

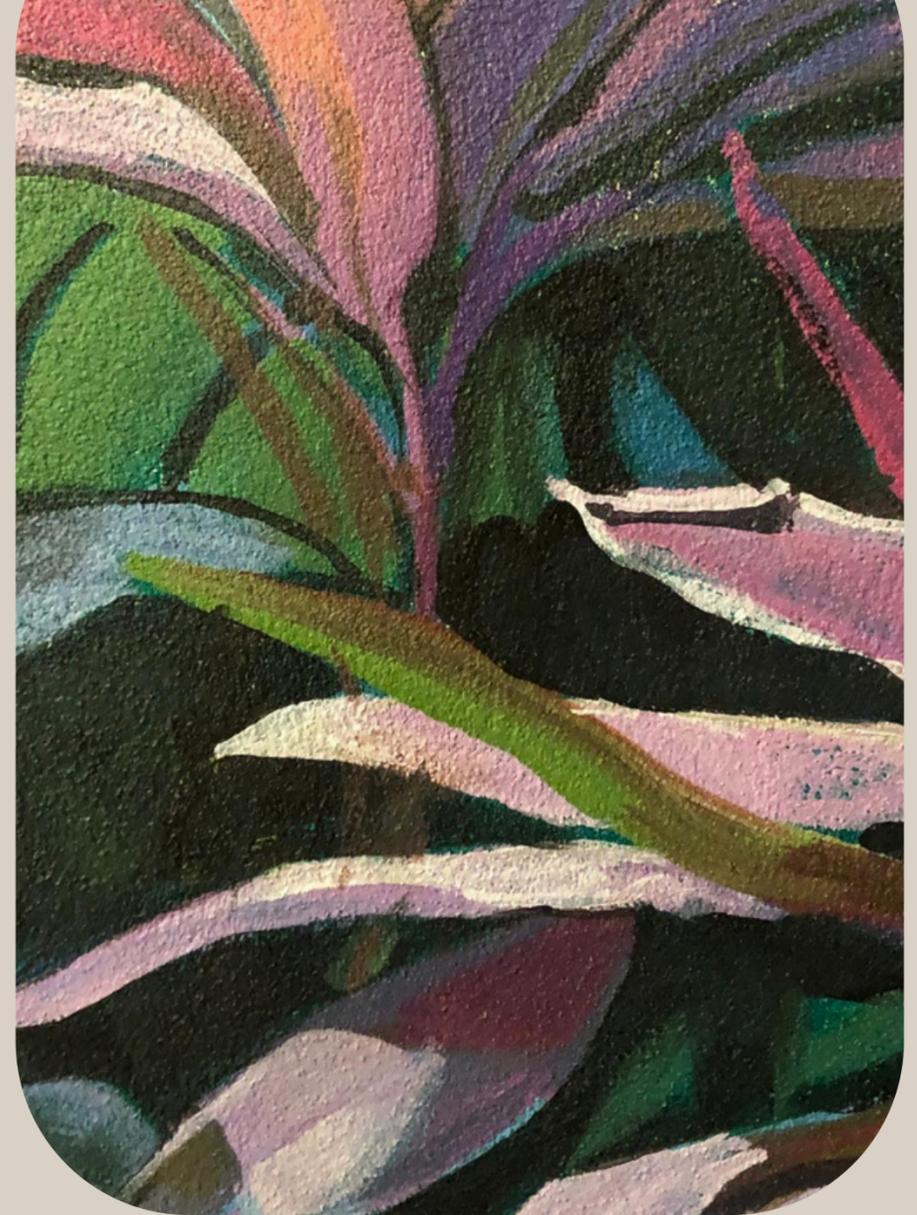
Mural Painting retreat

With Hilary Williams
At Rignana Estate

3rd to 9th October 2026



About the retreat



Your instructor

Hilary



My work grows from Wyoming's twin lessons of community and nature. I often layer local flora and fauna over historical or science-based foundations—bold shapes, maps, or landscape forms that anchor each piece in the story of its environment. I employ a variety of painting techniques from trompe l'oeil to custom stenciling and finishes to plein air. Whether I'm painting a 140-foot underpass in Colorado, or a tiny diorama in Italy or creating way-finding murals deep in the Costa Rican jungle, my goal remains the same: to build environments people can enter, not just observe. I see murals as shared spaces that spark dialogue, foster pride, and make art a daily experience.

My practice blends a classical plein-air foundation with a biodynamic, community-driven approach. Each project begins with listening—gathering stories, insights, and perspectives—and develops through inclusive design. The result is art that meets people where they are, reflects who they are, and invites them to see their place and self with renewed pride.

Hilary Williams's early interest in painting and sculpture led her to the formal study of fine arts and art history at Phillips Academy Andover and Studio Art Centers International in Florence, Italy. She completed her degree in fine arts with a major in painting, at Washington University in St. Louis. Most recently, she continued her education in Montefiascone, Italy where she studied recreating the medieval palette at the Montefiascone Conservation Project. While there, she learned to make pigments and lacs, and paint, from plants, minerals, and insects.

RETREAT

Mural Painting

This 5 day workshop will focus on how to paint a mural, from the beginning design stages through completion. We will take inspiration from our daily local adventures through the Tuscan countryside, Florentine churches, and architecture. A variety of methods will be explored from custom stenciling, faux finishes, the doodle grid, and plein air painting, in order to create a collaborative mural on site at Rignana Estate.

In addition, we will learn how to mix our own paints from raw pigments. With these paints, we will create a smaller, individual piece during this workshop to be taken home.

This workshop is open to guests of all skill levels. People are encouraged to embrace this week as an opportunity for expression and personal growth as we not only explore what it means to be an artist, but also what it means to be an artist of life.

Materials you are required to bring: All materials are included in tuition. We will provide paint, stencil material, and individual canvases. Please bring your favorite brushes and sketchbooks if you desire.



Retreat Timetable

Saturday 3rd

16:00 Check in & estate tour

19:00 Welcome dinner at Rignana

Sunday 4th

8:30 – 9:30 Breakfast

10:00–13:00 Mural design. We will begin with our collaborative design session and planning for our on site mural at Rignana. This session will focus on custom finishes for our background, as well as custom stencils for border work and decorative design.

13:00–14:00 Lunch – Woodfire pizza making

14:30 – 16:30 Mural painting. We will begin with some plein air sketching guidance as we gain inspiration from the surrounding countryside. From our sketches, we will move back to the big wall and start placing our subject matter. (doodle grid technique may be employed as well)

18:00 Wine Aperitivo

19:00 Dinner

Monday 5th

8:30 – 9:30 Breakfast

10:00–13:00 Visit the Badia a Passignano Monastery for inspiration
<https://www.badiapassignano.it/>

13:00–14:00 Lunch

14:30 – 16:30 Continue Mural Painting. We will focus on employing light successfully in our mural.

18:00 Wine Aperitivo followed by dinner

Retreat Timetable

Tuesday 6th – Florence Day Trip

8:30 – 9:30 Breakfast

10:00 – 19:00pm Florence day trip. We are also artists of life and will spend the day renewing inspiration, visiting some museums and artisans, an old monastery that has been converted into a boutique perfumerie. Also purchase raw pigments at Zecchi's art store.

18:00 Wine Aperitivo followed by dinner

Wednesday 7th

8:30 – 9:30 Breakfast

10:00–13:00 Resume mural painting and begin individual piece to take home. We will explore the pigments we've purchased in Florence and mix some of our own paints for our individual piece.

13:00–14:00 Lunch

14:30 – 16:30 Wine Tasting

19:00 Dinner at Cantinetta di Rignano (not included in price)

Thursday 8th

8:30 – 9:30 Breakfast

10:00–13:00 Work on painting to take home and finish mural.

13:00–14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 17:00 Painting Continues

18:00 Wine Aperitivo followed by dinner

Friday 9th

8:30 – 9:30 Breakfast

10:00 Checkout

Accommodation



THE ESTATE

In the Heart of Tuscany

We would be delighted to welcome you to our home, an 150-acre estate surrounded by vineyards and olive groves, where alpacas and horses graze freely. Our retreats are an immersive experience where you can cultivate your creativity with like minded people, connect with the natural world and taste the flavours of Tuscany through our farm-to-table meals paired with wine from our vineyards.



A Sanctuary for Artists

Develop your technique in our Renaissance Church and amongst the Tuscan Countryside.





FACILITIES

Tennis Court

An astroturf tennis court with a view, providing the perfect opportunity for both recreational and competitive play. Sit on the stone wall and watch a tennis tournament.



FACILITIES

Infinity Pool

The 18x8m marble pool with large spaces to sunbathe or practice yoga, a vine pergola that provides ample shade. By the pool, a Tiki bar offers a relaxed setting for refreshments.





Accommodation Rates

October 3rd – October 9th 2026 (6 nights)

Bedroom with ensuite:

Single occupancy: €2,220

Shared occupancy: €1,880 per person

Bedroom with shared bathroom:

Single occupancy: €1,970

Shared occupancy: €1,710 per person

Workshop fee for participants: €500 per person

ACCOMODATION



What's included

- 6 nights accomodation
- Daily breakfast
- 4 lunches and 5 dinners
- Daily Aperitivo
- Pizza making experience
- Towels & linens (one towel change per stay)
- Infinity pool
- Tennis court
- Wifi
- Laundry facilities
- VAT tax



What's not included

- Transfers
- Wine Tours
- Treatments (Massage) - these can be requested
- City tax (€2.50 per person per day to be paid in cash on arrival)

Practical Information

Dates

3 – 9 October 2026

Check-in and check-out

On 3 October you are very welcome at Rignana Estate from 16:00.
Check-out on 9 October is before 10:00.

Address

Rignana Estate, Rignana 8, Greve, in Chianti
Toscana, Italy 50022 Firenze

Travel

You organise your own journey. When traveling from Florence we encourage you to travel by taxi or carpool with other participants. Before the trip, you will receive a travel coordination schedule to help you align your plans with your fellow participants.



How to get to Rignana Estate

Travel to Italy

- **By Air to Florence:** Florence Airport (Peretola) is the closest airport to Rignana Estate. The estate is a 50minute drive from Florence airport
- **By Air to Pisa:** Alternatively, you can fly into Pisa International Airport. From Pisa, you can connect to Florence by bus, train, or taxi.

From Florence to Rignana Estate

By Car: Renting a car is the most convenient way to reach Rignana Estate. From Florence, it's an approximately 40-minute drive to the Estate.

Alternatively, we can search for the most convenient price for a taxi or minibus taxi service for you.



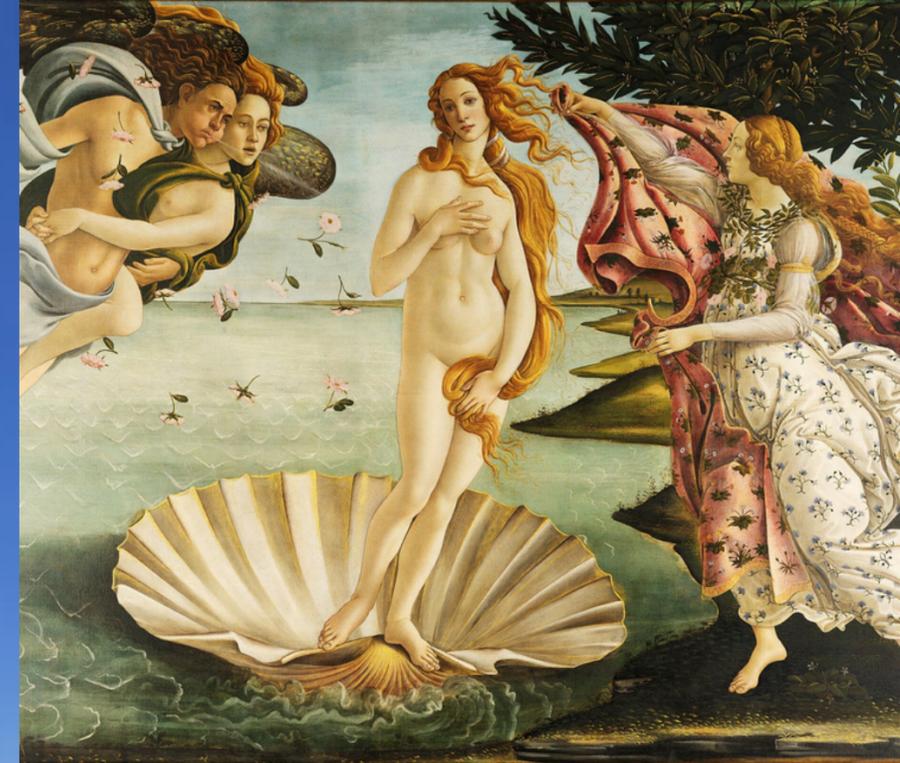
Prime Location Highlights

Just 40 minutes from Florence, Rignana Estate offers the perfect balance of tranquility and accessibility.

Nearby, charming villages like Greve and Panzano invite exploration, while world-class wineries such as Antinori nel Chianti Classico provide unforgettable tasting experiences.

We highly recommend a visit to the monastery of Badia A Passignano, home to Ghirlandaio's Last Supper. A tour with one of the monks is a must!

Walking and cycling is popular in the area. The primary walking route passing through the Rignana area is the historic Via Sanese, a leg of the ancient pilgrimage route leading to the Via Francigena, offering hilly treks through vineyards and olive groves.





We hope to welcome you soon

Martino and Alessandra
book@rignana.estate
+39 393 620 2164