

LUCCA

Lucca is in **Tuscany**, northern central **Italy**, situated on the river Serchio in a fertile plain near (but not on) the Ligurian Sea. It is the capital city of the Province of Lucca. Among other reasons, it is famous for its intact Renaissance-era city walls (although the city has expanded beyond the wall's boundaries).

The walls around the old town remained intact as the city expanded and modernized, unusual for cities in the region. As the walls lost their military importance, they became a pedestrian promenade which encircled the old town, although they were used for a number of years in the 20th century for racing cars. They are still fully intact today; each of the four principal sides is lined with a different tree species.



The Basilica of San Frediano is a Romanesque church in Lucca situated on the **Piazza San Frediano**. The church acquired its present appearance of a typical Roman basilica during the period 1112-1147. In the 13th-14th centuries the striking facade was decorated with a huge golden 13th century mosaic representing The Ascension of Christ the Saviour with the apostles below. Berlinghiero Berlinghieri designed it in a Byzantine/medieval style. Several chapels of the nobility were added in the 14th-16th centuries. These are lavishly decorated with paintings. Inside, the basilica is built in richly carved white marble.



The Cathedral of St Martin (Italian Duomo) is a church in **Lucca**. It was begun in 1063 by Bishop Anselm. Of this structure, the great apse with its tall columnar arcades and the fine campanile remain. The nave and transepts having been rebuilt in the Gothic style in the 14th century, while the west front was begun in 1204 by "Guidetto" (Guido Bigarelli of Como), and consists of a vast portico of three magnificent arches, and above them three ranges of open galleries enriched with sculpture.

Palazzo Pfanner is a palace and garden in **Lucca**, now converted into a museum of art and artifacts. The palazzo dates to 1667, and is notable mainly for its fine garden, attributed to Filippo Juvarra (1678-1736), and an interesting external stairway with loggia. Its principal salon contains frescoes by Scorsini and De Santi (early to mid 1700s), as well as a collection of surgical instruments gathered by Dr. Pietro Pfanner (1864-1935).



San Michele in Foro is a Roman Catholic basilica church in **Lucca**. It was built over the former Roman forum. Until 1370 it was the seat of the Consiglio Maggiore (Major Council), the commune's most important assembly. It is dedicated to Archangel Michael.

Villa Garzoni (or Villa Collodi). It was built in 1652 by the Garzoni family, on the site of the old castle at Collodi (Pescia). The building stands on the edge of a cliff, and is notable for its giochi d'aqua, or water garden, constructed around a series of balustraded terraces and a staircase connecting the lower gardens at the base of the hill, with the house.

INFORMATION

APT Lucca

Piazza Guidiccioni 2

55100 Lucca

Tel +39.0583919920

Fax +39.0583490766