

**Here is a brief view of the town that will host our XXVIII International Treffen;**

**Campi Bisenzio, near Florence, Italy**

**Campi Bisenzio** is situated on the plain between Florence and Prato, covering an area of 28 square kilometres and with a population of 42,740. The name of the town derives from '**Campi**' referring to the agricultural aspects of the area and '**Bisenzio**' referring to the watercourse that flows through the town.

A land crossed by the rivers, Bisenzio, Arno, Ombrone and Marina includes agriculture along with increasing industrialisation, and urbanisation.

Thanks to the geographic co-location, and good links with the provinces of Prato and Florence, and the substantial participation of the town's citizens in the life of the community and public service, Campi Bisenzio is perfectly integrated into the socio-economic system of the Florentine plain.

Today **Campi Bisenzio** boasts a radical system of production with innovations and modern practices of an international standard, and also in recent times, from an environmental perspective, has worked with the communities of the plain to achieve works which safeguard the area from the risks of flooding and also instituted a series of parks and green areas. Among which the parks of **Parco Urbano di Villa Montalvo, Parco Chico Mendes di San Donnino and L'Oasi Satgni di Focognano are operate by the WWF**. They have increased the 45 hectares of 1995, to 170 Hectares of public green spaces, with 35 square meters per inhabitant; this is one of the highest ratios in the country.

In **Campi Bisenzio** there are dozens of associations that promote initiatives dedicated to conservation, and the spreading of the areas historic traditions. In recent years the Community Administration has purchased and restored important buildings, including, **Villa Montalvo** (within whose grounds are interred the remains of Felice Matteucci; unanimously remembered as the inventor of the internal combustion engine), **Villa Rucellai, Rocca Strozzi** and the **Teatro Dante**, along with the important task of renovating the historic town centre.

The **Mayor, Adriano Chini** has confirmed that the townspeople will be very pleased to host the **XXVIII International Italian Treffen** and the many people that will travel from all parts of Europe to attend this important event, expecting to establish a relationship based upon friendship and mutual respect a particular characteristic of the population of **Campi Bisenzio**.