



**BROOKSIDE SCHOOL OF BOTANICAL ART & ILLUSTRATION  
TUSCANY WORKSHOP AND TOUR**

*A tour offered by Brookside Gardens and Hidden Treasures Botanical Tours, L.L.C.*

*May 30 – June 13, 2010*

*(departure from USA on May 29)*

It will be like stepping into a beautiful landscape painting, as you arrive in the picturesque and serene countryside of Tuscany, to begin your totally pleasurable, inspiring and informative sojourn to this delightful corner of western civilization as your sketchbook and pencils, working like never before, help you to become totally immersed in your new surrounds. The first week will be spent at one location near Siena as you participate in a carefully balanced program of learning and leisure in the company of fellow students, friends and experienced teachers of botanical art and illustration, Margaret Saul, school director, and “botanical illuminator extraordinaire,” Kandy Phillips (BGSBAI faculty) at one of the world’s “quiet hotels.” The hotel is located in a region famous for its Chianti Classico wine and is part of a farm with subjects beckoning to be sketched during time away from class - panoramic vistas of surrounding vineyards, olive groves, old cypress avenues, and extensively wooded hills with ancient walking trails and Cinta Senese if you can spot them! Also during this week, a short coach trip takes us into the heart of Siena for a class excursion, and with evenings with daylight until around nine, there is time after class to relax and explore the sights and sounds at a local village while savoring some great pizza, a very large wine list and a visit to the “world’s best gellateria”, another evening at San Gimignano with its many tall towers, its galleries and wonderful little shops and restaurants. A day of comfortable touring through the open countryside will see you travelling to ancient hill towns south of Siena. And, you will surely not want to miss meeting some of your Italian colleagues, and see their botanical artwork during the “Artist Gathering” at the Saul’s old Tuscan house, a short walk up from the hotel, where on other occasions you will be most welcome to rest or sketch in the garden. A day of immersion in renaissance art as we visit world famous galleries, and view the most exquisite architectural landmarks and old market places in the historical center of Florence is yet another treat on the menu.

Though we offer the second week as an option, we are sure, that after reading the itinerary you will realize these five days hold further delights, all very reasonably priced and all in the company of your friends, old and new. Here we sneak in one more day in Tuscany with a stroll into the Field of Miracles where you will find that amazing “leaning tower” and time for sketching with Margaret in famous Tuscan gardens (brush up on your perspective drawing!) before settling for the night in Lucca, where its historic center is surrounded by old city walls that offer a splendid walk or opportunity for a leisurely bike ride. Then out of Tuscany into Umbria, another art hot spot, to experience its wonderful treasures and a guided walk into the countryside north of Perugia with time set aside for sketching wildflowers and maybe a late flowering spontaneous orchid or two.

The workshop to be held during the first week is presented in four sessions with a midweek excursion to Siena that will include a visit to the Piccolomini Library. The excursion will be preceded by a morning lecture presented by Kandy, who will provide some insight into the Italian renaissance art and design you will view during your visit to the library.

**Workshop - Sessions 1 & 2 with Margaret:** Drawing and painting flowers typical of the region and found in Italian Late Medieval and Renaissance painting. Receive step-by-step instruction using simply structured field flowers as subjects or be guided by Margaret's approach to drawing and painting for more challenging seasonal flower subjects. We will look into the approach to drawing and painting by Leonardo da Vinci, a teacher who was keen to see students "learn to see." Understand how he used tonal contrast to enhance his compositions, the importance he placed on the observation of light over form, his use of the "S" curve for dynamic (structural) composition and his use of atmospheric perspective to create a receding distance. Much of this will sound very familiar to those who have attended the Brookside Gardens School of Botanical Art & Illustration. Special reference will be made to his nature drawings and you will create a page of flower studies in color or a small finished botanical. Either can be referred to during Kandy's workshop sessions but they can also be used as a suitable reference for a more complete study upon returning home. (Novices: During session two, you will be welcome to trace into your sketchbook a copy of a drawing of the class subject matter, previously drawn by Margaret. You can then paint it so it can be a ready reference for sessions three and four with Kandy.)

The visit to the library is included in a fascinating tour of Siena with an English-speaking guide, but as you view the large intact choir books around the perimeter of the library at Siena's cathedral, Kandy will quietly bring your attention to specific design motifs and their symbolism and to specific painting techniques. Here you will be challenged and inspired by the distinctive characteristics of Renaissance manuscript illumination as painted by two of the finest illuminators of the day: Girolamo da Cremona and Liberale da Verona whose work will be referred to during a morning lecture presented by Kandy just prior to the excursion into Siena. Discover firsthand their extraordinary sense of design and innovative decorative devices, including brilliant color, advanced white work, and the techniques for rendering precious gemstones. All of these elements will be combined in your own illuminated jewel. Also in the library, the riot of colorful designs on the ceiling will take your breath away and so to the exquisitely painted, brightly colored frescoes depicting life for those in more elite circles. These frescoes have not been exposed to centuries of candle smoke or damp as with many frescoes and so provide a valued color reference for art conservators.

On further reflection of your visit to Siena, you will start to imagine life in a medieval city, one that nurtured the transition from the late medieval to the art and architecture of the Italian renaissance, and, how 21<sup>st</sup> century life within these ancient walls coexists within the framework of its medieval past – its Contradas, its palaces and market places, narrow cobbled streets and the UNESCO world heritage listed "Il Campo," its main piazza.

**Workshop – Sessions 3 & 4 with Kandy Phillips (beginner – advanced levels):** Botanical illumination with special reference to illuminated Italian choir books. Create an illuminated capital letter or decorative jeweled motif, incorporating your botanical illustration from sessions one and two and complete the illumination with a touch of gold. Printed examples drawn from the manuscripts will be available to trace in advance if preferred. Either option will form the backdrop for your botanical subject.

Italy has long been known as the birthplace of the Renaissance. While the art of illumination declined in other regions by this time, Renaissance Italian Illuminators experienced a final flowering with their vital, creative work, all on display in the Piccolomini choir books. Drawing

from this rich, decorative style, we will continue in their tradition by creating our own illuminated gems. A noted art historian made the following observation of Liberale's work in the Siena choral: "...the air of Siena performed the miracle that transformed the caterpillar.... into a splendid butterfly." Come join us and be transformed through this unique opportunity!

**ITINERARY AT A GLANCE ...**

**Depart USA Saturday May 29, 2010**

Flight from USA under own arrangement

**NOTE:** The letters **B** and **L** indicate Breakfast and/or Lunch included that day

**Sunday May 30, 2010**

Upon arrival at the Florence Airport, we will transfer by coach to the [Hotel Casafrassi](#), where accommodation has been arranged on a bed and breakfast basis. Leisure facilities include an outdoor swimming pool and tennis court, and horseback riding. Excursions for those not attending the workshop can be organized privately through the hotel. Evening meals are available at the hotel restaurant.

**Monday May 31, 2010**

**B, L**

Workshop – Session 1, Margaret Saul (light lunch included). Our evening will be at our own leisure to explore.

**Tuesday June 1, 2010**

**B, L**

Workshop – Session 2, Margaret Saul (light lunch included). This evening we will have an excursion by coach to San Gimignano.

**Wednesday June 2, 2010**

**B**

We will have a morning lecture by Kandy Phillips. Afterwards, we depart by coach for a full day excursion to Siena, where we will visit Duomo and the Libreria Piccolomini. Also included is a walk from the Porta San Marco to the Fonte delle Monache, a restored, medieval underground site.

**Thursday June 3, 2010**

**B, L**

Workshop – Session 3, Kandy Phillips (light lunch included). This evening we will have an excursion by coach to Castellina-in-Chianti.

**Friday June 4, 2010**

**B, L**

Workshop – Session 4, Kandy Phillips (light lunch included). Later in the day, we will have an artist gathering at Il Capanno, home of Allan and Margaret Saul. Antipasto and drinks provided. Walk, or ride, private transportation will be provided as required.

**Saturday June 5, 2010**

**B**

Today we depart by coach for a full day excursion to Florence to visit the Galleria dell'Accademia and Uffizi Gallery.

**Sunday June 6, 2010**

**B**

Today we will again travel by coach to visit the Abbey of Monte Oliveto Maggiore and Montalcino/Pienza/Montepulciano.

**Monday June 7, 2010**

Transfer by coach back to Florence Airport for those not taking part in the post-workshop optional tour extension.

## **POST-WORKSHOP OPTIONAL TOUR EXTENSION**

### **Monday June 7, 2010**

**B**

We start our tour with a transfer by coach from Hotel Casafrassi to Pisa for a brief visit, then on to the gardens at Villa Reale, Marlia, and Villa Massei, near Lucca. Our lodging in Lucca will be the 4-star [Grand Hotel Guinigi](#).

### **Tuesday June 8, 2010**

**B**

Today we will transfer from Lucca to Perugia, stopping en route for a visit to the hill-town of Cortona and the Museo dell'Accademia Etrusca, which features a wide range of Etruscan art treasures and artifacts. From there, we continue into Umbria, the 'green heart of Italy.' Our accommodations for the remainder of the trip will be the 4-star [San Gallo Palace Hotel](#), a comfortable and elegant hotel located in the historic heart of Perugia, just 50 yards from the 15<sup>th</sup>-century palace Rocca Paolina.

### **Wednesday June 9, 2010**

**B**

Following breakfast, we will have a city tour and visit the Galleria Nazionale dell'Umbria, which has a fantastic collection of Umbrian paintings, particularly from the early and mid-Renaissance periods. The afternoon is free to explore the city at leisure.

### **Thursday June 10, 2010**

**B**

After breakfast, we depart by coach for an excursion to Umbertide. Here we will spend the morning on a walking and sketching tour of the woods and pastures of the surrounding area, enjoying the panoramic views and late blooming wildflowers. We will also visit an Etruscan tomb. After an opportunity for lunch in Umbertide (not included), we will return by coach to the hotel mid-afternoon. You will have your evening at leisure.

### **Friday June 11, 2010**

**B**

After breakfast, we depart by coach for a full day excursion to Orvieto. We will visit the famous Duomo, described by Pope Leo XIII as 'The Golden Lily of Italian cathedrals'. Orvieto is also renowned for its white wine and we will have a wine tasting at a local producer. In the afternoon, we continue to Todi, which has a stunning location high above the plain and features the Piazza del Popolo, often described as the most perfect medieval piazza in Italy. You will have your evening at leisure.

### **Saturday June 12, 2010**

Following breakfast, we check out of the hotel and transfer by coach to Florence Airport for our mid-morning flight departure (flights organized under own arrangement).

***Happy Memories!!!***

**TRIP COST AND CONDITIONS**

This trip has been organized by Hidden Treasures Botanical Tours, L.L.C. (HTBT) and Brookside Gardens and both reserve the right to make necessary changes to the itinerary due to unforeseen circumstances. You will receive confirmation of registration within 30 days of receipt of registration. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure and all invoices will be sent in advance of this date. Once final payment is made, all airfare, hotel payments, etc. are paid in full, and we cannot refund any money after this date.

Trip price includes all lodging as specified on the itinerary, private transportation where specified on the itinerary, entrance fees per itinerary, and breakfast daily. Some lunches are included as specified on the itinerary. Tour price DOES NOT INCLUDE round trip airfare to and from Florence.

We highly encourage trip insurance, which includes cancellation and trip delay coverage, as well as baggage and medical coverage. Most trip insurance policies waive pre-existing conditions if you sign up for insurance within 15 days of sending in this initial trip deposit. HTBT recommends Access America for trip insurance, which is available online or through your nearest AAA office.

**PRICING**

We encourage all participants to enroll in the two fantastic workshops with Margaret Saul and Kandy Phillips; however, we acknowledge that many may wish to travel with a friend or loved one. The week one fee includes a separate registration fee (indicated below) for the Botanical Art Workshop.

	<b>Number of Registrations</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>WEEK 1: Workshop package price (May 30–June 7, 2010)</b>		
Per Person Double Occupancy**	\$2,190	\$
Single-room occupancy	\$2,540	\$
Per-person Botanical Art Workshop Fee	\$450	\$
<b>WEEK 2: Post-Workshop Optional Tour Extension package (June 7-12, 2010)</b>		
Per person double occupancy	\$2,150	\$
Single room occupancy	\$2,450	\$
<b>Total Due:</b>		<b>\$</b>

(\*\*A roommate cannot be guaranteed, and if none available, you will be responsible for single-room occupancy price. Pricing is based upon a currency conversion rate of 1 GBP to 1.65 USD. If a significant fluctuation occurs, price will be adjusted accordingly.)

Not Included:

- Lunches or evening meals, other than those specified
- Airfare
- Exit tax at the airport

# Registration Form

Italy Art and Gardens Workshop and Tour  
Departure May 29, 2010

## Passenger Information

Please record information exactly as it appears on your passport. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport.

Name as on passport \_\_\_\_\_ Name as on passport \_\_\_\_\_

Passport # \_\_\_\_\_ Passport # \_\_\_\_\_

Passport Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passport Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home and or cell) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name and Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please mark your preferred travel arrangements (group airfare will be offered with Los Angeles as departure)

I will make my own airline reservation/arrangements\*\*\*

I would like Hidden Treasures Botanical Tours to assist with my airline arrangements

\*\*\*Please refrain from making airline reservations until you receive confirmation from HTBT that the trip will proceed as planned. Notification will be made in writing on or about February 28, 2010.

## Payment Information (deposit \$1,000 per person)

If paying by check: make payable to Hidden Treasures Botanical Tours, L.L.C.

If paying by credit card (we can accept only VISA or MasterCard)

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Amount to be charged \_\_\_\_\_ Three digit security code from back of the card \_\_\_\_\_

## REFUND SCHEDULE

Final payment is due 90 days prior to trip departure. A full refund will be given up to 90 days prior to the departure date, minus a \$250 administrative fee. There are no refunds within 90 days of trip departure as airfare is booked at that time, and hotel non-refundable deposits have been paid.

We highly recommend trip insurance, which includes cancellation and trip delay coverage, as well as baggage and medical coverage. Most trip insurance policies waive pre-existing conditions if you sign up for trip insurance within 15 days of sending in this registration form and paying your initial trip deposit.

Upon registration, we will send a Terms and Conditions document for specific refund schedule.

## Direct inquires and mail this form to:

Hidden Treasures Botanical Tours, L.L.C.  
P.O. Box 39  
Rocheport, MO 65279  
573-881-6316 or 573-445-0490 (evenings/weekends)  
Email: [info@hiddentreasuresbotanicaltours.com](mailto:info@hiddentreasuresbotanicaltours.com)