



A special invitation for Family and Friends of  
**MOSAIC Canadian Vocal Ensemble**

Artistic Director, Conductor: Gordon Mansell

*Sicily & Southern & Northern Italy*

**14-Day Journey**  
**November 16 - 29, 2024**

Catania ~ Syracuse ~ Piazza Armarina ~ Agrigento ~ Monreale ~ Naples ~ Pompeii  
Amalfi Coast ~ Rome ~ Lucca ~ Turin ~ Bergamo

**INCLUSIONS:**

- **Airlines:** RT Economy class airfare on Lufthansa: Toronto/Frankfurt/Munich/Catania – Milan/Toronto.
- **Airlines:** One-Way Economy class airfare on Alitalia: Palermo/Naples.
- Canadian departure tax; Customs User fee; Security tax and all Airport Departure taxes.
- **Accommodations:** Ten (12) night's accommodations in twin rooms with private facilities at first class hotels.
- **Meals:** European breakfast daily, plus **eleven (11) dinners, including a festive dinner in Rome.**
- **Coach Transportation:** Local modern deluxe motor-coach transportation, upon arrival and available for the entire tour.
- **Tour Management:** One full-time, multi-lingual Tour Manager on motor coach throughout the entire tour, including arrival and departure transfers. Peter's Way Tour Manager and Overseas office staff are easily available 24 hours daily to render assistance whenever needed.
- **Excursions:** All sightseeing, conducted by licensed, professional, English-speaking guides as outlined in the day-by-day Tour itinerary.
- Entrance fees to all sights, as per itinerary included.
- Portage of one piece of luggage, per person, at hotels throughout.
- Coordination of all venues as per attached itinerary.
- **Tour brochures:** Special promotional brochures printed for distribution by you.
- Peter's Way travel documents, travel wallet, luggage tags, name badge and backpack.
- **Liability Insurance:** Three million-dollar Peter's Way Tours Liability Insurance coverage.

**EXCLUSIONS:**

- Health, trip cancellation/interruption or baggage insurance. All are strongly recommended. Peter's Way offers a comprehensive policy at additional cost.
- Passport & visa costs, if any.
- **Canadian Passports must be valid for at least (6) months subsequent to return date.**
- Items of a personal nature (hotel extras, laundry, phone calls, etc.).
- **Gratuities** to the tour manager, guides and driver.
- Meals not specified in the program.

# MOSAIC

## Canadian Vocal Ensemble

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Confirmed 42 seats via Lufthansa from Toronto Pearson International Airport

Departure City	Arrival City	Airline/Flight	Departure Date/Time	Arrival Date/Time
Toronto YYZ	Frankfurt FRA	Lufthansa #471	November 16 - 6:15 pm	November 17 - 8:00 am
Frankfurt FRA	Munich MUC	Lufthansa #100	November 17 - 10:15 am	November 17 - 11:10 am
Munich MUC	Catania CTA	Lufthansa #1906	November 17 - 2:40 pm	November 17 - 4:45 pm
Palermo PMO	Naples NAP	Alitalia #1708	November 21 - 11:20 am	November 21 - 12:45 am
Milan MXP	Frankfurt FRA	Lufthansa #249	November 29 - 9:20 am	November 29 - 10:40 am
Frankfurt FRA	Toronto YYZ	Lufthansa #470	November 29 - 1:15 pm	November 29 - 4:20 pm

*Please note: Flight itinerary subject to change without notice.*

### - I T I N E R A R Y -

#### **Day 1, November 16, Saturday: Depart Toronto**

Today: This afternoon, depart Toronto Pearson International Airport via Lufthansa Airlines for our overseas journey to Catania via Munich.  
Complimentary meals and beverages will be served aloft. (D,B)

#### **Day 2, November 17, Sunday: Arrive in Catania | Syracuse.**

Afternoon: We'll arrive at Catania Airport. Go through Passport Control, claim our luggage and a Peter's Way tour manager will meet us as we exit Customs. Board our private motor coach and we will be on our way Syracuse, for hotel check-in.  
Evening: Dinner and overnight at hotel in Syracuse. (D)

### Day 3, November 18, Monday: Syracuse | Agrigento

- Morning:** Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning we'll visit Syracuse, where the Apostle Paul stayed for three days after he departed Malta en route to Rome (AA 28:11-13). Today, Syracuse is a small, sun-bleached provincial capital, but in ancient times it was the western capital of Magna Graecia and one of the greatest cities in the world. Many buildings from this ancient period have survived. Most are in the "archaeological zone," the town's ancient Parco Monumentale della Neapoli (Viale Rizzo). We'll visit the Catacombs of John with its magnificent frescos and the crypt of Marziano, site of the first Christian Church on the Island. After our visit we'll continue to visit the **Shrine of Our Lady of Tears**, a place of pilgrimage, prayer, and recollection of a miracle, where Mary wept from a humble plaster plaque of the Immaculate Heart in the heart of the city of Syracuse. The reliquary containing the tears of Mary is the heart of the shrine. Next, visit the Duomo and the church of Santa Lucia alla Badia, located on the south side of Piazza Duomo. Inside the church there is a very famous painting by Carravaggio, *St. Lucia's Funeral*. St. Lucy is the patroness of Syracuse. **Celebrate Mass at the Shrine of St. Lucy, sung by the Mosaic Canadian Vocal Ensemble.** Independent lunch.
- Afternoon:** We'll continue to Agrigento for hotel check-in.
- Evening:** Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Agrigento. (B,D)



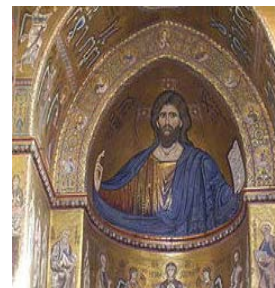
### Day 4, November 19, Tuesday: Agrigento | Monreale | Palermo

- Morning:** Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning, we'll Tour Agrigento, "Land of the Gods," and meet our local guide. Described by the Greek poet Pindar as "the most beautiful city of mortals," the symbol of the city is a group of magnificent temples occupying a valley. The origins of Agrigento date from 581 BC. The 5th century marked the apogee of the town, and it was then that the main temples were erected. The classical city comprises of magnificent temples and tombs. The finest are Tempio di Giove (Olympian Zeus), the largest Doric temple ever known; Tempio di Giunone (Juno/Hera), which commands a view of the valley; and Tempio della Concordia, one of the best-preserved temples in the world.
- Afternoon:** We'll leave Agrigento for the Conca d'Oro to visit Monreale, the site of the famous Cattedrale di Santa Maria la Nuova, built by King William II between 1172 and 1176. Undisputedly the most important Norman church in Sicily, it contains some extraordinary medieval artwork. The facade is grand, but nothing to compare with the vast interior, the walls of which are almost entirely covered with mosaic scenes from the Old and New Testaments. The eye is drawn immediately to the apse, where a magnificent portrait of Christ Pantocrator ("Ruler of All") gestures in blessing and gazes serenely off to one side. **Celebrate Mass at the Cathedral of Monreale, sung by the Mosaic Canadian Vocal Ensemble.** After Mass, we'll continue to Palermo for hotel check-in.
- Evening:** Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Palermo. (B,D)



### Day 5, November 20, Wednesday: Palermo | Cefalù

- Morning:** Breakfast at our hotel.  
 This morning, we'll have a panoramic tour of Palermo! Palermo is a city of wide boulevards, old quarters, town houses, architecturally harmonious squares, baroque palaces, and modern buildings. Palermo is bordered on the north by 1,800-foot Monte Pellegrino, which Goethe described as "the most beautiful promontory in the world. We'll enjoy a guided tour of the **Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta**. It is characterized by the presence of different styles, due to a long history of additions, alterations, and restorations, the last of which occurred in the 18th century. After our visit we'll continue to Cefalù, on the northern coast of Sicily on the Tyrrhenian Sea. Visit Cefalù Cathedral, a 12<sup>th</sup> century fortress-like structure with elaborate Byzantine mosaics and soaring twin towers. **Celebrate Mass at Cefalù Cathedral, sung by the Mosaic Canadian Vocal Ensemble**  
 Independent lunch in Cefalù.
- Afternoon:** Return to Palermo. Free afternoon to explore on your own.
- Evening:** Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Palermo. (B,D)



### Day 6, November 21, Thursday: Palermo | Naples | Sorrento/Seiano

- Morning:** Buffet breakfast at hotel.  
 This morning, we'll have an orientation tour of Palermo. Visit the Palazzo dei Normanni, once the seat of the Kings of Sicily during the Norman domination and served afterwards as the main seat of power for the subsequent rulers of Sicily. Inside are the Cappella Palatina and La Sala di Re Ruggiero, glittering chambers encrusted with mosaics of eastern influence. Continue to the Church of St. John of the Hermits (*San Giovanni degli Eremiti*), a lovely Arab-Norman church built in 1132 at the request of Norman King Roger II. It has picturesque red domes and a cloister with elegantly wrought columns and a beautiful tropical garden. **Celebrate Sunday Mass at the Cathedral in Palermo.**
- Afternoon:** We'll be transferred to the Airport in Palermo for our continuing flight to Naples. Upon arrival in Naples, we'll be transferred to our hotel in Seiano for check-in.
- Evening:** Dinner and overnight at hotel in Seiano or Vico Equense. (B,D)



### Day 7, November 22, Friday: Positano | Amalfi Towns

- Morning:** Buffet breakfast at hotel. Today the group will travel by mini-buses along the Amalfi coast. Our first stop is in Positano with its commanding view of the sea. From Positano, continue on to the town of Amalfi where we will visit the Cathedral of St. Andrew the Apostle and the crypt where the saint's relics are kept in the central altar.  
 Independent lunch in Amalfi Town.
- Afternoon:** After Mass we continue along the coast to Ravello, said to be nearer to the sky than the sea. Then, we pass through Minori, Maiori, Vietri Sul Mare and Salerno.  
 Return to our hotel.
- Evening:** Dinner and overnight at hotel in Seiano or Vico Equense. (B,D)





### **Day 8, November 23, Saturday: Pompeii | Rome**

**Morning:** Breakfast at hotel.

This morning, we'll explore the incredibly well-preserved remains of this ancient Roman town, where all life was suddenly stopped by an eruption of Vesuvius in the year 79 A.D. Pompeii was destroyed, and completely buried, during a long catastrophic eruption of the volcano Mount Vesuvius spanning two days in AD 79. The volcano collapsed higher roof-lines and buried Pompeii under 60 feet of ash and pumice, and it was lost for nearly 1700 years before its accidental rediscovery in 1748. Since then, its excavation has provided an extraordinarily detailed insight into the life of a city at the height of the Roman Empire.



**Afternoon:** We'll leave for Rome the "Eternal City." History, evolving over 2,500 years, will be made visible for you by the Roman ruins, 15th century churches, 17th century palaces and 20th century monuments. Early evening check-in at hotel in Rome.

**Evening:** Dinner and overnight at hotel in Rome. (B,D)

### **Day 9, November 24, Sunday: AM/Sung Mass at St. Peter's Basilica | Afternoon, Tour Ancient Rome, followed by evening Concert Presentation**

**Morning:** Breakfast at hotel.

This morning, we'll be transferred to St. Peter's Basilica for 9:00am or 10:30am. Mass at St. Peter's Basilica sung by **the Mosaic Canadian Vocal Ensemble**.

**At Noon attend the Papal Blessing (Angelus) at St. Peter's Square.** Independent lunch.



**Afternoon:** Continue our day with a visit to the ancient Roman Forum. See the Arch of Titus and the Arch of Constantine and proceed to the outside of the Colosseum for a fascinating explanation of its history. Continue on to the grandiose white marble monument of King Victor Emmanuel II, often called the "Wedding Cake." See the Trajan Column and the Market (the ancient Roman equivalent of a department store). Continue to St. Peter's Square in time to attend the noon Papal Blessing, where we'll hear Pope Francis' Angelus address in St. Peter's Square.



**Evening:** **Dress rehearsal and Concert presentation at the Church of St. Agnes or at the Basilica of the Apostles, presented by the Mosaic Canadian Vocal Ensemble.** Overnight at our hotel in Rome. (B)

## Day 10, November 25, Monday: Tour of the Vatican Museums | Sistine Chapel | St. Peter's Basilica | Tour of Imperial Rome

Morning: Breakfast at our hotel.

Our morning of sightseeing begins with a visit to one of the great art collections in the world: the Vatican Museums. Walk in the footsteps of the Princes of the Church through the richly decorated galleries. Continue on to the Sistine Chapel, the private chapel of the Popes, where Michelangelo best expressed his genius in monumental frescoes. End our morning tour in St. Peter's Basilica. Take in the outstanding architecture and the statues adorning the largest of all Christian churches, including Michelangelo's magnificent "Pietà." Pray at the new tomb of St. John Paul II in St. Sebastian's Chapel. If time permits, you may wish to independently visit the Vatican Crypt to see and pray near the tomb of St. Peter and the final resting place of numerous Popes among incredible works of art. Independent lunch.



Afternoon: Enjoy a walking tour and experience the best of ancient Rome. Begin at Piazza di Spagna, one of the most famous squares in Rome. From the *Fontana della Barcaccia* (Fountain of the Old Boat), in the middle of the piazza, climb the famous Spanish Steps to the top. Continue to the Trevi Fountain and toss in a coin. Our next stop is the Pantheon. Built more than 1800 years ago, the magnificent Pantheon still stands as a reminder of the great Roman Empire. The name Pantheon refers to the building's original function as a temple for all the gods. When approaching the front of the Pantheon we can still see the original Latin inscription by Marcus Agrippa. Visit to the nearby Church of San Luigi dei Francesi to see *The Calling of St. Matthew*, painted by Baroque master Caravaggio. Continue on to the beautiful lively Piazza Navona, the Church of St. Agnes, and Bernini's fountain.



Evening: **Our gala dinner will be at a restaurant in Rome.** Experience an atmosphere of hospitality and friendship and taste the Mediterranean cuisine in a typical Roman setting with wine and music. Overnight at our hotel in Rome. (B,D)

## Day 11, November 26, Tuesday: Rome | Lucca

Morning: Breakfast at our hotel.

This morning we leave Rome to the gentle Tuscan hills (five-hour bus ride to Lucca).

**A stop will be made at one of the wineries for wine tasting the snacks.**

Afternoon: Check-in at hotel in Lucca. Freshen-up.

At 4:00pm. Walk to the Cathedral of San Martino for the 5:00pm Mass sung by **the Mosaic Canadian Vocal Ensemble**. If time permits, we'll visit the Cathedral. The Nave of the Cathedral were rebuilt in Gothic style in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, while the west front was begun in 1204 by Guido Bigarelli of Como and consists of a vast portico of three magnificent arches, and above them three ranges of open galleries adorned with sculptures. In the nave a small octagonal chapel contains the most precious relic in Lucca, the Holy Face of Lucca. This cedar-wood crucifix and image of Christ, according to the legend, was carved by his contemporary Nicodemus, and miraculously conveyed to Lucca in 782. Additionally the Cathedral contains Domenico Ghirlandaio's Madonna and Child with Saints Peter, Clement, Paul and Sebastian.



Evening: Dinner and overnight at hotel in Lucca.

(B,D)

### Day 12, November 27, Wednesday: Lucca | Turin

- Morning: Breakfast at our hotel.  
 This morning we will have a walking tour of center Lucca, you may get the impression that the city isn't quite as grand as its Tuscan neighbors. That all changes when you reach the **Piazza San Michele**. This L-shaped square is bursting with graceful architecture, including the **Praetorian Palace**, converted banks, and the square's focus, the **Chiesa di San Michele in Foro**. Taking center stage, this white marble church has a steep front facade packed with columns and statues. Continue on to Piazza Napoleone and view Palazzo Ducale di Lucca. Independent lunch.
- Afternoon: We leave Lucca drive north to Turin. (Three hour Bus ride).  
**If time permits, Celebrate 5:00pm. Mass at the Cathedral of St. John, sung by the Mosaic Canadian Vocal Ensemble.**
- Evening: Dinner and overnight at hotel in Turin. (B,D)

### Day 13, November 28, Thursday: Turin | Bergamo

- Morning: Breakfast at our hotel.  
 This morning, we'll visit the **Cathedral of St. John the Baptist (*Duomo*)**. The Cathedral, built in 1498, is an excellent example of Renaissance architecture, with a Romanesque Campanille. The Cathedral houses the Holy Shroud of Turin. According to tradition, the 14-foot by 4-foot linen cloth is the burial shroud of Jesus. In passages underneath the church, you may view artifacts relating to the shroud. In the Chapel of the Holy Shroud (*Capella della Sacra Sindone*), a replica can be viewed, as the Shroud itself is only brought out for special occasion (the last time the Holy Shroud was exoposed was in 2010). **Celebrate Mass at the Cathedral.** After our visit, we leave Turing to Bergamo (two- and half-hour bus ride). Independent lunch upon arrival in Bergamo.
- Afternoon: We tour Bergamo, on the foothills of the Alps. Bergamo has a prominent place in music history. The large Romanesque church of Santa Maria Maggiore, begun in 1137, had a continuous and well-documented tradition of music teaching and singing for more than eight hundred years. **Celebrate Mass at Santa Maria Maggiore.** After Mass, we visit the town including, Cappella Colleoni, and Piazza Vecchia.
- Evening: Dinner and overnight at hotel in Bergamo. (B,D)

### Day 14, November 29, Friday: Return from Rome

- Morning: After an early breakfast at hotel, we will be transferred to Rome's Leonardo da Vinci Airport for our return flight home. Arrive on the same day. (B)