




#### NEW SPRING & AUTUMN

type :	Self-Guided
level :	
duration :	7 days
period:	Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct
code:	ITSW520E

## Via Medicea Easy - Italy

 7 days, Price On request



The picturesque journey along the Via Medicea in Tuscany unfolds like a **timeless photograph**, capturing the essence of its breathtaking natural beauty.

Commencing from the **lush Cascine Medicee parks of Prato**, the route meanders through the very landscapes where the Medici family once resided, hunted, and reveled in leisure, creating enchanting vistas immortalized by **Leonardo Da Vinci** in his renowned paintings.

En route, you'll encounter four **Medici Villas, now designated as UNESCO World Heritage sites**. However, the adventure extends beyond these architectural gems to encompass historic villages, rolling ridges, inviting valleys, natural parks, archaeological wonders, and a plethora of historical and artistic treasures. The Via Medicea invites you to traverse its storied path, where every step reveals a captivating chapter of Tuscany's rich cultural and natural heritage.

## Route

### Day 1 Arrival in Florence

Arriving in **Florence** feels like stepping into the **cradle of the Renaissance**, and how you choose to immerse yourself in its wonders is entirely up to you. Begin your exploration with the iconic landmarks, from the majestic **Duomo** to the artistic treasures of the **Uffizi Gallery**, the bustling **Piazza della Signoria**, and the historic **Piazza Santa Croce**.

Yet, Florence has more to offer beyond its well-known attractions. Consider wandering through the **Oltrarno**, where narrow streets unveil artisan workshops and quaint eateries, giving you a glimpse of the city's hidden gems. Savor a dinner at a rustic trattoria, indulging in the authentic flavors that make Florence truly enchanting, even away from the beaten paths.

### Day 2 Transfer to Poggio a Caiano and walk to Carmignano, 6 km

After breakfast a short transfer will take you to Poggio a Caiano, where the walk starts.

Embark on an enchanting journey from **Poggio a Caiano**, where the picturesque landscapes of Tuscany unfold before you. As you set forth on foot, let the timeless beauty of the region captivate your senses. Traverse through **quaint villages**, **vineyard-draped hills**, and **olive groves** that whisper tales of centuries past.

The first stage of the Medici Route offers the **Medici Villa in Poggio a Caiano**.

Your final destination is in Carmignano.

*Distance: 6 km*

*Elevation Gain: +200/-50 m*

### Day 3 Walk from Carmignano to Artimino, 7 km

Today you will walk from Carmignano to Artimino, where the **Medici Villa "La Ferdinanda"** awaits, nestled amidst the enchanting landscapes of Tuscany.

The **UNESCO-recognized Medici Villa "La Ferdinanda" in Artimino** stands as a testament to their enduring legacy, showcasing the family's adaptive approach to political, economic, social, and cultural dynamics. Immerse yourself in the evolution of this historic route, experiencing the changes and mutations that reflect the Medici family's profound impact on the Tuscan and Italian landscape during that era.

*Distance: 7 km*

*Elevation Gain: +300/-250 m*

### Day 4 Transfer to Bacchereto and walk to Vinci, 12 km

A short transfer take you to Bacchereto, where you start today's walk.

As you traverse the ridge of the mountain, you'll be immersed in strips of forest of unparalleled naturalistic significance. Revel in **rare panoramic vistas** that open up to the expansive basins of **Florence** and **Pistoia**, showcasing the harmonious interaction between man and the natural environment. On the southern side, the landscapes stretch from Valdarno di Sotto to Mount Serra, with **views extending from the Apuan Alps to the Pistoia Apennines**.

The presence of **mills** near numerous streams descending from the mountain's upper reaches serves as a **testament to humanity's historical utilization of hydraulic energy**, predating the advent of steam and electricity in the countryside.

Vinci, coupled with the engineering brilliance of Leonardo, stands as the emblematic highlight of this stage along the Medici Route.

*Distance: 12 km*

*Elevation Gain: +420/-620 m*

### Day 5 From Vinci to Cerreto Guidi and transefer to Empoli (train to Pisa), 7 km

Embark on the fifth stage of the Medici Route, where the landscape unfolds in gentle undulations, weaving through soft hills with a delightful meandering quality. This segment introduces the Medici Villa along the route, **the Villa of Cerreto Guidi**, proudly recognized as a **UNESCO heritage site**. This villa represents another pivotal waypoint on the Medici Route, adding a touch of grandeur and historical significance to your journey.

In Cerreto Guidi a brief transfer take you to Empoli. In Empoli take a train to Pisa.

*Distance: 7 km*

*Elevation Gain: +190/-160 m*

### Day 6 Arrivederci Pisa

Last day included. Tour ends after breakfast.

## Practical info

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The best arrival airport:

Florence "A. Vespucci" Airports [www.aeroporto.firenze.it/en/](http://www.aeroporto.firenze.it/en/)

Pisa [www.pisa-airport.com/en/](http://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/  
Fuvecchio Station to the airports.

Check the updated train timetables on the website [www.trenitalia.com](http://www.trenitalia.com)

## Included

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### What is included

- 5 Nights in double room in \*\*/\*\* hotels , B&B with breakfast
- Luggage transportation from hotel to hotel
- Transfers as per itinerary
- 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