

# **PISTOIA AND MONTALBANO PISTOIESE AREA** ROADBOOK

0,000	<b>→</b>	Starting point in correspondence of the roundabout just outside the city, to the south, halfway along via Bonellina, where the Pistoia link road starts. Go southwards - coming from the centre take the 2 <sup>nd</sup> exit towards "Larciano". At the fork continue straight ahead. Pass a bridge and at the STOP sign continue straight ahead on the SP9 road, a road bordered with greenhouses and nurseries, typical of the area. Go past a traffic light and continue straight ahead towards "Casalguidi", go past the town of Cantagrillo
0,650	0	Petrol station at Km 0.650
5,100		Turn <b>right</b> and after keep to the <b>right</b> at the fork, following the street that goes up the hill, the <b>SP27 "Strada dell'olio e del vino del Montalbano"</b>
13,150	0	Turn <b>right</b> in a tight bend, following the directions for the "centro storico" (historical city centre) to reach the hamlet of <b>Montevettolini</b> . Follow the directions for the Parking Area. There is a large parking area where you can stop just outside the hamlet. To continue the itinerary, exit the parking area following the only possible direction. At the <b>STOP</b> sign turn <b>right</b> and keep to the <b>right</b>
13,500		Take the street slightly turning left, and take the first street on the <b>right</b> of the church, Via dei Bronzoli
14,000		At km 14.00 keep to the <b>right</b>
14,150		Take the road on the <b>right</b>
14,350		At the <b>STOP</b> sign, turn <b>right</b> in order to stay on via dei Bronzoli, which becomes narrower and winds among olive trees and rows of vines
15,450		At the <b>STOP</b> sign turn <b>left</b> , taking via Vergin Chiusa, following the directions for <b>"Montecatini"</b>
17,450		At the <b>STOP</b> sign turn <b>right</b> taking Via Fonda. Turn <b>right</b> again at the end of the street
19,050		Turn <b>left</b> , following the directions for <b>"Larciano"</b>
19,750		At the fork go <b>left</b> and follow the street
20,300		Turn left towards "Castello"
20,400		Turn <b>right</b> and continue along the street
21,000		Turn left, towards <b>"Castello".</b> Attention: the street into which you must turn is not well visible, but hidden by a wall of a building on the corner
21,400		At the fork keep to the <b>right</b> and continue along the uphill street

21,900	Keep to the <b>left</b> and continue going uphill. After 200 m keep to the <b>right</b> , always going along the street
23,500 💿	Once you have arrived in <b>Larciano Castello</b> , at the gate that is the first hamlet entrance point, it is possible to park here, just outside the walls. It is possible to continue keeping to the <b>right</b> , going along the street that runs along the castle
23,750	It is possible to park in the courtyard adjacent the Church. To continue the itinerary, go back over the road alongside the castle
23,900	At the yield sign, take the street turning <b>left</b> , and descend again
26,450	Take the street turning <b>left</b>
26,800	Petrol station at km 26.800
27,900	At the traffic light, in the town of Lamporecchio, turn <b>left</b> towards <b>San Baronto</b> and go along the <b>SP16</b> road that goes uphill
32,250 💿	In the town of San Baronto, just passed the centre, turn left, following the directions for the Abbazia (Abbey), taking Via dei Nardini
32,500	Once you have reached the church turn right
32,550 💿	Right after, at the <b>STOP</b> sign, turn <b>left</b> following the directions for the campsite. Travel about 3 km along via Santa Lucia, while you proceed, to the east there is the view of <b>Florence-Prato-Pistoia</b> and to the west the one of <b>Padule di Fucecchio</b>
35,450	Take the street on the <b>right</b> towards <b>"Cecina"</b> , Via Santa Lucia, and go along the street that now goes downhill
37,250	At the <b>STOP</b> sign turn <b>right</b> taking the <b>SP28</b> road
40,700	Turn left towards Pistoia
40,900	Petrol station at km 40.900
43,500	At the roundabout take the <b>2nd exit</b> towards <b>Pistoia</b>
43,950	Go past a traffic light and take the street on the <b>right</b> . Turn <b>right</b> again following the directions for <b>"Pistoia"</b>
46,300	Arrival at the starting point roundabout





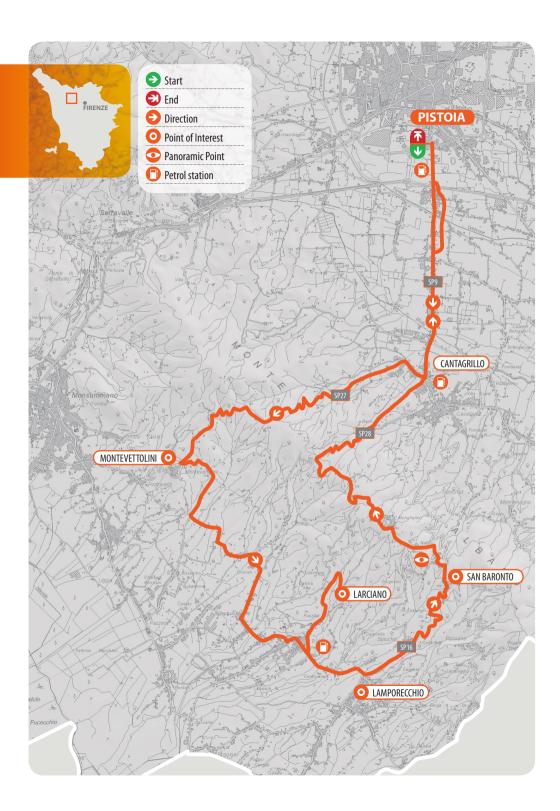
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MAPS AND TEXT









## PISTOIA AND MONTALBANO PISTOIESE AREA

Starting just out of Pistoia, going along a street bordered by greenhouses and nurseries, evidence of the characteristic rich floriculture of this territory, the itinerary leads to the discovery of the Montalbano Pistoiese area and its ancient hamlets, such as Montevettolini and Larciano Castello. Long sections curl along fascinating natural environments rich in green.

TOTAL LENGTH OF THE ITINERARY: **46.300 km** 

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY: average-easy, slightly challenging only in the uphill

TYPE OF STREET SURFACE: asphalted, generally in good conditions

TRAVELLING TIME: 1 hour and 30 minutes, stops excluded

MINIMUM ALTITUDE RANGE: 25 m above sea level

MAXIMUM ALTITUDE RANGE: 398 m above sea level

## **MONTEVETTOLINI**

Montevettolini is located at the north-western foot of the Montalbano, visible from the valley line. It is a small hamlet that has developed around the Medicean Villa built by Ferdinand I at the end of the XVI century, which is part of the Barco Reale Mediceo complex, the game preserve of the Grand Dukes of Tuscany; then sumptuous patrician residences rose around the Villa which gave that "special atmosphere" to Montevettolini.

## **LARCIANO**

Larciano, with the Roman origin keep, is considered the eastern gate of Valdinievole; the origins of the town date back to the III century B.C. when the

Romans founded the "Villa Larziana" colony. The XI century citadel, of which some sections of the walls and the high quadrangular tower are well preserved, is worth a visit.

#### **SAN BARONTO**

San Baronto, located along the important pass of the Montalbano, once passed the top of the hill, you descend towards the plain of Pistoia and Prato, and it is a terrace that overlooks most of the surrounding plain. Historically it developed as town around the church, which was a monastery until the Eighteenth century, and therefore constituted the central heart, the attraction area of the community; rebuilt after the last world war, in the Church of San Baronto

there is an intact Roman crypt, where frescoes of the XIV-XV century are preserved. Moreover, there are important ruins of the Barco Reale Mediceo, which extended along the entire ridge of the Montalbano.

# TOURISTS INFORMATION OFFICE OF PISTOIA

Piazza Duomo
Antico Palazzo dei Vescovi
Tel. +39 0573 21622
Opening hours:

from 9:00 a.m. – 01:00 p.m. / 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. everyday, all year round (closed on 25.12.)

#### **ALONG THE ITINERARY**

Those who like sweets can taste the brigidini, typical of the Lamporecchio area, which originate from wafers remade into sweets by the nuns of Santa Brigida.





