

MONTERIGGIONI

GATEWAY TO THE MIDDLE AGES

Enter and be guided along the routes of the pilgrims, travellers and markets on a voyage of discovery through the Tuscan landscape and its old historical towns.



How to get to Monteriggioni



BY CAR
Take the 'Monteriggioni' exit on the Florence-Siena motorway link.

BY BUS
Line 130 from Siena for Colle di Val d'Elsa-Poggibonsi-San Gimignano.

BY TRAIN
The closest station is 'Castellina in Chianti-Monteriggioni' (c. 3 km away).

Tourist Office

Piazza Roma, 23
53035 Monteriggioni (SI) - Italy
tel./fax +39 0577 304834
info@monteriggioniturismo.it

www.monteriggioniturismo.it



The Castle of Monteriggioni

Located in central Tuscany, the Castle of Monteriggioni was built by the Republic of Siena at the beginning of the 13th Century in order to defend its southern border against Florence.

The town walls date from that time. With their **impressive towers**, they feature in Dante's Divine Comedy [...] Because as on its circular parapets / *Monteregione* crowns itself with towers, / *Even thus the margin which surrounds the well / With one half of their bodies turreted / The horrible giants [...]* Inf., XXXI, 40-44).

The main sights inside the town are the **Church of Santa Maria Assunta** (13th Century), the battlements on the town walls and the small **'Monteriggioni in Arme' museum**, which uses models, panels and life-size armours that can even be tried on to offer amusing insight into the glorious military past of the town.

Every year in the month of July, the magic atmosphere of the Middle Ages comes alive in Monteriggioni in the form of an atmospheric Medieval Festival, by now one of the most eagerly awaited events of the Tuscan summer.

www.monteriggionimedievale.it

the Medieval Festival



the square the museum



The surrounding area

The townlands of Monteriggioni, with the walled town as their capital, cover an area of about 100 km² directly to the north of Siena, full of woods, hills, vineyards and olive groves, dotted here and there with often very ancient settlements.

There are many vestiges of the past, among which the **former Abbey of Abbadia Isola**, with its 12th Century church, the 13th century **Hermitage of San Leonardo al Lago** and the castles of **La Chiocciola** and **Castiglione Ghinibaldi** are worthy of note.

The townlands also take in the western slopes of the Montagnola Senese, a large area of unspoiled nature that has been declared a Site of Community Importance (SCI). The area is criss-crossed by a network of trails, including the **Via Francigena**, which can be travelled on foot, bicycle or on horse-back.

An ancient pilgrim route leading from Northern Europe to Rome, the **Via Francigena** passes by the Castle of Monteriggioni, which is also a stop-off on the present-day Ministry of Culture route between San Gimignano and Siena.

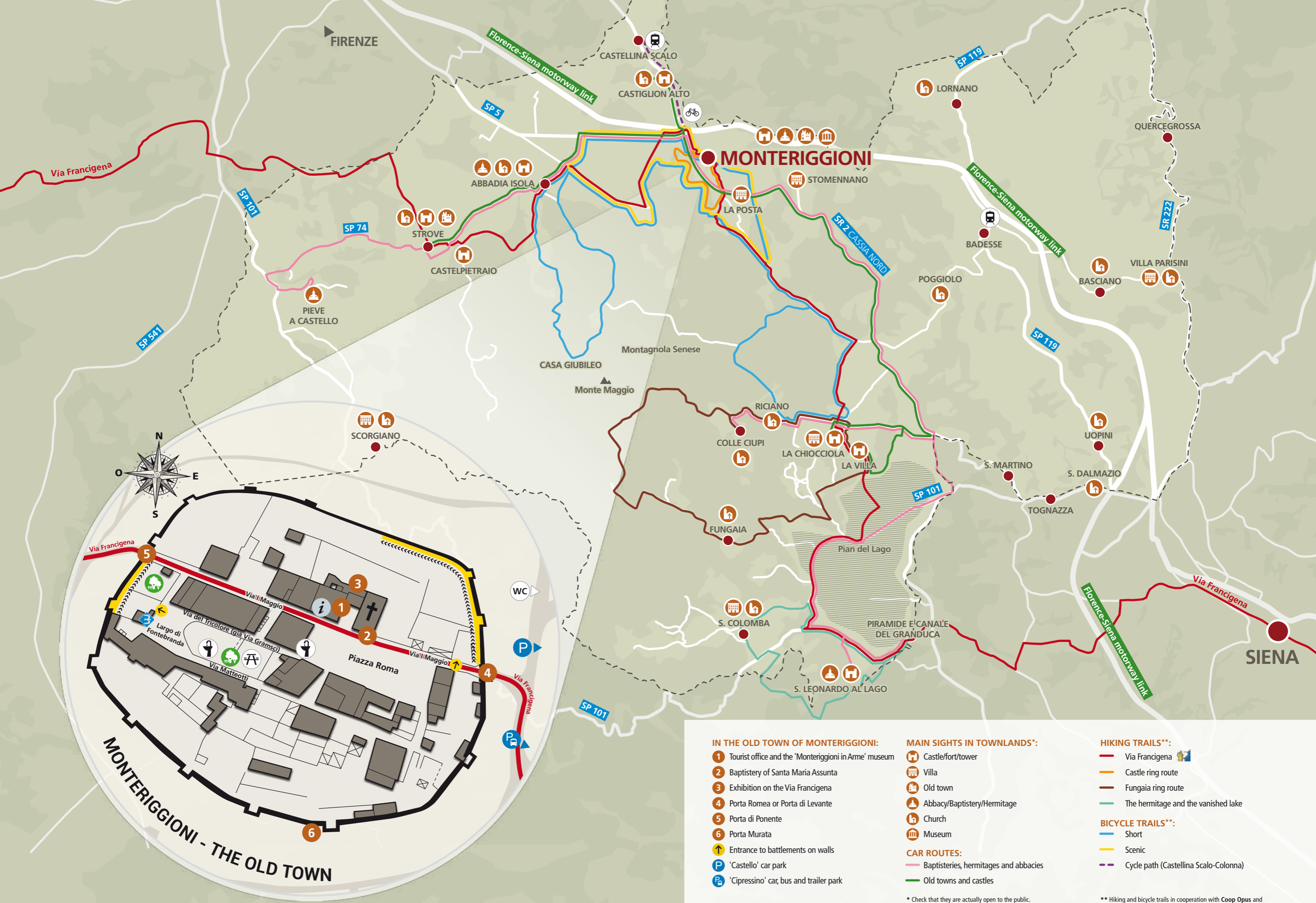
of San Leonardo al Lago and the castles of La Chiocciola and Castiglione



cycle trails

the Via Francigena

Abbadia Isola



FIRENZE

Via Francigena

Florence-Siena motorway link
SP 5

CASTELLINA SCALO
CASTIGLION ALTO

MONTERIGGIONI

SP 119

Florence-Siena motorway link

QUERCEGROSSA

SP 101

SP 74

ABBADIA ISOLA

STROVE

CASTELPIETRAIO

LA POSTA

STOMENNANO

SR 2 CASSIA NORD

BADESSE

SR 222

SP 541

PIEVE A CASTELLO

CASA GIUBILEO

Monte Maggio

Montagnola Senese

POGGIOLO

SP 119

BASCIANO

VILLA PARISINI



SCORGIANO

RICIANO

COLLE CIUPI

LA CHIOCCIOLA

LA VILLA

S. MARTINO

S. DALMAZIO

SP 101

TOGNAZZA

Via Francigena

5

Via del Tricolore (già Via Gramsci)

Piazza Roma

Via Matteotti

WC

P

P

P

SP 101

IN THE OLD TOWN OF MONTERIGGIONI:

- 1 Tourist office and the 'Monteriggioni in Arme' museum
- 2 Baptistery of Santa Maria Assunta
- 3 Exhibition on the Via Francigena
- 4 Porta Romea or Porta di Levante
- 5 Porta di Ponente
- 6 Porta Murata
- ↑ Entrance to battlements on walls
- P 'Castello' car park
- P 'Cipressino' car, bus and trailer park

MAIN SIGHTS IN TOWNLANDS*:

- Castle/fort/tower
- Villa
- Old town
- Abbacy/Baptistery/Hermitage
- Church
- Museum

CAR ROUTES:

- Baptisteries, hermitages and abbeys
- Old towns and castles

HIKING TRAILS:**

- Via Francigena
- Castle ring route
- Fungaia ring route
- The hermitage and the vanished lake

BICYCLE TRAILS:**

- Short
- Scenic
- Cycle path (Castellina Scalo-Colonna)

* Check that they are actually open to the public.

** Hiking and bicycle trails in cooperation with Coop Opus and Team Bike Pionieri.

MONTERIGGIONI - THE OLD TOWN