

## **Corona Virus Update - UK Holidays - May-July 2020**

There is much uncertainty about the changing situation and we have waited until now so as to be able for us to provide you with as much up-to-date information as possible about our holidays in the UK in the coming months and we will keep you updated as the situation changes or evolves. Plans made one day are thrown out the window the next and everything has to be revised. We have been working non-stop since the beginning of March to make and adjust our plans as well as answer all queries we have received.

We continue to take guidance from the Government guidelines and our intention is to run as many of the UK holidays we are permitted to do so. We have communicated with the hotels on a regular basis and they have informed us that they are following all necessary hygiene procedures in respect to this virus and are taking all reasonable practical precautions such as social distancing. Most of our hotels are open for business until instructed otherwise by the government. However, we are sorry to say that the Brookfield Hotel in Chichester has now closed for a period of a month following the government guidelines set out on Friday. Please see below for details.

We have also communicated with all tutors to find out their movements 4 weeks before their holiday with us to minimise any risk of them being a carrier or being forced into quarantine. Only two tutors have expressed concerns over being in an at-risk category and we have found suitable replacements for these.

### **Contingency Plans for May-July Painting Holidays should hotels be required to close as a result of ever increasing restrictions imposed by the Government**

As part of these plans for different eventualities we have wanted to ensure primarily the safety but also the comfort and enjoyment of all our guests on holiday and people we work with during this difficult time. If a holiday should not be permitted to run or you are in an at-risk category we plan to add additional holidays later in the year, hopefully around Sept/Oct so that you can still enjoy a holiday with us this year. We obviously cannot simply lift the exact programme for May, June and possibly July and slot it into Sept/Oct. This simply would not be possible but according to any restrictions imposed on us in May-July we hope to move some holidays to the autumn and if this is not possible create a close match.

We will release dates and details of these in accordance with demand, cancellations and government guidance at the time for each holiday destination, so please keep an eye out for emails and changes to our web site so that you have enough time to put a date in the diary.

### **Current Revised Plans for April/May Chichester Painting Holidays**

As a result of the Brookfield Hotel, Emsworth closing due to Government guidelines for a period of a month, we have added another holiday later in the year to accommodate those people preferring to move which we highly recommend. The hotel could re-open at the end of April but we know that with this current crisis, that dates proposed have to be extended and so we strongly recommend that you transfer to this holiday, the details are as follows :-

#### **Paul Weaver - 6th-10th Sept 2020 (arrival 6th)**

For anyone on any of the 3 Chichester holidays you can transfer your entire balance across to this holiday. Please confirm by email that you want to transfer. Initially priority will be given to those already booked on any of the Chichester holidays. If you are booked on one of the Chichester holidays please let us know ASAP if you would like to transfer, preferably within 7 days, but within 14 days at the latest. After then according to the current situation we will probably release places to anyone wishing to book. If you had extra nights booked we cannot guarantee that these will remain available but please advise us whether you require them or not. Similarly, if you will now want extra nights please also let us know. Where possible please confirm your position via email as we are currently rushed off our feet making plans and dealing with enquiries, as we have been since the beginning of the month.

If you are unable to make this date, then we intend to add another one in

**Wells, Somerset with Shelagh Ashley,  
15th-19th November 2020 (arrival 15th)**

which will include sketchbook work outdoors and painting indoors. If you are interested the please email us.  
It will be published on our web site shortly.

**If you have paid a deposit for your holiday but not yet paid the final balance.**

If you are on a holiday in June and July and haven't paid your final balance we are relaxing the payment terms from 90 days to 60 days before the start of the holiday, to give more time for us to notify you of the anticipated position.

**A Proposed Change when on one of our Painting Holidays**

It may be necessary to revise how we operate each day on the holiday and we will advise you about each specific holiday you are on as to the position but it is possible that we will not get out for an entire day painting as usual, as this requires the use of facilities which sometimes means needing to use pubs/restaurants or cafes and this will potentially increase the risk of exposure whereas within the hotel the situation can be controlled more easily. Obviously at this current time pubs, restaurants and cafes are being advised to shut. Our suggestion at the moment, and things may change according to government guidelines, is to go sketching for a couple of hours and then return to the studio in the hotel, have lunch and paint full paintings from the sketches and therefore we plan not to be eating out. Of course we can take packed lunches to some painting locations but only where there are public toilets. We need to consider the current advice at the time in this respect. Alternatively, we can have some days simply painting in the studio.

**As you are aware this is an ever changing situation** that is becoming increasingly more difficult for us to plan for so please bear with us and if you are able to be flexible that will also help but we will endeavour to adapt to the changing circumstances as best as possible.

If you have concerns please email us in the first instance and we will answer as soon as we can, hopefully within a couple of days.