



POETRY OF COLOUR- PERCEPTION & EXPRESSION

Painting Workshop
With Charlotte Sorapure
At Rignana Estate

5th to 11th September 2026

Rignana Estate



COURSE DESCRIPTION

Colour is often deemed to be one of the most difficult, mysterious and subjective elements to grasp in painting.

This course will help to dispel some of the myths and misconceptions - providing the student with a deeper understanding of colour organisation and its immediate, practical application, whilst also advancing its long term potential as a vehicle for creative expression.

Although we will be working directly from observation, the aim of the course is not towards the mechanisation of colour organisation but rather to look to the benefits it may hold for helping an intuitive student reach out with insight and feeling, towards the imponderables of this subject; discovering its expressive force, with the enigma of their own feelings as a principal guide.

ABOUT CHARLOTTE SORAPURE



Trained at The Royal Academy of Arts in London, Charlotte is a figurative painter who has exhibited widely in London, Oxfordshire, and the USA.

Commissions include a portrait of the war photographer, Don McCullin for The Holburne Museum's collection in Bath.

She is an elected member of The Royal Society of Portrait Painters and also the historic New English Art Club.





“ Drawing and colour are at the heart of everything, being the best means of imaginatively exploring the nature of visual ideas with their underlying patterns and structures. I strive for strong compositional impact, yet aim to imbue the paintings with subtlety, mystery and stillness. Such overriding concerns link the diverse range of subject matter in the work, from observed still lives, portraits and landscapes to the more imaginary themes and ideas.”

RETREAT TIMETABLE

Saturday

16:00 Check in & estate tour

18:00 Welcome dinner at Rignana

Sunday

8:30– 9:30 Italian breakfast

10:00-13:00 We begin with some directly applicable colour theory, to establish a functional vocabulary for all, encourage a critical, analytical approach and allow participants to exploit the reciprocal nature of colour principles and artistic practice. We will also question outdated and inaccurate notions still in use. It will be necessary to make notes for future reference.

13:00–14:00 Farm to table lunch at Rignana

14:30-16:30 Through the vehicle of a carefully colour orchestrated Still Life arrangement, we will begin to explore the importance of colour themes and colour composition as active elements in a work - establish best practice for mixing colour - augment understanding of hue, tone and chroma.

18:30 Wine Aperitivo followed by dinner

Monday

8:30– 9:30 Italian breakfast

10:00-13:00 Continuation of Still Life painting - deepening awareness and accuracy of colour relationships and interactions through comparative assessment, whilst also encouraging an interpretive effort on the part of the individual.

13:00–14:00 Farm to table lunch at Rignana

14:30-16:30 Continuation of Still Life painting to a resolution.

18:30 Wine Aperitivo followed by dinner

Tuesday

8:30– 9:30 Italian breakfast

10:00-13:00 Begin a second painting from life with a different colour 'theme'. We will focus on use of materials, application of paint and enabling better manipulation of colour, helping resolve any previous uncertainties about its use.

13:00–14:00 Farm to table lunch at Rignana

14:30-16:30 Continuation of second painting. As well as the science, we will also be touching upon the symbolic, psychological and emotional use of colour throughout art history... especially in anticipation of the trip to Florence.

18:30 Wine Aperitivo followed by dinner

Wednesday

8:30– 9:30 Italian breakfast

FREE BREAK DAY. Optional trip to Florence.

18:30 Wine Aperitivo followed by dinner

Thursday

8:30– 9:30 Italian breakfast

10:00-13:00 The single greatest factor in establishing an identity, mood, theme or atmosphere of a painting, is through colour. Self motivated subject matter. Participants are free to take inspiration from the surrounding landscape on the Rignana Estate. With a deeper understanding of the principles and their application, the emphasis will be on colour composition, colour orchestration, colour accents, perceived and local colour, optical mixing, simultaneous contrast and more. I will be on hand to advise, assist and instil confidence.

13:00–14:00 Farm to table lunch at Rignana

14:30-16:30 A final informal group appraisal of what has been meaningfully learned and manifested throughout the week - evaluating each others different tactics, approaches, initiatives and achievements.

18:30 Wine Aperitivo followed by dinner

Friday

8:30– 9:30 Italian breakfast

10:00 Checkout

MATERIALS TO BRING

- A Note Book
- 2 or 3 small to medium size Palette Knives for mixing and painting
- Brushes - Selection/mix of short flat brushes and square filbert brushes - sizes 2, 4, 6, 8, 10
- Large Ruler
- Pencils 2-4B, eraser and Charcoal Pencil
- 2 small containers with lids

Oil Paints

- Titanium White
- Black
- Cadmium Yellow (or similar)
- Lemon Yellow, Cadmium red (or similar)
- Alizarin Crimson
- Ultramarine Blue
- Viridian Green
- Emerald Green
- Only if you already have them, some earth pigments i.e., Yellow Ochre, Raw Umber, Burnt Umber, Indian Red or Light Red.



ACCOMMODATION



THE ESTATE

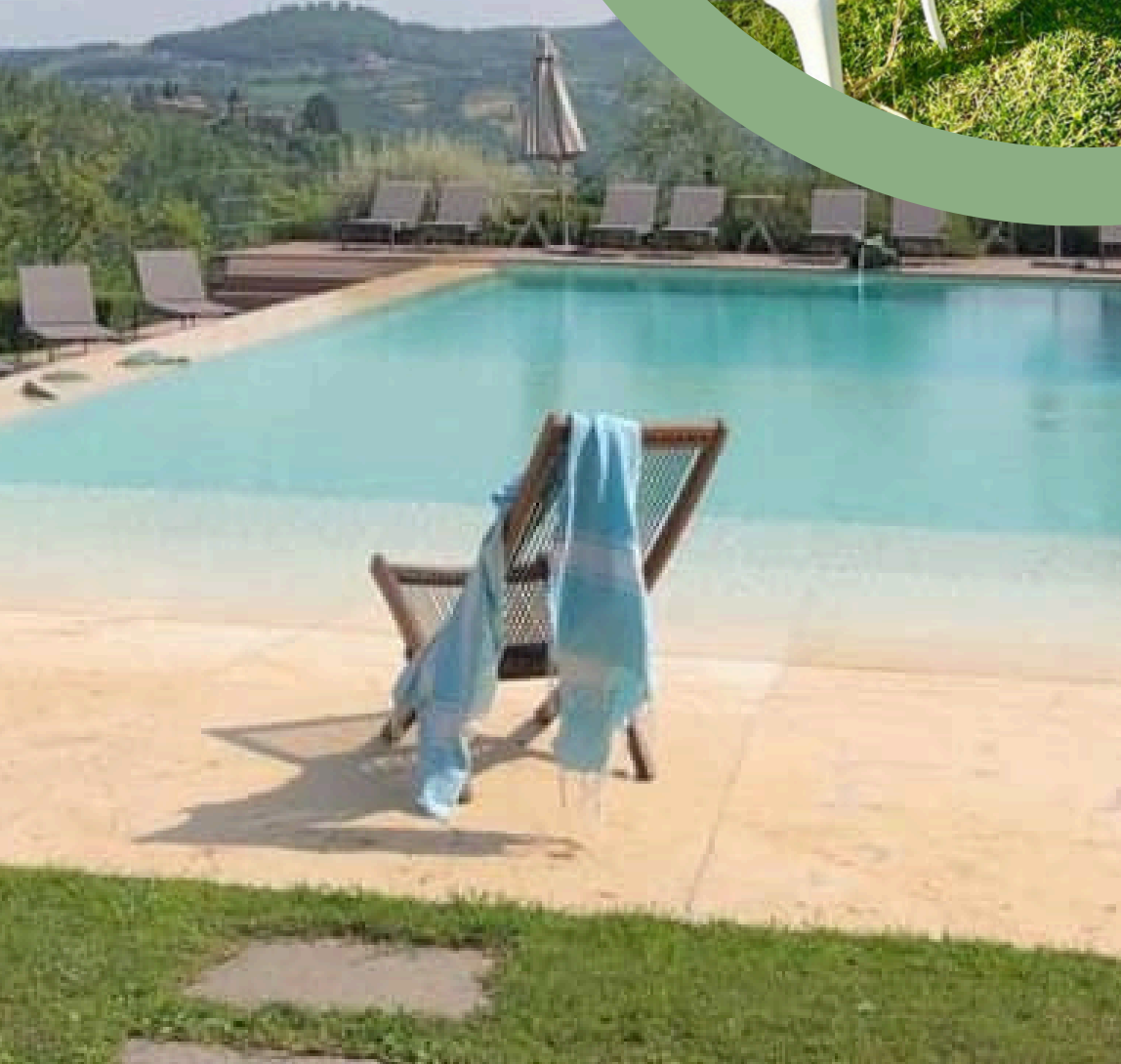
IN THE HEART OF TUSCANY

We would be delighted to welcome you to our home, an 150-acre estate surrounded by vineyards and olive groves, where alpacas and horses graze freely. Our retreats are an immersive experience where you can cultivate your creativity with like minded people, connect with the natural world and taste the flavours of Tuscany through our farm-to-table meals paired with wine from our vineyards.



A SANCTUARY FOR ARTISTS

Develop your technique in our Renaissance Church and amongst the Tuscan Countryside.





FACILITIES

TENNIS COURT

An astroturf tennis court with a view, providing the perfect opportunity for both recreational and competitive play. Sit on the stone wall and watch a tennis tournament.



FACILITIES

INFINITY POOL

The 18x8m marble pool with large spaces to sunbathe or practice yoga, a vine pergola that provides ample shade. By the pool, a Tiki bar offers a relaxed setting for refreshments.





ACCOMMODATION RATES

September 5th – 11th 2026 (6 nights)

Suite – Master bedroom, Living room, mezzanine bedroom & bathroom:

Two people: €3,770

Extra person: €1,000 each

Superior bedroom with ensuite:

Single occupancy: €2,480

Shared occupancy: €3,480 for two people

Bedroom with ensuite:

Single occupancy: €2,220

Shared occupancy: €3,220 for two people

Bedroom with shared bathroom:

Single occupancy: €1,970

Shared occupancy: €2,970 for two people

Workshop fee for participants: €500

Important Note: The accommodation fee and the tuition fee are separate.

ACCOMODATION



WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 6 nights accommodation
- Daily breakfast, 4 lunches, 5 dinners
- Daily Aperitivo
- Pizza making experience
- Towels & linens
- Transfers
- Infinity pool
- Tennis court
- Wifi
- Laundry facilities
- VAT tax



WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Wine Tours
- City tax (€2.50 per person per day to be paid in cash on arrival)

OPTIONAL ADD-ONS

- Treatments (Massage) - these can be requested
- Wine Tours

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Dates

5 - 11 September 2026

Check-in and check-out

On 5 September you are very welcome at Rignana Estate from 16:00.

Check-out on 11 September is before 10:00.

Address

Rignana Estate, Rignana 8, Greve, in Chianti
Toscana, Italy 50022 Firenze

Travel

You organise your own journey. When traveling from Florence we encourage you to travel by taxi or carpool with other participants. Before the trip, you will receive a travel coordination schedule to help you align your plans with your fellow participants.



HOW TO GET TO RIGNANA ESTATE

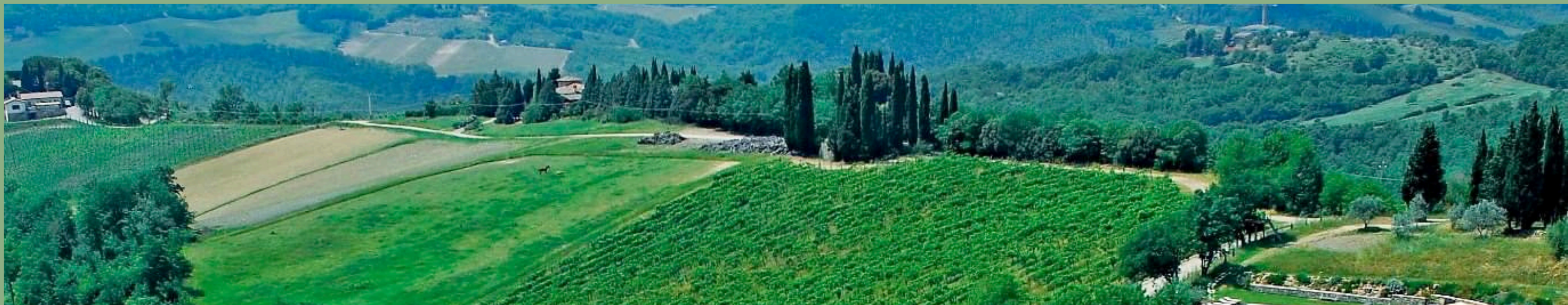
Travel to Italy

- **By Air to Florence:** Florence Airport (Peretola) is the closest airport to Rignana Estate. The estate is a 50minute drive from Florence airport
- **By Air to Pisa:** Alternatively, you can fly into Pisa International Airport. From Pisa, you can connect to Florence by bus, train, or taxi.

From Florence to Rignana Estate

By Car: Renting a car is the most convenient way to reach Rignana Estate. From Florence, it's an approximately 40-minute drive to the Estate.

Alternatively, we can search for the most convenient price for a taxi or minibus taxi service for you.



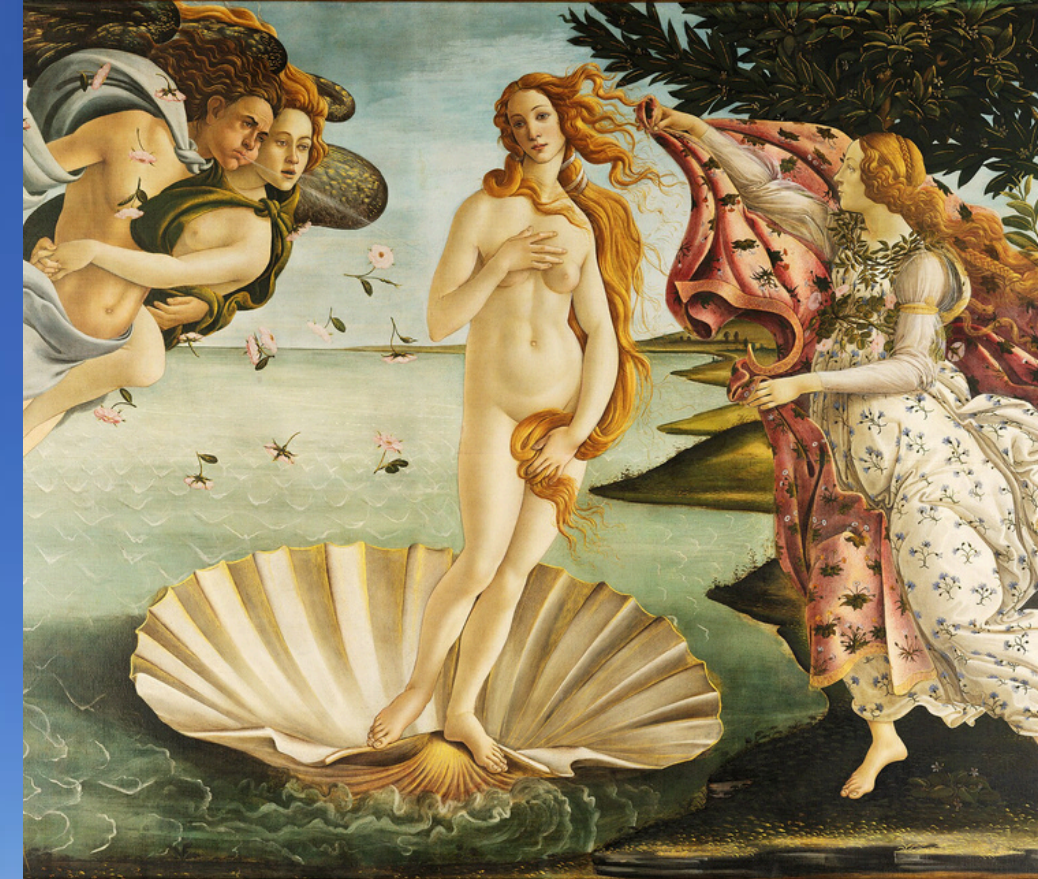
PRIME LOCATION HIGHLIGHTS

Just 30 minutes from Florence, Rignana Estate offers the perfect balance of tranquility and accessibility.

Nearby, charming villages like Greve and Panzano invite exploration, while world-class wineries such as Antinori nel Chianti Classico provide unforgettable tasting experiences.

We highly recommend a visit to the monastery of Badia A Passignano, home to Ghirlandaio's Last Supper. A tour with one of the monks is a must!

Walking and cycling is popular in the area. The primary walking route passing through the Rignana area is the historic Via Sanese, a leg of the ancient pilgrimage route leading to the Via Francigena, offering hilly treks through vineyards and olive groves.



CONTACT US

ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE GET IN TOUCH!

ACCOMMODATION

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WE HOPE TO WELCOME YOU SOON

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