

Auchencairn House Residential Painting Course

Techniques of Painting in Watercolour
Thursday 30th May – Monday 3rd June 2019
Tutor: Philippa Sinclair



Auchencairn House is situated on the Solway Firth in South West Scotland. Sheltered from the sea blown weather by mature gardens of spectacular rhododendrons, the house is a striking meeting of late Victorian and Georgian architecture and is the family home of Sue and Piet Gilroy who are offering to host a three day and four night residential watercolour painting course tutored by well known local artist Philippa Sinclair. Philippa's grasp of the challenges of painting in watercolour is evident in her work and she is skilled in tutoring beginners and beyond.

Dumfries and Galloway, home to 'Artists Town' Kirkcudbright is renowned for inspiring artists present and past, and once acquainted with the areas craggy hills, distinctive rocky coastline and stunning sea views, which have featured in the work of so many artists, including 'Glasgow boy' Hornel, Oppenheimer, and John Halliday, it is easy to see why.

This is an opportunity for artists of all levels, no prior experience being necessary, to learn and experiment with water colour techniques using a variety of subject matter whilst enjoying a weekend away from it all in stunning surroundings with a high focus on excellent local

cuisine. Non-painting partners or friends are also very welcome, with the surrounding area offering a huge range of walking, cycling, sailing, fishing, and golf, or simply a chance to put up the feet and read a good book.

Painting course participants are asked to bring their own equipment, a list of the minimum requirements is provided on booking by Philippa. It is advised that equipment is purchased prior to arrival, but for any extra things, there is a good art supply shop in Castle Douglas.



Piet Gilroy amongst the rhododendrons



Hestan Island, by Philippa Sinclair

While the focus of the weekend is art tuition, equal emphasis is placed upon really high quality food, with the weekend being fully catered with cooked breakfasts, al fresco lunches (weather permitting,) a tempting array of home made cakes for tea, and three course dinners each night, using either home or locally grown or caught produce. Some of the teaching will take place in the walled gardens from where the majority of fruit vegetables eaten over the weekend will come. The sea and shore as well as the pond offer opportunities to paint en plein air weather permitting. Other inspiration may also be found from the free-range chickens and guinea fowls, horses, ponies and dogs, which roam the surrounding grounds.



Hestan Island, from the cliffs at Balcarry Point

A once in a lifetime opportunity is also available to those guests who enjoy a good walk brightened by some novelty. The Gilroy's graze sheep on Hestan Island, which is situated a mile from shore in front of the house. The sheep need to be bought home for shearing on one of the evenings over the course of the weekend, tide and weather depending, and this is a unique chance to visit the island, which has featured in so much of Philippa's work, with the Gilroy's as first class local guides.



Piet & Sue Gilroy taking the sheep to Hestan island

Whilst there, guests can help to gather the sheep, do some foraging, or simply take in the breath taking views, before heading home for a well earned bath and dinner.

Dogs:

It is worth pointing out that a great many who enjoy the outdoors also enjoy the company of a four legged friend, and if guests would like to bring their dogs, they would be most welcome, and while kennels are not available, dogs can sleep in guests rooms or in vehicles.

Location:

Auchencairn House is located 1.5 miles outside the village of Auchencairn, and Dumfries with the nearest local train station is approx. 23 miles away. Trains also come to Lockerbie, which is approx. 35 miles away. Taxis can be ordered or pick up arranged prior. Edinburgh and Glasgow Airports are both approx. 2 hours away by car.

Auchencairn House
Auchencairn
Castle Douglas
Kirkcudbrightshire
DH7 1QZ
Scotland

What's included in the price:

The fee includes three days and four nights with six hours per day of art tuition, it also includes bed, breakfast, lunch, dinner and unlimited tea and coffee on each day for the duration of the course. Different rates are detailed below. This fee also includes the guided tour to Hestan Island for those who wish to attend. Activities such as fishing and golf will be by separate arrangement and will be at additional cost.

What you should bring:

- Art Equipment (detail TBC)
- Wellies or good outdoor shoes
- Coats
- Swimwear/towel

Dates:

Thursday 30th May – Monday 3rd June 2019

How to Book:

Please call Poppy Baggott
07901 753 305
poppybaggott@gmail.com

or call Sue Gilroy
01556 640 202

Prices:

Prices are per person	4 nights
Single Occupancy Room	£745
Double/Twin – 2 Painters sharing	£695
Double/Twin - Non-Painter Sharing	£545