

# Art, Culture, Culinary and Personal Development Programs Across Italy

# **Workshop Venue Options**

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*Il Chiostro* organizes programs in a variety of venues in Italy to suit a variety of requirements. Below is a comparative list of our current options separated according to our categories:

### Il Chiostro Nobile – stay in Villas once occupied by Italian noble families

Venue Name	Size, Season and Starting Price	Location and General Description	Meals	Photo
Tuscany Villa San Giovanni d'Asso	8 double bedrooms No studio, outdoor gardens May/June Starting from \$2,700 p/p	Live like an Italian noble family for a week. The experience will be elegant, intimate, and accompanied personally by Linda and Michael.  Venue: Exclusive use of a restored 13th century manor house situated on a hillside with gorgeous with views of the Val di Chiana.  Formal garden with a private pool. An easy walk through a castle to the quiet village of San Giovanni d'Asso. Common areas could be used for classrooms.  Accommodations: twin, double and single bedrooms in the villa, each with own bathroom either ensuite or next door. Elegant décor with family antiques.  Area/Excursions: 30 km southeast of Siena in the area known as the Crete Senese. Near Pienza and Montalcino and the famous Brunello wine country.	Private Chef – breakfast and dinner at home; lunch independent (café and restaurant available in town 5 minutes away)	Photography -

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**Tuscany -** *Autumn Arts Festival* at the
Dievole Chianti
Classico Winery

13 double rooms, 3 suites plus 1 and 2 bedroom apartments available;

Studio: various rooms, gardens

Late October

Starting at \$3,195 p/p

Il Chiostro's *Autumn Arts Festival* is a 10-day celebration of the arts and the Tuscan harvest. There are workshops in painting, photography and cooking with evening lectures in Italian Opera appreciation.

Venue: Dievole is the former home to a noble family from Florence. Today it is a working winery nestled in the majestic Tuscan hills with beautiful views of grapevines and olive groves in every direction. The property is spread over a series of restored historic buildings. The principle villa houses the dining room, kitchen, guest rooms and suites while the old horse stalls are now a sunny breakfast room with the wine cantinas extending beneath all the buildings underground. There are many walking paths, garden areas, a terrace and bistro area to relax with a glass of wine or a cappuccino.

**Accommodations:** luxury rooms are tastefully decorated in an elegant Tuscan style. All with modern bathrooms, and all conveniences including wi-fi, heating and A/C. Guest rooms are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors accessible by a grand staircase.

**Area/Excursions:** in the heart of the Chianti hills of Tuscany, Dievole is outside the medieval village of Vagliagli, 20 minutes from Siena and 1 hour from Florence

Abundant breakfast buffet; dinners, including Dievole's acclaimed wines, provided by their professional chef. Lunch available in the bistro.











#### Il Chiostro Terra – meaning "earth", these programs in the countryside emphasize the fundamental Italian connection to the land

Venue Name	Size, Season and Price Range	Location and General Description	Meals	Photo
Tuscan Renaissance Center	16 double rooms; May-June, September-October Studio: 1 large space, 1 small Starting at \$2,495 p/p	San Fedele is an ex-monastery that dates back to the 12 <sup>th</sup> century and was completely restored in 2004. It is in the community of Radda-in-Chianti, 15km northeast of Siena.  Venue: there are 16 bedrooms and many gathering places. Common spaces include the ex-church that can be used as a large studio or conference space, dining room, outdoor terraces, central piazza, 2 smaller studios and an Olympic sized swimming pool.  Accommodations: rooms are newly renovated with modern bathrooms, and all conveniences. Wi-fi, heating and A/C.  Area/Excursions: in the heart of the Chianti hills of Tuscany, the TRC is 20 minutes from Siena and 1 hour from Florence.	Private Tuscan chef cooks breakfast and dinner. Lunch available upon request.	
Tuscany/Umbria Cultural Center Terzo di Danciano	8 double bedrooms plus dormitory space for up to 8 more; Studio: 3 large indoor spaces, outdoor gardens June, September;	This is a collection of buildings including a creatively restored villa high on a hill with a bucolic view. Features ample workshop and studio space.  Venue: a small cluster of buildings including a villa with 6 spacious bedrooms, a large refurbished outbuilding with a kitchen, dining area and studio/meeting spaces, and a separate structure with a country kitchen and dining veranda. The facility is nicely secluded on a hillside at the border between Tuscany and Umbria. With expansive gardens and a private swimming pool, there is plenty of outdoor space to spread out.  The unique attraction of this venue is the multipurpose	Private Chef – meals at home or option to visit nearby towns for restaurants	

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Starts from \$1,850 p/p	Accommodations: Both twin and double bedrooms, each with <i>ensuite</i> bathroom plus the option of lower priced dormitory housing for up to 8 participants.  Area/Excursions: 17 km east of Cortona on the border of Umbria. A small town is within walking distance with	
	a bus to Cortona. Nearby towns are Perugia, Assisi and Gubbio.	

## Il Chiostro Aqua – meaning "water", guests are inspired by the special beauty and light that is only found near water

Venue Name	Size, Season and Price Range	Location and General Description	Meals	Photo
Venice, convent in Dorsoduro	7 double rooms, 8 single rooms; October; Studio: 2 large rooms available Starts from \$2,100 p/p	In a quiet neighborhood, this immaculate convent, still run by nuns, typifies secret Venice. Pass through the mysterious doorway on the small canal to behold a maze of cloisters, chapels and conference rooms within.  Venue: this facility also houses university students and tourists. The facility has a variety of studio spaces, an outdoor courtyard with a garden, wi-fi and a kitchen for guest use.	Breakfast in local café, dinners in authentic trattorias and restaurants	
		Accommodations: double and single rooms, each with ensuite bathroom.  Area/Excursions: in the Dorsoduro far enough away from hectic San Marco to be quiet and peaceful, but still very centrally located near the Zattere, the Accademia and Campo San Barnaba.		

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Lake Cards 1	10 double and	A beautiful location midway between Milan and Venice.	Dargonal shof	
Lake Garda 1	10 double and 10 single rooms; September Studio: 1 large, 1 small, outdoor gardens Starts from \$1,995 p/p	We usually recommend spending the first night in Milan, then traveling together to Garda.  Venue: this is an ex-convent on a hillside overlooking the lake and the foothills of the Alps beyond. All the rooms are arranged around a central cloister with a manicured garden and fountain. There is studio space, a yoga room and 3 tiers of gardens behind the structure.  Accommodations: the rooms are simple and clean with an ensuite toilet, bidet and sink. Showers are shared.  Area/Excursions: the 2 small lakeside towns of Villa and Gargnano are within easy walking distance with other towns along the lake accessible by bus or ferry. Practical excursions include Romeo and Juliet's Verona, Vicenza and Mantova.	Personal chef makes breakfast and dinner at the facility.	
Lake Garda 2	Small family run hotel on the lake; September; Studio: outdoor gardens Starts from \$2,395 p/p	This second option is a hotel right on the lake in the town of Villa. Accommodations are comfortable with typical hotel amenities.	Breakfast and dinner served at the hotel.	

Cinque Terre	Small hotel central hotel with large garden; June or September Outdoor gardens, no studio; \$2,500 p/p	We are located in the largest of the 5 towns ( <i>cinque terre</i> ), Monterosso-al-Mare.  Venue: this is a small hotel right off the main piazza in town, steps from the beach. There is a large garden behind the hotel with breath-taking views of the sea – a perfect place to paint.  Accommodations: the rooms are simple with <i>ensuite</i> bathrooms. Breakfast is included.  Area/Excursions: the 5 towns are all together on the edge of the sea. You can hike, take a boat or a train from one to the other for day trips. Genoa is under an hour away for a full day excursion.	Breakfast is served at the hotel, 5 dinners at restaurants or home cooked are included.	
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#### Il Chiostro Citta - meaning "city" these programs located inside towns, embrace the art and culture of special Italian urban settings

Venue Name	Size, Season and Price Range	Location and General Description	Meals	Photo
Florence Residence Michelangiolo	11 double rooms; May-October; Studio: large room in basement Starts from \$2,450 p/p	Stay in a luxury small hotel within the city, but away from the crowds.  Venue: Residence Michelangiolo is a restored 18 <sup>th</sup> C. palazzo in the exclusive residential area of Viale Michelangiolo. There is an outdoor garden area and conference rooms that can be used as a studio. This palazzo was the childhood home of the current owner who converted it into a guest residence.  Accommodations: there are 11 spacious, beautifully appointed double, twin or single rooms each with <i>ensuite</i> modern bathroom. Some rooms have a small kitchenette.  Area/Excursions: this residence is near Pza. Ferrucci in the Altr'arno area, about a 20 minute walk from the PonteVecchio along the river. It is also served by frequent bus service.	Breakfast voucher at local café 5 dinners organized in local restaurants. Lunch is independent.	

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Cortona, Hotel San Luca	20 hotel rooms;  May, June, September, October;  Studio: outdoor terrace  Starts from \$2,450 p/p	This historic hill town is perfect for plein air painting or photography: vistas, landscapes, piazzas, narrow medieval streets.  Venue: This hotel is conveniently situated right at the entrance to the old town with a breathtaking panoramic view of the valley and lake Trasimeno beyond. Everything in the town is within walking distance and easy to navigate so participants can be totally independent.  There is no proper studio here but we have access to a common room in inclement weather.  Accommodations: double, twin and single rooms, all with ensuite bathrooms and typical hotel services. Very helpful front desk staff.  Area/Excursions: Cortona is in Tuscany, close to Umbria. Although it is not necessary to travel anywhere from this town, possible day trips include Assisi, Lake Trasimeno, Todi, Spello and the Celle Francescane (www.lecelle.it) built by St. Francis of Assisi.	Buffet breakfast at hotel 5 dinners in local restaurants, 2 independent dinners. Lunch is independent.	
Bologna	30 rooms; May-June, September- October:	Bologna is considered to be the food capital of Italy. (Try to find better gelato anywhere!) It is also a thriving university town. The distinctive porticoes typical of Northern Italy line every street in the historical center.  Venue: a former monastery in the center of town converted into a guesthouse. Conference rooms, patio	Breakfast at the facility, 5 dinners in local restaurants	

Studio: conference room off lobby Starts from \$1,995 p/p	area, large lobby and sitting room.  Accommodations: Single and double rooms with modern bathrooms, laundry facility, wi-fi and A/C.  AreaExcursions: Bologna is ½ hour from Florence in the Emiglia-Romagna area of Italy. Easy day trips include Ferrara, Ravenna, Faenza, Parma, Modena.	
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*Il Chiostro Global* — we have partnered with satellite companies that make it possible to have the *Il Chiostro Experience* beyond the border of Italy: Mexico, Spain, France, Turkey, Croatia...

Please call us for locations and details.

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