



Creative landscape painting in India with Helen Halliday

This 12-day painting and touring holiday led by Helen Halliday starts in Amritsar, is based at Basunti and encompasses the lush Kangra Valley, close to the foothills of the Himalayas. It is an area of outstanding natural beauty with a rich and varied palette of landscapes and scenes from rural Indian life providing endless inspiration for the artist. The visit to McLeod Ganj also offers the opportunity to see Tibetan artists creating Thangkas, exquisite paintings on silk that play an important role in Tibetan Buddhist rituals.

The tour will provide some 4-5 hours painting tuition each day on painting days, with a morning and late afternoon session, plus sketching and impromptu demos when sightseeing. Painting and sketching will be with watercolours, watersoluble pencils and crayons.

About Helen

Helen's approach to teaching is relaxed and informal. She is always happy to suggest ways to approach a subject or use materials without restricting self-expression and individual creativity.

This patient and encouraging approach gives every student, whatever standard, the chance to progress without feeling inhibited.

Helen's work has been exhibited in many solo and group exhibitions. She has won awards in national art competitions and has work exhibited in both public and private collections. Helen has appeared on Channel 4's Watercolour Challenge and has worked with environmental sculptor Andy Goldsworthy.

Following a career in radio at the BBC, Helen studied Fine Art at Hertfordshire University, and has a post-graduate diploma in printmaking and a professional diploma in ceramics.



April 10-21, 2010

- Day 1** Arrive Amritsar and transfer to hotel. Afternoon visit to Wagah Border ceremony.
- Day 2** Visit Golden Temple at dawn. After breakfast transfer to Basunti.
- Day 3** Basunti. Morning painting session followed by optional orientation and nature walk. Late afternoon painting session. (On all days at Basunti, painting tuition is in the morning and late afternoon with the rest of the day free.)
- Day 4** Basunti.
- Day 5** Visit Pragpur, lunch at Judges Court - afternoon to sketch and paint
- Day 6** Basunti.
- Day 7** Trip to sunken Vhatu Temple
- Day 8** Basunti.
- Day 9** McLeod Ganj. Afternoon guided tour of the Monastery and Dalai Lama's palace
- Day 10** McLeod Ganj.
- Day 11** Drive to Basunti.
- Day 12** Depart Basunti - option to return via Amritsar or transfer to Pathankot/Dharamsala to return to Delhi by train or plane.

The price for this 12-day tour is £880 per person based on two people sharing. (Non-painting partners £780). The price includes all tuition, accommodation, all meals at Basunti, bed & breakfast in comfortable, modern hotels in Amritsar and near McLeod Ganj, all local taxes, all ground transport and scheduled airport transfers. The price does not include



flights, rail journeys or insurance.

Travel: To reach Amritsar there are daily direct flights from London Heathrow with Air India. Jet Airways flies London-Delhi-Amritsar daily providing the option of a stopover in Delhi. Both airlines offer ticket arrangements that allow travel out via Amritsar and return via Delhi. If you fly to Delhi with another airline, wish to stopover and then travel onward to Amritsar by train or plane, additional hotel accommodation, pick-up and transfers can be arranged.

Accommodation

Basunti combines rural Indian design with Western facilities to provide modern, comfortable accommodation in twin-bedded terraced chalets each with their

own shower, toilet and private verandah. Meals at Basunti are mainly based on organic ingredients from our vegetable garden and combine the best of rural Indian *doshi* cookery with western cuisine. Vegetarian options are always available and bread and cakes are baked fresh daily. The kitchen is supervised by David Butterworth, a co-founder of London's Neals Yard bakery.

For further information, booking and advice on travel arrangements contact

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For further information about Helen Halliday, please visit www.helenhalliday.co.uk