

ENG

Central-North Tuscany

The Francigener

Stories and places along the Via Francigena in Tuscany

STEP BY STEP BETWEEN
VERSILIA AND THE APUAN
ALPS

VISIT THE FORTS AND
PIAZZAS OF THE CITY
OF ART

ENJOY THE HOSPITALITY
OF THE VILLAGES IN THE
PLAIN OF LUCCA



Francigena Toscana



Set off for a walk in the heart of the ancient European route. An extraordinary millennia-old path to be followed on foot, by bike or astride a horse...

viafrancigena.visittuscany.com

Download the map of the **Via Francigena in Tuscany**



The stats



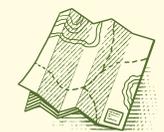
380

km



39

councils



15

legs

The Via Francigena in Tuscany is...

Mountains

The access point is the Passo della Cisa which marks the highest point at 1,041 metres above sea level. Between mule tracks and pathways, the northwards stretch is accompanied by extraordinary views of the Tuscan-Emilian Apennine mountains and the Apuan Alps. This journey offers a rewarding journey in luxuriant green valleys of significant naturalistic interest.

Nature

This walk is a harmonious balance of cities of art, villages and the open countryside. The middle stretch of the Tuscan itinerary, in particular, offers a hilly green landscape alternating woods and streams, pastures and cultivated fields, olive groves and vineyards. The fruits of the land give the flavour to the oenogastronomical specialties that await to nourish the traveller.

History

On the tracks of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance... The ancient pilgrimage route played an important role as trade and military route as testified by the abbeys, castles, forts and towers met along the way. We walk on the footsteps of history, staying in hostels where the Knights of Tau, the ancient religious knightly order, provided accommodation to pilgrims.

Spirituality

The walk is lent a spiritual dimension by the hundreds of places of worship found along the way. The wooden statue of the Volto Santo and the bas-relief "labyrinth" of Lucca's cathedral are iconic witnesses. The landscapes passing by southwards give the journey a mystic air: the "moonscapes" of the Crete Senesi, the magic of the Val d'Orcia and the climb to Radicofani.

The footpath

	km		km
1. Passo della Cisa > Pontremoli	21.7	9. San Miniato > Gambassi Terme	24.0
2. Pontremoli > Aulla	32.5	10. Gambassi Terme > San Gimignano	13.4
3. Aulla > Sarzana	17.5	11. San Gimignano > Monteriggioni	31.0
4. Sarzana > Massa	29.3	12. Monteriggioni > Siena	18.9
5. Massa > Camaiore	26.0	13. Siena > Ponte d'Arbia	25.8
6. Camaiore > Lucca	23.8	14. Ponte d'Arbia > San Quirico d'Orcia	26.1
7. Lucca > Altopascio	18.5	15. San Quirico d'Orcia > Radicofani	32.3
8. Altopascio > San Miniato	29.0		



The "Credenziale"

This is the "passport" pilgrims carry with them step by step along the route. Each stamp on the Credential from hostels, eateries, tourist offices and parishes will testify to your walk and above all become an indelible souvenir of your journey. If you complete at least the final 100km by foot or 200km by bike, the Credential will allow you to receive the Testimonium once you arrive in Rome. The Credential means pilgrims can receive a discount in associated hostels and be welcomed in "a donativo" accommodation that merely asks for a small offer.



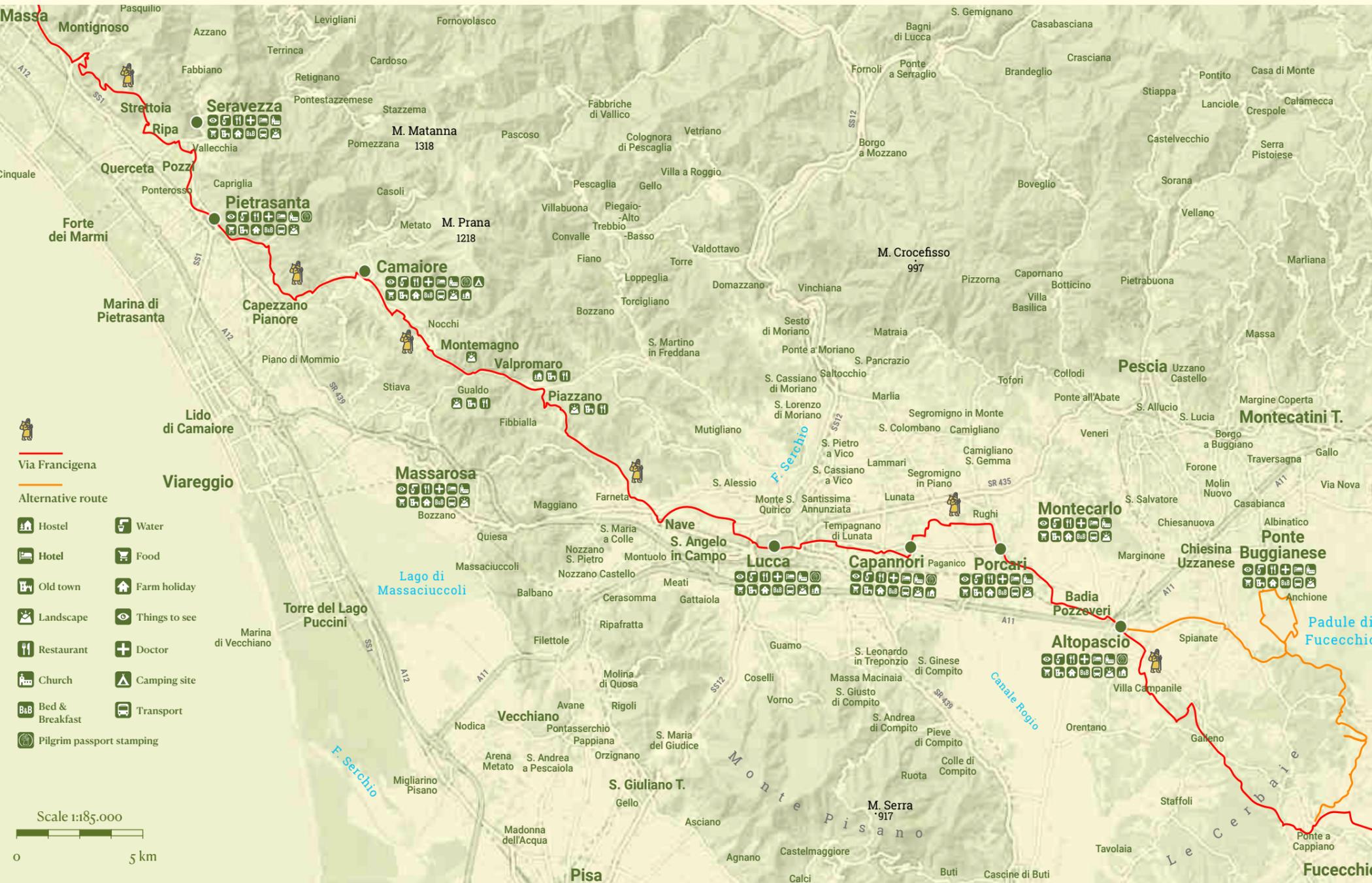
Finding your way

It is rather difficult to get lost on the Francigena. Firstly because of the signposts: the route is marked by signposts with the pilgrim symbol on; the trail signs and red and white boundary stones direct you on your way. Before starting, it is a good idea to download the itinerary from one of the official sites so you can view the track on your smartphone. Finding your way is easy thanks to the signposts and digital tracking, but you can further enrich your experience by asking for directions and advice from the inhabitants of the Francigena lands.

Francigena Toscana Central-North

Three legs to discover, step by step, the places and territories of the Centre-North Aggregation of the Tuscan Via Francigena. The first leg crosses Versilia, from its breath-taking valleys to the slopes of the Apuan Alps. The next leg winds through the Lucchesia inlands all the way to the jewel of art and culture: the city of Lucca whose Renaissance walls preserve enchanting basilicas and

cathedrals. The third is immersed in the Piana di Lucca between the villages of the councils of Capannori, Porcari, Montecarlo, Altopascio and Ponte Buggianese, wandering amongst churches, aqueducts and hostels of ancient tradition; famous are the "hospitals" founded by the Knights of Tau and the Medici family.



Tourist offices

All information on what to see and where to eat and sleep.

Here you can request and receive your Pilgrim's Credential

Comune di Seravezza
Pro Loco Turistica
Via Corrado del Greco 11
+39 0584 757325
ufficioinformazioni@prolocoseravezza.it
prolocoseravezza.it

Comune di Pietrasanta
Tourist Office
Piazza Statuto - +39 0584 283375
infocentro@comune.pietrasanta.lu.it
comune.pietrasanta.lu.it

Comune di Camaiore
Municipality
Piazza San Bernardino da Siena 1
+39 0584 986272
infoturistiche@comune.camaiore.lu.it
comune.camaiore.lu.it

Comune di Massarosa
Info Point Comune
Rotonda G. Mazzini
fraz. Montramito
+39 0584 433696
informazioni@comune.massarosa.lu.it
comune.massarosa.lu.it

Città di Lucca
Tourist Office
Piazza Curtatone
+39 0583 442213
info@turismo.lucca.it

IAT Vecchia Porta San Donato
+39 0583 583150
turismolucca@metrosl.it
turismo.lucca.it

Comune di Capannori
IAT Capannori
Piazza Aldo Moro 1
+39 0583 428588
infoturismo@comune.capannori.lu.it
capannori-terraditoscana.org

Comune di Porcari
Public Library
Piazza Roma 121
+39 0583 211884
biblioteca@comune.porcari.lu.it

Comune di Montecarlo
Pro Loco
Piazzale Verdi
Via Roma 7
+39 0583 228881
prolocomontecarlo@gmail.com
comune.montecarlo.lu.it

Comune di Altopascio
Info Point Comune
Piazza Garibaldi 10
+39 0583 216525
turismo@comune.altopascio.lu.it
comune.altopascio.lu.it

Comune di Ponte Buggianese
Municipality
Piazza Santuario 1
+39 0572 93211
info@comune.ponte-buggianese.pt.it
comune.ponte-buggianese.pt.it

Via Francigena Entry Point - Museum
Via dei Bacchettoni 8 Lucca
+39 0583 496554
info@viafrancigenaentrypoint.eu
viafrancigenaentrypoint.eu

Hospitality

Hospitality is a millennia-old value and tradition of the Via Francigena. Every pilgrim travelling to and from Rome, sometimes from the Holy Land, could find accommodation together with their fellow travellers. Still today, there is an official network of hostels along the road, as well as the "a donativo" facilities or those for tourists at a range of rates.

Pietrasanta
Casa Diocesana La Rocca
Via della Rocca 10
+39 0584 793094
casarocca@tiscali.it

Camaiore
Ostello Comunale del Pellegrino
Via Madonna della Pietà (centro storico)
+39 345 1168661
ostellodicamaiore.it

Massarosa
Ostello Parrocchiale Casa del Pellegrino
loc. Valpromaro (di fianco alla chiesa)
+39 0584 956028
valpromarogmail.com

Lucca
Ostello di San Frediano
Via della Cavallerizza 12
NB: the hostel is momentarily closed

Arciconfraternita della Misericordia
Via Cesare Battisti 2
+39 0583 494902
NB: the facility is momentarily closed
luccaospitale@gmail.com

Canonici Regolari Lateranensi
Via San Nicolao 76
331 1311522

Pellegrinario San Davino
Via San Leonardo 12
+39 0583 53576 - +39 366 1062641
sandavino@luccatranoi.it
luccatranoi.it

Capannori
Ostello La Salana
Via del Popolo 182
+39 339 7237912
ostellolasana.it

Ostello Rio di Vorno
Via del Folle Mansi 1, loc. Vorno
+39 0583 97108
ilriodivorno.it

Altopascio
Hostal Badia
Via della Chiesa
loc. Badia Pozzeveri
+39 0583 1808194 - +39 335 7025335
iniziativaturistica.org/hostalbadia

Foresteria dei Pellegrini
Piazza Vittorio Emanuele 23
+39 0583 216525
+39 0583 216280 - +39 366 5708802
altopasciocultura.it/foresteria

Ponte Buggianese
Ostello Dogana del Capannone
loc. Dogana del Capannone
+39 0572 93211
NB: the hostel is momentarily closed
comune.ponte-buggianese.pt.it/il-territorio/alberghi-ristoranti

View the full list of hostels:

Massa > Camaiore

DISTANCE	ELEVATION GAIN	TOWNS
25,9 km	515 m/slm	2

VERSILIA AND THE APUAN ALPS

The imposing position of Castello Aghinolfi, of Longobard origin, testifies to the strategic importance of controlling the Via Francigena below; from this castle it was possible to directly overlook the ancient road, narrow in this mandatory passage between the coast and sea on one side and the extraordinary mountain profiles on the other. In fact, on the Francigena itinerary that crosses the Versilia undiscovered glimpses alternate as we wander through the woods between the mountain and valley areas. Seravezza is a natural entrance to the wonders of the Apuan Alps. Between ancient marble quarries and wooded mountains, its centre is curiously characterised by the joining of the Serra and Vezza rivers which - uniting in the very heart of the inhabited area - are the source of the Versilia river. Here marble has always been a precious identifying element, illustriously proven by Giovanni de' Medici's commissioning of the great Michelangelo Buonarroti: to use the marble extracted in the Seravezza mountains for the facade of the San Lorenzo church in Florence and to build a road from the quarries to the sea. The task proved arduous and Michelangelo found himself against many difficulties; so much so that, when the first marble finally reached Florence in 1521, the project for the facade had already been abandoned. However, it wasn't a complete failure, as it left Medicean



Versilia with a road between the mountains and the sea. In order to walk in the footsteps of the Medici, today in Seravezza you can visit the splendid castle commissioned by Cosimo I de' Medici in the second half of the 16th century. In fact, the Palazzo Mediceo is one of the best examples of noble Tuscan architecture and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

EXPLORING MARBLE AND CONTEMPORARY ART

Pietrasanta is a treasure box hidden in Versilia. Known as "Little Athens" because of the quantity of works of art it holds and for its long history; those



arriving in the city are embraced by an alternation of tradition and contemporaneity. Pietrasanta is known as the historical-artistic capital of Versilia and wandering its streets you immediately understand why: a wealth of ancient churches and colourful buildings, you often find classic and contemporary statues living in perfect harmony in the roads of the centre. Overlooked by the Rocca di Sala, a fortified complex from which you can see the Palazzo Moroni, the church of Sant'Agostino and the whole historical centre, the city is a pearl that opens itself up slowly to its travellers. The "artistic walk" along the streets reaches its climax in the piazza shadowed by the Cathedral of San Martino and where you can find a series of works of contemporary art. In fact, the streets of the city are scattered with numerous statues by internationally-famed artists such as Igor Mitoraj and Fernando Botero; an open-air exhibition highlights the "Centaurio" by the Polish artist in the piazza of the same name and Botero's "Il Guerriero" in Piazza Matteotti, but also the large frescoes by the Columbian artist who made Pietrasanta his workshop-home. The Bozzetti Museum is also worth a visit, preserving 700 drawings of sculptures by more than 350 artists who chose the workshops of Versilia to create their works, making Pietrasanta the world capital of sculpture. The International Park of Contemporary Sculpture is the perfect open-air progression of the museum, home to the works of more than 50 artists, winding through the city streets and enriching both the urban landscape as well as the souls of those who wander the city.

AN ABBEY WITH A MOUNTAIN VIEW

Surrounded by the enchanting heights of the Apuan Alps, Camaiore is a fundamental leg of the Francigena, nestling in green hills. Having arrived in the historical centre, you will be bewitched by the stone of the facade and the belltower of the Collegiata di Santa Maria Assunta, an emblematic building of ecclesiastic architecture dating to the 18th century. In Via IV Novembre, where the Via Francigena used to pass, you can visit the ancient church of San Michele (medieval, destroyed during the second world war and then rebuilt) and the Museum of Sacred Art, with various, important works, paintings and wooden sculptures. Wandering the alleys of the city, just outside the historical centre we arrive at the Abbey of San Pietro in Camaiore; founded by Benedictine monks, the monastic complex was a reference point for pilgrims traveling the road towards Rome. Crossing the ancient threshold of the surrounding walls, you step back in time: the three-nave plan of the church, the apse and low wall of the facade are original of the Romanesque structure and inside you can find works of art from the 1300s and the splendid 17th century organ. If you are lucky enough to visit the city during the summertime, you will be able to hear this organ played during the Festival Organistico Città di Camaiore. The Pilgrims' Hostel has been



established in the rooms of the monastery of the Abbey of San Pietro: a refuge with a view over the Apuan mountains that silently welcomes travellers on their way to or from Rome. The long history of pilgrimage, from the Middle Ages to today, finds its natural environment here. Art and history, paths and natural parks, as well as its typical products: tortelli camaioreesi, or cold cuts, such as mortadella (also known as sbriccolona) and lard, are just a few of the flavours and aromas that cannot be missed!

Camaiore > Lucca

DISTANCE	ELEVATION GAIN	TOWNS
23,8 km	412 m/slm	2

THE ENCHANTMENT OF THE INLAND VALLEYS

Between the cities of Camaiore and Lucca, where Versilia ends and Lucchesia begins, the Via Francigena offers a leg of intimate enchantment just like the geography of the territory it crosses, characterised by small valleys and pathways, tiny villages and beautiful views. The rise and fall of these narrow valleys, dominated in part by the forms of the Apuan Alps, provide some wonderful views over the hills. The sea is a stone's throw away, and often makes its presence felt with the smell of salt carried on the wind. The ascent in Montemagno is easy. An ancient mule track, many stretches going through the woods, leads to the modest summit of 215 metres above sea level, more than high enough for a pleasant view over the valley. After the village of Montemagno, you enter the Sei Miglia territory which runs along the course of the river in the narrow, woody Valfreddana. We would advise you to follow the bypass (about 3 km long and well signposted) that leads to Valpromaro passing through Gualdo, a lovely village dating back to the year 1000. This small area of Massarosa, immersed in green and famous for its ovens, is a labyrinth of stone houses and piazzas. Gualdo is known as the Fairy Tale Town for this as well as its mid-August



festival dedicated to children. Arriving in Valpromaro, however, you can find hospitality at the Ostello del Pellegrino. The magic of the Francigena is also this: imagining pilgrims, knights, merchants, travellers, prelates and princes waiting for morning in this narrow town between the hills and the river. A few more gullies, some wooden bridges, a sweet ascent towards Piazzano where you can enjoy a final view of the panorama; and then the descent towards the Serchio river and cross it - meaning for you, as it has always meant for travellers that just a few steps more and you will be in the splendour of Lucca.

FINALLY, LUCCA

After having crossed internal valleys and small villages with the Apuan Alps at your back, you now find the course of the Serchio river that leads step by step to the historical centre of Lucca. Wandering along the fortified walls is a unique experience: four kilometres and two hundred metres of wall, built between the mid 1500s and the mid 1600s, embracing the entire city in a regenerative walk in greenery. The Piazza dell'Anfiteatro is a magical



place to see: one of the most unique and characteristic squares of Tuscany, it was built on the remains of the ancient Roman amphitheatre and today its oval shape and colourful, folkloristic buildings make it a small gem, almost a separate, intimate place away from the rest of the city. The charm of Lucca can also be seen in the Guinigi Tower from which you can admire the Via Francigena walked so far and that part which remains to be walked, surrounded by seven beech trees suspended in a garden 45 metres high. With your feet back on the ground, you simply must visit the cathedral of San Martino, unusually asymmetrical, and its "maze". This bas relief sculpted into the stone, found in the pillar to the right of the portico, is one of the most fascinating mysteries in Italy: some say it's to do with the Templar history but if you look closer you can read an inscription referring to the legend of Ariadne and Theseus. With its certainly allegorical and symbolic significance - perhaps also linked to the passing of the Via Francigena - the maze contains a religious message. "Ariadne's thread" of the legend became faith able to lead the pilgrim to the light and towards God. One legend also says that those condemned to death would be let off if they could guess the correct way on the first try.

VIA FRANCIGENA ENTRY POINT

The easiest place to pick up your pilgrim's Credential and receive your stamp in Lucca is the new Via Francigena Entry Point complex, made up of the Museum and Hospitality area, located in the city's extraordinary 16th walls. The Museum is found inside the Bastione San Salvatore, also known as the former Casa del Boia (Executioner's House), a majestic building that still preserves the fascinating 14th century walls and mysterious charm of the underground tunnels. Over the three floors of the museum you can bask in the history of the city and the Via Francigena; through interactive content and multimedia videos, visitors are transported in a virtual experience of the walk according to the viewpoints of imaginary travellers who have followed the Via Francigena over seven centuries, from the year 1000 to the end of the 17th century. The immersive experience takes the traveller on a different journey, one back in time, amongst stories about the city of Lucca and simulated itineraries and legs of the Via Francigena. The Hospitality area has been set up in the Casermetta (barracks) in front of the Bastione, the perfect place to rest and freshen up with a relaxation area, cafe and eatery where you can try some local typical products.



In the heart of the city, along the fortified walls, you can also find the Ostello San Frediano, a charming place that will soon accommodate travellers of the Francigena. It's not every day, in fact, that you can stay in a former 17th century convent, another perfect place from which to discover Lucca.

Lucca > Altopascio

DISTANCE	ELEVATION GAIN	TOWNS
18,5 km	20 m/slm	3

ALONG THE PLAIN TOWARDS THE MAZE

Curiously, the departure and arrival points of the six kilometres that separate Lucca from Capannori are marked by two, very different mazes, linked to the history and importance of the Via Francigena. The journey starts with the maze-shape bas relief in the pillar of the Cathedral of San Martino, certainly the most meaningful place to start your walk. Leaving the city, the route continues along the countryside of the Piana di Lucca until you can see the crenellated bell tower of the church of Sant'Quirico e Giulitta in Capannori, built in 786 AD and recognisable thanks to its characteristic Romanesque style facade. It is in "Capannole", as the city was called in the past, it is said that a Lombard priest and Presbyterian nun founded a chapel and hospital along the Via Francigena to give aid and comfort to the pilgrims. Still in Capannori walking along the new "Pilgrim's Labyrinth" is an unusual experience. The work is bordered by wooden posts and located in the park of the Athena Town Museum. A visit to the maze, also accessible to the visually impaired, means stepping around the "Capasanta", the shell symbol of pilgrims. A few more kilometres and you arrive in Porcari. In the village, located on the ancient crossroads between



Francigena and Cassia, you can find the church of San Giusto, an impressive structure of white marble adjacent to the bell tower: from the church porch you can admire the entire city and the beautiful view over the plains. A visit to the Fossa Nera archaeological area is a must, where you can enjoy looking at a village dating back to the Bronze Age with Etruscan and Roman finds.

THE FORTRESS TOWN

A rocky, intimate village: the town of Montecarlo offers travellers silence and invaluable views of the Tuscan hills, as well as a lot of history and some interesting curiosities. Protected by the fortress, Montecarlo's charm has remained unchanged thanks to the imposing walls that surround it and the Rocca del Cerruglio, the defensive bastion of



the city. The fortress, made up of three towers, was built in the 13th century on the highest point of the hill where the village is located, a strategic position that made Montecarlo the battleground for many conflicts between Florence, Pisa and Lucca. The Fortress is now privately-owned, but it is possible to visit it at certain times during the year as well as opening for shows and cultural events. A visit to the Rocca is recommended not only so you can immerse yourself in this ancient treasure box, but also to admire the magnificent Italian-style garden within. Amongst the alleyways and little streets, in just a few steps you arrive in the main square, an enchanting panoramic stone terrace and one of the most unique buildings of the village: the Teatro dei Rasscurati. Famous for being one of the smallest theatres in Italy, it is also known for its fervent activities as early as 1639, when the Accademia degli Assicurati, a group of young actors, decided to only welcome foreign theatre companies to the theatre.

A visit to Montecarlo is a pleasure for all the senses, throughout the year: it is part of oenogastronomic itineraries regarding the Strada del Vino e dell'Olio (road of wine and oil) which encompass various councils in Lucchesia. The Museum of Wine has free entry and you can always stop off in one of the numerous wine cellars to sample the DOC Montecarlo white or red wines, as well as their Extra Virgin Olive Oil on a couple of slices of warm bread.

THE KNIGHTS OF TAU

Walking the Via Francigena today, among the lakes of the Piana di Lucca and the Padule is no longer as risky as it was centuries ago, when the treacherous Gerbaie woods reserved unpleasant surprises for the travellers with highwayman attacks. The Ostello di Altopascio, branch of the Knights of the Tau, was a safe refuge for all pilgrims crossing the Via Francigena needing to find somewhere to hide from delinquents. The hostel, which was no more than the complex of the "spedale", was founded in the second half of the 11th century by the Order of Saint James of Altopascio, known as the Knights of the Tau. They were known by the sign of "Tau" because the Greek letter evoked the shape of the pilgrim's staff and symbolically also recalled the cross. The monks hosted the pilgrims in their rooms, offering food and assistance, even with specific "sanitary" treatments, as well as safety during their stay thanks to the architectural structure of the hospital complex, surrounded by an imposing wall. Around 1200, the hospital underwent a fervent period of pilgrimage right up to its decline in the early 1500s when the pontifical branch was moved to Avignon and the wars between Lucca and Florence started to involve the territory of Altopascio. This complex



also included the church of San Jacopo Maggiore, where it is still today possible to see the medieval facade in stone and black and white marble and the marvellous bell tower, both located in the piazza dedicated to the Order. Still today, the hostel of Altopascio works to accommodate travellers, following a tradition of hospitality that saw its apex in the Middle Ages.

Altopascio > Ponte Buggianese

DISTANCE
27 km

ELEVATION GAIN
20 m/slm

TOWNS
3



ALTERNATIVE WATERWAYS

Between Altopascio, Ponte Buggianese and Fucecchio you can discover an alternative itinerary to the Via Francigena which is surprising for the waterways that accompany the travellers along their way.

The walk from Altopascio reaches the Sibolla lake, a pleasant natural reservoir, and follows the banks of the emissary of the Sibolla all the way to the Dogana del Capannone in the Council of Ponte Buggianese. The imposing 16th century building, characterised by underground granaries, was a strategic frontier point between the states of Florence and Lucca thanks to the Padule canals that acted as navigable trade routes linking Vald-inievole with the Arno river. Just a few steps from the Dogana del Capannone and you reach the Padule di Fucecchio, the largest inland wetland in Italy. This reserve of biodiversity is a refuge for hundreds of species of birds and constitutes a fundamental leg on the migratory routes. Tito Livio narrates that Carthaginian soldiers passed through these marshes led by Hannibal, the mercenary captain who lost an eye as well as several elephants because of the damp, insalubrious air. The tradition of fishing is still active today but has ancient origins: Cosimo I dei Medici had the marshes dried and transformed into a reservoir for fishing and river trade. This alternative itinerary can be followed along the banks by foot, bike or horse, or navigating with the traditional "barchini" (run by local associations) that give travellers an unexpected experience. Whether by land or water, you arrive at Ponte a Cappiano where you can join the next leg of the Via Francigena; this hamlet of the Council of Fucecchio welcomes pilgrims with a wonderful fortified Medicean bridge; the hostel is located right on the Cappiano bridge, suspended over the Padule canals.

Events

There are a number of folkloristic, religious and sporting events that bring life to the territory. Here is a selection of events to get to know the traditions and inhabitants of the lands crossed by the Tuscan Francigena.

AUGUST	Francigena International Arts Festival ALTOPASCIO, CAPANNORI E LUCCA International Festival of Artistic Training and Performance established to spread and embrace the culture, traditions and music of the Via Francigena. francigenafestival.it
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SEPTEMBER	Luminara di Santa Croce 15 SEPTEMBER / LUCCA Lucca celebrates the miraculous Holy Face with religious celebrations and historical re-enactments. The evening of the 13th September, a traditional procession through the streets of Lucca illuminated for the occasion with thousands of tiny lights. turismo.lucca.it/it/eventi/
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FRANCIGENAAMICA	CAMAIORE Educational-sporting event to discover the Versilia stretch of the Via Francigena. Three routes and fun for all the family, sports lovers and pets. The event is held on the penultimate Sunday of the month. francigenamica.com
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FRANCIGENA TUSCANY MARATHON	PIETRASANTA E LUCCA The first marathon on the Via Francigena in Tuscany following the ancient "Sigerico" itinerary which is to be undertaken exclusively by foot. The marathon is held on the last Sunday of the month. francigenatuscanymarathon.com
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OCTOBER	Slow Travel Festival. Climbing & Trekking CAMAIORE Festival dedicated to the Francigena and outdoor activities that best characterizes this Apuan stretch and the city of Camaiore, one of the most popular destinations in Italy for trekkers and climbers.. slowtravelfest.it/camaiore
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NOVEMBER	Francigena dell'Arte PIETRASANTA Art competition dedicated to the history and tradition of the Via Francigena for the creation of works to place in public areas to decorate an event or a walk of particular symbolism. cavpietrasanta.it
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DECEMBER	Francigena Food. Il cibo dei pellegrini LUCCA Themed meetings on correct nutrition while walking these routes with a valorisation of typical local products. turismo.lucca.it-ildesco.eu
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The above events may be changed or cancelled.

CREDITS

A project by **Ciclica Srl** in collaboration with the **Aggregazione Francigena Toscana Centro-Nord**

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Map: © webmapp.it

Cover photo: Enrico Caracciolo

Stories and places along the Via Francigena in Tuscany



The Francigener was inspired by travel diaries kept by pilgrims who have followed the Via Francigena over the centuries. The most ancient documented example dates back to the 10th century, written by Archbishop Sigerico as he returned from Rome to Canterbury. Another is the diary written two centuries later by the Benedictine Abbot Nikulás, who came to Rome from Iceland along the Via Francigena before continuing to the Holy Land. Still today, many travellers take notes of thoughts and impressions of the places they discover along each leg, from hostels to eateries. The Francigener evokes the flexible, lightweight format of many travel diaries, highlighting and explaining the places, stories and traditions of each section of the Via Francigena. It is a free-press for pilgrims, tourists, local inhabitants and all “francigeners” who find themselves wandering this ancient route.

viafrancigena.visittuscany.com



Comune di Seravezza



Comune di Pietrasanta



Comune di Camaiore



Comune di Massarosa



Comune di Altopascio



Città di Lucca



Comune di Capannori



Comune di Porcari



Comune di Montecatini



Comune di Ponte Buggianese

