

Lucignano

Lucignano of Etruscan-Roman origins, charming town poised gracefully and quietly amongst some of the gentles Aretine hills at 410 m. above sea level. Its original, elliptical architecture is surprising, a very rare example of medieval construction. Famous is its "Tree of Gold" a 2,6 M. high reliquary in the form of a tree with 12 branches complete with glazed miniatures of great beauty, kept in the Lucignano museum together with works by Luca Signorelli, Bartolo di Fredi and other and other noteworthy artists, Of great interest is the church of S. Francesco with its harmonious romanesque facade built of alternate courses of grey stone and travertine. Inside are the pictorial riches of 14 th and 15 th cent. Sienese art (Luca Tomme', Bartolo di Fredi, Taddeo di Bartolo etc. ...). At the top of the hill, the Collegiate Church possesses an imposing baroque altar as well as many valuable paintings which decorate its twelve altars. Near the town is the Sanctuary of Maria della Querce (Mary of the Oaks), a veritable jewel of renaissance architecture by Giorgio Vasari.

