

Stunning ARGENTARIO

TRAVEL GUIDE
2hrs

TUSCANY HAS THE COURSES TO COMPLEMENT ITS BEAUTIFUL HOTSPOTS

Matteo Manassero is one of golf's most promising young stars, having tasted success on the European Tour no less than four times by the age of 20. The hugely popular Italian has done his bit in terms of putting Italian golf on the map. It is not uncommon now to see the Italian flag flying at golf tournaments around the world. Manassero is very much responsible for that.

Bringing Italian golf to the fore has helped many Italian courses stake their claim on the European

Local details

Time difference
GMT +1

Local language
Italian

Currency
Euro

High season
April-October
(20°C – 30°C)

Bookings & enquiries
Argentario Resort Golf and Spa

stage, none more so than the Argentario Resort Golf and Spa. Set in Tuscany, this is one resort that has impressed a vast corner of the golf community – and it's easy to see why.

Tuscany, after all, is surely one of Italy's most beautiful and talked about hotspots. In the cities of Florence, Siena and Lucca there are architectural masterpieces in almost every nook and cranny and thousands come from all over the world every year to witness it for themselves – now it is the turn of golfers to visit the region.

Argentario is home to a

stunning, panoramic 18-hole championship course and a top-of-the-range golf academy, all overlooking Orbetello Lagoon (a mouth-watering nature reserve) and the Mediterranean greenery up to the Tyrrhenian Sea.

The course, which was designed by Italian golfer Baldovino Dassù, has its own microclimate, meaning golf is possible all year round. A number of the holes were subsequently shaped and touched up by Brian Jorgensen, the result being a "varied, spectacular and technically challenging"

layout.

Playing this course, though, requires both power and precision with the reward of exceptionally beautiful greens awaiting you at the end of each hole. Jose Maria Olazabal and the aforementioned Manassero have been known to practice here, and have heaped praise on the quality of the course.

Just last year, a notable European golf website listed Argentario inside the top ten of Europe's Most Popular Golf Courses 2012, after asking participants in the survey to list their favourite three layouts.

The course is noted for its small greens, two of which dominate the sea and the lagoon, with one immersed in the Mediterranean vegetation and another with water hazards running alongside the greenside.

It has a link to Scotland, too, albeit a slightly tenuous one. The big-hitting Emanuele Canonica, winner of the Johnnie Walker Championship in Scotland in 2005, teaches in the academy and is available for lessons, alongside fellow instructor Jamie Harris, who hails from Australia. Using the latest teaching technologies, Canonica and his team put their experience at the disposal of those who want to improve their game. Who could resist a golf holiday where you have some fun in an exquisite environment

and improve your golf at the same time?

Also available within the academy is the opportunity to test the latest golf equipment and customise your clubs, completing the full golfing experience that is on offer.

Outside of golf, Argentario Resort also has a spa, with the opportunity to get a relaxing treatment or simply use one of the range of other facilities. These include a heated indoor swimming pool, an outdoor pool, a fitness centre and areas for outdoor activities, such as tennis, jogging and football.

Tuscany is certainly one of the most beautiful parts of Europe to explore. With Argentario Resort Golf and Spa as your base for your trip, one thing is for sure; you will not be short of things to see and do.

Beautiful:
Argentario Golf Club, below and top right
Luxury:
Argentario Resort Golf and Spa room, middle right
Relaxing:
Argentario Golf and Spa indoor pool, bottom right

