

Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd

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*The Tiber, St. Peter's Basilica, and St. Angel's Castle
on a painting of 1834 by Rudolf Wiegmann
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A ROMAN EXPERIENCE IN DEPTH

Thursday April 18 to Sunday April 28, 2024

An eleven-day end of winter escape to the "Eternal City" with its Imperial and Christian sites and monuments. Walk the Roman Forums. Gaze on the Sistine Ceiling. Stroll the banks of the Tiber. Relax in the vibrant atmosphere of the city's magnificent piazzas. Sample traditional cuisine in typical restaurants. Rest in a fine, traditional and charming first-class 4-star hotel, overlooking the Colosseum. Meet the Roman up front and personal while visiting by coach, subway and foot! An history of the Eternal City, the Roman Empire, and Italy in general will be provided by your escort, Michael Quinn.

ITINERARY

Day 1-Thursday, April 18:

Evening departure from Toronto Pearson International with Air Canada's overnight direct flight to Rome's Fiumicino "Leonardo da Vinci" Airport. Dinner and light breakfast will be served.

Day 2-Friday, April 19:

Upon morning arrival in the Italian capital, we begin our introductory panoramic coach tour of Imperial, Renaissance, Baroque and Modern Rome. Sites will include the

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Colosseum, the Imperial Forums, the Arch of Constantine, St. Peter Basilica, the Piazza Venezia, the Victor Emmanuel Monument. Anticipated early afternoon hotel registration at the Accord Mercure Roma Centro Colosseo, perfectly located in the historical centre of the “Eternal City”, only a few steps from the Colosseum. Time for post flight rest before an introductory walking tour of our first of the Seven Roman Hills...the Esquiline. This neighbourhood also features one of the four principal basilicae of the city...St. John Lateran, the cathedral church of Rome with its adjacent Lateran Palace. Welcome dinner in-house.

Day 3-Saturday, April 20: ‘Imperial Rome - Part 1’

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The City of the Caesars is the theme of the day as we explore the Imperial Forums of Julius Caesar, Augustus, Nero and Trajan; the Colosseum, the Imperial Forums and the Roman Forum (flanked by the 20th Century Monument to King Victor Emmanuel, colloquially known as the “Wedding Cake”!), the Circus Maximus and the triumphal arches dedicated to Constantine, Titus and Septimus Severus. Group lunch in the relaxed atmosphere of a nearby trattoria before walking to yet another of the Seven Hills, the Capitoline, citadel seat of power since earliest times. Now known as the *Campidoglio*, its top features a magnificent piazza, designed by Michelangelo, surrounded by fine Medieval and Renaissance palaces, one of which houses the Capitoline Museum. We visit this superb site, with treasures such as the equestrian statue of Marcus Aurelius, the Capitoline She-wolf bronze, the marble Dying Gaul, and “bits and pieces” of a colossal marble statue of Emperor Constantine, including the head, the right hand, left foot. Remainder of day and evening at leisure. (<http://en.museicapitolini.org>).



Foot of the statue of Constantine

Day 4 - Sunday, April 21:

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The morning set aside for individual activities: two of the four great Basilicae - S. Maria Maggiore and S. John Lateran are close by for religious services to any and all; a quick visit to the National Roman Museum in the Palazzo Massimo alle Terme - housing one of the world's most important collections of Classical Art, including frescoes, mosaics, coins and word-famous bronze and marble Greek and Roman statues such as the ‘Boxer at Rest’, the ‘Discus Thrower’ and the statue of Augustus as High Priest; or perhaps a cappuccino while appreciating the atmosphere of a Roman Sunday morning. But our afternoon's group theme ‘*Piazas and Fountains - A Focus of Roman Social Life*’ will begin with lunch in Piazza Navona and its dramatic Fontana dei Fiumi. Then on to the Piazza di Spagna and its unusual Fontana della Baraccia to be followed by the Piazza Venezia, and of course the magnificent baroque Trevi Fountain. Evening at leisure.

Day 5 - Monday, April 22: ‘Christian Rome - Part 1’

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The theme today, ‘Christian Rome’, takes us by metro to Vatican City for a full tour morning of visits: St. Peter’s Basilica with its huge central altar, papal crypt, treasury, massive dome and Michelangelo’s evocative *Pietà*. The Vatican Museums, featuring

frescoes by Raphael, paintings by Giotto, and antiquities such as the celebrated Hellenistic sculpture, *Laocoön*. And of course, the Sistine Chapel with Michelangelo's superb paintings will be an absolute highlight but so too, a climb (or elevator) to the Dome of St. Peter's for a memorable view of the Eternal City...stunning! Lunch in the Papal State, perhaps on the Via Della Conciliazione before we follow the Tiber, strolling to S. Pietro in Vincoli. Originally intended to hold a significant Church relic, the chains that bound St. Peter during imprisonment in Rome and Jerusalem, today it is better known for the evocative, powerful majestic statue of *Moses*, sculpted by Michelangelo, intended for the tomb of Pope Julius II. This evening, trattoria dinner in the vicinity.

Day 6 - Tuesday, April 23: 'Imperial Rome - Part 2'

After breakfast an excursion to the little town of Tivoli, situated in the foothills of the Apennine Mountains. Visits to two UNESCO World Heritage Sites: first, the impressive ruins of Hadrian's Villa, an elaborate residence built in the 2nd century AD for Emperor Hadrian, connoisseur of architecture and art (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1025>); and second, the Villa d'Este and its quixotic terraced gardens (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/907>). Afternoon return to Rome and the colourful Campus Martius District where, following lunch, a visit to the Pantheon, Rome's best preserved ancient temple. To-day it serves as the resting place for both the artist Raphael and Victor Emmanuel II, first King of a unified Italy. Remainder of the day at leisure.



Interior of the Pantheon

Day 7-Wednesday, April 24: Personal Optional Day

Individual choices are the theme of the day. Our city transit pass will allow flexibility and opportunity "to see and do more"! Several suggestions below but Michael will be available for other alternatives, planning and discussion including a full day excursion to Pompeii and Naples.

- **Borghese**, Gardens and Galleria.
- **Baths of Caracalla & Domus Aurea**
- **Ostia Antica** - the harbour city of ancient Rome at mouth of the River Tiber. An excellent archaeological site, close to the modern town of Ostia.

- **Catacombs and the Appian Way (Via Appia)** - one of the most famous of all Roman roads, connecting the city to the Adriatic seaport of Brindisi and hence to Greece. The road now features an archaeological zone with ancient tombs, the remains of aqueducts, and various catacombs, including the Catacombs of Callixtus, where numerous martyrs, popes and other early Christians were buried.



(Via Appia)

- Pompeii and Naples - full day (approx. 13 hrs.) excursion is available with a reputable local company. Programme offers a morning visit to the world famous Naples National Archeological Museum and its outstanding mosaic, *Battle of Alexander and Darius*. Afternoon in Pompeii, at the foot of Mount Vesuvius. Guided tour of the dramatic ruins of this once prosperous Roman town, destroyed by an eruption of the volcano in 79AD. The return route to Rome will pass by the Benedictine Monastery of Monte Cassino, fully restored following its destruction during the Allied invasion of Italy in WW II. Entrance fees and lunch are included in the cost (at this time € 140.00). If interested, please advise the Bureau (Caroline or Michael) prior to departure.

Day 8 - Thursday April 25: 'Christian Rome - Part 2'

We begin our day at Castel Sant'Angelo - originally the mausoleum of Emperor Hadrian, transformed in the course of the centuries into a medieval fortress and a luxuriously decorated residence of Popes. Later, a short walk takes us to Piazza del Popolo and Santa Maria...a church that encompasses the finest masters of Roman Renaissance and Baroque art and architecture; Caravaggio, Bernini, Raphael, Bramante... all here! Lunch alfresco in the lively vibrant open air food market of the Campo dei Fiori; a pause at the unique facades of the Spada and Farnese Palaces before appreciating the magnificent baroque Gesù, principal church of the Jesuit Order. And our route home will take us across the Tiber to Trastevere, once Etruscan but today a vibrant component of Roman life. The Basilica of Santa Maria provides a perfect setting for its magnificent chancel mosaics. An atmospheric coffee or a white Est! Est! Est! before our hotel return and the evening at leisure.

Day 9-Friday, April 26: Contingency Day

Post “Personal Option Day” opportunities for alternative visits. ie. if Pompeii had been visited on the Wednesday then Florence now becomes available...or vice-versa! Our tour offers flexibility and alternatives following discussion!

Day 10 – Saturday, April 27:

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An opportunity to meet the *whose who* of European masters in the exceptional Galleria Doria Pamphilj. Considered by most to be the best of the private collection galleries in Rome, it offers Rubens, Correggio, Tintoretto, Brueghl, Titian, Bernini et al. The bus pass provides personal opportunities to "mop up" sightseeing but...the proximity of the vias Condotti and del Corso hint strongly of retail therapy and last minute purchases before our evening *arrivederci* dinner in a typical ristorante!

Day 11- Sunday, April 28:

Morning coach transfer to Rome's da Vinci International Airport and the direct return flight to Toronto Pearson. Lunch and snack will be served before afternoon Toronto arrival.

Tour cost from Toronto, based on double occupancy, in Canadian funds: “Land only”: \$4,775.00 - supplement for *single use of a double room*: \$1,475.00.

Direct flight availability to be determined.



St. Pietro

Included in the price are:

- Accommodation, based on double occupancy, in a centrally-located and very comfortable 4-star/first-class hotel - single supplement is CDN \$1,475.00;
- Buffet breakfast daily & a total of *five* dinners (or full lunch);
- Transfers & all visits and sightseeing as described in the non-optional itinerary;
- Gratuities to guides & drivers;
- Seven day Public Transit Pass.

Not included:

- Wine, beer, mineral water, and similar beverages with lunch or dinner;
- All items of a personal nature;
- Travel Insurance is available, but premium depends on age etc: please call for rates.

SUGGESTED READINGS:

- *Daily Life in Ancient Rome*, Jerome Carcopino
- *The Assassination of Julius Caesar: A People's History of Ancient Rome*, Michael Parenti
- *The Renaissance in Rome*, Loren Partridge
- *Fleeting Rome: In Search of la Dolce Vita*, by Carlo Levi
- *The Pursuit of Italy: A History of a Land, Its Regions, and Their Peoples*, David Gilmour
- *The Italians*, John Hooper

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 \$750.00 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 \$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 "A Roman Experience Tour" April 18-28, 2024.

Enclosed is my/our deposit of _____ (\$750.00 per person plus insurance premium if taken.)

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

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 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. _____

PAYMENT: Cheque payable to Pauwels Travel or e-transfer to tours@pauwelstravel.com.

"I/we agree to the terms and conditions attached to the program, 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.
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