

# Celebration of Color

## Community Project Mosaic Workshop and Tour in Provence, JULY 2020

Art and Inspiration in the South of France with  
Laurel True and Valerie Nicoladze  
Personal and community project

**July 4 - 12, 2020**

8 nights — Arrival day July 4/ Departure day July 12

*Contribute to a community-based project and explore personal studio time while immersing yourself in the beauty of Provence!*

Join mosaic artists Laurel True and Valerie Nicoladzé at Valérie's Esprit Mosaïque Studio near Avignon, France to explore and celebrate your creative spirit through mosaic art. This carefully curated experience will combine hands-on studio time, insider sightseeing, experiential learning, amazing food and wine, visits to local markets, an invitation to an intimate garden soirée and wine tasting and a walk through the countryside when the lavender is in bloom. The week ends with a picnic in the lavender fields.

Participants will enjoy time to create together in an inspiring studio environment with Valerie and Laurel, a dynamic teaching team with the shared philosophy that creative expression is accessible to all.

Esprit Mosaïque Studio (celebrating its 10 year anniversary in 2020!) is full of inspiration and color, offering a welcoming place to learn, create and spend time in community with other mosaic enthusiasts. The studio is stocked full of beautiful, unique materials from around the world for students to use in a personal project to take home. A selection of bases in various shapes and sizes will be provided along with guidance and design prompts for getting started. \*

Laurel and Valérie will share their over 40 years of combined experience with students, offering lessons focusing on various techniques including precision cutting and setting techniques for glass and ceramic.

Lessons offered will include:

- Use of mosaic tools including lesser-known European tools
- Combining different materials and texture effectively
- Mosaic setting with glass, ceramic and mixed media
- Special cuts for mirror and glass for exciting visual effects
- Color combining and design direction
- Grouting with tinted grout
- Additional lessons addressing permanent and community-based mosaic projects (see below).

Each student will work on a personal project according to their experience level with one-on-one guidance. Projects will focus on exploring light, color and texture through the use of diverse materials.

No mosaic experience necessary...students of all levels are welcome!

\*Students can easily fit their completed mosaics pieces into their suitcases for return home. The July session will include hands-on participation in a group project that will be donated to a local community group. Instructors Laurel and Valerie have facilitated community-based projects around the world and will present various approaches for creating and installing community

projects, as well as vital technical information about best practices for creating permanent work.

Students of any experience level will enjoy the co-creative process as they construct a small mural piece with Laurel and Valerie for future installation, leaving their mark in Provence!

#### More Specifics:

Workshop participants stay at Hotel de l'Atelier, a quaint well-appointed hotel in Villeneuve les Avignon, a short ride from the studio. Students have been well taken care of for 7 years running by Hotel de l'Atelier's amazing staff.

Lunches during the week will be taken together at a great local restaurant walking distance from the studio.

Mosaics studio sessions are scheduled in the mornings and afternoons, with an optional evening session.

Students have most evenings on their own to dine and explore the many restaurants in all price ranges within walking distance in Villeneuve. Avignon, a charming city founded in the Middle Ages, is a short taxi ride away should students want to explore during the evenings.

There is one optional group dinner during the week in Avignon, as well as an evening dinner soirée in the garden hosted by Valerie and her family. This special evening includes a wine tasting of regional and local wines, led by Valerie's husband, Gilles le Fur, a consultant in the world of French wine. Past participants have loved the educational information about wine production and tasting lessons offered in Gilles' easy and humorous style. This special evening includes savory Provençal treats, grilled specialties, a variety of cheeses and special dessert course.

#### The Adventure Continues...

During the week, participants will enjoy a visit to a bustling Provincial market in the village of St. Remy de Provence, where local delicacies, handicrafts, ceramics and Provincial fashion abound. Participants may also choose to visit the Van Gogh Museum in St. Rémy, showcasing work Van Gogh painted of the views around this village.

The week includes an excursion to the unforgettable Carrieres des Lumieres, a unique immersive art exhibit in a former quarry, with a stop in medieval village Les Baux de Provence - which has an incredible view... and violet gelato!

On the final day, *A Celebration of Color Workshop and Tour* will end with a picnic in a lavender field and a visit to the Village of Sault, where small shops offer all things lavender. The beauty of the lavender in bloom is indescribable and will stay with you well after you return home!

*The July 2020 session will be Valerie and Laurel's 9th Celebration of Color Workshop and Tour and we will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of Valerie's Esprit Mosaïque Studio!*

Jump in and join in the creative adventure of a lifetime!

Former participants have said the experience was *"life changing"*, a *"once-in-a-lifetime experience"*, and *"the highlight of their year"* (check out student testimonials below). Friendships are made, adventure abounds and color and warmth are infused in every part of the experience.

Note: Workshop and activities will be in English with French translation as needed.

Cost:

**3025€ /Euros for single room /8 nights**

**2635€ /Euros for double occupancy /8 nights (2 rooms available - 4 spots)**

Your investment includes:

- Mosaic workshop instruction
- Accommodations for 8 nights .

- Breakfast every day, lunch Monday - Saturday
- Evening soirée and wine tasting on Thursday
- Transportation from hotel to and from workshop each day
- All touristic visits to markets and exhibits

Cost does not include flight, taxi to/ from train station to hotel, dinners (except soirée) or personal expenses.

A deposit of 500€ /Euros is due upon registration to hold a spot, remainder of payments can be made one or two installments

Final installment due one month before workshop start date. Late registrations accepted on a space available basis.

Payments can be made via wire transfer or pay pal.

For complete registration information please e-mail Valérie Nicoladzé at: [espritmosaique@free.fr](mailto:espritmosaique@free.fr)

Questions?

Contact Valerie (above) or Laurel @ truemosaiacs dot com

There are 12 spaces available and workshop to fills quickly so register early !

Additional sessions offered in June and October 2020.

Find *A Celebration of Color Workshop and Tour* on Facebook (link), Instagram (link) and Trip Advisor (link)

## Feedback from previous participants:

*"The workshop exceeded my expectations. It was a magical "out of this world" experience."*

— Jihan Mezaina, Dubai, UAE

*"This was a seriously fabulous trip in every aspect, start to finish. I was so impressed with the planning and execution of details, thrilled with the studio, and deeply blessed to spend a week with so many beautiful women and one rocking' guy. Bring it on in 2019!"*

— Pam Pardue Goode, Charlotte, NC

*"Valerie's studio, project and supplies were the stuff of dreams! The accommodations were fantastic and the village we stayed in was like an American fantasy of what Provence could be...the excursions were all fantastic and the opportunity to have a meal at a French home as well as a picnic...I can't even express what precious memories those will remain for me! I mean really, the entire trip was great!"*

— Karen R, Toledo, OH

*"I loved every second..."*

— Mary W, Seattle, WA

*"The special people that I met will forever be in my heart and memories."*

— Susan R, Albany, NY

*"Laurel and Valerie are an amazing teaching team! They each have fantastic personalities and teaching styles. Great class for first timers or more advanced mosaicists. I loved the combination of creative time and exploring Provence time. Every part of this trip was amazing!"*

— Jennifer N, Carlsbad, CA

*"This trip was so much more than only a mosaic workshop. It was a wonderful experience in France that I will remember fondly! I cant think of how any other mosaic workshop could even come close to this. I love the piece I created and it's already on my bedroom wall. Thank you with all my heart!"* — Yolanda G, Southern Californi