

# **SAFETY NOTES**

These notes are provided to participants on field excursions associated with the YORSGET 2022 conference. General comments are followed by some specific notes concerning each locality.

**You are each responsible for your own safety and that of others on the field excursions. The field leaders are not expected to provide first aid – ensure you have adequate supplies for your own needs**

No safety advice or hazard assessment can be comprehensive. All participants should remain vigilant. Please follow instructions from the trip leaders. If you are not content with any safety issues please raise them either to the leaders or to the group as a whole straight away. **If you have any personal health issues that may affect your participation then please advise the trip leaders (in confidence) – no activities are compulsory!** Please read the daily notes before departure.

## General medical issues

During field days we will be a long way (several hours) from 24 hour medical facilities. Although there are prescription chemists etc. in Agrigento, please bring any medicines you need with you.

## Covid-19

Our priority is the health and well-being of all participants in the meeting. During YORSGET and according to present Italian government guidance and protocols at Catania University we suggest measures to help prevent the spread of the virus and keep everyone safe. These may also be obligatory in some settings (e.g. underground, coach, etc.).

Social distancing:

Social distancing is recommended, however if this will not be possible (on the coach, in meeting and poster rooms, etc.) the wearing of FFP2 face masks is requested.

General hygiene measures:

Workshops areas are regularly cleaned, especially reception areas and common touch points.

Hand sanitizer will be made available for participants to use.

## Transport

We will be travelling in self-drive vehicles and coaches. Please do not distract the drivers. All vehicles are non-smoking. Please take care not to leave rolling objects on the floors – which might impede vehicle controls.

Take special care when exiting vehicles, watching for other road traffic.

## Wildlife

There are a few hazardous fauna in Sicily. There are occasional vipers (very rarely seen) which are venomous. Ticks are more of an issue because of Lyme disease:

<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Lyme-disease/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

Evening inspection and careful removal is strongly advised:

<http://www.lymediseaseaction.org.uk/about-ticks/tick-removal/>

### Road sections

Although there is relatively light traffic, vehicles can be very fast-moving. High visibility clothing and vigilance is recommended, especially when exiting vehicles and crossing roads. Avoid loitering in the carriageway. If we need to follow roads on foot please walk single-file on the left (facing oncoming traffic).

### Working below cliffs

There is a mixture of cliff sections at our outcrops – some can be unstable. We strongly advise wearing hard hats. These are obligatory for the mine visit. Please avoid areas of unstable rock and beware objects being dislodged from above by other people and livestock.

### Coastal

We will be working on various coast sections. Tides are not an issue. However beware the occasional out-sized wave. Rocky shorelines can be slippery. Wear appropriate footwear at outcrops – even on sandy areas.

### Moorland

Various locations short walks on farm tracks and rough paths. Take care to avoid tripping and twisting injuries.

### Weather

In June-July the temperature on Sicily can vary between c 20C to high 30sC. Sun protection (loose shirts, sun hat and high-factor sun blocks) are strongly advised. Keep up fluid intakes to avoid dehydration.

## ***Outcrop notes: Field Day 1***

Short distances from the parking areas. Low cliffs at Bordonaro and Sambuco. At Capodarso we may scramble on low outcrops but beware cliff sections.

## ***Outcrop notes: Field Day 2***

At Realmonte Mine, an underground visit– **HARD-HATS are obligatory** (no access without). The mine engineers will brief our visit (translated by field trip leaders as needed) and will accompany us throughout the vit. Follow their instructions. Do not touch any equipment/cabling etc. and be vigilant. Although a working salt mine, they regularly host visits. Both Eraclea Minoa and Siculiana Marina are at tourist beaches and have coastal outcrops. Be particularly vigilant under cliffs and avoid areas that are unduly unstable. These localities can involve some wading (in sea conditions are calm). Appropriate footwear strongly recommended to protect against any sharp objects.

### ***Outcrop notes: Field Day 3***

Roadside and near roadside outcrops. At Temple Valley (tourist venue at World Heritage Site) follow the instructions at the site for visitors. Take particular care with traffic at the other locations.

### **Emergency**

SOS Emergency call number: 112

#### Hospitals in Catania Open 24h

Presidio Ospedaliero Garibaldi-Centro: Piazza Santa Maria di Gesù, 5 - 95123 Catania +39 (0) 95 7591111

Azienda Ospedaliero Universitaria Policlinico "G.Rodolico - San Marco", via Santa Sofia 86C, building 7 - 95123 Catania

Azienda Ospedaliera Cannizzaro  
Via Messina, 829 +39 (0) 95 726 1111

Ospedale San Marco: Viale Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, 95121 Catania CT  
Phone: +39 (0) 95 743 1111

#### Hospital in Agrigento Open 24 h

Ospedale San Giovanni di Dio,  
Contrada Consolida, Agrigento, +39 (0) 922 442111

*Rob Butler*  
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