

GEOGRAVEL TUSCANY LE STRADE GRIGIE

31.05 - 01.06.2025

Paolo Bettini explains why GeoGravel Tuscany - Le Strade Grigie is an unmissable adventure

The multiple world and Olympic champion discusses gravel biking, the spirit of the event and the new features of the 2025 edition.

From 31 May to 1 June, the thrill of **GeoGravel Tuscany – Le Strade Grigie** is back. This event has already won the hearts of gravel enthusiasts and introduced them to the beauty of the Metalliferous Hills. Winding through ancient villages, Mediterranean scrubland and nature reserves, this journey was born from Paolo Bettini's dream, and he is once again sharing his expectations for the third edition, which will feature welcome comebacks and some exciting new additions.

Paolo, what does 'gravel' mean to you?

For me, it means freedom. It's about riding without a stopwatch, without rushing and without the pressure to perform. It's about immersing yourself in nature and passing through authentic, often forgotten places where the bike is simply a tool for exploring and experiencing the landscape. Gravel riding is not just cycling; it's a way of life and a way of seeing the world with fresh eyes.

Why take part in GeoGravel Tuscany – Le Strade Grigie?

It's all about the people. Above all, it offers a deep dive into an extraordinary region, taking you through the rolling hills of Val di Cecina, pristine forests, medieval villages and the peaceful silence of nature reserves. The event is unique, authentic and poetic, just like the land it crosses. And then there's the celebration with beers, music, barbecues, the classic pasta party and a true sense of community. The gravel spirit is everywhere. You're guaranteed to have fun.

What new features do this year's routes offer?

We wanted to revive the spirit of the very first edition. The Ultra route, for example, has been completely redesigned: setting off in Pomarance, riders will enter the extraordinary Monterufoli-Caselli Nature Reserve, embarking on a true journey into the wild with long gravel stretches that are perfect for this kind of adventure. The route winds through forests and hills, offering pure off-road excitement, all the way to Casale Marittimo. Then it heads down to Bibbona, where you can feel the sea breeze.

On the way back, you will ride through Mediterranean scrubland, passing Canneto, Monterotondo Marittimo, and Sasso Pisano, before looping back to Pomarance. This route showcases the authentic Tuscany, offering a blend of effort and beauty. The long route has also been updated to provide an even deeper immersion into the area's lesser-known yet most authentic landscapes.

An invitation to slow down and venture out in freedom. Once again, Le Strade Grigie is awaiting participants for an unforgettable experience in the heart of warm, sunny Tuscany.