



Autumn in Provence

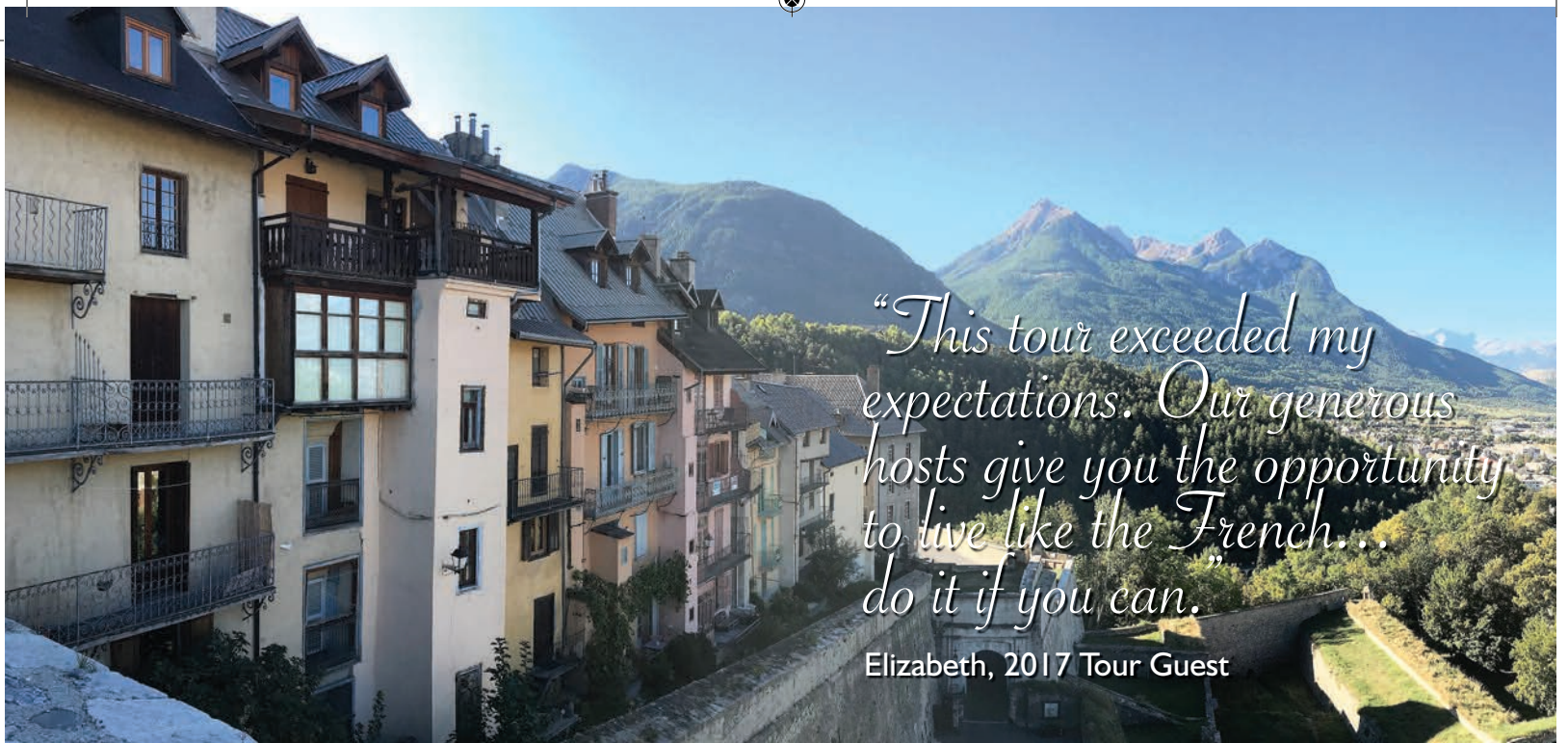


French Painting Tour Where Provence Reaches the Alps
with Craig Penny



TOUR DATE 12 DAYS • 14TH – 25TH SEPTEMBER 2020





“This tour exceeded my expectations. Our generous hosts give you the opportunity to live like the French... do it if you can.”

Elizabeth, 2017 Tour Guest

Sunday 13th September: Arrive in Aix en Provence. Pick up from TGV or from Hotel in Aix en Provence, Sunday afternoon and taken up to Les Planious guest house, L'Épine. We can arrange accommodation for you if you arrive earlier, best if pick up is from one location.

Tour Starts

Day one: Monday 14th September

Painting session in the hamlet, Vaucluse, quite close to the guesthouse. Walk for non-painters depends on their level and would be not far from Les Planious.

Day Two: Tuesday 15th September

Painting session near the village L'Épine. Walk for non-painters nearby. In the afternoon we visit the medieval town of Serres.

Day Three: Wednesday 16th September

Stroll around a typical Provençal market at one of France's most beautiful villages: Buis Les Baronnies. In the afternoon, visit the Gallo Roman city of Vaison la Romaine with its famous Roman Bridge.

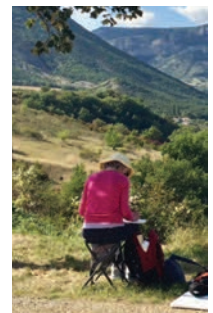


Day Four: Thursday 17th September

Painting session 9 to 3pm at Saint André de Rosans a tiny medieval village. Walk near Rosans for non-painters, with spectacular panoramic view over the Alps. Afternoon visit: close-by medieval village, Rosans.

Day Five: Friday 18th September

Painting session from 9 to 3pm at the medieval village of Orpierre on the Princes of Orange road now an international rock-climbing centre. Non painters walk in the gorges of Riou, beautiful panoramic view over the valley. Afternoon visit: the picturesque villages of Lagrand and Orpierre



Day Six: Saturday 19th September

Drive via Gap and the lake Serre-Ponçon to the 12th century Abbaye of Boscodon nestled at 1400 metres above sea-level. Visit the beautifully restored abbey and discover the importance of monastic life in the Middle Ages. You will have time for a painting session. Plenty of walks available for non-painters.

Overnight stay at Briançon the highest city in the European community, situated on the Italian border.

Day Seven: Sunday 20th September

Painting session in Briançon a fortified city built by Vauban. Several buildings are classified UNESCO heritage. Many opportunities for spectacular walks in the Parc des Ecrins or The Valley de la Clarée. Overnight stay at Briançon.

Day Eight: Monday 21st September

Lunch in the old city. Full-day painting session and possible walk near Briançon for non-painters. Return to Les Planious late afternoon.

Day Nine: Tuesday 22nd September

Rest Day. Afternoon painting session with local primary school. Optional walk for non-painters. Possibility to do wine tasting with Philippe Rodriguez, who specializes in organic wines.

Day Ten: Wednesday 23rd September

Cooking session with Regine in the morning. After Lunch, painting session in Sisteron, considered the pearl of Provence. Craig's favourite. Walk for non-painters nearby.

Day Eleven: Thursday 24th September

Drive through some of the most beautiful Provencal countryside to Villeneuve les Avignon, home to the cardinals, on the other side of Avignon's famous bridge. Along the way we stop in the gorges of Saint May to see the aerial performance of the vultures. Picnic lunch. Afternoon visit of Villeneuve les Avignon where we stay that night in a hotel with view of the Palace of the Popes. Evening dinner along the Rhone River.

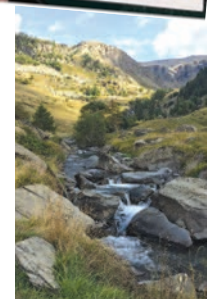


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Day Twelve: Friday 25th September

Free morning in Avignon. Optional guided tour. Guests may want to stay longer in Avignon after the tour ends, we can arrange accommodation if needed. Afternoon departure.



"The Opportunity to paint en plain air in a charming French village with Craig is a chance in a life time. Highly recommended" Vivi 2016



Craig Penny

Craig studied art at the Ballarat College of Advanced Education, now Ballarat University, where painting and graphic design attracted most of his attention. Craig pursued a successful career as an illustrator in the advertising industry and became a member of the Illustrators Association of Australia.

Craig's career has progressed into a range of mediums including skills in computer graphics. As a result, Craig has also undertaken a successful career in teaching traditional drawing and illustration at Victoria University and Swinburne University.

Throughout this time, he never lost his love of using traditional methods and subsequently specialized in watercolour and acrylic painting and illustrations. This has led to an extremely successful solo career.

In 2001, Craig had his first major solo exhibition. In 2007, his work was accepted by Gallery Diamante in Carmel, California. Craig is represented by galleries in Australia, Singapore and Cambodia..

Your accommodation at Les Planious



Emmanuel and Geraldine Arnoldi welcome you to their guest house – Les Planious. A haven of tranquillity, situated in the Hautes Alpes department of France, where Provence meets the Alps. Nestled in the mountains, the guest house offers visitors a chance to relax and enjoy delicious provençal-style dinners, made from locally-sourced, all-organic ingredients. It also acts as the perfect base from which to explore the surrounding area on foot, by bicycle or by car.



With their expert knowledge of the area, warm hospitality and lovable pets, Emmanuel and Geraldine will ensure your visit to Les Planious is a memorable one.



CONTACT IN AUSTRALIA

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CONTACT IN FRANCE

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Tour Details

- 8 - 12 Participants.
- \$5,500 per person, twin share.
- \$500 Single Supplement.
- Deposit of \$1,000 per person to secure your booking.
- This deposit is **non-refundable after 15 March 2020**, unless the tour does not proceed.
- A progress payment of \$2000 per person to be paid by 15 March 2020.
- Final payment of \$2000 per person is due 15th JUNE 2020
- Deposit and progress payment are **non-refundable if you choose to cancel at anytime.**

PLEASE TAKE OUT TRAVEL INSURANCE AT TIME OF BOOKING FOR ANY CLAIMS

Activities for non-painters could include*:

Cycling*
Guided mountain walks
Cooking Sessions
*Additional costs may be incurred.

The price includes:

Painting lessons, guided hikes and excursions, twin share accommodation, most meals and transport, guides and entrance fees.

The price does not include:

Accommodation before the tour starts in Marseille Sunday 13th September. Personal expenses, train or air fares, travel and luggage insurance and optional activities. Lunches in Marseille and Briançon and evening dinner along the Rhone River Villeneuve les Avignon.

Option to travel to France with tour coordinator, Melbourne to Marseille.

A moderate amount of walking is involved, often on uneven and/or cobbled streets there will be steep inclines and steps especially in the high Alps. Hikers need to have a moderate level of fitness. Good hiking shoes, raincoat and windbreaker.



ARTIST STATEMENT

I like to think that to paint a successful painting is not so much to have tamed the beast, rather to have been taken along for the ride and still being there at the end of the experience.

For me painting is like life ... giving yourself enough skill, knowledge and integrity, and then letting yourself free to take what is thrown your way. You don't need to tame and control it for magic to happen... you just need to be there at the end.

Craig Penny