

With its forest of towers spiking the horizon, San Gimignano is one of the most recognisable and iconic destinations in all of Tuscany. In every part of the world there is someone dreaming about this ancient Tuscan hilltown, for to be there is to dive into an image of medieval times. A World Heritage **Site since 1990**, San Gimignano (known also as the "Medieval Manhattan") owes its name to the incredible number of towers that loom up over the town rooftops: 65 of them, no less, when the city was at its height. Thirteen of these magnificent towers survive today, and they still shape a skyline that is without a doubt unique.

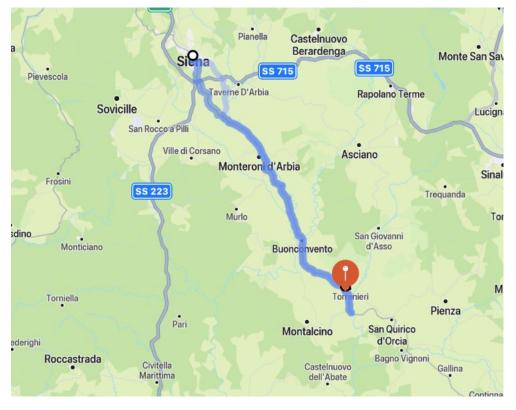
San Gimignano, SI, Italy

0 h 42 min (29 mi)

Via RA 3 · Fastest route

> Show Steps

https://www.visittuscany.com/en/destinations/san-gimignano/



Siena, Italy

Val d'Orcia, Torrente Asso, 53024 Montale

0 h 41 min (23 mi)

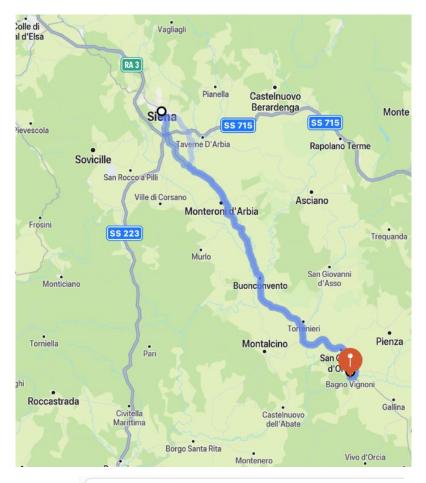
Via Strada Cassia Sud - Fastest route

> Show Steps



Medieval castles, sinuous gills, ancient villages, gorgeous farmhouses, isolated homesteads, roads lined with cypress trees, fabulous vineyards and olive groves and golden fields of grain and sunflowers: these are just some of the elements that form the fantastic and harmonious landscapes of the Val d'Orcia. This rich green valley, which encompasses the Orcia river and where it derives its name, is in southern Tuscany, stretching between the provinces of <u>Siena</u> and <u>Grosseto</u>. The entire area is protected as a <u>World Heritage Site by UNESCO</u>.

https://www.discovertuscany.com/valdorcia/



Siena, Italy

Bagno Vignoni, San Quirico d'Orcia SI, Ita ×

O h 53 min (30 mi)

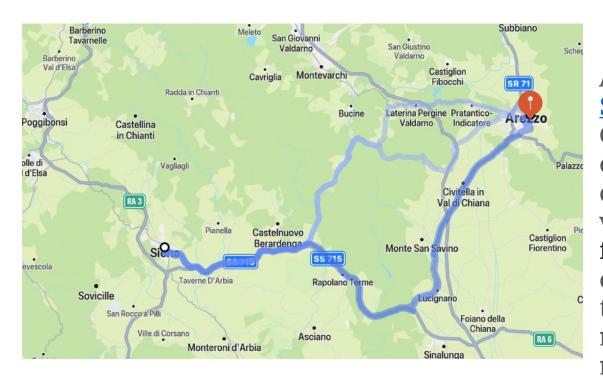
Via SR 2 · Fastest route

Show Steps

If you decide to visit the valley that is one of the most popular postcards of Tuscany - the Val d'Orcia, of course - add a day to explore Bagno Vignoni. This village is different from the others: what in traditional towns is a main square, in Bagno Vignoni is a pool 49 meters long and 29 wide, from the bottom of which bubble up a number of hot springs whose therapeutic quality has been renowned since antiquity.

Don't forget to bring an old swim-suit and a towel to Bagno Vignoni. You cannot have a bath at the main square pool, but if you go down to the Parco dei Mulini you can relax at a spring of naturally hot water. There is no ticket to pay, you can enter for free!

https://www.visittuscany.com/en/ideas/bagno-vignoni-hot-springs-in-val-dorcia/



Arezzo is a bargain hunter's paradise. Every first Sunday of the month, Arezzo's main square, piazza Grande, is packed with over 500 stalls, spilling out onto the city's side streets and alleyways. The event draws huge crowds, sometimes up to 30,000 visitors, both locals and tourists alike, all looking for unique items. Roman coins, old telephones, ornate grandfather clocks and china are a few of the typical items to be found. Even if you miss the monthly extravaganza, fear not: Arezzo has many more antiques to offer in its varied local shops, open all year round.

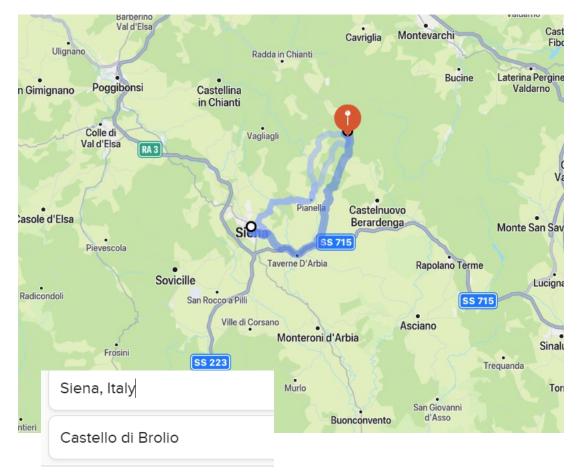
Siena, Italy

Arezzo, Italy

1 h 2 min (45 mi) Via SS 715 · Fastest route

> Show Steps

https://www.visittuscany.com/en/ideas/10-things-to-do-in-arezzo/



Exploring Castelo di Brolio in Chianti

A highlight Tuscany adventures is going to Castelo di Brolio in the Chianti region. It has a storied history and has been in the hands of the Ricasoli family since 1141. You can visit the chapel, the gardens and the small museum while you are there but the castle itself is still home to the current Ricasoli Baron and his family.

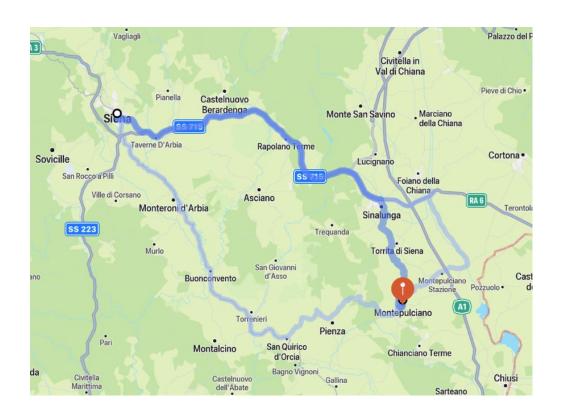
The Ricasoli family has been producing wine since the Middle Ages and included in the basic tour of the castle is a tasting of one of Ricasoi's many wines at the wine shop. There is a breathtaking view over the Chianti region and some fun walks along the walls of the castle. The gardens tour is only 5 Euros which includes a wine tasting and well worth it for a fun afternoon.

0 h 37 min (16 mi)

Via SS 715 · Fastest route

> Show Steps

https://www.chianti.com/gaiole-in-chianti/castello-di-brolio.html



Montepulciano

For a pure Tuscan experience you must visit the medieval hilltop town of Montepulciano. I. Montepulciano has been called the "Capital of Italian Wine" by UNESCO because it is home to many vineyards that produce some of the best Tuscan wines in Italy. The town's historic center is a bustling place and is well worth exploring.

Walking through Montepulciato's historic center and exploring the shops, we were able to sample some of the local wines on offer as well. Most of the time though, we spent staring at the spectacular views of the Tuscan countryside and vineyards.

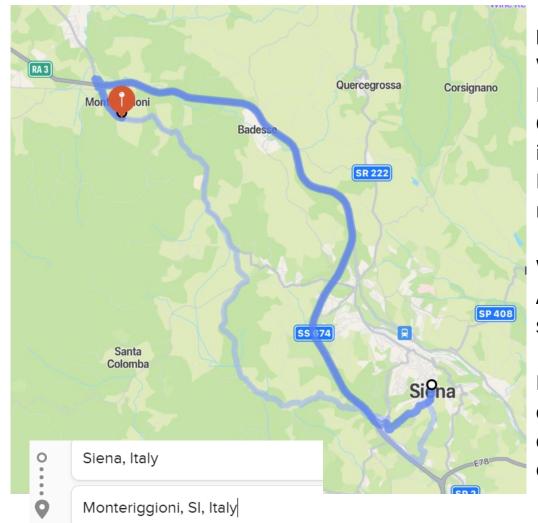
Siena, Italy

Montepulciano, SI, Italy

Oh 55 min (38 mi)
Via Via di Torrita · Fastest route

Show Steps

https://www.toscanainside.com/discover-tuscany/small-villages/montepulciano/



Monteriggioni

We love walled villages and medieval fortresses and Castello di Monteriggioni is an easy day trip from Siena. Monteriggioni Castle has been a fixture on the Tuscan hillside since 1294, and it's one of the best examples of medieval fortification in all of Italy. Monteriggioni is also famed for its historic centre that has managed to keep much of its original character intact.

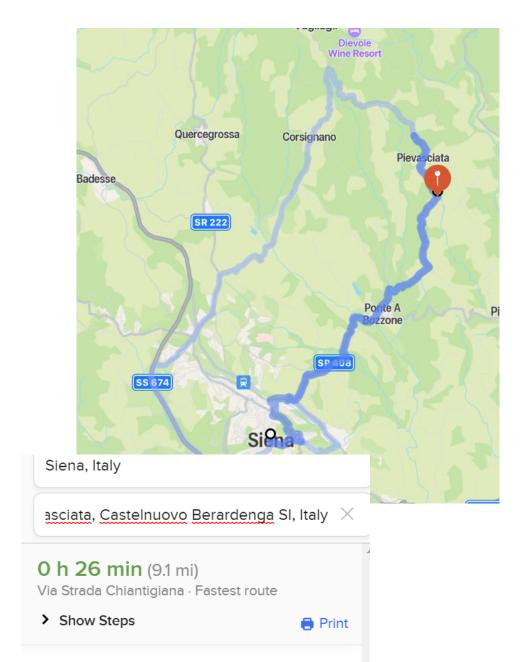
Walking the walls of Monteriggioni
A 570 meter wall wraps around the village and there are two
small sections of the wall that you can walk along

It is a small village and easy to do within an hour or two. You can also come to Monteriggioni with your family at night as the castle and towers are strung up by light. It is a magical experience, like watching a fairytale unfold all around you.

O h 19 min (12 mi)

> Show Steps

https://www.visittuscany.com/en/destinations/monteriggioni/



Parco Sculture del Chianti

Visit the Park Sculpture del Chianti. Contemporary works of art in the outdoors is what the Chianti Sculpture Park offers its visitors. The park covers an area of about 25 hectares and has been open to the public since 1990. Enjoy the last kilometre of the drive with oversized sculptures lining the road leading to the park. Walk around the many sculptures in this great art landscape, or take a picnic on one of the grassy areas when you visit with your little ones.

The **Chianti Sculpture Park** is a permanent exhibition of contemporary installations and sculptures.

The main feature of the park is the **integration between art and nature**. Each artist visited the forest and therefore made a specific proposal for the chosen place. The union between the sculptures and the forest, the sounds, the colors and the light is total.

Artists from all five continents and different materials were chosen to give the visitor an insight into the variety and importance of contemporary art in today's world.

An amphitheater has been created inside the park which offers visitors a full program of concerts in July and August

https://www.chiantisculpturepark.it/