Internet.
- ✚ Do a search on the property name and area and see if it comes out on different sites. This could be legitimate, but could show up those on fraudulent sites.

