

Per Viam – Pilgrims’ Routes in Action

Via Francigena and the Pilgrimage Ways

The objectives of the project PER VIAM were:

- **To create identity of the product “Via Francigena” pilgrimage route on a European level,**
- **Increase cooperation and joint initiatives among European Pilgrimage Routes and within The Via**
- **Foster networking to enhance cultural, social and environmental value of the routes as key elements for sustainable tourism**
- **Lay the foundation for the future creation of a European network of the main pilgrimage routes certified by the Council of Europe: the Via Francigena, the Santiago de Compostela Pilgrims’ Routes, the Saint Michael’s Ways, the Route of Saint Olav Ways, the Saint Martin of Tours Route**
- **To foster economic development and investment opportunities in the field of tourism, in the territories crossed by the Via Francigena and by the pilgrims routes.**



Lead partner/coordinator: AEVF – Associazione Europea delle Vie Francigene

Partners:

- **Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali (Italy)**
- **Regione Toscana (Italy)**
- **Canterbury City Council (United Kingdom)**

- **SiTI - Istituto Superiore sui Sistemi Territoriali per l'Innovazione** (Italy)
- **Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna – Polo Scientifico Didattico di Rimini** (Italy)
- **Institut Européen des Itinéraires Culturels** (Luxembourg)
- **Nidaros Pilegrimgard** (Norway)

Main results:

- Participation in and support to **the [Festival Via Francigena Collective Project 2012](#)** :
 - Communication;
 - [Press conference of the final event](#)
 - [Walking event in Canterbury](#)
- **A walking event along the via Francigena** to inaugurate the completed infrastructure of the last stretch of the Via Francigena in Tuscany Region (from San Quirico d'Orcia to Acquapendente)
- **[A Network of European Universities for The Via Francigena and the European pilgrimage routes](#)**. **This network** includes specialists in several subjects and fosters multicultural dialogue through scientific research and exchange of best practices, in support of didactic and research activity on the Via Francigena and pilgrimage routes. With the coordination of Università di Bologna, PER VIAM academic partners implemented a program of:
 - **7 workshops**
 - **[1 cartographic and photographic exhibition](#)** conceived and developed by Italian Geographical Society
 - The **[official launch of the European University Network of Knowledge](#)** (EUNEK) Via Francigena and pilgrimage routes (<https://www.facebook.com/PERVIAM>)
- Two **[interregional meetings](#)** among the 14 European regions crossed by the Via Francigena
- **A Memorandum of Understanding among the European regions** creating the European Committee for Technical Interregional Coordination for The Via Francigena,
- **An [inter-ministerial meeting](#)** organized by Italian Ministry for Cultural Affairs
- **[A platform of exchange](#)** among the European pilgrimage routes certified by the Council of Europe
- 15.000 multi-language **[leaflets of the project](#)**, 50.000 **[booklet of the Festival 2012](#)** program
- **[A final event](#)** in Luxembourg