

La Bella Vita ARTS WORKSHOPS

THE SWEET LIGHT OF TUSCANY

photography workshop on the Mediterranean coast of Italy

with Frank Grisdale

June 19-27, 2010

An intense photo tour and field photography immersion for those who know how to work their photographic equipment. Maximum 8 students.

Join fine art photographer Frank Grisdale during the warmest low angled sunlight and focus on dawn and dusk skies over the Mediterranean Sea and the Tuscan countryside. Experience some of the most legendary places in Italy -- Rome, Florence, and the Tuscan wine region near Bolgheri -- in a small group setting with someone who knows and loves the country well.

HOW WE WILL WORK

We will arrive at our nearby shooting locations on foot or by bike and at our more distant locations by transport when the light is at its finest so you can be positioned to make fantastic early morning and late afternoon images.

In between the dusk and dawn shoots there will be time for you to sit with Frank in our lovely spot near the sea and review your results (bring your laptop) and watch him edit down the best of his results, get his opinion on what you should be keeping and rejecting, and learn how he works with his field results and builds his final images.

There will be ample opportunity to share experiences and techniques with other participants and Frank will be on hand to answer questions and help with specialized techniques in the field.

THE INSTRUCTOR

Frank Grisdale is a self-taught photographer whose early work was shaped by the vast spaces of Canada and the landscapes of Africa. His work has been exhibited internationally, and is in permanent government collections in Japan, Mexico, and Canada. He was recently named a Color Master by the UK based International Color Awards. Frank resides in Canada where he continues to experiment with his photographic technique. For Frank's full CV, visit www.frankgrisdale.com.

WHERE WE WILL STAY

This program has been created to give you a taste of summer life in a small Italian seaside town. After our initial stint in **Rome**, we will settle into the Tuscan village of **Caletta di Castiglioncello**, on the Mediterranean about 20 minutes south of Livorno. Pisa is 45 minutes away and Florence 90.

In Rome we will stay at **La Casa di Amy**, a charming, conveniently located bed & breakfast. In Tuscany our cheery hotel, **Il Bersagliere**, is very near the sea. Castiglioncello is known for its marvelous beaches, buzzing centro and open air weekend market. It is also very well connected by bus and train.

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Please be aware the accommodations are very nice but they are not luxury villas, ancient farmhouses or amenity-laden hotels. At this time of year in Italy we live outside and the environment is the spectacular thing. Our lodgings are tastefully decorated with inviting colours and have fans (AC in Rome), TVs, phones, wireless internet, daily maid service, and gracious, English speaking staff.

WHERE & WHAT WE WILL EAT

In Rome, we' have a couple of fun group meals planned during which we'll teach you about the food and the Italian dining experience. One dinner will be traditional pasta/pizza at **La Gallina Bianca**, the other innovative modern cuisine based on traditional Roman recipes at **Urbana 47**.

In Tuscany, breakfast and dinner are at your leisure in the hotel's charming restaurant. Dinner includes a choice of a primo (usually a pasta) and a secondo (usually a meat or fish) plus fruit or dessert. Our daytrip to Florence includes lunch at **Zeb Gastronomia**, where delicious home cooking (including very Florentine fare) is served in modern, elegant surroundings.

WHAT WE WILL SEE

In addition to experiencing small town life by the sea, we will visit some marvelous places:

- The Eternal City of **Rome** (2 nights); guided tour includes Colosseum & Forum
- Florence** (day trip) including lunch at *Zeb Gastronomia*
- Chiappini winery** for their delightful tasting followed by lunch in the Medieval hamlet of **Bolgheri**

LA BELLA VITA

Above all, we hope during your time with us you discover **la bella vita -- the beautiful life in which we slow down and take time to enjoy a place, its food, its art... and each other.**

TUITION

PARTICIPANT (dbl occ): \$2,690 (US or Canadian. Residents of the Commonwealth may pay in Canadian \$.)

PARTICIPANT (single occ): please inquire

COMPANION (sharing room with workshop participant): \$1,350

The tuition covers*:

- The workshop (for Participants)
- Transportation for all planned excursions
- Staff available 24/7

In Rome:

- 2 nights B&B accommodations
- Guided evening tour
- Guided daytime tour, including sack lunch
- Colosseum and Roman Forum
- 2 dinners
- Accompanied train transfer Rome-Tuscany

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In Tuscany:

- 6 nights hotel accommodations
- Italian breakfast and dinner
- Welcome aperitivo reception
- Day trip to Florence, including lunch at *Zeb Gastronomia*
- Wine tasting at Chiappini Winery
- Lunch of regional specialties and wines in Bolgheri
- A bicycle

The fee does NOT include:

- Transfers upon arrival or departure
- Supplies or equipment

ARRIVING

Our rendezvous in Rome is at 4:30pm on June 19. See the **GETTING THERE** section of the website (www.LaBellaVitaArts.com) for full arrival info. Daily schedule¹ available upon request.

PLEASE REVIEW THE TRAVEL TIPS -- Flying/Airports section of the website BEFORE BOOKING YOUR TRAVEL and feel free to contact us for help.

AGE, LEVEL, DEADLINE, APPLYING, OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Minimum age: 17

Level: Proficient at working your own photographic equipment

Deadline: Mar 1, 2010

Apply: online at www.LaBellaVitaArts.com under APPLY ONLINE

Other Requirements:

1. Bring your laptop with your portfolio saved on it.
2. This program is physically demanding. You must be able to walk a distance, including steep inclines and stairs, and ride a bike.
3. Getting to the right spots at the right time for maximum exposure to the sweet light means rising early and being flexible with your dinnertime.

¹ *As with all things in Italy, all program events, schedules, faculty and lodgings are subject to change. If events must be modified we will make every effort to substitute an experience of equal type, significance and value. In the event of a train strike or other occurrence that forces us to remain in a excursion city beyond the planned duration, students are responsible for the cost of any extra overnight accommodations.*