

Browse off-line.
(JAVA OPTIONAL)



The New York Times
AS LOW AS \$3.15 A WEEK. DELIVERED.

Web MSNBC

[Make MSNBC Your Homepage](#) | [MSN Home](#) | [Hotmail](#) | [Sign In](#)



advertisement



[Newsweek Home](#) >> [International Editions](#)

Newsweek International Edition

Artistic License



Brooke McCrory

Creative Getaway: Sketching and painting tours, like this one in Fiori's Studio at Da Vinci Capers, are as popular as Italy's degustatory offerings

By Barbie Nadeau
Newsweek International

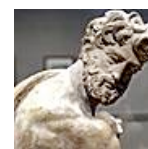
April 30, 2007 issue - Forget the digital camera. The preferred way to capture a holiday in Italy seems to be with a charcoal pencil or watercolor set. Sketching and painting tours have been gaining in popularity, even surpassing some of the country's culinary and wine-tasting excursions.

[Story continues below ↓](#)

advertisement

THE GOOD LIFE

- Renaissance Art Holidays
- Hotspot: Mikla, Istanbul
- 4 Hours in...New Orleans
- Chateau La Chassagne, Burgundy, France
- Style: Swing Raincoats
- Correspondents' Picks: Italian Restaurants



Europe



Asia



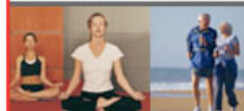
Latin America

- Newsweek
- [Subscribe Now](#)
- [Table of Contents](#)
- [Periscope](#)
- [My Turn](#)
- [National News](#)
- [Politics](#)
- [World News](#)
- [International Ed.](#)

Newsweek

Visit
To Your Health
in Newsweek

Get Real-Life
Tips in
To Your Health



Our Voices.
Your Voices.
Everyday.

Newsweek

Visit On Faith
Arrive with one perspective.
Leave with many.

[washingtonpost.com](#) [newsweek.com](#)

- War in Iraq
- Business
- Enterprise
- Tech & Science
- Health
- Society
- Education
- Entertainment
- Tip Sheet
- The Boomer Files
- Columnists
- Letters & Live Talks
- Multimedia/Photos
- Search Archives
- Xtra.newsweek.com

- Video
- U.S. News**
- Politics
- World News**
- Business
- Sports
- Entertainment
- Health
- Tech / Science
- Travel
- Weather
- Blogs Etc.
- Local News
- Newsweek
- Multimedia
- Most Popular
- NBC NEWS**
- Today Show
- Nightly News
- Dateline NBC
- Meet the Press
- MSNBC TV**

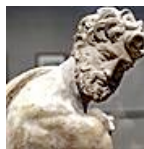
Make sure you're on top of your finances. Equifax credit monitoring can help.

EQUIFAX
FIND OUT MORE

Barbara Hardesty, creator of Da Vinci Capers, which offers one-week painting trips to Tuscany or the Amalfi coast, says most of her customers have never picked up a paintbrush before. "They all want an experiential vacation," she says (davincicapers.com; from \$4,000 per person for a week in Tuscany; \$3,000 for the Amalfi coast). Active Gourmet Holidays organizes separate trips on "Illumination," a Renaissance art form used to decorate manuscripts, and mural painting in northern Italy. Groups begin by studying masterpieces like Leonardo da Vinci's "Last Supper" in Milan before embarking on mural-painting lessons. At the end of the 10-day trip, artists dismantle their murals to take home (activegourmetholidays.com; \$1,795). For those with basic watercolor or oil experience, the Tuscan Workshops offer specialized training in composition, color theory and perspective through open-air workshops in olive groves and vineyards (tuscanworkshop.com; \$2,800 for seven nights). All these tours limit numbers to maximize one-on-one time with instructors, and most offer local food and wine tastings as well. After all, Michelangelo didn't create the Sistine Chapel on bread alone.

THE GOOD LIFE

- Renaissance Art Holidays
- Hotspot: Mikla, Istanbul
- 4 Hours in...New Orleans
- Chateau La Chassagne, Burgundy, France
- Style: Swing Raincoats
- Correspondents' Picks: Italian Restaurants



© 2007 Newsweek, Inc.

- Print this
- Email this
- IM this

MOST RECENT COMMENTS (0 COMMENTS IN TOTAL)

- Read All Comments
- Comment on This Story

FEATURED ADVERTISER LINKS

- [BLAST AWAY HIGH CHOLESTEROL: 67 Points in 28 days.](#)
- [Get tips on monitoring your credit. Learn more.](#)
- [Report - "Miracle cures" were kept from you.](#)
- [Click here to take action against Alzheimer's.](#)

advertisement

Newsweek

Visit
To Your Health
in Newsweek

Get Real-Life
Tips in
To Your Health

Our Voices.
Your Voices.
Everyday.

Newsweek