



2nd INTERNATIONAL
TRAVEL ART RETREAT

2026 FRENCH
RIVIERA



Charming old towns



Local Food & Drink - It's French!



Medieval villages



Perfumerie visit



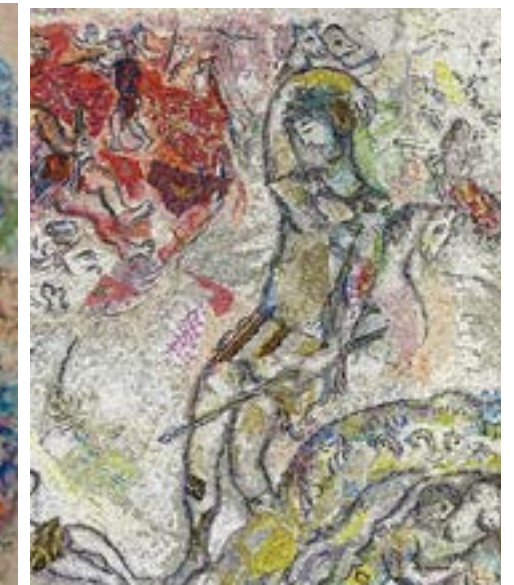
Mediterranean Beaches



PLACES YOU CAN VISIT ON THE RIVIERA



VISIT THE PLAYGROUND OF THE MASTERS



Musée Nationaux Chagall in Nice.



Musée Picasso, Antibes

The French Riviera or Cote d'Azur has been the source of inspiration for some of the best artists in the world. It became a popular idea among the impressionists of the late 19th century to visit the pastoral villages and small towns of the southern coast of France to capture the true realism of life. Far away from the grey, cold weather and the equally supercilious critics of Paris, these artists were basked in the warm, bright southern towns where they could really make their paintings sing with colour!

The impressionists became the most influential group of artists in history, after the renaissance painters, paving the way for the evolution of modern art, contemporary design & the collective aesthetic fields we enjoy today. You can walk in the footsteps of Picasso, Renoir, Matisse and Van Gogh, taking in the serene beauty of the Mediterranean landscape. A Travel Art Retreat on the Riviera is a dream for every artist.

You will have the pleasure of visiting museums of 3 of the most influential artists of the 19th & 20th centuries: Musée Picasso in Antibes, and Musée Nationaux Chagall & Musée Matisse in Nice.



Musée Matisse in Nice.



HERE'S A LOOK AT YOUR STAY

Welcome to Massif de l'Esterel - the unique, volcanic red mountainscapes characteristic of the region. Just a few miles north of the beautiful coast is a thick forest in the midst of which you will find our little villa.

You will stay at this private cottage, away from the bustle of the city, overlooking the Mediterranean in the far distance; perfectly placed within a serene gated park with private access to forest walks, cycling, hiking and even swimming in the secluded lake. All in the lap of rejuvenating tranquility.



COZY & COMFORTABLE



AMENITIES

- 1. Breakfast included
- 2. Wifi
- 3. Swimming pool
- 4. Heating
- 5. Air conditioning (*in some rooms*)

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- 1. A walk in the adjoining forest
- 2. Swim in a private lake
- 3. Quiet beach



WELCOME TO Mas De L'Estrele

Located in the midst of the Estérel mountain range our venue is a modest bed and breakfast ideally situated for those who seek a rejuvenating getaway. Whether you visit alone, as a couple or with a group of friends we offer you the space to catch your breath and spend quality time in a peaceful environment.

The famous Cote d’Azur region of France stretches all the way from the border with Italy in the east to the rock formations of Massif de l’Estérel in the west. This coastline has been a favourite getaway since the 18th century for wealthy Europeans. The quiet, pastoral life of the coast also attracted some of the most influential artists of the modern era - immortalising the region on canvas !

DISTANCES TO IMPORTANT DESTINATIONS FROM Parc Résidentiel de l’Estérel

Grasse	36 km
Gourdon	47 km
St. Paul de Vence	43 km
Antibes	35km
Nice Airport	40km

RETREAT DATES:

May 27th to June 2nd, 2026

6N/7D

TRIP DETAILS *:

- DAY 1 - **May 27th** - Land at Nice airport and arrive at the Villa
- DAY 2 - **May 28th** - Visit to GRASSE - a centre of the perfume industry in France. Then onto GOURDON - a medieval village that is a member of the prestigious Les Plus Beaux Villages de France Association ; followed by Lunch at Gourdon.
- DAY 3 - **May 29th** - ANTIBES - we start with a visit to the bustling produce market right in the middle of the old city. This will be followed by a visit to the Picasso museum - Chateau Grimaldi, the 14th century chateau, was rented by Picasso in 1946 where he made many of his world-famous paintings and sculptures. Subsequently it has been converted to house the Picasso museum since 1966. The rest of the day will be spent in Antibes exploring its ancient lanes and cobbled pathways.
- DAY 4 - **May 30th** - Visit to a local VINEYARD - A visit to the South of France must include a vineyard! This region is best known for it's crisp Rosés.
- DAY 5 - **May 31st** - ST. PAUL DE VENCE & NICE- St. Paul is famous for being an artist's hot spot including Marc Chagall, Matisse and Modigliani. Others like Picasso, Alexander Calder, Renoir and Georges Braque, were regular visitors to this beautiful medieval village. Later in Nice we can visit the museums of artist Marc Chagall & Henri Matisse.

Day 6 - **June 1st** - A quiet time at the residence Cottage to reflect and complete our travel journals. On this day if participants would like to enjoy a forest walk or a swim, we will have some free time to wind down.

Day 7 - **June 2nd** - Check out from Villa and return to Nice airport.

** PLEASE NOTE: The above itinerary is subject to change closer to the date. We might change the dates or certain specific visits/locations according to booking availability.*



We have 6 available slots to choose from:

1. Room option A - € 2,300
FEATURES:
Single Occupancy
Room with a view, and attached bath & French toilet.
2. Room Option B: € 2,240
FEATURES:
Single Occupancy
Room with a view, and attached bath & shared toilet.
3. Room Option C: € 2,030
FEATURES:
Double Occupancy
Room with twin beds, attached bath & in-room toilet with privacy screen.
4. Room Option D: € 1,970
FEATURES:
Double Occupancy
Room with twin beds, attached bath & shared toilet.

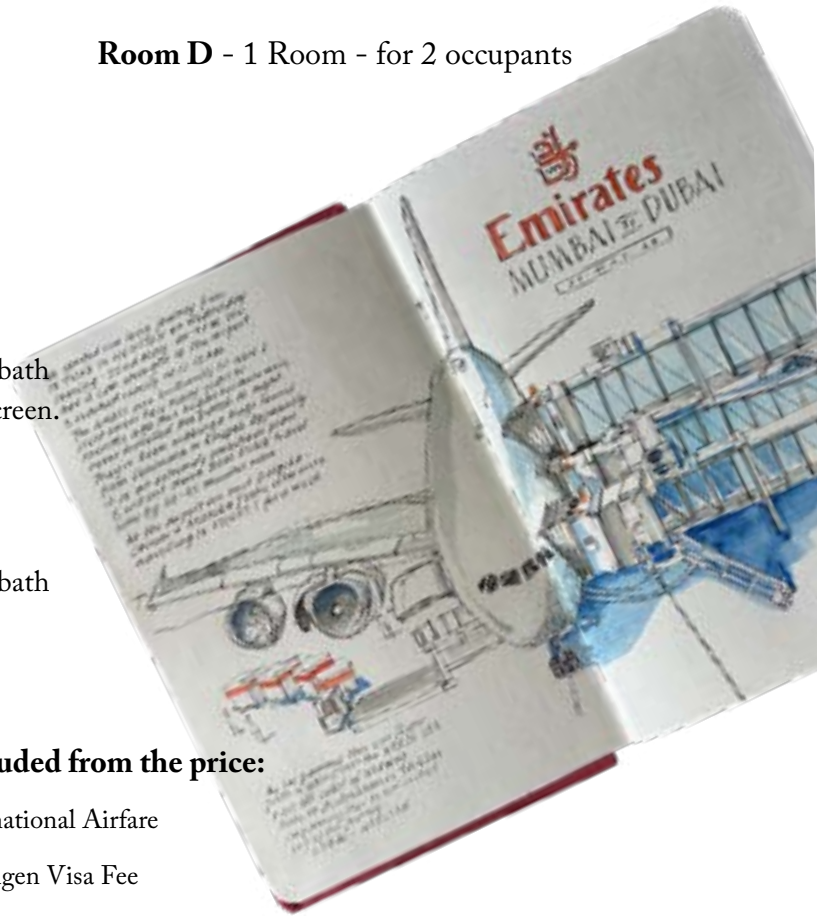
Included in the price:

- Single or Twin sharing accommodation as specified in program
- Use of common kitchen facilities
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner as per itinerary
- Some sightseeing and entrance fees as per itinerary
- Local transport/ car rentals & driver costs
- Airport Transfers (group transfers only)



Rooms available:

- Room A - 1 Room - for 1 occupant
- Room B - 1 Room - for 1 occupant
- Room C - 1 Room - for 2 occupants
- Room D - 1 Room - for 2 occupants



Excluded from the price:

- International Airfare
- Schengen Visa Fee
- Porter fees in Hotels and Airports
- Meals and all other services which are not mentioned in the aforementioned itinerary.
- Any kind of personal expenses or optional tours, extra meals and beverages ordered, laundry, phone calls and medical expenses
- Additional transfer required due to any emergency situation or arriving by flight that does not match with the majority of the group
- Any expenses caused by reasons beyond our control such as road blocks, accidents & any medical evacuations. Any train delays, or re-scheduling etc.
- Individual Airport Transfer
- Any service not mentioned in Inclusions

THE DOODLE FACTORY ART CLASSES & ART RETREATS

Our online and in-person art classes are designed to bring art to people of all ages and levels of proficiency. It is a commonly held belief that Art is an in-born talent. But we believe that art can be learned by anyone, at any age and for many purposes. Making art brings you joy, reduces stress and increases your feeling of well being in life.

In our classes we help you learn all aspects of art - basic skills in painting and drawing, urban sketching, still life, design, composition and much more, making you a versatile & confident artist. We choose a variety of themes to keep you interested in the classes while continuously honing your skills.

The art classes are well suited for beginners as well as advanced students, aged 15 and up. The weekly 90-minute class helps you to practice your art daily with consistency. We have a very flexible time table, with classes available at all times through the week. This system is most well suited for the busy schedules of most adults helping them stay consistent. Our student profile has always been delightfully varied - doctors, engineers, chartered accountants, home-makers, teachers, professors - all with one common factor among them - the love of Art!

*A TRAVEL ART JOURNAL
IS A CHRONICLE OF YOUR LIFE
THROUGH YOUR VOYAGES.*

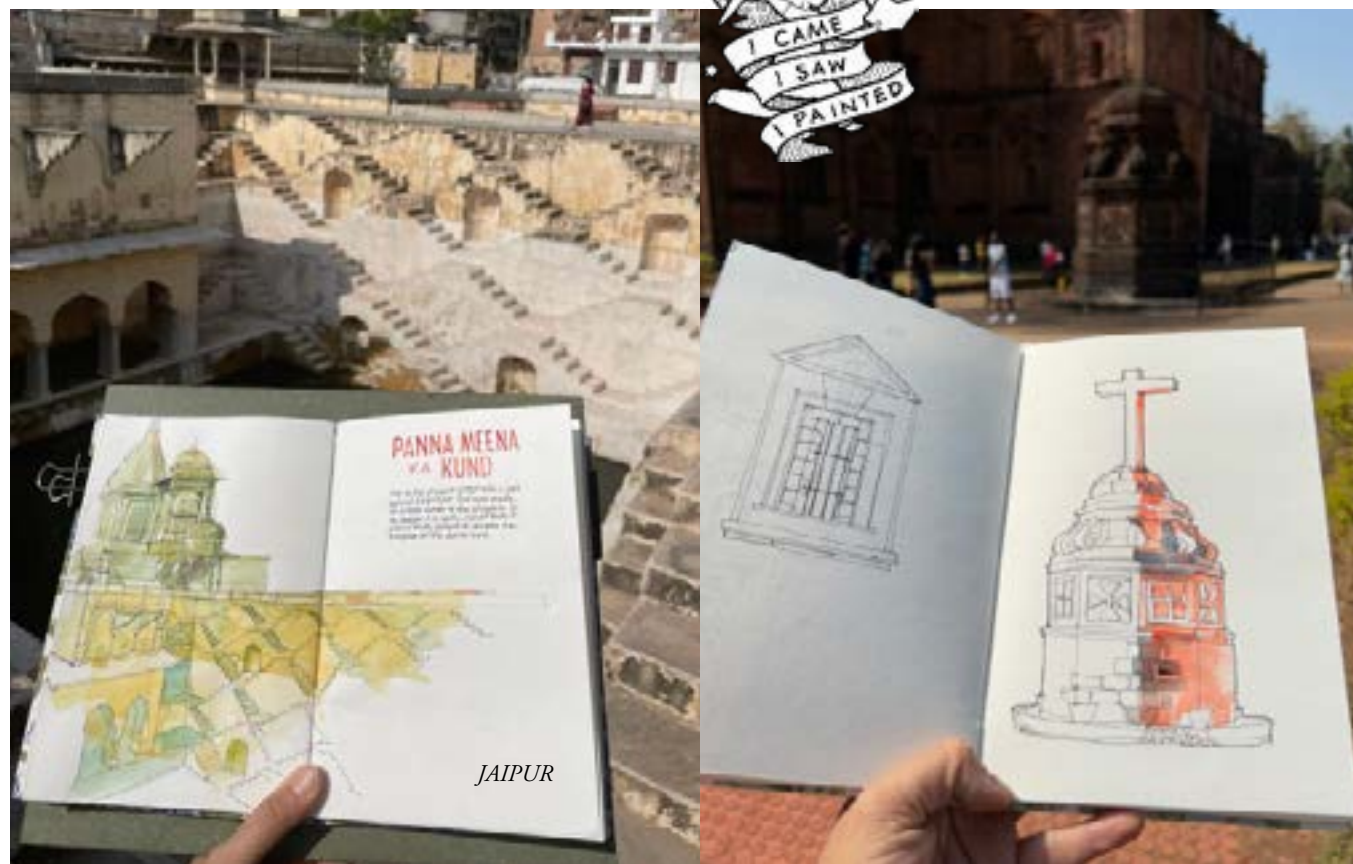
A few times a year we bring our students and teacher together to meet in person to help the students learn art in an intimate setting. These are the ***Doodle Factory Art Retreats***. These have been a regular feature for members of our Art for Adults classes since 2018, and a unique offering from The Doodle Factory, unlike regular art classes. During the retreat we choose the theme of ***Travel Art Journaling***, which is an excellent topic to test out your skills in everything you will have learned during class. But this time, since the teacher travels with you, you will have the opportunity to interact closely to help boost your practice by leaps and bounds within a week.

In the past 7 years we have had Travel Art Retreats in Goa (2018, 2019 & 2022), Mahabaleshwar and Jaipur (2024) in India, and also an international art retreat on the French Riviera (2025).



TDF Art Retreat 2025 - Cote d'Azur:
Nice, Cannes, Grasse, Gourdon, Antibes,
St. Paul de Vence.





Travel art journaling is a less-known practice in India and indeed across the world as well. Simply put a travel art journal documents your travels through pictures, collages, ephemera as well as words.

We were all born into an age of photography and today we all carry our photo documentation equipments virtually attached to our hands.

The true value of travel, however, is to embed your experiences into core memories. And this is possible when you take the time & make the effort to truly engage with all you see, feel, hear & touch.

Our Travel Art Retreats are meant for exactly this - making illustrations of our whole trip to bring back our memories in the form of pictures made ourselves.



On our art retreats we use every opportunity to make Art - be it restaurants, clubs, beaches or poolside. If we can find it, we also try our hand at local crafts - like our visit to Khanoom for a workshop in ceramic painting in Jaipur, or our visit to R's paper factory in Goa, to make our own hand



made paper. Added to this we visit local art museums and galleries to learn more about local artists & art styles. The idea is to pack the itinerary with many sessions of intense art to make sure that your time is truly fulfilling.





JAIPUR

*Everywhere you go...
always take the journal with you!*



GOA



GOA



GOA

MAHABALESHWAR



*Airport to Airport, make Art! That's our motto.
We start filling our travel journals as soon as we
check in our luggage and continue to sketch on
the retreat till we arrive at our home cities.*



GOA

Every place you travel to has something to offer, and no travel is complete without savouring the food, participating in local activities, events and witnessing unique customs of your destination. And on our retreats we document these experiences through illustrations in our travel journals. Travel journals are more than sketchbooks. They are sensory chronicles of your cherished memories. The travelogues of ancient travel writers even today serve as a fascinating account of life seen by them on their voyages; giving us insightful perspective of the places & people they visit from their point of view.



MAHABALESHWAR



GOA



GOA



GOA

HERE IS WHAT PREVIOUS PARTICIPANTS HAVE TO SAY
ABOUT OUR RETREAT...



Jai Sonwalkar (THANE) has a masters in Biodiversity. This was her first retreat. Jai is an avid traveler and so she found Travel Art Journaling a wonderful tool to make her trips memorable.



Participants of the 1st Mahabaleshwar Art Retreat in 2024 - L to R - Mruga, Jai, Ritika & Chris (Sharda, not in picture)



"The art retreat at Mahabaleshwar was a first for me—and what an experience! Being with like-minded art lovers in the gorgeous Mahabaleshwar Club setting, with perfect weather and flowers all around, felt magical. And with Aditi guiding us to see beauty in our surroundings and translate it into art... just priceless! The artist in you will enjoy this experience a lot. I highly recommend!"

- Mruga Kirloskar, PUNE



These are Ritika Bhateja's (DELHI) illustrations from the Mahabaleshwar Art Retreat in 2024. Since 2019, this is Ritika's 2nd retreat with us, and she will go on to attend 2 more retreats consecutively after this - Jaipur in 2024 & South of France in 2025. You can read her testimonials in the next pages.



MAHABALESHWAR
February 2024

"Aditi's Retreat to Mahabaleshwar was a great self-confidence building exercise and a lot of fun too. Taught Patience & Endurance too!"

- Chris Dias, PUNE

TESTIMONIALS



"A rare immersive opportunity to be with people who share similar yet very unique interests. Every retreat touches you in different ways. An opportunity to connect with my deeper self & feed my SOUL. To learn how to capture memories on paper as you see and experience them, an exhilarating outlet for my creative instincts. So much to learn..."

- Ritu Menon, JAIPUR



Participants of the 1st Jaipur Art Retreat by The Doodle Factory, in 2024 - L to R - Ritika, Ritu, Aditi, Aashika, Varsha (FRONT), Mallika (BACK).

JAIPUR November 2024

An "Art retreat with Aditi ma'am is a zen experience where for 5 days everything is revolving around art and creativity. Jaipur had very detailed and complex architecture but she made it so simple to capture them into our journals as memories. The whole art retreat is very well organised with amazing art demos, visiting museums & palaces, experiencing local food and culture, in a perfect way through illustrations in our journals".

- Ritika Bhateja, DELHI



"This retreat helped me tackle complex architecture and designs with ease. I ended up gaining a lot of confidence to sketch on the go!"

- Aashika, PUNE



"Jaipur trip with Aditi and the art group was full of creativity, laughter, and soulful conversations—leaving me inspired, refreshed, and eager to create more art. I returned home with illustrated memories to treasure."

- Varsha, HYDERABAD



"Jaipur and its vibrancy is the perfect canvas to learn how to see as an illustrator. The trip for me, as someone new to illustration, was just that. A place comes alive in a different way. To observe your teacher translate complex step well architecture, a chaotic flower market or glorious palace doorways into art is an experience!"

- Mallika Hiremath, PUNE

SOME MORE FEEDBACK ON THE RETREAT

"The art retreat in France was an incredibly rewarding experience. Apart from the external experiences of places visited, where we stayed etc, which were great, it helped me connect with art and start drawing after almost a year again."

- Irika Bhisey, PUNE

"I took a creative break at an art retreat on the French Riviera, and it turned out to be both therapeutic and inspiring.

Guided by Aditi, who made art feel fun and approachable, I rediscovered the joy of slowing down, seeing differently, and creating freely. The friendships, laughter, and stunning surroundings made it an unforgettable, soulful experience I'll always treasure."

- Rena Agrawal, CHICAGO

"The art retreat in France was truly a fantastic experience for me. An oxymoronic trip in the sense that it was stimulating and calming at the same time. Everything around you is so beautiful and picture perfect that it sends your senses on an over drive but when you sit down to journal those scenes in your sketchbook, it is therapeutic.

I would never miss another such opportunity to explore a different culture and place as vibrant as France."

- Amulya Adusumilli, HYDERABAD



Participants of the 1st International Art Retreat from The Doodle Factory, to the South of France in 2025 - L to R Back: Irikaa, Shivani, Amulya; L to R Seated: Tarini, Rena & Ritika

SOUTH of FRANCE June 2025

"The international art retreat to France was an experience of a lifetime for me, giving me exposure to the amazing French culture which we all got to live in those 5 days staying in a small French town.

France really pampered us with amazing food - especially the cheeses, the architecture and sunsets.

I got great insights in art journaling yet again; and a application, in real life, of all the subjects that we have practiced in our online classes - the illustration of food, people, stone buildings and more, was very rewarding.

Returning home after every art retreat boosts my confidence each time. I am delighted to discover, yet again, how easy it can be to document your life's memories through these art journals."

- Ritika Bhateja, DELHI



"Origins of Art in Europe! History and Art teachings from Aditi!"

Amazing location, food, wine and people! The South of France Art retreat WAS the perfect trip and I am glad I made this journey.

My life has been enriched in so many ways and I can't wait to do it again with Aditi and my art friends!"

- Shivani Desai, MALAYSIA

"It is so great to travel with a like-minded art focused group! Fabulously arranged Art Retreat by Aditi - The Doodle Factory!"

I had my best learning in the week spent together. Got some great insights and confidence into creating an Art Journal and I was so happy with how lovely my entire Travel Journal turned out!"

- Tarini Shirgaokar, KOLHAPUR



Can't draw? No worries!
Never painted? No problem!

Do you *want* to make Art?
That's all you need!



Let art become an integral part of your life. Contrary to popular belief, making Art does not really require talent, or fancy equipment, or years and years of formal education. Take it from me! I am a self-taught artist and I have been a professional artist for 30 years! All you need to learn Art is Patience, Perseverance and the ability to laugh at your efforts.

In the Doodle Factory's Art-for-Adults program we teach our students a variety of subjects, many styles in art and design & a good variety of mediums to become comfortable & confident to make original art. Other than this we always have lively discussions on the History and Philosophy of Art, the lives and inspirations of renowned artists from earlier years and many practical projects like envelope and postcard exchanges to give you an opportunity to practice all that you learn.

We have a special batch once a week for **Travel Art Journaling**. That way when you choose to join our Travel Art Retreats you feel well enough equipped in drawing and painting skills to take on the challenge of making art while on the move.

Join the hundreds of students of the Doodle Factory who have found tremendous enrichment in their lives with our lively, weekly sessions.

To learn more about our weekly classes, you can connect with ADITI directly on 9823266511 through Whatsapp.

Follow us in Instagram: @the_doodle_factory



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