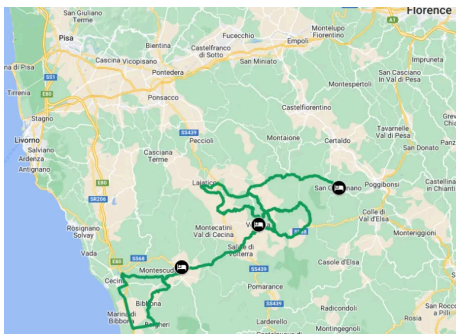


# Tuscany – San Gimignano & Montecatini Val di Cecina

6 days, € 800



## Introduction



San Gimignano is a treasure on the hill and jewel of Tuscany, wonderful for **cycling** and exploring—especially on San Gimignano bike tours that combine quiet roads, culture and scenery. With its thirteen outstanding medieval towers, it is clear why the town is on the **UNESCO** world heritage list. Riding under the Tuscan sun you will pedal on quiet cypress-lined country roads past sunflower fields, olive groves and vineyards, producing some of the world's finest olive oil and wine. Savour the flavour of these ingredients and that of the local produce in the outstanding local cuisine. Then cycle to the former **Etruscan** centre of Volterra, a unique hilltop town with its own history and

charisma. Get pinched, this is the real thing.

The village of **Montecatini** is located in the hills of the **Val di Cecina**, a few kilometres from the city of Volterra. Formerly known as Monte Leone (Castrum Montis Leonis), over the centuries it was long disputed between Pisa and Volterra, finally coming under the control of Florence in 1472. Montecatini's history is intimately linked to the nearby copper mines of Caporciano - which became the largest in Europe in the 19th century -, known and exploited since Etruscan times and active until the early 1900s.

## Day to Day

### Day 1 **Arrive in San Gimignano**

Arrive at hotel in San Gimignano and unwind. Breathe in the wonderful country air and take a stroll along the classic green rolling hills, marvelling at the breath-taking views of the surrounding countryside.

Immerse yourself in the tranquillity.

### Day 2 **Cycle San Gimignano to Volterra**

**36 km**

Today, you will leave San Gimignano behind and cycle to the ancient Etruscan town of Volterra. Through a patchwork-like landscape dotted with wheat fields, olive groves and villas, you reach the base of the imposing hill upon which the town is set. One more solid climb before you arrive at your marvellous hotel, a former convent set inside in the gates of the old city centre.

*Challenge: 36km, ascent 922m, descent 650m*

### Day 3 **Loop ride via Uignano**

**37 km**

An easy yet very scenic ride today in the surroundings of Volterra. Erosion caused by rain water have artistically sculpted the landscape creating cracks and gullies of a majestic beauty. After descending from Volterra you will venture off the beaten track on unpaved tracks to then return on the very panoramic Strada del Cornocchio.

*Challenge: 37km, ascent 920m, descent 920m*

### Day 4 **Cycle Volterra to Montecatini Val di Cecina**

**25 km**

After an exhilarating downhill ride into the valley, you cycle through the lovely Val d'Éra and over stretches of 'strade bianche', typical Tuscan white roads. The itinerary winds through the landscape filled with remote farmsteads and villas, and hills covered with vines and olive groves. Grand views on the vast infinitely undulating terrain will accompany you throughout the entire day.

*Challenge: 25km, ascent 400m, descent 840m*

### Day 5 **Loop ride via Cecina/Bolgheri**

**52 km**

The last bike ride offers a blend of Tuscany's rolling hills, picturesque villages, and coastal landscapes. The route winds gently toward the coastal plains, leading you to Cecina, a lively town near the Tyrrhenian Sea. Enjoy the flat roads as you approach Cecina, where you can pause for a coffee or explore the town's bustling atmosphere. If time permits, consider a detour to Cecina Mare to breathe in the sea air and enjoy the coastline. Leaving Cecina, you'll head north toward Bolgheri, following the renowned "Viale dei Cipressi," a long, straight road flanked by iconic cypress trees. This stretch is a highlight of the tour, offering a quintessential Tuscan experience. Expect some uphill stretches as you ascend back toward Montecatini, but the effort is rewarded by panoramic views of the Tuscan countryside.

*Challenge: 53km, ascent 700m, descent 700m*

### Day 6 **Arrivederci Montecatini!**

The trip and our services end after breakfast, unless you have booked a transfer to the airport or other supplementary services.

## Prices, Data, Booking

Price pp		€
Double room, breakfast	price from	800.00

## Accommodation

Nights in 3-star hotels with breakfast

## Practical Info



5 nights included



3 Star Hotels



Breakfast included



Tourist information on all the places of interest



Bike rental available



7-days a week service-hotline



Luggage transport included



Poggibonsi/San Gimignano & Cecina Train station