

GUATEMALA 2008

*...A painting tour with your Hosts:
Mark Glavina and Mike Radford
in one of the most spectacular
locations in Central America*

"Our painting trips have been planned to provide plenty of drawing, painting and photographic opportunities in culturally rich locations. Learning about local arts and culture is a key element in planning these tours, where travelers have lots of opportunity and time

Painting Excursion Preview

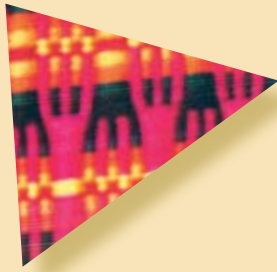


The Group will arrive in Guatemala City and transfer by bus to our home base of Antigua. Set amid three magnificent volcanoes - Ague, Fuego and Acatenango, Antigua is among the oldest and most beautiful cities in the Americas. We will spend a couple of days drawing, painting and enjoying the famous churches and colonial architecture with plenty of time to explore individual interests. From Antigua the group will bus to the world famous market in Chichicastenango en route to Panajachel, one of the oldest tourist hang-outs in Guatemala. From there we will visit the picturesque lakeside villages of Santiago Atitland, San Marcos, and San Pedro La Laguna. Leaving from Guatemala City the group will fly north to El Peten the town of Las Flores for a visit to the world famous

ancient Mayan ruins of Tikal. Our trip concludes back in Antigua for two more sleeps before heading back to Guatemala City and our flight home. All levels of painters as well as non-painters are welcome to join us on this unique tour of one of Latin Americas most intriguing destinations.

For more information on our Guatemala excursion please visit our travel blog through our Web site www.phoenixartworkshop.com





Phoenix Art Workshop Tour of Guatemala 2008

Thank you for your interest in our Painting tour of Guatemala in January 2008. Most of our arrangements are complete and we are pleased to announce our expected dates, itinerary, costs and other important details. We ask you to keep in mind our itinerary, hotels and flight arrangements may be subject to change without notice for circumstances beyond our control; although we make every effort to stay faithful to our plan outlined here. Travelers will be responsible for booking their flights, travel and medical insurance which are mandatory for travel with our group. A C\$500.00 p/p deposit is due September 15th and will guarantee you a place for our exciting tour.

Dates

Depart January 9/10th - Return January 24/25th 2008

Cost Overview

* Tour Package based on Double occupancy	C\$2500.00 plus taxes
Single occupancy	C\$2900.00 plus taxes

*Note: please read attached payment **Schedule and Rules***

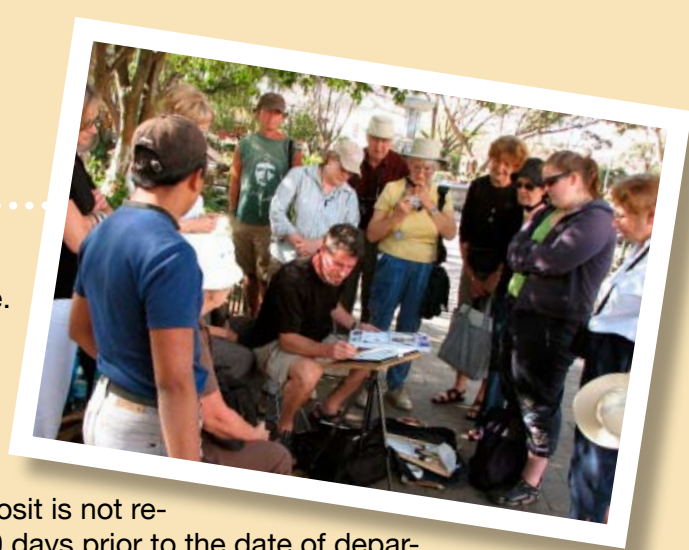
* Flight 2 B Confirmed (Continental Airlines) depart from Seattle	C\$540.00 Plus taxes ***
depart from YVR	C920.00 Plus Taxes
* Personal expenses (lunches, dinners, Personal)	C\$50.00 per day estimate

Flight Information: It is the responsibility of each participant to make arrangements for their own flight and insurance; however for those traveling from the Vancouver & Pacific Northwest we are recommending traveling to Guatemala City and transferring to Antigua by bus as a group. In most cases booking your flight early will save you money and will guarantee a place with our group. Specific flight information will be announced prior to deposits being required September 15th. The great benefit to participants making their own flight arrangements is the flexibility it provides for those travelers who wish to extend their tour, use travel points, or are joining us from destinations other than from Vancouver, our home base.

Tour Costs Includes: Our tour package includes all administration and teaching fees, hotel and airport transfers, hotel rooms, hotel breakfasts, walking tour of Antigua, 2 day guided tour package of Tikal National Park including flight to Flores, boat trip in Panajachel and wrap up dinner.

Our Tour Costs do not include: Our package does not include Airline tickets to Guatemala, airport fees and taxes, flight or medical insurance, lunches and dinners and Personal bills such as telephone, laundry, room service etc. Expenses arising from delays, mis-connections etc.

RULES AND REGULATIONS



RESERVATIONS:

Reservations should be made as early in advance as possible. Late reservations will be accepted only subject to availability. Due date for Deposits is September 15th 2007.

DEPOSITS:

A deposit of CAD 500.00 per person is required at time of booking. Reservations may be subject to cancellation if deposit is not received within 7 days of booking. If booking is made within 60 days prior to the date of departure from Canada, then full payment is due. Payment by check or bank draft a 3.5% surcharge for credit card payments will be applied.

BALANCE PAYMENTS:

Balance payments must be received by Phoenix Art Workshop no later than 30 days prior to the date of departure from Canada. Failure to comply may result in the cancellation of the reservation and forfeiture of deposits received.

CANCELLATIONS:

A charge of CAD 300.00 will be levied for any cancellations received 90 days or more prior to the date of departure. Thereafter, the following cancellation penalties will apply:

89-60 days prior to departure: CAD 300.00 per person

59-30 CAD 500.00 (whichever is higher).

29-08 days prior to departure: 50% of total tour cost per person.

7 days or less prior to departure: 100% of total tour cost per person.

All cancellation notices must be received by Phoenix Art Workshop in writing.

After departure, any voluntary unused tour services or features, including hotel accommodations, ground transportation, domestic or international flights, and sightseeing tours, are neither refundable nor exchangeable.

PASSPORTS & VISAS

A valid passport is required for all travelers. Passports must be valid for at least 6 months after date of tour termination. Visas may also be required for certain destinations. (Passport and visa fees are NOT included in tour cost and are subject to additional charges.)

INSURANCE:

We strongly recommend that all passengers purchase travel insurance to protect their tour arrangements against cancellation, medical, and other expenses. This will be the responsibility of individual travelers.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Phoenix Art acts only as intermediary for independent suppliers and other contractors providing transportation, accommodation, and other related travel services. Phoenix Art assumes no responsibility or liability for any injury, damage, loss, accident with any services resulting directly or indirectly from acts of God, strikes, war declared or undeclared, government regulations, thefts, failure of any means, discrepancies or changes over which it has no control. Any claims for refunds must be made in writing through the agent from whom the tour was purchased within 30 days after tour termination. Failure to provide Phoenix Art with notice in writing will preclude your right to claims against us.

YOUR RESERVATION AND DEPOSIT CONFIRM THAT YOU HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD, AND AGREED TO EACH AND ALL OF THE ABOVE CONDITIONS AND LIMITS ON RESPONSIBILITY.

Our Tour

The Mayan heartland of Central America is an attractive destination for travelers, offering Central America in concentrated form: its volcanoes are the highest and most active, its Mayan ruins the most impressive, its earthquakes, the most devastating and its history of repression decidedly world-class. Mayan history survives in the ancient ruins of Tikal, Mayan/Catholic rituals of Chichicastenango and the blazing colours of everyday Mayan dress. Guatemala's many Mayan ruins and colonial buildings are its most impressive architectural attributes. One of the most intriguing cultural aspects is the infinite and exotic variety of the handmade, traditional clothing of Guatemala's Mayan population.



Antigua

Antigua was the nation's capital from 1543 until 1776, when the capital was moved 45km to the east to the present site of Guatemala City. Antigua is among the oldest and most beautiful cities in the Americas. Set amid three magnificent volcanoes - Agua, Fuego and Acatenango - its sturdy colonial buildings have weathered 16 earthquakes and numerous floods and fires. The cobblestone streets, bougainvillea bursting from crumbling ruins and numerous colonial churches like La Merced and San Francisco date back to the 17th century.

Chichicastenango

A small stucco-white town on the crests of mountaintops at over 2000 meters, the magical and misty highlands town of Chichi is surrounded by valleys and overshadowed by looming mountains. The colourful native Sunday market attracts vendors from all across Guatemala, and the cofradías religious brotherhoods often hold processions on that day.

Lago de Atitlan

PAÑAJACHEL

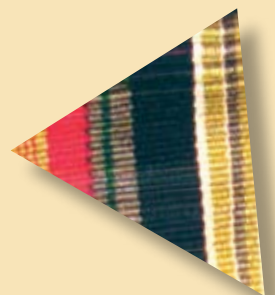
A major tourist centre, this town dates back to pre-Columbian times and is a hub for visiting the villages on the shores of Lago de Atitlan - an absolutely gorgeous caldera lake and our home base while visiting Guatemala's Highlands.

SANTIAGO ATITLAND

Across the lake from Panajachel on the shore of a lagoon, Santiago Atitlan still clings to its traditional life style of the Tz'utuhil Maya. This lakeside village is fast becoming a centre for the arts, textiles and gallery scene.

SAN PEDRO & SAN MARCOS

These two towns on lake Atitland are home to the coffee trade and are where many Bohemian foreigners settle, giving them a peaceful tranquil atmosphere in beautiful settings.



El Peten

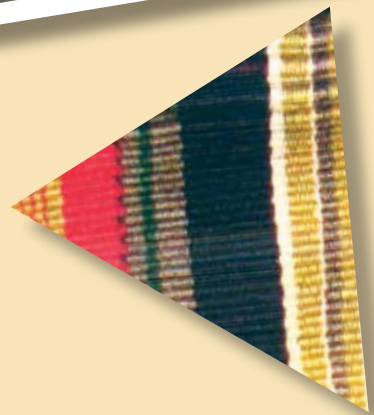
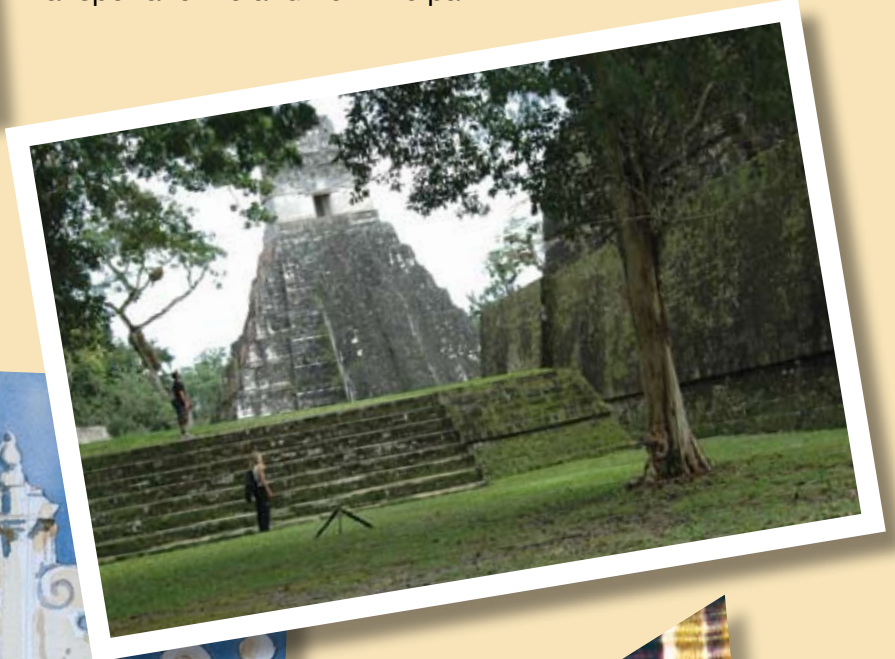
LAS FLORES

Las Flores is a dignified capital, with its church and government building arranged around the main plaza, which crests the hill in the centre of the island. The city was founded by the Itzáes, and at the time of conquest was perhaps the last still-functioning Mayan ceremonial centre in the country. Las Flores will be our base from where we will explore Tikal the Cultural Highlight of our trip.

Tikal Ruins

The monumental Mayan ceremonial centre at Tikal lies in the jungle northwest of Flores, in the department of El Petén. Towering pyramids rise above the jungle's green canopy, while down below howler monkeys swing noisily through the branches of ancient trees, colourful parrots squawk and dart, and tree frogs fill in the auditory gaps.

The steep-sided temples rise to heights of over 44m (144ft), and although the undergrowth around them has been cleared, the dense rainforest canopy is not far away, making passage within the enigmatic site an unforgettable experience. The many ruins include plazas, an acropolis, pyramids, temples and a museum. Our visit to Tikal includes a two day guided tour of the national park including park entrance, lunch, and transportation to and from the park.



Your Hosts

Mike Radford painting on the roof of Hotel Posada Hermano Pedro



Mark Glavina painting in the stunning gardens of Hotel Quintas las Flores in Antigua.



Mike Radford and Mark Glavina met in the early 80's at Capilano College where they were both students of the renowned commercial art program. Both avid travelers, Mike and Mark are keen Plein Air painters and accomplished artists and instructors. We invite you to enjoy this cultural experience traveling with brush in hand.

Mike Radford

Associate member of the Federation of Canadian Artists and regular traveler to Latin America, Mike has been teaching watercolours at Phoenix Art Workshop from its inception in 2001. Mike works almost exclusively in watercolour and chooses a variety of subjects to paint. Mike's perspective and stories of his Latin American travels are an entertaining complement to his on location demonstrations.

Mark Glavina

Owner of the Phoenix Art Workshop, Mark has been involved in art education for the last 10 years sharing his enthusiasm through his teaching and community public art projects. An invited guest speaker in schools throughout the lower mainland, Mark's thoughtful approach to teaching and promoting the arts is contagious. Primarily a plein air painter in watercolour Mark will share ideas, challenges, design and colour theory specific to location painting in a series of interactive presentations.

For more information about Mark and Mike visit our web site www.phoenixartworkshop.com

2008 Itinerary

JAN 10 (DAY 1)

Our Group departs from Vancouver, Canada and arrives in Guatemala City's Aurora Airport in the evening. We will be greeted by our Guatemalan representative who will kindly assist and transfer us by bus to Antigua; a colonial city full of architecture and history was recognized in 1979 as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. The beautiful Agua, Fuego and Acatenango volcanoes are silent guardians of Antigua's streets and buildings, which are full of history and legends. Hotel Posada Hermano Pedro

JAN 11 (DAY 2)

Breakfast and orientation meeting at the Hotel followed by a morning Painting Demonstration and a short class on getting started in Plien Air Painting. Afternoon free to explore Antigua and enjoy a happy hour at the Sky Bar overlooking the Volcanos of Antigua . Optional Tour: afternoon hiking adventure of Pacaya Volcano, 2,550m/8,373 ft, offers the chance to witness volcanic activity first hand. It has been continuously active since 1975 and lava explosions constantly change its appearance. Hotel Posada Hermano

JAN 12 (DAY 3)

Breakfast at the hotel followed by a on location morning class on perspective amongst the cobble stone streets of Parque Central and many architectural marvels of Antigua. This short morning session is followed by a guided walking tour of Antigua including Arco de Santa Catalin, Cathedral Santiago, Inglesia Santa Clara La Merced. Evening off to enjoy Antigua's many great restaurants. Hotel Posada Hermano Pedro

JAN 13 (DAY 4)

Following breakfast at the hotel, we will transfer from Antigua to Chichicastenango, visit the largest and most colourful indigenous open-air market in Central America; also be witness to religious rituals at Santo Tomas Church, which has a splendid colonial architecture, built in 1540. In the afternoon transfer to Panajachel with plenty of time for cocktails at the Sunset Grill overlooking Lake Atitlan in the Guatemalan Highlands. Hotel Rancho Grande (breakfast included)

JAN 14 (DAY 5)

Breakfast at the hotel followed by a boat trip across the lake to visit Santiago de Atitlán, where you will learn about the culture of the local people, famous for its women weavers and their typical clothes and great shopping. Return to Panajachel for lunch and an afternoon painting demonstration. Evening meal at one of the many charming bohemian restaurants in town. Here you will have an incredible view to three volcanoes: Tolimán, San Pedro and Atitlán. Hotel Rancho Grande

JAN 15 (DAY 6)

Breakfast at the Hotel followed by a morning class on colour followed by a poolside lunch. An afternoon boat trip to San Pedro La laguna. Spend the day painting and exploring this funky town towered by volcano San Pedro. Hotel Mikaso (Breakfast Included)

JAN 16 (DAY 7)

Breakfast on the terrace at the Hotel followed by a boat trip to San Marcos for a painting demonstration and a day painting in this tranquil village known for its beautiful garden restaurants wellness centers and perhaps go for a massage or spa treatment. Hotel Mikaso (Breakfast Included)



JAN 17 (DAY 8)

Breakfast at the Hotel followed by a free day of painting in the hillside village of San Pedro. A free day for travelers to join an Optional Tour: Horseback ride up the volcano side coffee plantations; textile tours along the edge of beautiful Lake Atitlan. An evening critique on the terrace overlooking the Lake Atitlan considered one of the most beautiful lakes in the world Hotel Mikaso (Breakfast Included)

JAN 18 (DAY 9)

Following breakfast at the hotel we transfer from hotel by boat to Panajachel and spend a leisurely day on the bus to airport for the flight to Flores, Petén. We will have the opportunity to stop along the way for lunch and a little painting. We will arrive at our hotel in the famous province of Petén, the heart of the Mayan World, which includes more than 200 archaeological sites and is also considered Central America's largest natural reserve. Jungle Lodge Hotel or Tikal Hotel

JAN 19 (DAY 10)

Following Breakfast we will spend the day touring all the important areas such as, Central Plaza, Northern and Central Acropolis, Temples I,II, III, IV, Lost World Complex and Complexes N-Q-R. Lunch is included. The evening may be spent with a visit to Santa Elena and Las flores for a little evening entertainment.

JAN 20 (DAY 11)

Following breakfast an option of returning for a second day of painting and touring the ruins or spending the day in the lake side twin cities of St Helena and Las Flores. Optional Tour: view these twin Island cities by boat and view this enormous lake set amid the beautiful Petan Jungle.

JAN 21 (DAY 12)

A morning transfer to Guatemala City and bus transfer to Antigua Guatemala and our favorite hotel Quintas de Las Flores with it's modern Guatemalan interiors and gorgeous gardens which is sure to be the groups favorite. The evening off to enjoy the night life in Guatemala. Hotel Quintas de Las Flores.

JAN 22 (DAY 13)

Breakfast at the Hotel followed by a day of painting in the gardens of the hotel with lots of time for one on one instruction, lounging by the pool relaxing or sightseeing in or around Antigua. Hotel Quintas Las Flores. Optional Tour: Cloud forest/bird watching tour. A wonderful eco adventure through lush vegetation and abundant bird life: Hummingbirds, hairy woodpecker, ping-header warbler, eastern bluebird and with some luck the resplendent Quetzal.

JAN 23 (DAY 14)

Day at leisure. Time for last minute shopping in the market and our final evening presentations and exhibition of the groups work. A final farewell dinner at Casa la Pena with live music and a little dancing.

Quintas Las Flores

JAN 24 (DAY 15)

Bus transfer from Antigua to La Aurora Airport, for your departure flight back Home

NON-PAINTERS

Although this trip has been planned as a trip for painters of all experience level - non painters are welcome. As with our past trips we make extra effort to see that spouses and non-painters are well looked after, organizing additional tours and daytrips for those interested. Optional tours have been planned including Horseback Coffee tour, Volcano Hike, Craft Jade Factory and boat tours can be organized and will be included in the cost of our package.

