

Paint Tuscany with Michael Chesley Johnson

Saturday, June 16, 2018 to Saturday, June 23, 2018



Join Michael Chesley Johnson for a relaxing and inspirational week of exploring the Tuscan countryside with your preferred sketching materials. Whether you like to work in oil, pastel, watercolor or even just pencil, you'll remember this trip for years to come.

You'll visit medieval villages, artisan shops, wineries and markets and enjoy the experience of staying at *Fattoria Bacio*, a winery estate. You'll enjoy wonderful food and wine and the camaraderie of others as you traverse these ancient streets and hillsides. Friends you make on this trip will become your sketching friends for life!

Each day will start with a critique of the previous days' work followed by a short talk on plein air sketching basics. Then, you'll head into the field where Michael will demonstrate principles in oil or pastel, after which you'll have the opportunity to put these principles into practice. You'll learn to capture the essence of the moment quickly without sacrificing mood or magic. Michael's relaxed manner will put you at ease as you roam the Italian countryside.

There's nothing like the start of a Tuscan summer. We hope you'll join Michael on this once-in-a-lifetime experience!



Michael Chesley Johnson divides his year between the Canadian Maritimes and the high desert of New Mexico. A popular teacher, he has taught hundreds of workshops in the US and Canada over 15 years. A Contributing Editor for *The Artist's Magazine*, he is the author of *Backpacker Painting: Outdoors with Oil and Pastel*. His work is in major corporate and private collections. "Painting the landscape isn't just about recording what you see," he says, "but very much about the experience."

Detailed Program

June 16, 2018 Saturday: Arrival

- Pick up from Florence airport or Florence train station at agreed time.
Settle in rooms at Fattoria Bacio www.fattoriabacio.com
- 5:00 pm** Aperitif. Meet with instructor and staff. Introduction to the program, and the activities planned for the week.
- 7:00 pm** Three-course welcome dinner at Villa.

June 17, 2018 Sunday at the Farm

- 8:00 am – 9:00 am** Breakfast
- 9:30 am – 11:00 pm** *Introduction to painting*
- 12:30 pm** Wine and olive oil tasting, buffet lunch
- 3:00 – 6:00 pm** *Painting at Villa*
- 7:30 pm** Dinner at Villa

June 18, 2018 Monday: Painting in Certaldo alto

- 8:00 am – 9:00 am** Breakfast
- 9:00 am – 10:30 am** *Instruction in studio at Villa*
- 10:30 am** Leave for Certaldo alto
- 10: 30 am – 4:00 pm** *Painting in Certaldo alto.* This traffic-free town atop a hill still retains its authenticity as a true medieval settlement and offers beautiful vistas. Cafés for cappuccinos, a wine shop, artisans and the museum of Giovanni Boccaccio will offer plenty to do.
- 12.30 pm** Lunch on own in one of the nice little coffee shops or restaurants in Certaldo alto.
- 4.00 pm** Return to Villa with time for grocery shopping for personal needs on the way, free time to relax or paint.
- 6:30 – 7:30 pm** Visit to the Villa wine cellars
- 7:30 pm** Dinner at Villa

June 19, 2018 Tuesday: Painting in Siena

- 8:00 am – 8:45 am** Breakfast.
- 9:00 am** Day trip by train to Siena. Siena's medieval centre bristles with majestic buildings. Its profusion of churches and small museums harbor a wealth of artwork, though equally your day can be effectively filled by simply wandering the bustling lanes of the historic centre, a Unesco World Heritage Site.
- 10:00 am – 11:00 am** *Workshop instruction on-site in the piazza in Siena*
- 12:30 am** Lunch-on-own
- 4:30 pm** Return to Villa
- 6:30 pm – 7:15 pm** *Instruction at Villa*
- 7:30 pm** Dinner at Villa

June 20, 2018 Wednesday: Painting and visit to La Meridiana

- 8:00 am – 8:45 am** Breakfast
- 9:00 am – 10:30 am** *Instruction/demo at Villa*

10:30 am – 12:30 pm	<i>Painting at Villa</i>
12:30 pm	Lunch on own
2.30 pm – 6.00 pm	<i>Sketching at La Meridiana</i> , an internationally recognised center for modern ceramics with beautiful scenery. www.lameridiana.fi.it Sketching on site, meet ceramic artists, enjoy an aperitif on the sunset terrace.
7:30 pm	Dinner at Villa

June 21, 2018 Thursday: San Gimignano with street market

8:00 am – 8:45 am	Breakfast
9:00 am – 10:00 am	<i>Instruction at Villa</i>
10:00 am	Leave for S. Gimignano, an essential feature of any visit to central Tuscany, not only on account of its remarkable towers but also the fabulous frescoes and other art works to be seen here. On Thursdays, there is also a lively street market taking place.
5:00 pm	Return to Villa
7:30 pm	Dinner at Villa

June 22, 2018 Friday: Excursion to Barberino, Painting at the Villa

8:00 am – 8:45 am	Breakfast
9:00 am – 11.00 am	Optional excursion: A panoramic ride with stops for beautiful vistas will take us to Barberino, a medieval hamlet with nice artisans' stores. Painting and sketching for those who prefer to stay at the Villa.
12.30 am	Lunch-on-own
2:30 – 5:30 pm	<i>Afternoon painting at villa, final wrap up. Final review.</i>
6:30 pm	Final Dinner

June 23, 2018 Saturday: Departure

7:30 am – 8:30 am	Breakfast. Departure by 11 am. Shuttle to airport or train station at agreed time or taxi service on demand.
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Cost and Arrangements

Cost for student

- Price in double room with private bathroom € 2,200
- Price in single room with shared bathroom € 2,300
- Price in single room with. private bathroom € 2,600
- Price for friend or spouse in double room € 1,800

Rooms will be cleaned once mid-week and have trash cans emptied and clean towels available. Due to the fact that the Villa is a historical building, not all rooms have the same standard in size and bathroom facilities. Accommodations for students are on a first-come, first-served basis.

Services included:	Accommodation 7 complete breakfasts with fresh fruit, cheese, eggs, yogurt etc. 7 freshly prepared Tuscan gourmet dinners 1 wine and olive oil tasting with lunch Field trips to San Gimignano, Certaldo alto, Siena Airport pick up and drop off in Florence at agreed time
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Ground transportation while at Villa

Not included:

- 6 lunches
- Any personal expenses
- Painting materials
- Insurance
- Airfare

Booking and cancellation Policy

- To sign up, a 600 € deposit will be requested, balance due one month before the start of the course.
- Cancellations will have 70% of the deposit refunded, provided the request is made 30 days before the start of the course. If made between 30 and 0 days before the start of the workshop: refund of 50 % of the payment in full.

For booking, please contact the Italian partner at italy@artravelitaly.it