

*Theme:*

## The Puccini Festival at Torre del Lago

*Main Focal Points:*

- Attend three performances of the Puccini Festival, near the composer's last home at Torre del Lago, Tuscany (nr. Viareggio)
- Enjoy Summer days in coastal Tuscany – based in delightful Lucca
- Discover “on and off the beaten track” pleasures in Lucca, the surrounding Tuscan towns and hillsides

*Other Activities – choice of:*

- city of Lucca:
  - house where Puccini was born – now a museum
  - stroll on the ramparts completely surrounding the town
  - Jacopo della Quercia's tomb of Ilaria del Carretto
  - Duomo of San Martino
  - Villa Guinigi
  - Della Robbia-s and 12<sup>th</sup> C. Font in San Frediano
- Museo Villa Puccini, Torre del Lago
- Medici Villas, incl.:
  - Poggio a Chaiano
  - Cerreto Guidi
- Empoli (home of Ferruccio Busoni)
  - Collegiata church on characterful square
- marble quarries at Carrara
- Pisa
  - Campo dei Miracoli with Tower, Duomo and Battisterio
- Certosa di Pisa – amazingly elaborate Convent
- Bagni di Lucca
  - enjoy the rather faded but undoubted attractions of this old Spa in the hills, which attracted Europe's finest in the early 19<sup>th</sup> C. - and have lunch by the river in the Circolo dei Forestieri
- Viareggio
  - Tuscan beach resort
  - elegant Art Nouveau buildings

*Accommodation*

There is one 5-star Hotel, and there are 11 4-star and 7 3-star Hotels in Lucca.

*Travel from/to UK*

There is a good choice of flights with scheduled carriers to Pisa from London. Travellers from other parts of the UK may have to travel via London.