



Destination: Monsummano Terme - The Giusti House Museum and the Monument to Giuseppe Giusti. **Collodi** - The Monumental Park of Pinocchio. *We also advise visits to: Monsummano Terme* - Places linked to the childhood of Yves Montand, documentation related to Yves Montand at the Museum of the City and the Territory, Villa Renatico Martini. **Uzzano** - Villa Anzilotti.

Giuseppe Giusti, Monsummano Terme

This famous writer, born at Monsummano Terme in 1809 in a family from the small landed nobility, discovered his literary vocation thanks above all to a series of friendships that he made in Florence, the city where he went to live after his degree, and on his various voyages. In Tuscany's principal city Giuseppe Giusti became a friend of Gino Capponi, a member of the Liberal party and, while he was in Milan, he was able to meet Alessandro Manzoni and frequent the most fashionable literary salons.

Giuseppe Giusti's poetic compositions, mainly characterised by an essentially satirical vein, stand out for their biting humour and occasional touches of subtle melancholy. His poetical output, set in the small Tuscan province, often covered themes related to his political commitment. A museum dedicated to the poet is now arranged in the house where he was born, which still contains its original painted decorations. The presence of many fine pieces of furniture makes it possible to imagine the life of a wealthy Tuscan family in the Romantic climate of the early decades of the



19th century, while the documentary exhibition route arranged on the second floor illustrates the life and work of Giuseppe Giusti himself.

A full-figure monument in white marble dedicated to the poet, the work of the Florentine sculptor Cesare Fantacchiotti, an exponent of the Tuscan Macchiaioli movement, stands in Piazza Giusti in the heart of the city.

How to get there:

by car, from the Pistoia motorway exit: keep to the left and take the Tangenziale Ovest (west bypass). Take the exit for Pistoia centre. Turn right in the direction of Montecatini Terme/Lucca; after about 10 km, at La Colonna, turn left into Via Francesca Nord for Monsummano Terme. Carry straight on and then turn right into Via Petrocchi. Follow the road as far as the traffic lights, then turn left into Via Mazzini. Keep to the left along this street and then turn left at the crossroads into Piazza Giusti. Turn left at the end of the square into Viale Martini.

Info and reception: National Giusti House Museum
Viale Martini, 18 - Monsummano Terme
tel. 0572 950960

Opening hours and prices: Nov-Apr: 8am-2pm and 3-6pm (closed on Tues) - May-Oct: 8am-2pm and 4-7pm (closed on Tues) - entrance free

Pinocchio, Collodi



The Adventures of Pinocchio were written by Carlo Lorenzini from 1881 onwards and published as a book in 1883. The author was particularly fond of the ancient and suggestive village of Collodi near Pescia, which inspired his masterpiece and his pen name, as it was where his mother came from.

A theme park dedicated to the adventures of Pinocchio was created at Collodi in honour of the father of the most famous puppet in the world. Here art and nature are blended together to create a unique setting thanks to a brilliant cooperation between some great artists and architects. The route inside the park extends over about a hectare of land and winds through some woods growing beside the river

Pescia. It gradually unfolds the story of the famous puppet with scenic reconstructions, mosaics, buildings and sculptures specifically carried out by famous contemporary artists, architects and landscape gardeners like **Emilio Greco, Venturino Venturi, Giovanni Michelucci, Pietro Porcinai, Pietro Consagra** and **Marco Zanuso**.

How to get there:

by car, from Monsummano Terme: carry straight on in the direction of Pescia/Montecatini Terme, passing two sets of traffic lights. At Montecatini Terme, take Viale Foscolo, carry straight on along Viale da Vinci and once past the racecourse, turn right into Viale Martiri/Sr435. Continue for about 8 km following the indications for Pescia. Go through Pescia following the indications for Collodi. At Ponte all'Abate, turn right to take the Provincial road of the Cartiere (Paper Mills) until you reach the car parks outside the park.

Info and reception: Park of Pinocchio
Via S. Gennaro, 3 - Collodi - tel. 0572 429342

Opening hours and prices: from 01/03 to 01/11: open daily 9am-sunset - from 01/01 to 28/02 and from 02/11 to 31/12: open on holidays, days preceding holidays and "long weekends" 9am-sunset
full tickets: € 11.00 - reduced tickets: € 8.00

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We also advise visits to:



Monsummano is linked to **Yves Montand**, one of the most famous personalities in the world of show business; his real name was Ivo Livi and he was born in this Tuscan city in 1921. A plaque placed on the façade of a private house marks the famous singer and actor's birthplace, while a small documentary

section is dedicated to him in the **Museum of the City and the Territory** (tel. 0572 954463). Moreover the ancient and recently restored civic theatre has also been called after Yves Montand in his memory.



Monsummano was also the birthplace of **Ferdinando Martini**, an important man of culture and an outstanding politician in the late 19th century. Renowned for his activity as a writer and jour-

nalist, he was the first to publish Pinocchio, the famous story by Carlo Lorenzini, commissioning it as a serial for his newspaper. Built in the eclectic taste of late 19th century Tuscany in 1887, his house at Monsummano, where he retired after the First World War, can still be visited and today hosts the Museum of Contemporary Art MAC,N (tel. 0572 952140).

Villa Anzilotti, previously Villa del Castellaccio (private structure, only visible from the exterior) is situated in the mediaeval village of **Uzzano Castello** and it was here that **Giacomo Puccini** stayed as a guest between June and October 1895 and wrote part of his great composition, La Bohème. Puccini, who is known for his great love of nature, also spent some time on writing an authoritative guidebook on the local fauna during his stay at Uzzano.

