
PAINT and PLAY!
IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE
AN ALL-INCLUSIVE
PAINTING HOLIDAY
1 - 8 OCTOBER, 2027
WITH ARTISTS
KATO WAKE + CATHERINE WELD



PAINT *and* PLAY! IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE

Join artist and retreat creator KATO WAKE and special guest artist CATHERINE WELD, for an inspiring, intimate week-long painting retreat at a gorgeous working winery, Château Canet. This painting holiday is a rare opportunity to hone your painting skills, paint looser, and indulge your senses in the stunning Languedoc region of southern France.

Catherine and Kato have well over 50 years of combined teaching and art practice, and **you'll benefit from dual perspectives** that encourage open discussion and problem-solving. This painting holiday is **designed for artists wanting to step out of their comfort zones and explore art making through intuition, markmaking and concious play.** It's ideal for those wanting to loosen up and quiet their inner critic. Open to all skill levels. For those new to painting, this week is ideal.

Each morning starts with focused exercises, while the afternoons are dedicated to applying these concepts to your own work, with gentle guidance and feedback. The day concludes with recap sessions, Q&A, and lively discussions to deepen your understanding and foster a collaborative learning environment. Experiment with any medium and style – but acrylics will be the 'go-to'. A supply list will be available upon registration, and some supplies will be included to help make your travels stress-free.

The venue is exceptional, so of course there will be chill out time to soak it up! A few excursions are planned – a visit to Carcassonne Cité, and a private barge ride (with lunch!) on the Canel du Midi. This is an **ALL INCLUSIVE holiday** – ALL your meals, WINE with lunch and dinner, and PRIVATE COACH transportation to and from Toulouse airport are included. **Expect to experience a well organized, FUN and inspired week, with beautiful accommodations, and delicious food and wine. Each participant will get lots of one-to-one coaching.**

Limited to 14 to 17 participants.
This is non-smoking and non-vaping workshop.

RECHARGE! IGNITE! CONNECT! CREATE! LET GO & PLAY!





THE VENUE

Located about 20 minutes from the historic town of Carcassonne, Château Canet has been voted *"one of the 10 most beautiful wine chateaux lodgings in France".* This family-run, working winery is part of the Minervois region of Languedoc, and owners Victoria and Floris are proud to pour their award-winning wines. With over 100 hectares of vineyards, olive groves, and pine forests, nature lovers will want to explore the property (possibly led by their two friendly dogs). The heated pool, and the tennis or boules/bocce courts are ready for you. Château Canet wines can be bought on site at reasonable prices, along with olives, olive oil, tapenade, soap, jam and other goodies. Stock up and take home some souvenirs!











BEAUTIFUL ACCOMMODATION!

We are very excited to call Chateau Canet our home for the week – it's picture perfect, and offers down-to-earth elegance. There are nine cottages (or *gîtes)* at Château Canet, with a few options. **Every cottage has a kitchen, living room and patio or balcony. Bathrooms have showers, and a few have both a shower and bathtub.**

The most popular option is having your own bedroom, sharing a 2-person cottage. There is one full bathroom, and an additional 1/2 bathroom with a toilet and sink. Bed sizes are double or queen.

There are **two premium, larger ensuite bedrooms** on offer, located in the largest cottage. The large common areas are shared with 2 or 3 others – the kitchen, living room, dining room and big private garden. One bedroom has a king bed (shown here), the other has a queen bed.

For guests wanting more privacy, there are two private cottages available. One has a queen bed, beautiful bathtub and hand shower, large wardrobe room, patio/deck, living room and kitchen. The other has a king bed with a walk-in shower, kitchen, living room and patio (and an additional separate second toilet).

The most economical option is sharing a room with twin beds in a private cottage. The large cottage has a kitchen, living room, patio, walk-in shower, and an additional powder room. It faces the pool and there is only one available.

Bath and pool towels, hair dryers, shampoo and homemade soap are provided.

You are welcome to use the laundry room at any time (washer and dryer).

Daily housekeeping and one towel change during the week are included.

Note that there are a few stairs in all cottages.





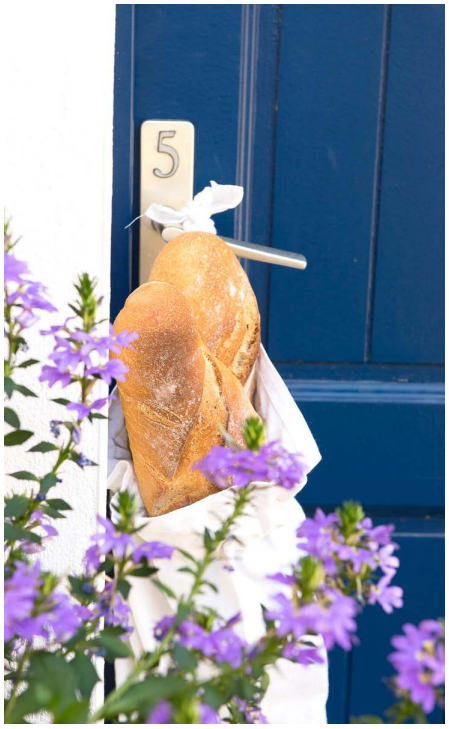












JOYFUL NOURISHING FOOD

Fresh croissants and baguettes will be delivered to your door each morning at 8am, so you can enjoy a quiet breakfast on your own before we start painting. Your kitchen will be equipped with juice, coffee and tea, butter and homemade jam.

There is a common breakfast bar for you to augment your breakfast. Pick up seasonal fruit, yougurt, granola, fresh eggs and other provisions to take to your cottage.

Good food and good times around the table is key to making lasting memories. Experienced caterers will feed us creative, tasty and diverse meals in one of the several beautiful venues at the winery. Weather permitting, we will enjoy meals outside – at the lower BBQ area, the wonderful open tented area in the olive grove, or at the fairy-lit courtyard. Unlike most retreats, all lunches and dinners will include wine! We will try our very best to accommodate any food preferences.





OUR STUDIO SPACE

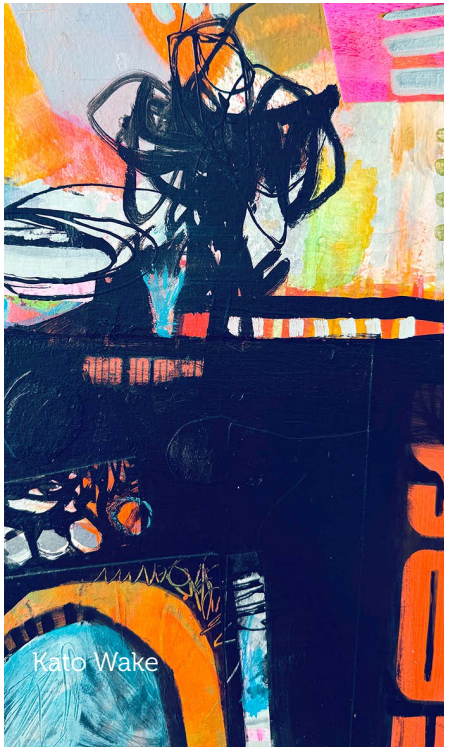
Our studio space is just off the courtyard and close to your accommodation. Called L'Orangerie, it is a large open space with floor-to-ceiling windows and good lighting. A table and chair is your station for the week, (you can bring a portable easel if you prefer). You may want to discover your own secret spot on the property to sketch and find inspiration. Art sessions will happen in the mornings and most afternoons, but the studio space is yours to visit any time.

Refreshments will be available throughout the day.








Kato Wake

MEET YOUR INSTRUCTORS

Lead Organizer

KATO WAKE

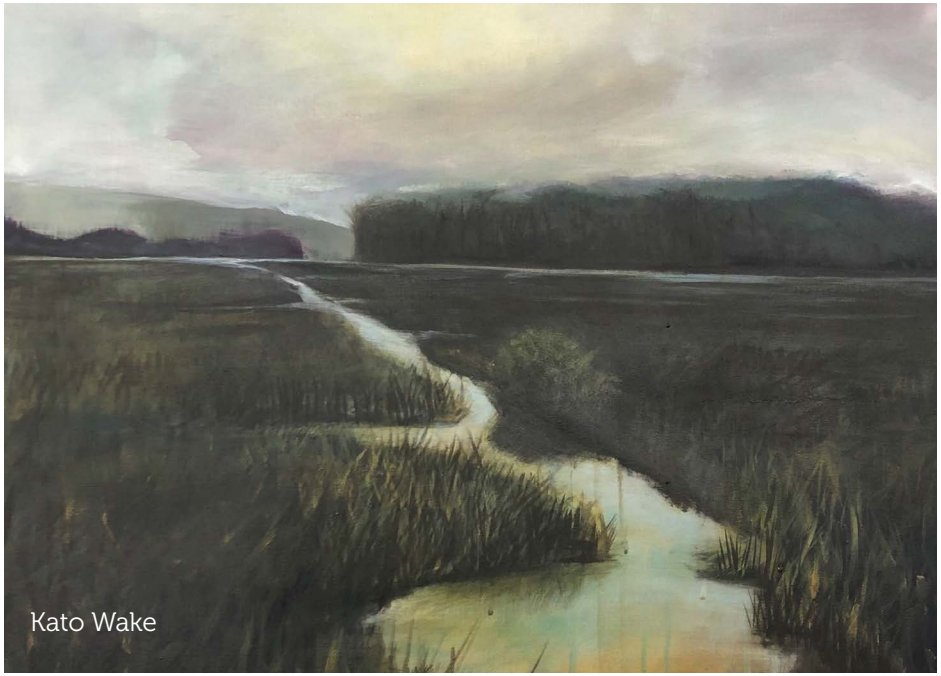
www.katowake.com

katowakeartist



Award-winning Canadian-born painter Kato Wake wears coats of many colours! She enjoys working in both realistic and abstract styles, using oil, acrylic and mixed media. A former graphic designer and teacher, she understands composition and loves teaching colour and art fundamentals. Her online course, Get Creative with Kato!, explores line, shape, colour, value, composition and texture. Most of all, Kato inspires her students and makes learning fun through 'conscious play'.

Kato has conducted painting workshops and holidays in Canada, Portugal, Ireland and Italy. Her exceptional hospitality and organizational skills, along with years creating and leading tours in Europe with Billy's Best Bottles, ensures that you will be well cared for. In 2021 she moved to Portugal, and now lives in Lisbon.


Kato Wake

"By far the best art guidance and technique instruction I have ever had. It exceeded every expectation – the instruction, experiences, food – a fabulous holiday!"

"I learned much more in a week than I learned in 3 years of Art School."

"The course load was just right, with a perfect balance of instruction time and painting and practice time. This week was a perfect combination of a Portuguese holiday with art education and practice."

"Kato encourages people to experiment and recognize their own strengths. Hers is not a loud voice, but one that is eminently consistent, supportive and kind."

"Kato encourages you to go out of your comfort zone and push your boundaries – if you are open to the challenge. She has a unique ability to bring each student's creative spirit out in a fun-loving way."

"Best art teacher I've ever had!"

"A very special experience. Beautifully organized."

Catherine worked in the UK as a social documentary photographer, then facilitated hospice-based projects making books and films with people at the end of life. A graphic design degree followed, then a move to West Cork in 2012 – where solitude, risk and freedom suited her artistic temperament.

Catherine loves life drawing and teaching adults the principles of markmaking and colour, with play as a means of experimentation and exploration. She also enjoys the challenges of exhibition curation and has been involved in several environmental campaigns.

She has exhibited at the RA Summer Show in London, the RUA in Belfast, and the Vue Art Fair, RHA, Dublin. Her paintings are inx the OPW and Cork County Council art collections, and in private homes in Ireland, Germany, Switzerland, USA and the UK.

MEET YOUR INSTRUCTORS

Special Guest Artist

CATHERINE WELD

www.catherineweld.com

catherineweldartist





Catherine Weld

"It was a joy not to have predestined outcome, and produce something of intrinsic value using my intuition and memory."

"Catherine's professionalism shows in her considerable class preparation, adjusted to everybody's needs. It was always informed and full of encouragement."

"I felt encouraged and supported to explore my drawing abilities. A professional, relaxed approach– simply marvellous!"

"Her gentle and respectful approach to teaching engendered a sense of trust and a willingness to 'let go'. I learned so much!"

"Catherine is a wonderful teacher. I have struggled with perfectionism, and found these classes extremely helpful."

"Catherine's skill and understanding of drawing was the foundation from which she enabled the students to create wonderful shapes and images through mark making. There was a variety of interactive and quiet activities. Beyond my expectations, and loads of fun!"



Catherine Weld

PRICES AND ROOM OPTIONS

SAVE! EARLY BIRD PRICING UNTIL JANUARY 10. 2027

ALL TAXES ARE INCLUDED.

TWIN-SHARE BEDROOM, in a private cottage
2 spots available
$4,995 CAD / €3,100
EARLY BIRD RATE UNTIL JANUARY 10, 2027
After January 10, **$5,295 CAD / €3,295**

PRIVATE BEDROOM, in a 2-person shared cottage
12 spots available
$5,995 CAD / €3,750
EARLY BIRD RATE UNTIL JANUARY 10, 2027
After January 10, **$6,295 CAD / €3,950**

LARGE ENSUITE PRIVATE BEDROOM
in the biggest cottage, shared with 2 or 3 others
2 rooms available
$6,795 CAD / €4,225
EARLY BIRD RATE UNTIL JANUARY 10, 2027
After January 10, **$6,995 CAD / €4,450**

YOUR OWN PRIVATE COTTAGE
2 cottages available
$7,895 CAD / €4,995
EARLY BIRD RATE UNTIL JANUARY 10, 2027
After January 10, **$8,295 CAD / €5,250**





WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Daily art instruction with artists Kato Wake and Catherine Weld
- ALL meals – 7 breakfasts, 7 lunches and 7 dinners
- Wine served with lunches and dinners
- Private coach transportation to and from Toulouse airport
- Beautiful and bright studio equipped with tables and chairs, all-hour access
- Gorgeous, spacious accommodation in cottages
- Exclusive use of the entire estate: heated pool, walking trails, bocce/boules court, tennis court
- Visit to Cité de Carcassonne
- Boat ride and lunch on the Canal du Midi
- Some art materials (a materials list will be given in January)
- Fully staffed private venue with daily housekeeping

NOT INCLUDED

- Flights and insurance (travel/medical)
- Gratuities for staff
- A sketchbook and a few art supplies (details coming in January)





SIGN UP NOW!

To register, email Kato: **katowake@gmail.com**

PLEASE INCLUDE
your name and email,
address and phone number (ideally WhatsApp),
and your skill level
– beginner, advanced or somewhere in between!

Is there a specific person you would like to share your cottage with?

DEPOSIT + PAYMENT

After registering, a $500 CAD / €315 deposit per person is required to secure your spot.

Full payment details will be provided when you register.

Full payment is due by MAY 1, 2027

Canadian guests can pay by Interac e-Transfer or credit card.

European and international guests can pay by major credit card.

All payments and receipts are issued through Best Bottles Inc., Kato's Canadian company.

Prices include all taxes.

Please note that your bank or credit card provider may charge currency conversion or other transaction fees.


Kato Wake


Kato Wake


Catherine Weld


Catherine Weld

QUOTA AND CANCELLATION POLICY

- We need 14 painters to reach our quota by January 15, 2027.
- Please do not book your flights until you hear that the workshop is a go.
- If quota is not met, your deposit will be returned.
- If we do make quota, your deposit is non-refundable and non-transferable.

CANCELLATION POLICY

If you cancel 90 days or more before the first day of the workshop, you will receive a full refund, less your deposit.

If you cancel between 46 and 89 days before the first day of the workshop, you will receive a 50% refund, less your deposit.

If you cancel 45 days or less before the first day of the workshop, no refund will be provided.



TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM

Your painting holiday starts and ends at Toulouse airport. On October 1, our private coach will take you to Château Canet.

On October 8, our private coach will take you back to Toulouse airport.

Details will be given after 15 January, 2027.

We'll figure out the best plan once we know everyone's travel arrangements.

BEFORE AND AFTER

For participants especially travelling from Canada we highly recommended that you fly to Paris, then take another short flight or 4 hour train ride to Toulouse. Arrive a day or two early so you won't be jet-lagged and will be in great shape for our painting week.

You may wish to continue your holiday in Toulouse, Paris or even Barcelona which is only 3 hours away by train from Carcassonne.



Catherine Weld



Kato Wake

WE CAN'T WAIT TO PAINT & PLAY WITH YOU IN FRANCE!

Any questions or concerns?

Please email katowake@gmail.com



Kato Catherine

www.katowake.com

www.catherineweld.com