

ESPRESSO PASSION

Authentic Italian café and grocery in St. Catharines offers patrons "a little taste of Italy."

BY SCOTT LESLIE
The Business Link

The moment you step through the door at Espresso Passion, you're stepping into Italy. Located on 22 Facer Street in St. Catharines, Espresso Passion is a unique Italian coffee bar and grocery, serving a variety of authentic Italian coffees, beverages, cakes, pastries, and traditional homemade Italian meals.

"We're dedicated to providing our customers with exceptional coffees and Italian foods, with impeccable service," explains Nadia Vergalito, the owner of Espresso Passion. "You can really taste the difference in every bite and every sip."

Espresso Passion's house specialties include Italian artisan pizzas that are stretched by hand and baked in a wood-burning oven, imported from Italy, panini, salads, and homemade soups and pastas made fresh daily. Espresso Passion also provides a special, customized catering menu for private and business functions as well as takeout menus.

"We use nothing but the freshest, local ingredients," Nadia says. "That means no additives or preservatives which makes it very easy for us to cater to those with food allergies. Our menu is very flexible so we can handle everything from small get-togethers to full scale Italian dinner parties."

Nadia's restaurant is a perfect venue for private and corporate functions—everything from business



meetings and birthdays to cocktail receptions and bridal showers. Espresso Passion can comfortably seat 90 people indoors with another 70 patrons outside on their private patio.

Nadia prides herself on offering a wide range of authentic Italian products and beverages. Espresso Passion features homemade Italian foods such as soups, lasagna, manicottiporchetta, and their famous tomato sauce and meatballs, as well as prosciutto and other cured meats from Niagara Food Specialities. They even offer a variety of fine Italian desserts like homemade tiramisu and Sicilian canoli.

All of these products and more are available for purchase in Espresso Passion's brand new retail and grocery area. Their selection includes everything from pastas, rice, olive oils and balsamic vinegars to chocolates, cheese, cured meats and marinated vegetables. Espresso Passion also offers customized gift baskets and a brand new line of Saeco coffee machines.



Nadia is currently setting up distribution channels for the Universal brand of coffee products in retail and wholesale chains across Canada and the U.S. If you are interested in carrying this spectacular coffee, stop by Espresso Passion for a taste, you will be amazed!

"Everything at Espresso Passion is truly genuine in keeping with Italian tradition," Nadia says. "We have a real sense of authenticity that keeps our customers coming back again and again." **BL**

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It's a lifestyle...enjoy it!

22 Facer St., St. Catharines ON
905.938.5525 www.espressopassion.ca



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