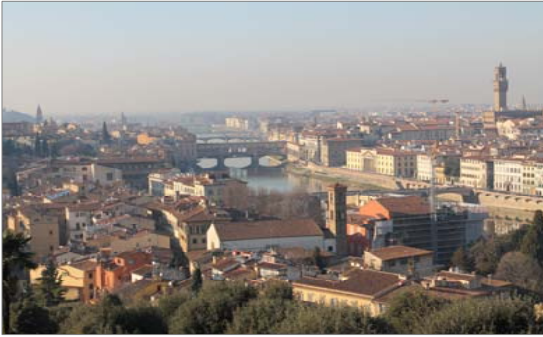


A MAGNIFICENT BALCONY OVER FLORENCE: PIAZZALE MICHELANGELO AND ITS EXTRAORDINARY SURROUNDINGS



The area surrounding our route



View of Florence from Le Rampe (Ramps)



View of San Miniato



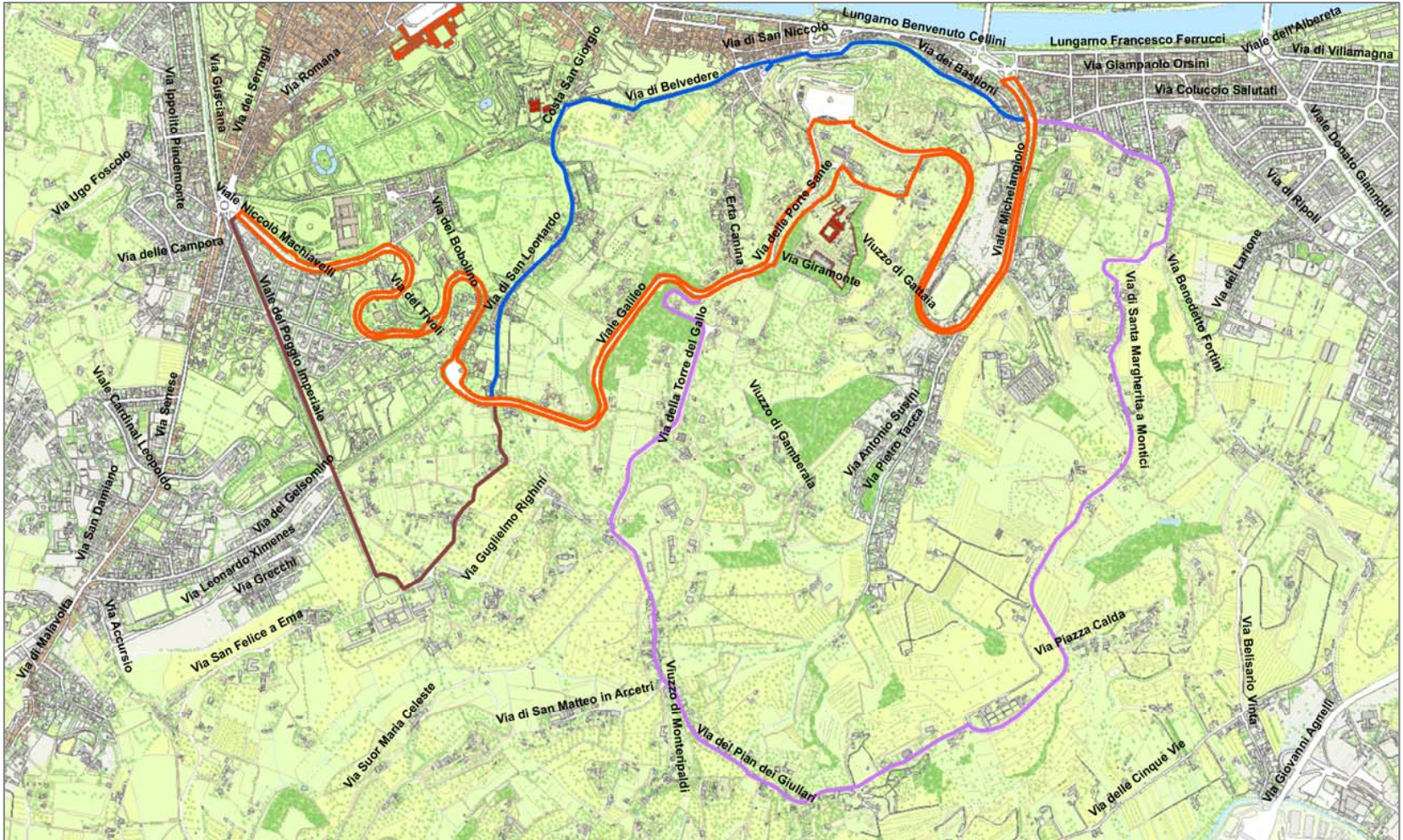
From Montici towards south Florence

This route is absolutely extraordinary for the variety and density of its historic and architectural testimonials, and the landscape of the area through which it passes. This vast area embraces the entire hillside from the Oltrarno (south bank) in San Niccolò, with the "backbone" being Viale dei Colli, the long, romantic and scenic avenue designed by Poggi with the works for Florence, when it was the capital of Italy.

Uphill and down from this magnificent trail, the lower foothills and hillside above offer a succession of villas, parks, gardens, churches, city walls and bastions, forts, towers, villages, and country farms still alive and producing, but also state-of-the-art scientific research centres, and at every bend, diverse glimpses of scenery and exciting views of the city.

A journey through the diversity and uniqueness of a stunning area as well as a journey through time, from the Middle Ages to today, close to the city centre and - at the same time - remote in the calm, almost surreal and sometimes lonely streets, where one can easily become lost in contemplating the harmony of the landscape and the beauty of what man has designed, conceived, and built in perfect balance with the environment and the nature.

The map



Basic trail - Orange route

The Viale dei Colli: a romantic and scenic walk from the Middle Ages to the period when Florence was capital of Italy

P.za Ferrucci - V.le Michelangelo - P.le Michelangelo - V.le Galilei - P.le Galileo - V.le Machiavelli - P.le di Porta Romana - V.le Machiavelli - P.le Galileo - V.le Galilei - Via delle Porte Sante - Via del Monte alle Croci - Via di S. Miniato al Monte - V.le Michelangelo - P.za Ferrucci

From **Piazza Francesco Ferrucci** (the great Florentine military leader, last defender of the Florentine Republic, slain during the siege by the imperial army of Carlo V at the battle of Gavinana, near Pistoia), we take **Viale Michelangelo**.



Oltrarno, walls, and Forte from Piazzale



Viale Michelangelo



Centre from Piazzale Michelangelo



Viale Galilei: pedestrian walkway



Eastern Florence from the Piazzale



Viale Machiavelli: il Bobolino

The Viale dei Colli

Viale Michelangelo, Viale Galileo and Viale Niccolò Machiavelli, together make up the "Viale dei Colli (Avenue of the Hills)", the long and scenic walk from Ponte San Niccolò to Porta Romana designed and built by Giuseppe Poggi with the expansion plans for Florence, capital of Italy (1865). With the prolonging and extension of the tree-lined "district avenues", it became the new bourgeois upper class hillside district, keeping the great environmental value of the area intact through careful building and by preserving the visual aspects. Conceived as a romantic walkway, with meticulous attention to landscape, water use, technical, recreational and botanical aspects, Viale dei Colli culminates in the beautiful panoramic terrace of the Piazzale, one of the most extraordinary views of the city and the hills that encircle it.

Keeping to the right side of Viale Michelangelo, especially in the first section, we come across numerous villas, mostly early 20th century, including the unique villa designed by Giovanni Michelazzi (**No. 46 to 48**) with typical Art Nouveau elements. At the first big bend (on the left, neo-medioeval style 20th century buildings in sandstone with mullioned windows and turrets) we pass by the great multi-purpose sports complex, Assi Giglio Rosso, following which beautiful views of the Fiesole hills appear before us.

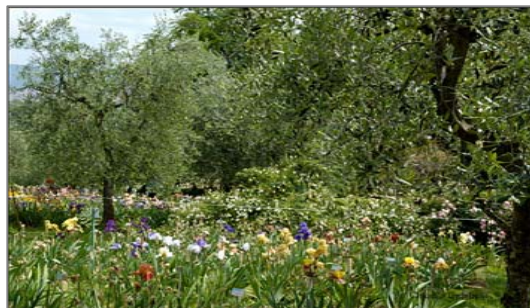


Il Villino - Art Nouveau villa by Giovanni Michelazzi



Neo-medieval early 20th century

Proceeding past the next bend, Villa La Vedetta and the Campeggio Comunale (currently the campsite is only for tents, but in the near future it will be relocated to Via Generale Dalla Chiesa where the caravans and campers area is now located), we find, on the east side of **Piazzale Michelangelo**, the entrance to the **Giardino dell'Iris**.



Giardino dell'Iris (Iris Garden)

This garden was created in 1954 to host the "Premio Firenze", an international competition for the best iris varieties, sponsored by two passionate flower breeders from the Società Italiana Amici dei Fiori (gardening society). Thanks to Piero Bargellini, then the Councillor for Fine Arts and Gardens, they were assigned the land called "Podere dei Bastioni". Inaugurated in 1957, it now hosts about 3 thousand varieties of iris, including aquatic, and is home to the Italian Iris Society.

Once the campsite has been moved, the Iris Gardens and the nearby Rose Gardens will become the panoramic viewpoints “in bloom” of the large public Park (300 hectares) full of olive trees, the green lungs connecting the left bank of the Arno in the district of San Niccolò, the hillside of San Miniato and the Oltrarno. It’s a circular footpath with stunning habitats, landscapes, monuments and history, which is a great way to introduce visitors to the extraordinary places of art dotted around the foothills, slopes and peaks over the entire hillside (from the Boboli Gardens to the Bardini Park, passing from the Belvedere Fort to the Royal Stables, climbing towards Arcetri and Giramonte). Most of these sites are covered by our routes.

The spectacular panoramic terrace of Piazzale Michelangelo offers a truly superb view of Florence from Forte Belvedere (left) to Santa Croce, the extraordinary outlines of the Duomo's Cupola, Palazzo Vecchio, the Bargello, and the octagonal tower of the Badia Fiorentina. The river and its bridges (at the centre, the Ponte Vecchio), the hills and mountains near and far, and the frontal view of the Fiesole and Settignano hills complete this scene. There is an interesting view of the portion of 14th century wall that from Forte di Belvedere goes to Porta San Niccolò (Via di Belvedere runs along the outer side). These walls were reinforced by Michelangelo in the defense projects at the time of the 1529 siege of Florence by Carlo V's army.



Panoramic view from Piazzale Michelangelo of the city after a snowfall



View from the Loggia del Piazzale



Forte Belvedere and the 14th century wall



The heart of the city

Recommended detour

Piazzale Michelangelo, on the west side, take the ramp that leads into Viale Giuseppe Poggi (if we wish to avoid it we can directly take From Viale Poggi, on our right just past the Piazzale). With a series of spectacular and scenic hairpin turns bordered by a green backdrop, this beautiful road goes down to the Arno River. At the first bend, we find No. 2, the gate to the Giardino delle Rose (Rose Garden). Created on land expropriated by the City under the urban reorganization of Florence as capital, a Park (completed in 1865) was built there - designed by architect Giuseppe Poggi, open to the public since 1895 when the Society of Fine Arts and Italian Society of Horticulture began to hold the Festival of Arts and Flowers there in the month of May. Today the garden has about 1000 rose bushes in 350 varieties, including such ancient varieties as the 15th and 16th century *Gallica versicolor*, *Moschata alba*, *Sericea pteracantha*, *Foetida persiana* and the Botticellian *Alba incarnata* (portrayed by the great artist in his "*Primavera*"). Since 1998, the park has been enriched by the "Japanese Garden", a tribute to Florence's twinned city of Kyoto and the work of architect Yasuo Kitayama and 7 Japanese master gardeners. In September 2011, the Garden welcomed the 12 statues (ten bronzes and two in plaster) donated by the late (2005) sculptor Michel Folon, who thus continues his dialogue of love and reasoning with the city of Florence, which hosted an exhibition of his work at Forte di Belvedere in 2005.



Panoramic view of part of the garden



Rosa Mundi, rosa Gallica versicolor



Sculpture by Folon



Il Giardino giapponese (Japanese Garden)



Sericea Pteracantha



"Chat", a work by Folon

After Piazzale Michelangelo, we continue from here along the **Viale** (avenue) named after **Galileo** (after the abjuration of 1633, the scientist lived confined to the nearby Villa Il Gioiello in the Arcetri hills above). To our left are the ramps of Monte alle Croci and the beautiful **Romanesque Basilica of San Miniato**.



The facade of San Miniato and the belltower of San Salvatore



View of the right aisle



Mosaic of Christ enthroned between the Madonna and S. Miniato



The central nave

Basilica di San Miniato

Dedicated to the martyr Miniato (legend claims he was an Armenian king and tradition claims he was a Christian soldier who, under the persecution of Emperor Decius around 250, after his decapitation picked up his own head and carried it to Mons Florentinus, thus indicating his burial place), the Basilica is one of the masterpieces of Romanesque architecture in Florence and one of the most beautiful religious monuments in the city. The extraordinary facade, made of white Carrara marble and green Prato marble, has 5 round-headed blind arches on the lower section (11th century) on Corinthian half columns, while the upper section (12th century) - with two symmetrical wings emphasizing the true geometry of the interior's *tre navate* (central nave and two aisles) - has a classic *aedicula* window beneath the mosaic of "Christ enthroned between the Madonna and San Miniato" (mid 13th century). The connection with the Roman art of the early pagan temples is significant, reminiscent of buildings such as the Temple of Jupiter at Terracina. The interior is also unusual: the presbytery and choir (accessed by stairs located at the end of the side aisles) are on a raised platform above the crypt.



"Redeemer between the Madonna and San Miniato"



La Cappella del Crocifisso, by Michelozzo



View of the crypt



The Romanesque pulpit (1207)



Left aisle, Cappella del Cardinale del Portogallo



The choir in front of the high altar

Their apse is adorned with a late 13th century mosaic of the "Redeemer between the Madonna and San Miniato" and has a magnificent Romanesque pulpit dating to 1207. The nave's beautiful floor (1207) is inlaid with the signs of the zodiac, reminiscent of those in the Baptistry of San Giovanni. In the central nave is the extraordinary chapel, Cappella del Crocifisso by Michelozzo (1448), dominated by the altarpiece attributed to Agnolo Gaddi. In the left aisle is the remarkable chapel, Cappella del Cardinale del Portogallo, designed by the great Antonio Rossellino. The mystical and enchanting crypt is the oldest part of the Church, resting on 38 columns of different workmanship and materials, positioned to divide the underground environment into three central naves and four side aisles, their vaulted ceilings embellished with 14th century frescoes by Taddeo Gaddi. Not to be missed is the sacristy (accessed from the left aisle of the presbytery), decorated with a large cycle of frescoes by Spinello Aretino ("Life of St. Benedict"). In the cloister of the adjacent monastery, dating to the same period as the church but rebuilt in 1426, are the frescoes by Paolo Uccello ("Stories of the Holy Hermits"). The entire complex houses the Olivetan Benedictine Monks.

We continue along Viale Galilei where, at the intersection with Via San Leonardo, we come to the villa Bonciani where Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky lived and worked in 1878 (facing it, the historic Chalet Fontana).



Tchaikovsky, a distinguished guest

Piazzale Galileo Galilei

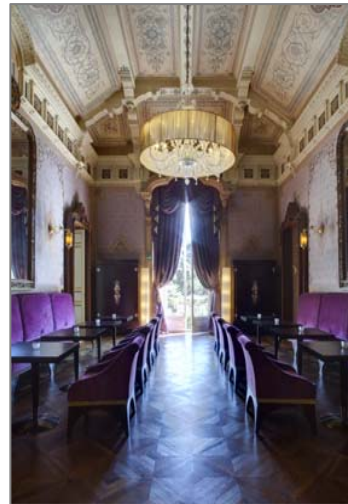
Further ahead is **Piazzale Galileo Galilei**. From here, the **Viale** (avenue) takes the name **Niccolò Machiavelli**. Now the road descends more steeply towards Porta Romana, coming to **Villa Cora** (closed to the public).



The Moorish Room



View of Villa Cora



The Card Room

Villa Cora

Built on a design by Pietro Comparini (1870) when Florence was capital of Italy, on behalf of the German industrialist and financier Baron Gustav Oppenheim, its exterior is neo-Renaissance in style, contrasting with the sumptuous and eclectic tastes of the interior (Byzantine, Moorish, neoclassical and Louis XV). Surrounded by a large park (10 thousand sq. m.), it was one of the most famous and exclusive salons of the fashionable élite. Its distinguished guests and residents included Princess Eugenie, widow of Napoleon III, Prince Murat, the Egyptian ruler Isma'il Pasha, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky and the Ambassador Giuliano Cora, from whom it takes its name. Today it is a residential hotel.

Passing Villa Cora, we come to the **Giardino del Bobolino** (garden)



Giardino del Bobolino

The Bobolino garden (its name is derived from the nearby and more famous Boboli Gardens) is a free access public park extending over the steep side of the hill. Its pleasant furnishings, a beautiful circular pool and a very interesting stock of trees (the "Incense Cedar" is outstanding for its age and rarity) make it a popular spot and favourite place for wedding photos. In the photo, the circular pool and, on the left side of the central flower bed, the Incense Cedar.

and the interesting building, **Pagliere di Boboli** (open to the public during special events and exhibitions).



Le Pagliere di Boboli

On the outer edges of the Boboli Gardens, this building was erected when Florence was the capital (1865-1870) as a warehouse-storehouse for straw and hay. It served the nearby Scuderie Reali (Royal Stables) of that time (now the State Art Institute), for the Palazzo Pitti, which, during that period, was the home of the Savoy royal family. After its recent restoration, the complex hosts exhibitions and shows by contemporary artists.

A few more metres and we come to **Porta Romana**



Porta Romana

From here the roads leading south to Rome branch off. Here, the "Porta Romana" gate appears before us. It was built in 1326 as part of the last 14th century wall, and here - positioned at the centre - is Michelangelo Pistoletto's sculpture "Dietrofront".

to then go back to the opposite side of **Viale Machiavelli**, retracing our path in reverse. From here there is a lovely view of the **Villa del Poggio Imperiale** (formerly Villa Baroncelli), whose lines dominate the long straight road that leads to the avenue of the same name that goes up into the Arcetri hillside.



Il Viale del Poggio Imperiale

On the side of Viale Machiavelli that we are following, the noble mansions are more numerous than those on the other side and the beautiful **Villa Franchetti - Nardi** stands out among them (closed to the public).



Villa Franchetti - Nardi

This villa, which belonged to the Franchetti barons, was designed by the same architect Poggi. Alberto Franchetti, a composer of the verismo school and director (1926-28) of the Conservatory of Florence, added an outbuilding used as a concert and dance venue, a Tyrolean-style stable, a two-storey house overlooking the Garden of Bobolino, a monumental gate and a gatehouse on Viale Machiavelli. The park is adorned with stone and marble statues, internal walkways, a pond, an aviary and several species of tall trees and ornamental plants. Today the Villa is an historical residence.

On the return journey, before reaching **Piazzale Michelangelo**, we take **Via delle Porte Sante** on our right, where we come to the **Church and Convent of San Salvatore al Monte**.



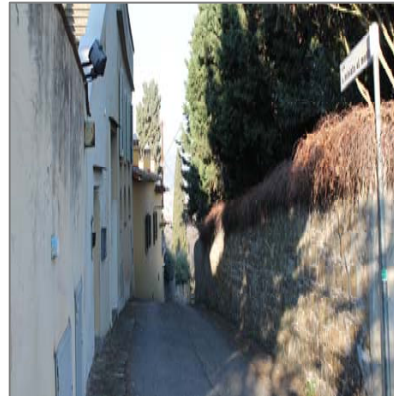
Chiesa (Church) di S. Salvatore al Monte

The first nucleus of this Franciscan church (of which there are few surviving traces) dates from the early 15th century. The current sacred building was constructed over the course of the 15th century, according to a design for the most part attributed to Simone del Pollaiuolo. The interior is simple and elegant, marked by the influences of Alberti and Giuliano da Sangallo, and preserves - among other things - an interesting 16th century panel ("Madonna Enthroned with Child, Saints and Angels") and a "Deposition" in glazed polychrome terracotta by Giovanni Della Robbia. The adjoining convent has a beautiful cloister. In the 17th century, San Leonardo da Porto Maurizio also stayed in these places, thus spreading throughout Italy the practice of the Via Crucis (and it is precisely from this that Monte alle Croci takes its name).

From here we go, past the Convent, along **Via del Monte alle Croci** to **Via di San Miniato al Monte**, on the left. This quickly takes us back to **Viale Michelangelo** (which we take, going right). Beneath it, towards the city centre, is **Piazza Ferrucci**, where our itinerary begins and ends.



Via del Monte alle Croci



Via di S. Miniato al Monte



The return route, towards Piazza Ferrucci

Technical information

Trail distance	11.5 km
Height difference	73 m
Maximum gradient	8%
Average journey time	walking: 3h 15' - running: 1h 35'
Difficulty	**

Technical and sporting features

Road conditions and surface	<p>The trail has a wide sidewalk and/or bike path on the Viale dei Colli. In the Viale Machiavelli section, the surface is very uneven stone paving. The rest of the route is entirely asphalt. Via del Monte alle Croci and Via San Miniato (especially the second, with narrow carriageways) have no sidewalks. The steepest section is the last section of Viale Michelangelo and the middle section of Viale Machiavelli.</p>
Suitable	<p>Walkers of all levels</p> <p>Families with children, given the width of the sidewalks on Viale dei Colli (except in Via del Monte alle Croci and Via di San Miniato al Monte, where caution is required due to lack of protected pedestrian zones).</p> <p>Advanced runners, who can run the entire route Beginners can alternate running with walking along the more demanding sections</p>
Type of training	<p>Due to its characteristics, this type of route allows the body to sustain a prolonged effort over time, in other words, resistance training.</p>
Footwear	<p>Walking shoes and in particular running shoes</p>

Directions

Ataf lines

With stops directly at or next to the start of the trail

line 8 stop Ponte S. Niccolò (Careggi - Ferrucci - Bagno a Ripoli)

line 12 stop Ferrucci 04 and line 13 stop Ferrucci 03 (Station Campo Marte - Station SMN - P.le Michelangelo)

line 23 stop Ricorboli (Sorgane - Nave a Rovezzano - Ferrucci - Centro città - Firenze Nova)

line 41 stop Ferrucci (Galluzzo - Ferrucci),

line D stop Ferrucci (Station SMN - Ferrucci)

With stops near to one of the points on the trail

line 11 stop Calza and Poggio Imperiale 01 (Campo di Marte - Centro città - P.ta Romana - Le Due Strade)

lines 36 and 37 stop Calza (Station SMN - P.ta Romana - Galluzzo)

Places to visit

Giardino dell'Iris

Free admission. Open from 25/04 to 20/05, daily from 10:00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m .

<http://www.irisfirenze.it>

Giardino delle rose

Free admission. Open all year, including holidays, from 9:00 am to sunset. During the summer from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Chiesa di S. Miniato

Free admission

Summer hours: 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Winter hours from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 pm (Masses are held at 9:00 a.m., 12.30 p.m., 2:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.)

<http://www.sanminiatoalmonte.it>

Chiesa di San Salvatore al Monte

Free admission. 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. every day (except for the Masses on Saturday at 6:00 p.m. and Sundays at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.)

Pagliere di Boboli

Only during exhibitions and shows

Giardino del Bobolino

Free admission. Always open, as it is not gated

NB: The information on the line services and the places to visit was correct in January 2014. Please check for potential changes.

DESIGN, CREATION AND COORDINATION

Project

Text, layout and coordination	Municipality of Florence - Department for Culture, Tourism and Sport: Carla Giannini
Route layouts	Municipality of Florence - Department for Culture, Tourism and Sport: Paolo Mangini
Technical and sporting features	Training Consultant: Fulvio Massini
Photos	Municipality of Florence - Department for Culture, Tourism and Sport: Giulio Monasta Contributor: Giacomo Scarzanella, Sara Reggioli, Walter Braschi
Photo credits	Giardino dell'Iris - Courtesy of Italian Iris Society Giardino delle Rose - Municipality of Florence - Department for Environment. Photos: Mauro Muscas Villa Cora - courtesy of the Grand Hotel Villa Cora
Special acknowledgments	To the Special Superintendency for the Historical, Artistic and Ethno-anthropological Heritage for the Museums of the City of Florence Those in charge of places of art, faith, nature and culture for the authorization to create images and for their cooperation
Thanks	<i>Presidents of the Commissions for Sport in the Districts of the Municipality of Florence</i> Ataf
<i>for the route layouts</i>	Andrea Bardazzi, Giulia Bardazzi, Stefano Bugetti, Daniele Verzieri, Marco Gensini

Maps and Mobile Apps

<i>Coordination and development</i>	Municipality of Florence - Department for Information Systems: Gianluca Vannuccini, Enrico Castagnoli, Leonardo Ricci, Elena Marrassini, Stefano Gecchele and Annita Bandini Contributor: Giacomo Scarzanella Linea Comune S.p.A.: Bianca Maria Beconi and Gabriele Andreozzi
Mobile appl	Geoln s.r.l.

Connected trail - Brown route

Poggio Imperiale: astrophysics research, the villas of the upper classes and “on the education of young girls”

Piazzale di Porta Romana - Viale del Poggio Imperiale - Largo Fermi - Via San Leonardo - Viale Galileo Galilei

From **Piazzale di Porta Romana** (from here the roads leading south to Rome branch off, and "Porta Romana" appears, built in 1326 as part of the last 14th century wall. Here - in the centre - is the sculpture "Dietrofront" by Michelangelo Pistoletto) we take **Viale del Poggio Imperiale** (the name "Imperial" due to Maria Maddalena of Austria, sister of the Habsburg Emperor Ferdinand II and wife of Cosimo II de ' Medici, the first 17th century owner of the Villa of the same name), and go up the long straight road (1.3 km) which connects with the Arcetri hill, spectacularly dominated by the **Villa del Poggio Imperiale**.



The facade



The Ballroom



Hall of Four Seasons



Chinese quarters



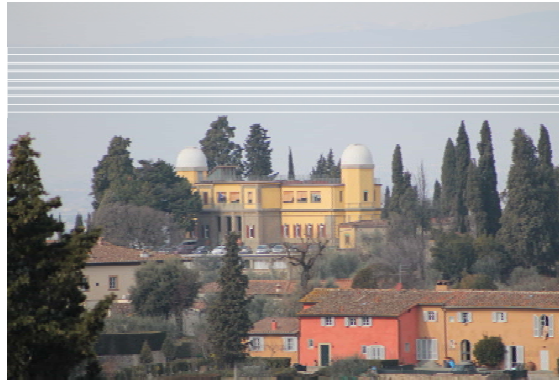
Hall of Diana

Villa del Poggio Imperiale - Formerly the Villa Baroncelli, was later sold to the Salviati family, from whom it was confiscated (1565) by Cosimo I because of Alessandro Salviati's strong opposition to the Medici power. Completely renovated in the early 17th century, when it passed to Maria Maddalena of Austria (dating back to the same period in which the land surrounding it was extended), it was given the long straight avenue, once surrounded by a grove of cypresses, and connecting with Porta Romana (then called San Piero Gattolino). Rebuilt in neoclassical style by Elisa Baciocchi Bonaparte and then by Maria Luisa Bourbon of Spain, in the period when Florence was capital, it was included in the Viale dei Colli, designed (like all Florence's avenues-boulevards) by Poggi, becoming the Santissima Annunziata Educandato femminile (elite secular State girls' school, is now home to the same school, a secondary school, however, and open to both sexes). Inside, among other things, is the spectacular Salone delle Feste (ballroom) and adjacent, the Chinese quarters, in which 5 rooms were decorated by Pietro Leopoldo of Lorraine (1775) in 18th century "chinoiserie" tastes, with Chinese wallpaper hand-painted in Canton, tapestries, furniture and paintings from the Orient or made in Oriental style by skilled Italian painters (depicting scenes of Chinese life, harvesting tea and rice, breeding silkworms and other aspects).

From **Piazzale del Poggio Imperiale** we go left on **Largo Enrico Fermi**, which faces the **Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica (Astrophysics Institute)**.



Entrance to the INAF on Largo Fermi



Cupolas of the Astrophysical



Observatory of Arcetri

Osservatorio Astrofisico di Arcetri (Astrophysical Observatory)

If Florence is known for art and literature, it is - perhaps mainly in international and national scientific circles - known for its scientific vocation. The INAF bears witness to this, and the Arcetri Astrophysical Observatory is part of this. Among its many responsibilities and skills, it plays a major role in Italy for having built the largest telescope in the world's northern hemisphere, known as LBT (Large Binocular Telescope) inaugurated in 2004 on Mount Graham, Arizona. The Observatory and INAF are responsible for a number of scientific achievements and both constitute a formidable asset for astronomical and physics research for the city, historically represented in Florence by the great Galileo Galilei, to whose heritage the Museum of the History of Science also bears witness.

Continuing on, we take **Via S. Leonardo in Arcetri**, where we come upon the eponymous Church.



Chiesa di S. Leonardo in Arcetri

Dedicated to the holy French hermit (6th century), patron saint of prisoners, his cult spread widely in Europe in the 11th century. Noblac, where he died, became a part of the pilgrims' journey to Santiago de Compostela.

Via San Leonardo in Arcetri continues narrowly between the walls of the properties on both sides. The walls here are often scratched with a "fork" marking, as is typical in areas of high historical and artistic value in the Florentine countryside (here they are mostly 19th century, but in Via di Belvedere they go back to the early 17th century).



In Via S. Leonardo, wall "graffiti" or designs



Detail of wall designs or "graffito"

Wall graffiti is one of the most interesting examples of urban decor. Used until the early 20th century to decorate interior and exterior walls of Florentine palazzos (there is graffiti in Via Maggio and Borgo Santa Croce) and suburban villas, they are often in areas of special environmental and landscape value, and also adorn the country walls between farms. The style of the decoration is linked to the use of a type of "fork" with tines of equal length, with which the plaster was scratched (Arno sand and slightly dampened lime obtained by baking mainly limestone). These testimonials to ancient art characterize the wonderful Florentine countryside, although unfortunately they are not explicitly protected.

From here, going another 750 meters, we come to **Viale Galileo Galilei** at the Chalet Fontana, concluding our itinerary.

Technical information

Trail distance	2.1 km
Height difference	80 m
Maximum gradient	19%
Average journey time	walking: 39' - running: 19'
Difficulty	* * *

Technical and sporting features

Road conditions and surface	The entire trail is on asphalt. The Via San Leonardo section has no sidewalk. The first section (Viale del Poggio Imperiale) is steep (maximum slope 19%).
Suitable	Walkers of all levels Runners with a good fitness level, who can run the whole trail Beginners can take the first uphill section (about 1 km) walking
Type of training	Trains the body to handle the sense of fatigue
Footwear	Walking shoes and in particular running shoes

Directions

Ataf lines	<i>With stops directly at or next to the start of the trail</i> line 11 stop Calza (Campo di Marte - Centro città - Porta Romana - Due Strade) lines 36 - 37 stop Calza (Station SMN - P.ta Romana - Due Strade - Galluzzo) line 38 (weekdays only), stop Poggio Imperiale 01, 03 and Fermi (P.zza della Calza - Poggio Imperiale - Largo Fermi/Pian de' Giullari)
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Places to visit

Villa di Poggio Imperiale

Open to the public (entrance fee) the Chinese Quarters only on Saturdays and by appointment at tel. 055 226171 or e-mail: five010004@istruzione.it

Inaf - Osservatorio Astrofisico di Arcetri

For visits and observations of the sky (by night), tel. 055 27 52 280 from Monday - Friday 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. or by e-mail: richiesta_visita@arcetri.astro.it
<http://www.arcetri.astro.it>

Chiesa di San Leonardo in Arcetri

Free admission. Open for Mass (11:00 a.m. Sundays and Public holidays)

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DESIGN, CREATION AND COORDINATION

Project

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Photos	Municipality of Florence - Department for Culture, Tourism and Sports: Giulio Monasta Contributor: Giacomo Scarzanella
Special acknowledgments	To the Special Superintendency for the Historical, Artistic and Ethno-anthropological Heritage for the Museums of the City of Florence To the Direction to the State Institute of SS. Annunziata (Villa di Poggio Imperiale) To those in charge of places of art, faith, nature and culture for authorizing the creation of images and for their cooperation
Thanks	Presidents of the Commissions for Sport in the Districts of the Municipality of Florence Ataf
<i>for the route layouts</i>	Andrea Bardazzi, Giulia Bardazzi, Stefano Bugetti Daniele Verzieri, Marco Gensini

Maps and Mobile Apps

Coordination and development	Municipality of Florence - Department for Information Systems: Gianluca Vannuccini, Leonardo Ricci, Enrico Castagnoli, Elena Marrassini, Stefano Gecchele and Annita Bandini Contributor: Giacomo Scarzanella Linea Comune S.p.A.: Bianca Maria Beconi and Gabriele Andreozzi
Mobile app	Geoln s.r.l.

Connected Route - Blue route

From Forte Belvedere to San Niccolò: ramparts, walls and enchanting hillside greenery

Via San Leonardo - Via di Belvedere - Via dei Bastioni - Viale Michelangelo

Via San Leonardo is a narrow, enchanting road between property walls, often scratched with "fork" markings, as is typical in areas of high historical and artistic value in the Florentine countryside (here they are mostly 19th century, but in Via di Belvedere they date back to the early 17th century). The street takes its name from the holy French hermit, St. Leonard (6th century), patron saint of prisoners, whose cult spread widely in Europe in the 11th century (Noblac, where he died, became part of the pilgrims' journey to Santiago de Compostela).



Decorated walls



Villa Piatti



Villa Lauder



Rosai home-studio

In **Via di San Leonardo**, almost in front of **Villa Piatti** (no. 55), Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky set one of his best known theatrical works to music in 1858 ("The Queen of Spades"). **Villa Lauder** comes next, with its brick red plaster, and at **number 49** a plaque reminds us that one of the most important Italian painters of the 20th century, **Ottone Rosai** lived and had his studio here (1933-57). Shortly thereafter, the house belonged to the realist writer Mario Pratesi.

Then comes **Villa Il Barduccio** (15th century residence of the wealthy Barducci bankers) with the access stairway onto the road, and then, at number 40, **Villa Il Gioiello**. After a curve we come to the **Church of San Leonardo in Arcetri**.



Church of S. Leonardo



13th century pulpit



Pulpit (part.)



Neri di Bicci



Maestro di Arcetri

Chiesa di San Leonardo in Arcetri (Church)
Dating back to the early 11th century, transformed over the centuries, the 20th century restorations have brought back its original appearance. It houses a 13th century marble pulpit, with bas-reliefs decorated with inlay depicting scenes from the New Testament, from the Church of San Piero Scheraggio (it was brought in 1782 by Grand Duke Pietro Leopoldo when the latter church was demolished to allow for the current main entrance to the Galleria degli Uffizi). It also houses late 14th and 15th century paintings on panel (Neri di Bicci, Lorenzo di Niccolò, Maestro di Arcetri) and 18th century paintings.

From number 9 onward, the graffiti on the walls become progressively more elaborate and refined as the road becomes narrower and then opens up onto the massive **Forte di Belvedere**.



Forte Belvedere

The Forte di San Giorgio or Belvedere (because of the magnificent view of the city) built between 1590 and 1595 on a design by Bernardo Buontalenti commissioned by Ferdinando I de' Medici, while for its time an impressive and futuristic military construction strategically situated on the hill, in truth it was never actively used for defensive or offensive purposes.



Forte di Belvedere, Reggia di Palazzo Pitti and Boboli in the lunette by G. Utens (1599)



The Fort and the wall seen from Piazzale Michelangelo

Its construction fulfilled a number of objectives however. Meanwhile it was clear symbolic sign of Medici power. The pre-existing building - probably the work of Bartolomeo Ammannati (1570) - is basically a Medici villa (as suggested by the lunette by Giusto Utens at the Museum, Firenze com'era (Florence as it was) and as such, celebrates the family's power. In addition, the Grand Duke - in the case of riots in the city - could find shelter and defense here. From the Palazzo Vecchio, in fact, by way of the Vasari Corridor and the Boboli Gardens, or the "Prince's Walk", it was possible to stay protected and reach the fort. But perhaps Forte San Giorgio also had another function: that of the secret storage place of the Medici family's immense treasure (a crypt built inside a deep pit dug in the courtyard of the building and protected from deadly traps could bear witness to this). Over the years, Forte Belvedere has hosted exhibitions, film festivals and cultural events. Currently is only open for special events and exhibitions.

Ahead of us is **Porta San Giorgio**, to the right of which **Via di Belvedere** goes down toward the centre of the city flanking the ancient city walls dating to 1258, then modified - without altering their path - around the late 1200s and early 1300s, then reinforced with bastions by Michelangelo during the siege of Florence by the imperial troops of Carlo V.



Porta San Giorgio and, right, Via di Belvedere



Via di Belvedere



Porta di San Niccolò (Gate)

This charming, narrow and lonely country road that goes down toward the centre, at the first curve opens onto an amazing view of the city, wedged between the gate of San Miniato and the tower ramparts, at the base of which stands **Porta San Niccolò**. At the foot of the descent, after the small group of old houses, **Porta di San Miniato**.



The Gate without a tower

Porta di S. Miniato

Built in 1320 as part of the sixth circle of walls, it does not have the typical tower, and the soldiers on guard kept watch on the walkway reached by the inner staircase.



Looking back: Via di Belvedere

From here we go straight and take **Via dei Bastioni** that, with a slight slope characterized by two sharp bends, leads us to the beautiful **Porta di San Niccolò**.



From the curve in Via dei Bastioni: view of city walls



Torre San Niccolò (Tower) and the Ramps

Porta San Niccolò

This gate looks more like a tower. Built by Orcagna perhaps in defense of the Arno in 1324 for the sixth circle of walls (which includes the tower, Torre della Zeccha, across the river, connected to this gate by a “passage” - not currently open to the public - under the weir of San Niccolò) it was never pollarded as were all the other city gates. Just above the arch, the 14th century fresco “Child between St. John the Baptist and St. Nicholas (San Niccolò) of Bari “ (respectively, the city’s patron and patron saint of the neighbourhood).

Here to the right, the ramps, **Le Rampe del Poggi**, begin.



Le Rampe (The Ramps)

A spectacular staircase connecting to Piazzale Michelangelo, beneath which are the three pools designed and built (1867-76) by the great architect, great not only in aesthetic and recreational terms, but also for solving the problem of water infiltration into the hillside’s soil.





**Le Grotte dell'Amore
(Caves of Love)**

Designed by Poggi in neo-Mannerist style, they also function as a water drainage system for the hillside.

Continuing on Via dei Bastioni, which runs, enclosed by walls and green hills, parallel to the Arno river below, we reach **Viale Michelangelo**, just above **Piazza Ferrucci**, where our itinerary ends.



Via dei Bastioni



Along Via dei Bastioni, the ramp for Piazza Ferrucci

Technical information

Trail distance	2.6 km
Height difference	70 m
Maximum gradient	41%
Average journey time	Walking 47' - running: 24'
Difficulty	* * *

Technical and sporting features

Road conditions and surface	The entire trail is on asphalt and most of the roads have no sidewalk. Via di Belvedere is very steep and demanding (slope 41%)
Suitable	Walkers of all levels Runners with a good level of fitness and excellent downhill running technique who can run the entire route Beginners can alternate between walking and running (on the more demanding downhill section, walking is advised)
Type of training	Due to its characteristics, this type of circuit enables the perfecting of downhill walking/running technique
Footwear	Walking shoes and in particular running shoes

Directions

Ataf lines	With stops directly at or next to the start of the trail lines 12 stop Galilei 03 and line 13 stop Ferrucci 03 (Station Campo Marte - Station SMN - P.le Michelangelo)
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Places to visit

Chiesa di San Leonardo in Arcetri first	Free admission. Open for Mass (11:00 a.m. Sundays and holidays and 6:00 p.m. every Friday of the month)
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NB: The information on the line services and the places to visit was correct in January 2014. Please check for potential changes.

DESIGN, CREATION AND COORDINATION

Project

Text, layout and coordination	Municipality of Florence - Department for Culture, Tourism and Sport: Carla Giannini
Route layouts	Municipality of Florence - Department for Culture, Tourism and Sport: Paolo Mangini
Technical and sporting features	Training Consultant: Fulvio Massini
Photos	Municipality of Florence - Department for Culture, Tourism and Sport: Giulio Monasta, Carla Giannini Contributor: Giacomo Scarzanella
Photo credits	For the Astrophysical Observatory of Arcetri: INAF National Astrophysical Institute Florence (Photos F. Palla, R. Baglioni, R. Cerisola)
Special acknowledgments	To the Special Superintendency for the Historical, Artistic and Ethno-anthropological Heritage for the Museums of the City of Florence To those in charge of places of art, faith, nature and culture for the authorization to create images and for their cooperation
Thanks	Presidents for the Commissions for Sport in the Districts of the Municipality of Florence Ataf
<i>for the route layouts</i>	Andrea Bardazzi, Giulia Bardazzi, Stefano Bugetti, Daniele Verzieri, Marco Gensini

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Coordination and Development	Municipality of Florence - Department for Information Systems: Gianluca Vannuccini, Leonardo Ricci, Enrico Castagnoli, Elena Marrassini, Stefano Gecchele and Annita Bandini Contributor: Giacomo Scarzanella Linea Comune S.p.A.: Bianca Maria Beconi and Gabriele Andreozzi
Mobile app	GeoIn s.r.l.

Connected trail - Violet route

Pian de' Giullari, the profession of arms and the science of the sky

Via di Giramontino - Piazza Unganelli - Via della Torre del Gallo - Via del Pian de' Giullari - Via di Santa Margherita a Montici - Via Fortini - Via Marsuppini

From Piazzale Michelangiolo, staying on Viale Galilei in the opposite direction to the centre of Florence, after about 850 metres, we come to **Via di Giramontino** on our left, which, with a series of spectacular hairpin turns, climbs towards Pian de' Giullari, offering beautiful views of the hills to the south-east.



The siege of Florence (G. Vasari and G. Stradano, Palazzo Vecchio, Sala di Clemente VII). The foreground dense with military encampments, the Pian de' Giullari hill dominated by Torre del Gallo.



Via di Giramontino



Giramonte with imperial forces, part of fresco by Vasari-Stradano

A little farther along, we come to **Piazza degli Unganelli**, where the little chapel and outer wall of **Villa Giovannelli** appear before us (closed to the public).

Villa Giovannelli

The villa, which belonged to the Coverelli family, then the Vecchietti, and in the 18th century, to the Pandolfini family, owes its name to the philosopher Cesare Giovannelli, who affixed the plaque (1880) dedicated to the painter Giusto Sustermans, who lived here and to whom we owe the "live" portrait of Galileo Galilei (resident, confined to the nearby Villa Il Gioiello). Another plaque reminds us that Alessandro Vitelli lodged here during the siege of Florence, from 1529-1530, and with his troops in the service of Emperor Carlo V - bombarded the bell tower of San Miniato al Monte, that for the occasion, Michelangelo had protected with bundles of mattresses.

From here we continue on to **Via Torre del Gallo**, where, at No. 10, **Villa Agape - Arrighetti** appears (the name comes from that of the academic Arrighetti of Crusca, follower of Galileo and founder, among other things, of the Accademia del Cimento). In front of the chapel of the Villa, and along the boundary wall of the Torre del Gallo, the road runs for a long stretch, while to the right is a wonderfully scenic backdrop of the city and the hills, especially Bellosguardo. After a couple of hairpin turns, at the end of the slope to the left is Via Pian de' Giullari where, in a dominant position on the crest of the hill, visible from the road, stands the Renaissance style loggia and Stefano Bardini's huge stone "workshop-warehouse," in the Park of Torre del Gallo (closed to the public).



Outline of Torre del Gallo



Bardini's "shed" seen from Arcetri

Torre del Gallo

It dominates the crest of the Arcetri hill. In ancient times a castle belonging to the Galli family, it was partially demolished in 1280 as a result of anti-Ghibelline repression and, in 1364, as a result of raids by John Hawkwood (Giovanni Acuto) suffered further destruction.



The Renaissance-style loggia

After various changes of ownership, in 1872 it passed to Count Paolo Galletti who set up a small museum in the tower dedicated to Galileo, which was later merged with the Museum of the History of Science. Its appearance at present is thanks to the eclectic collector and antiquarian Stefano Bardini who supervised the restoration of the tower in neo-medieval style (who raised it and added battlements) with materials taken from the demolitions during the "works" in the historic city centre. "Eclectic" restoration and new constructions (the Renaissance-style loggia and a new building - called "the shed" - used as a workshop - warehouse by Bardini) give the whole building a certain aspect of evocativeness and romance, and of "false architecture". In the Second World War the building housed the Military Pharmaceutical Institute, then the Fascist Federation, and finally a prison camp for the (English) allies. Today it is privately owned, but - together with the Arcetri Astrophysical Observatory and the Villa Il Gioiello - according to a major project, it should have been part of the "City of Galileo".

On the right hand side of the road, there is a beautiful view over the hills and of the massive Certosa of Galluzzo while if we look to the right and behind us, we see the white domes of 'the **Osservatorio Astrofisico di Arcetri** (Astrophysical Observatory).



The Teatro del cielo (Theatre of the Sky), at the Astrophysical Observatory



The solar tower



The Tempel telescope

Osservatorio Astrofisico di Arcetri

Built in 1869 and inaugurated in 1872, it replaced the "La Specola" observatory at Palazzo Torrigiani on Via Romana, which due to its location did not permit a clear view of the sky. The move was called for and organized by the astronomer Giovan Battista Donati.

In 1924 the Officine Galileo built a solar tower there, 25 meters high, which made it possible to carry out advanced studies in solar physics. Under the direction of Guglielmo Righini (1954), solar radio astronomy was born in Arcetri. Since 1926, Arcetri has become part of the State observatories, specializing in research related to solar physics and stellar spectroscopy and - in this field - is one of the most important in Europe.

Via Pian de' Giullari (it takes its name from the itinerant mimes and actors - "jesters" in fact - once supposedly housed in a large room of the nearby 14th century Villa Il Teatro) gives us a succession of villas and buildings of interest. Among these is Villa Nunes Vais (No. 28, closed to the public).



Frontal view of Villa Nunes Vais from Arcetri

Villa Nunes Vais

Dating to the 14th century, it gained its reputation for being the residence of the amateur photographer Mario Nunes Vais (famous for having immortalized Gabriele D'Annunzio, but also Thomas Mann, Benedetto Croce, Giacomo Puccini, Guglielmo Marconi, Eugenio Montale and other big names in culture and art). Here the Florentine and foreign intelligentsia of the 20th century came together. The unmistakable facade is painted in white, blue and brick red rhombuses.

Going ahead, at No. 36a is the Spadolini Nuova Antologia Foundations Library (the Spadolini House - Museum is at No. 139, along our trail) and at No. 44 **Villa il Gioiello**.



Spadolini's house-museum, at No. 139



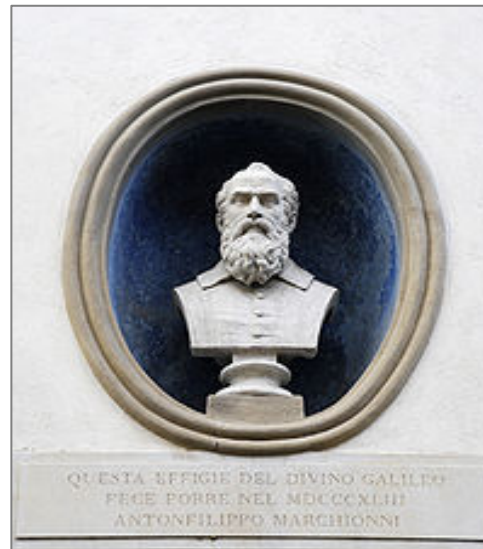
The Spadolini house-museum



Panorama from Spadolini house-museum

La Fondazione Spadolini Nuova Antologia (open to the academic public).

This is a dwelling, study, and library with 100 thousand volumes in three locations: the outbuildings of Villa Nunes Vais, at No. **36 a**, with 40 thousand volumes on the history of Italy and Europe from 1815 to the present day, the Spadolini house-museum, (the "Tondo dei Cipressi", at No. **139**) also called the "house of books" (40 thousand volumes on the history of Florence and Tuscany, the French Revolution and Napoleon), and the office in Via Cavour of Giovanni Spadolini, which he tied to the Foundation. The house-museum at No. 139, in addition to housing books, has many important relics connected with the Italian Risorgimento, paintings by 20th century artists (among others, Ardengo Soffici, Ottone Rosai, Giorgio Morandi), as well as paintings and works by his father, Guido Spadolini.



Villa Il Gioiello (No. 44)

It owes its name to the admirable position it occupies in the hills of Arcetri. Like other buildings, it was damaged during the siege of Florence by the imperial troops of Carlo V (1529-30), and sold to the Cavalcanti who rebuilt it with the existing lines of a "noble residence". Confined to house arrest after recanting in 1633, Galileo lived there. His beloved daughter, Sister Maria Celeste (a street in Arcetri is named after her) was a nun in the neighbouring Convent of San Matteo in Arcetri. After several changes of ownership, in 1942 it was bought by the state and now belongs to the Department of Astronomy at the University of Florence. In front is a bust of Galileo (1843) and the inscribed stone placed in 1942.

Going head we'll find **Villa Pazzi** (No. 52) and **Villa Ravà** (No. 69), each of them closed to the public.



Villa Pazzi

A 16th century building, Baccio Valori had his accounting office there at the time of the siege of Florence (1529-30) by the imperial troops of Carlo V.

At **Villa Il Roseto** (closed to public, No. 78 a) there is a marvelous view.



Villa Il Roseto

Villa Il Roseto
Famous mainly for the roof garden, it is one of the best known creations (1961-1965) of Pietro Porcinai.



Villa Ravà or Guicciardini

With a Renaissance aspect, after several changes of ownership it was purchased (1519) by historian Francesco Guicciardini, who wrote some of his most important works here. Like other villas in the area, it was occupied by members of the besieging army of Carlo V (1529), namely the General, Prince of Orange. Guicciardini did not return until 1533.



From No. 84, at the Solatio farm, the road is steep. At No. 139 is the gate to the "**Tondo dei Cipressi**", home of the Fondazione Spadolini Nuova Antologia (the "house of books" described above). Shortly after, at the top of the hill (204 mt. above sea level), is the **Church of Santa Margherita a Montici**, dominating the valley of the Ema.



The facade of S. Margherita a Montici

La Chiesa di S. Margherita a Montici (church)

Originally a stronghold of the Amidei (12th century) dominating the valleys of the Arno and Ema, it was consecrated in 1240, when a spring with miraculous powers for healing diseases was found in the area (a natural hot spring, which no longer existed by 1400).



The belltower of S. Margherita a Montici

The 14th century apse was built right on the original tower. Like all of the Montici hillside, it suffered the attack in 1313 by Arrigo VII of Luxembourg and in 1529 by the imperial army of Carlo V. Inside, there are works by the Maestro of Santa Cecilia (late 13th - early 14th century) and a ciborium by Andrea Sansovino.

The road passes the top of the hill now, going through more fields and agricultural land. To the right is **Villa Castelmontici** (No. 35), a small row of houses for workers and at No. 31 the Podere Paradisino farm. From here, on our right, is magnificent scenery dominated by the Colle dell'Incontro, and in the background, the mountain of Pratomagno. To the right, going downhill is **Villa La Veranda** (at Via di Piazza Calda).



Villa di Castelmontici



Castelmontici from Via delle Fonti



Hilltop view



Passing Villa La Veranda

and, continuing down, **Villa La Bugia - Morrocchi - Del Tovaglia** (closed to public).



View of Villa La Bugia from Via delle Fonti



View of Villa La Bugia from San Miniato

Villa La Bugia - Morrocchi - Del Tovaglia

Built in ancient times by the Amidei, it then had several owners including the Del Tovaglia bankers, the Guicciardini (1507 to 1634), the Nerli and the Morrocchi. Leonardo da Vinci did the relief work, commissioned by Francesco Malatesta for Francesco II Gonzaga for the purpose of creating a replica of it. With its medieval core (the tower), its hortus conclusus, the greenhouses and the lemon tree houses, it is a precious and important architectural example and a beautiful terrace overlooking the Valle d'Ema and the Florentine hills.

On the left is a farm and then **Villa Castelvechio**. Shortly after, the road becomes level. To the left appears **Villa La Gioiosa**, and to the right, **Villa Olivuzzo**. We go down a slight slope which is accentuated at No. 8 and pass **Villa dei Cipressi**, left, and **Villa Fasola**, right. At this point **Largo Eckart Peterich** appears (from here, to the right, Erta dei capperi descends). Right before our eyes is a close view of the beautiful Cupola of the Duomo set against the Calvana Hills.

The road here is narrow and runs between the walls of the houses until we come to, on the left, **Via Fortini**. It runs towards the centre of Florence (to the left) where, at No. 37, we find the entrance gate to the **Villa di Rusciano** (the park is open to the public), which offers a magnificent view of Florence.



Villa di Rusciano, facing Via Fortini



Inner garden, greenhouses and "sound garden"



Villa di Rusciano, the terrace



The palm variety "Jubaea Chilensis"

Villa di Rusciano

The original nucleus of this **Villa** dates from before the 14th century. It is surrounded by a large estate, later purchased by Luca Pitti who commissioned Filippo Brunelleschi for the restructuring. Only a few parts of the great architect's design survive today in the staircase and some decorative pieces. Purchased in 1472 by the Florentine Republic and granted in use to Captain of the Florentine Armed Forces of that time (Federico III di Montefeltro), it changed owners a number of times. Today it houses the Department of Environment of the City of Florence. The Park (more than 57 thousand square meters), for public use, includes cypress, ash, oak and other varieties, and is subject to an ambitious plan aimed at improving public use, among other things. The inner garden (closed to the public) has among its catalogued monumental trees (the variety of palm "Jubaea chilensis"), the large Atlas Cedar, and a sound installation by Stefano Passerotti, consisting of a system of pipes, covered with roses and creepers, which broadcasts classical music.



Villa di Rusciano, detail of terrace



The "labyrinth" in the Park

From here the road descends even further and comes to the town plateau of Gavinana to cross **Via Marsuppini**, on which the Church of Santa Maria a Ricorboli appears. After the church, we enter the final stretch of **Viale Michelangelo**, at **Piazza Ferrucci**.

Technical information

Trail distance	5.4 km
Height difference	155 m
Maximum gradient	18%
Average journey time	Walking: 1h 37' - running: 49'
Difficulty	* * *

Road conditions and surface	The entire trail is on asphalt and covers roads with no sidewalks up to Pian de' Giullari. The sidewalk starts in the final stretch of Via Fortini. The uphill section is quite challenging in the first part (Via Giramontino) and near the Church of Santa Margherita a Montici (18%)
Suitable	Walkers of all levels Runners with a good training level and excellent running technique Beginners can alternate running with walking (on the more demanding uphill sections)
Type of training	Due to its characteristics, this type of training allows the body to manage the sense of fatigue
Footwear	Walking shoes and in particular running shoes

DIRECTIONS

Ataf lines	With stops directly at or next to the start of the trail bus line 12 stop Galileo 07 and line 13 stop Galilei (Station Campo di Marte - Station SMN - Piazzale Michelangelo)
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Places to visit

Inaf - Osservatorio Astrofisico di Arcetri
(Astrophysical Observatory)

For visits and sky watching (by night):

Info: tel. 055 27 52 280 from Monday to Friday 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. or e-mail:

richiesta_visita@arcetri.astro.it

<http://www.arcetri.astro.it>

Fondazione Spadolini Nuova Antologia
Spadolini House, Museum and Library

Open to the academic public:

Info: + 39 055 687521 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

e-mail: nuovaantologia@cosimoceccuti.191.it

<http://www.nuovaantologia.it>

Chiesa di Santa Margherita a Montici (Church)

10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Sunday.

Closed in July and August

Parco della Villa di Rusciano (Villa park)

Free admittance - Open from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

NB: The information on the line services and the places to visit was correct in January 2014. Please check for potential changes.

DESIGN, CREATION AND COORDINATION

Project

Text, layout and coordination	Municipality of Florence - Department for Culture, Tourism and Sport: Carla Giannini
Route layouts	Municipality of Florence - Department for Culture, Tourism and Sport: Paolo Mangini
Technical and sporting features	Training Consultant: Fulvio Massini
Photos	Municipality of Florence - Department for Culture, Tourism and Sport:: Giulio Monasta Contributor: Giacomo Scarzanella
Photo credits	Fondazione Nuova Antologia (Foundation) - photos courtesy of the Foundation Villa and Park of Rusciano - Municipality of Florence - Department for Environment - Photos: Mauro Muscas
Special acknowledgments	To those in charge of the places of art, faith, nature and culture <i>for the authorization to create images and for their cooperation</i>
Thanks	Presidents of the Commissions for Sport in the Districts of the Municipality of Florence Ataf <i>for the route layouts</i>
	Andrea Bardazzi, Giulia Bardazzi, Stefano Bugetti, Daniele Verzieri, Marco Gensini

Maps and Mobile apps

Coordination and development	Municipality of Florence - Department for Information Systems: Gianluca Vannuccini, Enrico Castagnoli, Leonardo Ricci, Elena Marrassini, Stefano Gecchele and Annita Bandini Contributor: Giacomo Scarzanella Linea Comune S.p.A.: Bianca Maria Beconi and Gabriele Andreozzi
Mobile app	Geoln s.r.l.