

THE COCHENILLE ITALY RETREAT, JUNE 22ND - 29TH, 2015

LOCATION:

VERONA ITALY.

Verona is situated in the north of Italy. It is a lovely city located between Venice and Milan. The city size is about 250,000. It is easily walked, and has lots to see, yet a small-city charm. There is a lot of great fashion here, and great food.

Susan has been going to Italy for the past eight years, and has developed a sense for the fashion and Italian lifestyle. She has also established contacts with various artists, shop owners, etc. This year, the retreat

will be hosted in Verona, with one day-trip to either Venice or Milan (dependent upon the group's interest). The Retreat begins at dinner time on June 22nd (the day of arrival) and ends on June 29th. If you like, you can go on to Florence to attend the Pitti Filati Yarn Trend Show. Susan cannot accompany the group this year due to commitments to Fashion Students who will be traveling to Europe on those days. However, she can assist you in lining up a visit to Florence (e.g. hotel, train, entrance to the Pitti show).



In Verona, some of our classes will be in artist studios, some on location (in the fashion field so to say). We will also visit a knitting mill, yarn and fabric stores, as well as museums.

The confirmed dates are June 22nd (evening meal) through the 29th. Participants should plan to arrive on the 22nd and depart any time after the 29th. On the next page, you can see a tentative itinerary. The agenda will be similar, but not identical, as it is difficult to schedule visits this far in advance. This is based on what we did in the past years. We are open to slight change, according to participants wishes, so comments are welcome. The activity days may shuffle a little as final appointments are made. You are welcome to arrive earlier, and stay later if you like, to explore Verona on your own. There is a lot to see. We can help you with housing.

You should be in good health and relatively fit, as both Verona and other Italian cities are 'walking' cities. By 'fit', we simply mean that we do walk around. It is possible to take taxis, but bus is the norm for the locals, as it generally is for us.



TENTATIVE AGENDA

BASED ON THE DATES OF JUNE 22ND - JUNE 29TH, 2015

Monday, June 22nd

Plan to arrive. Light grocery shopping (if time).
Welcome Dinner, Orientation

Tuesday, June 23rd

- Visit local Café and Discussion of Week
- Walking Tour of Verona,
- Visit to a Leather Maker and a Knitwear Designer
- Explore the shopping district

Wednesday, June 24th

- Visit to a knitting mill outside of Verona.
- Possible visit with a Ceramics Artist specializing in Renaissance style. Workshop.
- Window Shopping in the Fashion Streets (evening)

Thursday, June 25th

- Visit to Fabric Store and Trim Store
- Visit to a Knit Shop
- Visit to Costume Collection (opera)

Friday, June 26th

- Trip to Venice or Milan. Options include visits to a traditional weaving establishment, fashion library, knit shop, Fortuny museum, or other (if Venice), or Fashion District, Armani Mall, and Other (if Milan)

Saturday, June 27th

- Visit to Fashion Museum in Country
- Wine Tasting
- Opera: Aida

Sunday, June 28th

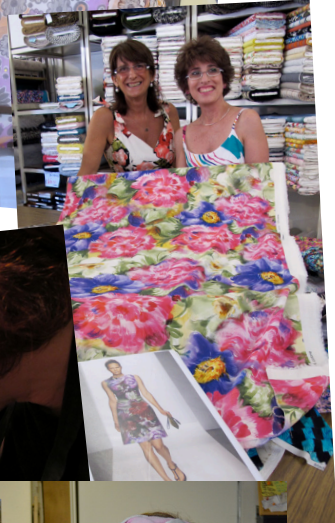
- Brunch as a group. Balance of day to explore Verona with the Veronal Card.

Monday, June 29th

- Tour of and workshop in the Bibliotecca ... using fashion books as exploration for ideas
- Workshop with Mosaic Artists, create a jewelry piece or a frame.

Tuesday, June 30th

- Departures



COSTS:

Tuition: \$1200. This will include:

- all tuition including special workshops with local artists, or textile/fabric merchants.
- train travel to and from either Venice or Milan
- two dinner meals (with one possibly a cooking class)
- one lunch
- Verona Card (entrances to various sites),
- Opera ticket and
- bus travel while in Verona.

The anticipated maximum group size is six-seven people.

Payments

A deposit of \$500 will be required to hold your place. The balance of \$700 will be due 90 days prior to the start of the trip.

Cancellation

- If you cancel and your space can be filled, there will be a full refund.
- If you cancel prior to 120 days out, and your space cannot be filled Cochenille will retain \$250.00.
- If you cancel within 120 and 60 days of the Retreat, and your space cannot be filled Cochenille will retain \$400, as it will be difficult to solicit people at that point, due to airfare costs on short notice.
- If you cancel within 60 days of the Retreat, and your space cannot be filled, Cochenille will retain 75% of the entire amount.
- Cochenille will always make an attempt to fill your spot, and will assist you as much as possible.

HOUSING:

- Housing is not included in the Tuition.
- There are options to stay in an apartment, a Bed and Breakfast, or a hotel. The sooner you book, the better chance you have of obtaining a good price.
- We would estimate that you should plan for around 50 - 70 Euros per person in a shared apartment. If you are willing to have more than two people in an apartment, you can get this down a little. Some of the apartments sleep up to four people, but the total price structure goes up a little with each additional person.
- The local Bed and Breakfasts will run around 40-50 Euros per person (based on double-occupancy) Euros a night.
- We will assist you in coordinating and securing the housing.
- There are lovely little grocery stores and fruit/vegetable stands in the neighborhoods of the apartments. Larger grocery stores are also relatively close. Part of the experience of Italy is learning to live like a local, so we think you will enjoy going to the little markets to pick up food.

AIRFARE:

We leave this up to individuals, as some people are using miles, some want flexibility, and mostly, you all will be coming from different places. You can fly directly into Verona (via Germany and Lufthansa) or other airlines (e.g. Ryan Air). OR.. you can fly into Milan or Rome and take the train to Verona. If you want, you can fly into Verona and out of Florence. Feel free to discuss this with me.

Feel free to email Susan with questions. We are also happy to talk on the phone.

Susan's cell is 760-994-8083, and her email is susan@cochenille.com

Reservations will be first come-first served. Please complete the Word document and send it in to us as soon as you can, or call Melisa at 858-259-1698.