



HURRAY
FOR
YOUNGSTERS

Erasmus +
2018/2020

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TO COLLE DI VAL D'ELSA?



Of course not because it isn't very famous, but this village is so suggestive!

We are Italian students and our school is situated in **HOW TO FIND COLLE DI VAL D'ELSA...** Val d'Elsa, a small town between Siena and Florence (Tuscany).

It has Etruscans



Our region, called Tuscany



Siena



Florence, the main city of Tuscany

THE ETRUSCAN PERIOD

The origin of the Etruscan population is not clear. They are thought to have settled in our peninsula from 9th to 3rd century B.C.

In Colle di Val d'Elsa the first Etruscan finds are traced back to the 7th century B.C.

The Etruscans were farmers and ironworkers



Archeological park in Dometaia



Etruscan cemetery



HISTORICAL HINTS

The town of Colle was founded in medieval times close to the Via Francigena and was one of the protagonists in the fights between Guelphs and Ghibellines.

Many medieval and Renaissance buildings of great historical and architectural value are still present in the upper part of the town and bear witness to this period.



Porta nuova



Palazzo Campana

HISTORICAL HINTS

A widespread network of mills and paper factories, supplied with water from the River Elsa, determined the growth of Colle as an important economic and cultural centre over the 18th century.

In the 19th century the town became one of Tuscany's major industrial centers specializing in the production of glass, iron and crystal, a tradition that is still practiced today.

There is also a museum about it.

Colle is also famous for being the birthplace of the famous artist Arnolfo di Cambio, who was later dedicated the main square.

Le vene



Crystal Museum



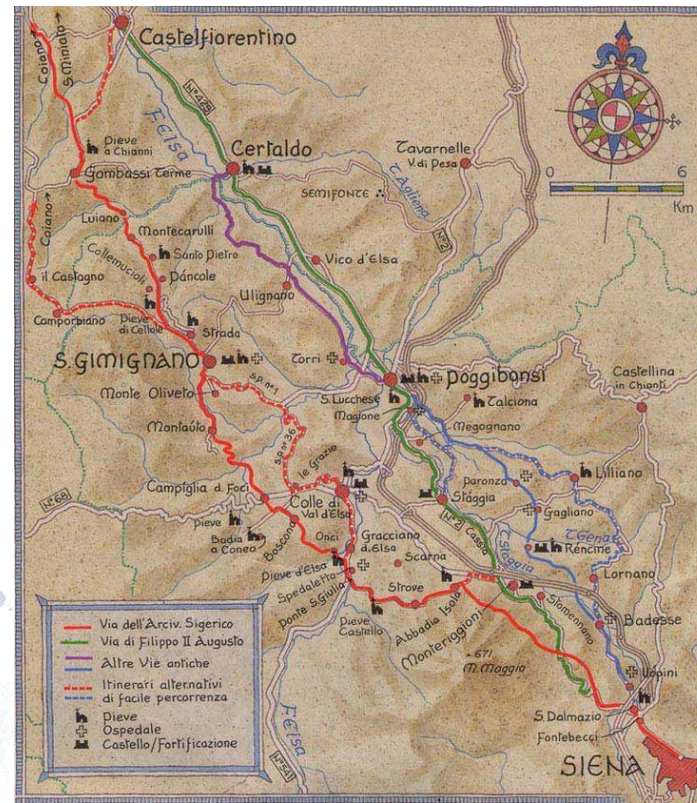
Tower House of Arnolfo di Cambio

THE VIA FRANCIGENA

The Via Francigena is an ancient road between Rome and Canterbury, passing through France, Switzerland and Italy.

In medieval times it was an important pilgrimage route.

This major medieval route passes through Colle di Val d'Elsa before reaching Siena and Rome.





COLLE IS FAMOUS FOR...

-The Paper

Colle Val d'Elsa has a very long past regarding the production of paper. The first paper mill was built in 1319.

-The Water and The Gore

water has always been a very important source of power for Colle and its productive activities. Colle was able to channel the river into a network of channels, called 'gore'.

-The Glass and the Crystal

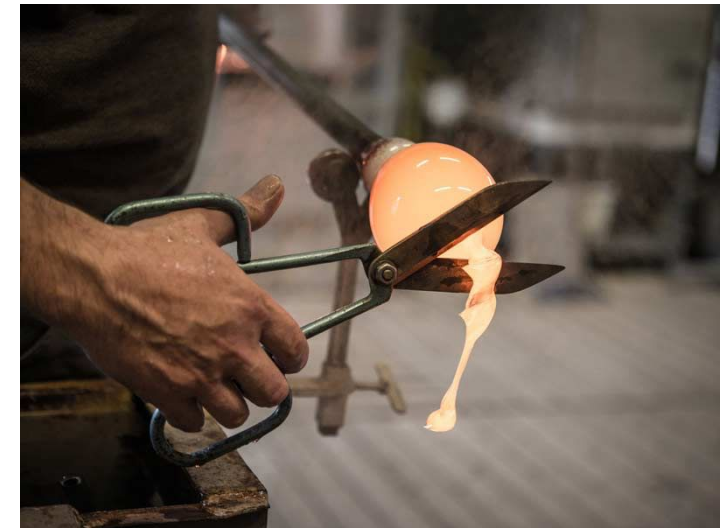
in the 19th century with the birth of the first industries, glass and crystal production became one of the most important economic sources of income for Colle. The objects made with ancient techniques of glass blowing and engraving are what has made Colle famous all over the world.



The Gore



An old paper factory



How they work the glass



EVENTS IN COLLE DI VAL D'ELSA

-SAINT MARTIAL'S CELEBRATION, the patron of the town

-CRYSTAL BETWEEN THE WALLS, an exhibition of Colle's crystal that takes place in the historical centre of the town

- THE FAIR OF BIRDS, celebrated on 21st September



The patron of the town



The crystal of Colle



The fair of birds

ACTIVITIES THAT YOU CAN DO IN COLLE!

At first sight Colle di Val d'Elsa seems a little town, but people can actually do a lot of things.

An activity that you can do in our town is strolling along Sentierelsa, that is a path along River Elsa.

If you like having a bath in Colle, you can go to Le Caldane, thermal baths with warm water springs that have therapeutic properties.

Another very interesting activity to do is visiting our Museums (Crystal and San Pietro).



***You can also do rafting
on the Elsa river!***

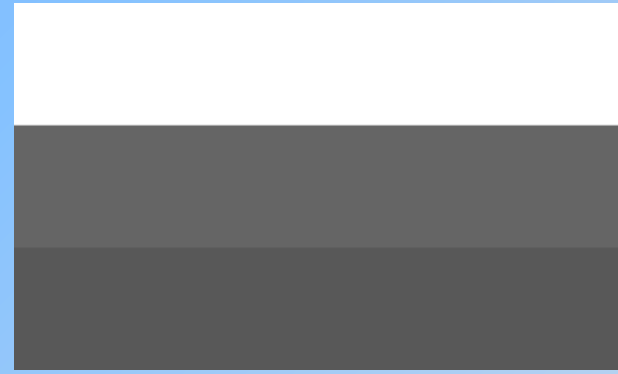
THE YOUNGSTERS IN COLLE

Our meeting points are the main squares or 'piazze', such as Piazza Sant' Agostino, Piazza Arnolfo or Piazza Montemaggio but we also meet at the "Red Bank" .

During the summer we love going to our swimming pool and eating an ice-cream at "Buekke" and cookies at "Barone", a famous pastry shop located close to the city centre.

Every saturday night we go dancing to Vanilla, a big disco near Colle or we adore watching a film at the Teatro del Popolo cinema hall.





THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!
-The Italian Group-

