

PAINTING IN ANDALUCÍA & MOROCCO WITH ELEANOR WHITE

17 – 25 MAY 2013

This part of Andalucía and Northern Morocco is simply beautiful with mountainous, pastoral and wooded scenery interspersed with white villages chiselled in to the hillside and exquisite little farmhouses readymade for the artists' paintbrush.

We base ourselves at **Almuña**, the home of Jane and Hugh Arbuthnott. Set in farmland at 1200 feet with a wondrous vista stretching deep in to North Africa. This is a perfect place to paint. The house has 7 bedrooms all with en suite bathrooms and lovely views. There is a large garden with quiet corners and an unobtrusive swimming pool. Everyone eats at Almuña where Jane looks after you and not only likes you to eat well but experience food that is home cooked, using fresh home grown and totally organic ingredients together with some outstanding Spanish wines.

In the middle of the week we take you across the sea 14 miles to the Spanish enclave of Ceuta and then drive about 2 hours to **Chefchaouen**, one of the loveliest and historic little towns in Morocco. We spend three nights staying at a Riad called Casa Hassan set in a warren of tiny cobbled streets bustling with activity. The town prospered with the arrival of Muslim refugees from Spain in the 16<sup>th</sup> century who whitewashed their houses with indigo creating an extraordinary blue effect. Along with its castellated Medina and minaret this is a magical place to paint.



**Eleanor White** runs Bridge House Art - [www.bridgehouseart.co.uk](http://www.bridgehouseart.co.uk) - a small art school in Ullapool, northwest Scotland, established in 1995. She began her teaching practice at the Edinburgh Academy and The Leith School of Art. Eleanor teaches by demonstration and by slide talks suggesting themes for the day and exploring all aspects of mixed media. The slide talks are short and informal, introducing students to new artists and methods that will help their working practice as we look afresh at the dramatic landscape around Almuña. Students will be encouraged to work at their own pace with their choice of materials, encouragement will also be given to students who would like the opportunity to 'branch out' and explore and experiment with new media in a supportive and relaxed atmosphere. At the centre of the teaching is a love for art and nature and the belief that all can learn to express their visual potential more fully be they a beginner or an experienced artist.

**The teaching day** is normally from 9.30am-1.30pm. Afternoons can be used to complete the morning's work with some time off to relax before an evening slide talk. Slide talks will set the scene for the next day's work and painters and non-painters alike can enjoy the talks over a glass of wine before dinner. The painting locations will vary from the area around Almuña and further a field with a picnic lunch. You should expect warm clear weather but should it be inclement we can develop work from initial sketches in the comfort of the conservatory.

**€ 2,195 per person sharing      Single supplement € 350      Excludes airfare**

The rates are per person and include 8 nights board and lodging at Almuña, all meals, quality wine with lunch and dinner and all drinks before and after lunch and dinner. Also included is the painting and instruction, transport throughout the week on excursions and entrance fees as specified. Payment may also be paid in Pounds Sterling.

The price does not include airfares, insurance and staff gratuities.

NOTE: Subject to change according to local conditions. All distances shown are approximate

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THE PROGRAMME

We would like to make this an equal **holiday for non-painters**. Almuña is a glorious place to find peace and quietness in some of the most beautiful country imaginable. On the farm there is tennis, riding and some lovely walks. 45 minutes drive from Almuña there are excellent golf courses. In addition to painting we have devised the following programme of activities that are open to all to participate in as they wish

- Day 1 Fly to Málaga where you will be met and driven to Almuña.
- Day 2 *Painters:* Paint in and around Almuña  
*Non Painters:* Visit the local village of Gaucín and the castle.  
*Golfers:* Driven to play at one of the courses near Sotogrande
- Day 3 *Painters:* Paint in and around Almuña  
*Non Painters:* Walk from Gaucín to Almuña for a late lunch is about 8 miles (or 4 mile option) through oak woods and high "matoral". The views throughout are indescribably beautiful.  
Afternoon option for a 1½ hour farm walk
- Day 4 We drive about 45 minutes to Algeciras to catch the fast ferry to Ceuta, a voyage of about 30 minutes. We cross the frontier in to Morocco and drive about 2 hours to Chefchaouen arriving at lunch time.  
*All:* p.m. Conducted tour of Chefchaouen  
Overnight: Casa Hassan, Chefchaouen
- Day 5 *Painters:* Around Chefchaouen  
*Non Painters:* Local walking expedition.  
Overnight: Chefchaouen
- Day 6 *Painters:* Around Chefchaouen  
*Non Painters:* Local walking expedition.  
Overnight: Chefchaouen
- Day 7 Depart early for Ceuta and return to Almuña for late lunch  
*Painters:* p.m. Paint in and around Almuña  
Overnight: Almuña.
- Day 8 *Painters:* Paint in and around Almuña  
*Non Painters:* Walking or sightseeing expedition  
*Golfers:* Driven to play at one of the courses near Sotogrande  
Overnight: Almuña.
- Day 9 Return home

