

# **PISTOIA APENNINE**

# ROADBOOK

0,000 ⋺	<b>Starting point:</b> square in front of the entrance of the <b>Terme Tettuccio</b> ; take Viale Giuseppe Verdi, on the left of Terme Tettuccio
0,200	At the first crossroad, turn right taking Viale Fedele Fedeli towards <b>Montecatini Alto</b> ; once arrived to the traffic light continue straight ahead through the same road
2,800 💿	Once arrived at the crossroad in <b>Vico</b> , take the road on the right, Viale Vittorio Veneto, and continue straight ahead along the same road until reaching <b>Montecatini Alto</b>
5,500	Go back to the crossroad in <b>Vico</b> , take the first street on the <b>right</b> and then the first on the left towards <b>Marliana</b> along the panoramic <b>SS633</b> road
	Once arrived in the main square of <b>Marliana</b> , continue <b>straight ahead</b> along the main road. <b>Petrol Station</b> at Km 21
22,800	Once arrived at the crossroad in <b>Poggio Ponticelli</b> (just before the town of <b>Femmminamorta</b> ), turn right though Via Mammianese and continue <b>straight ahead</b>
23,300 💿	Once passed the residential area of <b>Femminamorta</b> and reached the crossroad, ignore every deviation and continue straight ahead towards <b>Margine di Momigno</b>
29,400 💿	Once arrived in front of the church of <b>Prunetta</b> town, turn <b>right</b> and continue <b>straight ahead</b>
33,200	Once reached the crossroad in <b>Le Piastre</b> , turn <b>right</b> , and then <b>right</b> again towards <b>Pistoia</b> , along the <b>SS66</b> road and continue <b>straight ahead</b>
36,700 •	Once arrived at <b>Cireglio</b> , turn right in Via Castello di Cireglio, just after the barpizzeria "My Bar di Morosi", towards <b>Castello di Cireglio</b> . Once arrived at the crossroad (where you will find the bust of the man of letters Perrocchi), turn <b>left</b> towards <b>Stazzana</b> , and continue straight ahead along Via di Stazzana
40,800	At the crossroad turn <b>right</b> in Via Nuova di Campiglio towards <b>Gello</b>
44,300	At the roundabout, take the <b>second exit</b> on the <b>right</b> , along Via Montanina. Once passed the small bridge, turn <b>right</b> at the <b>STOP</b> sign in Via Dalmazia. At the first crossroad turn <b>right</b> , still in Via Dalmazia. <b>Petrol Station</b> at Km 45,9
46,300	At the roundabout, take the <b>second exit</b> on the <b>right</b>

47,300	At the <b>forth deviation</b> on the <b>left</b> (starting from the previous roundabout), once reached Largo Molinuzzo, turn <b>left</b> towards Piazza San Francesco; then turn <b>right</b> again. At the end of the road, turn <b>left</b> taking Via Pellegrino Antonini; at the end of the road, turn <b>left</b> taking Via Gramsci
47,800	At the crossroad, turn <b>right</b> taking Via Sant'Andrea, and at the end of the road turn <b>left</b> again in Via delle Pappe
48,200	Once arrived in Piazza Giovanni XXIII, continue on the <b>right</b> taking Via Filippo Pacini and, at the end of the road, turn <b>left</b> taking Via San Pietro; at the end of the road turn <b>right</b> taking Via Laudesi and then <b>right</b> again near Largo Santa Maria; continue straight ahead along Corso Amendola. Once arrived in Piazza Garibaldi, continue along Corso Silvano Fedi, ignoring the deviation to the railway station. At the fork turn <b>left</b> taking Via Fonda and <b>left</b> again taking Via Lodovico Lazzaro Zamenhof
49,700	At the crossroad, turn <b>right</b> and then <b>right</b> again, and continue along Viale Pacinotti, towards <b>Montecatini</b>
50,300	At the first roundabout, take the <b>second exit</b> on the <b>right</b> , Viale Macallè, towards <b>Lucca</b> . At the second roundabout, take the <b>third exit</b> to continue along Macallè
51,000	At the crossroad turn <b>right</b> taking Via Nazario Sauro, and continue <b>straight ahead</b> . <b>Petrol Station</b> at Km 52
57,000 💿	Once passed the new residential area of <b>Serravalle Pistoiese</b> , ignore the deviation towards the Hotel "Lago Verde", and turn <b>right</b> at the next one, then keep to the left continuing uphill; reach the park of the town where the ancient castle is
57,700	At the crossroad, turn <b>right</b> and then <b>right</b> again, following the indication <b>"tutte le direzioni"</b> (all directions). At the <b>stop</b> sign, turn <b>left</b> taking the downhill road; at the second <b>stop</b> sign, turn <b>left</b> again taking the downhill road
58,500	Once returned along Via Lucchese, turn <b>right</b> at the <b>stop</b> sign, and continue <b>straight ahead</b> along the main road towards <b>Montecatini Terme</b>
63,000	Once arrived in <b>Montecatini Terme</b> , continue taking Corso Giacomo Matteotti. At the crossroad, where the traffic light between Corso Matteotti and Via Alessandro Bicchierai is, turn <b>right</b> taking Via Alessandro Bicchierai

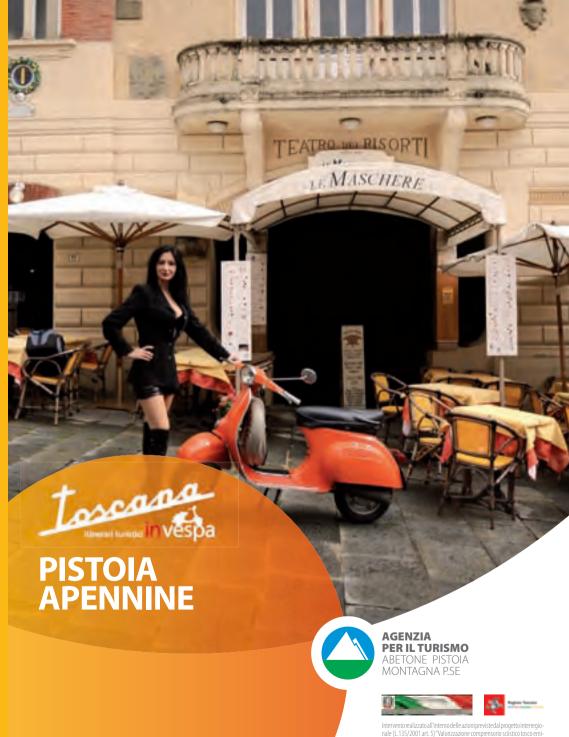




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# **PISTOIA APENNINE**

This itinerary passes through the unpolluted area of Appenino pistoiese, located among green forests of beech, fir, chestnut, and turkey oak trees, where the wild musk fills the air with the scent of a simple and ancient lifestyle. This is a very ancient area: before the Romans, the Celts settled in the north, while the Etruscans occupied the southern territory; then the Romans came, and successively the Ostrogoths. Later it passed to the Longobards, and after it became borderland of the Gran Duchy of Tuscany. During World War II, these woods were the shelter of the partisans, and the place from where they carried out their guerrilla against the occupying forces, which from here, along the Gothic Line, wanted to stop the advance of the Allied forces.

TOTAL LENGTH OF THE ITINERARY: **66 Km** 

TRAVELLING TIME: 2 hours and 30 minutes of itinerary, excluding stops

#### MONTECATINI ALTO

The first settlements in Montecatini Alto date back to the Mesolithic period. However the place became of great importance as strategic point at the beginning of the XIV century, when it was occupied by the Ghibelline forces, led by Uguccione della Faggiola, which were fighting against the Guelph ones of Florence. Later, the town passed in the hands of Castruccio Castracani, lord of Lucca and Pisa, and then it became territory of Florence. In 1554, it was contended between two opposed forces: Florence and Siena. This latter conquered it with the approval of the population that identified in Piero Strozzi, commander of Siena forces, a liberator. It was this passive attitude of the local population towards Siena invasion that caused the wrath of Cosimo I de' Medici who, once having reconquered the town, destroyed it. Very interesting is the Church of San Pietro (XI century).

## TERME TETTUCCIO

Located in Montecatini Terme, these thermal baths have been known as "Bagno Nuovo" (New Baths) since the XIV century. They take their name from a shelter that used to cover the water spring. The building works started in 1779 and ended in 1781, and they were realised by the architect Gaspero Maria Paoletti. In 1916, it was refurbished and modified by the architect Ugo Giovannozzi who, for his project, took inspiration from the model

of the Roman thermal baths, proposing an establishment located within a park rich in citron, palm, sequoia, acacia, pine, wisteria trees, and numerous other varieties of plants, and decorated with various colonnades, exedras, and tribunes, which welcome the visitor in an atmosphere of ancient peace.

#### **MARLIANA**

The first evidence of this town dates back to 1137. Its original nucleus was built where the municipality building and the parish church are. During medieval period, Marliana became Pistoia'a outpost against Lucca forces that were expanding. In the past Marliana was the centre of various disputes between towns. In 1177, it was invaded by the troops of the nearby Montecatini that destroyed its castle, which was reconstructed only a few years later. In 1319, just as its nearby rival Montecatini, the town was conquered by Castruccio Castracani, and later it passed under the domination of Florence. Very interesting are the Church of San Niccolò, and the nearby Parish Church of San Andrea di Furfalo.

### **LE PIASTRE**

A visit to this small town is recommended. It is overshadowed by the forest, and made of narrow streets that tickle the fancy of the visitors who try to guess where the narrow lanes lead. The view of the bell tower, which appears suddenly while walking through the lanes, is almost hidden behind the corner of a house and it is the wonderful reward for this short stop.

## **PISTOIA**

The first settlement of this territory, of which we have evidence, is the Etruscan one, as demonstrated by the archaeological finds in the city near Piazza del Duomo. In the II century, Pistoia was a fortified centre "oppidum", and, together with the Romans participated in the struggle against the Ligurian populations living on the side of the Apennines. In the late ancient age, the city, in the hands of the Longobards, had a very important role for its strategic position, near the Byzantine border. During the XI and XII centuries, Pistoia had a period of great economic development, which also influenced its military power as well as its town structure, thus adopting that Romanesque aspect that still characterises it. In the XIII century, the city went through a crisis, due to the struggle against Lucca and Florence. At the end of the war, Pistoia passed under the domination of Florence. Very interesting is also the beautiful historic centre with the Cattedrale di San Zeno (Saint Zeno Cathedral), Torre di Catilina (Catilina Tower), and the Baptistery.

