

**ELAINE SEARLE**

# 10 day Botanical Painting Holiday in Umbria, Italy

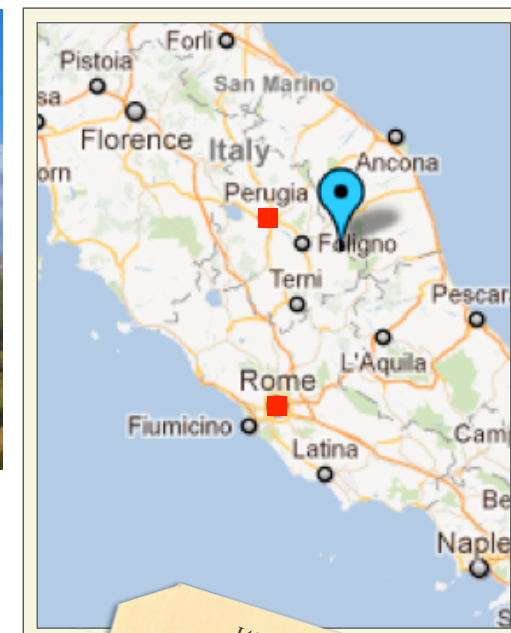
29 May  
8 June  
2013



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



We stay on the edge of the wild and beautiful Monti Sibillini National Park at the delightful family run Hotel Il Collaccio



On this very special holiday, Elaine Searle, botanical artist and respected tutor provides professional instruction and inspiration. Having enjoyed two previous visits to Il Collaccio, popular demand has convinced her to extend the 2013 holiday to 10 nights. This will give even more time for you to relax and enjoy this wonderful part of Italy.

Previous guests (botanical artists of all levels and non painters too) came from UK, USA, Holland, Trinidad and Japan to join a small friendly group enjoying stunning scenery, comfortable en suite accommodation and excellent food at Il Collaccio.

*"I believe that I may have found the ideal place for a botanical break. A small hotel, owned by the charming Baldoni family, surrounded by wildflowers at 600m in the foothills of the Appennines"* Elaine Searle



"The distant valley views are breathtaking - and the close ups are pretty amazing too."

Anita McCullough, London

Which Airport?  
**Rome** (various airlines)  
best connections to USA  
UK and Europe

If you have any queries or would like to make a reservation please contact:  
Kevin Hendry [Kevin@ilcollaccio.com](mailto:Kevin@ilcollaccio.com)



In the Italian tradition, locally sourced ingredients and wine are served with great pride



" This family run hotel, boasts a great bunch of people, we want for nothing, this will be my third year there"  
Nadira, Kew



"It's all mine."  
Francesca, Illinois



## Itinerary



## Inclusive excursion to Fabriano

### Wednesday 29 May : Arrival Day

*7.00pm Welcome Meeting on the bar terrace*

A short get together over an aperitif. An opportunity for Elaine to greet everyone, and for you to meet Kevin (event co-ordinator for Il Collaccio) who will answer your queries and share his local knowledge.

*7.30pm Dinner in hotel restaurant*

### Thursday 30 May : Settle in day

*8.00am onwards, continental breakfast buffet*

*9.30am Orientation tour with Kevin.*

A short guided walk around the hotel to get your bearings.

*10.00 -12.45 Morning session in studio*

Settle in to the studio and Elaine will discuss individually your objectives for the week. A 'nature table' of local flora will be provided as well as several mini-projects (new for 2013)

with colour handouts. Refreshment breaks are at will.

*1pm Buffet Lunch*

*(on restaurant terrace weather permitting)*

*2.00-5pm Afternoon studio session*

Free time for those painters who wish to relax/explore. For those preferring to paint on 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 31 May to Monday 3 June

*9.30 -12.45 Morning session in studio*

*1pm Buffet Lunch*

*2.00-5pm Free time or afternoon studio session*  
Elaine will be producing her own art alongside you.

### Tuesday 4 June - Excursion day

*8.00am onwards, breakfast as usual*

*9.30am. Depart hotel by minibus*

Today we will travel into the neighbouring region of Le Marche to the medieval town of Fabriano, one of the few places in the world where paper is still produced by hand. The Fabriano museum of paper making and watermarks tells the history of this fascinating craft. Our visit includes a 'hands on' opportunity to make some paper.

A picnic lunch prepared by Il Collaccio is provided, and we shall be back at the hotel in good time for Dinner in hotel restaurant.

*NOTE should you wish to opt out of this trip you are free to explore locally or relax at the hotel instead. The studio will be open all day but tuition will not be provided. A lunch will be provided at the Il Collaccio restaurant.*



The museum piazza



Watermarks were invented here

**FABRIANO**

<http://www.museodellacarta.com>

# Itinerary continued, 2013 prices and travel information



10 Day Price for 2013	EUROS
Botanical painter (sharing a room)	1380
Non Painting guest (sharing a room)	930
Single room supplement	150

## Wednesday 5 to Friday 7 June

9.30 -12.45 Morning session in studio

1pm Buffet Lunch

2.00-5pm Free time or afternoon studio session Elaine will be producing her own art alongside you.

## Saturday 8 June: 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.

## WHAT IS INCLUDED

10 nights accommodation in 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 a picnic lunch  
Use of equipped studio (boards, task lights, light box and jam jars.  
Free tea and coffee in studio.

## WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

Flights  
Insurance  
Airport transfers  
Single room supplement

## HOW TO RESERVE A PLACE

Please email Kevin Hendry  
kevin@ilcollaccio.com

Discuss your requirements, travel and transfer options so that final costs can be calculated.

## PAYMENT

Payments can only be made in Euros.  
To secure your booking please make a non-refundable deposit of €250.  
Credit card payments are made through the Paypal secure on-line system.  
3.5% surcharge applies to credit card payments

## FLIGHTS & TRANSFERS

### BY AIR

ROME provides the greatest choice of airlines. Il Collaccio is approximately 2.5 hours by road from the airport.

Il Collaccio can arrange private car/ minibus transfers from ROME airport. These must be arranged direct with Kevin the event co-ordinator. The transport has an English-speaking driver and these transfers are cheaper than a normal taxi. The cost is divided

down between passengers traveling together. A small wait at the airport may be necessary as the transport may be coordinated to meet a number of different flights. Please discuss and book your transfer by contacting Kevin at: [kevin@ilcollaccio.com](mailto:kevin@ilcollaccio.com)

### BY RAIL

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.

### CAR HIRE

Should you prefer the use of a car throughout your stay, car hire is possible with all the major firms from ROME airport. There are no car hire facilities at the hotel. Detailed directions can be supplied by Il Collaccio for the drive from the airport.



Wild flowers meadow, medieval hill top towns,  
trout filled rivers and peace to paint



## Frequently Asked Questions



### Is this holiday suitable for beginners?

Yes. It is usually mixed ability but the small group size allows for plenty of individual instruction.

### 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. Weather permitting, students may choose to paint outside on the studio verandah.

### 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?

Yes, one of the swimming pools will be open. The wearing of swimming caps is obligatory (these can be purchased on site for 3 euros).

### What clothes should I bring?

Late May/early June 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 non painters do?

Besides lazing, reading or enjoying the other on-site facilities non painters 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). Non painters are also welcome to join the group on the optional day out.

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

Included in the cost of your holiday is a whole day excursion (Tuesday 4th June) into the adjoining region of Le Marche. Leaving promptly after breakfast we will visit the famous Fabriano Museum of Paper and Watermarking. Paper has been made in this medieval town since 1780 and we will have the opportunity to make our own. We will stop for a delicious picnic lunch. 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?

Mostly yes but bar bills are cash euros only.

### What other activities are there nearby?

Besides exploring the local villages and the food shops of Visso and 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 /special diets?

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.



**ELAINE SEARLE**

would love you to join her in Umbria, Italy



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