

TUSCANY, ITALY: Peralta May 7th-14th, 2011

Beginners and accomplished painters very welcome

Excursions

Picnics

Meals with wine

Special dietary needs met



Lost high in the foothills of the Apuan Alps and with the colour and fragrance of rose, mimosa, jasmine, olive and sage, this 12th century hamlet was acquired as a ruin by world-famous sculptress Fiore de Henriquez. Imaginatively restored over 40 years during which she made it her home, it is the embodiment of her rugged and eclectic spirit.

This lofty idyll - this very personal Shangri-la - has stunning views of the Camaiore National Park towards the craggy coast and Mediterranean Sea. Peralta and Henriquez' inspirational work are dedicated to advancing creative expression.

£845

No single room supplement

It seems her work adorns every space, displaying her mastery of natural materials such as, marble, clay, bronze and paint. Among those who sat for her were Margot Fonteyn, Augustus John, Laurence Olivier, Peter Ustinov, US President, John F Kennedy, and Britain's Queen Mother, Queen Elizabeth. Yet there is nothing pretentious about Peralta whose appeal is in its intimate, bohemian, other worldly charm.

£50 discount for painting friends sharing twin room

As is only to be expected of an artist's retreat, Peralta provides many subjects to paint, whether indoors or out: you'll find panoramic vistas from plentiful terraces; medieval homesteads with ochre-tiled roofs, climbing shrubs made heavy with bloom, and sculptures ensconced among paths and yards.

£50 discount for non-painter partners and friends

With such gems as Florence, Pisa and Lucca close at hand, Fiore de Henriquez' beloved Peralta - unquestionably one of Tuscany's best kept secrets - makes a magical and uplifting holiday destination.



Residential non-painting partners are also very welcome and invited to have a go with pencil or brush.



For non-painters, enchanting, densely-forested hills surround the area near Peralta, offering both leisurely and bracing walks, and within 10 miles is Renaissance Pietrasanta where bronzes were cast by Mirò, Michaelangelo and Henry Moore.

Accommodation and Meals

You will be provided with breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine and accommodated in restored cottages or apartments, each with unique architectural and decorative character. All are rustic but very comfortable with WC, living room, and tea- and coffee-making facilities. Several rooms come with en suite bathroom.

Most meals will be taken in the elegant, wood-beamed dining room or, weather permitting, on one of the many terraces. But there will also be occasions when we lunch in trattorias in Torcigliano and Pietrasanta for example. Vegetarians and food intolerances arising from medical conditions can usually be catered for. There is also a swimming pool and bar.



No supplement is charged for a single room, as this would discriminate against people on their own. It would therefore be appreciated if friends could share a room if possible.

Please note:

Access to some of Peralta's quarters are via stone steps and flights of stairs.

Itinerary and Excursions

After working first around Peralta we take painting excursions, for example to Pietrasanta. Its distinguished tradition in the arts and crafts have earned the town the name 'Little Athens'. Originally built to a check-board plan in the classical Grecian 'golden proportion', its 14th-century Piazza del Duomo is nothing less than a marvel. The civic sculptures, galleries and museums attract artists from throughout the world.



Another painting excursion is to the village of Torcigliano which clings like a limpet to a rakish escarpment and whose buildings seem to clamber on top of one another. There are delightful sights here through centuries-old alleys and up stone steps. And if you're the kind of person who likes to work up an appetite before taking dinner, a lovely alpine walk leads from Torcigliano to Peralta in something like an hour. Wednesday is a free day without formal tuition when there is an excursion to the historic city of Lucca. Alternatively you could spend the day painting, go for a stroll, enjoy a swim or be completely at your leisure.

The Painting Course

Bettina's painting courses are suitable for all, from absolute beginners to accomplished painters. They are designed to help you to make the most of your abilities and to find a personal approach. The emphasis is on how to capture the initial excitement on first spotting a subject, without getting too bogged down in technicalities. Tuition will be in watercolour mainly but also in other media as required.

Daily demonstrations (in- or outdoors) are tailored to the particular needs of the students and to help you to get started. The tuition will also deal with general painting problems such as basic perspective, choice of colour, composition, shadows and many other tricks of the trade. Above all, Bettina's courses aim to enhance the pleasure of painting whilst improving your skills.

Particular attention is given to wet-in-wet technique as well as some of the ground rules for beginners. Groups are kept small so you can visibly advance within the course duration irrespective of your ability. For complete beginners Bettina teaches a simple, easy to follow 'step by step' approach.

Tuition is normally arranged in day sessions lasting from 10am until 4pm, so there is time for you to relax before dinner and explore the locality. If you are keen to continue painting, you are welcome to make use of the terraces and surrounds of Peralta. Plans might vary a little depending on the needs for the day.

Students should bring their own painting materials and easels if wanted. You can also contact Bettina for further advice on what to bring.

Your Tutor, Bettina Schroeder

Bettina Schroeder is a professional artist who lives and works in London. She exhibits regularly in the UK, throughout mainland Europe and America. She has also been teaching for many years.

Bettina works in watercolours, oils and other media. She divides her time between landscape painting in the summer, and figure painting in her London studio during the winter. Her most recent shows include the A&D Gallery, London; Galerie Claudine Hohl, Zurich, Switzerland; and Santa Fe Contemporary Art Fair, New Mexico, USA.

“Bettina is an exemplary teacher” said Nicholas Shakespeare in The Telegraph Magazine.

Comments from Students

“I shall look back on the week as if it was, a week long magical dream.”

“I had such a fantastic time, the perfect balance of inspiration and relaxation.”

“Your teaching was most helpful and supportive, and your great sense of humour really helped make the holiday a most enjoyable experience, which I certainly want to repeat in the future.”

“Thanks for your help and advice and as always your gift as a hostess as well as a tutor.”

“Thank you for yet another inspiring painting holiday.”

“The whole experience is one I’ll remember for a long time.”

“It was everything I had hoped for and much more.”

“I loved every moment and want to thank you so much.”

“Good company, excellent subjects to paint and as always a superb host and teacher to show us the way, thank you.”

“This painting week was inspirational in every way.”

“How wonderful to make a difference to so many peoples lives. Thank you so much.”

“Your Tuition was superb and most of all I have benefited from your demonstrations of washes.”

“Thank you so much for refreshing my painting.”

“It was a joy to meet you and enjoy the enthusiasm you generate.”

“Wonderful week, both in terms of my learning and also the social side too. It was such fun and I have enjoyed it all. I can’t believe how quickly the week went!”

“Just to say in writing it was a holiday of a lifetime.”

Cost Summary and Payment

The course price is £845 per person per week. Please make cheques payable to Bettina Schroeder. A discount of £50 is available for non-painting partners and for painting friends sharing a twin room. A non-refundable deposit of £150 per person should be sent with the booking form (below).

The balance (non-returnable) is payable 2 calendar months before the course starts. (Please note the cancellation and insurance conditions below.) The price (exclusive of air fare) includes all transportation (transfers from and to Pisa airport, excursions), breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine, accommodation (including linen and towels) and tuition.

Travel Arrangements

You can book your own flight to Pisa, or use Bettina's Travel agent Kate Donaldson at Real Holidays tel: +44 - (0)20 7359 3938 or e-mail: kate@realholidays.co.uk, who can book you a suitable flight so you are in time to be picked up at Pisa airport on Sat. May 7th between 10.00hrs and 16.00hrs. Please book a return flight, May 14th departing Pisa airport after 12.00hrs so we have time to transport you to Pisa in time for your check-in.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION please contact:

Bettina Schroeder 4 Cairns House Holloway Road London N7 9SA UK
+44-(0)20 7609 0843 bettina.schroeder@virgin.net www.art-holidays.com

If there is anything else or if you travel by car/train, please contact Kate or Dinah at Peralta : E: katarinasimova@hotmail.com Tel: 0039).3493597900 or Tel: (0039) 0584 951 230

Cancellation Conditions and Insurance

If you have to cancel 12 to 8 weeks before departure, a charge of 80% of the total price is payable. Cancellations at 8 weeks or less are charged at the full course price. It is a condition of your booking that you take out your own personal holiday insurance including cancellation insurance. In addition you will receive Bettina Schroeder's certificate of insurance (*See below).

** In accordance with "The Package Travel, Package Tours Regulations 1992" all passengers booking with Bettina Schroeder Painting Holidays are fully Insured for the initial deposit and subsequently the balance of all monies paid to us, including repatriation if required, arising from the cancellation or curtailment of your travel arrangements due to the insolvency of Bettina Schroeder Painting Holidays. A certificate detailing this cover will be given to each and every passenger as evidence of cover. Please ensure that you have been given the appropriate certificate(s) at the time of booking. This insurance has been arranged by Towergate Chapman Stevens through igi Insurance Company Limited.*

Version 1 20th Feb 2006

BOOKING FORM PERALTA

Please print out and send to:
Bettina Schroeder 4 Cairns House, Holloway Road, London, N7 9SA, UK
Please insure cheques are made payable to Bettina Schroeder.

Please reserve _____ place(s) on the painting course in
Peralta, Tuscany May 7th-14th, 2011

Student's name(s)

Non-painting partner

Address

Telephone

E-mail

Special Dietary Needs

How did you learn about
the courses?

I enclose a non-refundable deposit of £ (£150 per person) towards the total cost of £845 per person (or £795 discounted price for non-painters or painting friends sharing a room).

I accept the cancellation and insurance conditions and understand that the balance (non-returnable) is payable 2 calendar months before the course starts.

Signed

Date

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