

PASTA PLUS!

Gourmet Food & Wine Trip to ITALY

With the participation of the
**Abruzzo & Molise Heritage Society of
the Washington DC Area!**

ABRUZZO, MOLISE & CAMPANIA

Visiting: Pescara, Teramo, Civitella del Tronto
Lanciano, Termoli, Ortona, Sulmona
Isernia, Campobasso, Sorrento, Capri (optional)
Amalfi Coast, Pompeii and much more!

03 - 13 September, 2009



\$3,945 per person (double-occupancy)

for details and updates please see:

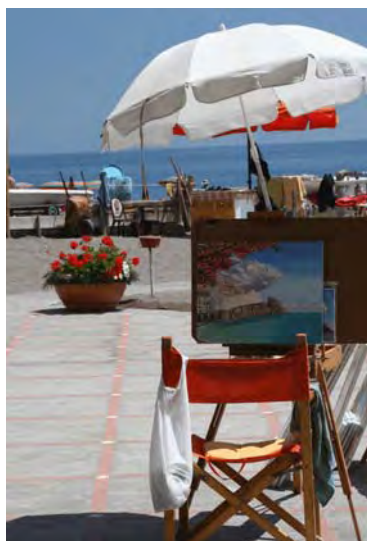
www.pastaplusrestaurant.com

or

www.bethesdatravel.com

please reach us at:

301-656-1670 or ciao@bethesdatravel.com



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PASTA PLUS RESTAURANT

Gourmet Food & Wine Trip ABRUZZO, MOLISE & CAMPANIA



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Civitella del Tronto
Lanciano, Termoli, Ortona
Sulmona, Isernia, Campobasso
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**With Max & Rosa Mazziotti
03 - 13 September, 2009**

Monday, 17 August

PASTA PLUS

This evening's trip briefing will give you the chance to meet your fellow-travelers and hear all about the places we'll visit and our unique, fun activities!

Thursday, 03 September

Laurel - Dulles

Passports in hand, meet Max & Rosa at **PASTA PLUS** and off we'll go to Dulles by charter bus! Overnight flight across the Atlantic. (Schedule TBA)



Friday, 04 September Fiumicino (Roma) - Pescara

Connect now to Rome for our motorcoach transfer to Pescara on the shore of the Adriatic Sea! Overnights **Hotel Esplanade!** Enjoy our first taste of Abruzzese cuisine at tonight's **WELCOMING DINNER!** (Dinner)

Saturday, 05 September

Pescara - Teramo - Civitella del Tronto - Pescara

BREAKFAST each morning in the hotel dining room! Driving northward to Teramo, we will visit the local craft production areas. Just uphill from here is the Gran Sasso, highest peak of the Apennines! Continuing to Civitella del Tronto, we will enjoy a visit to the impressive castle that protected the Kingdom of Naples

from the Papal states to the north (it's right at the border with the region of Le Marche). **DINNER** of local specialties at Zunica before heading back to Pescara for the overnight As always, Max and Rosa and the group will enjoy fine dining in local *ristoranti* and *trattorie* specially chosen to typify the cuisine of the regions we will visit: Abruzzo, Molise and Campania! (Breakfast,D)

Sunday, 06 September

Pescara - Lanciano Pageant - Pescara

The Italian Sunday is a wonderful invention! Church bells will awaken us as we enjoy a relaxing morning in Pescara with a chance for a swim or a leisurely walkabout! Today we will embark on an excursion to Chieti and Lanciano in the beautiful hills of Abruzzo. We await confirmation of the dates of the annual *Settembre Lancianese*, a historical festival first held in 1182, featuring traditional flag throwing - hoping it falls during our stay, we plan to attend the festival this afternoon and return to Pescara in time for **DINNER!** (B,D)

WOW! Time flies! It's been more than 40 years since Max Mazziotti and his brother Sabatino came to Washington from the Abruzzo region of Italy! Success quickly followed and since 1983 their **Pasta Plus Restaurant and Market** has become an institution in the Laurel community!



Buonissimo!

Max's loyal customers soon began requesting unique gourmet food and wine trips to Italy, and so about 13 years ago Max organized his first adventure to Tuscany and Rome. Since then, annual Pasta Plus trips have visited nearly every region of Italy and now, in 2009 we're going to Max's home region of Abruzzo, plus Molise, and Campania - the region of Naples and the Amalfi Coast!

All the details are here,, won't you join us in Italy?? You will never ever forget it! Our promise!

We are happy to be reuniting with Guido Adelfio of Bethesda Travel Center, which has specialized in unique customized trips to Italy since 1961! A deposit of \$1,250 per person is all you need and Guido will take care of the rest! Any questions?? Please call him at 301-656-1670 (888-656-1670) or ciao@bethesdatravel.com



Monday, 07 September Pescara-Termodi-Torre di Ramitelli-Ortona-Pescara

Today's excursion will take us to Molise. Teramo is the site of a Norman castle overlooking the Adriatic Sea and a *degustazione* wine tasting at Di Majo Norante "Terre degli Osci" will familiarize us with *vini molisani* and especially the local Montepulciano and Cabernet DOC vintages! Heading back along the spectacular coast we have plans for an *Abruzzese* DINNER and folkloric show at Ortona! (B,D)

Tuesday, 08 September Pescara - Sulmona - Pescara

Free time this morning to relax. Today, the group will explore the interior of Abruzzo including the region around Sulmona and the natural preserve known as La Maiella. Our plans are being develop to include DINNER, as always, in a charming local spot representative of the impressive scenery and heritage of regional cuisine! (B,D)

Wed, 09 Sep Pescara - Crossing the Peninsula (plans being developed) - Sorrento

Goodbye now to Pescara as we cross the peninsula of Italy. Passing through the Frentani and Matese Mountains today, we will explore the region of Molise, whose principal cities are Isernia and Campobasso. Traditional farming methods and the cultural heritage of many of our ancestors are still alive and well in the very heart of central Italy! Reach Campania and the Bay of Naples and beautiful, smiling Sorrento. Check in and DINNER - **Hotel Europa**. (B,D)

Thursday, 10 September Sorrento - Capri (optional) - Sorrento



A free day in Sorrento to relax and shop - or if you are feeling venturesome, an optional excursion to Capri (additional at \$136 p/p) will be arranged to include a visit to the island that you have seen in so many movies! The Blue Grotto and Monte Solaro will highlight the day, with free time for lunch and shopping in the charming village! Back to Sorrento in time for DINNER and a sampler of *specialita' locali* tonight! (B,D)

Friday, 11 September Sorrento - Amalfi Coast - Ravello - Pompeii - Sorrento

Today we will explore the beautiful Amalfi Coast (*molto romantico!*) with a chance to see Positano and Ravello as well as enjoying a guided visit to Pompeii, the Roman town that was entombed in lava in the 79AD eruption of nearby Vesuvius! Musical FAREWELL DINNER and wine tasting tonight for Max & Rosa and all of our friends on the **PASTA PLUS/Abruzzo & Molise Heritage Society** Gourmet Food & Wine Trip! (B,D)

Saturday, 12 September Sorrento {free day} - Ostia (Roma)

The day will be free to enjoy and explore Sorrento! Apart from the views, this town is known for mozzarella made from rich *bufala* milk and we will enjoy a *caseificio* demonstration and tasting! In the mid-afternoon we will depart to Ostia, a seaside town convenient to Fiumicino, Rome's airport for overnight and DINNER (**Hotel Aran Blu**). (B,D)



Sunday, 13 September Ostia - Fiumicino - Dulles - Laurel

And too soon it ends! After breakfast it's just a quick ride to Fiumicino for our home-bound connecting flights. On arrival, our charter bus will meet us at Dulles for the ride back to Laurel, ending our trip right where we began just about ten days ago - at Max's doorstep - **PASTA PLUS!** Welcome home! (B)

ABRUZZO-MOLISE-CAMPANIA

You Will Receive:

- *Airlines (in coach)
- *four-star hotel accommo (double occ.)
- *transfers and all transp door to door
- *daily hotel breakfasts
- *dinner of regional cuisine with wine
- *gala farewell dinner (11 Sep)
- *events such as cheese & wine tasting
- *a commemorative travel tote
- *entrance fees to featured sites
- *guided visit to Pompeii
- *all current taxes/surcharges
- *pre trip briefing (17 Aug)
- *professional tour escort
- *Single supplement +\$635
- *Capri optional +\$136 p/p



Ciao Max!



bethesda travel center
You're about to take the best vacation of your life.

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