

Cheddar Painting Holidays & SAA Free Holiday Competition 2011

Cheddar Painting Holidays & SAA Paint Magazine teamed up for a Holiday Competition with a free holiday provided by Cheddar Painting Holidays. See details of the article below.

PAINTING HOLIDAYS

Fancy a Painting Holiday?

Go on...treat yourself

Are you thinking about booking a painting holiday? There are so many things to think about, hurdles to overcome, that so many of us do just that – think about it – but never actually do it. So, put all those negative thoughts to one side and simply answer the following questions:

- Do you enjoy painting?
- Would you like to improve your painting?
- Would you like to spend several days painting without the interruptions of everyday life?
- Would you like to meet new people who share the same interests as you?

My answer to each of these questions is **YES**... what is yours?

If yours was also yes, then the fun starts now.

Making your choice

In order not to be completely overwhelmed by the choices on offer, try to narrow down some of the options:

- How long a break do you want: a day workshop, a non-residential course, a week's holiday?
- UK or abroad?
- What medium do you want to use?
- Do you have a preference for subject matter?
- Do you favour a particular style – abstraction, realism, photorealism etc.

So, you have decided:

You would like a three day residential course, in the UK, studying traditional landscapes in acrylics



△ Steve Hall demonstrating on Shipham Village Green



△ Tim Fisher during a critique session

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▷ What next?

- Chat to friends and ask for any recommendations.
- Study advertisements in Paint and where possible look up the relevant websites.
- Search the SAA website and the internet for tuition.

If you have a list of tutors you are interested in, look them up on the internet to see when and where they are teaching.

If location is important to you, look at different art holiday centres and schools in your chosen area to see who is teaching when.



And after that?

Get on the phone and have a chat – speak to the artist concerned, or the holiday organiser, to check that they offer what you want and that the course will be suitable for your level of ability and expectations. Ask if they are able to cater for any special requirements you may have in terms of mobility, diet and so on.

Take the plunge and book your stay. Then... start packing!

Win a £40 Home Shop Voucher

Last time we invited you to tell us about your painting holiday experiences – please keep them coming in. If you have been on a painting holiday, course or workshop let us know how it went – along with photos of your stay and your work. If we publish your account in Paint, we'll send you a **£40 voucher**. Send your feedback to paint@saa.co.uk subject 'Painting Holidays', or by post to Head Office.

Win a Painting Holiday

Win a painting holiday in the West Country worth at least £375 Courtesy of Cheddar Painting Holidays and the Cheddar Gallery

1st Prize

A three day all inclusive residential stay on one of Cheddar Gallery's pre-planned holidays

2nd Prize

£100 of art materials from the SAA Home Shop catalogue

3rd Prize

Teaching Art DVD from SAA Home Shop catalogue

This competition is run in conjunction with the Cheddar Painting Holidays prize draw at the Art Materials Live Exhibition at the NEC on 4th-7th November.

How to enter

In not more than 150 words please tell us:

- if you have been on a painting holiday before what do you think you gained most from it, and explain why someone else should go on one
- if you haven't, why not, and why you think you would like to win this holiday

Please send your entry to us marked '**Cheddar Painting Holiday**' by email to paint@saa.co.uk or to **Head Office** to arrive not later than **30th November**. For full details of all the holidays available through Cheddar Painting Holidays please visit their website www.cheddargallery.co.uk or call them on **01934 744188**. Please note that the holiday must be taken by 31st Oct 2011 at the latest and the winning entrant will be invited to write an account of their holiday to be published in a future issue of Paint.



△ Cheddar Gorge in Water colour by Jeremy Ford



△ Cheddar Gorge in Oils by Michael Sanders



△ Hillside Cottage, Cheddar Gorge

Cheddar Painting Holidays have a wonderful 'cast' of artists who tutor their painting holidays on a regular basis, including many regulars featured in Paint: Michael Sanders, Jeremy Ford, Keith Fenwick and Joe Francis Dowden to name but a few. They offer a diverse range of courses to cater for all abilities in a variety of mediums – all in superb locations with lovely accommodation.

"The three ingredients of experienced tutors, beautiful locations and lovely accommodation add up to a truly enjoyable holiday. You will be looked after by the tutors, the hotel staff and of course us, as we believe in making every effort to ensure you have a relaxing time," writes Matthew Clark who has been running this successful company for several years.

Cheddar Gallery really does try to cater for all needs, inviting locals to attend courses on a non-residential basis, and offering courses for two days through to six days, depending on your requirements. They make every effort to ensure their students and tutors are looked after at all times, ensuring all they have to do is enjoy the

whole painting experience. By restricting the number of students to a maximum of 12 everyone gets the attention and tuition that they need.

Cheddar Painting Holidays ran a similar competition last year and this is what the winner had to say:

"As this was my first painting holiday, I was unsure what to expect of it but I was pleasantly surprised. Jeremy Ford was an excellent tutor; patient and ready to explain the seemingly complex methods of watercolour painting. I learnt a lot from him and came away enthused and eager to improve my painting techniques by practising what I learnt on the course. I would certainly consider taking another course."

In addition to holidays in the Cheddar Gorge and Mendip Hills, Cheddar Gallery have introduced some new locations in the West Country and beyond for 2011, in their aim to offer some of the 'Best of the West', to include the Isle of Wight and Lynton and Lynmouth in Exmoor. For full details of all their holidays and locations please visit www.cheddargallery.co.uk

Here are the details of the Holiday that was offered by Cheddar Painting Holidays in Paint Magazine.

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The only proviso for winning the holiday was for the winner to keep a journal, the full details can be seen on Tony Slater's News Sheet, which is a separate sheet but the article produced by the SAA from his journal is as below.

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Of Course You Can!

Following a competition in the November 2010 issue of *Paint*, to win a painting break with Cheddar Painting Holidays we catch up with Norman Brett who won a painting course tutored by Tony Slater

Although the prize was for a three day holiday, Norman chose to extend this to a five day course and brought his wife Ellen who was a non-painter. Norman made everyone chuckle when he arrived, saying 'When the call came through to say that I had won a holiday, I thought it was a joke. I thought that it must be for a time share and that I would be asked to send off £100 which I would never see again!' Having been on several in the past he wasn't at all nervous and made the most of every minute, painting two to three paintings each day. 'I love

to paint in a quick, colourful, loose style that captures the mood of the scene whilst still accurately recording it.'

The Webbington Hotel, which was the base for the holiday was, according to Norman, 'first class with comfortable en-suite rooms and equipped with a spa adjoining the hotel including a stunning swimming pool, gym and sauna.'

'The week was well organised with a variety of venues surrounding the hotel and the world famous Cheddar Gorge where, amongst other things, I painted the lake, bridge and the original Cheddar Cheese shop' adds Norman. 'Matthew and Gill, the owners of Cheddar Painting Holidays were present every day to convoy us to the "Days Scene" and were ever ready to supply easels, boards and chairs – all the bulky things we didn't want to bring or carry around. The party that enrolled consisted of 14 people including non-painting partners, all from different parts of the country and with different abilities, but all with the same aim, to improve our painting and have a happy holiday in a beautiful



setting.' It wasn't all painting, as one night Norman and Ellen taught everyone to play a card game called "in the Ship" which they played every night

as a group after dinner and had lots of laughs!

When asked what he had gained from the course Norman replied; 'you can never stop learning and I certainly picked up many tips from Tony who was always on hand to guide myself and the others. He showed me many things that I hadn't even thought of doing in that way. He was a first class instructor, talented, cheerful and instructive.' To confirm what a brilliant time he had, Norman concludes that 'if you have an inclination towards a painting holiday do not hesitate to contact Cheddar Painting Holiday for excellent instruction, comfort and fun.'



To find out more visit
www.cheddargallery.co.uk or call
01934 744188