

# **Tuscany: Bike Product**

Tuscany has always been a dream destination for unforgettable trips for Italians and foreigners, and is one of the Italian regions with the most arrivals and stays of cyclists.

The *bike product* is definitely one of the main attractors of Tuscany's tourism offer. For this reason, Toscana Promozione Turistica, Fondazione Sistema Toscana and the Region tourism assessor have worked in concert with the territorial ambits to build the Atlas of Cycling Routes, mapping existing routes and enhancing the birth of new ones.

Tuscany is the first region in Italy to create the Atlas of Cycling Routes, 20.000 km of cycle paths, permanent low-traffic routes, cycle itineraries and greenways that become the sustainable and slow way to discover the regional heritage made up of cities of art, authentic villages, unspoiled nature, sea, mountains, food and wine and crafts, and thanks to the network of routes is transforming it into an ecosystem of places, flavors and cycling experiences.

The development of the bike product is promoted by Toscana Promozione Turistica with dedicated actions such as fairs and b2b and b2c events, the involvement of specialized press and training workshops for operators aimed at deepening the knowledge and development of bike friendly services for a dedicated and complete offer.

Tuscany is becoming more and more the destination where to find a welcome and dedicated services for cycling tourism, both for a vacation that has cycling as the reason for travel, and for a trip that sees cycling as one of the experiences to excite and get in touch with nature even if only with a daily bike tour.

The beauty of the Region of Tuscany within pedal reach, thanks to numerous proposals suitable for every type of preparation and bicycle, with routes of different lengths and elevation difficulty, linear itineraries divided into stages and several days and other itineraries that can be in done in day trips.

VisitTuscany.com is the ideal tool to get to know and learn more about the routes and offers of the operators, to proceed into the Tuscan heritage by bicycle, to feel part of the beauty, to discover oneself as a master of time and space.

A journey within the journey that offers, accompanied by the rhythm of the two wheels, after each bend and after each conquered peak, unexpected surprises. A privilege within everyone's reach, or **mountain bike** lovers who prefer to complete immerse themselves in nature; for those who are not regular cyclists but who do not want to miss out on the excitement and can go exploring on an **e-bike**; for the many cycle travellers who, along the **gravel** trails, recall great events of cycling history and for those who, with a road bike, relive the con- quests of champions. Some of the permanent routes have developed from the great sporting tradition, others follow the traces of ancient directives.

Some of the permanent routes were defined by great sporting tradition, others follow the lines of ancient roads. Many others are the destination for fans of the most adrenaline-filled sports.



#### From the mountain to the sea

From the peaks of the Apennines to the Tyrrhenian coast, the landscape is the protagonist. White roads and secondary roads cross World Heritage landscapes. Paths branch off through large parks and nature reserves. Spectacular itineraries and trail are- as, from the coast to the islands, offer exciting glimpses of the sea.

#### **Four Seasons**

The warm season in Tuscany allows you to cycle surrounded by flowers, lush woods and cultivated hillsides. Also the colder periods can reserve splendid rides amidst the colours of autumn foliage.

## Not only sports

There are hundreds of sporting events such as gran fondo and *randonnée*, but also rallies and historical cycle races where you can relive the spirit of cycling from the past.

### Strade Bianche

Pebbles, gravel, dirt roads unpaved roads, white roads: many ways to define a type of road which reveal the attitude and philosophy of those who choose these routes. Tuscany is the home of unpaved roads, the silence due to the absence of traffic and the crunching of bicycle wheels on gravel are the poetry of cycling.

### Cycling and tasting

In cycling jargon, an 'eat and drink' route is defined as a hilly, undulating route that alternates between down-hills and flat stretches. In Tuscany, the enogastronom- ic world combines perfectly with cycling through wine and oil tastings in oil mills, farms and agritourisms, across the thematic itinerar- ies recommended by *Vetrina*. *Toscana.it* 

#### Thermal treasure

Physical and mental wellbeing: bicycle and thermal springs. Bagno Vignoni, Saturnia, Gambassi, Bagni di San Filippo, Monsummano, San Casciano, Montecatini, San Giuliano, Chianciano are a few of the Tuscan paradises where to regenerate after a bike tour in a thermal establishment and in a free access hot spring.

### Cycling and art

An immense artistic and cultural heritage, an open- air museum of art, history and beauty: this is the side of Tuscany to discover with the magnifying glass of a bicycle. Tuscan culture, traditions, cities and hamlets of art, the seven Unesco World Heritage sites define itineraries full of amazement, surprise and wonder.

Itineraries and travel offers:

https://www.visittuscany.com/en/theme/cycling/