

ART RETREAT IN CEFALU' 2027

THE RETREATS START WEEKLY FROM 15th MARCH 2024

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- **Welcome to Cefalù, Sicily!**

Welcome to the charming town of Cefalù, located on the northern coast of Sicily. With its stunning beaches, picturesque streets, and rich history, it's no wonder that Cefalù is a popular destination for travelers from around the world. As you explore this beautiful town, you'll be surrounded by breathtaking views of the Mediterranean Sea and the rugged coastline. The warm, sunny weather and vibrant colors of the landscape make it the perfect place to relax and unwind. Stop for a coffee or gelato at one of the many outdoor cafes and soak up the lively atmosphere. For those seeking adventure, there are plenty of options to choose from. Hike up La Rocca, the towering cliff that overlooks the town, for breathtaking views of the coastline. And of course, no trip to Sicily would be complete without indulging in some of the region's famous cuisine. From fresh seafood to hearty pastas, the food in Cefalù is sure to delight even the most discerning palate. Whether you're strolling along the beach, exploring the local shops and restaurants, or simply taking in the scenery, there's something for everyone in Cefalù. While the art retreat will no doubt be a highlight of your visit to Cefalù, there is so much more to explore in this beautiful town.

- **Art Retreat in Paradise**

This retreat is designed for anyone who wants to explore their creativity in a beautiful and inspiring location. Cefalù is the perfect place for artists to find inspiration and relaxation. During this retreat, you will have the opportunity to learn from experienced instructor in both watercolor, cyanotype and drawing techniques. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced artist, you'll be able to develop your skills and create beautiful works of art.

Watercolour: A Journey Through Colour

In this section of the retreat, students will embark on a journey through the world of watercolour. Led by experienced instructor, they will learn the techniques and skills necessary to create stunning works of art using this medium. Through a series of hands-on exercises and demonstrations, students will explore the properties of watercolour and learn how to use colour to express emotion and convey meaning. They will also gain an understanding of composition and design, as well as the importance of light and shadow in creating depth and dimension in their work.

- **Cyanotype: A Unique Photographic Process**

Cyanotype is a photographic printing process that produces stunning blue and white images. In this portion of the retreat, students will learn the history and technique behind this unique process. They will start by coating paper with a light-sensitive solution and then exposing it to sunlight or UV light. The result is a one-of-a-kind image that captures the beauty of the surroundings in a truly special way. One of the unique qualities of cyanotype is its versatility. It can be used on a variety of surfaces, including paper, fabric, and even wood. This makes it a popular medium among artists who want to experiment with different textures and materials. Additionally, cyanotype prints have a distinctive look that sets them apart from other types of prints. They have a dreamy, watercolor-like quality that is both beautiful and haunting. Not only will students learn a new skill and create beautiful artwork, but they will also benefit from the meditative and calming nature of the cyanotype process. As they work with their hands and watch their creations come to life, they will experience a sense of relaxation and mindfulness that can be hard to find in our busy lives. This is a perfect opportunity to disconnect from technology and reconnect with nature and creativity.

- **Live Model Classes**

Drawing from a live model is an essential practice for artists of all levels. It allows you to capture the human form in a way that cannot be replicated through photographs or imagination. By observing the model in real-time, you can study the way light falls on their skin, the subtle shifts in their posture, and the unique details that make each person so fascinating. This kind of focused observation improves your ability to see and interpret the world around you, which translates into better artwork. Our model for the art retreat is a striking figure with a strong, athletic build. He/she will be posed in various positions throughout the classes, allowing attendees to explore different angles and perspectives. We have chosen poses that showcase the beauty of the human form while also challenging artists to push their skills to the next level. Whether you are a seasoned professional or a beginner, you will find something to inspire you in these live model classes.

- **Drawing en Plein Air**

Drawing en plein air, or outside, is a time-honored tradition among artists. It allows them to capture the essence of a scene in real-time, making for more dynamic and authentic artwork. The act of drawing outside also helps artists develop their observational skills, as they must quickly adapt to changing light and weather conditions. In Cefalù, the beauty of the natural landscape provides endless inspiration for artists. From the crystal-clear waters of the Mediterranean to the rugged cliffs and rolling hills, there is no shortage of stunning scenes to capture on paper. Whether you're an experienced artist or just starting out, drawing en plein air in Cefalù is sure to be a transformative experience that will help you grow as an artist.

- **Sicilian Cannolo Show Cooking**

Discover the art of making Sicily's most iconic dessert!

Enjoy a delicious journey into Sicilian pastry-making with a live demonstration dedicated to the traditional cannolo siciliano. Discover the secrets behind its crispy golden shell and creamy ricotta filling, while learning about the history and traditions of this beloved local delicacy.

A sweet and authentic experience that celebrates Sicilian culture, craftsmanship, and flavours – the perfect opportunity to share a special moment with fellow artists and savour a true taste of Sicily.

- **Wine Tasting and Social Moments**

Enjoy an authentic Sicilian wine experience at our Cefalù Art Retreat! Discover a curated selection of local wines, carefully chosen to showcase the unique flavors and aromas of the region. Whether you prefer reds, whites, or rosés, our wine tasting will introduce you to the rich winemaking traditions of Sicily. As artist, i often spend countless hours immersed in my creative work. At the Cefalù Art Retreat, i believe that sharing moments together is just as important as the time spent creating. Wine tastings, aperitifs, and shared meals offer the perfect opportunity to unwind, exchange ideas, and connect with like-minded artists from around the world in a relaxed and inspiring atmosphere.

- **Unleash Your Inner Artist**

The art retreat is designed to inspire and unleash your inner artist. It's an opportunity to step away from the stresses of daily life and immerse yourself in a beautiful setting, surrounded by like-minded individuals who share your passion for creating art. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced

artist, there is something for everyone at this retreat. During the retreat, you'll have the chance to experiment with new techniques and mediums, and push the boundaries of your creativity. The instructor will be on hand to guide you through the process, providing personalized instruction and feedback to help you achieve your artistic goals. You'll also have plenty of free time to explore the stunning surroundings and draw inspiration from the natural beauty of Cefalù.

- **Accommodation**

During the retreat, students will stay in comfortable houses nestled in the heart of Cefalù, offering a welcoming and relaxing environment throughout their stay. After a day of creativity and exploration, participants can unwind and enjoy the charm of this beautiful Sicilian town.

In the evenings, they can gather with fellow artists to share a glass of local wine, exchange ideas, and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of Cefalù. These accommodations provide the perfect base for an inspiring and memorable art retreat.

- **Meet the Instructor**

Sebastiano Leta, with over 15 years of experience, has exhibited his work in galleries across Europe. He holds two Master's degree in Fine Arts and has taught art workshops in Pietrasanta, Tuscany and Sicily. His teaching philosophy focuses on capturing the essence of a subject through colour, shape and light, allowing each student to develop their own unique style. His teaching style emphasizes experimentation and encourages students to push the boundaries of traditional techniques.

- **Conclusions**

Escape to the picturesque paradise of Cefalù, Sicily and immerse yourself in a creative retreat like no other. The instructor will guide you through each step, providing you with the skills and knowledge to create your own stunning pieces of art. Not only will you have the opportunity to expand your artistic abilities, but you'll also be able to indulge in the delicious food and wine that Cefalù has to offer. And when you're not creating masterpieces or savouring local cuisine, take some time to explore the breathtaking surroundings and exciting activities available in the area. This retreat truly offers the perfect balance of relaxation, adventure, and creativity.

● PROGRAM

Day 1 MONDAY

2:00pm Meet at Palermo PMO Airport

3:30pm Check-in, time to unpack, relax

6:30pm Welcome Ceremony Soirée with Sicilian Cannolo Show Cooking

7:30pm Sunset Dinner in town

Day 2 THUESDAY

8-10:00am Breakfast at the Cathedral square

10-1:00 Sketching & Watercolor Workshop: Still lifes inspired by Cefalù's landscape

1:00pm Free time, enjoy lunch or walk into town

4-6:00 pm Guided City Sightseeing Tour with a local guide

6:30pm Optional Aperitivo*- Bring your sketchbook! (* *Aperitifs are informal opportunities to socialize and connect with fellow artists. Any related costs are to be covered individually by participants*)

7:30pm Sunset dinner in town

Day 3 WEDNESDAY

8-9:30am Breakfast at the Cathedral square

9:30-1:00am Exploring Castelbuono for watercolour class in town

1:30pm Offered lunch in a typical restaurant and return to Cefalù

6:30pm Optional Aperitivo

8:00pm Sunset Dinner in town

DAY 4 THURSDAY

8-10:00am Breakfast

10-1:00 Live model class drawing

1:30pm Free time

15:30-18:30 Live model class watercolor

19:00 Optional Aperitivo

20:00 pm Sunset Dinner in town

DAY 5 FRIDAY

8-10:00am Breakfast by the seaside to collect small plants for the Cyanotype experience

10-13:00pm Cyanotype experience

6:30pm Optional Aperitivo- Bring your sketchbooks to showcase your creations and exchange feedback with fellow artists

7:30pm Farewell dinner at the sunset and exchange drawings as a souvenir

DAY 6 SATURDAY

8-10:00am Breakfast

11:00am Checkout & group transport to Palermo Airport

● COST

Room options, priced per person:

- **2800** euros Private room in shared apartment* (*up to 3-4 people apartment*) and shared bathroom* (*depending on the accommodation, some apartments may feature two bathrooms)
- **3400** euros Private apartment* (Accommodation for up to 4 friends sharing an apartment with one or two bedrooms, depending on availability. From the second guest onwards, is charged the “Companion Rate” additional fee) 1st=3400 2nd-3th-4th=2000 each* (*variable)
- **2000** Companion Rate* (price for the second person sharing a double bedroom or the private apartment* (*up to 3 people.).
- **NOTE:** Reduced rates may be available for Private Rooms and Private Apartments when shared with friends, travel companions, or additional guests. Read the example
- **Example of Accommodation Pricing**

If you choose to book a **Private apartment** for yourself, the total cost will be €3,400.

However, if you travel with two friends, each additional guest will pay €2,000, bringing the total cost for all three of you to €7,400.

Divided equally among the three guests, the cost would be approximately €2,467 per person, allowing you to save approximately €933 per person compared to the original individual rate of €3,400.

Sharing an apartment with friends is therefore a great way to enjoy the retreat together while reducing the individual cost.

Splitting the total cost equally among all guests is entirely optional and at the discretion of the booking holder.

A final, personalized quotation will be provided based on your accommodation preferences

***prices are intended VAT INCLUDED**

Please note: The retreat is intended for a maximum of 6 people at a time. It will be carried out with a minimum of two people involved.

your participation in the Cefalù Art Retreat is confirmed upon payment of a 50% deposit. The deposit is refundable only if cancellation is formally communicated at least 60 days before the arrival date. For cancellations made less than 60 days before arrival, or in the event of failure to attend, the deposit will be forfeited. The remaining 50% of the fee must be paid no later than 3 days before arrival. Failure to complete the payment by this deadline may result in exclusion from the retreat.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Accommodations, 5 nights & 6 days
- Daily breakfast* (**sweet and savory breakfast. Options: up to 2 hot drinks, 1 fresh orange juice, and either 2 croissants or 1 savory item. Alcoholic beverages are not included*)
- 1 Lunch, 5 dinners* (**Two dishes per person, plus dessert and two glasses of house wine*)
- Free shuttle from Palermo Airport to Cefalù at 2:00pm (or at an agreed time, in small groups, within a 2-hour time window. Our driver will wait for guests whose flight arrival times fall within the agreed 2-hour window, starting from 2 pm.)
- Free shuttle from Cefalù to Palermo Airport at 10:30am (or at an agreed time, in small groups, within a 2-hour time window. Priority will be given to guests with the earliest return flights.
- 5 Workshops: Sketchbooking, Watercolor, Cyanotype, Still life, Live model drawing class
- All Art Supplies Included
- 1 Guided tour in town

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Airfare
- Lunch during free time
- Additional drinks (bottled wine, cocktails, *Alcoholic beverages*. outside 2 glasses house wine with lunch or dinners)
- Transportation if traveling separately from the group and Airport transfers outside agreed times

***Optional cocktails and add-on experiences are not included in retreat fees.**

- **Sebastiano Leta**



Sicilian artist, Sebastiano Leta, loves to experiment with new materials and techniques to produce original objects of design and unique and authentic art pieces. Sebastiano graduated in decoration and Painting from the Palermo and Carrara Academies of Fine Arts. Today he lives in Cefalù and has a sculpture, ceramics and jewellery studio and gallery in town, inside a beautiful medieval tower which was recently restored by him. Alongside pottery turning and ceramic firing, the artist has added techniques for wax modelling and the precision casting of metals for jewellery making.

Discover the work of Sebastiano Leta on **INSTAGRAM** by scanning this code with your phone



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