



Paint early orchids & Spring flowers

2-9th  
May  
2012

View towards Preci from Hotel Il Collaccio

A Botanical Painting Holiday with Elaine Searle

HOTEL IL COLLACCIO, PRECI, UMBRIA, ITALY





## We return to this Umbrian idyll

### JOIN OUR SPRING 2012 BOTANICAL ART BREAK

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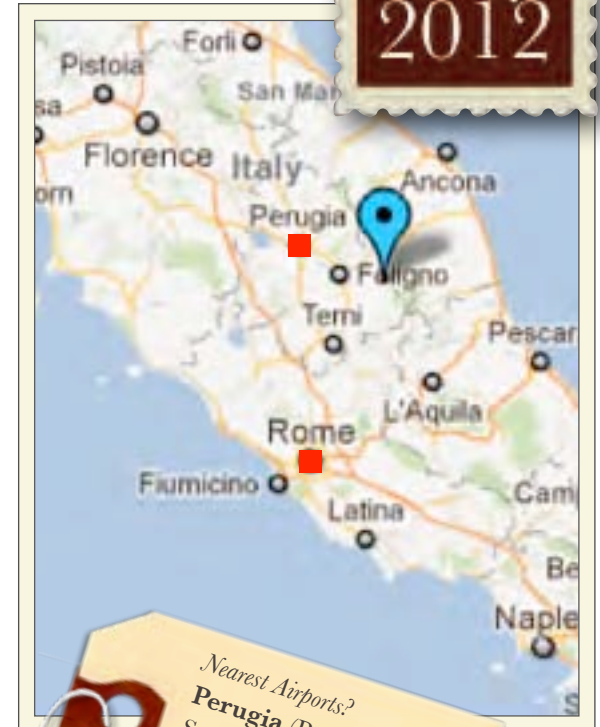
#### Our September 2011 botanical painting holiday to Il Collaccio was a great success.

We believe that we have found the ideal location for a botanical break. This small agriturismo hotel, family owned and run is situated at 600m in the foothills of the Appennines, on the edge of the Monti Sibillini National Park, Umbria.

Our group (artists of all ability levels and some non painting partners) from the UK and USA enjoyed stunning scenery, excellent food, fabulous hospitality and comfortable accommodation. Elaine Searle, noted botanical artist and tutor provided professional instruction and inspiration.

We invite you to join our next visit in May 2012, where subjects **should include early native orchids and Spring flowers.** Our group size will be limited to ten artists so early booking is advised. Non-painters are very welcome in addition and there is much for them to do and see in the area.

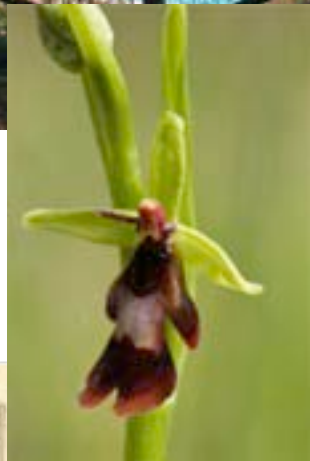
Our seven night holiday will comprise five days of tuition plus a full day excursion to explore the stunning National Park and fascinating medieval towns. See itinerary for details.



*Nearest Airports?*  
**Perugia** (Ryanair from Stansted) best from UK  
**Rome** (various airlines) best connections from USA

If you have any queries or would like to make a reservation please contact: Kevin Hendry, event co-ordinator at Il Collaccio.

[kevin@ilcollaccio.com](mailto:kevin@ilcollaccio.com)



### Wednesday 2 May

7.00pm Welcome Meeting in the bar

A short get together over a glass of something cold. An opportunity for Elaine to greet everyone, and for you to meet Kevin Hendry (event co-ordinator for Il Collaccio) who can answer queries you may have and share his local knowledge.

7.30pm Dinner in hotel restaurant

### Thursday 3 May

8.00am onwards. Continental breakfast buffet

9.30am. Morning studio session

Settle in to the studio and Elaine will discuss individually your objectives for the week. For those wishing to work on native orchids there will be a short introduction to their botany. A 'nature table' of other local flora will also be available.

1pm Buffet Lunch

(on restaurant terrace weather permitting)

2.30pm Afternoon studio session

Free time for those painters who wish to relax/explore. For those preferring to paint on the studio will be open. Elaine will be producing her own art alongside you, and available to answer questions you may have or to help you if you get stuck

7.30pm Dinner in hotel restaurant

### Friday 4 May FULL DAY EXCURSION

Please note that should you wish to opt out of this trip you are free to explore/relax at the hotel instead. The studio is open all day but tuition not provided. For those opting out of the day trip (painters or partners), a lunch will be provided free of charge at the Il Collaccio restaurant.

8.00pam onwards. Continental breakfast buffet

9.30am. Depart hotel

Today we will visit the weekly market in the nearby

## Itinerary



medieval town of Visso with its C12th church. Time to observe local life or sample specialities.

A climbing drive then leads us through the National Park where we may see wildflower meadows on the 'Piano Grande'. Stops will be made for photos/views.

Descending, we will then lunch together at a typical restaurant before returning to the hotel via Norcia the gastronomy capital of the region.

7.30pm Dinner in hotel restaurant

### Saturday 5 May

8.00am onwards. Continental breakfast buffet

9.30am. Morning studio session

Elaine will continue to work with each person individually. Technique demonstrations, tips/tricks and exercises will be offered as required.

1pm Buffet Lunch

(on restaurant terrace weather permitting)

2.30-4pm Afternoon studio session

Free time for those painters who wish to relax/explore. For those preferring to paint on the studio will be open. Elaine will be producing her own art alongside you, and available to answer your questions.

7.30pm Dinner in hotel restaurant

### Sunday 6, Monday 7 & Tuesday 8 May

8.00am onwards. Continental breakfast buffet

9.30am. Morning studio session as previous

1pm Buffet Lunch

(on restaurant terrace weather permitting)

2.30-4pm Afternoon studio session as previous.

7.30pm Dinner in hotel restaurant

### Wednesday 9 May Departure day

8.00am onwards. Continental breakfast buffet

Check out & depart

**NOTE** for those with later departures you will need to vacate your rooms but luggage may be stored and painters are welcome to use the studio until they need to leave.







Our September 2011 group



The hotel chefs prepare delicious buffet lunches daily – using seasonal local produce.



Its all mine!

Explore the local towns





Local bakery shop windows proudly display the quality and variety to tempt you!



Take some time out for relaxation



Penny produced an inspiring study sheet of items from the September 2011 'nature table' with a feather found on a local walk.



# Prices for 2-9 May 2012

	EUROS
<i>Botanical painter (sharing a room)</i>	€960
<i>Non Painting partner (sharing a room)</i>	€660
<i>Single room supplement</i>	€120

## What's included?

### 7 nights accommodation

in one of our en-suite hotel rooms (some with balconies)

**Full board\*** including half a bottle of wine with the evening meal -\* welcome drink and dinner on day

of arrival, breakfast on day of departure,  
**Tuition** by Elaine Searle (painters only)

**A full day excursion** with lunch

**Use of equipped studio** (boards, task lights,  
light box and jam jars

**Free tea and coffee** in studio

## What's not included?

Flights

Insurance

Airport transfers

Single room supplement

## How do I make a reservation?

Contact Kevin Hendry [kevin@ilcollaccio.com](mailto:kevin@ilcollaccio.com)

Discuss your requirements and transfer options

Make a non refundable booking deposit of €250

3.5% surcharge applies to credit card payments

(credit card payments are made through the

Paypal secure on-line system).

# Flights & Transfers

## BY AIR FROM THE UK

The shortest and most economic way to travel from the UK is to fly with Ryanair from Stansted to Perugia. (Mon, Wed, Fri, Sun).

Il Collaccio can arrange private transfers by car from Perugia airport to the hotel. These can be arranged direct with Kevin Hendry, the event co-ordinator at Il Collaccio. The cars have an English-speaking driver and the transfers are cheaper than a normal taxi. The cost would be divided down between passengers traveling together. For more information and to co-ordinate and book your transfer please contact Kevin at: [kevin@ilcollaccio.com](mailto:kevin@ilcollaccio.com)

**CAR HIRE** should you prefer more independence and the use of a car throughout your stay Perugia airport has several car hire companies. Full directions can be supplied by Il Collaccio for the drive from the airport.

## BY AIR FROM THE USA

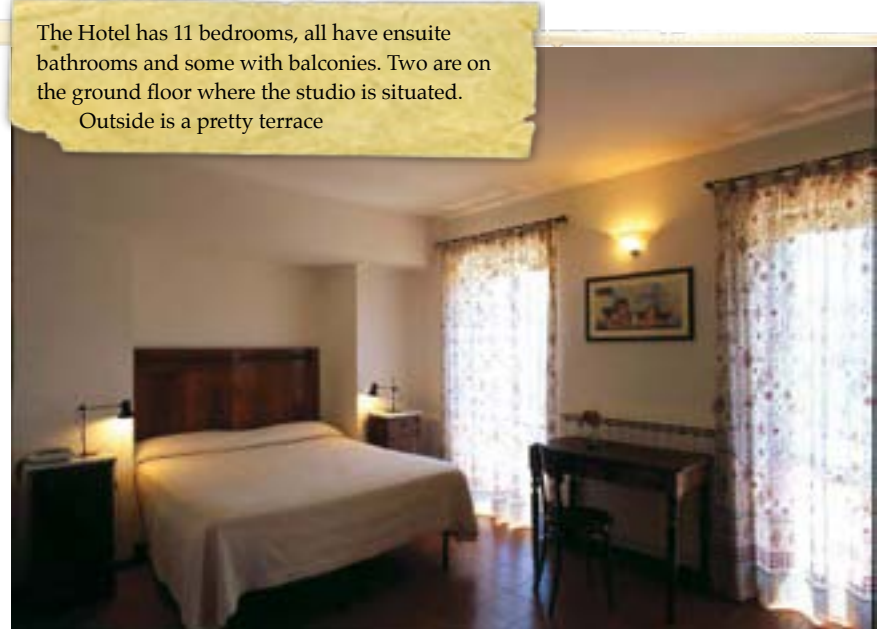
For transatlantic flights the nearest airport is Rome. You may wish to consider breaking your journey with a short stay in Rome before transfer to Umbria.

The options for transfer are by rail and car  
The nearest rail station to Il Collaccio is Spoleto which can be reached from Rome central station in 90 minutes, from Spoleto station to Il Collaccio is about 40 minutes drive by car.

Il Collaccio can arrange private transfers by car either from Rome or Spoleto. These can be arranged direct with Kevin Hendry, the event co-ordinator at Il Collaccio. There is an English-speaking driver and the transfers are cheaper than a normal taxi. For more information and to arrange your transfer please contact Kevin at: [kevin@ilcollaccio.com](mailto:kevin@ilcollaccio.com)



Outside the studio



A typical hotel bedroom

The Hotel has 11 bedrooms, all have ensuite bathrooms and some with balconies. Two are on the ground floor where the studio is situated.

Outside is a pretty terrace

## Frequently asked questions

### What studio facilities are provided?

Individual tables with a drawing board slope, task lighting, water pots and paper towels are provided for each student. The studio has reasonable natural light and is equipped with a good light box and a small fridge for specimens.

### What painting materials should I bring?

Brushes, pencils, erasers, sharpener, ruler etc  
Watercolour paints  
Mixing palette, Magnifying glass  
Hot Pressed Watercolour paper  
Sketch pad  
A few small sheets of thin tracing paper

*if you are new to this form of painting or would like more information on equipment to bring please contact [elaine@paintbotanical.com](mailto:elaine@paintbotanical.com)*

### Can I use the studio anytime?

Yes. The studio is on the ground floor of the Locanda building where the bedrooms are located. It is open at all times – great for early bird or insomniac painters! You may also leave your painting materials in the studio throughout your stay.

### Can I make Tea or Coffee in the studio?

There are free tea and coffee making facilities in the studio but not in the rooms. If you would like to make a hot drink in your room we recommend you bring a small travel kettle.

### What else do I need to bring with me?

A pair of sturdy flat-soled shoes or trainers. Walking boots if you plan to walk a lot otherwise trainers will do. Sun cream and insect repellent (not a major problem but advisable as it is not available on site).

### Will the swimming pools be open?

No. Sorry – it is too early in the season.

### What clothes should I bring?

Early May can be sunny and pleasantly warm but can occasionally be inclement and may be coolish in early mornings and evenings. Come prepared. A cardigan or fleece and a light rain jacket is recommended.

### Is Il Collaccio suitable for people with walking difficulties?

Generally, yes. The studio is on the ground floor and there are also two bedrooms available on the ground floor of the hotel. There is a walk of about 100 meters with a gentle incline from the studio and hotel to the restaurant.

### Can I walk nearby?

Yes. There are 4 or 5 walks of varying duration and difficulty from Il Collaccio. Free maps with directions are available from reception. There are countless other walking opportunities within the national park.

### What can my partner do?

Besides lazing, reading or enjoying the other on-site facilities your partner can explore the local area (we provide free maps and local information). This is a scenically very interesting area and there is much to photograph/visit. Your own hire car is essential to do this. There are various other interesting local activities (see website [www.ilcollaccio.com](http://www.ilcollaccio.com) for more information). Partners are also welcome to join the group on the optional day out.

### What can we do on our free day – Friday?

Included in the cost of your holiday is a whole day excursion designed to give you a flavour of the area. Leaving promptly after breakfast we will visit the local town of Visso for its weekly market before traveling on through a high plateau in the national park and stopping for lunch at a typical restaurant. Of course, you can opt out to continue painting in the studio or relax for the day at Il Collaccio.

### Is there a shop at Il Collaccio?

The shop is closed until June but you can buy wine, soft drinks and ice creams from the bar which is open all day.

### Can I pay by credit card?

You can pay for your room and most services by credit card. Bar bills are cash euros only.

### What other activities are there at Il Collaccio or nearby?

Besides exploring the local villages and the food shops of Norcia, nearby activities include walking, river rafting, horse riding and mountain biking. We can organise all these activities for you at reception or in advance.

### Is the hotel restaurant close to the studio?

It's about 100 metres on an unmade road with a small,

gradual incline (and spectacular views!).

### What's the food like?

*Breakfast* is simple as is the Italian tradition with fruit juice, coffee / tea, croissant, bread and jam and cereals.

*Lunch* is a cold and hot buffet with a selection of delicious local dishes and salads. This will be served out on the restaurant terrace weather permitting.

*Dinner* in the restaurant is classic Umbrian cuisine with a starter, then pasta or fish or meat followed by desert (see website [www.ilcollaccio.com](http://www.ilcollaccio.com) to view the standard restaurant menu and the type of dishes served.) The area is famous for its truffles, prosciutto, salami, wild boar, sausages, river trout, sheep's cheese and lentils.

### Do you cater for Vegetarians and special dietary needs?

Yes. Please advise us when you book.

### What will the weather be like?

Obviously, we can't guarantee the weather but if it's fine then expect warm sunny days with cool evenings. We are at 600 meters.

**Is there an internet connection?** Yes. A wi-fi internet connection (download speed normally between 1MB – 2 MB per second) is available near reception and at the hotel. There is also a public computer. There is a charge to use the internet.

### Is there a mobile phone signal?

Generally, yes. There are also telephones in the hotel rooms and public telephones on site.

[www.ilcollaccio.com](http://www.ilcollaccio.com)

[www.paintbotanical.com](http://www.paintbotanical.com)



Sit in a piazza and enjoy the view

