

8th June

Leisure Activities

Casentino valley, the soul of Tuscany

•••• The Castle and the “Pieve di Romena”, testimonies of history and medieval art in Casentino.



The **Castle of Romena** offers a prestigious testimony of the Middle Age in Tuscany. The origins of the castle seem to go up again to the half of the X century. Today, after many wars and the 1579 earthquake only a few of what the castle was in medieval epoch remains, but it still preserve the charm of old glorious times.

Curiosity: In the 1281 at the castle lived Mastro Adamo From Brescia that falsified gold florins of the Republic of Florence. **Dante Alighieri**, that lived in the castle for some time, reported the episode of Mastro Adamo in the Divine Comedy.

The **church of San Pietro** in Romena is a **Romanesque architectural jewel** and it is probably the most important church of the Casentino.

*“O ye, who without any torment are,
And why I know not, in the world of woe,”
He said to us, “behold, and be attentive*

*Unto the misery of Master Adam;
I had while living much of what I wished,
And now, alas! a drop of water crave.*

*The rivulets, that from the verdant hills
Of Casentino descend down into Arno,
Making their channels to be cold and moist,*

*Ever before me stand, and not in vain;
For far more doth their image dry me up
Than the disease which strips my face of flesh.*

*The rigid justice that chastises me
Draweth occasion from the place in which
I sinned, to put the more my sighs in flight.*

*There is Romena, where I counterfeited
The currency imprinted with the Baptist,
For which I left my body burned above.*

Divine Comedy - Canto XXX Inferno



•••• The Monastery of Camaldoli in the National Park of Casentino Forests.



The village of Camaldoli, located within the **National Park of Casentino Forests**, rised up in the early eleventh century, around the monastery founded by St. Romualdo to host some monks belonging to the Benedictine order. Just a few years after the founding of the monastery, the Saint ordered to build near the place the hermitage of Camaldoli.

Around the Hermitage of Camaldoli develops the **Biogenetic Reserve** where has survived the local fauna, consisting of deers, fallow deers, roe deers and wild boars, as well as their natural predators, wolves.

Program:

- 9:00 a.m. Pick up from your accomodation;
- 9:30 a.m. The Castle and the “Pieve di Romena”;
- 11:00 a.m. The Monastery of Camaldoli in the Natural Park of the Foreste Casentinesi;
- 1:30 p.m. Lunch time with typical Italian products (NOT included in the price);
- Around 3:00 p.m. Return to your accomodation.

Details

This tour will be activated if the minimum number of participants is reached