



Montepulciano

The pearl of the sixteenth century

With ancient Etruscan and Roman origins – legend says that it was founded by the king Porsenna – Montepulciano is an elegant and charming village nestled in the rolling Tuscan hills overlooking the Val di Chiana and Val d'Orcia.

In this ancient village, you can breathe in history, art and culture, but also enjoy nature and delight in a good glass of **Vino Nobile di Montepulciano DOCG**.

Between the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, the village was at the centre of a great cultural and artistic fervour that saw not only the presence of important humanists such as the poet **Agnolo Ambrogini, known as Poliziano**, but also the construction of Renaissance palaces and splendid churches and residences by illustrious architects such as Antonio da Sangallo, Jacopo Barozzi and Baldassarre Peruzzi.

The streets of the historic centre are lined with imposing Renaissance palaces, artisan workshops and splendid churches, leading to the heart of Montepulciano, **Piazza Grande**, the central square overlooked by some of the town's most interesting and architecturally significant buildings, such as the Duomo,

the Town Hall and the noble palaces of the Contucci, Nobili-Tarugi and Capitano families.

A tour of Montepulciano's attractions would not be complete without a visit to the **temple of Madonna di San Biagio**, considered an important example of Renaissance architecture, so much so that Michelangelo drew inspiration from it for the construction of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

Famous for its ancient traditions, Montepulciano renews its folklore every year with cultural events and shows, such as Il Cantiere Internazionale d'Arte, Bruscello, Live Rock Festival and **Bravio delle botti**, a competition between districts that takes place in the streets of the town.