



*Workshops in Wild Places*

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS BY:

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## PAINTING IN GREECE WHERE GODS ONCE ROAMED

**Arcadia, Greece**

**September 23 – October 3, 2024**

We'll travel to the land where gods once roamed. Where Zeus was born. The Lonely Planet describes the Peloponnese as “the stuff of legends. Literally. It is here that Hercules fought the Nemean lion and gods walked the earth, meddling in mortal affairs; it's from here that Paris of Troy eloped with Helen and the Argonauts set sail in search of the Golden Fleece. Celestial and mythological charms aside, this region bears tangible traces of the many civilisations that once called it home, witnessed in its classical temples, Mycenaean palaces, Byzantine cities, and Ottoman, Frankish and Venetian fortresses.”

With a mix of classical ruins, wild landscapes, and some of the best culinary treasures the country has to offer, it's an attractive alternative to well-trod tourist routes around Athens and the Greek islands. Our destination, the lovely Arcadia region, lush with cypress, poplar, and olive groves, bears traces of the virgin wilderness where nymphs, naiads, and the horned god Pan once frolicked.

Our six-day workshop will be at the beautiful Foresta in Medias Mores in the heart of Arcadia. The class is limited to 9, with lots of time for individual attention. Accommodation is in single occupancy rooms each with ensuite. Meals are traditional Greek dishes cooked by our local chef/ hotel owner, Nadia Iliopoulou. We'll visit the stunning archaeological sites of Mycenae and Messene and walk through the wild Skiritidi Forest to the nearby village of Vlachokerasia.

The focus of the workshop is on connecting with the land and painting from that experience. Through exercises, walking, meditations, videos and tours, we'll experience various ways of connecting with the earth and then discuss how to paint that connection. I encourage the development of silence, spaciousness and simplicity in artwork and how to achieve that. I invite participants to put aside their current (or established ) ways of working (at least for the time being) and open to new ideas.

Delphi ruins

**“The trip was wonderful in many ways, but the best for me was the workshop. Having painted and taught adults for 35 years, I thought I had done it all. How delighted I was when you directed all of us to work on tables, use the scraper and grind our own pigments. It was a breath of fresh air for me.”**

– Joyce McCarten

**Thank you for everything. I appreciate all that you did. You are a wonderful, generous teacher who has an open heart and listens. A rare thing.**

– Lori Ann Signori

**“There was a richness to that workshop - the whole time was like one long drink from that Holy Well!”**

– Theresa Morris



## WORKSHOP LEADER

**Janice Mason Steeves** became a visual artist in her 30s and later a painting instructor, studying at the Ontario College of Art and Design in Toronto. She has exhibited her work widely in Canada and the US and has paintings in collections in Canada, the US, the UK, Iceland and Ireland. She has taught painting workshops across Canada and the US, Iceland, Spain Scotland, Morocco, Italy, Ireland and Lapland in Sweden. Inspired by personal travels and connection with place, in 2018, she founded Workshops in Wild Places, where she takes groups of artists to remote locations in the world to connect with nature and then, through a contemplative process, teaches them to translate that connection into abstract paintings. Janice is the author of “Bloom. On Becoming an Artist Later in Life”, an inspirational book for people wanting to connect with their creative souls, no matter their age or the medium in which they choose to express themselves.



## ITINERARY

### Monday, September 23: Meet in Athens

Meet Janice and workshop participants our hotel central Athens. Join Janice for an afternoon briefing before dinner together this evening.

*Overnight: Athens*

*Meals: Dinner*

### Tuesday, September 24 - Wednesday, October 2: Workshop

Travel by coach to our workshop studio in the heart of the Peloponnese. We're staying at at Foresta in Medias Mores for eight nights with workshop activities every day. Our days at Foresta will be filled with inspiration with six full days of workshop in our exclusive private space.

During our stay, we'll have three excursions. We'll travel by coach to Messene, one of Greece's best preserved archeological sites, combining the grandeur of Delphi with the natural beauty of Olympia. The spectacular site dates mainly from the 4th century BCE and is spread over an open hillside in the shadow of Mount Ithome.

We'll take a second excursion by coach to Mycenae, the kingdom of mythical Agamemnon, one of the most important and richest palatial centres of the Late Bronze Age. View the huge walls surrounding the city in a majestic hilltop setting of mountains, valleys, and the distant sea.

We will also enjoy a walk through the ancient Skiritidas Forest surrounding our hotel to the traditional village of Vlachokerasia. The Byzantine-style Church of the Assumption of the Virgin is decorated with beautiful frescoes.

*Overnight: Foresta*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner daily*

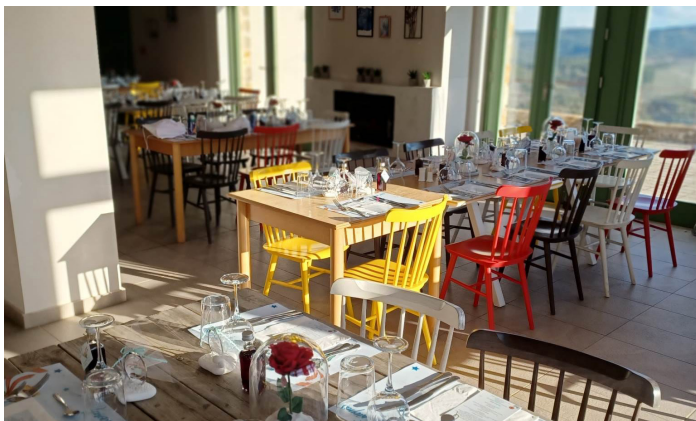
### Thursday, October 3: Depart Foresta

Early this morning, we transfer by private coach to the Athens Airport. Please verify the timing of this transfer before booking your flights.

*Meals: Breakfast*

*Note: The itinerary and accommodation described in this tour brochure are subject to change due to logistical arrangements and to take advantage of local events.*

Restaurant at Hotel Foresta



## TOUR DETAILS

**Tour Cost (per person):** C\$4395 per person / US\$3284 per person (approx) in single occupancy rooms  
*Based on nine workshop participants.*

**Group Size:** Limited to 9 workshop participants.

### What's Included:

- Accommodation, based on single occupancy in Athens and at Foresta
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (Dinner in Athens, all meals while at Foresta)
- Two excursions with private guide and transportation
- Transfer by private coach from Athens hotel to Foresta
- Transfer by private coach from Foresta to Athens airport on departure
- All gratuities
- Workshop with Janice Mason Steeves

### Not Included:

- Roundtrip airfare from your home to join the tour
- Transfer from airport to hotel on arrival
- Meals other than those mentioned above
- Beverages with meals
- Art supplies: A Materials List will be provided
- Items of a personal nature
- Travel insurance
- 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\$750 per person is required to reserve a space on this tour. A second deposit of C\$2000 is due six months prior to departure. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

### Joining Instructions

**Monday, September 23:** Participants make their own arrangements to reach our Athens hotel. Please arrive by 5PM to join Janice for a briefing followed by dinner. Hotel details will be advised.

**Thursday, October 3:** There will be a single transfer from Foresta to the Athens Airport this morning. If you are booking your return flight for this day, you must book a departure time after 12 noon. **Please contact us for more information.**

### Level of Difficulty: Easy to Moderate

We will have opportunities to walk and spend time outdoors during our stay. Our excursions include the opportunity for extensive walking at archeological sites and in the forest surrounding the workshop location.

### Accommodation

#### Foresta in Medias Mores

Our workshop location overlooks the ancient mountains of Arcadia, in the heart of the Peloponnese. The woodland lodge offers rustic yet refined accommodation and traditional Greek hospitality in harmony with nature. Guest rooms with private bathrooms reflect the natural environment in a décor of wood, stone, and shades of green. All rooms include fireplace, TV, mini-bar, electric kettle, bathrobe and slippers, hairdryer.

### Weather

Expect warm days and balmy evenings with temperatures around 28°C (82°F) during the day and 10°C (50°F) overnight. Be prepared for all kinds of weather!

### Travel Documents

You will require a passport. Please ensure it is valid for at least 6 months beyond your scheduled return home.

### Travel Advice

Before booking, please refer to the Canadian government website to obtain travel advice for the destination(s) you are visiting: [www.travel.gc.ca](http://www.travel.gc.ca)

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Please contact Janice Mason Steeves before registering: [janicemasonsteeves@gmail.com](mailto:janicemasonsteeves@gmail.com)

## How to Book

Please contact the Worldwide Quest office to secure your booking.

**1-800-387-1483 | 416-633-5666 | [travel@worldwidequest.com](mailto:travel@worldwidequest.com)**

TALK TO AN EXPERT OR RESERVE YOUR SPOT | 1-800-387-1483 / 416-633-5666 | [TRAVEL@WORLDWIDEQUEST.COM](mailto:TRAVEL@WORLDWIDEQUEST.COM)



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