

**PAINTING THE SOUL OF PLACE IN ITALY**

For 10 days we'll make our home in a medieval village just north of Rome and paint in the studio of American/Italian resident Linda Lappin, author of the book, *The Soul of Place*. This small Etruscan village is carved in grey flecked tufa, and perched on the edge of a dizzying gorge. Linda writes about her village, “This area of Italy called the Tuscia remains untouched by tourism. Here the local people still live by ancient trades: cutting wood, tending sheep, producing wine and olive oil, quarrying peperino, the volcanic stone which has provided the town’s livelihood for centuries. Beneath the quiet meadows blanketing the countryside lies a honeycomb of tombs extending for miles on end.(…) Under the Etruscan shade lies a realm of mystery and eerie legend. The Etruscan vision of the afterlife was one of richness and fulfillment. D.H. Lawrence who came to the Tuscia in search of spiritual renewal, believed he had discovered here a fount from which he might draw new strength.”

Linda will give us writing exercises to connect with the soul of place and we'll spend 2 days visiting nearby Etruscan sites, such as the ancient village of Orvieto, the 15th century garden of Bomarzo and the hot springs of Viterbo. We'll do walking meditations, and painting exercises to help us connect to the land and energy of place and spend 4 or 5 days painting in the studio.



**TOUR LEADER AND PAINTING INSTRUCTOR: Janice Mason Steeves** will lead this painting workshop on deeply connecting with the land, providing inspiration to create abstract paintings. She is represented by galleries in Canada and the U.S., with work in public, corporate, and private collections in Canada and internationally. Janice teaches painting workshops internationally in her program, Workshops in Wild Places. She has been awarded artist residencies in Spain, Ireland, Sweden, Iceland and the U.S. Her websites are: janicemasonsteeves.com, workshopsinwildplaces.com

**Linda Lappin** the author of T**he Soul of Place: Ideas & Exercises for Conjuring the Genius Loci**will lead a creative writing workshop on seeking inspiration, images, and stories from your immediate environment.Sheis the prize-winning author of four novels: *The Etruscan* (Wynkin deWorde, 2004), *Katherine’s Wish*(Wordcraft, 2008), dealing with the last five years of Katherine Mansfield’s life,  *Signatures in Stone: A Bomarzo Mystery* (Pleasureboat Studio, 2013), and *Loving Modigliani: The Afterlife of Jeanne Hébuterne*(Serving House Books, 2020).  *Signatures in Stone* was the overall winner of the Daphne DuMaurier prize for best mystery novel of 2013. She is also the author of *The Soul of Place: Ideas and Exercises for Conjuring the Genius Loci,* (Travelers Tales, 2015), which won a Nautilus Award in the category of creativity in 2015. A former Fulbright scholar to Italy, she has lived mainly in Rome for over thirty years. Her website is [www.lindalappin.net](http://www.lindalappin.net/)

 

**ITINERARY:**

Tuesday September 19: Meet at Fiumicino airport in Rome

From Fiumicino travel by private coach about one hour to the village of Vitorchiano.

Wednesday, September 20

Settle in, tour of village

Welcome dinner

Thursday, September 21

Out trip: to be announced

Friday, September 22

Linda’s full day class in the studio

Saturday September 23

Full day in the studio.

Sunday, September 24 1/2 day Out trip: to be announced

PM Studio

Monday September 25

Full day-studio

Tuesday September 26

Full day-Studio

Wednesday, September 27

Day off: Explore the village, paint in the studio or take it easy

Thursday September 28

Final day in the studio

Closing ceremony in the evening

Final dinner

Friday September 29

Say goodbye to Vitorchiano

Transfer by private coach to Fiumicino airport in Rome. Fly home.

**TOUR DETAILS**

**TOUR COST** (Per person): $3450 CAD (approx. $2700US)

**GROUP SIZE:** Limited to 5 workshop participants

**INCLUDED FEATURES:**

Accommodation for 10 nights in single occupancy with ensuite at Casa Dante

Breakfast daily

Two dinners: First and last night

All taxes and gratuities and entrance fees

Return transfer from Fiumicino airport in Rome to Vitorchiano

Transportation by private coach for 2 days of local excursions: Bomarzo, Orvieto and Viterbo hot springs

Workshop with Janice Includes rental of studio space

One-day writing workshop with Linda Lappin

**NOT INCLUDED:**

Roundtrip Airfare from your home to join the tour

Beverages with meals

Art supplies: A Materials List will be provided

Items of a personal nature

Travel Insurance (highly recommended)

Additional arrangements required due to any emergency or other situation  
Any item not mentioned in “tour cost includes” above

**PAYMENT DETAILS:**

A non-refundable deposit of C$500 per person is required to reserve a space on this tour. A second deposit of C$2000 is due six months prior to departure (March 20, 2023). Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure on June 21, 2023. ($950)

**CONTACT JANICE TO REGISTER:**

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