

## PAINTING HOLIDAY IN CÓMPETA, ANDALUCIA WITH CHRISTINE RUSSELL Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> 2017



I am planning to run another independent painting holiday to Andalusia, Southern Spain in early September, 2017. We will be based in the typically Andalusian white village (pueblo blanco) of Cómpeeta which is situated in the Sierras De Tejada, Almijara and Alhama mountains and Natural Park. Little more than an hour from Malaga and some 20 km inland, this lovely area may as well be a million miles from the Costas! The air is clear, life here is unhurried and the people are warm and friendly.

Cómpeeta is a pretty, self-sufficient, ancient Moorish market town, some 700 metres above sea level. Along with its flower-bedecked narrow cobbled streets and main square, dominated by a magnificent mosque which was later converted to a church, the town is well-served in terms of shops, banks, bars, restaurants and a market. English is widely understood.

We will stay in the Hotel Balcon de Cómpeeta, a lovely 3 star, typically Spanish family-run hotel with swimming pool. The rooms are spacious, yet

cosy, enjoying views of the mountains and all the way to the mediteranean. On your arrival at Malaga airport, I and my friend and colleague, Davy Johnston, a Spanish speaker, who has lived in Andalusia for a number of years, will be there to meet you. We will then travel in the air-conditioned vehicles to Cómpeeta.

Every day we will visit a different location, each chosen to provide a variety of subject matter and inspiration, from where you will spend the day painting *en plein air*. I will provide tutorials, critiques, demonstrations and one-to-one tuition. My aim is for you to gain as much as possible from your painting holiday and it is for this reason that, unlike many other painting tutors, I do not paint for myself during *your* holiday! You get plenty of good painting done - *and* have lots of fun! There will be an ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM of 10 people (ex. any non-participating partners), so you can expect plenty of individual attention. I tailor each holiday to suit all levels of experience, including absolute beginners.

Davy will liaise with the hotel, drive for us, act as our interpreter and guide and will be on hand to help whenever he is needed. His first-hand knowledge of the local area and Spain in general is extensive and you will find him very good company. He will also look after any non-painters in the group, showing them areas of interest in the locality, should they wish.



Most of our evening meals, with wine, will be at the hotel and are always very informal and convivial.

September is a lovely time to be in Andalucia and we can be pretty certain of good, warm weather. Bring light clothing which can be layered, a sun hat and plenty of sun screen. It also makes sense to bring a fleece or light jacket. We always aim to find locations with enough shade to paint comfortably. In the case of inclement weather, we have the use of an area in the hotel from where we are able to paint.

**The costs are as follows (please note, this is not a package holiday):**

**Part a)** For the combined services of myself, Davy, transport hire and running costs: **Total £485. I will require a deposit of £100 at time of booking, cheque made payable to Christine Russell. A further payment of £385 will be payable 5 weeks prior to the holiday.**

Non-participating partners are welcome at a reduced rate.

**Part b)** All other costs (ex. flights) which are payable locally and separately, with either cash or credit card, are as follows: 7 nights bed and breakfast at the Hotel Balcon de Cómpeeta, from **300 EUROS p/p** (shared double/twin room) - **390 EUROS** (single use). Evening meals, approx. **15 - 20 EUROS**, depending on where we eat. Davy will be on hand to organise refreshment breaks during the day, as required.

Flights are not included, but in order that we are able to meet everyone within a reasonable time frame, I would recommend that flights be booked to arrive Malaga during the morning/ v. early afternoon, and depart from Malaga from 10:30 onwards.

If you would like to join us, or need further information, I can be contacted by telephone at the studio: 01454 269268 (weekdays), or at home: 01454 416326 (evenings/weekends), or email: [christinerussell61@gmail.com](mailto:christinerussell61@gmail.com)

Hotel Balcon de Competa website:

[www.hotel-competa.com/en/](http://www.hotel-competa.com/en/)

My own website:

[www.art-christinerussell.co.uk](http://www.art-christinerussell.co.uk)

*“Just wanted to say thank you so much for such a brilliant week. Great demos, fabulous places, good practice painting 'en plain air', good group lovely hotel with stunning view and you even managed to organise sunshine!” S.B. Oxon*

*“A big thank you once again for a super holiday. As always the whole experience was wonderful, great hotel and pool, great food, beautiful scenery to paint, lots of lovely people and a whole lot of fun. I always feel so 'at home' with your groups of painters, and enjoy the tuition and the way you and Davy look after us so well - and that is why I keep coming back. We are able to relax while it all runs like clockwork, because so much research and effort has gone on behind the scenes by you and Davy and I do appreciate it all.” J.B. Wilts.*

