

Fusing, Cooking & Sightseeing "Keys to the Kingdom"... beyond landscapes

A complete Italian experience of fusing, cooking lessons and sightseeing
with Miriam Di Fiore

This class gives practical and theoretical skills (and tricks!) to translate photographs, paintings, watercolor or drawings, in fused glass. Using frits, glass, powder of glass and glass stringers, we can create any kind of images, highly controlled, unique, natural or abstract, as if we were using the glass as a painter uses his colors and we can add the magic sense of depth that improves the final piece esthetically.

Increasing the ability to "see" and understand the images "thinking like glass", we can create amazing pieces, representing our personal way to see reality. We will focus this class in reading and interpreting images of flowers, trees, portraits, animals, paintings, to learn every "secret" of this technique that I developed over a period of over 30 years, translating my world in Glass and making you feel how intense the dialogue can be, between glass, color, light and sense of depth.

Not only will you study the foundations of Miriam's Art, but you will also explore the surroundings, experiencing beauty and culture of a fantastic Italian territory, the source of Miriam's inspiration.

GOALS:

Acquire a complete knowledge about glass frits' behavior. Discover the potential of overlaying colors layer upon layer. Discover the particularity of the effects concerning the reactions when we mix sulfur with lead and copper colors and manage the correct firing schedules. Improve the knowledge of the translation in fused glass of several different kinds of images and forge a more intimate friendship with Glass. Manage perfect kiln firing schedules to get a piece in "perfect shape and health".

CLASS SIZE: 6 students

2024 CLASS DATES: April 16-28, 2024 (FULL) OR October 4-16, 2024 (2 spots)

2025 CLASS DATES: May 5-17, 2025 (FULL) OR October 6-18, 2025

CLASS DURATION:

10 days of class time. (70-80 hours on 10 lessons in studio, 4 mornings or afternoons to explore the area & visit unique locations, 2 evenings of cooking lessons & eating what we make).

FEE: 3,500 Euros (22% VAT Tax included) + flight + accommodation + van pickup or drop off from/to airport

Fee includes: Note – some of the venues will change due to weather or if there is a more interesting place to visit or time available.

- Transportation to and from Voghera train station and during the sightseeing tours.
- Three traditional dinners on the hills; a "Pizza Night" in my favorite pizzeria. Wine tasting with fresh finger food. Goodbye dinner.
- **Two Italian cooking lessons with dinner in village of Mornico Losana**
- Visit locations in the area while waiting for work to cool in kilns.
- All delicious Italian daily lunches, with spring water and local wines. "Welcome breakfast" on the first day. Tea and coffee, biscuits, fruit and spring water are always available in the studio. Three group trips to the supermarket to go shopping.

Fee does not include:

- Flights
- Accommodation
- Any excursions during the 3 day break between first and second week of class
- All breakfasts except the Welcome Breakfast on the first day of class.
- Dinners on free evenings.

GETTING TO MORNICO LOSANA

*Students are required to arrive on the day before the beginning of a course and leave the day **after** the end of the class. If you need to arrive or depart on any other date and time, please contact us before booking.*



You can arrive in the following airports **but Milano Malpensa airport is the preferred one if you are arriving from the United States or Canada.**

Milano Linate Airport (the closest one)

Milano Malpensa Airport

Milano Bergamo- Orio al Serio Airport (the farthest one)

VERY IMPORTANT:

If you arrive and depart by airplane, try **not to buy tickets that will arrive after 10:00PM or departures before 11:00 AM.**

Remember there is **at least a 2 hour drive to get to Malpensa airport from Mornico Losana with the Taxi service and about 4 hours if you choose public transportation.** Don't forget you have to be at the airport at least **3 hours before the flight** departure, when going back home.

Our taxi service is active between 8:00AM and 08:00PM.

[FROM MALPENSA/LINATE/BERGAMO-ORIO AL SERIO AIRPORT TO MORNICO LOSANA WITH OUR TAXI SERVICE](#)

The price to pick you up at Malpensa Airport is **150 Euro** per trip.
(2 hours drive, maximum 5 person in the same car).

The price to pick you up at Linate Airport is **120 Euro** per trip.
(1:30 hours drive, maximum 5 people in the same car).

The price to pick you up at Bergamo-Orio al Serio Airport is **€ 150** per trip
(2 hours drive, maximum 5 person in the same car).

It is also possible to arrive with public transportation (shuttle bus/ train to Milano + Train to Voghera city) **for a very convenient price.**

ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD IN MORNICO LOSANA

Accommodation in Mornico Losana as of 2023

Mornico Losana is a small town and the offer in the village is very limited. The following list describes the closest accommodation options.

All accommodation is subject to availability. All prices are 22% VAT tax included.

Option 1 – Miriam's House



2nd Floor Apartment in Miriam's House (A) **3 bedrooms w/ 2 shared bathrooms** **(4 bedrooms if you are all close friends / family)** *30 Euro per person/night*

We have three bedrooms available in a large apartment on the second floor (two floors of staircases without elevator) in our main building. The apartment has a kitchen complete with everything needed for cooking, a washing machine, a nice veranda, and a terrace with a panoramic view. It has one complete bathroom (toilet and bath shower) and another small bathroom (only toilet – with a spectacular view). The apartment is very pleasant and comfortable, but it is not suitable for those who cannot climb stairs or those who will come with heavy suitcases.

Air conditioning units and a fan are provided in each room. Wireless Internet is available.



1st Floor Apartment in Miriam's House (B) **1 Bedroom (Two Adjoined Bedrooms if sharing with a friend)**

50 Euro per person/night (60 Euro per/night with 2 people or a couple)

We have a nicely restored apartment in the first floor (one floor of staircases without elevator) with one big room divided in two spaces, one double bed in one of the spaces and a comfortable sofa bed in the other space. It is suitable for one student that's wants total privacy, or for a couple, or for two friends.

The apartment has air conditioning, a kitchen that is complete with everything needed for cooking, a washing machine, two balconies and a panoramic view. It has a new bathroom (shower). The apartment is very pleasant and comfortable. Wireless Internet is available.



Ground Floor Apartment in Miriam's House (C) 1 Bedroom

50 Euro per person/night (60 Euro per/night for a couple)

We have a small but comfortable apartment located on the ground floor of our building. It has a new eat-in fully equipped kitchen, furnished with everything you need for cooking; it has a bedroom with double bed, bed linen and towels, heating for winter use, air conditioning for summer and a complete bathroom with bath, and a tiny living room.



Option 2 – Dirk & Rita’s Apartments, Mornico Losana

“Sewing Studio” Apartment (A)

80 Euro night (2 persons) based on a 2 week stay

[Sewing Studio Photos](#)

Dirk's contact info: +31 6 53774586 (WhatsApp) - dirk.stevens@planet.nl

Our house Casa Het Naaiatelier has, as the name suggests, a history as a tailor's workshop. The foundations of the house date back to the 17th century when the castle was built, which has a very prominent place in our village. Casa Het Sewing Atelier is located (front) on Piazza Liberta, so you can fully enjoy Italian village life. Miriam Di Fiore's home and studio is a very short walk (3 buildings down the street).

This typical Italian casa has 1 very spacious bedroom and a smaller guest room, 1 bathroom with spacious shower. The kitchen is equipped with a fridge/freezer, hob, Nepresso machine and a kettle. The living room has a wood stove.

In the morning in the adjacent bar La Forneria enjoying a delicious cappuccino and a brioche, in the afternoon a fantastic Pranzo and finishing until about 8 pm (close the bar!) an Aperol or a glass of the many quality wines that are so characteristic of this region. There is also a grocery store located on the village square.

At the rear of Casa Het Naaiatelier is a spacious terrace/balcony where you can relax in peace with a beautiful panorama over the vineyards.





"Cut & Shaved" Apartment (B)

60 Euro per night (1 person) / **70 Euro** per night (a couple) based on a 2 week stay

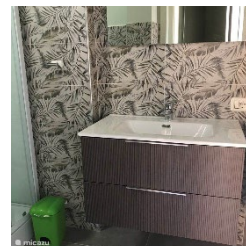
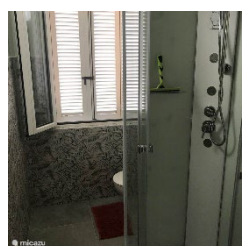
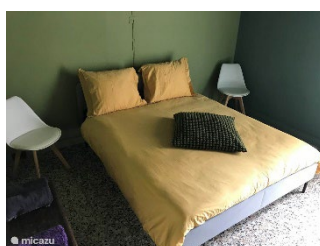
"Cut & Shaved" Apartment Photos

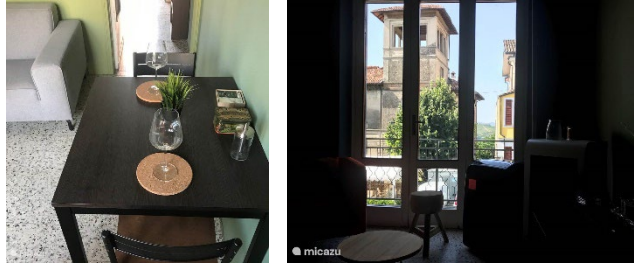
Dirk's contact info: +31 6 53774586 (WhatsApp) - dirk.stevens@planet.nl

Our apartment "Cut and Shaved" has, as the name suggests, a history as a barber shop / barber. The foundations of the house date back to the 17th century when the castle was built, which has a very prominent place in our village. Miriam Di Fiore's home and studio is a very short walk (3 buildings down the street).

Apartment Cut and Shaved is located on the 1st floor at Piazza Liberta, so you can fully enjoy Italian village life. This typical Italian apartment has a spacious bedroom with air conditioning, a bathroom with a spacious shower. The kitchen/kitchenette is equipped with fridge/freezer, 2-burner stove, Nespresso machine and kettle. The living room has a pallet stove. At the rear of the apartment Cut & Shaved is a terrace / balcony where you can relax in peace with a beautiful panorama over the vineyards.

In the morning in the adjacent bar La Forneria enjoying a delicious cappuccino and a brioche, at noon a fantastic Pranzo and finally until about 8 pm (the bar closes!) an Aperol or a glass of the many quality wines that are available for are so characteristic of this region. There is also a grocery store on the village square.





Option 3 – Borgo Sfogliata – “Casa del Nonno”

For detailed description, availability & prices info: email to Mr. Alberto Morini,

Email: borgosfogliata@gmail.com



Just over a mile from our studio there are some beautiful housings available.

Casa del Nonno is a panoramic apartment. It is still in the village, but you to walk. It is a long but easy walk to get to the studios. It has two bedrooms with a double bed: One room in the old times was the small barn of the house. A pretty and cool cellar with vaults is now an original bedroom. A large living room with a modern kitchen and a sofa bed looks to the valley with a panoramic terrace. Air conditioning, laundry room with a small toilet and everything you need for your stay, including Internet.

Option 4 - Borgo Sfogliata: “La Stalla”

For detailed description, availability & prices info: email to Mr. Alberto Morini,

Email: borgosfogliata@gmail.com



In the same building but with a separate entrance, there is another private bedroom, very panoramic room with complete private bathroom (shower), air conditioning, Internet & linen. The kitchen in use for this room is in the adjacent house.

Borgo Sfogliata has a swimming pool. It belongs to the owners but it is available for the students who decide to rent the rooms there.

Other possible accommodations in the village are available, but at moment, they are WITHOUT air conditioning

Option 5 - "La Forneria Mornico"

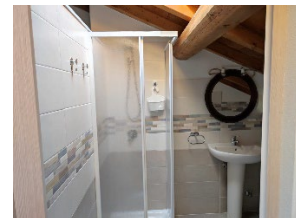


Mini apartment in "La Forneria Mornico" (A)

50 Euro per person/night (one person)

www.laforneriamornico.it - laforneriamornico@gmail.com

Situated only 100 meters from the studio, the Forneria Mornico, as well as the sale of bread and products of various kinds, offers a comfortable apartment consisting of a double bedroom (one queen bed), a spacious equipped kitchen, small bathroom and living room with a large balcony overlooking the panorama and the castle of Mornico. This apartment is suited for one student or for a couple (request quote). It is on the very top floor, with very steep steps from the previous floor landing. There is no actual door for the entrance of the apartment, just a trap door that opens up into the apartment. No washing machines. Last year they did not have air-conditioning, but they tell me recently they are setting it for summer 2024. Ask the owners. There is a fan in each room. Internet is available from the city hall.





Bed & Breakfast “La Forneria Mornico” (B)

35 Euro per person/night (one person)

www.laforneriamornico.it - laforneriamornico@gmail.com

Situated only 100 meters from the studio, the Forneria Mornico, as well as the sale of bread and products of various kinds, offers a comfortable room consisting of a double bedroom (one queen bed) with small private bathroom. Breakfast is included at the bar on the main floor. This apartment is suited for one student or for a couple (request quote). No washing machines. Last year they did not have air-conditioning, but they tell me recently they are setting it for summer 2023. Ask the owners. There is a fan in each room. Internet is available from the city hall.

Option 6: Gli Acini B&B, Pietra de Giorgi, PV in Antonio della Bianca Winery

email: azienda@antoniodelabianca.it - www.antoniodelabianca.it



Dellabianca’s farm is situated in the commune of Pietra dè Giorgi on the central hills of Oltrepo’ Pavese in the village of Pietra de Giorgi, only 3 kilometers far of my studio, it is a nice B&B with restaurant that belongs to a winery called Antonio DellaBianca. They have nice comfortable rooms. Recently restored, the place is very panoramic, and the hosts are nice people. Excellent wines, good food. Rooms are well insulated, no air conditioning but fans in each room.

You will need a car if you want your independence, **but** we can offer a transport service to and from the B&B during the course if you decide not to rent a car, as it is only 7 minutes away from our studio. For all details and prices info:

In Booking.com, www.tripadvisor.it and other websites for accommodations, look for B&B Gli Acini, Pietra de Giorgi

Option 7: 700 Enolocanda, Costello di Santa Giuletta, PV

Castello di Santa Giuletta,PV

www.700enolocanda.it



700Enolocanda has 5 ensuite rooms, 3 on first floor and 2 in a beautiful loft with exposed beams. The rooms are furnished in every detail and offer every comfort.

Other Options

There are many other accommodation possibilities in the area, in the surrounding area, here the list of those that we recommended because we know the quality; also they are the most suitable for the distance from our studios. Please, before booking any accommodation out of Mornico Losana, be careful and check the real distance from our studios. Many accommodations you can find in the web are really too far even if they appear after your request for Mornico Losana. If you book in some place that is not in our list, please, book with the

possibility to cancel in the case we discover that the house is too far of here. We are in countryside, the distances become longer if you have to drive in narrow curvy streets....

The food in Mornico Losana

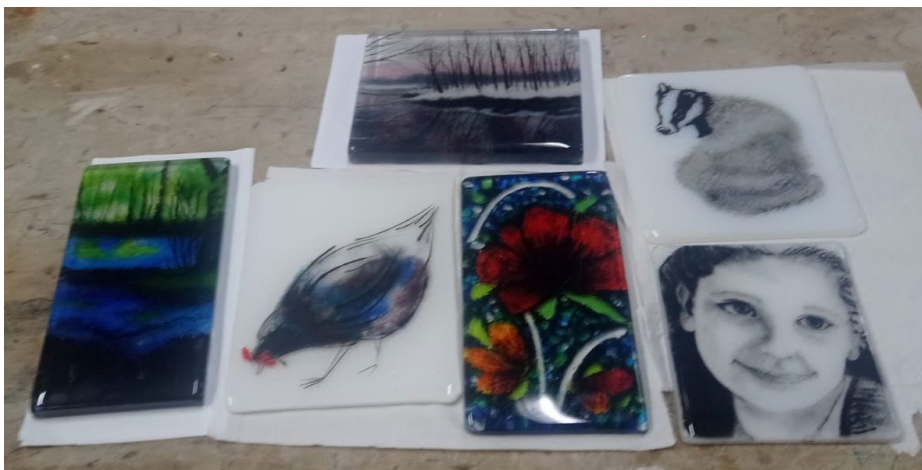


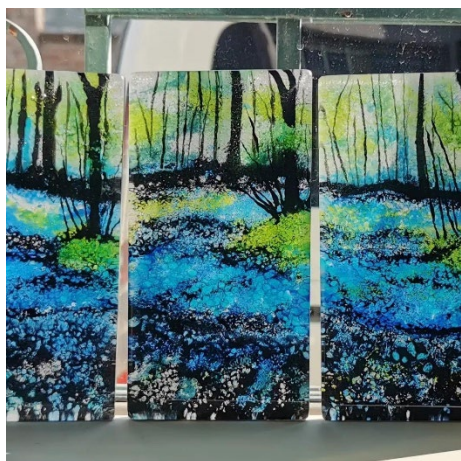
We receive our students with a **free "Welcome Breakfast"** for the first day of class. All mid-day lunches for the class period are free. From Tuesday to Sunday, we will have our lunches cooked by Hanna at La Forneria Mornico, which is just down the street from the studio. Hanna offers two possible first courses and two possible second courses, tasty Mornico area wines and desserts. On Mondays we would go somewhere else for lunch since La Forneria is closed on Mondays. Picnics with delicious and **authentic local food** are planned during our excursions in the area. We organize two free dinners for our students: a **"Pizza Night"** to test the best pizza in the area and a **"Goodbye Dinner"** on the last evening.



There are two **mini-markets in the village**: one is open only mornings from Tuesday to Sunday 9 to 12:30. The other one, La Forneria, is open all day from 8:30 to 7:30 PM; both sell fresh bread and everything all basic essentials, except fresh meat or fish. They also sell frozen products. We organize a couple of free trips to the nearby big supermarket for shopping and we also usually stop at the supermarket when we pick students up at the rail station in Voghera or the airport, before we get to Mornico Losana. An extra transportation service is always available to get to the nearest city, the commercial area, or Rail Station. The transportation fee for this service is 15 Euro per car. Mornico has one Bar with good coffee and cappuccino and excellent homemade cookies and cakes. It is open from Tuesday to Sunday. There are also two restaurants open during the weekend previous reservation. Prices for a full dinner vary from 25 to 35 Euros per person.

THE GLASS PROJECTS:





THE COOKING LESSONS:





THE STUDIO / ACCOMODATION & VILLAGE OF MORNICO LOSANA:



THE EXCURSIONS:







