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TICO registration #: 1257995

The Wine and Food of Northern Italy

May 11 – 20, 2019



> Verona, Italy

(All photos taken by Lori Chisholm)

Tour cost: **\$4,675** land only if paying by credit card

\$4,495 land only if paying cash/cheque

Single supplement (limited space) \$795

Join Canadian sommelier T.J. Harstine and food tour host Lori Chisholm on this exclusive tour of the Piedmont and Veneto regions of Northern Italy. Naturally, the focus will be on the fabulous wine with visits to a minimum of 8 wineries on this 10-day tour. Space is limited to 12 participants maximum.

**some walking on cobbled streets and uneven terrain.*

**Itinerary is subject to change.*

B = breakfast; L = lunch, T = wine tasting with food; D = dinner

Day 1 – Saturday, May 11 – Alba

D

Participants will meet at our 4 star hotel (<http://www.hotelcalissano.com/en/>) in Alba where we'll gather together for the first time as a group to enjoy an aperitivo and welcome dinner. (Overnight Alba)

Day 2 – Sunday, May 12 – Barolo

B, L

We've come for the wine. Let's get to it! Barolo is considered by many to be the king of wines and this will be our first opportunity to taste for ourselves. After breakfast this morning, we'll be off to a unique winery - at the highest altitude in the Barolo region - to visit the cellars and taste the wines of the Vajra family. From here, we'll visit the town of Barolo itself for lunch together in a typical osteria. After lunch, we'll regroup for a VIP visit to the Lirano hills, 400 meters above sea level, to discover four more wines of the Barolo region, these ones organic. Dinner on your own. (Overnight Alba)

Day 3 – Monday, May 13 – Barbaresco

B

Often called the younger brother of Barolo, Barbaresco will be our focus today. We'll visit a family-run winery in the highest township of the region with stunning views of the Langa hills. We'll enjoy a vineyard walk, cellar tour and wine tasting here, then make our way to the main piazza of Barbaresco for a visit to the Enoteca Regionale del Barbaresco – in a 19th century church. After lunch on our own, we'll make one final stop at a four-generation *Green Experience* vintner to learn about their production methods to preserve the biodiversity of the region. And of course, there will be tastings. Dinner on your own. (Overnight Alba)

Day 4 – Tuesday, May 14 – Alba to Asti to Verona

B, L

After breakfast this morning, we'll check out of our hotel and finish our Piemonte tour with a stop in Canelli to visit a winery with a UNESCO World Heritage designation. 150 years old, the cellars here are spectacular - as are the sparkling wines and artisanal vermouths. We'll have lunch at the lovely wine bar associated with the winery, visit their sister property for yet more tastings, and then make our way to the province of Veneto where Verona will be our home for the next six nights. (www.anticaportaleona.com)

Day 5 – Wednesday, May 15 - Verona

B

Today after breakfast, we will meet our local guide for an orientation walking tour of Verona. Perhaps most renowned for its connection to Romeo and Juliet, this city has much more to offer from its colosseum to its castle, its ancient gates to its lovely piazzas. Take the whole rest of the day to explore on your own. (Overnight Verona)

Day 6 – Thursday, May 16 – Veneto countryside

B, T x 2

After breakfast this morning, we depart for the land of Amarone. We will start with an exclusive visit to one of the most stunning and renowned estates of the Italian wine world. The gardens, park, villa and cellars will all be part of our tour and we'll finish with tastings accompanied by cheeses and charcuterie produced exclusively for this estate. After lunch, we have a private visit to a winery with an interesting twist. At the top of TJ's list of vineyards to visit, this winery is "proud to present the Olfactory Gallery, a new eno-sensory tasting, which is the first of its kind in Italy. In this tour you can put your olfactory memory to the test, an all-embracing experience, where this neglected sense becomes leading character again." We are going to add additional tastings with finger food to enhance this whole wine adventure. (Overnight Verona)

Day 7 – Friday, May 17 – Lake Garda

B, L

We'll have a leisurely morning in Verona, and then take our coach for a short trip to Sirmione on Lake Garda. Sirmione is a delightful town on a peninsula extending up into the lake. At noon, we'll board our own private boat for a lake tour featuring Isola del Garda with aperitivo and buffet. Take some time after the boat tour to visit the town. Upon return to Verona, you'll be on your own for dinner. (Overnight Verona).

Day 8 – Saturday, May 18 – Verona

B

You are free for the whole day. It's an easy and inexpensive train ride to Venice or Bologna, even Florence! You could hire a car and driver for another day in Amarone-land. Or just do a little shopping, wandering, relaxing and dining in Verona itself. (Overnight Verona)



Day 9 –Sunday, May 19 – Verona

B, D

Today TJ will offer some options for further wine-tasting. Lori has a list of day tours available from Verona. You'll otherwise have the day free but we will meet later in the evening for an aperitivo followed by a short walk to our farewell dinner at a beautiful restaurant built in a former church. This will be our chance to retell the week's best stories, drink our last Northern Italian wine and indulge in some of the best food Verona has to offer. (Overnight Verona)

Day 10 –Monday, May 20 – Tour ends in Verona

B

The tour ends after breakfast and check-out. Enjoy an extension or return to Canada.

Arrivederci e buon viaggio!

Tour cost: **\$4,675** *land only* if paying by credit card

\$4,495 *land only* if paying cash/cheque

Single supplement (limited space) \$795

Included in tour cost:

- ~ 9 nights' accommodation in 4 star hotels
- ~ breakfast daily (9)
- ~ 3 lunches
- ~ welcome dinner with wine, farewell dinner with wine
- ~ welcome aperitivo, farewell aperitivo
- ~ comfortable private transfers from tour starting point to end point
- ~ two hosts: an experienced tour director and a certified sommelier, at your side for the entire tour
- ~ private tours and tastings at 8 exceptional wineries
- ~ olfactory experience with wine and food
- ~ private walking tour in Verona
- ~ all entrance fees as per itinerary
- ~ private boat excursion on Lake Garda with wine and food
- ~ all city taxes, guide gratuities, driver gratuities
- ~ portage upon arrival in Verona
- ~ a surprise or two!

Not included in tour cost:

- ~ airfare, transfers and accommodations pre- and post-tour
- ~ beverages with meals unless mentioned in the itinerary
- ~ items of a personal nature
- ~ any optional activities on day 9
- ~ travel insurance, medical and cancellation insurance (Please contact Pauwels Travel)

Air Transportation:

Air transportation is not included. Participants should arrange to arrive at the Alba hotel by 5:00 pm on Saturday, May 11, 2019.

Pauwels Travel will be pleased to make flight and transfer arrangements for you.

TJ Harstine - Certified Sommelier

If you ever get the chance to ask TJ about his background, you may be surprised to hear that it has absolutely nothing to do with food or wine or anything remotely close to sophisticated. Growing up minutes from Canada's most prominent wine region, it was not until moving more than 3000 km away to Edmonton, Alberta, that he found his ultimate obsession. Since then, TJ has completely immersed himself in the world of wine and hasn't considered looking back. After earning his Court of Master Sommelier certification, TJ started his own import company in the interest of working with small and passionate producers around the world to introduce them to the Canadian market. While launching this ongoing (ad) venture, TJ spent the better part of a year as the Estate Sommelier at one of Canada's best new wineries, Two Sisters Vineyards, in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. Now that TJ is bouncing around the globe from wine region to wine region in search of new and exciting wines, or leading a group of passionate wine enthusiasts on a tour, it can be hard to pin him down for a moment or two, but be warned: if you do ask him a question about wine, make sure you have a moment or two...because you're probably in for a very, VERY long answer.



TERMS & CONDITIONS

RESERVATIONS AND DEPOSITS:

Reservations should be made as early as possible to ensure the departure of your choice. A deposit of \$750.00 required at the time of registration. Your reservation is confirmed upon receipt of your deposit and registration form. No reservations will be accepted without a signed application form.

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 of the tour less a \$500.00 non-refundable administrative fee per person. For cancellation received in writing 90 days prior or less the following cancellation charges apply:

90 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.

APPLICATION FORM

Please book ___ seat(s) on “The Wine and Food of Northern Italy” from May 11 – 20, 2019.
Enclosed is my/our deposit of _____ (\$750 per person, **plus** insurance premium if taken.)

Deposit and insurance premium, if taken, are due with registration. You will be invoiced for the balance due 45 days prior to departure.

WE REQUIRE A COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT (INFORMATION PAGES ONLY) VALID 3 MONTHS AFTER RETURN DATE TO BE SENT IN WITH YOUR APPLICATION.

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 _____

Postal Code: _____ PHONE: _____ (Email) _____

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

If sharing, what is your bed preference: twin _____ double _____?

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 Visa Mastercard American Express

Amount Paid: _____ Card Number: _____ Expiry: _____

Security Code: _____ Signature: _____

“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:
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55 Dufferin Ave, Brantford, Ontario N3T 4P6
Tel: 519-753-2695/1-800-380-3974/519-753-2695 – Fax: 519-753-6376 Email:tours@pauwelstravel.com