


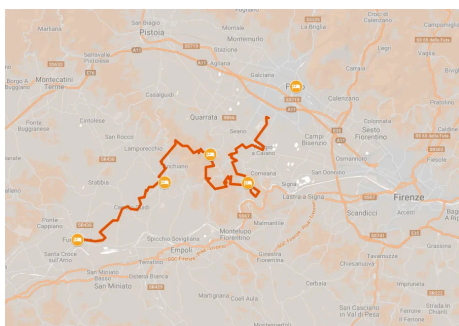
SPRING & AUTUMN NEW

type : Self-Guided Hiking Tours Caminos
 level : 
 duration : 6 days
 period: Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct
 code: ITSW520

The Medici Way, Prato to Fucecchio - Italy

The Medici Way, Prato to Fucecchio

6 days, Price On request



The **Tuscan landscape** of the Via Medicea will warm your heart like a classic photograph as you penetrate its natural beauty.

It starts from Cascine Medicee parks of **Prato** and arrives in **Fucecchio**, after having crossed those territories **where the Medici lived**, hunted and amused, shaping wonderful landscapes also depicted by **Leonardo Da Vinci** in his paintings.

Throughout the trip there are four **Medici Villas**, today recognized as **Unesco World Heritage sites**, but also historic villages, ridges and valleys, natural parks, archaeological sites and numerous historical and artistic sites.

Route

Day 1 Arrival in Prato

Arrive in Prato. The richness of Prato is also its mixture of cultures, eastern and western, which coexist and complement each other: ravioli for dinner and cantucci for dessert, why not?

Day 2 From Prato to Artimino, 17.5 km

The first stage of the **Medici Route** offers three historical-artistic and landscape masterpieces of the entire route - the Cascine di Tavola, the Medici Villa in Poggio a Caiano and the Medici Villa "La Ferdinanda" in Artimino, both **UNESCO heritage** - wanted and built by the Medici family during the long period from the end of the 15th century to the beginning of the 17th century. This stage of the **Medici Route** gives us the possibility to know and appreciate the evolution of the territorial policy of the Medici family, of its changes and mutations also in function of the political-economic, social and cultural conditions of the Tuscan and Italian situation of the time!

Distance: 17,5 km

Elevation gain: +573/-357 m

Day 3 From Artimino to Bacchereto, 19 km

The second stage, together with the third, is the most '**naturalistic**' of the entire route, developing first on the highest belt of the hills of the northern side of **Montalbano**, and then on the ridge of this relief, which has always been covered by woods from the end of the Middle Ages until today. Here and there, the itinerary shows the signs of eras that preceded the Medici period, from **Ancient times** to the **Middle Ages**, which distinguish the upper part of Montalbano still today, such as the **Etruscan settlements, churches and abbeys**. The woods of Montalbano, some natural elements such as the monoliths of hard sandstone and important and original plant species remain in memory of the periods when Nature was the protagonist and imposed its laws on a man equipped with rudimentary technology.

Distance: 19 km

Elevation gain: +826/-834 m

Day 4 From Bacchereto to Vinci, 14 km

The ridge of the mountain offers strips of forest of absolute naturalistic importance and offers rare panoramic views, open on the large basin of **Florence** and **Pistoia**, thus showing how man has managed and manages spaces in the use of natural resources. The southern side instead offers panoramas ranging from the **Valdarno di Sotto**, to **Mount Serra**, from the **Apuan Alps** to the **Pistoia Apennines**. Finally, the **mills** near the numerous streams that descend from the upper part of the mountain, are evidence of the use by man of hydraulic energy in the long period preceding the arrival of the steam (first) and the electricity in the countryside (after). **Vinci and Leonardo's** engineering genius constitute the emblem of this stage of the **Medici Route**.

Distance: 14 km

Elevation gain: +456/-620 m

Day 5 From Vinci to Fucecchio, 16.5 km

The fourth stage of the Medici Route, like the first, runs through a hilly, soft and winding landscape. Along the way there is the third **Medici Villa** of the entire Route, the **Villa of Cerreto Guidi**, a UNESCO heritage site, another fundamental stage of the Medici Route.

Distance: 16,5 km

Elevation gain: +310/-340 m

Day 6 Depart from Fucecchio

Last day included. Tour ends after breakfast.

Practical info



The best arrival airport:

- Florence "A. Vespucci" Airports www.aeroporto.firenze.it/en/
- Pisa www.pisa-airport.com/en/

From the airports you can take a train and then busses to reach Prato.

The day of the departure you can take a train from San Miniato/ Fucecchio Station to the airports.

- Check the updated train timetables on the website www.trenitalia.com

Included

What is included

- 5 Nights in double room in **/** hotels , B&B with breakfast
- luggage transportation from hotel to hotel
- maps and detailed description of the itinerary in digital form, app
- Pilgrim Passport
- Medical and luggage travel insurance
- 24h phone assistance

What is not included

- Transfers to the starting location and from the arriving location of the tour
- lunches and dinners.
- visits and entrance fees - tips
- personal expense
- possible sojourn taxes
- everything that is not mentioned in the "What is included" section.

Optional Services

These services can be added to the ones included in the base price of the tour:

- Single room supplement
- Transfers to reach the starting location or to leave the arriving location of the tour, which will be quoted on request.
- travel documentation in printed form (maps and detailed description of the itinerary), shipped to the first hotel