

Painting and Art Immersion in Tuscany

With artists Jory Mason and Heather Arenas

In October 2019, Jory traveled to Tuscany to scout out locations for a dream painting workshop. She had a few recommended villas on her list, but only one filled her dreams and her heart. When she met Gabrielle and Lorenza at **La Sosta Relais in Tuscany**, she didn't want to leave. The place is "perfecto"! Lorenza is an interior designer and Gabrielle is an arts curator. They epitomize genuine Italian warmth and hospitality. Together, we have designed a unique and very affordable once-in-a-lifetime painting and art immersion vacation.

The cost for this workshop is **\$2500.** for a shared room. A single room is **\$3300.** There are luxurious queen beds in each of the 10 rooms. (An additional single bed can be brought in if desired). Min. 8 students. Max. 12 students.



Gabrielle, Jory, and Lorenza

A reservation deposit of 1000 EU (\$1108) is due by Dec, 30 2020 to reserve your spot. Please send it in sooner if you want to be sure you can get in.

WHAT IS INCLUDED:

- Personalized art instruction by 2 professional award winning teachers. Learn best techniques for painting alla prima.
- 7 nights lodging at the beautiful newly restored La Sosta Villa in Camaiore. (Just 20 mins. from the famous art town of Pietrasanta, 10 mins. to the sea, 20 mins. from the Carrara mountains, and 30 mins. to Pisa)
- Airport pickup from/to Pisa
- Tours to Florence, Siena and Carrara/Pietrasanta
- Daily transportation via minivan to painting locations
- Evening cooking lesson at the Villa (optional)
- **Breakfast/brunch:** Every morning from 8am to noon. Brunch at La Sosta includes: homemade cakes, sweets, lardo di colonnata, Tuscany salami, cheese, fresh Tuscany bread, yogurts, cereals, eggs, fresh fruit plates, coffee, tea, espresso, cappuccino, fruit juices, and more.
- **7 Dinners:** All from scratch using all natural fresh local ingredients.
(Lunches and airfare are not included)

PRELIMINARY AGENDA: (Travel will be by minivan)

Sunday Oct. 10: Pick up from the Pisa airport at 1pm. (Jory is taking an evening flight on Saturday, to arrive at noon on Sunday) Settle in, rest from the trip, enjoy the villa and "La dolce vita". (The sweet life) Free time to paint or sketch. Welcome, get to know each other dinner.

Monday Oct. 11: Private artists tour – "Follow in Michaelangelo's footsteps" and "The new art of Pietrasanta" custom tour by Serena. This includes a jeep tour up the Carrara mountain to see the marble quarries, along with visiting Pietrasanta artist's studios normally not open to the public. Evening oil demo by Heather.

Tuesday Oct 12: Morning pastel demo by Jory. Paint nearby exquisite vistas. Location TBD. Private cooking lesson from famous Italian Chef in the evening.

Wednesday Oct 13: Florence museums tour and Montecatini Turelli art gallery tour. (Tickets extra) Time for sketching and photos. Paint in the evening from sketches (optional)

Thursday Oct 14: Morning demo by Heather. Paint nearby exquisite vistas. Location TBD, Cooking class: Learn how to make Italian pizza by an Italian Pizzaiolo. (Optional) Evening critique.

Friday Oct 15: Siena streets and cathedrals tour. Driving through scenic vistas and stopping to take photos and sketch. Paint in the evening from sketches (optional)

Saturday Oct 16: Morning demo by Jory. Paint nearby exquisite vistas. Location TBD. Evening wine, cheese and olive oil tasting. Critique. **Evening Art Gallery Opening at the villa for the public.** Includes works by the American Artists.

Sunday Nov 17: Morning Pisa leaning tower and city tour if time allows. Drop off at airport.

Plus... An opportunity to:

EXHIBIT YOUR PAINTINGS IN THE LA SOSTA GALLERY

You can send your paintings ahead of time, so that we can create, expose, and invite people to see them at the opening on Saturday. You can also leave your paintings to be sold.

OCT 10 - Oct 17, 2021

PAINTING:

- This workshop is for both beginners and advanced artists.
- Participants will have guidance on how to paint “alla prima” (directly on location) and from sketches/photos
- Constructive critiques will be held most evenings
- Art demonstrations from both teachers will take the paintings from the initial sketch to completion, emphasizing loose brushwork/mark making and a sense of light and shadow. Students will spend the rest of each day painting with individual instruction and feedback from both Heather and Jory.
- Artists will be carrying their own equipment.
- Tips on packing light and traveling abroad will be provided.

THE VILLA:

The Relais is found in the Lombrici locale of Camaiore where an old mill dating from the 1500's still stands and where the pleasant sound of its flowing water makes the location quite unique.

Everything here is real even though it may seem to be in a different dimension where time has been brought to a halt and everything flows in a rhythm differing from those we live in today.

La Sosta wants to be just that, a 'pause', or 'sosta' in Italian, to make guests feel they are in their own home, offering a simple gesture of times past, creating a strong rapport and connection between nature and man.

The Sosta project was created for and revolves around hospitality: on one hand the place itself, rich in colors and scents, where many species of birds of prey and roe deer make their home while still protected by the mountain greenery, and, on the other hand, there are the guests themselves who become part of the scenery by discovering once again the times and places of the past.



NOTE FROM JORY: The photos on their website do not do justice to the actual place. Each bedroom and bathroom are new and the \$6000 designer beds are luxurious.

If more than 8 students sign up, the last to register will stay at a comparable villa within walking distance.



PAYMENT INFORMATION:

Total cost of the trip:

\$2500/shared room (2256 EU) \$1884/La Sosta + \$616/teachers/tours/transport = \$2500

\$3300/single room (2979 EU) \$2770/La Sosta + \$530/teachers/tours/transport = \$3300

A reservation deposit of \$1108 (1000 EU) is due by December 30 2020 to Jory Mason to reserve your place. Please send it in sooner if you want to be sure.



Balance due by personal check to:

Jory Mason by March 1 2021

\$1392/shared

\$2192/single

La Sosta in Toscana Relais

Via del Frantoino, 94

Camaiore - loc Lombrici 55041 (Lu)

Tel: 0584 330922

website: www.lasostaintoscana.it

email: info@lasostaintoscana.it

SPECIAL:
The Villa Sosta Relais will be reserved only for the people in our workshop.



Any questions about the villa, please email Lorenza: info@lasostaintoscana.it

Questions about the workshop, please email Jory: jorysm@sprintmail.com

and Heather: artist@heatherarenas.com



Two Painting Teachers Equals Lots of Individual Instruction!

Jory will demo and in pastels, and Heather will demo in oils.

On the days we are not touring, both artists will give demos and we will have plenty of time to paint the magical Tuscan light.

Jory Mason

PASTEL PAINTING TEACHER

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email: jorysm@sprintmail.com
website: JoryMasonFineArt.com



Jory is a Master level pastel artist exhibiting in Boston, New York, North Carolina, and New Mexico. Her work has been showcased in "ART Tour International 2019 Winter Issue, Editors' Picks" and in "Strokes of Genius 8: Exploring Texture!" by North Light Books.

She is an enthusiastic teacher at the Plymouth Center for the Arts, and enjoys giving demonstrations. She has won numerous national and international awards. Jory is an experienced juror of awards. She has been an art director for many years and is now focusing on painting expressive impressionistic work in a variety of subject matter.

Jory attended L'Instituto D'Arte in Pietrasanta Italy where she had her first solo exhibition. It was completely sold out. She went on to study fine arts at the University of Iowa and then at the New England School of Art & Design.

She is an International Association of Pastel Societies Master Painter, an Associate Member with the Pastel Society of America, and Pastel Painter's Society of Cape Cod Signature Committee Member among other distinctions.

"Jory has truly found her passion with pastels! It is a joy to see each painting she creates because every one of them comes straight from her heart. Her sense of color and composition and her choice of subject invite the viewer to see the world through her eyes. Enjoy her vision!"

-Donna Rosetti-Bailey

Heather Arenas

OIL PAINTING TEACHER

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Myakka City, FL, 34251
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email: artist@heatherarenas.com
website: heatherarenas.com



Heather Arenas is a nationally recognized impressionist artist and instructor. Heather has studied under many of America's best-known representational artists and her work has won numerous national awards. Her strength is in seeing the beauty in everyday objects, people and places. She is a Master Signature Member of Women Artists of the West and Signature with American Women Artists. She has won numerous awards in national and regional exhibitions and is a popular workshop instructor, including online workshops with openstudioonline.com.

"After taking a workshop with Heather, I saw significant improvement in my own painting, and more importantly, so have others. She has the ability to meet her students where they are and can help anyone, from beginner to seasoned artist. She also has a great eye for analyzing your work and helping you focus on your specific problem areas. It's one thing to read about concepts such as value, temperature, composition and contrast but she helps you understand it by example, and in the exercises she leads. If you want to see improvements in your own work, I highly recommend Heather's workshops".

-Susan E Hoffman

MORE WORKSHOP TESTIMONIALS: <https://heatherarenas.com/page/17634/workshop-testimonials>

