

## Cycling: Ride the Hills to Vinci – Day of Adventure

**Overview:** A challenging bike ride to the birthplace of the quintessential Renaissance man: Leonardo da Vinci.

**Difficulty:** Vigorous: Level 4 on a scale of 1-5; 84 km with 1250 meters of elevation gain (approx. 5 hours of bicycling)



**Included:** Bicycle rental (choice of [titanium road touring bike](#), [titanium hybrid](#), [tandem or e-bike](#)), equipped with helmet, rear rack pack, cyclometer, and repair kit, cycling water bottle, at least one bicycle tour leader, support vehicle with water and snacks, helmet, gourmet lunch.

**Excludes:** entrance to sites (including Vinci museum), but you should have time for entering if interested, personal souvenirs or expenses

**Day Description:** Meet at 8 am to fit your bicycle and have a brief safety talk. We'll then pedal on some easy flat roads to warm up on our way to Vinci before a gentle climb takes us to the birth-house of one Italy's most famous artists and all around geniuses, Leonardo da Vinci. Born in 1452 in this small hamlet outside Vinci, in many aspects he was way ahead of his time, designing military machines including helicopters and tanks, as well as engineering feats and of course, painting. He is also said to have designed the first bicycle, although ongoing debates suggest it might have been one of his students who inserted that drawing into his notebooks. Our ride continues along the ridges of Monte Albano to the small town of San Baronto. The 15 km climb from the town of Vinci rewards us with amazing views of the scenic countryside. Return to Vinci in time for a late lunch, and choose whether to visit the interesting museum with scale models of several of his inventions (few of which were ever built in his time) before returning to Montecatini later this afternoon by bike.

**Distance:** 84 km with 1250 meters (4,101') of elevation gain (approx. 5 hours of bicycling)

**Meals:** L

**Number of Participants:** 4-22

[Map](#)

**Packing List:**

- Comfortable clothes (shorts/tights and top) for cycling
- Wind jacket/rain jacket in case of inclement weather
- Stiff-soled shoes for cycling