

Art in the Heart of Italy

October 1 - 13, 2010

Gary Lord, Melanie Royals, and Alison Woolley invite you to join them for another exciting trip to the heart of Italy. Come with us for an enchanting 11 days of feasting, painting, sightseeing and learning, while you make new friends and have experiences of a lifetime!

We will be undertaking several distinctive painting projects in the historic Castello di Casigliano, a 16th century castle with a history of intrigue and important guests. Set in the Umbrian hillside, the magical views are matched by the warm hospitality of our hosts.

Gary, Melanie, and Alison will also be teaching separate, exclusive finishes on "class days" during our stay.

Besides our delightful accommodations in Umbria, we will also be visiting Rome, local medieval hill towns, and will end our trip with two and a half days in Florence. There, we will stay at the beautiful Fattoria di Maiano, which is perched on the hills just above Florence. The Maiano was the site of one of our previous trips to Italy in 2007.



Arno River in Florence

Our Itinerary includes: *subject to slight changes*

Friday October 1

Depart from US on overnight flight to Rome

Saturday October 2

Arrive in Rome early morning (plan your flight to arrive by 9am).

Take bus to Castello di Casigliano with a stop at a local grocery store to purchase wine, drinks and food for your apartment. (All apartments include kitchen facilities)

Arrive mid-afternoon at Castello di Casigliano. Free afternoon to unpack, socialize and explore!

Grand welcome dinner for the group in the Castello dining room.

Sunday October 3

Late breakfast @ 9am followed by a private tour of the Castello with our host, Romano Crispoldi.

Take bus to a winery near Montefalco for a group lunch and wine tasting. Additional time in Montefalco.

Possible option: Stop on way home in Todi to visit churches, shop, and scope out restaurants to come back to Monday night.

Dinner on your own at the Castello di Casigliano. You can prepare own food or dine at the award-winning restaurant on site: Il Re Beve

Monday October 4

Painting Day

Bus transportation provided to the lovely local hill town of Todi@6pm. Dinner on your own in Todi.

Tuesday October 5

Painting Day

Dinner on your own at the Castello di Casigliano. You can prepare own food or dine at the award-winning restaurant on site: Il Re Beve



Castle Tour



Todi



Castle Courtyard



Duomo in Orvieto



Montepulciano

Wednesday October 6

Painting Day

Depart by bus @ 5pm for local medieval hill town (within 1hr driving distance) for shopping, sightseeing, group dinner.

Thursday October 7

Dinner on your own at the Castello di Casigliano. You can prepare own food or dine at the award-winning restaurant on site: Il Re Beve

Friday October 8

Painting Day

Celebratory evening party at the Castello with champagne and cake in your honor.

Saturday October 9

Bus leaves 10am for Rome. Drop off at various points in Rome (Vatican/Forum/Borghese Gardens/Termini Station).

You are free to make your own plans for sightseeing, lunch and dinner on this day. At a later date, we will be provided suggestions and resources if you need help deciding what to do and see!

Return on bus from Termini Station @ 11pm

Sunday October 10

Bus leaves the Castello at 10am for trip to Florence

Stop in Montepulciano on the way for lunch and sightseeing on your own for 3 hours (We can possibly arrange a visit for the group at the Pulcino tasting store in Montepulciano. They have a large facility and wide range of delicious wines, cheeses, meats plus other attractions and can accommodate groups, I think) see <http://www.frommers.com/destinations/montepulciano/2551010029.html>

Quick stop at grocery store on the way. Arrive to Maiano by 4pm

Dinner on your own at the restaurant at the Maiano or taxi into Florence for dinner.

**We may plan a spaghetti potluck on this night that we can prepare in the rooms!

Monday October 11

Free day in Florence. Breakfast, lunch, dinner on your own.

*We will attempt to arrange a private tour of the Maiano estate on this with the owner of both the Castello di Casigliano and the Fattoria di Maino, the Contessa Miari Fulcis

Tuesday October 12

Option: Individual taxis into Florence in the morning for a tour of the Palazzo Corsini (another property of the Contessa's) <http://www.palazzocorsini.it/> and the Vasari Corridor <http://www.mega.it/eng/egui/monu/ufd.htm>

Rest of the afternoon/early eve on your own in Florence

Group farewell dinner at a wonderful restaurant just up the hill from the Fattoria di Maiano.

Wednesday, October 13

Individual taxis to Florence airport for those leaving with us....Ciao!



Class fun



Tromp Loeil Panel in Rome



Castello Church

The cost for this trip is: \$3495

(Includes accommodations, bus transportation where indicated, meals as indicated, classes, taxes and tips)

SAVE! Take \$150 off when you book your space by January 1, 2010

Payment Schedule:

\$1,000 deposit down to reserve your spot (non-refundable)

\$1247.50 due on April 1, 2010

\$1247.50 due on August 1 (this is your final payment. No refunds will be given after final payment)

Trip Insurance: We highly recommend that you purchase trip insurance, which will reimburse you if you need to cancel your place on the trip due to illness, injury or other extenuating circumstances before or even during your trip. We will have more information on trip insurance for you upon your registration.

Make Payments to:

Modello Designs

3517 Main Street. Suite 301

Chula Vista, CA 91911

Ph. 619.621.9093/E. 619.271.1472/ theresa@modellodesigns.com

Credit cards are accepted with an additional 3% surcharge if used for payments

For more information:

glord@prismaticpainting.com/melanie@modellodesigns.com

**Please note that the trip cost is based on the current Euro to dollar value of currency as of December 2009. In the unlikely event that the dollar should weaken considerably prior to our trip, we reserve the right to adjust the final trip payment accordingly.*

Links:

<http://www.castellodicasigliano.com/>

<http://www.fattoriadimaiano.com/en/>



Melanie Royals, Gary Lord, and Alison Woolley

****You will need to make your own flight arrangements and pay for your own airfare. Early in 2010, we will let you know what flight Gary and Melanie are taking from the East Coast so that you can book and join us if you want (highly recommended). Current airfares into Rome and out of Florence on these dates are running \$800-\$900.**