



## Villages Sheet

Name Village	MONTEPULCIANO
Province	SIENA
Tourist information	Tourist Information and Reception Office Piazza Don Minzoni, 1 Montepulciano tel. +39 0578 757341 <a href="mailto:info@prolocomontepulciano.it">info@prolocomontepulciano.it</a> <a href="mailto:turismo@comune.montepulciano.si.it">turismo@comune.montepulciano.si.it</a>

**TESTED AND REVIEWED BY:** [Handy Superabile Social Promotion Association](#) in summer 2024

**Please note** The following information refers to the date of verification shown at the bottom of each sheet. **The Association** is not responsible for any significant changes made by the property after the visit.

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## Description

Montepulciano is a town of 13,883 inhabitants in the province of Siena, located 605 meters above sea level, straddling the Val di Chiana and the Val d'Orcia. It is one of the most beautiful tourist resorts in Tuscany, known mainly for the grandeur of its Renaissance palaces, the beauty of its churches and the famous *Vino Nobile di Montepulciano*. The town is located high up on a hill overlooking the Tuscan countryside, south of vineyards and olive groves and is characterized by an S-shaped medieval village surrounded by walls and fortifications designed by Antonio da Sangallo the Elder in 1500 by order of Cosimo I. The main artery of Montepulciano, called "Corso", crosses the whole city from Porta al Prato to the Church of Santa Maria dei Servi and takes, in the various sections, different names: Via di Gracciano, Via di Voltaia, Via dell'Opio, Via del Poliziano. The monumental heart of the historic center is the Piazza Grande.

## How to reach Montepulciano

By car	Montepulciano can be reached via the A1 Firenze - Roma motorway For those coming from the South, exit at Chiusi - Chianciano Terme and then continue along the state road 146, for about 20 km; For those coming from the North, exit at Bettolle-Valdichiana and then continue along the state road 326, for about 20 km; For those coming from Siena and Perugia, take the Siena - Bettolle - Perugia motorway junction.
By plane	Pisa Airport (215 km), Florence (95 km) and Perugia (80 km)
Assistance service for people with disabilities	YES
Embarkation/disembarkation of passengers with reduced mobility	with courtesy chair and ambulift/finger





Tactile paths for the blind and visually impaired	YES
There is a toilet room accessible with grab handles	yes
Eventual notes	The airports of Florence and Pisa are equipped with a lift or finger lift and dedicated assistance service for disabled guests.
By train	Chiusi station.
Assistance service for people with disabilities	On request
Blue Hall Reference	Location Florence
Carriage access	with forklift/ramp
There is a toilet room in the station accessible with grab handles	YES
By bus	It is advisable to visit the Autolinee Toscane website at: <a href="https://www.at-bus.it/it/">https://www.at-bus.it/it/</a> .

## Arrival at the village

### Private/public parking


Presence of private parking	NO
Public parking nearby	YES
Type of flooring in the public car park	The pavement in Piazza Grande is made up of uneven and irregular tiles on the sides, while in the central area we find decidedly more regular tiles that are quite passable even by a person in a wheelchair.
Presence of parking space reserved for people with disabilities	YES number 1 in Piazza Grande





For people with disabilities who are in possession of the special permit, they can also arrive with their own car, parking on the right side of the cathedral in the parking space reserved for the disabled (see side photo).


**Pathway from the parking to the entrance of the itinerary**

Distance from parking to entrance	1 meter
There are indicators and tactile maps	NO
	





## Itinerary description

Route length 1	About 500 meters
Along the itinerary there are maps and tactile signs for the blind	NO
Along the route there are information panels with QR CODE	YES
Description of the itinerary indicating if there are sections with a significant slope or the presence of steps	We will visit Piazza Grande with its imposing monumental palaces and the Cathedral. From the square you walk along Via del Teatro to pay a visit to the Contucci Cellars. Returning to Piazza Grande, walk along Via San Donato to arrive at Palazzo Bellarmino. We then return to Piazza Grande to continue towards Via Ricci until we reach the Civic Museum and Palazzo Ricci. From here we return to Piazza Grande passing through Via Talosa where we will stop to visit the courtyard of the Meublè il Riccio
	<p>1/2 P.za Grande e Cattedrale</p> <p>3/4 Palazzo Comunale, Palazzo del Capitano</p> <p>5 Pozzo de' Grifi e de' Leoni,</p> <p>6 Palazzo de' Nobili (Tarugi)</p> <p>7/8 Palazzo Contucci, Cantine Contucci</p> <p>9/10 Palazzo Bellarmino, Logge delle Mercanzie</p> <p>11/12 Palazzo Ricci, Museo Civico</p> <p>13/14 Cantine del Redi, Meublè il Riccio</p>





Piazza Grande is the monumental center of Montepulciano and one of the most beautiful squares in the smaller towns of Tuscany. The square took on its final appearance at the end of the seventeenth century, with the complete construction of the Cathedral; it is bordered by important historical buildings: the Cathedral, the Town Hall, the Palazzo del Capitano, the Palazzo Tarugi, and the Palazzo Contucci.



The Cathedral of Montepulciano is a majestic building designed by Ippolito Scalza, a native of Orvieto, between 1586 and 1680, to celebrate the designation of Montepulciano as a bishopric. It was built on a pre-existing Medieval Parish Church (Pieve di S. Maria), fifteenth century, of which the bell tower (unfinished) is still visible. Even the brick façade was never completed



The cathedral is accessible via a staircase with 3 steps ( $h= 18+18+8$  cm), which can be overcome by a ramp 100 cm wide and about 5 m long with a slope of about 9%





The interior consists of three naves divided by arches resting on pillars. On the sides there are chapels.

The Cathedral houses some masterpieces inside: the Assumption of the Virgin triptych painted by Taddeo di Bartolo in 1401, and near the altar (two statues and the frieze with angels), the Madonna del Pilastro by Sano di Pietro (15th century), and the polychrome terracotta altar by Andrea della Robbia (1521) behind a baptismal font of the 14th century.



The Town Hall with its beautiful central tower was built in the late 14th and early 15th centuries and is reminiscent of the Palazzo Vecchio in Florence. It is a simple building covered in travertine and in Florentine taste.



The entrance door with a wide opening has two steps of 10 and 20 cm





	<p>For wheelchair users, it is advisable to follow the secondary path on the right side of the building and which leads after about 20 meters to an outdoor courtyard where there is a double ramp.</p>
	<p>The first ramp is 90 cm long while the second ramp is 260 cm long and is equipped with a handrail on the left (h = 80 cm). Both have a slope of about 9-10%. The access gate to the courtyard of the Municipality is 100 cm wide. The flooring is smooth and regular.</p>
	<p>After the arch we find ourselves in a beautiful medieval courtyard</p>





	<p>medieval courtyard with a travertine well and two beautiful arched loggias. The loggia on the entrance corridor consists of three arches.</p>
<p>Through the elevator you go up to the upper floors where we find the municipal offices and the path to reach the top of the clock tower where you can admire at 360 °, on bright and clear days, the entire city and the countryside with a breathtaking view.</p>	
	<p>The lift has a sliding door with a useful width of 90 cm and a car with a depth of 140 cm and a width of 100 cm. The internal push-button panel has Braille and embossed keys. A support handle is missing.</p>





To reach the top of the Tower you have to overcome a steep and narrow staircase with several steps and uneven pavement.



The Palazzo del Capitano e del Popolo has uncertain origins but which would seem to date back to at least 1200. The building is elegantly covered in travertine. For some, the name is supposed to recall the "Captain of the People", a magistrate figure of the late medieval period, but for others it could also refer to the memory of the "Captain of Justice", judge of the city, who was sent from Florence at least from the fifteenth century. In the second half of the eighteenth century the Palace was the subject of considerable renovation works that led to the demolition of a very wide travertine staircase that led to the first floor and a high tower; the Gothic structure is more evident in the part overlooking Via Ricci.





To reach the entrance of the Palazzo del Capitano you have to cross a stretch of about 15 meters consisting of irregular pavement with shaped and uneven tiles (people in manual wheelchairs are advised to have the help of a companion). At the entrance, the door has a large opening with a step.



Step height 2 – 2.5 cm

In the Palazzo del Capitano on the ground floor there is the Enoteca del Consorzio del Vino Nobile di Montepulciano.





On the first floor, on the other hand, there are some municipal offices and the association of producers of the Vino Nobile Consortium, as well as a large space used as a conference room. To reach the first floor, where the offices and the accessible bathroom are located, you have to overcome a long ramp: 210 cm with a slope of about 10%. and an elevator.



Lift with 87 cm wide entrance door and cabin with depth 134 cm and width. 93 cm



The toilet is equipped with a reclining handle on one side (H=80 cm) and a flexible hand shower on the other side  
MEASUREMENTS OF THE ROOM 185 X 158 cm, with a large door equipped with a panic bar





In front of the Palazzo del Capitano, next to Palazzo Tarugi you can admire the Pozzo de' Grifi e de' Leoni attributed to Antonio da Sangallo the Elder (1520). In the center of the architrave of the well is the coat of arms of the Medici, with six balls on the front and the lily of Florence on the back, supported by two lions. On the extreme sides there are two Florentine Poliziani griffins.



In front of the Cathedral you can admire the austere Palazzo Nobile (today Palazzo Tarugi), built for the Nobile family and attributed to Antonio da Sangallo the Elder (early 16th century). The square in front of the Palace is paved partly with regular tiles and partly with uneven cobblestones that can be easily navigated by a person in a manual wheelchair.



The Palazzo Del Monte (now Palazzo Contucci) is located in front of the Town Hall. Construction began in 1519 by Antonio da Sangallo the Elder on the orders of the Cardinal of Santa Prassede, Antonio Ciocchi Del Monte, who was Pope with the name of Julius III. At the time, several buildings were demolished to make way for the Palace, defined by Vasari as "well finished and built with great elegance". The part executed by Sangallo, in travertine, stops immediately above the windows on the first floor, while the upper part in brick seems to be attributed to Baldassarre Peruzzi.





To reach Palazzo Contucci from Piazza Grande you will have to walk a first stretch paved with regular red tiles and a last stretch in irregular cobblestones that can be traveled with difficulty by a person in a wheelchair (the help of a companion is recommended) At the entrance there is a staircase with three steps (h = 8 X 3 cm) while on the door there is a threshold 30 cm wide and 15 cm high.



The ownership of Palazzo Contucci passed from the Medici house to the Contucci family, whose origins seem to date back to around the year 1000 and already in 1300 they were among the most noble families in the city of Montepulciano. Today it is home to the charming wine shop, managed by the Contucci family for over a century. Inside it preserves a cycle of frescoes. To access the room where the wine shop with store is located, you have to overcome a 20 cm high step. and 100 cm wide access gate. The flooring is in regular terracotta.





On the right side of Palazzo Contucci, entering Via del Teatro, walk for about 20 meters until you reach the Contucci Cellars owned by the family of the same name. From the Piazza Grande, to reach the Contucci Cellars, you have to walk for about 25 meters along a steep downhill stretch with wrinkled stones.



At the entrance to the Contucci Cellars there is a 16 cm high step that can be overcome by an iron connecting ramp, 77 cm long, 76 cm wide and with a slope of about 20% positioned by the staff at the time of need (guests in wheelchairs are advised to have the help of a companion). The internal flooring along the corridors is in smooth terracotta that can be easily walked on by a guest in a wheelchair.





	<p>The large room of the Contucci Cellars is accessible on the floor while the tasting room, near the entrance, is accessible only by three steps.</p>
	<p>Returning to Piazza Grande, towards the Palazzo Comunale, turning left, along Via San Donato, after about 30 meters, we find, on the right, the Palazzo Bellarmino, a historic residence that dates back to the (sixteenth century). Cardinal Roberto Bellarmino - Saint and Doctor of the Church - the most important Italian theologian of his time - was born here in 1542. Inside you can admire a beautiful courtyard. At the entrance of the Bellarmine Palace there is a small step</p>





Inner courtyard



Returning to Piazza Grande towards the Palazzo del Capitano, take Via Ricci on the left side where, on the right side, a few meters from Piazza Grande we find at no. 2 Le Logge delle Mercanzie, an exhibition center that houses a series of works of art. At the entrance to the Logge delle Mercanzie there is a 15 cm high step threshold



After the step a flight about 350 cm long





Continuing along Via Ricci, at no. 11, we find Palazzo Ricci, built between 1536 and 1562, commissioned by Giovanni Ricci to Baldassarre Peruzzi, the future cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church. Inside there is a courtyard with a fine porch and a beautiful loggia.

The portal of Palazzo Ricci is connected to the street by a ramp with uneven steps about 10/15 cm high and with a step at the entrance.

The building located at no. 10 Via Ricci represents a rare Gothic example of 14th century civil architecture in the Sienese style, with a three-storey brick façade. The building has housed the Civic Museum of Montepulciano since 1954. (Palazzo Neri). Inside we can admire the vast collection of masterpieces by the Della Robbia family in ceramics, illuminated choirs of San Agostino, archaeological finds, and a large exhibition of Tuscan paintings.



At the entrance to the Civic Museum there is a portal with a wide opening and threshold. However, the museum has two connecting ramps, made of iron, to be positioned on the external and internal side, on the side of the threshold. Inside, the flooring is in slightly wrinkled tiles but easily accessible by a person in a wheelchair.







Beyond the entrance threshold of the Museum, you enter through a large glass door with a horizontal push handle. The ticketing/reception desk is lowered and about 90 cm high.



All four floors of the Museum can also be visited by wheelchair guests via ramps and with an elevator with a door 75 cm wide, cabin depth 125, width. 78, h call button 90 cm, braille push-button panel and relief placed at a height of 124 cm.





<p>The museum has an equipped toilet. Toilet with flexible hand shower</p>	
	<p>Washbasin with space underneath for wheelchair approach of less than 70 cm and fixed wall mirror.</p>
	<p>In front of the Civic Museum and adjacent to the entrance of Palazzo Ricci, we find the Cantine del Redi, managed by the Vecchia Cantina di Montepulciano since 1988. It is located inside Palazzo Ricci and represents a true temple of wine. To reach the Cantine del Redi, in addition to overcoming the step at the entrance, we have to go down rather steep stairs.</p>





Continuing along Via Ricci, a few steps from the Civic Museum, on the right, you can take Via Talosa to return to Piazza Grande. After about 100 meters, on the left, at the no. we find the Meublè il Riccio, the palace which, after the Council of Trent (1545-1563), was destined to be an Episcopal Seminary, has had several owners including the famous Bellarmini family, with San Roberto Bellarmine (also known as Bellarmine), Jesuit cardinal, bitter opponent of Galileo Galilei, and the Ricci family.





After centuries of decay and abandonment, in 1949 it was purchased by Prof. Attilio Caroti who, partially restoring it, made it the headquarters of the prestigious Italian School of Mosaic. In the eighties part of the building, completely renovated, was used as a hotel. The pavement of Via Talosa is irregular with partly uneven tiles. People in manual chairs are advised to have the help of a companion. At the entrance to the Meublè the Hedgehog threshold 29 cm wide and cm. 4



In the building that houses the Meublè il Riccio, the entrance courtyard is valuable and worth a visit, paved with bricks, with round arches on two sides supported by travertine columns of the Tuscan order and with a loggia above of the Ionic order.





<p>About 30 meters from the Meublè il Riccio you reach Piazza Grande.</p>	
	<p>To reach the central area of Piazza Grande paved with regular smooth tiles, you have to overcome a stretch with uneven pavement. People in manual wheelchairs are advised to have the help of a companion.</p>
<p>Route length 2</p>	<p>About 400 meters</p>
<p>Along the itinerary there are maps and tactile signs for the blind</p>	<p>NO</p>
<p>Along the route there are information panels with QR CODE</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Description of the itinerary indicating if there are sections with a significant slope or the presence of steps</p>	<p>We will reach the Old Town through Porta a Prato to enter the fascinating and historic Via di Gracciano, the main street. Along the Corso we will be able to admire the Marzocco Column and the Palazzo Avignonesi in Piazza Savonarola.</p>





	<p>Continuing along the main street you can admire historic buildings such as Palazzo Tarugi and Palazzo Bucelli, until you reach Piazza Michelozzo, where you can admire the Church of Sant'Agostino and the characteristic Torre di Pulcinella.</p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 = Porta al Prato</li> <li>2 = Colonna del Marzocco</li> <li>3 = Palazzo Avignonesi</li> <li>4 = Palazzo Tarugi (Bernabei)</li> <li>5 = Palazzo Batignani</li> <li>6 = Palazzo Cocconi</li> <li>7 = Palazzo Bucelli</li> <li>8 = Chiesa di S. Agostino</li> <li>9 = Torre di Pulcinella</li> </ol>
	<p>Porta al Prato or Gracciano is part of the city walls and constitutes the access, for those coming from the north-east, to the historic center of Montepulciano. It was built in the second half of the thirteenth century and renovated in 1511 by Antonio da Sangallo the Elder together with the fortress commissioned by the Grand Duke of Florence Cosimo de Medici. Just before the Porta al Prato on the left along the walls there is a place reserved for the disabled.</p>
	<p>After passing the arch of the Porta al Prato, we enter Via di Gracciano nel Corso where, on the left, shortly after, we find, at number 113, the Palazzo Boddi, medieval that tradition says Santa Margherita da Cortona lived in.</p>





Via di Gracciano initially presents itself with a long uphill stretch up to Piazza Savonarola. The pavement is made up of stone tiles that are sometimes irregular but quite passable by people in wheelchairs.



After crossing Porta a Prato continuing along the Corso, for about 100 m, we reach, on the right, Via delle Cantine very suggestive for the presence of characteristic medieval vaults. The pavement in Via delle Cantine is quite regular and passable by a person in a wheelchair. Shortly before, along the main street, on the right, there is a place reserved for the disabled. It is advisable to park your car here and go to visit, a few meters further on, Piazza Savonarola with the Marzocco column.



The Marzocco Column stands in Piazza Savonarola. On the top column was placed, in 1511, the Florentine lion in place of the Sienese she-wolf, to symbolize the authority of Florence when it subjugated the city, after 16 years of domination by the Sienese Republic (1495-1511). The column was rebuilt in 1856 by the Sienese sculptor A. Sarrocchi, while the original is inside the Civic Museum.





The pavement in Piazza Savonarola is made of slightly irregular rectangular tiles but quite passable even by a person in a wheelchair.



In the square in front of the Column you can admire the majestic Renaissance Palazzo Avignonesi which dates back to the sixteenth century, attributed to the arch. Jacopo Barozzi known as Vignola.

From Piazza Savonarola we continue along Via di Gracciano where on both sides there are several shops where we can also taste typical local products.



The course becomes a pedestrian area but access is still allowed to vehicles serving the disabled. The pavement is in slightly irregular rectangular stone tiles but a person in a wheelchair, with due attention, can walk along it quite easily.





Continuing along the Corso, we find Tarugi-Bernabei on the left and immediately after Palazzo Batignani on the right; continuing, on the left, at no. 70, we find Palazzo Cocconi attributed to Antonio da Sangallo the Elder by a nineteenth-century tradition.





Continuing along Via di Gracciano, on the right, at no. 81, we can admire Palazzo Bucelli, a historic building, which in 1700 became the seat of a large collection of Etruscan pieces collected, in the surroundings of Montepulciano and Chiusi. The road along Palazzo Bucelli is devoid of sidewalks and the precious Etruscan fragments set on the wall can also be easily reached by people in wheelchairs



The course then widens into Piazza Michelozzo which is majestically overlooked by the Church of S. Agostino built in 1285 and renovated in the 15th century by the architect Michelozzo di Bartolomeo in a late Gothic/Renaissance style. The beautiful portal is surmounted by a terracotta relief, by Michelozzo, representing the Madonna and Saints John the Baptist and Augustine.





	<p>The church of S. Agostino is accessible only via a staircase that on the left side consists of three steps while at the entrance door there is a threshold about 20 cm high.</p>
	<p>In front of the church of San Augustino, in Piazza Michelozzo, stands the Tower of Pulcinella (1523-1524), built in brick, on the top of which is placed the statue of Pulcinella (a Neapolitan character from the Commedia dell'Arte), a wooden statue covered in sheet metal. The statue strikes the hours on the bell of the tower with a hammer connected to a clock mechanism, dating back to the eighteenth century</p>

**Any accessible bars/restaurants**

<p>Eventual notes</p>	<p>In Montepulciano along the main street there are many restaurants, wine bars, bars with obstacle-free access and flat outdoor verandas.</p>
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## Toilets for guests with reduced mobility

Number of accessible toilets for guests with reduced mobility	1 public toilet located in the alley on the left side of the town hall.
Distance Accessible public toilet	From piazza Grande about 10 meters
Modalità di accesso al locale	flat on uneven pavement
Usable width of the entrance door	more than 80 cm with internal horizontal handle and external opening
Toilet height	50 cm
Toilet seat with open front tooth	YES
Support handles	On both sides
Flexible shower on the side of the toilet	NO
Free space on the sides of the toilet	Above 90 cm superiore a 90 cm 30 cm approx. 30 cm circa Above 90 cm superiore a 90 cm
Electric doorbell/telephone	NO
Washbasin with space underneath for wheelchair approach	Not detected
Height from the ground lower edge mirror	Not detected
Baby changing table	NO





### Medical practices/healthcare facilities

Hospitals near the property

Ospedali Riuniti della Val di Chiana di Montepulciano - USL Toscana Sud Est  
Via Provinciale 5 - Montepulciano (SI)  
Tel +39 0578 713111

A.O.U – Policlinico Santa Maria alle Scotte, Via M. Bracci 11, Siena -  
Telephone +39 0577 585111 [www.ao-siena.toscana.it](http://www.ao-siena.toscana.it)

Dialysis service on holiday  
<https://www.regione.toscana.it/-/dialisi-in-vacanza-1>

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