

Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd.
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TICO registration #:1257995

FOOD FOCUS: SICILY
Thursday, October 31 to Monday, November 11, 2024



Holy cannoli! Don't miss this opportunity to travel with Lori Chisholm on a foodie tour of Sicily. Space is limited to 10 persons on a first come, first served basis so be sure to act fast!!!

**Please note, you will have to travel on the 30th of October to arrive for the start of the tour on the 31st.*

***This tour involves extensive walking, often uphill and/or on stairs and uneven surfaces.*

Cost of tour : Land only – \$4655 CAD

To keep costs as low as possible, we have not allowed for credit card merchant fees. Credit card payments will be subject to a 3% surcharge.

Tentative itinerary – subject to change!

Day 1 Thursday, October 31st:

D

Check in to our centrally-located Dome Hotel in Catania: <https://www.domecatania.it/dome-suite-catania>.

We'll meet for introductions and cocktails, then head for our welcome dinner at one of Catania's best seafood restaurants. Overnight Catania.

Day 2 Friday, November 1st:

B, L

Late morning after breakfast, our expert guide will lead us on a foodie and cultural exploration of the city centre. Late afternoon and evening free. Overnight Catania.

Day 3 Saturday, November 2nd:

B, L

Today after breakfast, we are off to the countryside for an insider visit to a pistachio farm in Bronte. From there, we'll move on to one of the Etna region's most renowned wineries for tastings and lunch. Overnight Catania.

Day 4 Sunday, November 3rd:

B

We'll depart by coach after breakfast for beautiful Taormina where we'll visit the ancient Greek theatre, then enjoy free time for lunch and strolling. We'll indulge in a brief aperitivo before boarding the coach to return to Catania in the late afternoon. Overnight Catania.

Day 5 Monday, November 4th:

B, L

It's moving day! After breakfast, check out - we are moving on to Ortigia, stopping on the way at a lovely *tenuta* - an olive oil farm - for a guided tasting and lunch with the family. Dario produces award winning oils and teaches us how to taste like the professional judges. Check-in at our Ortigia B & B on the port:

<https://www.apprododellesirene.com> . Overnight Ortigia.

Day 6 Tuesday, November 5th:

B, L

This morning, our host Fiora will lead us to the wonderful Ortigia market to pick up ingredients for our cooking class and lunch back at her apartment. Late afternoon and evening free. Overnight Ortigia.

Day 7 Wednesday, November 6th:

B, L, D

It's time for another day trip. Today, we explore the Baroque towns of Ragusa and Modica. Our lunch will be at a local *caseificio* - a cheese farm - where they also produce their own salumi, wheat and breads. Upon our return, we'll enjoy a group dinner at a local trattoria. Overnight Ortigia.

Day 8 Thursday, November 7th:

B

Free day! Perhaps visit the Roman amphitheatre, take a short boat tour, lunch at the market. Overnight Ortigia.

Day 9 Friday, November 8th:

B, L

It's moving day again. Today on our way to Palermo after breakfast, we'll stop at the town of Piazza Armerina to visit a Roman villa with incredible mosaics. We'll lunch at a local trattoria, then arrive late afternoon in Palermo, Sicily's exciting capital city. Check in to Hotel Teatro Massimo:

<https://www.massimoplazahotel.com/en/> . Overnight Palermo.

Day 10 Saturday, November 9th:

B, D

We'll start the day with a historical walking tour of the city centre. If we have time, we'll squeeze in a tour of the opera house. But this is a food tour so we'll visit Palermo from a foodie point of view in the evening. Overnight Palermo.

Day 11 Sunday, November 10th:

B, D

Our last day will be free up until our closing dinner. You might hop the train to Cefalu, a lovely resort town down the coast. Wander any of the markets again. Take a bus to Monreale to see the mosaics there. We'll enjoy an aperitivo before walking to our farewell dinner. Overnight Palermo.

Day 12 Monday, November 11th: <https://www.massimoplazahotel.com/en/>

Our tour is over after breakfast. Safe home or carry on!

Tour Cost:

\$4655 CAD based on twin/double occupancy

The above price does not take into account credit card merchant fees. We take credit cards but must add a 3% surcharge.

Tour Price includes:

- All transportation in a private vehicle as per the itinerary from start at hotel to finish at hotel
- 10 nights' accommodation in a superior tourist-class hotels, based on double occupancy
wifi included
- 10 substantial breakfasts
- 4 dinners: welcome dinner in Catania with wine; dinner in Ortigia; "dinner" during Palermo food tour; farewell dinner in Palermo with wine;
- 6 lunches or equivalent as per itinerary
- Welcome aperitivo, Taormina aperitivo
- 9 activities exclusive to our group of 10:
 - › food tour (walking) in Catania with expert guide + substantial tastings
 - › food tour (walking) in Palermo with expert guide + substantial tastings
 - › day trip to pistachio farm and Etna winery
 - › day trip to Taormina with theatre visit
 - › guided historical tour in Palermo with expert guide and headsets
 - › olive oil tasting and farm visit
 - › cooking class with Fiora
 - › day trip to Ragusa and Modica with cheese farm visit and chocolate tasting
 - › excursion to Villa Romana del Casale in Piazza Armerina
- Entrance to Taormina ancient theatre, Villa Romana del Casale, (Teatro Massimo tentatively)

Tour Price does not include:

- Flights and transfers – the tour begins and ends at the group hotels
- Items of a personal nature
- Alcohol and beverages with meals unless specified in the itinerary
- Travel or health insurance – please contact Pauwels travel

TERMS & CONDITIONS

RESERVATIONS AND DEPOSITS:

Reservations should be made as early as possible. We request you send your registration together with a refundable e-transfer of \$1000.00 per person. The feasibility of operating the tour will be reviewed 90 days prior to departure and if deemed operational, registered participants will be offered the opportunity to reconfirm their place by paying an additional interim payment of \$1,000.00 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. Interim payments for this tour due: July 1, 2023.

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 90 days prior of the departure date. For cancellation received in writing 89 days prior or less the following cancellation charges apply:

89 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 potentially 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.

REGISTRATION FORM

Please book _____ seat(s) on the "Food Focus: Sicily" tour October 31 – November 11, 2024.

Enclosed is my/our deposit of _____ (\$1000.00 per person, refundable until departure is guaranteed on May 15, 2024.) E-transfer to **tours@pauwelstravel.com** with *Sicily 2024* in the notes.

*Please do not book any airfares related to the tour until you have been notified the tour will be operating.

Insurance premium, will not be 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 END DATE TO BE SENT 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)_____

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 **serious** dietary restrictions, 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.

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. Unfortunately 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

Tel: 519-753-2695/1-800-380-3974 – Fax: 519-753-6376 Email: tours@pauwelstravel.com

