

How to reach us

Only fifty kilometres away from the sea, minutes away from the highway that links Livorno to Pisa and Florence, and half an hour away from Pisa and Florence International Airports

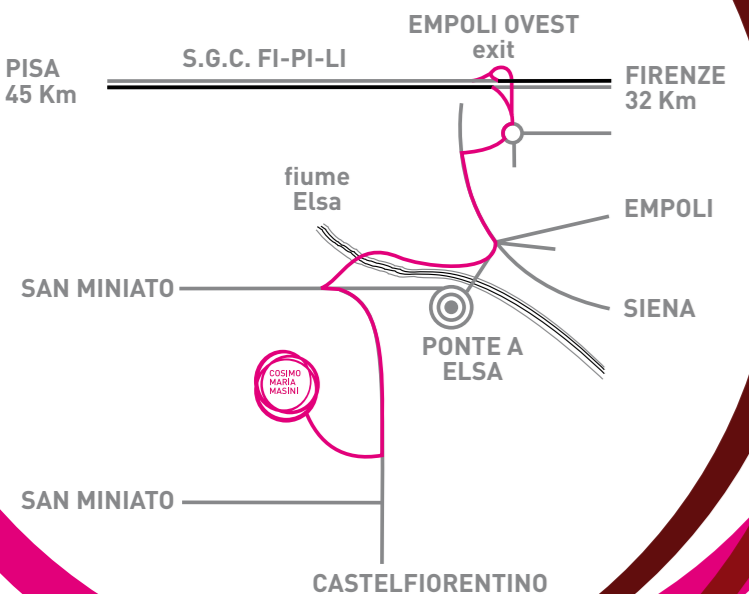


Table Culture

Tuscany, the land of beauty, is for many people the archetype of life lived to the fullest, of local colours. This is true now and will be so in the future if we know to be on a par with our best traditions, preserving them, and updating them but always keeping the best from the past.

Wine, oil, and bread have always been the cornerstones of our traditions at the table, simple dishes, preparations that take time to brew, seasoned with Mediterranean herbs and vegetables, legumes and fruits, cheeses, poultry, caring for aromas, colours, a harmonic symphony of flavours. But rural tables also saw the echoes of the nobles' rich feasts, aromatic cakes with honey, almonds, and spices. After Catherine de Medici married Henry II of France, she took several emblematic dishes with her- pancakes and sorbets, duck in orange sauce and cold game meat- and so the great French cuisine got its roots in Tuscany.

We believe that the oenology and gastronomy culture is a direct and appealing way to discover some places and remember them forever. So, we prepare simple, tasteful dishes, with carefully chosen ingredients, with the same love and passion we put into preparing meals for our families.

The inquiring minds, those with a sweet tooth, tourists who would like to have a first-hand experience cooking traditional dishes, all of them have their place with us. Aided by expert cooks, they can use 100% fresh season ingredients to prepare our much-cherished local dishes. When autumn colours the vineyard, the truffle appears on the table, with its very intensive and unique taste.



NOW - Tasting and selling wine, oil and local products

NOW is the location at Cosimo Maria Masini where it is possible to taste and buy our wine and olive oil.

NOW also offers the possibility of buying the best gastronomic products of San Miniato's territory, to be tasted together with Cosimo Maria Masini wines, in our beautiful location.

We suggest:

- Visit to the cellar. Tasting of bio-dynamic wines and local products
- Tour to discover the extra virgin olive oil
- **NOW**, not only wine, sales of oil, wine and local products
- Workshop on bio-dynamic vinification
- Workshop on traditional cuisine
- Workshop on Introduction to Winemaking
- Lunch and supper, with local products
- Hunting for truffles and tasting truffle food
- Medieval excursions: visit to San Miniato with tours related to Dante and Napoleon
- Nordic Walking amid olive trees
- Walks along vineyards accompanied by experts in botany
- "Orienteering" – learn how to find your way through the local vineyards using maps

For us, each visitor is a gladly welcomed guest, and therefore, we offer customised suggestions.



The Francigena Route Medieval Walks

The History of Europe and Italy has passed by San Miniato and by Villa La Selva, where the Cosimo Maria Masini wine production and estate is located. Numerous simple people, due to their faith or their desire of adventure, have passed throughout time along the areas crossed by the Francigena route, a network of paths and main roads open by wayfarers, between Rome and Canterbury. The Francigena route is more than a simple road. It represents the essence of mysticism, travel and knowledge, together with other pilgrimage itinerary, such as the Santiago route towards Santiago de Compostela and the Overseas journey towards Jerusalem and the Holy Land.

Nowaday the old Francigena Route, opened by the Archbishop of Canterbury in the year 990 a.d., has finally returned to a renewed attention. The Francigena route cuts across Tuscany, San Miniato and across our land and it represents a fascinating destination for a slow and knowledgeable type of tourism.

Nearby Villa La Selva, at the hills' foot, and from the church of San Genesio – founded by the Lombards and most probably the first nucleus of the future San Miniato – is issued a stretch of the path which heads towards San Miniato, followed once upon a time by the pilgrims; a path of unmistakable beauty.

At the Cosimo Maria Masini estate we will be very happy to welcome you and give you important information to trace and travel together along one of the most important routes of the past.



Hosts to history.
Wines, flavours and tours in true Tuscany.



Our estate in the history of Tuscany

Cosimo Maria Masini estate sits in the heart of Tuscany. It offers sites of artistic and historical appeal, and top-quality gastronomy tours, immersed in memories of the past and surrounded by stirring landscapes, preserved as traditions are duly respected

The estate, Villa "La Selva", belonged to the Buonaparte family, is not far from San Miniato, village chosen as imperial seat by Frederick II of Swabia, intersection of pilgrimage routes, on the Via Francigena, place of monasteries, among Pisa, Florence and Siena.

Banished from Florence in 1268, as they were Ghibellini, the Buonaparte found refuge in the region of San Miniato. Here they were able to restore their economic power and acquired several estates; one of them was 'La Selva'. In the 18th century the estate started its production, with plantations of olive trees, and houses for workers were built.

The farm was enlarged in the same century; a small chapel and the Villa were also built. The distinctive features of the Villa are its elegant building, with its colour richness. The future Emperor, Napoleon Bonaparte, arrived in San Miniato, on the trails of his own ancestors, made a stopover here, at "La Selva".

The estate was afterward owned by the Ridolfi marquesses; they promoted an important agricole reform and built the wine cellar, with horizontal, beige and rape red bands. Cosimo Ridolfi designed the conventional garden that exploits the views and landscapes of the area, with elaborately distributed and staged rest areas, panoramic viewpoints and arbours.



Bio-dynamic production. A choice guided by love

Natural wines and oils are produced at Cosimo Maria Masini estate following the bio-dynamic approach to agriculture. This is a choice of love for our land. The beauty and the greatness of these places are the spirit we try to keep in our wines, by fully protecting the balance of nature.

No chemicals products are used in our cultivation processes, and bunches are hand-harvested. Our work goes on in the cellar, where vinification can be controlled by applying a few mechanical methods, but without adding adjuvants.

Fully embracing traditional methods, we have chosen bio-dynamics, so as to extract authentic flavours, intense and true aromas that stay in the heart. We hope we can manage to make the people know this marvellous nook of Tuscany through its wines and oils.



Hidden treasures

The beauty of this place where we have chosen to live is undoubted, as plenty is its produce; San Miniato bountiful land is famous for its white truffles.

We would like to share these magical colours and flavours, and so we offer anyone who wishes the chance to stay with us - cook and taste local products, chosen guided by love and prepared by skilful hands; walk along vineyards and olive grooves, see Tuscany through fresh eyes, caring for details, for authentic flavours, for hidden treasures.

We believe we have a lot to offer to all those who wish to know more about the wine-making process, those who want to search in local history and culture. With great pleasure we welcome anybody who comes to visit us, for a tour around the cellar, to taste wines, for a workshop or a guided tour to adjacent art places.



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