

# PAINTEUROPE

Trips That Become Part of Your Life's Story!

## Provence *Plein Air* Painting Trip With Mary Erickson

June 12 - 18, 2022

### ITINERARY SUMMARY:

7 Days / 6 Nights

Based in Villeneuve-les-Avignon, France

Jun 12 Sunday - Welcome Reception

Jun 13 Monday - Avignon Painting Session

Jun 14 Tuesday - Luberon Valley Painting Session • Gordes • Sénanque Abbey

Jun 15 Wednesday - Saint-Remy-de-Provence Painting Session • Carrieres des Lumieres •  
French Provincial Cooking Class

Jun 16 Thursday - Villeneuve-les-Avignon Market Day • Villeneuve-les-Avignon Painting Session

Jun 17 Friday - Luberon Valley's Les Plus Beaux Villages de France Painting Session •  
Farewell Dinner

Jun 18 Saturday - Review Session • Departure for Home or Continued Travels

### Day 1: Sunday, June 12 – Villeneuve-les-Avignon

- Arrival – We'll stay at a choice of hotels... a charming family-owned boutique hotel located in the center of the historic Provencal village of Villeneuve-les-Avignon, across the Rhône River from Avignon... or you may choose to stay in the village's five-star Relais & Chateaux luxury signature hotel with a Michelin star restaurant. The two hotels are a short distance from each other. They will be our Provence home for the next six nights. Once checked in, the balance of the day is at your leisure to meander through Villeneuve-les-Avignon on your own... take a short taxi ride or a local bus to explore Avignon... or relax in the hotel gardens.
- 6:00 PM – Welcome Reception – With Côtes du Rhône wines and hors d'oeuvres hosted by Mary Erickson and Paint Europe... an opportunity to meet other guests and review the week's activities.
- Dinner - On your own... or join a local cuisine group dinner at your own expense. Restaurant personally selected by Tom Harter, Paint Europe president.

### Day 2: Monday, June 13 – Avignon

- For Early Risers – *Optional* before breakfast pleasure walk through Villeneuve-les-Avignon.
- Breakfast – At the hotel.
- Morning – Today we'll cross the Rhône River for a first day demonstration and morning painting session with Mary in Avignon's Old Town by beautiful Rue des Teinturiers... with its picturesque canal, waterwheels & bridges; narrow lanes & scenic plazas; historic buildings with tiled roofs & wooden shutters; small shops & outdoor cafes.
- Lunch – On your own... or join a group lunch at your own expense.
- Afternoon – Open afternoon for personal time, options include... afternoon painting... visit to Les Halles Avignon, Avignon's colorful & bustling in-door food market with over 40 stalls... take a guided tour (at own expense) of Avignon's The Palais des Papes, the papal residence and the seat of Western Christianity during the 14th century, one of the largest

and most important medieval Gothic buildings in Europe, a UNESCO World Heritage Site... explore Avignon boutiques... or relax at an outdoor café or in the hotel garden.

- Late-Afternoon – Join Mary for an optional “golden hour” plein air painting session in Villeneuve-les Avignon.
- Before Dinner – Cocktail hour Côtes du Rhône wine gathering in the hotel garden hosted by Paint Europe.
- Dinner – On your own... or join a local cuisine group dinner at your own expense.

### **Day 3: Tuesday, June 14 – Gordes & Abbaye Notre-Dame Sénanque**

- For Early Risers – *Optional* before breakfast pleasure walk through Villeneuve-les-Avignon.
- Breakfast – At the hotel.
- Morning – After breakfast we’ll board our private minibus and travel through Provence’s lovely Luberon Valley countryside, with landscapes composed of stone farmhouses and vineyards, arriving to the historic walled village of Gordes and to iconic Abbaye Notre-Dame Sénanque for a demonstration and morning painting session with Mary.
- Lunch – Picnic lunch hosted by Paint Europe.
- Afternoon – Open afternoon for personal free time back in Villeneuve-les-Avignon.
- Late-Afternoon – Join Mary for an optional “golden hour” plein air painting session in Villeneuve-les-Avignon.
- Before Dinner – Cocktail hour Côtes du Rhône wine gathering in the hotel garden hosted by Paint Europe.
- Dinner – On your own... or join a local cuisine group dinner at your own expense.

### **Day 4: Wednesday, June 15 – Day Trip to Saint-Remy de Provence**

- For Early Risers – *Optional* before breakfast pleasure walk through Villeneuve-les-Avignon.
- Breakfast – At the hotel.
- Morning – After breakfast we’ll board our private minibus for a 45-minute drive to the historic and picturesque village of Saint-Remy de Provence for a demonstration and morning painting session with Mary. Saint-Remy de Provence is where Vincent van Gogh painted nearly 150 paintings and where he was institutionalized as a patient at the Saint-Paul Asylum.
- Lunch – Picnic lunch hosted by Paint Europe.
- Afternoon – Visit to Provence’s Carrieres des Lumieres to see the special 2022 multi-media artist exhibit.
- Late-Afternoon – Personal free time back in Villeneuve-les-Avignon.
- 5:00 PM – French Provincial Cooking Class... Evening cooking class and dinner with a local celebrated chef hosted by Paint Europe.

### **Day 5: Thursday, June 16 – Villeneuve-les-Avignon**

- For Early Risers – *Optional* before breakfast pleasure walk through Villeneuve-les-Avignon.
- Breakfast – At the hotel.
- Early-Morning – *Optional* visit to Villeneuve-les-Avignon’s Thursday Outside Market – just a two minute walk from our hotel, experience one of Provence’s most colorful traditional outside French markets... interact with local vendors and residents.

- Morning – Today we stay in Villeneuve-les-Avignon for a demonstration and morning painting session with Mary at Abbaye Saint Andre & Jardins. We'll paint in the abbey's lush & colorful garden, with its vista and majestic views.
- Lunch – On your own... or join a group lunch at your own expense.
- Afternoon – Open afternoon for free personal time, options include... afternoon painting... visit to Avignon for touring or shopping... take an afternoon guided tour (at own expense) to Pont du Gard, the ancient Roman aqueduct built in first-century AD, a UNESCO World Heritage Site... take an afternoon guided tour (at own expense) & experience a Côtes du Rhône wine tasting session in Chateauneufdu-Pape, Côtes du Rhône wine region's premiere village... or relax in the hotel garden.
- Late-Afternoon – Join Mary for an optional "golden hour" plein air painting session in Villeneuve-les-Avignon.
- Before Dinner – Cocktail hour Côtes du Rhône wine gathering in the hotel garden hosted by Paint Europe.
- Dinner – On your own... or join a local cuisine group dinner at your own expense.

#### **Day 6: Friday, June 17 – Day Trip to Luberon Valley**

- For Early Risers – *Optional* before breakfast pleasure walk through Villeneuve-les-Avignon.
- Breakfast – At the hotel.
- Morning – After breakfast we'll board our private minibus and head to the Luberon Valley for a demonstration and morning painting session with Mary in one of Provence's Les Plus Beaux Villages de France (France's Most Beautiful Villages) - i.e.: Bonnieux, Ménerbes, Roussillon, Fontaine-de-Vauclaus, Isle-Sur-La-Sorgue, Pernes les Fontaines
- Late Lunch – On your own... or join group lunch at your own expense.
- Afternoon – Return back to Villeneuve-les-Avignon... personal free time for afternoon painting or relaxing.
- Farewell Dinner – Gala celebration meal with French Provincial cuisine and Côtes du Rhône wines hosted by Paint Europe.

#### **Day 7: Saturday, May 18 – Villeneuve-les-Avignon**

- For Early Risers – *Optional* before breakfast pleasure walk through Villeneuve-les-Avignon.
- Breakfast – At the hotel.
- Review Session – Share paintings and group discussion led by Mary.
- Late-Morning – *Optional* visit to Villeneuve-les-Avignon's outside Provence antiques market.
- Say Our Goodbyes – Departure home or to onward destinations.

*Please Note: Paint Europe strives to operate according to our published itinerary. However, in the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond our control or opportunities that would enhance the itinerary, adjustments may be necessary. Hotels and itinerary are subject to changes.*

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