

THINGS TO DO IN LUCIGNANO AND BEYOND

Check out the Comune di Lucignano Facebook page for what's happening in Lucignano! You should also check the noticeboards as you come through the main gate (Porta San Giusto) to see what's on in town! Other sources of information include Instagram/Facebook accounts:

@visitlucignano
@proloco_lucignano
@comunedilucignano
Museo Albero D'Oro di Lucignano @madlucignano
@maggiolata_lucignanese
@robaforte_org

Lucignano hosts a variety of festivals, concerts, markets and cultural events throughout the year, so it's always worth checking what's on during your visit.

Activities and Festivals

The warm, dry summer days and nights are ideal for outdoor festivities and the mayor and commune (council) of Lucignano actively promote events from spring through summer to early autumn to promote the culture and the cuisine of the town. The carnivals begin with the lively **Festival of Colours and Flavours** on the first Sunday of April when local farmers display their plants and flowers, beside a good choice of food stalls. The colourful **Flower Festival** is held on the first Sunday in May.

The **Maggiolata spring festival** is Lucignano's biggest event held on and between the last two Sundays in May (and sometimes into the first week of June), a two week extravaganza of colourful parades, concerts, music, dancing and outdoor eating. See www.maggiolatalucignanese.it or @maggiolata_lucignanese. The dates for 2026 are 3 May to 7 June. Robaforte are hosting free tours of Lucignano and its Medici fort on Sundays during the Maggiolata. See @robaforte_org for details.

A series of events and sagra (festivals) continue through to the **Memories of the Past** historical re-enactment in late September.

Di Giovedì is a series of wonderful events held in Lucignano on Thursday evenings throughout during the summer (July and August). It features very popular open air entertainment and street food. The town's restaurants and bars set up outdoor eateries along Via G. Matteotti and Via Roma, accompanied by bands and performances at impromptu stages in the piazzas of the town.

The **Camminmangiando** is held on the third Sunday in June. Work up your fitness and your appetite with an organized walk through the farms, fields and forests surrounding town to a different venue for each of the four courses, which are prepared and served by one of Lucignano's restaurants. In 2026 it is held on 21 June. See @proloco_lucignano for details.

The **White Night** is a formal, sit-down dinner held under the stars in early July in the hill-top Piazza del Tribunale beside the main Catholic church Collegiata di San Michele Arcangelo.

Memorie del Passato (Memories of the Past) is an historical re-enactment held on the last Sunday of September, when the townsfolk don period costume for an extravaganza of old-time activities, parades and gastronomy.

Contrada Dinners. Each of the town's quarters (contrade) holds a fabulous dinner under the stars accompanied by music and entertainment. The contrade will organize a theme for their annual dinners which are lots of fun and all are invited, so check the Lucignano website for the schedule.

Fiera del Ceppo is held on Christmas Eve. A burning log (the ceppo) and braziers positioned strategically along the streets keep a warm, festive atmosphere for the outdoor markets displaying local products, wines, street foods and gifts.

Museo Albero D'Oro in Piazza di Tribunale is well worth a visit for its collection (including the amazing 2.6 metre high 13th century Albero D'Oro of its name). The Museum also provides tourist information and is open every day except Tuesday.

Cooking classes with The Tuscan Kitchen Studio, Via Roma 2A, Lucignano take you from the local weekly street market to the table on Thursdays or to experience the taste of Tuscany focussing on the region's famous "cucina provera" (peasant cooking). See www.the-tuscan-kitchen-studio.understory.io for details.

Local walking and cycling

It is fun to just walk around the outside of the wall of Lucignano or along the medieval lanes and alleyways of the town where you may find an artist with his easel.

There are some delightful walks out of Lucignano, including the Sanctuary of the Madonna della Querce (a church built on the site of a miracle) which is just off the road that goes past the cemetery.

There are many walks in and around the town, including the walk to the ruined Medici fort, which you can see from the garden. There are many different bike routes that radiate out of Lucignano, including the route towards Calcione (an estate with a castle) or to the hill top village of Rigomagno or Monte San Savino. You can also ride along the canal that runs along the valley all the way from Arezzo to Chiusi, the Sentiero della Bonifica.

Walking inside the town

One charming aspect of life in Lucignano is the Passeggiata (evening walk) and/or Aperitivo at around 6pm. The bars either side of Porta San Giusto fill up with people drinking Prosecco, Campari or Aperol Spritz. The bar will serve you delicious snacks to accompany your drink. These are great places to chat to the friendly locals or other tourists.

Walking outside the town

There are numerous **beautiful walks in the district** immediately surrounding Lucignano.

- At Lucignano itself, beyond the circuit within the walls of the centro storico, **the ridge walk** to the west of town offers spectacular views across olive groves and vineyards to the mountains and villages to the north, west and south. Starting from the traffic lights, follow the relatively quiet asphalt road (Via Giacomo Mazzini) to the northwest (**dashed green line on the map**). About 500m from the lights,

immediately after the cimitero (cemetery) at La Querce, a minor road leads downhill to the left past the old church Santuario Madonna Della Querce where the road becomes gravel and continues downhill through fields and past farmhouses to meet up with the asphalt road SP24. Turn left into SP24 and continue through Santa Maria village until reaching the major intersection with SP28, the Cortona-Siena road. At this intersection you may turn sharply left up a steep private road which acts as a short cut to Via Fontelari, which leads steeply back uphill past Pasticceria Bar Ischi to Lucignano.

- Alternatively for an extended walk, from the cimitero at La Querce continue along Via Mazzini to the right (**dashed blue line on the map**) along the ridge which undulates gradually downhill for another 2.5km, where a turn to the left for another 1km along a gravel road takes you back downhill to SP24 at Campoleone, 500m west of Santa Maria. Turn left through Santa Maria and then back uphill to Lucignano, as described in the preceding paragraph.
- There are many quiet asphalt and gravel roads to the south of Lucignano which provide a pleasant walk through fields with views back up to Lucignano and to the mountains to the south. Best foot access is gained initially along SP 28 (the Siena road) but then turning off at the post office to follow Via Fonte Becci to Via del Rosario, or further west along SP28 turn left down Via Paradiso or Localita Balorda. These are steep so be prepared for the return walk uphill!
- There are also some interesting walks to the east of Lucignano, but initial access from Porta Murata and the steep lane down past the car park requires then following the busy SP19 Arezzo-Siena road for 500m (dashed red line on the map). Turn off SP19 to the right at the first major bend and follow the minor gravel road across the valley to Via Poschini, where you may turn right for 800m and then right again along the Marciano road for 400m until turning left to pass a marble/travertine factory Morelli Marmi, which is clearly seen from the Marciano road. The road past the marble factory takes you to the village of Pieve Vecchia. Turn left at the old church of Pieve Vecchia along the Foiano road SP28 for another 550m then turn right up Via Colle and right again at a small chapel into Via Giglio, then cross SP19 to follow Via Fonte di Manna (gravel), then right up Via Francesco Cannelli and Via Fonte Becci back to Lucignano.

There are variations to these walks, of course, which can be fun exploring by plotting your own route via google maps. Longer walks can take you to the local Castello di Calcione and Castello di Modanella.



Montalcino, Pienza and San Quirico d'Orcia (40 to 50 minutes' drive) host a number of fabulous walks. Another recommended walk starts from Cortona (40 minutes' drive), and follows an old paved way of St. Francis to a panoramic ridge. There are a number of useful walking guides such as Walking in Tuscany or Circular Walks on the Tuscany-Umbria Border by Martin Daykin.

Cycling options

Many of these routes can also be made on bikes. Go to Wikiloc (and get the app) [Wikiloc | Trails of the World](#) for many cycling routes (both for mountain bikes and road bikes).

For guided e-mountain bike tours try friendly local company Vertigo Experiences. www.vertigoexperiences.com @vertigo.experiences. Vertigo also rents out bikes and organizes hiking tours, too.

Daytrips: Nearby Towns

Lucignano is ideally situated for visiting some of the most delightful towns in Tuscany, some famous and others lesser known gems.

Arezzo

Arezzo is often overlooked by tourists, but is absolutely worth visiting. The Historic Centre has interesting shops, architecture and sites such as the Piazza Grande (great for people watching over a coffee or aperitivo), the famous Piero della Francesca frescos in the Chiesa di San Francesco, Vasari's house, Petrarch's house and the house Museum of Ivan Bruschini (who started the famous Arezzo antiques fair). The antiques fair is on the first Sunday and preceding Saturday of the month. This is a fantastic market – a must for art lovers, collectors and connoisseurs. It winds through the streets of Arezzo and is the largest antique fair in Italy. See www.fieraantiquaria.org. There are also great bars and restaurants in Arezzo, found by just wandering through the town, as well as stylish kitchen, fashion and footwear shops. Arezzo is a 30 minute drive from Lucignano.

Cortona

Cortona needs no introduction, but is worth a visit even though it can get very busy. Close to Cortona is the Convento de le Celle, a 13th century Franciscan convent which started as a small hermitage where Francis of Assisi spent time and was expanded as a sanctuary following his death. It is a rustic settlement in a beautiful wooded mountain-side setting.

For Syrah wine tasting, book at Tenimenti Luigi D'Alessandro - Borgo Syrah Winery, Via Manzano 15, Cortona <https://tenimentidalessandro.it/en/tastings/> This is a spectacular property that produces organic wines. The restaurant, located in the Estate Palazzo - Creta Osteria - is an innovative restaurant.

Cortona is a 30 minute drive from Lucignano

Siena

Siena is another town that risks being loved to death, but there is a lot to love – the beautiful Piazza del Campo is the true centre of things, framed by splendid medieval buildings including the Palazzo Pubblico, and site of the twice yearly Palio di Siena. The historic centre is very walkable and contains museums, the black and white cathedral, interesting restaurants, bars and shops. Perhaps lesser known but worth sampling are the Contrada museums which provide a fascinating history of the 17 neighbourhoods, or

contrade, of Siena (which compete in the Palio). www.visittuscany.com has useful information on these museums.

Monte San Savino

Is a delightful town and only a 10 minute drive to the north is often overlooked by visitors. The attractive historic centre contains excellent restaurants and cafés and is an ideal destination for a relaxed lunch or evening meal.

Try Le Bindi with a fixed menu at a communal table <http://www.lebindi.it/> or the Macelleria Aldo and the associated restaurant, Le Delizie di Aldo, for porchetta and Chianina beef dishes.

Pienza

Often described as the "ideal Renaissance town", Pienza is one of Tuscany's most beautiful villages. Wander through its narrow streets, admire the stunning views over the Val d'Orcia, and sample the town's famous Pecorino cheese. The surrounding countryside provides some of the most iconic Tuscan landscapes..

Montepulciano

A magnificent hilltop town renowned for its Vino Nobile di Montepulciano wine. Explore the elegant historic centre, visit underground wine cellars beneath the town, and enjoy spectacular views across the Val d'Orcia and Val di Chiana.

Recommended wineries include:

- Tenuta Valdipiatta
- Cantine Dei

The historic underground cellars beneath the town are fascinating and well worth visiting.

Montalcino

Home of the world-famous Brunello di Montalcino wine. The town itself is compact and attractive, centred around its impressive medieval fortress. Wine lovers can easily spend an entire day visiting vineyards and tasting rooms in the surrounding countryside.

Recommended winery:

- Altesino

Monticchiello

A small fortified village between Pienza and Montepulciano that many visitors drive straight past. Its stone streets, panoramic views and peaceful atmosphere make it one of Tuscany's hidden gems.

Montisi, Trequanda, Castelmuzio, Castiglion Fiorentino, San Quirico d'Orcia...and the list goes on, are all beautiful and fascinating towns to visit. Larger towns such as Siena, Florence, San Gimignano, Volterra, Assisi, Orvieto are easy to reach from Lucignano.