

Andrew John Studio



Sunshine programme

Spring in Andalucía
Summer in the south of France

Andrew John Studio

About us

Andrew John is a life-time professional painter and tutor, a devotee of watercolour used in a pure, free and easy style. He has over thirty years of experience teaching students at every age and level of ability. He delights in sharing his skills developed over these years as a professional painter and his enthusiasm for this exciting medium is matched by his patience and understanding. He believes that painting '*en plein air*' is a pastime that has few rivals and that teaching by demonstration is the natural way to share his knowledge. To this end his painting holiday programme has been arranged where and when the weather is warm and reliable for painting from life in the real world outside of the studio.

About our programme

Our painting holidays are well researched, well rehearsed and well established holidays.

For much of the year we live in our home on the Mediterranean coast of Andalucia where we welcome our guests to paint with us amid the beautiful coastal countryside and famed White Mountain villages of Andalucia. We also invite you to join us on an historic and luxurious cruise on the inland waterways of Southern France – a holiday that we have run every year for over twenty years. At these two locations we can promise an exciting variety of stunning painting opportunity, excellent value and a very high quality of comfort and cuisine.

These holiday destinations are well supported with a variety of activity for non-painters who are always a welcome part of our small groups. We have a maximum of just twelve painters on our Spanish holidays and just eight on our French Canal cruise (there are four twin/double guest cabins on board Athos). We do not have any single supplement charges – singles are welcome on our Spanish holidays and we welcome painters at all levels of ability.

We hope the following descriptions of our holidays are comprehensive. Please contact us if you need to ask any questions, seek any advice or discuss any availability.

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About our 'Athos Cruise'

In the summer, we join *Athos* for a truly majestic cruise along the ancient waterway of The Canal du Midi; built in the 17th century and now a UNESCO National Park classified as an area of outstanding beauty.

At 180 tons and 100 feet long, *Athos* is the largest vessel capable of navigating the magnificent and historic waterway of the Canal du Midi in Southern France. On board there are four twin/double guest cabins, all of which have en suite bathrooms (shower and W.C.) and each is air-conditioned. There is a large dining area and comfortably furnished saloon and bar, there is a large sun deck with sun-loungers, sun-umbrellas, etc. and there are bicycles on board for guests who wish to explore the local villages or ride the wide towpaths. Our holidays are full board with three delicious meals a day prepared by our own resident chef. All wines, soft drinks and beers are included. A very special holiday and must be limited to just four couples sharing (Twin or double cabins – your choice).



A week on board is a dream for painters and ideal for non-painters too. Pampered by a crew of five, we cruise luxuriously and gently along this ancient tree-lined waterway built nearly three hundred and fifty years ago. We journey for typically five or six hours each day at walking pace whilst rural France drifts slowly by – stopping now and again for perhaps a wine tasting or some other distraction. We moor each evening for an overnight stay at chosen locations to provide us with plenty of opportunity for painting and exploration on shore. Our voyage (in either direction) is between Marseillan on the Etang de Thau, a large lake by the Mediterranean Sea where oysters and mussels abound and flamingos can be seen, and the small village of Salleles d'Aude not far from the ancient city of Carcassonne. You will be collected from and transported back to Montpellier airport or railway station.

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We have not missed a year since we started in 1989. It is normal that we fill these holidays up to a year ahead and we are now already taking bookings for next year.

Travel options for Athos:

Train from St Pancras or Ashford International to Montpellier (9:00 am – 5:00 pm approx from about £170 return is an attractive travel option taken by several guests in previous years. Web sites such as www.raileurope.co.uk provide further detail. At the time of writing, airlines such as Ryan Air and Easy-Jet are advertising flights direct to Montpellier. By car, it is about ten hours' drive, (best done over two days and secure parking at Montpellier can be arranged). Our transfer to Athos is usually from Montpellier Airport at approximately 4.00 pm. As mentioned, this holiday sells out quickly, so please contact us as soon as possible.

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About our Andalusia Holiday

Nestling in the foothills just a mile inland from the Mediterranean Sea there lays the small hamlet of Benajárfé Alto. Here will be found *La Finca del Niño*, our home for our week long 'Andalusia holiday' in the spring, chosen for the beautiful and comfortable 'en plein air' painting weather around the beginning of May.

Just to the east of Malaga in an area called Axarquía is 'Spain as it used to be.' The house, built in the style of a traditional Spanish Hacienda is divided into four villas with all mod cons and comfort, all bedrooms have adjacent bathrooms. The villas surround a courtyard with central fountain and a mass of fragrant flowers and each has its own kitchen, lounge and private patio. There are wood-burning stoves and open fire places for the cooler evenings, patios for the sun-downers and a large swimming pool and tennis court for our exercise! All set in fifteen acres of fruit farm with the main crop being mango.



We will take you out on exciting painting excursions daily. Andrew will as usual provide painting demonstrations each day and offer his expert help and tuition. At La Finca del Niño, the food is delicious and is prepared by our own cherished Spanish chef.

This is a totally inclusive holiday, all food, wine, accommodation, tuition, transfers and excursions. There are no single supplements and no hidden extras. Our prices do not however include flights. Current DTI Regulations allow us to only advise on flights, which of course we will do. There are a variety of return flights available to Malaga from all major U.K. airports every day including Saturdays – the day we start and finish our holidays.

We know this is one of the best value painting holidays on the market as is evident by the number of repeats we have each year. This is also a very suitable holiday for non-painting partners. The beautiful Anoreta Golf Club is just ten minutes away, there is Riding and Trekking on the door-step and the coast is in sight just a few minutes away down the hill.

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About our own Spanish house

If you would like to come and relax in the sunshine, paint on your own, sit and think or just sit perhaps with a few friends for a holiday in the hill, then join us at our own home on a self-catering holiday.

We live for most of the year in Moclinejo, a small picturesque White Mountain village (pop. 850) where we have our home “Casa de la Fuente” and adjacent to this, our guest house, “La Casita Azul”. This has accommodation for up to six and is an ideal retreat for a family or small group of friends.

Our two houses were built many years ago on the site of, and formed in part, of an old Moorish castle; we enjoy commanding views over the Benagalbon valley to the Mediterranean Sea. There is a choice of private patios and a small garden with a very welcome plunge pool and a central al fresco shaded dining area. There is a large roof-top solarium patio from where Africa can be seen on occasions.



Our house in Moclinejo

Nestling in hills 1600 feet above the Mediterranean Sea, the rural village of Moclinejo is just 5 miles from the coast and half an hour drive from Malaga Airport. – This is a quiet paradise for painters, writers, walkers etc!

We offer our guest house ‘La Casita Azul’ for private rental (self-catering) or small tutored inclusive painting groups (by arrangement to suit). Our house has three bedrooms and two bathrooms.

We can arrange a car rental to suit your needs or arrange a collection from the airport. Our village is connected to the coast and outside world with 5 buses a day. Please call to discuss or visit our web site www.paintingholidays.com and click on the link “Spanish Rental”

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About Videos and DVDs

“A WATERCOLOUR WEEKEND”

This video/DVD was filmed on location around Andrew’s home in East Sussex. Professionally made by S.E.E.B.A. Films, the 90-minute video or DVD depicts a typical summer weekend with Andrew painting, in real time, three of his favourite locations. This is instructional, particularly for those interested in *en plein air* painting in the English countryside. This one-and-a half-hour video is available from Andrew John Studio at £20 inclusive of U.K. postage.

“WATERCOLOUR IN ANDALUCIA”

This is the latest of Andrew’s videos filmed on location around his home in southern Spain. Professionally made by S.E.E.B.A. Films, this 90-minute video or DVD shows Andrew painting five different location pictures (no untimely cutaways) in the *Mediterranean sunshine*. The subjects are typical of the beautiful and unspoilt Andalucía countryside where he lives for much of the year. It was filmed on one of Andrew’s popular holidays (page 5) and it gives a good over-view of this holiday. The one-and-a half-hour volume is available from Andrew John Studio at £20 inclusive of U.K. postage.*

These instructional films are available in DVD format from stock.

*If you order a copy of “*Watercolour in Andalusia*” now, either as a video or DVD and subsequently book the holiday with us within 3 months of this purchase, we will credit the £20 cost of the video or DVD towards the balance of your holiday.

Call Local Rate 0845 644 8621

**If calling from abroad ring +44 1323 736745 or
Our Telephone direct line number in Spain is +34 952 400 661**

Using the 0845 number above will connect you to us directly and it will only be the cost of a local call if calling from U.K. If you reach an answer-phone, please leave your contact number and we will call you back.

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About Booking

Please telephone to talk to us first and establish availability. If calling from U.K. please use our local rate number below at any time. You might reach our answerphone, if this is the case it is monitored daily, even when we are operating abroad, please do leave your number with a short message and we will call you back. It is better to discuss availability on the telephone. A reservation can be made immediately and held for a short period pending confirmation by payment of a deposit, see below.

When confirmed on a holiday, please send us an email so that we have your correct contact details etc. and please remember to include a contact telephone number. We regret that we cannot accept payment any longer by credit/debit card. We can however accept payment by cheque or by direct bank transfer which is our preference or indeed by PayPal.

Call Local Rate (UK) 0845 644 8621

If calling from abroad ring +44 1323 736745

Our Holiday Programme for 2012/13

FROM	TO	HOLIDAY	PRICE £	NIGHTS
12/05/2012	19/05/2012	ANDALUCIA	795	7
08/07/2012	14/07/2012	ATHOS	1250	6
11/05/2013	18/05/2013	ANDALUCIA	795	7
07/07/2013	13/07/2013	ATHOS	1250	6



Gateway - La Finca del Nino

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Terms and conditions. Please read carefully

Deposit - For all our painting holidays, a non-refundable booking fee of just £200 per person will be required to confirm a place. The balance will become due 10 weeks prior to the start date of the holiday. Failure to pay the balance in full at this time may result in the cancellation of your booking. Any booking made within 10 weeks prior to departure will require the full cost of the holiday to be paid.

Cancellations or Refunds - Any payments, having been received by us, cannot normally be refunded or transferred in the event that you cannot for any reason attend or complete the holiday; we therefore strongly advise appropriate travel/holiday/cancellation insurance. If in the unlikely event we have to cancel or alter any holiday, for whatever reason, a full refund of all monies received by us will be made or an alternative similar holiday will be offered in lieu.

Flights - Under current UK legislation, only ATOL members may sell flights. We have chosen to not be an active member of ATOL in order we may continue to offer our exclusive Painting Holidays at the best possible price. You are therefore responsible for your own travel arrangements although we do offer transfers upon arrival.

When confirming a booking, please ensure that we have a contact telephone number; this is very important and also, please advise us of any special needs.

All information that you submit to Andrew John is treated in the strictest confidence and will not be used for any purpose other than to supply you with details of the holidays and purchases available from Andrew John Studio.

The above terms do not affect your statutory rights.