

“The Artful Life”

A painting and culinary workshop
in the hills of Tuscany with
Doug Turman and Mary Lee Larison

October 22 - 29 2020



Blessed with beauty and an unparalleled artistic legacy, Tuscany is a region that fully lives up to its reputation. Stupendous art, soul-aching countryside, excellent wine and delicious cuisine is what this region, where the Renaissance rippled out across Europe, is all about.

Join Doug Turman and Mary Lee Larison for a creative and relaxing week of watercolor painting and culinary adventure. In this workshop you will explore multiple ways of creative expression. The instructors will share their knowledge and love of Italy and their skills in watercolor painting and cooking.

The views from our accommodation in the Tuscan hills, an elegant 18th century country residence, sweeps over castles, tiny villages and farmhouses, immersed in the warm golden light Tuscany is famous for. Inspiration is everywhere! Several day trips will take us to beautiful locations in well known cities as well as lesser known gems full of Tuscan history and culture.

The Artful Life Workshop seeks to demonstrate that all of your experiences influence you, and what better influence than a week in Tuscany? You'll find that the experiences during your time painting, cooking and touring - discovery, over coming fears, learning, risk taking, freedom - can be expressed in other aspects of your life.

About the presenters:

Doug Turman is an accomplished painter of watercolor, oil, and acrylic. He has exhibited in galleries and museums, and has works on all seven continents. Doug has taught at the University level and as a workshop instructor. His philosophy of teaching seeks to accommodate students of all abilities, helping them find their individual creative strengths and deeper levels of expression through observation and enjoyment of the art of painting.





Mary Lee Larison is a passionate cook and culinary explorer, having worked in professional kitchens and as an avid “student” of master chefs in the US and Italy. To participate in the “culture of the kitchen” is at the core of her culinary philosophy. Her teaching style brings enthusiasm and a desire to share her experience with others.

For over 16 years Doug and Mary Lee ran a successful contemporary art gallery in Helena, Montana. Each year they travel to different parts of Italy, enhancing their appreciation of Italian culture and cuisine. Their passion is to share their love of Italy with friends and students alike and to help others create an *Artful Life*.

Watercolor

All abilities are welcome and encouraged to attend. Watercolor painting is basically very simple - paint, water & paper. Easy to start, difficult to master. The challenge is part of the enjoyment. You will do fine, especially if you are a total beginner.



For more advanced painters, your issues are almost 80% psychological in my experience. “I want to loosen up” is a common goal. This usually requires looking at some work habits that may over time have become more limiting than productive. The length of the workshop will allow enough time to give these issues the personal attention they require.



Cooking

Whether you prefer a “hands on” experience in the kitchen or would rather observe, you will always be welcome in the kitchen! With the help of Mary Lee, and a few of her Italian cooking friends, we will create delicious meals to share. Locally sourced ingredients paired with a variety of Tuscany’s delicious wines will be a highlight at each meal.

Several day trips have been arranged to explore the natural beauty of Tuscany, its rich history and unforgettable landscape. We will travel to artisan cheese and wine makers, spend a day in Sienna (with a private tour of the famous Cathedral), San Gimignano, Certaldo (a medieval village near our villa), and visit an Italian country home to paint on the terrace over looking vineyards and olive groves.

Our hope is that you will come away rejuvenated, with a joyful sense of the pleasures of creativity and good company.

The Artful Life 2020 Program Details

Duration: 7 nights, 8 days.

Time of year: October 22 – 29 2020

Expect nice weather with temperatures ranging between 59 and 81 F, allowing for maximum opportunities for painting outdoors, strolling, and, if the weather is particularly fine, swimming in the villa's lovely pool.

Group size: Minimum 8 to maximum 10 students.

Services included:

Florence Airport or Train Station pick up and drop off.

Accommodation; there are a variety of rooms at the villa. Prices depend on desired accommodation, please see price list for specific details.

7 Breakfasts (a typical “European style breakfast: coffee, tea, juice, meats, cheese, fresh fruit, yogurt, cereals, etc.)

2 Dinners prepared by the villa (wine included)

5 Dinners prepared by Mary Lee & workshop participants (wine included)

4 light lunches

Wine Tour and Tasting at La Spinosa <https://laspinosa.it>

Watercolor instruction

Palette of watercolor paint

Daily assistance and information through qualified members of staff

Wine and Olive oil tasting at Bacio'

Ground transportation for day trips to Siena, S. Gimignano, Certaldo Alto, & La Meridiana Ceramics School

Not included:

Airfare

2 Lunches on our day trips to Sienna & San Gimignano

Any personal expenses

Painting materials (*brushes & paper, recommended by the instructor, can be ordered for an estimated cost of \$25*)

Travel or medical Insurance

The Artful Life 2019 Price List

- single room with private bathroom: 2950 euros
- double room with private bathroom: 2550 euros
- single room with shared bathroom: 2750 euros
(max 3 people to one bathroom)
- double room with shared bathroom: 2350 euros
(max 3 people to one bathroom)

Villa Rooms

- ** 1. **Rosa** - double bed (can be separated into 2 twins) with shared bathroom
- 2. **Primula** - 2 twin beds with shared bathroom
- 3. **Peonia** - double bed (can be separated into 2 twins with shared bathroom)
- 4. **Dalia** - 2 twin beds with shared bathroom
- ** 5. **Iris** - 1 double bed with shared bathroom
- ** 6. **Glicine** - double bed (can be separated into 2 twins) with private bathroom
- ** 7. **Giglio** - double bed (can be separated into 2 twins) with private bathroom
- ** 8. **Camelia** - double bed (can be separated into 2 twins) with private bathroom
- ** 9. **Viola** - double bed with private bathroom

** Booked for 2020

Glicine

Camelia

Giglio

Iris

Viola

Rosa

**Please note that because lodging is in a historical villa, rooms are not standard size, and some will have shared bathrooms. At your request, we will be happy to provide detailed description and images of the rooms available. Please visit the villa's website for images of specific accommodations. <http://www.fattoriabacio.com>

To sign up for the Artful Life Workshop, a 600€ deposit is requested. Final balance is due 30 days prior to the start of the workshop. Early registration also gives you your 1st choice of rooms. Reserve your place early, so you don't miss out!

For an additional cost there are private apartments available on the grounds of the villa.
Please contact Mary Lee for details.

Cancellation Policy

Cancellations will have the following refunds:

From the day of deposit to 30 days at 12:00 pm CET before the start of the workshop:
50% of deposit will be refunded.

Past 30 days at 12:00 pm CET to the day of the start of the workshop: 50% of total paid
will be refunded.

7 days before at 12:00pm CET to the day start of the workshop: no more refunds.

**For booking the workshop or question please contact Mary Lee at
406-431-5866 or email at tlcontemporary@mac.com**