

Sculpture in Vico Pancellorum

High above the Lima river at nearly 600 meters, 15 km distant from Bagni di Lucca, is Vico Pancellorum, one of the many little villages that dot the hills surrounding this valley. In Vico today there are only about a hundred inhabitants, and yet there are two medieval churches.

In the 1200s Vico Pancellorum belonged to the Lupari family, until it was conquered by the *condottiero* Castruccio Castracani degli Antelminelli. Over the centuries, Vico was ruled by Romans, Longobards, Lucchesi, and even by Pistoia (a scenic road will take you from Pistoia to Vico in less than an hour). In 1437, Vico was destroyed by the Sforza family, then rebuilt. By the late 1800s the village was practically abandoned.

A curiosity about Vico is that in years past the local tinsmiths created their own language, called Arivaresca.

Each year the village comes to life with outdoor sculptures made by eminent artists. From 1 July (opening with refreshments at 11 am in the main square) until 9 September this year, #TRAMEPERVICO will present artworks by 40 sculptors.

Worth a trip, also for the fresh country air and beautiful vistas!



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