

Plein Air Painting in Italy with Maggie Price October 3-13, 2012

Enjoy three fantastic days in Firenze exploring museums, art and a walking tour, followed by seven nights at Il Chiostro, a renovated monastery in Tuscany, painting on the grounds and with excursions to other painting locations



Our headquarters in Tuscany, Il Chiostro, is built around San Fedele, a former monastery dating back to the twelfth century, situated in the Chianti hills, 12 km north of Siena. The nearest towns are the medieval city of Radda-in-Chianti and the village of Vagliagli. San Fedele was completely restored beginning in 2001. All the roof tiles and floors are centuries old; doors and windows in solid chestnut are entirely hand planed as in the past. The plaster is made with limestone and crushed terracotta; all the colours used to paint the walls are natural and derived from different local earths. The large stone walls that enclose the medieval terraced vegetable garden are hand carved. Modern comforts and a sense of the history of the place will enhance our stay at San Fedele.

Maggie Price Worskhop: Plein Air Painting in Italy

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WHAT'S INCLUDED IN FIRENZE:

We'll arrive in Firenze (Florence) on October 3 and check in at the Residence Michelangiolo. We'll stay three nights at this lovely hotel, a restored palazzo situated in one of the most exclusive and peaceful areas in Firenze along Viale Michelangiolo, a short walk or bus ride to the center of town. Dinners on those three nights, a visit to the Uffizzi Galleries, and a walking tour of Firenze are included in your workshop package. This portion of the trip is meant to give you more than just a quick look at historial Firenze, so we will focus on enjoying the town, museums and art, and sketch as we can or accummulate photographs for future use. On Saturday, October 6, we'll move to Il Chioistro, about 45 kilometers away.

WHAT'S INCLUDED AT IL CHIOSTRO:

We'll stay seven nights at the Tuscan Renaissance Center complex, which consists of a sixteenth century chapel, a refectory, terrace, piazza, classrooms, organic gardens and swimming pool. All guest rooms are elegantly furnished, have refrigerators, modern bathrooms and wifi internet access. We'll enjoy seven dinners prepared by our private chef, including wine with dinner, and breakfast each morning. We will paint on the grounds some days, and other days will take day trips to Siena and two local hilltowns. An organized wine tour and tasting is also included. All transportation for day trips and our final transfer to Siena, where you will make your own connections for travel home, are included. Painting demonstrations and one-on-one instruction each day are also part of your workshop package. Non-painting companions or spouses sharing a double room are welcome and can accompany the group on all excursions (see below for discount for non-painters).

DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT

The workshop package includes all items outlined above. Not included are your airfare or other transportation to and from the beginning of the workshop package in Firenze and the final departure from Siena. Other transportation may be arranged but is not included in the price of the package. Only meals specified above are included. Gratuities and personal expenses are not included. The cost of the package for each person is \$3495 (based on double occupancy). Non-painting spouse or companion sharing double room with painting participant is \$3295. No single rooms are available; if you wish a private double room, there will be an additional charge of \$2500. An initial deposit of \$500 is due by January 1, 2012; 50% of the remainder is due March 15, 2012, and the final balance is due July 15, 2012. No payments are refundable; it is recommended that you purchase private trip insurance to cover the cost of the package and your airfare in case you need to cancel. If the instructor is unable to teach due to illness or emergency, an alternate instructor will be provided. In the event of cancellation by Il Chioistro, all fees will be refunded to participants. A reservation form is available at www.MaggiePriceArt.com.

Photos, from top: Il Duomo, Firenze; the nearby landscape; the plaza at Siena; aerial view of the Il Chioistro complex; one of the guest rooms at Il Chioistro.



MAGGIE PRICE is a Signature Member of the Pastel Society of America, Pastel Society of New Mexico (Distinguished Pastelist), and Plein Air Painters of New Mexico; a member of the IAPS Master Circle and the Salmagundi Club of New York City. She was co-founder and former editor of *The Pastel Journal* magazine, and is the author of *Painting with Pastels* (2007), *Painting Sunlight & Shadow with Pastels* (2011), both North Light books, a third book scheduled for 2012, and two instructional DVDs. She serves on the advisory boards of *The Pastel Journal* and *The Artist's Magazine*, and is the President of the International Association of Pastel Societies. Her work has been included in numerous exhibitions, magazine articles and books. She teaches US and foreign workshops each year. For more information, her Artblog, and images of her paintings, please see the web site, www.MaggiePriceArt.com.