

A street lamp in Orvieto, Italy, with a building and a sunset sky in the background.

Drawn Away to Orvieto ITALY

APRIL 2027

Immerse yourself in Italian culture with Art
Tutors Cindy MacDonald & Jeanne Cotter

- Expert art tuition in soft pastel and charcoal
- Medieval towns, Renaissance masterpieces
- Food, wine, culture & creativity

Welcome to the Tour

Come and experience the magic of Italy on a truly unforgettable art adventure. Immerse yourself in Italian culture and creativity on our fully tutored and guided art retreat in the heart of beautiful Umbria.

This journey is designed for artists and creatives who want more than just a holiday — it's an immersive cultural and artistic experience filled with inspiration, connection, incredible food, and breathtaking scenery.

You'll be supported every step of the way by your two Tutors and a professional Australian tour guide who has lived and worked in Italy, ensuring a seamless, rich, and deeply local experience.



Orvieto. OUR CREATIVE HOME

Our main base will be the stunning hill town of Orvieto — a hidden gem perched high above the Umbrian countryside. With its dramatic cliffside setting, winding medieval streets, and golden tufa stone buildings, Orvieto offers an inspiring environment for art-making.

Rich in history from its ancient Etruscan roots to its magnificent 15th-century cathedral, Orvieto is perfectly positioned between Rome and Florence and is also a traditional centre for beautiful Italian majolica ceramics.

Art classes will take place both in the studio of an old convent and outdoors (plein air), allowing you to capture this incredible landscape firsthand.





Art, Artisans & UMBRIAN LIFE

From our base in Orvieto, we will travel through the lush green countryside of Umbria, meeting local artisans and experiencing traditional crafts.

Special experiences include:

- A full day working with a famed majolica artist in his 9th-century castle near Orvieto
- Studio and plein air soft pastel and charcoal art classes with Cindy & Jeanne
- Plenty of free time to explore markets, shops, cafés, and local life

All along the way, we'll enjoy the wonderful flavours of Umbrian cuisine.



Cooking, Wine & LOCAL CULTURE

Italy isn't just about its art — it's about the flavours that bring each region to life. On this tour, food and wine are an essential part of the experience.

One highlight is a hands-on cooking class at a prestigious winery in the picturesque Valley of Assisi. You'll learn traditional Umbrian recipes using fresh, local ingredients and then enjoy a long, leisurely lunch paired with exquisite regional wines, from rich reds to crisp whites.

This part of the journey isn't just about eating — it's about savouring the culture, connecting with local artisans and wine makers, and experiencing the essence of Umbria through its cuisine.



Florence: THE GRAND FINALE

The tour concludes with two unforgettable nights in Florence — the birthplace of the Renaissance.

Florence highlights include:

- A professionally guided walking tour
- Free shopping and exploring time
- Entry into world-famous museums and cathedrals
- A visit to the Galleria Accademia to see Michelangelo's David

Florence offers endless inspiration with its art, architecture, history, shopping, and vibrant street life.

DATES:

Wednesday 7th - Friday 16th April 2027

Arrive Orvieto - Depart Florence

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 10 days/9 nights
- Daily breakfast, plus three lunches and five dinners
- Twin-share hotel accommodation
- Studio and plein air art classes with Cindy and Jeanne
- Majolica workshop in a 9th-century castle near Orvieto
- Umbrian cooking class & winery lunch
- All transport for excursions and train transfer to Florence
- City entry card for Orvieto sites & museums
- All listed museum & cathedral entries in Florence
- Professionally guided walking tours in both cities
- Free afternoons and evenings for personal exploration

INVESTMENT

\$9950 per person

\$950 non-refundable deposit to secure your place.

Immerse yourself...

- Small group experience
- Fully guided & professionally curated
- Art tuition, tours, accommodation & transport included
- Cultural access & exclusive workshops

- Airfares not included

Numbers are strictly limited to maintain a personal experience.

[APPLY HERE](#)

Contact

Cindy or Jeanne

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Your Tutors

CINDY MACDONALD & JEANNE COTTER



Cindy MacDonald is an accomplished and versatile visual artist, whose work captivates audiences with its vibrant colours, intricate details, and profound emotional depth.

Her love of nature, in particular Australian Fauna, harken back to her idyllic childhood in South East Queensland. This love, in addition to her faith, continues to be a key source of inspiration to her.

Cindy's artistic style is a fusion of contemporary and traditional influences. Her early appreciation of the Old Masters like Bouguereau, Sargent, Repin, and

contemporary artists; Richard Schmid and Susan Lyons and Vladimir Volegov have greatly inspired her approach to art, instilling in her a love for experimentation and a commitment to pushing the boundaries of her creativity.

On this Tour Cindy will be tutoring in charcoal with a focus on the wonderful opportunities to sketch and draw from the many sculptures and structures to be found in both Orvieto and Florence.

Find out more about Cindy and her art at: <https://cindymacdonaldart.com.au/>



Jeanne Cotter (pronounced 'Jeannie') is an award winning soft pastel artist. Her work explores a range of subjects including florals, still life, and landscapes. She works exclusively in soft pastels, drawn to their immediacy, strong colour, and tactile quality.

Now semi-retired after a career in graphic design and marketing, she is painting full time and living in Toowoomba. Jeanne practices her art almost every day. She currently exhibits in local shows and galleries, as well as teaching soft pastel workshops and weekly classes for adults in her Delicious Art Studio.

Jeanne has attended two Italian art tours similar to this one, in 2013 and 2014. On this Tour Jeanne will be tutoring in soft pastel with a focus on capturing the stunning landscapes and street scenes of Orvieto and Florence. Find out more about Jeanne and her art at: <https://www.jeannecotter.com.au/>