

Le Moulin de la Materette

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Courses in South West France - January Update

Woodturning, Painting, Digital Photography

A Six day holiday with 5 half days of expert tuition. Plenty of time to enjoy the superb facilities and spectacular surroundings of Le Moulin de la Materette. Expert tuition, comfortable accommodation, delicious food, convivial company. The perfect blend of creativity and relaxation. It's so much fun that 70% of our guests return 2, 3, 4, or even up to 10 times.

Course Schedule at Le Moulin de la Materette 2012			Course Fees	Availability
May 13th – 19th	Turning & Photogr..	Simon Hope & Julia Reid	£255 / £245	Available
May 27 th – June 2nd	Turning & Painting	Gary Rance & Penny Milner	£285 / £265	4 rooms left
June 10 th – 16 th	Turning & Painting	Mick Hanbury & Penny Milner	£275 / £265	1 room left
Sept 1 st – 16 th	2 weeks Painting	FULL		FULL
Sept.16 th – 22nd	Turning	Simon Hope	£275	2 rooms left
Sept 30 th – Oct 6 th	Turning & Photogr.	Mick Hanbury & Julia Reid	£275 / £265	Available

Accommodation:

All rooms are converted to the highest standard with their own private facilities Below are the prices of the rooms available in the Moulin & Grange. Please specify which room you would prefer and put 2nd and 3rd preferences in case your first choice is taken. The price includes full continental breakfast.

Room No	Type	Floor	Aspect	Occupancy		Mark Preference
				Single	Double	
Moulin 1	Double/ Twin Shower, WC	1st	West Facing	n/a	£69.00
Moulin 2	Double, Bath, WC, Balcony	1 st	East Facing	n/a	£69.00
Moulin 3	Double, Shower, WC, Balcony	1 st	East Facing	£45.00	£65.00	Booked
Moulin 4	Double/ Twin, Bath, WC	1 st	East Facing	n/a	£69.00
Moulin 5	Double, Shower, WC, Patio	1 st	West Facing	n/a	£75.00	Booked
Moulin 6	Double / Twin, WC, Shower	Grnd	East Facing	£40.00	£55.00
Moulin 7	Double / Twin / Bath, Bidet, WC	Grnd	West Facing	n/a	£69.00
Grange 1	Double, Bath, Bidet, WC	Grnd	East Facing	n/a	£65.00
Grange 2	Double/Twin, Shower, WC	Grnd	Over Orchard	n/a	£65.00
Grange 3	Double/Twin, Bath, Bidet, WC	1st	Over Orchard	n/a	£63.00
Grange 4	Small Double, Bath, WC	1st	South facing	£40.00	£55.00

Non Residential:

We can allow non residential participants on the course, if holidaying close by. We also have space for a caravan or campervan if preferred. But we do recommend all participants to join the group for the evening meal, which is a most convivial experience, not to mention the quality of the cuisine.

Evening Meals:

An important part of the ambiance of the Moulin. You will find the evenings are like a large convivial dinner party with excellent cuisine. The cost of a 4 course meal, including pre dinner drink, wine and Coffee/Tea is £25. We can cater for special diets but require advanced notice of your requirements.

Buffet Lunches These are optional and are available each day between 1pm and 2pm. We are now doing filled baguettes of your choice with salad and fruit at 5 Euros each.

Travel:

Air Travel: We recommend you consult the internet for the best deals available. We are located 80 minutes drive from both Carcassonne and Toulouse airports. **Ryan Air** (www.ryanair.com) fly from Stanstead, East Midlands, Liverpool, Edinburgh & Dublin to Carcassonne. **Easyjet** fly from Birmingham Bristol & Southampton to Toulouse. There are also other possibilities.. We can provide comprehensive directions from any port, do request these when you make your travel arrangements. Should you require an extra night at the Moulin to coincide with your flights, then that may be possible. We can arrange a taxi from the airport, but we do recommend you hire a car as there is so much to see and visit in the area.

Sea Travel: For those who wish to extend their holiday with a drive through rural France, we recommend you look at **LD Lines, Sea France & P & O Stenna** for cheap crossings. Driving from any channel port takes 9 – 10 hours plus stops and about 60 Euros worth of tolls. With more time to spare you can avoid the tolls. I would recommend you avoid Paris during weekdays.

Arrival & Departure:

The courses start at 8.30 on the Monday morning.

We ask guests to arrive between 4pm & 6pm on the Sunday evening. The evening meal starts at 7.30 pm, with a complimentary beer or Kir at 7.00 pm. If you are running late please advise us by phone, we can invariably keep meals warm ready for your delayed arrival.

We anticipate our guests will leave between 9am and 10am on the Saturday morning. For those with late flights we recommend a visit to St Girons market as a worthwhile and entertaining experience.

Moulin Facilities:

The Moulin is set in 10 acres of private, tranquil grounds. A mixture of formal lawns, wild flower meadows formal gardens, herb and vegetable beds, orchards & woods. It nestles beside 700 yds of the River Arize. A haven for birdlife, butterflies and other fauna that enjoy the idyllic surroundings of the Moulin. Kingfishers, Dippers, Nuthatches, Treecreepers & Golden Orioles are amongst many visitors. We have created a restful walk up to a cascade through sculpted natural flower beds and trees. In front of the Moulin is a croquet lawn and boules pitch. Beside a large heated pool there are 12 sun loungers, a badminton court, table tennis and a 10ft Chess Board. We also have 6 bikes and safety helmets available for our guests to emulate the tour du France that passes our way each year. Fortunately our valley is one of the flatter stretches. All rooms are appointed to a high standard with their own ensuite facilities. Hair dryers and pool towels are provided.

Attractions in the area:

Located midway between Foix and St Girons, the Moulin is conveniently placed to enjoy some of the most spectacular views of the Pyrenees & many Cathar castles, including Mont Segur. On our doorstep are prehistoric grottoes & caves. Cave drawings at Niaux, Historic Carcassonne, Toulouse and Mirepoix, all worth visiting. In neighbouring Bastide de Serou there is an excellent equestrian centre, an 18 hole golf course, a recreational lake and Labouiche, the longest underground river trip in Europe. In Foix you can visit the spectacular castle and an equally impressive working museum of Craftmanship. In St Girons it is worth visiting the market and the Bishop's palace in neighbouring St Lizier, a former stopover resting place for pilgrims on the way to Santiago di Compestella. Not to be missed are the Eagles at Lordat, where you become part of in interactive display of falconry with amazing displays of Eagles, Owls, various falcons and vultures. However the main attraction for us is being in the midst of arguably the most exquisite part of France, yet undiscovered by the masses. A paradise for lovers of nature who enjoy the beauty of the wooded slopes and snow capped peaks of the Pyrenees and the plentiful fauna and flora that frequent this lovely area. We think we found paradise, we hope you agree.

We hope to hear from you soon and welcome you to our Moulin

Best Regards

Nick and Fran Davidson

Please visit www.materette.com for more details and photographs