



Italy Workshop

*Artists' Retreat; The Art of Observational Painting
with Lisa Daria Kennedy, May 21, 2016 thru May 28, 2016*

Join us in Greve in the Chianti region of Tuscany at the Villa Benedetta where we'll connect with our immediate surroundings through observational painting. Techniques and exercises will teach and build skill in still life, landscape and interior painting. Instruction will simplify the processes of painting and working direct from life.

The practice of working direct from life results in a heightened awareness and a lasting impression of the moment. Our own personalities inspire what we see in our immediate surroundings. Through painting and observational exercises we'll analyze what influences our choices and how to incorporate our personal voice in our work. Using observation as our cornerstone we'll examine examples of Lisa's work and other artists who combine all three genres. Combining still life, landscape and interior painting creates an interconnectivity with our immediate surroundings.

About

We insist on a no-pressure state-of-mind

The program is designed for individuals, we encourage flexibility and insist on a no pressure state of mind. The class size is limited for an intimate learning and painting experience. Villa Benedetta is spacious, newly renovated and situated in a picturesque environment. This program is designed to provide specific art training with alternative personal choices for independent travel.

Location - The villa is located in Greve in Chianti, also known as the “entrance gate” into the Chianti region. The beautiful main square of Greve, Piazza Matteotti, is the focal point of the town. It can be easily reached from the Villa on foot (about 10 minutes walk), by bike, or by car (3-4 minutes drive).



At the Piazza Matteotti there are several excellent restaurants such as the Osteria Mangiando Mangiando, the Bottega del Moro or the Osteria del chianti classico as well as many other typical grocery stores, artisan shops and the famous Antica

Macelleria Falorni - a Tuscan butcher that has been in the same spot since 1729. Nearby the square there is also a supermarket.

Points of Interest - For those who want to visit other areas of artistic and historical interest, independent travel is an option. Villa Bendedetta is located within 130 miles and 2.5 hours of driving by car of the following cities;

Venice (137 miles)	Lucca (45 miles)
Rome (130 miles)	Genoa (131 miles)
Pisa (47 miles)	

Rail transport throughout Italy: <http://www.raileurope.com/train-tickets/>

Bus Walking distance from the villa there is a bus stop where it is possible to take several buses to Florence or other nearby locations such as San Gimignano or Siena.

Car The main car rental agencies nearby the train station of Florence by the street called Borgo Ognissanti. From Rome at several locations at airport and in city.

The Villa

The 10,000 sf villa is located in Greve in Chianti, which is often considered as the “entrance gate” into the Chianti region.

Villa Benedetta is a beautiful historic residence that has been for many years the pulsating heart of the Folonari family, a renowned name in the Italian wine business. Dating back to the early 1800, the villa is located at the center of the family’s agricultural holding that is currently producing excellent internationally known wines.



After a long and thorough renovation of the villa in 2014, the owners have decided to convert it into a vacation home considering its overall wonderful characteristics, elegance and charm. The spectacular typical Tuscan surroundings are perfect for excursions either on foot, on a bike or for horseback riding.



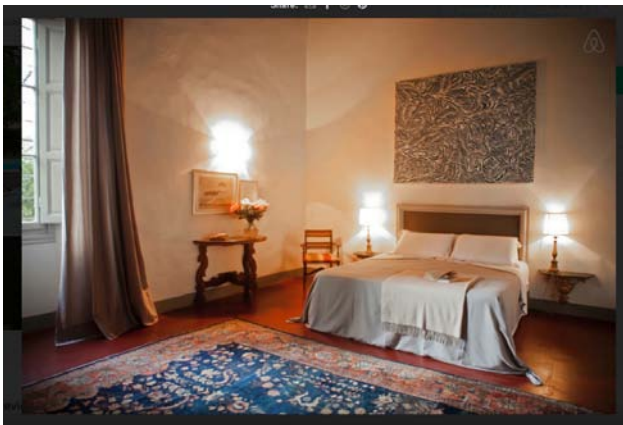


The park of the villa is immaculately kept and features furnished shade areas dedicated to just relaxing while enjoying the view on the stunning Tuscan landscape or al fresco dining (there is a new barbecue and a covered gazebo that sits up to 18 people).

The private swimming pool (size 40 x 16 feet) comes with a changing area, full bathroom with shower and a dedicated wifi Internet connection.



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Kitchen for cooking classes
Outdoor dining area



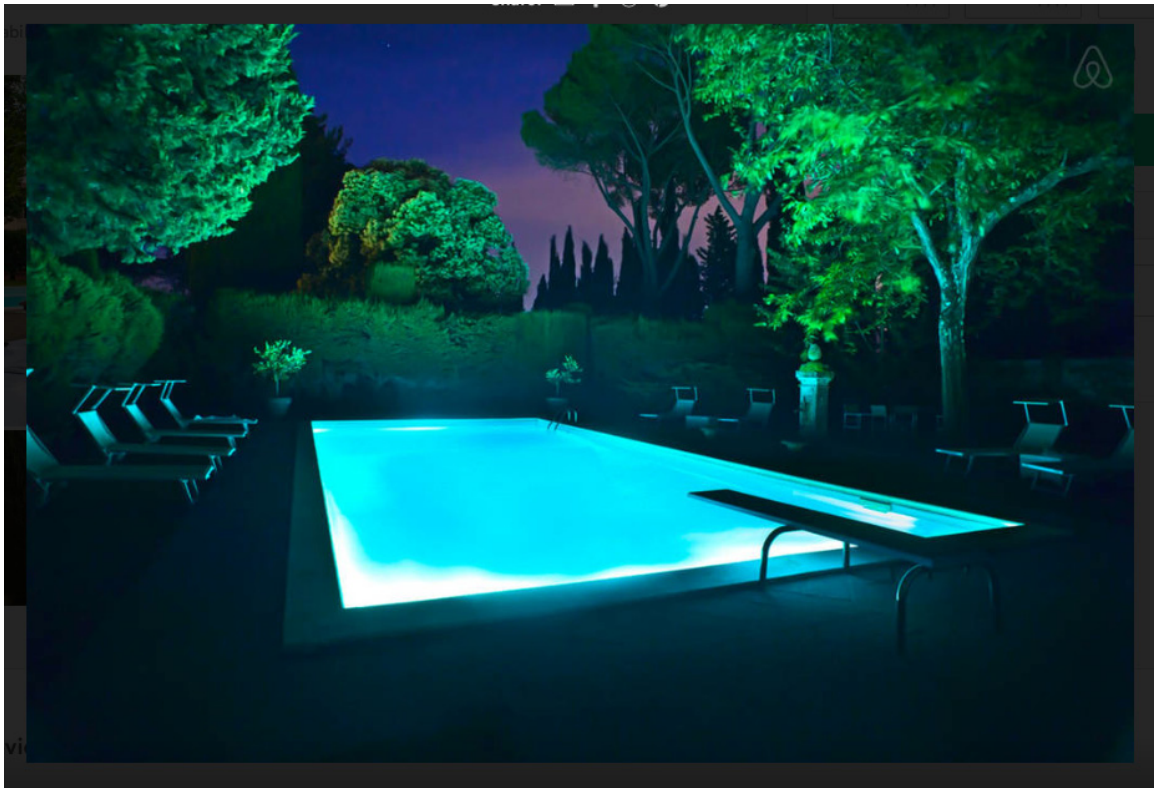


Bedrooms





Pool



Instructor

Lisa Daria Kennedy

CV <http://s3.otherpeoplespixels.com/sites/26154/resume.pdf>

<http://www.theartroomonline.net/2012/07/an-interview-with-lisa-daria-kennedy.html>



Painting, for me, is a physical act of being able to leave proof that I was there. Having cancer as a young adult, I discovered living is not just surviving. I wanted a way to embrace each day, no matter how typical, so without excuse or hesitation, I begin each day by painting.

Biography Lisa Daria Kennedy grew up along the northeast edge of the Hockomock Swamp in Massachusetts. She received her BA from Roger Williams University (1995) in Graphic Design and her BFA from Massachusetts College of Art and Design in Illustration (1998), and her MFA from the Massachusetts College of Art and Design in 2D (2013).



Since 2009, Kennedy has been committed to an on-going daily painting project in which she creates one painting a day.

As a young adult cancer survivor, she discovered living is not just surviving. The intimate paintings of everyday subjects seek to give a voice to the fiber of the everyday.

Kennedy has worked as a product and surface designer and illustrator in the international giftware industry. She is affiliated with Roger Williams University in Bristol, RI as the Design Editor for the literary publication, Mount Hope and is an Assistant and Adjunct Professor at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design in Boston, MA. www.lisadariakennedy.com

Itinerary

Saturday, May 21, Day of arrival: Check-in is 4:00 pm.
Welcome reception dinner will be held at 7:00 pm.

Sunday, May 22: After breakfast, we will meet in the garden for an overview of the workshop. Following a brief demo, artists will paint with instruction for two hours.

12:00 – 4:00 p : Lunch, free-time

4:00 – 6:00 pm: Painting lesson and group painting

7:00 pm: Dinner at the villa

Monday, May 23: After breakfast, we will travel to Greve to paint in the town market area and then lunch.

12:00 – 3:30 pm: Lunch and activity on your own in Greve.

3:30 pm: Return to villa

4:00 – 6:00 pm: Painting lesson at the villa

7:00 pm: Dinner at the villa

Tuesday, May 24: After breakfast, we will meet in the library for a demo on interior painting. Students will select an area in the house from which to paint.

12:00 – 4:00 pm: Lunch prepared, followed by free-time

4:00 – 6:00 pm: Painting lesson

7:00 pm: Dinner at the villa

Wednesday, May 25: After breakfast, we will travel to the countryside to paint vista landscapes after a short demo by Lisa.

12:00 – 5:00 pm: Lunch on your own. Rest and relax.

5:00 pm: Lecture regarding museums in Florence by Lisa.

7:00 pm: Dinner at the villa

Thursday, May 26: After breakfast, we will travel by bus to Florence for a day of guided tour of the Uffizi and Academia museums (11:30 & 4:30 respectively.)

Lunch: On your own in Florence.

8:00 pm: Dinner at the villa

Friday, May 27; Our last day: After breakfast, the group will paint independently throughout the property with Lisa's guidance.

12:00 – 2:00 pm: Light lunch prepared.

*Afternoon cooking class and dinner following.

Saturday, May 28th: Departure at 8:00 am to bus station for those without car rentals.

Costs

Villa Rental: Cost per person (assigned on a first, come first serve basis) –
9 workshop spaces available

\$2650 per person - Master double with private bath (3 available) per workshop participant. Spouse/non-workshop participant in same room \$2000 additional.
\$2500 per person - Master double with shared bath (2 available) per workshop participant. Spouse/non-workshop participant in same room \$2000 additional.
\$2300 - Twin, shared with private bath (4 beds available) per workshop participant. Spouse/non-workshop participant in same room \$2000 additional.
\$2500 - Twin private for 1 with private bath, only if available - per workshop participant.

Payment Schedule

Initial non-refundable deposit due at registration - \$1000 all persons

Final payment due February 15, 2016 - \$1300 - \$1650

(depending on room size - \$1000 - \$1650)

For reservations made within a 90 day departure - \$2000 - \$2650

Non-workshop participant \$2000

Fee includes:

Transport from Greve bus stop to villa

Meals according to itinerary

Cooking class

Additional costs not included:

Airfare, train fare, airport transfers or personal transportation

Trip and health insurance – recommend Travelex, Transportation to Greve

Some meals in restaurants, Museum passes, Portable easel and paint supplies

It is highly suggested that participants rent a car. If you would like to be matched up with another participant, you may share in this cost. Rental fee for a manual car/economy size with air conditioning is around \$300 from Florence and \$175 from Rome. Automatic may be additional.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY:

If you initiate a cancellation, refunds of final payments will be honored as follows:

- between time of registration and 90 days of scheduled departure: 75% refund
- between 61-90 days of scheduled departure: 50% refund
- 60 days or less prior to scheduled tour departure: No refund

FAQ

What flights do you recommend?

It is highly suggested that you fly into Rome or Milan and take the train to Florence since the airfare cost is over double to fly directly to Florence. The fast train from Rome to Florence ranges in cost from \$46 - \$70 per person.

How do I get to Greve? <http://www.bardotti.com/firmap.jpg>

There is no rail station in Greve. From Florence you will take the SITA bus 365. The central SITA bus station in Florence is near the Train Station S.M.N. (Santa Maria Novella). When you get off from the train station, exit to your right (looking at the big panel with the timetable and the ticket office). The bus station is in the building in front of the exit. You descend the stairs, cross the road (at the traffic light); go to left, walking on the sidewalk around the block. At the second corner, you will arrive at the SITA bus station. Ask for the "Autobus SITA" - everybody will be able to direct you. You can download the Florence Map.

If coming by car: <http://www.chianti-italy.com/chiantigiana.htm>

The best way to travel to Greve is to come by car from Florence along Route 222 - the very attractive "Chiantigiana" highway passing through the Chianti wine area. Visitors to the area arriving from Rome can leave the motorway at Incisa Val d'Arno. From the west, there is a road connecting with the highway at Tavarnelle or S. Donato. This road passes the monastery at Badia a Passignano and the village of Montefioralle.

How do I get to the villa from the bus station in Greve?

Villa Address - via di Montefioralle, Case Sparse, 14 50022 Greve in Chianti (Fi)

Arrange transport via taxi: Address: 50022 Panzano in Chianti, Greve in Chianti, Italy Phone Number: +39 389 816 0050

Mr. Beppe of Lucano Driver. Cell phone number is: +39 392 1400056; info@lucanodriver.com; www.lucanodriver.com.com

Car rentals in Florence and Rome:

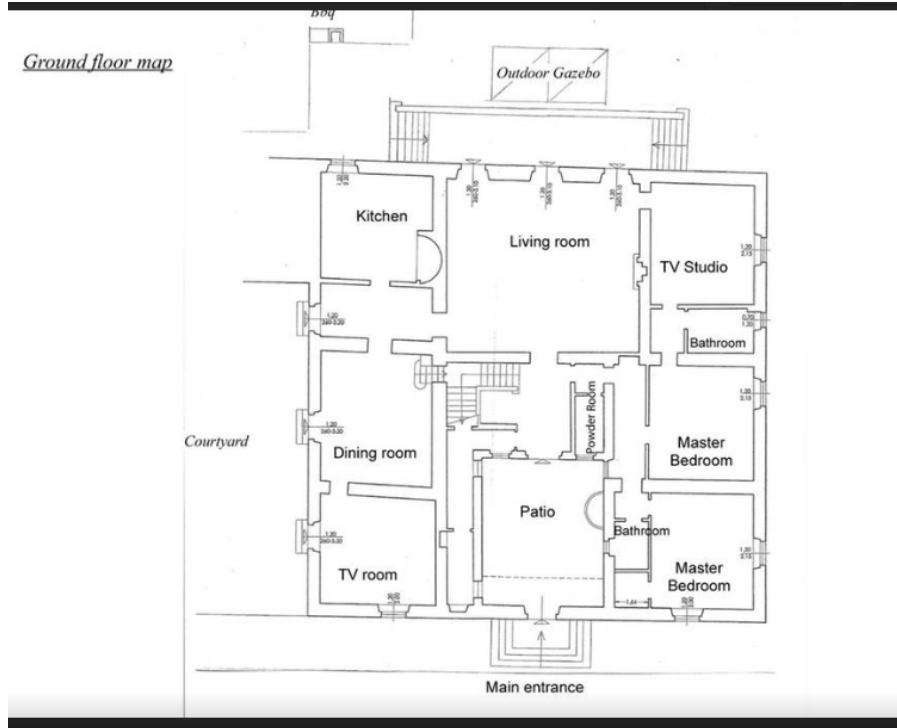
The main car rental agencies nearby the train station of Florence, by the street called Borgo Ognissanti. From Rome at several locations, the car rental is about \$160 per week at the airport.

What is the weather like in May?

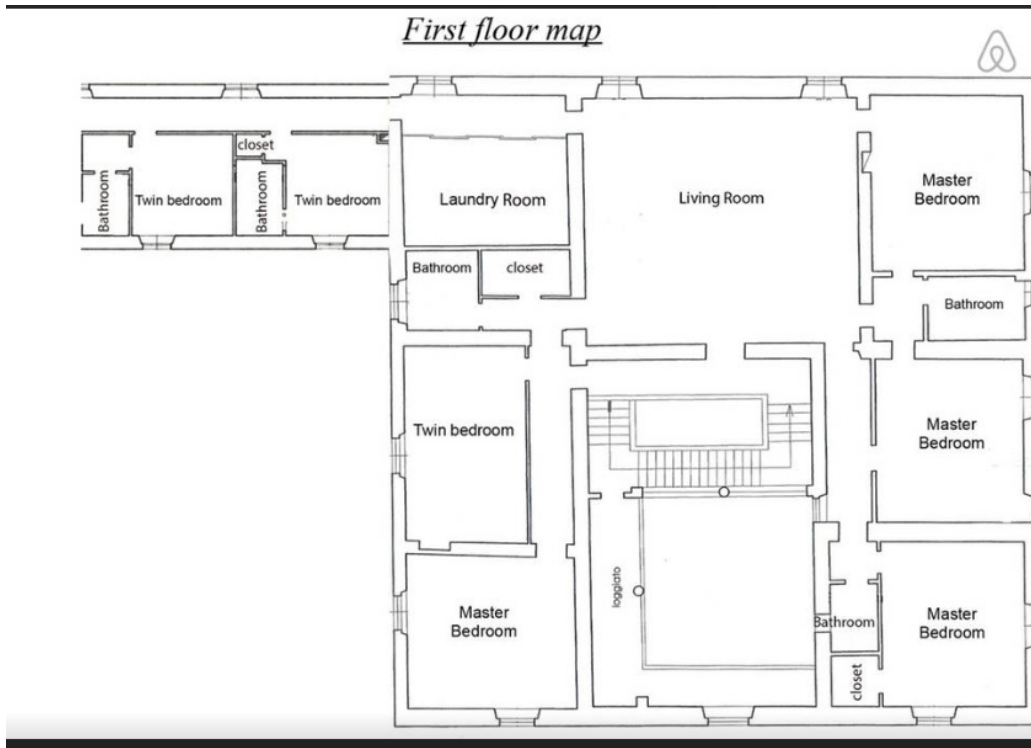
In May 2015 the temperature was between 68 – 77 degrees Farenheit.

Floor Plans

Ground floor map



First floor map



REGISTRATION

2016 Italy Workshop with Lisa Daria Kennedy
Please complete and scan to dthomas555@aol.com

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Email, Phone Numbers

Emergency Contact Name and Phone

I have allergies or special dietary needs _____

Workshop Fee: Payable by PayPal invoicing at registration and for balance; 3% credit card handling fee will be assessed.
PayPal membership not required.

____ Based on single occupancy (double master /private bath) \$2650 (three rooms available)

____ Based on single occupancy (double master /shared bath) \$2500 (two rooms available)

____ Based on double occupancy (twin/shared bath) \$2300 (two rooms available)

____ Spouse/other not attending workshop \$2000

____ Twin single occupancy, if available /private bath \$2650

TOTAL \$ _____

Less deposit sent with registration - \$1000

Balance due by February 1, 2016 \$ _____

Waiver: Participant agrees to hold harmless Lisa Daria Kennedy, Donna Thomas, Villa de Benedetta and/or their agents for losses or damages caused by accidents, sickness, injury, delays, missed carrier connections or other problem related to the arrangement and execution of this workshop.

Participants will obtain health and travel insurance to cover unforeseen problems or choose to be self-insured at his or her own risk - NO refunds can be assured. I/We agree to these terms and conditions.

Participant's Signature

Date

Trip Coordinator: Donna Thomas

1-404-313-7356 • dthomas555@aol.com