

Art Retreat Centre Quaker de Congénies 2021



Centre Quaker Congénies is the oldest Meeting house in continental Europe. Built nearly 200 years ago by French Quakers with support from Friends from America, the UK and Ireland, it has welcomed many renowned Quakers including Elizabeth Fry.

The Meeting house became an international Quaker Centre about 20 years ago and offers bed and breakfast, self-catering or camping stays for visitors from all over the world and hosts a range of events and retreats.

Saturday 18th to Monday 27th September 2021

Our retreat facilitator is Quaker volunteer, Kate Hale, an established artist and teacher.

The retreat involves five facilitated sessions, followed by the chance to paint, draw or photograph “en plein air” in a variety of locations. Kate has experience of helping and encouraging people at all levels, whether absolute beginners or accomplished artists. We think you will find Centre Quaker a welcoming, relaxed and inspiring setting.



Our Facilitator



Kate Hale

Kate works with drawing, painting, textiles, mosaic, printing, recycled materials and 3D willow. Currently, she uses multi-media to express political and social concerns alongside recycling clothing to create hooked fabric wall hangings. She has worked with different communities to facilitate the creation of large pieces of art for their environment, involving everyone in the design and making process. Examples include a mosaic seat, rows of flags, willow sculpture, altar cloths and totem poles.

What's involved?

Introductions are followed by dinner on Saturday. The art begins on Sunday afternoon. The last facilitated session is on Thursday. Each week day there is a picnic lunch and a trip to a local place of interest. There is the option to explore the area independently or just relax in our beautiful garden. We have bikes available and the opportunity to go swimming. In the evenings we share a three-course meal and there is an optional evening activity. Our guests often stay on to continue making art or to walk, cycle or go sightseeing. Each week day morning there is a short meeting for worship which some guests like to attend. All aspects of the retreat are optional. This is your retreat so you decide what you want do and when you just want to relax, wander or work independently.

The Accommodation

We have 5 bedrooms, some are en-suite, some share bathroom facilities. Two of our rooms are located on the ground floor to ensure ease of access for guests with mobility problems and we have a shower room adapted for guests with disabilities. The meeting room has a piano which guests are welcome to play. We have a large attractive garden with many sunny and shady spaces.



The Food

We offer a buffet breakfast each morning from 8.30 am. At lunch time there are individual picnic lunches generally comprising of a salad, a quiche or other savoury dish, a dessert, fresh fruit and drink. In the evening there is a three-course meal with wine. Throughout the day there are a selection of teas and coffee available as well as biscuits and fruit. All our meals are vegetarian

To Book or Contact us:

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The Cost

Facilitated Programme: 6 nights - 695 euro private / 575 euro shared accommodation, includes all meals, transport to local sites, accommodation
Additional Days: 92 euro per day private / 68 euro per day shared accommodation includes accommodation, transport to local sites, breakfasts and dinners.

Deposit: 200 euro per person, balance payable 8 weeks before arrival. You can pay by euro currency cheque or bank transfer in euro or we can take a cheque in your own currency which we will hold and return to you in exchange for euro cash when you arrive.

For Transfers in euro:

An easy and inexpensive way to send your dollars or pounds to us in euro is to use transferwise
<https://transferwise.com/>

For transferwise or bank transfers in euro:
Assoc Centre Quaker de Congénies
Swift Code / BIC CCOPFRPPXXX
IBAN FR76 4255 9000 3741 0200 0072 506
Domiciliation: CREDITCOOP NIMES
49 Av. Jean Jaures
CS 24004
30918 Nimes Cedex 2

Deposits are non-refundable except in the event of the retreat being cancelled by Centre Quaker or as a result of Covid-19.

