

ART AND CULTURE

The history of Vicchio is particularly fascinating: the rests of the old city walls, the ancient houses and the landscape are all elements that remind that Vicchio has been the homeland of two great painters: **Giotto** and **Beato Angelico**

Giotto

The contemporary critique has dispelled any doubts about the birthplace: Giotto was born in a farmhouse on the hilltop of Vespignano. Every year the house is destination of many visitors. In 2001 was celebrated the centennial of the making of the statue representing Giotto in his namesake square, in Vicchio. The town has joined the European program called Genius Loci which includes many different locations where distinguished personalities were born.

Beato Angelico

According to the most credited critique he was born in Rupecanina, a hamlet not far from Vicchio. His true birth name was Guido di Piero Tosini, once joined the clergy it changed to friar Giovanni but he was commonly known, and still is, as Beato Angelico because his art was considered angelic, divine. The new museum of Sacred Art and Popular Religion, inaugurated in June 2002, is the result of a work and effort started back in the sixties when as many objects of artistic, cultural and historical value as possible were collected in the rooms of the town hall, saving them from deterioration and frequent robbery.

Art in Mugello

The masters of the past, born in Mugello, taught that the bond between the artist and the country is essential for the development and the quality of his own art production. The project “Arte Mugello” has been set up in order to promote artistic and cultural training experiences.