

These descriptions propose a series of tourist-cultural itineraries in the territory of the Province of Pistoia that can be carried out independently and with a personal means of transport.

Each itinerary takes up roughly one day and they have all been designed to be detached from the main folder so that the tourist can use them separately during his stay.



The descriptions are divided into various subjects, each one of which is easily identified by its own **colour code**:

- ART**
- MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART**
- CRAFTS AND TRADITIONS**
- HISTORIC ORGANS**
- NATURE ITINERARIES**
- PERSONALITIES**
- SCIENCE AND TECHNIQUES**
- HISTORY OF THE TERRITORY**

Three different areas for each subject - Pistoia and the plain, the Nievole Valley and the Pistoia Mountain area - have been selected to make it easier for visitors to travel around the area and find out more about it.

The folder contains **three different indexes**: a **subject index** based on the subject and area to help people choose their route, an **analytic index** that permits a selection of all the single structures mentioned in the itineraries and, lastly, an **index divided up on a territorial basis**, where the individual structures are grouped together in the town borough of origin.

All the descriptions can also be consulted online at www.cultura.pistoia.it while the information regarding opening hours and prices will be up-dated

periodically.

All the itineraries come complete with a short *introduction on the structures* that can be visited and a detailed *information box* containing the relative addresses, opening hours and eventual ticket prices (data provided by the managing boards or relative press offices). A specific space has been dedicated to the *road directions* to help visitors reach the various destinations (on foot, by car and where possible with public transport).

In addition it includes a **“we also advise visits to”** section, which, although it may mean deviating from the main itineraries, contains further ideas for visiting structures that can offer a chance to find out more about each particular subject.

Conceived and carried out as part of the “Quality Museums” R.L. 89/80 by the Cultural Office of the Province of Pistoia, the editorial project has made a liberal selection of the sites according to several different standards, though aiming above all to promote all the territorial museum systems and the various resources that are connected to them. The proposals contained here certainly do not include all the attractions available on the territory, but it was also necessary to respect the geographical vicinity of the selected destinations in order to be able to organise them into practicable itineraries.

The published iconographic *corpus* has been approved by each of the subjects referred to; however, it has not always been possible, considering the vast amount of material found, to discover the authors of the photos. In the case of any involuntary omissions, the Province of Pistoia, as the publisher of the descriptions, is therefore at the disposal of anyone entitled to copyrights.

Our deepest thanks for their valuable help goes to all the directors and points of reference of the structures mentioned in the descriptions.



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