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*Etruscan frescoes in a tomb in Tarquinia
(all photos by J. Pauwels OR free of copyright c/o Wikimedia Commons)*

ITALIA INCOGNITA: LAND OF THE ETRUSCANS

14 days, from Tuesday, April 19, to Monday, May 2, 2022

A leisurely exploration of Central Italy, focusing on a trio of wonderful provinces, Tuscany, Umbria, and Lazio, heartland of the civilization of the mysterious Etruscans, an enigmatic but highly civilized people who ruled Italy before the rise of Rome. Today, impressive architectural and cultural remains, exquisite bronze and stone sculptures as well as paintings, and fascinating weapons and artefacts bear witness to the grandeur of this civilization, treasures we will enjoy in marvelous hilltop towns such as Perugia, Fiesole, Volterra, and Tarquinia, and in superb Etruscan and other archeological museums in Rome and Florence. Your tour escort, historian Jacques Pauwels, will provide the indispensable historical background.

ITINERARY:

PLEASE NOTE THAT PARTICIPANTS WILL HAVE TO BOOK A FLIGHT ARRIVING IN ROME
NO LATER THAN THE EARLY MORNING OF TUESDAY, APRIL 19!

FOR ONTARIO RESIDENTS AND OTHERS WISHING TO FLY FROM OR VIA TORONTO, WE
RECOMMEND AIR CANADA'S NON-STOP SERVICE TORONTO-ROME (APRIL 18-MAY 2), FOR
WHICH A RETURN AIRFARE (INCLUDING ONE SUITCASE) SHOULD BE AVAILABLE AT
APPROXIMATELY \$950. WE ARE CURRENTLY WORKING ON SECURING A GROUP FLIGHT FOR
THIS SERVICE, AND WILL SEND MORE INFORMATION WHEN AVAILABLE. PLEASE NOTE: DO
NOT BOOK YOUR FLIGHTS UNTIL THIS TOUR IS GUARANTEED TO BE OPERATED

Tour price, based on double occupancy: Land Only \$ 3,850 (CAD) - single room supplement: \$685

Day 1 – Tuesday, April 19: The tour members meet this morning at Rome's Fiumicino Airport. Departure by private coach for the town of Perugia in the province of Umbria, the lovely "green heart" of Italy, a trip of approximately 220 km. En route, visit to a truly unique site, the 16th-century "Park of the Monsters" in **Bomarzo**, inhabited by fantastic manieristic sculptures! On to **Perugia**, a beautiful hilltop town that was one of the 12 major cities, the "dodecapolis" of the Etruscans in their "golden age," the 7th-6th centuries BC. Dinner and overnight in the centrally-located first-class/four-star hotel [Sangallo Palace](#).

Day 2 – Wednesday, April 20: Morning sightseeing tour of Perugia, a city whose ancient churches, palaces, and piazzas radiate a wonderful medieval atmosphere. The highlights will include the Piazza IV Novembre, one of the most attractive squares in Italy, but we will of course focus on the imposing Etruscan monuments, such as the monumental city gate, an intriguing [cistern](#), and the underground tomb of a noble Etruscan family, known as the



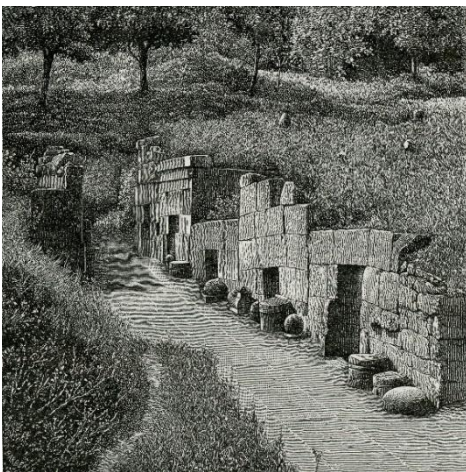
One of the “monsters” in the park of Bomarzo!



Perugia’s Etruscan cistern with its visitors’ walkway

Volumni Hypogaeum. Afternoon visit to the local [archaeological museum](#) with its impressive collection of Etruscan objects, followed by free time for shopping and/or individual exploring.

Day 3 – Thursday, April 21: Full-day excursion to another Umbrian urban jewel, **Orvieto**, situated high on a steep volcanic hill. An Etruscan centre in Antiquity and a Papal fortress-town in the Middle Ages, Orvieto is also known for its excellent wine and food, including truffles! We start with the most famous attraction, the Cathedral, boasting the finest Gothic façade in Italy, then move on to sites related to the Etruscan civilization, such as the Necropolis of Crocifisso and the Etruscan Museum with an important collection of Etruscan artefacts, including many specimens of the famous Etruscan black pottery, known as [Bucchero](#). Afterwards there will be free time to explore this wonderful town on your own. If you are not claustrophobic and in reasonably good shape, you may want to visit the “underground city”, where olive and wine presses reflect the Etruscans’ interest in the production of wine and olive oil; other possibilities include a visit to the local museum of ceramics, another specialty of Orvieto, and the National Archaeological Museum. Return to Perugia in the early evening. No group dinner.



< *The Crocifisso Necropolis on a drawing of 1830 (Wikimedia Commons)*

Day 4 – Friday, April 22: Today we head for **Chiusi**, known as Clevsin to the Etruscans and one of the most powerful of their twelve cities. We explore the fascinating underground city, featuring the tomb of legendary Etruscan king Porsenna, a recreation of an Etruscan banquet, a major collection of Etruscan inscriptions on funeral urns and tomb stones and, most importantly, a complex of tunnels and reservoirs that were part of the ancient city’s water supply system, evidence of advanced [hydraulic engineering](#), an Etruscan specialty that was to be inherited by the Romans. Returning to Perugia, we stop for a cappuccino or gelato in one of the pretty towns along the shores of **Lake Trasimeno**, an idyllic setting where nothing reminds the visitor that this is where Hannibal inflicted a devastating defeat on the Romans in a famous battle fought in 217BC; but your tour conductor will tell the sad story!

Day 5 – Saturday, April 23: Departure from Perugia after breakfast. We cross into the province of Tuscany, meaning “land of the Etruscans,” a people called *Tusci* by the Romans, who also used *Etruria* as synonym of *Tuscania*. Visit to the glorious, almost mystical city of **Siena**, a veritable medieval time capsule with a huge

Cathedral and a magnificent main square, the Piazza del Campo, dominated by the tall tower of the city hall, the Palazzo Pubblico; Siena is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. On into the vine-covered hills of the world-famous Chianti wine country, with a short break in the fortified hilltop village of **Montereggioni**. Dinner and overnight in the first-class/four-star agritourism-style hotel [Villa Cesi](#) in the hill just outside the town of **Impruneta**, near Florence.

Day 6 – Sunday, April 24: This morning we motor to another Tuscan UNESCO site, the great art city of **Florence**, world-famous for attractions such as the Duomo, the Baptistry, the Uffizi Art Gallery, the Ponte Vecchio, and Michelangelo’s David. But we will focus on the Archaeological Museum and its sumptuous collection of Etruscan treasures, including the famous “Chimera of Arezzo,” a bronze statue of an animal partly lion, partly goat, partly snake, and the statue of the Orator (*l’Arringatore*). Afterwards we head for neighbouring **Fiesole**, a flourishing Etruscan hilltop town long before the Romans founded Florence in the Arno river valley, a move that was part and parcel of their strategy to conquer and control the land of the Etruscans. Exploration of the Etruscan/Roman archaeological zone and visit to the small but exquisite museum. From Fiesole one can also enjoy wonderful views of Florence in the Arno valley below! Return to our hotel in late afternoon.

The Chimera of Arezzo >



Day 7 – Monday, April 25: Today we return to Florence, so those who have not yet been there may join the guide for a leisurely walking tour of the most important sites, such as the Duomo and Ponte Vecchio. Or you may want to explore the city on your own and/or shop. Just in case you might want to (re)visit the Uffizi, it is closed on Mondays, so you would have to visit the previous day, foregoing part of the tour program. Return to our hotel in time for some *dolce far niente* and a Chianti wine tasting before dinner.

Day 8 – Tuesday, April 26: Departure after breakfast. We enjoy wonderful Tuscan landscapes en route to **Volterra**, yet another hilltop town with Etruscan antecedents. Volterra overlooks a green valley on one side and the “Balze,” a strange mass of highly eroded hills, on the other. The local attractions include the Etruscan city gate, the attractive Piazza dei Priori, the Via dei Sarti lined with medieval palaces, and the excellent local Etruscan Museum. In the afternoon we enter the Maremma, a region in southern Tuscany in which the Etruscans felt very much at home, stretching between the Appenine Mountains and the part of the Mediterranean known to the Greeks as the Tyrrhenian Sea, meaning Sea of the Etruscans, since the latter were known to the Greeks as *Tyrrhenoi*, Tyrrhenians. Accommodation in a four-star Tuscan country-style hotel near the town of Grosseto, the [Antico Casale di Scansano](#).



Etruscan couple on a sarcophagus in the museum in Volterra



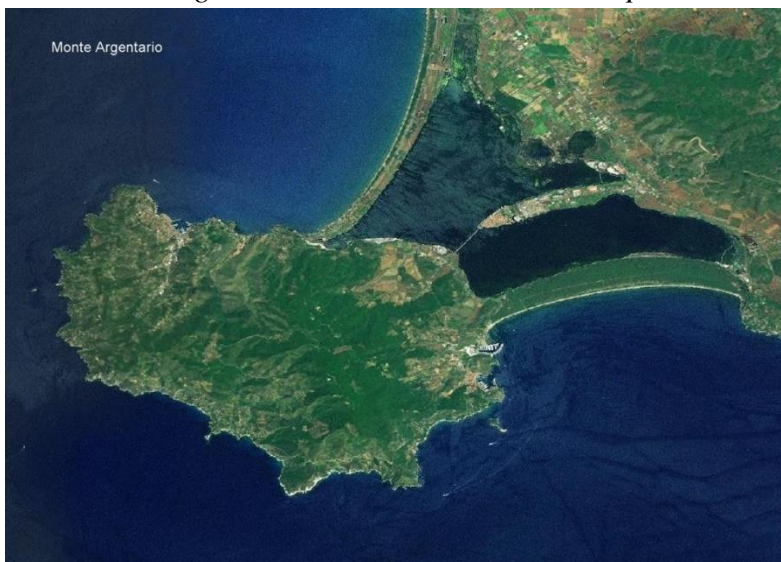
Day 9 – Wednesday, April 27: Excursion to **Sovana and Pitigliano**, two relatively isolated picturesque towns with plenty of Etruscan attractions, such as the temple-like funerary monument known as the Ildebranda Tomb. An almost mystic experience will be our leisurely exploration of a stretch of the “hollow roads” (*vie cave*), evocative deep, narrow, and winding corridors carved out of the area’s soft volcanic rock known as tuff (*tufo*), and overgrown with vegetation, linking the two towns since Etruscan times; historians debate whether they were communication routes or sacred paths used during funerary rites or ceremonies honouring Mother Earth.

< *One of the vie cave between Sovana and Pitigliano (photo by Sailko C/O Wikimedia Commons)*

Day 10 – Thursday, April 28: After breakfast, we motor to the archaeological park of ancient **Populonia**, Pipluna to the Etruscans, nestled along the scenic shores of the Gulf of Baratti, near the seaport of **Piombino**. This was the Etruscans’ major metallurgical centre, where they processed iron ore from the island of Elba and from the nearby Monte Metalliferi, the “metal mountains” (more info on [Etruscan metallurgy](#)). In the afternoon,

leisurely drive along the Maremma’s *Costa d’Argento* “Silver Coast,” including a visit to the peninsula known as [Monte Argentario](#), connected to the Tuscan mainland by three spits of land forming two lagoons, with the town of **Orbetello** located in the centre. Return to our hotel in time for dinner.

Monte Argentario Peninsula and its three spits



Panoramic view of Orbetello



Day 11 – Friday, April 29: After a short drive (50km) along the coast, we enter the province of Lazio (Latium in Latin). Here we will first visit [Tarquinia](#), a town situated on a hill overlooking a fertile plain and the Tyrrhenian Sea, an important centre of the Etruscans but already inhabited by their precursors, the Villanovans. Our visit, certain to be one of the highlights of the tour, will focus on a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the necropolis, whose tombs feature spectacular frescoes. On to [Cerveteri](#), known as Caere in Antiquity, a great Etruscan cultural and religious centre, to explore a very different UNESCO-classified necropolis, known as Banditaccia, with fascinating tumulus-style architecture and paintings of animals, furniture, and all sort of other themes. Arrival at the four-star [Hotel Mercure](#) near Rome’s International Airport in **Fiumicino** in time for dinner.

Day 12 – Saturday, April 30: Full-day excursion to nearby **Rome**, whose Etruscan origins (and even name) will be explained by your tour guide, for a visit focusing on the Villa Giulia Museum, unquestionably Italy’s most important collection of Etruscan (and other pre-Roman) antiquities, with many treasures found in necropolises and other sites visited on the tour, such as the famous “Bride and Groom” sarcophagus. Afterwards there will be free time to enjoy lunch and/or explore Rome on your own. Return to our hotel in the early evening. No group dinner this evening. Staying in Rome for dinner is a possibility, as there is a convenient and inexpensive train connection between the city and Fiumicino.

Day 13 – Sunday, May 1: Contingency day. Depending on whether some sites will be closed for the May Day holiday, we may visit **Lake Bracciano** and the ancient Etruscan town of **Veio** with its Portonaccio Sanctuary and/or the magnificent, Pompeii-like ruins of Ostia Antica, the harbour of ancient Rome. Alternatively, we return to Rome to visit the Etruscan Museum, thus creating more time on Day 12. This evening, final group dinner.



The Bride and Groom in Rome’s Villa Giulia Museum

< Tumuli of the Banditaccia Necropolis

Day 14 – Monday, May 2: Our tour ends after breakfast, and you must check out of the hotel by noon at the latest. The hotel’s shuttle service is available for a transfer to nearby Fiumicino Airport.

“Land only” tour price based on double occupancy: \$ 3,850 (CAD) - single room supplement: \$685**

Included in this “land only” price are transportation by private coach; accommodation based on double occupancy in first-class/four-star hotels; breakfast daily and dinner (or full lunch) daily except on day 12; sightseeing and visits as shown in the itinerary; all tips and taxes, including gratuities for local guides and coach driver(s); and services of a Pauwels Travel tour escort. Not included are wine/mineral water with dinners and all items of a personal nature, and travel insurance.

** PLEASE NOTE: Although this “land only” price does not include airfare, Pauwels Travel is working on securing group fares on the direct Air Canada service (leaving April 18), which, once confirmed, will be offered to participants subject to the airline’s terms and conditions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE ETRUSCANS, SEE:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Etruscans>

FOR BOOKS AND DVDs ON THE ETRUSCANS, SEE:

http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_ss_gw?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=Etruscans&x=0&y=0

THE LAND OF THE ETRUSCANS BETWEEN ROME AND FLORENCE:



TERMS & CONDITIONS

RESERVATIONS AND DEPOSITS:

Reservations should be made as early as possible to ensure the departure of your choice. Due to the popularity of the Guelph Arts Council program, and limited seating, we request you send your registration together with a refundable e-transfer or cheque of \$250.00 per person. The feasibility of operating the tour will be reviewed 90 days prior to departure and if it is deemed operational, registered participants will be offered the opportunity to reconfirm their place by paying an additional interim payment of \$1500.00 per person or withdraw their registration and receive a full refund of their deposit. No reservations will be accepted without a signed registration form and refundable deposit.

REFUND OF UNUSED ARRANGEMENTS:

Because the rates of Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. are based on group participation, no refund can be made for any tour accommodation or tour service or tour feature not taken. If cancellation occurs while the tour is in progress, no refund can be made for the tour portion not taken. We strongly suggest that to allow for any unexpected contingencies, you purchase the all-inclusive insurance.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

Refund of deposit is made if cancellation is received in writing by Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. more than 85 days prior of the departure date. For cancellation received in writing 84 days prior or less the following cancellation charges apply:

84 days to 61 days before departure: 25% of tour cost

60 to 31 days before departure: 50% of tour cost

Within 30 days prior to departure: 100% of tour cost

RESPONSIBILITY:

The acceptance of the initial service to be provided under the tour shall be considered an acceptance by the tour member of those conditions. We also reserve the right to decline, to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour. We reserve the right without notice, to withdraw any part or all of the tour. Factors such as airline schedule changes, hotel overbookings, inclement weather, travel warnings by the Canadian Government etc. may necessitate changes in the itinerary. There may also be other circumstances in which changes become necessary or advisable.

By commencing the tour, I agree to the release and agreement as included below.

RELEASE & AGREEMENT:

By placing my deposit and commencing the tour I understand and agree to the following:

1. That all tours are delivered in conjunction with other service providers, including but not limited to travel agent and booking services, airlines, hotel and accommodation providers, transportation providers including but not limited to coach, train and ferry services, restaurant providers, and local guides. We shall not be held responsible for the failure by any person or company to render any transportation, lodging or other travel service to be provided on the tour. All hotels, transportation and other travel services are provided subject to all the terms and conditions under which they are offered to the public generally.
2. I know that tour programs include walking and may including hiking and fitness programs that have potential hazardous activities associated with them. I should not participate prior to approval by my physician. I assume any and all other risks associated with these events included but not limited to falls, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather including high heat and/or humidity.
3. To release, indemnify and hold harmless Pauwels Travel Bureau and their affiliates (which term shall include parents, subsidiaries, officers, directors, shareholders, agents and employees of Pauwels Travel Bureau as well as Pauwels Travel themselves) (the "Released Parties") from, and agree not to sue the Released Parties for, any claims that

I may have arising from, or in connection with, any personal injury, bodily injury, mental anguish, emotional distress, physical, property or other damage that I may suffer from any cause whatsoever related in any way to my participation in this tour. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, I release, indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from, and agree not to sue them for any personal injury, bodily injury, mental anguish, emotional distress, physical, property or other damage that I may suffer from the Released Parties' negligence other than from intentional or reckless acts by such parties. I further agree to release, indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from any and all acts of God, war (whether declared or undeclared), terrorist activities, incidents of politically motivated violence, illness or quarantine, strikes or government restrictions or the acts or omissions of any other agents over which the Released Parties have no direct or indirect control, including, without limitation, airlines, railways, bus companies, hotels, shipping companies, guides and sub-contracted agents or tour operators. This release also includes activities not offered that may be considered risky. I further release any Tour Directors, bus drivers or other individuals involved in my tour.

4. That the air carrier's liability for loss of or damage to baggage or property, or for death or injury to person, is limited by their tariffs, or the Warsaw Convention, or both.

5. That Pauwels Travel Bureau shall have no liability or responsibility for me when I am absent from activities, such as visits to friends or relatives or during stay-ahead/stay-behind option periods if the stay-ahead/stay-behind period does not include the services of a Tour Director.

6. To abide by directions of my Tour Director or other leadership personnel during my tour. Failure to do so may result in my termination from tour immediately. I understand that to disobey such rules or directions are to waive the right to any refund, and that I may be sent home at my own expense. The participant and family undertake full financial responsibility for any damage caused by the participant and agree to pay his/her return home on the first available flight, should his/her behavior be deemed detrimental to the welfare of the group.

7. To abide by all local laws when in Canada and abroad, including those concerning drugs and alcohol. (Minors must have parents' permission to use alcohol even if the local law would otherwise permit them to.) I understand that if I abuse or disobey such laws, even unintentionally, I waive my right to a refund, and Pauwels Travel may send me home at my own expense. I also understand that should local authorities be involved, I will be subject to the laws of the country I am visiting.

8. That if I become ill or incapacitated, Pauwels Travel and its employees, or a designated chaperone may take any action they deem necessary for my safety and well-being, including securing medical treatment (at my own expense) and transporting me home. Pauwels Travel retains the right, in its sole discretion, to contact the traveller's parent(s) and/or guardian or emergency contact with regard to health issues or any matters whatsoever that relates to the traveller's tour. These rights transcend any and all privacy regulations that may apply. In the event of a medical emergency, Pauwels Travel will attempt to cause appropriate treatment to be administered, and the traveller authorizes Pauwels Travel to do so. Pauwels Travel, however, makes no warranty that it will be able to cause effective (or any) emergency treatment to be administered.

9. That Pauwels Travel may use any film likenesses taken of me and any of my comments while on a tour for future publication and also use my contact information for future Pauwels Travel communications.

A WORD ABOUT GROUP AIRFARES:

Please note that when booking one of our air inclusive tours, Pauwels Travel has negotiated reduced rates with the airline that we are able to confirm and lock in up to 359 days before travel. While it is wonderful to share the savings and flexibility this provides with you, our valued guests, the privilege does come with some restrictions. In some cases it may not be possible to collect frequent flyer miles, you may not be able to check in online 24 hours before travel, or you may need to try checking in with your ticket number rather than your booking reference and, in almost ALL cases we are not able to offer advanced seat selection.

It is the airline that makes the reservation and has control over the booking so it is their policy, not ours, that prevents us from assigning specific seats. If a request is made, it is passed on to the airline by our staff when they submit the names to the airline, i.e., 30-60 days prior to departure. Calling us several days before you leave will not change this fact nor will getting upset with our staff.

If a certain type of seat is indispensable to you, we suggest that you book our tour on a "land only" basis and make individual flight arrangements, in which case you may be able to get the seat of your choice; Pauwels Travel would be happy to assist you with that reservation at absolutely no additional charge. We will offer you the best fare available, but please note that this can only be done once a tour is a guaranteed departure because your individual airfare's conditions are likely to involve cancellation penalties. We thank you in advance for your kind understanding of the above!

REGISTRATION FORM

Please book _____ seat(s) on the ITALIA INCOGNITA: LAND OF THE ETRUSCANS tour, April 18 to May 2, 2022
offered in collaboration with Guelph Arts Council

Enclosed is my/our deposit of _____ (\$250.00 per person, plus insurance premium* if taken.)

I wish to book on group flights _____ OR land only _____.

* Insurance premium: Not required until the trip is guaranteed to go. You will be invoiced for the balance prior to departure.

WE REQUIRE A COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT (INFORMATION PAGES ONLY) VALID 3 MONTHS AFTER TOUR TO BE SENT IN WITH YOUR REGISTRATION FORM.

PASSPORT NAME(S): Please indicate the appropriate title (Mr., Mrs., Miss, Dr., Ms.)

Surname _____ First _____ Middle(s) _____

Surname _____ First _____ Middle(s) _____

If applicable, give your commonly used first name as you would like it to appear on your name tag: (e.g. "Liz" for "Mary Elizabeth") _____

Address _____ City: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____ (Email) _____

If traveling alone, is a SINGLE ROOM REQUIRED? YES _____ NO _____

If sharing, what is your bed preference: twin (2 beds) _____ double (1 bed) _____?

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: We find the earlier a request is made, the more success we have in filling it, so please list any dietary requests, allergies, any special physical needs or frequent flyer numbers etc. here. We cannot ensure requests made 30 days or less prior to departure will be possible.

INSURANCE: Please call the office for premiums, then record it on application and add premium to deposit.

I /we would like to purchase (please check and record your rate):

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

All-inclusive Package _____ Non-medical Package _____ Other _____ OR Decline Insurance _____

PAYMENT: Cheque payable to Pauwels Travel or e-transfer to tours@pauwelstravel.com. Because the credit card merchants have advised that they would withhold 75% of sales until some time in 2022 regardless of travel date unless a \$450,000 security deposit is paid, we are unable to accept credit card payments at this time

"I/we agree to the terms and conditions attached to the program, have indicated our insurance choice, indicated any special requests and included payment".

Date _____ (Signature)(s) _____

Please forward this completed and signed form, copy of passport and payment to:

PAUWELS TRAVEL BUREAU LTD.

15 Egerton Street, Brantford, Ontario N3T 4L4

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