

Paesano Tours - Marina Cook & Janette Garbuio  
 (03) 9758 5985 or 0418 309 753

[info@paesanotours.com](mailto:info@paesanotours.com) ----- [www.paesanotours.com](http://www.paesanotours.com)

## Tuscan/Emilia Romagna Culture Painting Italian Tour MAY 2011

<p><b>Saturday</b> 28 May</p>	<p>Our private bus will pick us up at our designated hotel at 11:00am or Marconi Airport (Bologna) at 12.00pm and travel to <b>POLINAGO</b>, situated in the <i>Frignano Region</i> of the Appenines. We arrive at the family owned Hotel – Il Prato Verde, in time to relax and soak in the atmosphere before having a traditional Italian home cooked dinner.  <i>(D) Accommodation: Polinago</i></p>
<p><b>Sunday</b> 29 May</p>	<p><b>PALAGANO</b>–The town is located in the Valley of the Dragon surrounded with iconic buildings. Join the friendly paesani on their market day and afterwards settle to paint the beautiful scenery surrounding this township. Anyone interested a walk through the countryside for beautiful panoramic views from the Palazzo. Lunch at your leisure.  <i>(B&amp;D) Accommodation: Polinago</i></p>
<p><b>Monday</b> 30 May</p>	<p><b>VITRIOLLA</b> – We first venture to the fresh authentic Parmeggiano-Reggiano (parmesan cheese) Factory to appreciate their workmanship and sample their award winning cheese. Then, with our minibus, we will go for a short drive to Vitriolla to paint this quiet village lost in time. It has tower homes which were built to defend the area. Additional buildings were constructed in the middle ages, including villas and the bell tower. The township was also built in the middle ages and there are off-the-beaten tracks, which lead to interesting pockets of stone buildings surrounded by colorful gardens and farm animals.  <i>(B&amp;D) Accommodation: Polinago</i></p>
<p><b>Tuesday</b> 31 May</p>	<p><b>MODENA</b> – Our Private Bus will travel to Modena, which is one of the more significant cities in Emilia-Romagna. The ancient centre will be our location to paint and explore the market centre and variety of exclusive stores. You will be free to spend the day exploring the architecture, Este Art Gallery, library, churches and beautiful shops.  <i>(B&amp;D) Accommodation: Polinago</i></p>
<p><b>Wednesday</b> 1 June</p>	<p><b>MONTEFIORINO</b> – Our minibus will travel to this hill top town and its 12<sup>th</sup> century castle. The castle was constructed by Count of Montecuccol and, over time, the town slowly built itself around it. The castle has a Museum dedicated to the Italian Resistance, who were instrumental in the victory over the Fascists in World War II. There are sweeping views of the Dolo Valley and the Valley of the Dragon. There will be opportunity of painting or walking to RUBBIANO in the afternoon.  <i>(B&amp;D) Accommodation: Polinago</i></p>
<p><b>Thursday</b> 2 June</p>	<p><b>CASTELLERANO</b> - Passing the ancient entrance of the castle of Castellerano you will discover a peaceful environment to paint and explore within a beautiful cobbled town. Outside the city walls there is a market, which will give you the opportunity to mix with the local people. There are wonderful scenic views from the watch tower and surrounding hills. For non-painters in the afternoon a drive or a walk can be organised to the defence towers built during the medieval era.  <i>(B&amp;D) Accommodation: Polinago</i></p>
<p><b>Friday</b> 3 June</p>	<p><b>BUCCASSUOLO</b> – A local bus will take us to a large Borgia, (cluster of buildings) which forms a village situated on a rocky hill. Pathways lead to forests, were wild mushrooms grow, streams run and wild flowers bloom. The town is an inspiration for painting and if you want to venture along the windy paths and immerse yourself in another lifestyle there will be an opportunity for the ones who wish to walk to Palagano after lunch.  <i>(B&amp;D) Accommodation: Polinago</i></p>

Paesano Tours - Marina Cook & Janette Garbuio

(03) 9758 5985 or 0418 309 753

[info@paesanotours.com](mailto:info@paesanotours.com) ----- [www.paesanotours.com](http://www.paesanotours.com)

<p><b>Saturday 4 June</b></p>	<p><b>YOUR CHOICE</b> – The painters will have time for their artwork in the town of POLINAGO or you can take the opportunity to catch the local bus with Janette and travel to PAVULLO which has a large market day. For people wanting to explore further a walk to the roman bridge at BRANDOLA and meander back through the farming districts surrounded with beautiful mountains.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(B&amp;D) Accommodation: Polinago</i></p>
<p><b>Sunday 5 June</b></p>	<p><b>POLINAGO</b> - This is a chance to paint/walk and mingle with the <i>paesani</i> (local townsfolk) who will gather in the town center to play card games, drink with friends and relax. The <i>paesani</i> also welcomes anyone who wants to experience an Italian speaking church service in their 15<sup>th</sup> century church. Being a mountainous region there are breathtaking landscapes and walking trails to explore/paint. Explore the many roads leading out of Polinago to discover hidden locations such as the <i>Taverna Del Brutto</i> (The Tavern of the Ugly)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(B&amp;D) Accommodation: Polinago</i></p>
<p><b>Monday 6 June</b></p>	<p><b>RIOLUNATO</b> – is a medieval township nestled high in the Apennines mountains. This quiet town is just perfect for painting the old rustic buildings and pathways. An opportunity to walk to the CASTELLO to see an ancient 10<sup>th</sup> church filled with ancient artifacts and walk along the medieval road, just like the pilgrims of yesteryear. Visit the Bridge of the Moon before travelling to FIUMALBO, a medieval town on the border of Tuscany and Emilia-Romagna, where we will spend the next three nights</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(B&amp;D) Accommodation: Fiumalbo</i></p>
<p><b>Tuesday 7 June</b></p>	<p><b>GARFAGNANA</b> – Our private bus will take us through the scenic mountains, into the Tuscan region. We will visit Castel Garfagnana, a beautiful town surrounded within a castle wall, dating back to the Roman Era. After many painting/sightseeing opportunities, we then venture to a gorgeous village with red stone buildings called <b>SASSO ROSSO</b>. There are only pathways made of stone from one house to another and we can spend an afternoon painting or exploring.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(B&amp;D) Accommodation: Fiumalbo</i></p>
<p><b>Wednesday 8 June</b></p>	<p><b>FIUMALBO</b> – Today is your opportunity to paint this medieval town on the border of Tuscany and Emilia-Romagna and is surrounded by two rivers. Small narrow streets reveal a town steeped in history. Learn about the history of the whites and the reds religious sect as each protect their church and their beliefs. The landscape consists of beautiful old church, stone bridges and a Seminary Abbey.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(B&amp;D) Accommodation: Fiumalbo</i></p>
<p><b>Thursday 9 June</b></p>	<p><b>LUCCA</b> – Our private bus takes us down through the beautiful mountains to Lucca, a magnificent city in Tuscany. Enclosed by city defense walls, this city has narrow lanes, which meander along various medieval buildings, including an 180BC Roman amphitheatre. Learn about a prince's love for his wife at San Michele's Church and the history behind the town's defense. Visit and walk over the Maddelena Bridge build in the Matilda of Tuscany era before we return to Polinago.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(B&amp;D) Accommodation: Polinago</i></p>
<p><b>Friday 10 June</b></p>	<p><b>POLINAGO</b> – Our final day in this beautiful area. This will be the day to say your farewells to the locals and complete any last minute photographing/ walking/ shopping before leaving this area until the next time. This night is a chance to celebrate our time together, the painters to demonstrate their paintings as we farewell the <i>paesani</i>.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(B&amp;D) Accommodation: Polinago</i></p>
<p><b>Saturday 11 June</b></p>	<p>Departure early morning for Bologna Airport/Bologna Train Station.</p>

Please note: to ensure you have the tour of a lifetime, the itinerary may be changed at anytime.

(B = Continental Breakfast, D = Dinner)