

SAN MARCELLO, ABETONE AND PISTOIA MOUNTAINS ROADBOOK

0,000 ➔ Starting point **Piazza Matteotti**, in the city centre. Go along the **SR66 street** towards **Abetone**

Petrol station at Km 1.00

3,450 At the end of the street, at the yield sign, turn **right**, taking the **SS12 road of the Abetone and Brennero** and proceed always along this road

4,750 Recommended deviation: **Murales di Lizzano**; turn **right** and pass the **bridge on the Lima torrent**

7,900 Recommended deviation: **Cutigliano**; turn **right** and pass the **bridge on the Lima torrent**

8,500 Around km 8.500 the hairpin bends

Petrol station at km: 4.400; 8.400; 20.300

20,500 Once you have reached the **Abetone** stage, in the centre of the town. There is a large parking area on the right of the street, just passed it, opposite the Ufficio Turistico APT (APT Tourist Office); there is a parking area for two-wheelers. To turn back: exit the parking area and go left, going along the **SS12 road** again in the opposite direction

23,750 Take the road on the **right, SP20** towards **"Orto Botanico"- "Pian di Novello"**. The road, except for the towns of **Pian di Novello** and **Pian degli Ontani**, mainly curls in a shady beech and firs forest

25,200 Recommended deviation: **Orto Botanico (Botanical Garden)**

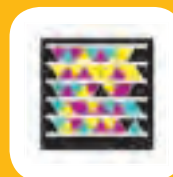
27,150 We signal on the **right** possible deviation for the **Riserva Naturale Biogenetica (Biogenetic Nature Reserve)**

34,150 At end of the road, at the yield sign, turn **right** towards **Pistoia**

39,300 Turn **left**, following the directions for **San Marcello**

40,300 Recommended deviation: take the street on the **right, the Strada dei colori e dei sapori dell'Appennino Modenese**, you reach the **Ponte sospeso (suspension bridge)** and the **Ponte di Castruccio (Castruccio Bridge)**

48,850 ➔ Once arrived at the final stage, return to **San Marcello**



VISIT THE WEBSITE



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Toscana
in vespa

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**AGENZIA
PER IL TURISMO**
ABETONE PISTOIA
MONTAGNA P.S.E.



Intervento realizzato all'interno delle azioni previste dal progetto interregionale (L.135/2001 art. 5) "Valorizzazione comprensorio sciistico toscano emiliano" cofinanziato da Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri - Dipartimento per lo sviluppo e la competitività del turismo - e dalla Regione Toscana



Toscana

SAN MARCELLO, ABETONE AND PISTOIA MOUNTAINS

The itinerary runs through Pistoia Mountains of the Tuscan-Emilian Apennine, along the Abetone pass, between two of the most appreciated and known tourist places: San Marcello Pistoiese and Abetone. A mountain road, with hairpin bends in the part of the itinerary that is near the Abetone; a part of the return trip is planned on a secondary road, through a shady beech and firs forest. Interesting places to see along the itinerary: the picturesque hamlet of Cutigliano, the characteristic *Murales* of the ancient town of Lizzano, the Botanical garden, of naturalistic interest, the Ponte Sospeso (Suspension Bridge) and the Ponte di Castruccio (Castruccio Bridge).

TOTAL LENGTH OF THE ITINERARY: 42,850 km

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY: average; the itinerary is more challenging in the hairpin bends

TYPE OF STREET SURFACE: all asphalted, in good conditions, except for a single section right after the Botanical Garden

TRAVELLING TIME: only the itinerary about 1 hour and 15 minutes, stops excluded

MINIMUM ALTITUDE RANGE: 459 m

MAXIMUM ALTITUDE RANGE: 1,365 m

CUTIGLIANO

Cutigliano is a picturesque hamlet, with a charming historical city centre made of narrow streets and fascinating views. In the centre of the town, the "Palazzo dei Capitani di Montagna", or Municipal Building, seat of the Town Council; noteworthy is also the Church of the Madonna di Piazza and, just outside the town, the Church of San Bartolomeo with examples of Seventeenth century Florentine painting. In the surrounding areas there are interesting environmen-

tal excursions, such as Lake Scaffaiolo or the skiing resort of Doganaccia.

SUSPENSION BRIDGE

The Ponte Sospeso (Suspension Bridge) is a footbridge on the Lima torrent, at a height of 36 m above the river that it is included in the Guinness world records as "the highest suspension footbridge in the world"; inaugurated in 1923, it was built to allow the workers to reach their workplaces on the opposite bank of the torrent. The Ponte di Castruccio

is a much more ancient construction (1317), its construction was ordered by the leader Castruccio Castracani and in that period it was the only connection between the territories of Lucca and Pistoia; today it is an interesting example of "humpback" medieval architecture.

SAN MARCELLO

Touristic centre appreciated for summer holidays since the 1800s. It is probably of Roman origin and it preserves testimonies of the past centuries, when it contended with Cutigliano the seat of the Capitanato della montagna (Municipal Building). In the Romanesque Parish Church of San Marcello are preserved the relics of Santa Celestina, patron and protector of the mountain, celebrated on 8 September with a feast that every year ends with the launch of a coloured hot-air balloon.

LIZZANO PISTOIESE

It is an ancient hamlet in the Lima river valley. Once it was the main city of Pistoia mountains; in 1814 it was completely razed to the ground by a landslide that destroyed the main testimonies of its illustrious past. The *Murales*, carried out in the Eighties by the Donatello group, composed of Florentine artists, are one of this town's characteristics.

THE ORTO BOTANICO FORESTALE OF THE ABETONE

The Orto Botanico Forestale (Botanical

Garden) of the Abetone includes the most characteristic environments of the Northern Apennines and about 300 vegetable species, all with information about the scientific name and various characteristics, in a charming scenery of the beech and silver firs forest, among the blossoming of the crag plants and varieties of the wetlands represented by small lakes and streams.

TOURISTS INFORMATION OFFICE OF ABETONE

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