

# August 2025

# A once in a lifetime experience in the heart of Tuscany

Dedicate quality time to yourself and transform your art while staying in the idyllic Tuscan countryside.

## Rest – Explore – Support – Innovate – Develop – Exchange – Nourish – Connect – Yourself

# This Art Residency is for you!

with mixed media artist

# HANNAH GAUNTLETT

"A magical experience held over two weeks in the stunning Tuscan countryside for you to find time away from the everyday, explore your next creative evolution and make lifelong friendships..."

### Details Art Residency: Tuscany August 2025

Join other artists, inspiring creatives, business owners for an experience to remember!

#### WHAT: 2-week art residency.

#### Offering a supportive space for artists at any stage of their creative path.

Plenty of individual studio time for personal growth to free your creativity.

Challenge your talent

The perfect environment for creative and personal renewal

#### WHEN: Arrival: Saturday 16th August 3 - 5 pm

#### Departure: Saturday 30th August 10 am

WHO: artists of all ages, nationalities, abilities, and of all disciplines are welcome.

#### **ONLY 7 PLACES AVAILABLE**

WHERE: Tuscany, Italy (secret location to be revealed on booking)

The spacious studio is set in a privately owned organic farm situated between Volterra and **San Gimignano** 

#### Optional trips to places of cultural interest

HOW TO ARRIVE: Fly to Pisa International airport, Florence or Rome

#### **DEADLINE: EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT by 9th March 2025**

€ 550 non-refundable deposit due on booking (only 7 places available)

### SECURE YOUR SPOT WITH EARLY BIRD OFFER BOOK NOW! info@hannahgauntlett.co.uk

# Description

A two-week art residency structured to encourage personal growth for artists working in any discipline and at all stages of their artist journey.
 With the freedom to work individually as well as participate in group activities to encourage new forms of self-expression.

With moments for you to pause, write, read, rest by the pool and time to explore the local area filled with historical treasures in the rich cultural towns of **Volterra and San Gimignano**.

The residency aims to be a **creative incubator** where ideas and conversations are key to personal development, there is no pressure to produce or perform. You can work at your own pace.

The length of the residency allows you time to settle in the studio, get to know each other and the surrounding area, allowing you to develop your professional creative skills, share experiences and exchange knowledge while receiving mentorship and inner wellbeing.

You will be inspired by the sights, sounds, and scents of the Tuscan scenery, and flavours of the local Tuscan cuisine and wine.

The day starts with a structured activity to **spark your creativity** and then **you are free to explore your creativity** as you wish. With allocated days for trips to places of historical and cultural significance. Afternoons may be divided between working at your personal space in the studio or around the grounds, or by the pool before coming together for inspirational, instructional talks in the studio over a glass of wine. Followed by dinner prepared by the agriturismo using organic produce from the farm.

"The perfect balance between art, relaxation and mindful living"

# What's included?

- A two-week transformational residency where you can cocreate alongside other inspiring creatives conducted in English
- 14 nights' accommodation in typical rustic Tuscan farmhouse apartments
- 12 nourishing homemade Italian dinners prepared by onsite chef with local organic ingredients including arrival and final celebration dinner
- all refreshments (and local wine), daily fruit included with your meal
- Recently restored comfortable apartments with shared bathroom, kitchen and living spaces in each apartment (unless you choose your own private apartment)
- Housekeeping once a week
- Bed and bath linen with full change after the first week
- Free laundry facilities to use
- Free transfers in air conditioned 9-seater minibus for day trips, and from airport or scheduled meeting point on arrival and departure. (please do not book flights until this information has been shared).
- Tourist tax
- Free parking
- Free wifi
- Shared studio space with large kitchen tables, benches and easels. The studio has a fridge, bathroom and small kitchen.
- Free use of group art materials (basic equipment provided) Please see list of what to bring.
- plenty of surprise treats to experience the best of Tuscan culture
- 4 pre-residency group Zoom calls to meet your fellow residency friends
- ✤ a home-landing group call 4 weeks after the retreat
- WhatsApp group to keep in touch

### What will we do?

Essentially, we will be co-creating in a remote location in the heart of the Tuscan countryside. There is **a large studio space** with long tables and easels available too. We have the grounds of the organic farm and nearby areas to seek inspiration. Whether you are an abstract, realist or mixed media artist, installation artist or photographer. You are welcome!

A creative mind needs to be relaxed *and* challenged, and this residency will allow for both. You'll be immersed in a beautiful location and invited to explore, with plenty of experiences to tingle your sensations, yearning for new things to inspire you.

You'll arrive in time to settle in before our welcome dinner and you'll depart after breakfast, with new friends for life, ready for some extra days in Tuscany or to **head back home feeling grounded, renewed and invigorated**. Each day will start after breakfast with a creative spark group activity to set you in the mood, then you are free to work in the studio and on the property. There are plenty of shaded working areas. We will frequently go out to draw/paint/create on location nearby.



"When I arrived, I was at a low point, but when I left, I felt transformed."

# **Excursions:**

There will be optional organized trips to:

Volterra
 San Gimignano
 Colle Val d'Elsa
 Siena
 I recommend time after the stay to visit Florence and Pisa.

We will share an air-conditioned 9-seater van for excursions and load up our art materials for painting on location. There will be a perfect balance between time off site and visiting places of historical interest while having plenty of time to switch off and relax by the pool.



"Hannah's knowledge of the area made it so easy to find hidden places off the tourist routes"

# FAQ Who is this for?

This exclusive Tuscan Art Residency is *right* for you if:

- You're an artist looking for personal growth in your practice or life.
- You need fresh perspective and a *new* creative environment to develop a project
- You would benefit from a supportive community to celebrate your work.
- You value beauty, space and the Tuscan countryside where you can hear your spirit again
- You're open to your intuitive side and ready to welcome in some adventure and new experiences to connect with your inner wisdom.
- You are happy working as an individual in a shared studio, outdoors on location or in the grounds of the property.
- You are willing to share, support, exchange, explore, develop and learn with others.

"Connecting to my artistic soul without the daily distractions was a life changer. I go away focused and ready to create my next series"

It is *not* right for you if:

- You are looking for a painting holiday with guided tuition and demonstrations.
- You are *not* confident expressing your own creative voice without guided tuition.

(I run shorter retreats and workshops at other times of the year where I offer tuition. **For info go here**)

- You don't enjoy the heat. Sadly, I can't control the weather, but I enjoy the end of the summer as I love balmy evenings. June and July are the hottest months. While late August temperatures 26°-30°C with some fun thunderstorms
- If you *don't like* isolated locations in the countryside. The secret location is a privately owned organic farm but 15 minutes from civilization!
- You are *not* open to meeting new people and sharing experiences with a community spirit.
- You don't enjoy working alongside others in a studio.
- The accommodation offers disabled access. However, the large studio is on the second floor. We will also be working outside.
  Sadly, this location is *not* suitable for those needing assistance.

## What you need to arrange:

- Transportation and Visa (if needed). Please check if your travel documents are valid before travel.
- Travel and medical insurance
- Spending money (to include breakfast and lunch and two dinners out)
- Additional stays before or after the event dates
- Working materials and personal items other than basics provided
- Transfer service if you arrive outside the free transfer service times, you will have to make your own way. We recommend hiring a car as the location is quite remote.
- Choose from optional Organized Excursions to places of cultural interest (Siena/San Gimignano/Volterra/Colle Val d'Elsa)
- Museum entrance fees and guided tours
- Private mentorship sessions

# Where you'll be staying:

The **privately owned organic farm** is situated in the expansive Tuscan countryside south of Florence. It is a true example of the iconic Italian landscape with rolling hills sure to inspire.

There are pathways to explore through the woodlands and olive groves on the property. And **a large swimming pool with sun loungers** and shaded areas.

The nearby towns of Volterra and San Gimignano offer a rich cultural heritage of Etruscan, Roman and Medieval architecture and remains, spectacular artefacts are preserved in the museums including the Etruscan "Ombra della Sera". **Local markets**, coffee bars, best ice cream producers in the world, grocery shopping, pharmacy and other basic services are close by, down a typical Tuscan "white road" lined with cypress trees.

The spacious organic farm offers **plenty of quiet spots in the shade** of trees and inviting seating areas for private reflection. Above the main house and accommodation is the studio space (accessible by stairs).

The farmhouse and renovated buildings have been beautifully finished with Tuscan rustic charm mixed with the simple contemporary design of the rural countryside and local alabaster stone. Please note that all apartments have shared bathrooms, kitchens and living spaces unless you prefer to upgrade to a private apartment.

Matrimonial room for single occupancy is available (with added supplement for private bathroom)

Shared accommodation is available for couples or friends travelling together (single or double beds)

Each apartment has a kitchen and shared shower room and spacious living spaces.

*"I'll miss the meaningful chats in the apartment, during our walks and trips. From complete strangers we have become the best community of artists"* 

### **Tuscan Art Residency Price**

Accommodation Options		
Tuscan Apartment	Room Options	Price in euro per person
Palagio Grande	Double Room 1	€ 2.497
	Double Room 2	€ 2.497
La Livenza	Double Room 1	€ 2.497
	Shared Single Room	€ 2.096
	Shared Single Room	€ 2.096
Palagio Piccolo**	Double Room	€ 3.200
Double occupancy**	private apartment**	
All prices include 2-week residency and are for single occupancy. Please enquire about double occupancy ** (limited availability)		

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# Tuscan Apartments:





**Palagio Piccolo**: On the ground floor of the main farmhouse, it has a large rustic living room with a fireplace and old stone wall. It has a well-equipped kitchen, the bedroom has a matrimonial double bed and a single bed, ideal for friends travelling together or a couple. In the living room there is a sofa bed, if you prefer your own space.

### Palagio Grande:





This comfortable apartment is found on the first floor of the main farmhouse. It has a kitchen equipped with all necessities, a **newly renovated bathroom** and two bedrooms. Ideal for two couples or provides two single occupancy rooms with a shared bathroom.

In the garden there is a large table and chairs for eating outdoors enjoying the view of the surrounding fields.



### La Livenza

A hundred metres from the main farmhouse and studio, a little house faces the valley dotted with olive trees. It has two bedrooms, one with a double bed and one with two single beds and a shared bathroom. The kitchen is well equipped and has an oven. Next to the entrance a patio with a table and chairs lets you take in the calming view during your meals.





Please note this is an old Tuscan farmhouse with huge walls which keeps the rooms cool. There is no air conditioning. Electric fans are provided but they have not been needed in previous years. The farm is situated at 400m above sea level so there is usually a breeze in the summer months.

# Location:

### Exact location will be revealed on booking

Please discuss your travel plans before booking them so we can arrange shared pick up either from Pisa International airport or Florence Villa Costanza. And I can advise you with internal transfers via train/bus to our meeting point. The location is quite remote so we will share an airconditioned 9-seater van for excursions, transfer to location or you can hire a car if you prefer to be more independent (please tell me if you prefer to do this).

## **Nearest Airport:**

Pisa International airport, Florence, train transfers from Rome airport or Bologna to Florence.

Train: Volterra

Bus: Flexibus to Florence Villa Costanza

Hospital: Volterra 20 mins, Pisa 45 mins, Siena 1 hour

## Studio and shared workspace:



- Every resident will have access to a spacious upstairs great room studio space with a large fireplace and sofa, with long kitchen tables and benches, and easels are available. Each window boasts stunning views of the countryside. Here we keep our materials, work at our own rhythm and meet for evening critiques and discussions. Fans are provided for summer months but due to the thick stone walls and open windows it stays cool. Netting on the windows stops any bugs from getting in.
- ✤ In the studio there is a communal fridge, kitchen and toilet.
- Abundant outdoor space with tables, chairs, benches and wooded walking paths through the olive groves and cypress trees.
- ✤ Large dining area
- Swimming pool with sun loungers



"It was so convenient having the living space so close to the studio, I could pop in when I wanted"

# How do I book my place? Sounds amazing!

## As places are limited to a **maximum of 7 people** (Only a few places remain)

This will be an intimate group. I will be reviewing applications to ensure a good fit and a truly supportive and open space.

# Want to talk before booking ? CLICK HERE TO ATTEND A ZOOM CHAT

Want to talk first? Got some questions? I've set aside some time so we can talk, just click through and find a time for a Zoom chat. Weekends are best for me (Europe time zone). If there are no suitable times due to time differences, you can DM me on Instagram @gauntletthannah or send me a **WhatsApp** +39 3406752457 message If you have any questions, please send me an email to <u>info@hannahgauntlett.co.uk</u> or DM me on Instagram.

# FURTHER INFO:

#### I'D LOVE TO KNOW MORE / SPEAK TO YOU BEFORE I DECIDE

Absolutely! I want to know more from you too! If you know you can make the retreat dates, click the 'APPLY' link above and we'll set up a time to chat. Or connect with me on Instagram or WhatsApp.

### IS THERE FREE TIME WITHIN THE SCHEDULE?

We'll have a relaxed program which allows time for personal reflection and integration, but we are working as a supportive group, and you'll be expected to fully take part. Our days will have variety and are designed to include a balanced mix of group work, activities, excursions and rest. If you wish to explore the area further, you can plan time before or after the residency dates and hire a car. The excursions are optional, but it really is the best time to get to know each other out of the studio.

### ARE FLIGHTS & TRAVEL INSURANCE INCLUDED?

Airport transfers are arranged by the venue, subject to arriving on the start day. If you arrive earlier (recommended!) then hire a car as the venue is in a remote location. Your travel plans to and from Italy are up to you to arrange and book. <u>Travel and health insurance is a must</u>.

I NEED TO KNOW THE EXACT LOCATION

Exact location details will be given to attendees on booking so you can arrive! *I HAVE SPECIFIC FOOD REQUIREMENTS* 

Meals are prepared on site with high quality, local ingredients which are organically grown whenever possible. The venue offers multiple options for meals including vegetarian, vegan, and gluten free.

#### DO I NEED A VISA TO ENTER ITALY?

You will have to check this with your Embassy

### HANNAH GAUNTLETT



Let me introduce myself...

I am a mixed media artist living in Padua, Italy. My work combines a range of mixed media techniques including, photographic transfer, collage and printmaking on various supports ranging from canvas, wood to oxidized metal.

Italy and in particular Tuscany has become my heart home since studying History of Art during an Erasmus year abroad. I have lived in Italy for over 25 years, and I have extensive knowledge of the residency area and the language.

### What is a residency?

My first residency was 20 years ago south of Siena and I worked alongside an artist from New Zealand for two weeks. It made me realize it was enough time to really get to know the area and begin to feel immersed in the culture and surroundings. While dedicating enough time to my artwork without feeling the pressure to produce.

The residency allows time to get to know the other artists and really bond on a level that creates friends for life. Eating together, living together and working at your own rhythm.

It was my dream to recreate that same atmosphere and here I am running another residency in this stunning location.

This is not a sponsored residency programme.

### What is a retreat?

A retreat is a more "pampered style art stay" with all meals included and guided tuition with more structure to the days. It is a week-long course with a few excursions to local areas of cultural interest, I currently run these closer to home in the Veneto region.

### What is a workshop?

I currently run weekend workshops in Padua. These are guided tuition workshops around a chosen technique or theme.

### **Mentor sessions**

Individual mentorship and personal coaching support is available by appointment throughout the two-week residency with mentor Hannah Gauntlett on request. I also coach online throughout the year.

### Join my mailing list to stay updated

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