



Borgo's Local Guide

HERE A FEW HINTS FOR WHAT TO SEE AND DO DURING A STAY AT IL BORGO...

In the wonderful countryside surrounding the hotel horse-back riding is possible. The famous Golf Club Le Pavoniere is only 14 minutes away. In the lake inside our property you can fish (ask for a fishing rod!)... and don't miss the yoga classes during summer mornings in the veranda beside the swimming pool!

Besides the massages in room, near the hotel some amazing SPA centres offers a wide range of wellness treats (sauna, Turkish baths and much much more!)

At our restaurant our funny chefs runs amusing cooking classes and wine tasting!

Besides all this we can do nothing but suggest visiting all the wonders of Tuscany... and here are some more hints...

FIRENZE



One of the most beautiful cities of the world is just a few kilometres away from Il Borgo. It can be easily reached by train from Signa.

Must see are Duomo and Ponte Vecchio, piazza della Signoria, the Uffizi, The Accademia delle Belle Arti (where the original David is conserved) Palazzo Pitti its Boboli garden, Piazza Santa Croce, Santo Spirito, the antiques market in Sant'Ambrogio. Piazzale Michelangelo has unique view all over the city.

At night Florence is very lively in Santa Croce and Sant'Ambrogio areas.

CANTINE CARMIGNANO

Carmignano, in the province of Prato, is just 5 km far from il Borgo. This is a very famous area for its wine and olive oil. Visits to the farm and tasting are possible. Ask the reception staff!



ROVINE ETRUSCHE



The charming Etruscan civilization settled in Tuscany in the 10th century BC. Lately important Etruscan ruins and tombs have been discovered just a few steps away from il Borgo. Etruscan Museums can be visited in Artimino and Montelupo

VILLE MEDICEE



Villa Castelletti is not the only historical Villa in the area. Charming Medicean Villas can be found in Poggio a Caiano (2 km) ed Artimino (4 km)

VINCI

30 minutes driving far from il Borgo, through the pleasant roads of the Montalbano, you can reach Vinci, the hometown of the Leonardo. This little village is a very evocative place and offers breathtaking views. Important land marks are Leonardo's house, the Leonardo's museum, the Conti Guidi's castle and e Santa Croce church.



SIENA



Less than 1 hour driving from il Borgo (a bit longer by train) you can reach Siena. Every single street there winds along magnificent palaces and churches, most times taking the visitors right to panoramic points. Every summer the town gets on fever for the infamous Palio. Heart of Siena is Piazza del Campo, with the overshadowing city hall and its Torre del Mangia (tower)

SAN GIMIGNANO, CERTALDO, VOLTERRA

On the hills between Siena and Pisa, there are 3 little medieval towns, famous for their views along their narrow streets and squares. San Gimignano is also famous for its Vernaccia (white wine), while Volterra is renowned for the alabaster, used by the local artisans to produce catchy handicrafts . Certaldo, the smallest town of the three, is very famous for its summer art-on-the-road festival, known as “Mercantia”.



LUCCA e PISA



Reaching Pisa from il Borgo takes no more than 1 hour. Main point of interest there is Piazza dei Miracoli, with the leaning tower. From Pisa, 20 minutes away, there is Lucca, also called “the town of a hundred church”, where you can visit the evocative Piazza dell’Anfiteatro and have a walk all round its city walls, which are among the best preserved in the world.

CHIANTI



The famous Chianti hills are just 50 km far from il Borgo, where the Chianti wine is produced. Along the SS 222, you will be able to cross all the area in half day, enjoying breath taking views and, why not, tasting some good wine in the local wine cellars or having a walk in the little nice squares of its towns. One of the best route is the one which winds along Badia a Passignano, Greve in Chianti, Gaiole in Chianti e Castelnuovo Berardenga.

VIAREGGIO (ed il mare)

Viareggio, is probably the nearest coastal town to Florence (50 driving along motorway). A bit farther is Forte dei Marmi, one of the most famous summer residence for VIP from all over the world. For those looking for easier (and cheaper) places the coastal towns of Pisa o Livorno (one hour driving) perhaps are a better choice.



SHOPPING



Shopping maniacs, who are not satisfied with via Calzaiuoli, via dei Tornabuoni (high fashion) or San Lorenzo in Florence, can go hunting at Barberino Designer Outlet (fashion firms outlet) or a bit farther from il Borgo, at The Mall in Incisa Valdarno (fashion firms) . “I Gigli” one of the biggest shopping centres in Italy can be found 10 minutes away from il Borgo, in Campi Bisenzio.

EVENTI DA NON PERDERE IN ZONA:

January/February: Viareggio Carnival.

First days of June: Mugello GP, at Barberino di Mugello

Easter: “Scoppio del Carro” – Florence

Next to last Saturday of June: “Giostra del Saracino” – Arezzo

End of June: Games of the Historical Soccer of Florence

July the 2nd: “Palio di Siena”

Mid-July: Mercantia, arts-on-the-road festival, in Certaldo

25 July: “Giostra dell’Orso” – Pistoia

August the 16th: “Palio di Siena”

1st Sunday of September: “Palio del Saracino” - Arezzo

Week-end of mid-September: “Assedio alla Villa” di Poggio a Caiano

Last Week-end of Settembre: San Michele celebration and palio of the donkeys in Carmignano