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TRAVEL ADVISORY



Learning to Paint The Tuscan Landscape

Landscape painting courses in Tuscany are being offered through October by a New York organization called Etruscan Places.

The workshops take place at the Fattoria Voltrona, a farmhouse on 100 acres of vineyards and olive groves in the outskirts of San Gimignano, 30 miles from Florence. The lush, rolling hills of the countryside serve as the principal subject of the courses, and the participants sleep and eat at the farmhouse. Most of the wine and cured meats served are produced on the farm.

The workshops have been designed to introduce landscape painting to people with little or no previous art instruction. Those with some training are tutored in content and technique. Evening lectures on art history focus on landscape painting; students are also offered two trips to museums, in Siena and Florence, to look at specific paintings important in the history of landscape painting. The class size is limited to 12. Remaining courses this year take place July 20 to 27, Sept. 7 to 4, Sept. 21 to 8, and Oct. 12 to 19. Painters pay from \$1,100 to \$1,450 a week, depending on occupancy, and nonpainting partners pay \$700.

Courses are taught by Maddine Insalaco, who has a master of fine arts degree in painting from the New York Academy of Art. Information: (212) 780-3216 or (39-338).