

FACILITIES

Nestled in the mountains of the Massif Central in Ardèche, France, Les Tapies is a beautiful 17th c. hamlet, which has been sympathetically restored to retain much of its original character and serves as an ideal base for ARCH. The six stone buildings form a harmonious ensemble which blends with the landscape and provides spectacular views of the Rhône Valley and the French Alps in the distance.



The facilities include a painting and drawing studio, an exhibition gallery, a printmaking studio, a small resource library, a photography darkroom, a digital technology room, a sculpture studio, a spacious dining room and lounge, a well-equipped kitchen, a yoga room, and basic rustic residential accommodation for 15 participants in single and double rooms with shared bathrooms. Several outdoor terraces provide extensions to the living spaces and are ideal settings for mindfulness training and outdoor dining. The swimming pool is popular for relaxing and cooling off from the hot Ardèche sun.



ADMISSIONS/CONTACT ADDRESSES

For additional information and for an online application form, please refer to our website: www.archlestapies.com. Enrollment is open to adults over the age of 21.

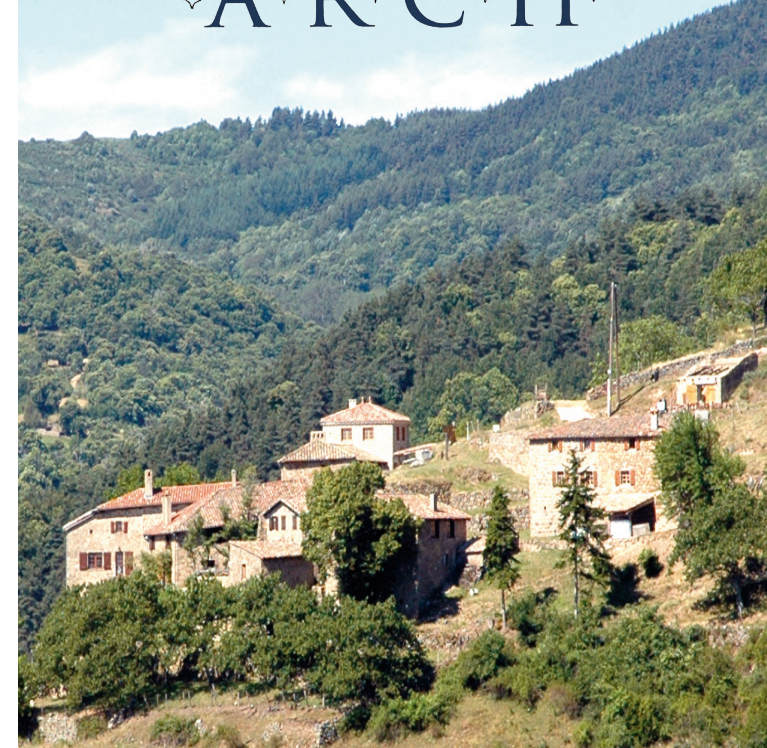
Date: Early August

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IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE

INTRODUCTION



Based on the success of the Les Tapies Visual Arts Workshop (VAW) established in 2004, the new Program for adults provides exciting new dimensions in addition to the art options. These include French Cuisine & Wine tasting, and a Wellbeing program which focuses on yoga and mindfulness. The intensive 12-day program is especially designed for artists of all abilities, as well as adventurous participants who wish to discover their untapped creative talents. Participants may also pursue a passion for French cooking, and/or develop a wellness strategy for releasing stress by slowing down and sharing in a purposeful community located in an idyllic 17c. hamlet in the South of France.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The combination of an inspirational setting, innovative and passionate workshop leaders, and a supportive community of talented and motivated participants provide unparalleled opportunities to develop creative skills and pursue a wide range of interests. ARCH offers a stimulating series of workshops, seminars, electives, and visual presentations, as well as a diverse program of activities and excursions to discover the natural beauty and cultural riches of Southern France.

Participants are divided into smaller groups based on experience, from beginning to advanced, thus providing individualized instruction at the appropriate level. Art major participants are provided with studio space in the hamlet as well as all necessary art materials and equipment. The 10-day program offers a wide range of morning 3½-hour workshops in the arts, including:

- Outdoor life drawing with model (pencil, ink, charcoal, conte)
- Plein air painting (watercolor, acrylic, gouache, oil)
- Introduction to printmaking (monotypes, woodblock, intaglio)
- Collage and mixed media (paper, fabric, wood, paint)
- Working with still life
- Traditional black & white photography and darkroom techniques



In addition to the above art workshops and open studio time, the afternoon 3-hour session offers electives in the following areas:

- Introduction to French cuisine & wine, with a Rhône vineyard tour
- Wellness and yoga - finding balance and reducing stress
- Art History seminar, with emphasis on the Impressionists
- Creative writing – painting the landscape with words
- Visits to nearby medieval hillside towns
- Architectural restoration, including dry stone wall building

WORKSHOP LEADERS



The greatest strength of ARCH is the extensive experience of its workshop leaders, who have a passion for sharing their expertise with participants. The individualized instruction enables the workshop leaders to meet the needs and interests of participants of all abilities. The supportive, caring community at Les Tapies is a distinctive feature of ARCH and a key to its success is based on the willingness of participants to explore new opportunities with an open mind and an open heart. For full backgrounds on the workshop leaders, please refer to the program's website.

EXCURSIONS & ACTIVITIES

Participants choose from a wide range of activities and field trips which draw on the incomparable landscape and cultural heritage of the South of France. These include visits to open air markets, local vineyards and museums, trips to picturesque villages of St. Pierreville and Chalencon, picnic walks in the mountains, and swimming in the pool. Highlights of the program are the trips to the 11c. Cistercian Abbaye of Mazan in the Ardèche mountains and the full day excursion to Aix-en-Provence, home of Cézanne, in the heart of Provence.

