ANDREW W. LYON TRAVEL

LET'S GO ITALY

Where:	Paint in Italy
When:	Puglia: September 29-October 5, 2024 Sicily: October 10-16, 2024
Who:	With Hawai'i Artist Mary Spears

Paint in Italy with Mary Spears

Puglia - September 29-October 5, 2024 - $9,500 per person
Sicily - October 10-October 16, 2024 - $9,500 per person

Join Hawaii artist, Mary Spears, on journeys through two breathtaking regions of Italy: Puglia and Sicily. On our first trip we'll return to Puglia. Nestled in the heel of the boot, Puglia is known for its stunning coastlines, rolling hills, and ancient towns brimming with history and culture. On our second trip, we will explore Sicily's varied beaches, hilltop villages, and excellent wines. Both trips include daily painting instruction with Mary, unique experiences organized by our on-site luxury travel staff and, of course, lots of incredible Italian cuisine.

Whether you're a seasoned painter or a beginner, these trips are perfect for anyone looking to tap into their creative side. Non-painting companions are also welcome to join. Our daily painting courses will ensure you return home with a collection of beautiful paintings, a watercolor travel journal, and memories to last a lifetime. Don't miss this chance to explore the stunning regions of Puglia and Sicily and discover your inner artist. Fewer than eight spots are still available on each trip. A brief overview of our days at the villas and costs for each trip are available at the link below. Sign up now and let the adventure begin!

"There's no better place to experience the joy and playfulness of painting than Italy!"

Mary Spears

Sign up today: www.andrewwlyon.com/mary-spears-italy

Painting Italy with Mary Spears includes:

Plein Air Painting and Instruction

Throughout our time together, we will construct a travel journey that captures the beauty of Italy. **We'll provide all the supplies you'll need including easels, paper, watercolors, brushes, and inspiration.** Our painting will take us all around our villa and surrounding countryside, to seaside towns, and to UNESCO World Heritage Sites. All along the way, **Mary Spears will provide personalized instruction**, ensuring you come home with a beautiful portfolio of unique water color paintings to remember our trip.

Luxury Villa and Service

We'll stay at **restored castle-style villas** set among orchards and farm-land. These boutique properties have fewer than 20 **luxury hotel-style rooms and amenities, private pool, and highly rated restaurants.** Every detail will be taken care of throughout our visit by our **tour leader Andrew Lyon, Italian tour guides, local Italian families who own and run the villas, and private cars and drivers.** We take care of all the details so you can relax, take a deep breath, and get in touch with your inner artist.

Hidden Gems and Experiences

Andrew W Lyon Travel curates each day's activities with Andrew's personal network of local experts who will join us and explain the depth of beauty of each place we visit. **Our trips are designed to give you a unique and authentic regional experience you can't find anywhere else.** The quiet Puglia Region of Italy is known for its olive oil, oriecchette pasta, focaccia, and mozzarella, and **our friends at our Puglian villa the Masseria Salamina produce some of the best organic olive oil and pasta in the world.** Sicily's popularity is rising **since being featured in HBO's *The White Lotus*.** We'll be visiting the undiscovered southern tip of Sicily near Noto, which still has some of the best trattorias, seaside towns, and vibrant Italian cultural sites in all of Italy.

Paint in Puglia Itinerary

SEPTEMBER 29 » ARRIVE IN BARI

Upon your afternoon or evening arrival into Bari (BRI) or Brindisi (BDS) airport, be met with a **private car transfer and check-in to the Masseria Salamina** villa. For those who arrive early enough in the day, we'll have a **welcome dinner at the villa** and time to rest from the long flight.

SEPTEMBER 30 » PAINTING AT THE VILLA

We'll begin the day with breakfast at the villa, followed by a ***plein air* painting session in the gardens** surrounding the villa. At lunch, we'll experience an **olive oil, foccocia, and wine tasting** with the De Miccolis Angelini family who help produce and certify the highest quality olive oils in Italy. In the afternoon, we'll resume painting in the gardens with time to rest from the jetlag if needed. Just before dinner, we'll meet the head chef at the Masseria, who will offer a **cooking class on how to make the best Orriechette pasta** before eating dinner. Overnight Masseria Salamina.

OCTOBER 1 » LANDSCAPE & ALBEROBELLO

This morning after breakfast we'll depart for the countryside to tour and **paint the gorgeous landscapes of Puglia. After painting and lunch, we'll visit the famously steep-capped Trulli homes of UNESCO World Heritage Site Alberobello** (pictured above). We'll have a chance to explore **Alberobello for dinner and shopping** before eating a **private dinner at the famous Evo Restaurant**. Overnight Masseria Salamina.

OCTOBER 2 » CATCHING UP AT THE VILLA

Today we'll spend time at the villa to catch up on painting from the past few days. We'll enjoy **painting instruction at the Masseria Salamina in the morning and afternoon** with lunch on the property. At lunch, we'll experience a **cheese-making demonstration,** along with a **wine and cheese tasting**. Dinner and overnight at Masseria Salamina

OCTOBER 3 » POLIGNANO A MARE

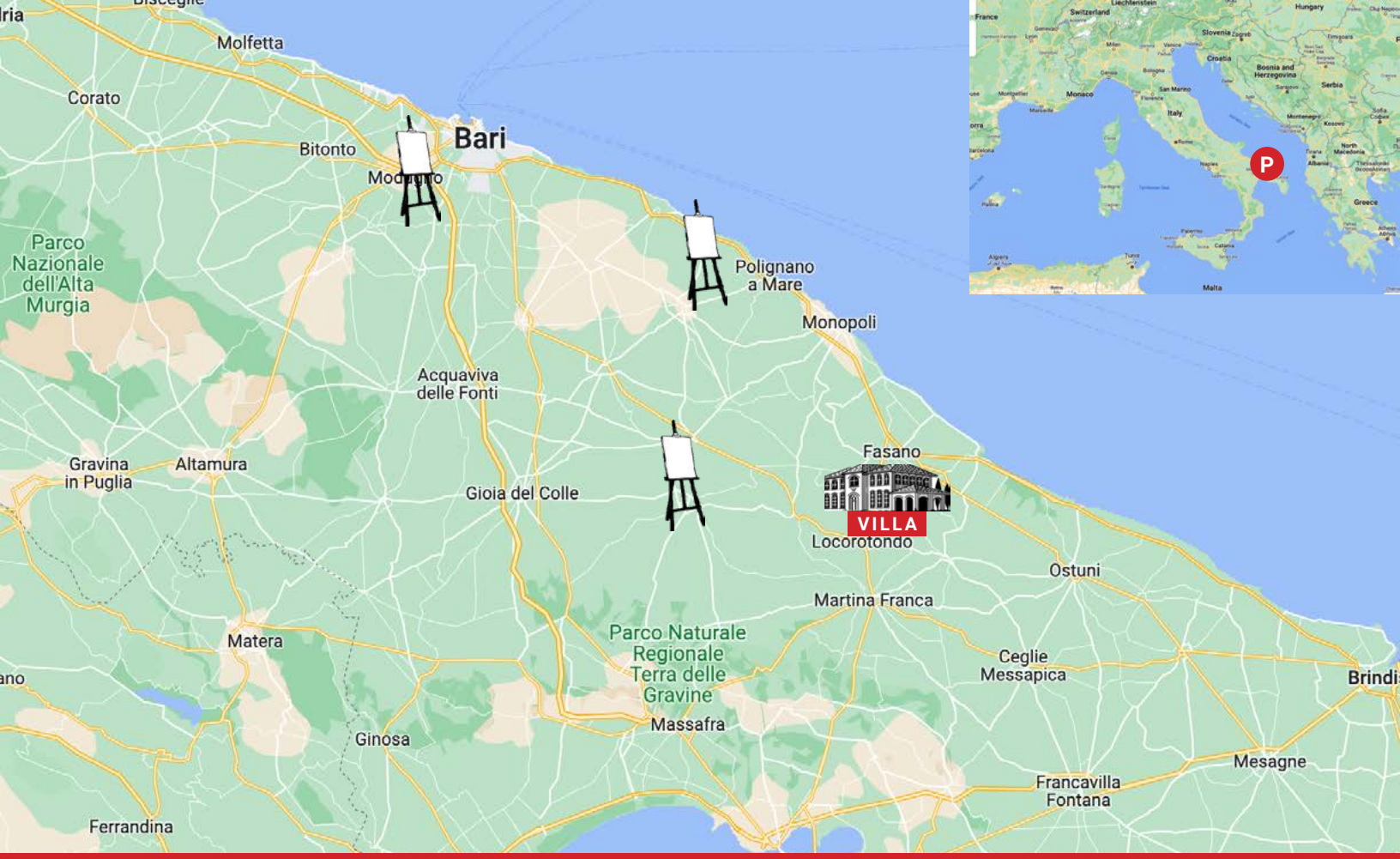
After breakfast, we'll depart for the breathtaking town of **Polignano a Mare to paint and explore.** Perched on a cliff above the crystal clear waters of the Adriatic, the old town combines **charming, white-washed streets with beautiful churches all overlooking dramatic cliffs down to the seaside**. We'll spend the day in town with **seaside painting instruction** interspersed with time to explore the town, lunch, and dinner. Overnight at the Masseria Salamina.

.OCTOBER 4 » BARI VECCHIA

After breakfast we'll depart to **paint and experience Bari Vecchia.** The medieval walled section of Puglia's capital city is home to a maze of cobbled streets full of cafes, homes, and famous foccacia bakeries. We'll spend the **morning painting in the old town with aperitifs and wine before having a typical Bari lunch** nearby. After lunch we'll have time to **shop in Bari Vecchia** before our final farewell dinner together. Overnight Masseria Salamina.

OCTOBER 5 » DEPART FOR USA

Private airport transfers will take you to the Bari or Brindisi airport for your return home.



Paint in Puglia with Mary Spears

September 29-October 5, 2024

- Stay in a luxury villa with daily painting courses led by Mary Spears
- Enjoy cooking classes and unique culinary experiences with local Italian experts and friends
- See and paint beautiful sites along the way with local guides and private transfers

TRIP DATES: SEP 29-OCT 5, 2024

6 nights, 7 days

PRICE PER PAINTING GUEST:

$9,500.00 per person

NON-PAINTING ROOMMATES RECEIVE $1,500.00 DISCOUNT

INCLUDES All lodging at luxury Masseria Salamina villa, daily instruction with Mary Spears, painting supplies (easel, watercolors, brushes, and watercolor paper), Italian cooking class, wine tasting, olive oil tasting, ground transportation throughout, private airport transfers, breakfast, lunch, and dinner each day, Italian guide on-site throughout, entrance fees to sites.

DOES NOT INCLUDE Alcohol and soda (outside of included wine tastings), optional travel insurance (AWL Travel can refer to partners, prices vary between $50-$350 per person depending on age and coverage), international airfare, passport fees if new passport needed (no additional visa is needed for Italy), tips. **If you'd like assistance booking your air itinerary, please contact our partner Steve Evans at (818) 455-0091 or steve.evans@protravelinc.com**

PAYMENTS $1,000.00 per passenger deposit at the time of registration holds your space on the trip. **All remaining money is due July 1, 2024.**

FOR MORE INFO Contact Mary Spears at mary@maryspears.com

Paint in Sicily Itinerary

OCTOBER 10 » ARRIVE IN CATANIA

Upon your afternoon or evening arrival into Catania (CTA) or Comiso (CIY) airport, be met with a **private car transfer and check-in to the picturesque Terre di Romanello** villa. For those who arrive early enough in the day, we'll have a **welcome dinner at the villa** and time to rest from the long flight.

OCTOBER 11 » PAINTING AT THE VILLA

After breakfast at the villa, we'll begin the day with a ***plein air* painting session on the terrace** overlooking the countryside. At lunch, we'll indulge in **Sicilian cuisine and taste locally sourced Bronte pistachios, Trapani sea salt, Ribera oranges, and Sicilian wines.** We'll be joined by Elsa Giacomucci, who owns the villa, for a true Sicilian welcome. In the afternoon, we'll resume painting in the gardens with time to rest from the jetlag if needed. Just before dinner, we'll dive into Sicily's culinary heritage with an **Arancino cooking class** before eating dinner. Overnight Terre di Romanello.

OCTOBER 12 » ISLE OF ORTIGIA

This morning, we'll embark on a scenic drive up the coast to **paint the enchanting Island of Ortigia, a UNESCO World Heritage site known for its arts and vibrant atmosphere.** We'll then enjoy a leisurely lunch at a local restaurant and spend the afternoon **shopping and exploring the winding streets and historic landmarks of Ortigia.** An optional guided walking tour will take you inside a **traditional Opera dei Pupi, where they make and perform Sicilian Puppet Theater**. In the late afternoon, we'll drive back to Terre di Romanello to rest before dinner nearby the villa. Overnight Terre di Romanello.

OCTOBER 13 » VILLAGE OF NOTO

After breakfast, we'll depart the villa and **take a morning walk through the countryside to paint the nearby Sicilian town of Noto.** Don't worry, we'll drive if you into town if you prefer! As a **UNESCO World Heritage Site, Noto is known for showcasing the 'real Sicily' without the crowds**. We'll spend the day painting, eating lunch at a typical Noto eatery, and finally return toTerre di Romanello for on a **sunset walk, Sicilian Pizza dinner, and Modica Chocolate tasting.** Overnight Terre di Romanello.

OCTOBER 14 » SUNSET WINE PAINTING

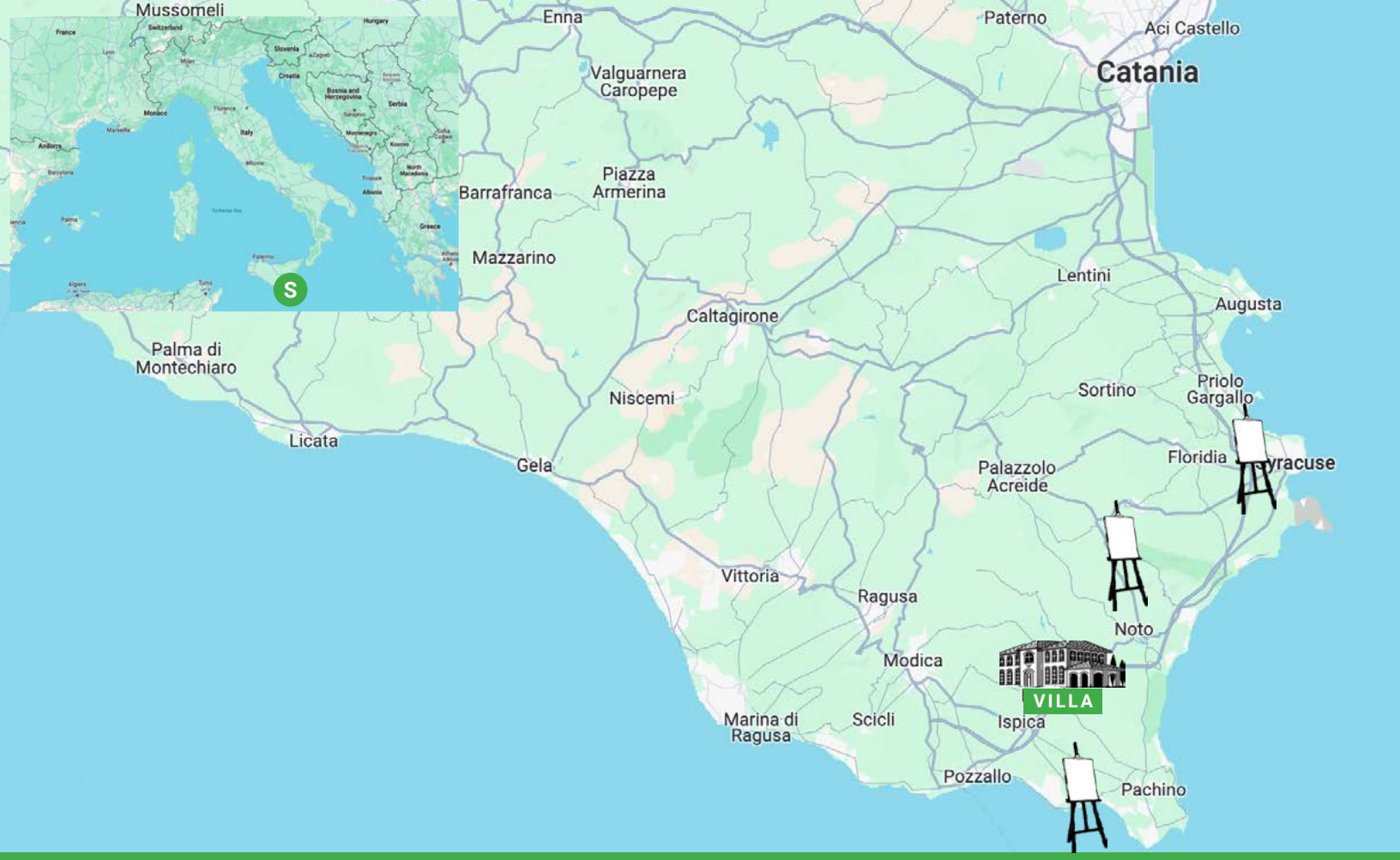
After breakfast, Mary will show you how to **finish your masterpieces at Terre di Romanello**. After lunch in the late afternoon, we'll depart to **paint the vineyards and hills by sunset at Planeta Winery**. As the light fades, we'll enjoy dinner with local wine pairings at Planeta Winery's acclaimed restaurant. Overnight at Terre di Romanello.

.OCTOBER 15 » SEASIDE FAREWELL

After breakfast we'll depart to a nearby seaside town to **paint Sicily's stunning coastline.** In the afternoon and eveing, we'll **explore the fishing village of Marzamemi.** We'll find our way to the famed **Cortile Arabo restaurant for a farewell dinner. Nestled into the rocks against the sea** Cortile Arabo is known for creative Sicilian fish, pasta dishes, cocktails, and its stunning views. Overnight Terre di Romanello.

OCTOBER 16 » DEPART FOR USA

Private airport transfers will take you to the Catania or Comiso airport for your return home.



Paint in Sicily with Mary Spears

October 10-16, 2024

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BUON VIAGGIO!

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