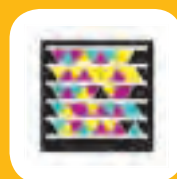


MONTALBANO PRATESE AND FIORENTINO AREA, BETWEEN ARTIMINO AND VINCI ROADBOOK

- 0,000** → **Starting point** in **Artimino**, from the clock tower, just outside the town. To start the Tour, take via Cinque Martiri, which runs around the town. To the **Medicean Villa**: from the starting point turn right and go along Giovanni XXIII street for 150 m
- 0,400** Turn **right** at the **stop** sign towards **"Carmignano"**. After 700 m, once passed the Church, keep to the right
- 1,000** Turn **right** at the **stop** sign towards **"Carmignano"**. It is a bending road, a short section of which is uneven
- 3,700** Turn **left** at the **stop** sign in via La Serra, towards **"Carmignano"**
- 4,600** Take the **second exit** at the roundabout, towards **"Carmignano"**, and enter via Carmignanese **SP11**
- 6,350** ⦿ Arrival at the centre of **Carmignano**. To continue the itinerary, go along the road
- 6,780** At km 6.780, keep to the **left** and go along the **SP10** road
- 9,300** At km 9.300, pass the traffic light and go along the road that goes up to Montalbano area
- 12,000** ⦿ At km 12, there is the town of **Pinone**, at an altitude of 421 m above sea level. From the forest margin, on your right, you have a **panoramic view** of the entire metropolitan area of Florence, Prato and Pistoia. Continue on the downhill road and pass the town of **Vitolini**
- 18,300** Once passed this town, turn **right** towards **"Vinci"**. At km 20.700, keep to the **right**
- 21,150** Keep to the **left**, to remain on the road. At km 21.800, take the **left** road at the crossroads
- 21,950** Turn **right** at the traffic light, and after the square continue on the road on the **right**, which runs along the castle
- 22,550** ⦿ Arrival at **Vinci**. There is a motorcycles parking area, on the left, in the bend at the foot of the castle. Turn **left** to continue the itinerary
- 22,950** Turn **right** at the **stop** sign
- 23,150** Turn **left** towards **"Prato"** at the traffic light after the square, and go back over the same road. At km 24.45, keep to the **left**

- 26,850** Turn left towards **"Carmignano"**.
At km 27.85, in the centre of the town of **Vitolini**, keep to the right and continue on the road that now runs downhill, and then goes uphill again on Montalbano area
- 32,550** ⦿ At km 32.550, on the **right**, almost hidden by the forest, there is the **Church of S.Giusto**
- 32,900** Turn **right** on the "Strada dell'olio e del vino del Montalbano" (Montalbano Oil and Wine Road). Go through the town of **Castra** and continue along the downhill bending road. At km 38.650, go **straight ahead** at the crossroads
- 38,750** Once having reached **Limite s/Arno**, take the **third exit** at the roundabout towards **"Montelupo/Capraia"**. Go along the lane that runs through the industrial area, pass 2 roundabouts and go through the town of **Castra**. Pass the **bridge on the Arno** river, and the railway underpass
- 38,850** ⛛ **Petrol station at Km 38.85**
- 42,200** At the yield sign, take the road going on the **right**, take the first **right** and pass the bridge.
Once passed the bridge, take the first **left**
- 42,350** ⦿ Arrival at **Montelupo**. Turning left after the bridge you will find a parking area. If you want to continue the itinerary, go **straight ahead** in the same direction before turning for the parking area
- 42,550** Take the **second exit** at the roundabout and then pass another roundabout
- 42,900** Take the **third exit** at the roundabout towards **"Artimino/Carmignano"**. Pass on a bridge and through a tunnel, and continue along the road that runs along the railway
- 47,400** Turn **left** towards **"Artimino/Carmignano"**. Pass the railway underpass just after the narrow bridge on the Arno river, and continue along the uphill road.
At km 49.250, keep to the **right** and go uphill towards **Artimino**
- 49,700** → **Arrival at Artimino**, at the starting point



VISIT THE WEBSITE



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MONTALBANO PRATESE AND FIORENTINO AREA, BETWEEN ARTIMINO AND VINCI

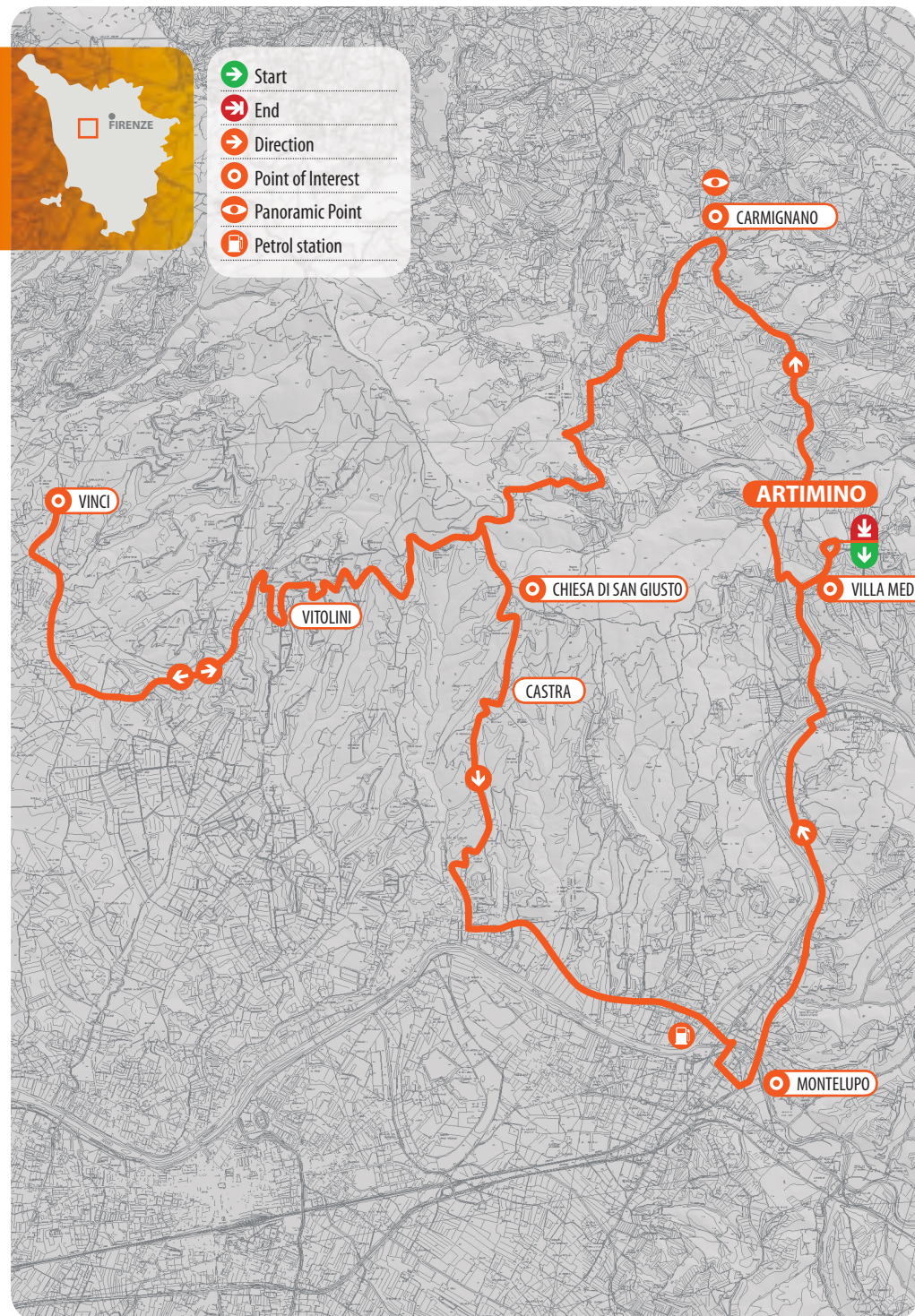
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AGENZIA PER IL TURISMO
ABETONE PISTOIA
MONTAGNA P.S.E.



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
in 1000

MONTALBANO PRATESE AND FIORENTINO AREA, BETWEEN ARTIMINO AND VINCI

The itinerary starts from the small hamlet of Artimino, and develops through two provinces, the ones of Prato and Florence, running along the roads of Montalbano area, and going through very interesting towns such as Carmignano, Vinci, and Montelupo Fiorentino.

TOTAL LENGTH OF THE ITINERARY: **KM 49.9**

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY: **easy**

TYPE OF STREET SURFACE: **most of them are asphalted and in good conditions**

TRAVELLING TIME: **about 1 hour and 45 minutes of itinerary, excluding stops**

MINIMUM ALTITUDE RANGE: **29 m above sea level**

MAXIMUM ALTITUDE RANGE: **411 m above sea level**

CARMIGNANO

The territory of Carmignano was probably in the past an Etruscan expansion area to the north of the Arno river. The first evidences of this territory and its inhabitants date back to the Early Middle Ages, in 998 A.D. Initially, Carmignano did not have an important role, and in the XIII and XIV centuries, it shared with Artimino the role of autonomous agricultural town with its own laws and borders, the benchmark of the defensive system of Pistoia along the line of Montalbano area. The area of Carmignano was then submitted to Florence, and the Medici family built there the "Villa of Poggio a Caiano", "Villa di Artimino" and the Barco Reale game reserve on most of the territory. Today, in Carmignano there still is the ancient medieval Citadel, dating back to the X century, in excellent preservation conditions.

ARTIMINO

Artimino, a medieval typical hill village

enclosed by ancient walls, is today a hamlet with little more than 200 inhabitants. It dominates an extraordinary landscape from the top of a hill, and it is rich in art and history. The Pieve (Parish Church) of San Leonardo is just outside the hamlet. Its first evidence dates back to 998 A.D., and it is a picturesque example of Romanesque-Lombard architecture in Tuscany. Very interesting is also the Medicean Villa, known also as "La Ferdinanda" or "Dei Cento Camini", part of which is dedicated to the archaeological museum organised with the materials found in Etruscan tombs discovered in the area.

CHURCH OF SAN GIUSTO

The Church of San Giusto al Pinone, dates back to the middle of the XII century, and it is one of the most picturesque Romanesque buildings in the area. It is located at the margins of the forest, and it has only one tri-apsidal nave, as well as some

very original and unusual elements such as the covering with barrel vault, stilted presbytery, and the crypt. On Montalbano ridge, in Pietramarina, evidences of an Etruscan sanctuary were also found.

VINCI

Vinci town is located within a landscape of vineyards and olive yards at the foot of Montalbano. It is strictly connected to Leonardo da Vinci, who was born here. Very interesting is the "Museo Leonardiano" (Leonardesque Museum), where original models of machines that take inspiration from Leonardo's drawings are kept. The museum is located inside the "Castello dei Conti Guidi" (Counts Guidi's Castle), also known as "Castello della Nave" (Castle of the Ship), because the historic centre of the city, from above, resembles a two-masted boat (the masts are represented by the tower of the castle and the bell tower of the Church of Santa Croce). It is possible to visit also the house where Leonardo was born, which is located a few kilometres from there, and it can be reached by foot also through a green street.

MONTELUPO

It has pre-Etruscan origins, as evidenced by some archaeological finds, but the town of Montelupo was founded when a castle was built during the medieval period. The city has been famous for its production of enamelled ceramics since 1200 when it started to specialise in this sector that, between 1490 and 1540, had its most prosperous period. The activity of the ceramist masters has been handed down from generation to generation and a nationally renowned ceramics school is located in Montelupo. Apart from the "Museo della Ceramica" (Museum of Ceramics), there is also the "Villa Medicea dell'Ambrogiana" (Dell'Ambrogiana

Medicean Villa) rich in works of art and prestigious furnishings, which is located in a spectacular position at the confluence of the Pesa torrent with the Arno river; the complex cannot be visited since it hosts the "Ospedale Psichiatrico Giudiziario" (Judicial Psychiatric Hospital).

TOURISTS INFORMATION OFFICE OF VINCI

Via della Torre, 11
Tel. +39 0571 568012

LEONARDESQUE MUSEUM OF VINCI

Counts Guidi's Castle
Open every day from 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

TOURISTS INFORMATION OFFICE OF MONTELUPO FIORENTINO

Via Sinibaldi, 43
Tel. +39 0571 518993
Open every day, except Mondays, from 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.
The **Museum of Ceramics** is closed on Mondays.

ALONG THE ITINERARY

Among the most characteristic products of Carmignano territory are included the dried figs of Carmignano, slow food presidium; it is one of the two Italian towns that boast such a honour. Well known are also the Carmignano DOCG wines, and the "Cantuccini" of Prato, biscuits with almonds, excellent if combined with "vinsanto" (sweet white Italian dessert wine); this sweet speciality is one of the flagships of Tuscany.

