




Paesano Tours - Janette Garbuio

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Painting/Cultural - Italian Tour 2023

Tuscany Hills/Emilia Romagna

Date September 2023	Itinerary - Antoinette Blyth Watercolour Painting Workshop It will be advisable to book our hotel for the night before so you will not miss the bus for our 2 hour trip to the mountains. If you miss the bus it will be your responsibility to use a taxi (approx. E200)	
Day 1 Sunday 10th Sept	<p>Time to explore the center of Bologna before our private bus will pick us up at the MERCURE HOTEL CENTRAL, BOLOGNA, our designated hotel, before travelling to RIOLUNATO situated in the <i>Frignano Region</i> of the Appenines mountains. We will lunch along the way.</p> <p>We will arrive at the family owned Hotel in Riolunato and have time to relaxing and soak in the atmosphere before having a traditional Italian cooked meal. A studio will be provided during our stay. <i>(D) Accommodation: Riolunato</i></p>	
Day 2 Monday 11th Sept	<p>RIOLUNATO It will be lovely and quiet so you will not be disturbed. We will also have a studio which has beautiful views of the valley to join Antoinette for instructions. This quiet town is just perfect for painting the old rustic fresco buildings, ancient doors and cobble pathways. You can follow the road down from the town to see the beautiful C13 Bridge of the Moon. Lunch at the local trattoria or at our hotel.</p> <p>For non painters an opportunity to walk to CASTELLO to find a hidden ancient C10 tower and church filled with ancient artifacts which were gifted by pilgrims from the crusaders and hidden frescoed C15 Oratory. <i>(B&D) Accommodation: Riolunato</i></p>	<p>9.00 – 4.00 Painting (includes Lunch)</p> 
Day 3 Tuesday 12th Sept	<p>SESTOLA This snow resort town set high in the forested Mt Cimone mountain will inspire the artists as they view the majestic castle of Sestola (900AD) which is perched on the edge of a ravine. It is in the best location to paint under lovely shady trees in a garden square surrounded with lovely stone buildings.</p> <p>For non painters opportunity to explore the old forest paths to the Largo della Ninfa. You will return to a local restaurant or café to rejoin the artists for a lunch and maybe a refreshing drink of wine. This area is renowned for its truffles and porcini mushrooms which can be purchases to bring home. Afternoon entrance into the castle to paint and examine the ancient articles within.</p> <p>.</p> <p><i>(B&D) Accommodation: Riolunato</i></p>	<p>9.30 – 4.00 Painting (includes Lunch)</p> 





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<p>Day 4 Wednesday 13th Sept</p>	<p>FIUMALBO Today is your opportunity to paint this medieval town on the border of Tuscany and Emilia-Romagna and is surrounded by two rivers. Small narrow streets reveal a town steeped in ancient history. Learn about the history of the whites and the reds religious sect as each protect their church and their beliefs. The landscape consists of beautiful old churches, stone bridges and a Seminary Abbey encircled by mountains.. . After lunch, there will be an opportunity for non painters to drive up and walk down from Eagle's nest. Tonight, please organize an overnight bag for two nights while leaving your luggage in your room. Your luggage will be safe in your room <p align="right"><i>(B&D) Accommodation: Riolunato</i></p> </p>	<p align="center">9.30 – 4.00 Painting (includes Lunch)</p> 
<p>Day 5 Thursday 14th Sept</p>	<p>LUCCA Our private bus takes us down through the beautiful mountains to Lucca, a magnificent city in Tuscany. Enclosed by city defense walls, this city has narrow lanes, which meander along various medieval buildings, including an 180BC Roman amphitheater. Learn about a prince's love for his wife and the history behind the town's defense. This is an opportunity to draw some sketches as you rest at a local café. On our return a stop to walk over the Maddalena Bridge build in the Matilda of Tuscany era before we go to our new hotel. <p align="right"><i>(B&D) Accommodation: Castelnuovo di Garfagnana</i></p> </p>	<p align="center">Free dav – Sketch book</p> 
<p>Day 6 Friday 15th Sept</p>	<p>CASTELNOVO DI GARFAGNANA The history of this town dates back to the 8 century. Its location on the Serchio River made it the main market town of this region. It has views of the Apennine and Apuan Alps with towers and majestic buildings for the artist to depict and explore. The non artist will have time to explore the winding paths to the defense castle which overlooks the town or find a hidden café to enjoy scenic views of the river which sweeps past this town. You will have time to rest or walk into town to enjoy the atmosphere. <p align="right"><i>(B&D)Accommodation: Castelnuovo di Garfagnana</i></p> </p>	<p align="center">9.00 – 4.00 Painting (includes Lunch)</p> 
<p>Day 7 Saturday 16th Sept</p>	<p>CASTIGIONE/ Sasso Rosso/ Hostel St Pellegrino Our bus will take us through the scenic mountains, into the Tuscan region, along the medieval road, just like the pilgrims of yesteryear. We will visit Castel Garfagnana, a beautiful town surrounded within a castle wall, dating back to the Roman Era and the dark ages. After many painting/sightseeing opportunities, we will venture after lunch to a gorgeous village with red stone buildings called SASSO ROSSO. There are only pathways made of stone from one house to another and we can spend an afternoon painting or exploring. On our return we will visit San Pellegrino – C600 pilgrim hostel for a coffee. <p align="right"><i>(B&D) Accommodation: Riolunato</i></p> </p>	<p align="center">9.30 – 11.30 Painting & Travel Sketch Book</p> 




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<p>Day 8 Sunday 17th Sept</p>	<p>CUTIGLIANO This town is classified as being the most beautiful Borga (cluster of buildings) in Tuscany. It is hidden deep in the Apennine Mountains. It is surrounded by dark forests and winding roads. The quaint stone buildings and alley ways will give you plenty of opportunity for painting.</p> <p>You will discover the history surrounds you because this was the medieval town where the secret meetings of the warlords of the region- "Captains of the Mountains" were held.</p> <p align="right"><i>(B&D) Accommodation: Riolunato</i></p>	<p>9.30 – 1600 painting (includes lunch)</p> 
<p>Day 9 Monday 18th Sept</p>	<p>RIOLUNATO Today is your opportunity to paint this township and absorb the atmosphere in the last day in this town.</p> <p>Time to return to prepare your bags to be sent to our new hotel.</p> <p align="right"><i>(B&D) Accommodation: Riolunato</i></p>	<p>9.30 – 1600 painting (includes lunch)</p> 
<p>Day 10 Tuesday 19th Sept</p>	<p>PALAGANO We will depart from Riolunato and travel down the mountains to Palagano. After settling into our room, there will be time to paint the town which is located in the Valley of the Dragon. We will be surrounded with iconic buildings. View the friendly paesani on their way to the shops or coffee while you are settled to paint the beautiful scenery surrounding this township.</p> <p>After lunch, we will find another shady spot to paint but there is always time for a country walk by following a forest pathway to a borga of ancient stone houses. Or just spend some time in our lovely studio to finish your work. The hotel also has an indoor heated pool and beauty treatment for a small fee.</p> <p align="right"><i>(B&D) Accommodation: Palagano</i></p>	<p>10.00 – 1600 painting (includes lunch)</p> 
<p>Day 11 Wednesday 20th Sept</p>	<p>MONTEFIORINO / VITRIOLLA – We will stop on the way to see the Parmesian Cheese Co-op before our bus will travel to the hill top town and its 12th century castle. It was constructed by the Count of Montecuccolli and called the Rock. The township is clustered along the ridge with sweeping views of the Dolo Valley and the valley of the Dragon. A Museum dedicated to the Italian Resistance is located in the Castle</p> <p>There will be an opportunity of painting a market scene and after lunch a trip to VITRIOLLA to paint at Ca Tonelli, a borga of ancient tower houses. For the ones who wish to walk, there is a lovely stroll from Montefiorino to Vitriolla which is filled with holy Mestra and tower buildings and farmlands.</p> <p align="right"><i>(B&D) Accommodation: Palagano</i></p>	<p>9.30 – 1600 painting (includes lunch)</p> 

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<p>Day 12 Thursday 21st Sept</p>	<p>BOCCUSSULO Located nearby is this village which dates back to the Celtic Etruscan time It is lost in time and surrounded with spectacular views.</p> <p>We will paint and explore this hidden gem in the Apennine mountains. It will be quiet and serene. There is an opportunity to walk up to the small unique bell town which overlooks this quiet village. We can lunch there and afterwards for the painters there is another opportunity to find another view. For the non painters, they can walk back through the forest to Palagano with Janette.</p> <p align="right"><i>(B&D) Accommodation: Palagano</i></p>	<p>9.30 – 4.00 painting (includes Lunch)</p> 
<p>Day 13 Friday 22nd Sept</p>	<p>MODENA Our bus will travel to Modena, which is one of the more significant cities in Emilia-Romagna.</p> <p>You will stroll to the ancient Roman center from here you can spend time to explore. There is a large city market center and variety of exclusive stores. In front of the World Heritage Romanist Cathedral and in the large cobble public square you can sit and take a coffee break.under the ancient arches</p> <p>You will be free to spend the day exploring the architecture, the Este Duke's Palace, churches filled with Baroque architecture and art and beautiful shops before leaving to see the Ferrari of Maranello and a visit with refreshments at the holy shire of the powerful Duke Este called Fiorano. It is full of the most beautiful frescos from the 17 century Italian Artists.</p> <p align="right"><i>(B&D) Accommodation: Palagano</i></p>	<p>No workshop – Travel Sketch Book</p> 
<p>Day 14 Saturday 23rd Sept</p>	<p>PALAGANO Today we will have time to paint in town and do our last walks. The area is very beautiful and the windy lane ways can lead you up to view the township below or down to the River. We can paint behind the church where there are open views of the Valley of the Dragon. Time to present all our works in our studio to admire before our farewell dinner. Tonight, we prepare our luggage for departure early next morning.</p> <p align="right"><i>(B&D) Accommodation Riolunato</i></p>	<p>9.00 – 1600 painting (includes lunch break)</p> 
<p>Day 15 Sunday 24th Sept</p>	<p>Departure in the morning 7.30 am to arrive at Bologna Train Station - expected time of arrival 10.00 am – then the bus will go to the Bologna airport.</p> <p align="right">B</p>	

*Please note: to ensure you have the tour of a lifetime, the itinerary may be changed at anytime.

The workshops times are ultimately at the discretion of Teacher

Time to display your works before preparing your bags for our early departure for Bologna the next day.

(B = Continental Breakfast, D = Dinner) Lunch break + 1 ½ hours