



# ITALIAN & WATERCOLOR FLORENCE, ITALY PROGRAMS START EVERY 2 WEEKS



## **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

This Italian & Watercolor Program enables you to combine an Italian course with watercolor lessons. This unique program offers exciting hands-on art classes, meaningful cultural immersion, and an enriching language program.

## **CITY AND COUNTRY INFO**

Ever since the nineteenth-century revival of interest in the art of the Renaissance, Florence has been a shrine to the cult of the beautiful. Close up, however, it does not immediately impress visitors as a beautiful city. The marble-clad Baptistery and Duomo are stupendous, of course, the architectural perfection of the latter's dome as celebrated now as it ever was. But these colorful monuments are not typical of the city as a whole: the streets of the historic centre are often narrow and dark, their palaces robust and intimidating, and few of the city's squares are places where you'd want to pass an idle hour.

However, Florence is a city of incomparable indoor pleasures, its chapels, galleries and museums an inexhaustible treasure, embodying the complex, exhilarating and often elusive spirit of the Renaissance more fully than any other place in the country, and few leave completely disappointed, Florence became the centre of artistic patronage in Italy under the Medici family, who made their fortune in banking and ruled the city as an independent state for some three centuries, most auspiciously during the years of Lorenzo de' Medici, tagged "Il Magnifico", who held fiercely onto Florentine independence in the face of papal resentment. Later, in the late eighteenth century, Florence fell under Austrian and then French rule, and in the nineteenth century was for a short time the capital of the kingdom of Italy. The story of Florence since then has been fairly low-key, and nowadays the monuments and paintings of the city's Renaissance heyday are the basis of its survival.

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF PROGRAM**

After participating in this Italian & Watercolor Program in Florence, students will gain experience in foreign art programs, greatly improve foreign language abilities, gain personal growth and confidence both nationally and internationally, and combine travel, academics, and passion for art into one incredible life-changing experience.



## *What's Included*

- **Tuition and Class Materials:** 2 week minimum-group 20 Italian 60 minute lessons per week in group of 5- 10 students per class.
- **Art Classes:** Minimum 12 hours per week
- **Lodging:** In a Shared Apartment or Homestay
- **Placement Testing**
- **1-2 Organized Activities Weekly\***
- \* Entrance fees, transportation, etc. may be at additional cost.
- **Access to E-mail**
- **Access to Multimedia Learning Center**
- **Certificate of Completion**
- **Pre-Departure Information**
- **Planning Guide**
- **Medical, Accident and Sickness Coverage \*\***
- \*\* See policy for definitions and exclusions.
- **Medivac Coverage**
- **Other Travel Coverage:** repatriation, baggage, personal effects, accidental death and dismemberment , etc.
- **24 Hour Emergency Multilingual Hotline:** call collect from anywhere in the world

## **FULL PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

### **STUDY PROGRAM**

The study portion of the program includes 20 hours per week of Group Italian classes with a 2 week minimum. Maximum number of students per class is 10, with the average being 8 students. Groups are organized in a way that each will always consist of students possessing the same level of Italian.

All of our teachers are native speakers with university educations and are very experienced teaching Italian to foreigners. Most have learned a second language themselves and understand the student's perspective.

The method is based on the 4 language skills: listening, grammar, oral and written comprehension. No English will be used in class. Classes are 60 minutes in length.

Our program is divided into 6 levels of study. The first 4 are concentrated on grammar, vocabulary, practical situations, and conversation. The next 2 levels, advanced and superior, focus mainly on conversation and advanced reading and writing topics.

### **WATERCOLOR PROGRAM**

The first lesson introduces the basic techniques: how to use the paintbrush, how to do a wash of color and then another one over the top, how to dilute a color. You will immediately do a simple watercolor in one color, to try and consolidate these techniques.

In the following lessons you will use all the colors, learning to balance hot and cold colors and at first painting easy subjects but then progressing to harder ones as proposed by the teacher. At the same time you will learn to assess your work, identifying the positive aspects and improving the unsatisfactory aspects. This course is suitable for students who already know how to draw quite well. At the end of the course (two or four weeks) you will be able to paint a still life of various subjects and know enough to be able to continue at home, personalizing your watercolors.

## **LODGING OPTIONS**

### **HOMESTAY**

Single or double room, with breakfast, or half board. Most of the host families have worked with us for many years. The families know from experience what the role of a host is. Living with a host family offers you the opportunity to become quickly into the Italian society. Nowhere else will you so directly experience real Italian life. The word 'family' should not be taken too literally, because your family could also be a single parent or a childless couple who take in students because they enjoy the company.

### **SHARED APARTMENT**

Single or double room, shared use of kitchen, bathroom and shower, living room and other common areas. You share a flat or floor of a house either with other students from our school, with other Italian students or with the owner. In selecting the apartments, we do not look for luxury and comfort in material sense, but the apartments are furnished with all essential utilities (bed, table, chair, wardrobe). Kitchen and bathroom are of common use.

## **PRICE RANGE**

Cost of 2 weeks of classes, 12 watercolor lessons per week, and 2 weeks total of housing ranges from:

**\$1,370 → \$1,710\*\***

\*\*Prices range according to housing and board options.

## **ELIGIBILITY AND GUIDELINES**

U.S. citizens traveling with regular passports for tourism or business do not need a visa for a stay of 90 days or less. Those planning a longer visit must obtain a visa in advance of arrival.

Minimum age of 18 unless accompanied by an adult.

## **ACTIVITIES**

The school offers leisure activities on a regular basis such as:

- Dinners, which enable teachers and students to get to know each other better
- Guided visits in History of Art
- Film evenings at school
- Day and half-day excursions
- Visit to wine cellars

## **HOW TO REGISTER**

To register for the ITALIAN & WATERCOLOR PROGRAM in Florence, either follow the link below or call 1-888-678-6211.

<http://www.nrcsa.com/reg/online/regform.html>

When you register, \$140 USD is due to secure your place in the program.