

WEST ALGARVE ART ESCAPE

October 11-16, 2026



Barlavento em Aguarela / in watercolour
with Eugen Chisnicean

WEST ALGARVE ART ESCAPE

Barlavento em Aguarela / in watercolour

Join us for a watercolor journey through the West Algarve — a region of dramatic coastlines, mountain air, historic towns, and vast Atlantic horizons. More than a painting trip, this is an immersive experience of light, movement, and place.

West Algarve Art Escape, October 11-16, 2026!

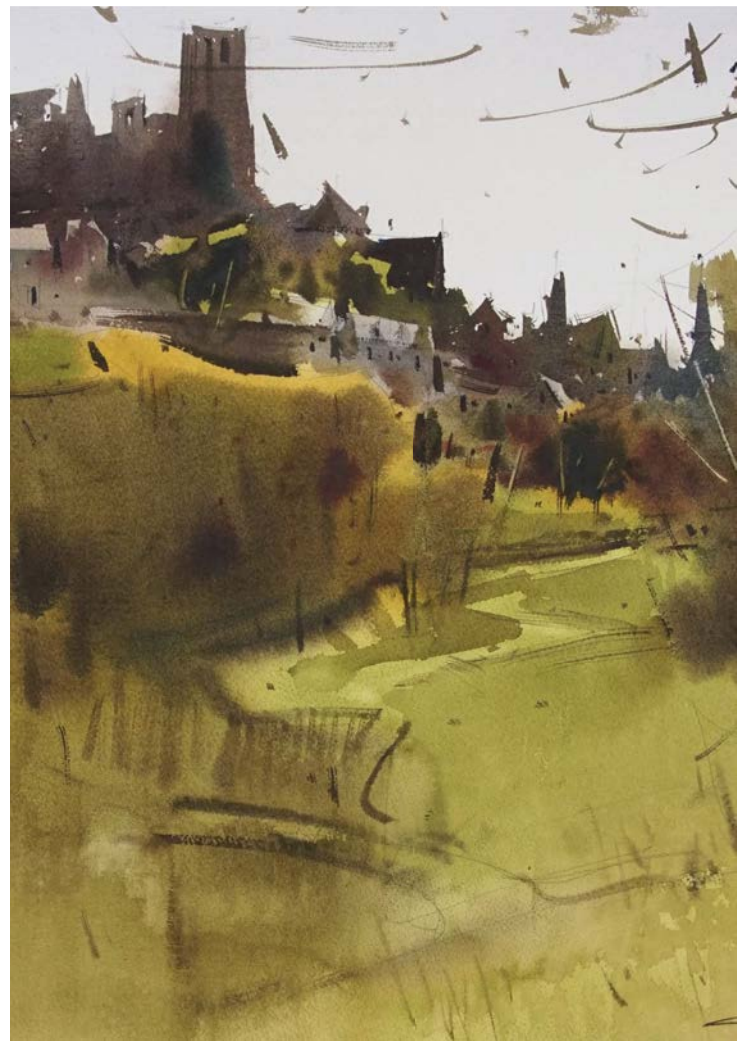
You'll travel from the Cidade Velha of **Faro** and the moorish past of **Silves** into the greenery of **Serra de Monchique**, and onward to the cliffs and open space of **Lagos** and **Sagres**.

This gentle movement through changing landscapes is the thread of the week, shaping each day's painting experience.

Each day focuses on a clear visual and technical theme, with guided morning painting sessions to build skill and confidence outdoors. Afternoons are free to continue painting, explore independently, or simply slow down and enjoy the surroundings.

Open to all levels; some experience with watercolour is helpful.

Watercolor image by Eugen Chisnicean
"Turenne" (fragment)





WEST ALGARVE ART ESCAPE

EUGEN CHISNICEAN

Eugen Chisnicean is an internationally respected watercolour painter and teacher. Trained at the Academy of Arts in Chişinău, he has spent many years painting and teaching across Europe and beyond. His approach combines technical precision with bold, expressive freedom, making his workshops both demanding and deeply inspiring. He brings a rare depth of experience — grounded in practice, sharpened by constant travel, and shaped by working directly from life.

Learn more about Eugen's work at his website:
<https://www.eugenchisnicean.com>



LIGHTHOUSE ARTCOURSES

Our workshops blend creativity with a touch of adventure. You'll pick up solid skills, try new ideas, and enjoy a process that's both relaxed and inspiring. We keep things clear, friendly, and focused — the perfect atmosphere for people who love learning with intention and a bit of spark. Step out of your routine, tune into your own artistic rhythm, and create work that feels honest, fresh, and truly yours.

A glimpse into how Lighthouse feels - a short film capturing the spirit of Lighthouse — art, walking, and working from life in the Algarve:

<https://vimeo.com/1146184671>



WEST ALGARVE ART ESCAPE

Morning painting · Afternoon rest/exploration · Evening travel

DAY 1 — Faro

Theme: Colour | Moorish Warmth & Quiet Geometry

Morning (from 10:00)

We begin in Faro's Cidade Velha, painting within the historic walls.

Focus on warm stone tones, gentle colour harmonies, doorways, shadows, and quiet architectural geometry.

A grounding start, allowing everyone to arrive—both physically and artistically.

Afternoon

Free time / lunch / rest.

Evening travel (around 17:00)

Train Faro > Silves (approx. 35–45 min)

Arrival around 18:00 · Dinner around 19:30.

DAY 2 — Silves

Theme: Rhythm | Stone, Terraces & Historical Layers

Morning (from 10:00)

Painting in and around **Silves**, inspired by its Moorish past.

Warm sandstone hues, citrus gardens, terraced views, and calm urban scenes.

Attention to rhythm, repetition, and simplified forms.

Afternoon

Free time / optional castle visit / rest.

Evening travel (around 17:00)

Transfer Silves → Monchique, circa 45min.

Arrival around 18:00 · Dinner around 19:30.



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Morning painting · Afternoon rest/exploration · Evening travel

DAY 3 — Monchique

Theme: Atmosphere | Greens, Mist & Mountain Light

Morning (from 10:00)

Painting in the Miradouro de Monchique.

Focus on layered greens, mist, forest textures, and subtle light shifts.

A strong contrast to the coast—slower, quieter, more inward.

Afternoon (optional activity)

A walk to the **Passadiço do Demo** — a striking wooden walkway suspended above dramatic valleys, offering expansive views across the Serra.

Evening

First night in Monchique · Dinner around 19:30.

DAY 4 — Monchique (Second Day)

Theme: Elevation | Distance, Aerial Perspective & Tonal Control

Morning (from 10:00)

A deeper dive into mountain painting: distance, depth, and tonal relationships.

This is where observation slows and atmospheric understanding deepens.

Afternoon

Free time / lunch / rest.

Evening travel (around 17:00)

Bus Monchique → Lagos (via Portimão, approx. 45–55 min total)

Arrival around 18:00 · Dinner around 19:30.



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Morning painting · Afternoon rest/exploration · Evening travel

DAY 5 — Lagos

Theme: Movement | Boats, Reflections & Working Harbours

Morning (from 10:00)

Painting in Lagos marina, one of the Algarve's most atmospheric harbours.
Boats, houses, water reflections, tidal movement, and simplified harbour shapes.
A gentle shift from inland warmth toward coastal rhythm.

Afternoon

Lunch / free time / rest.

Evening

First night in Lagos · Dinner around 19:30.

DAY 6 — Lagos (Second day)

Theme: Structure | Bold Shapes & Dramatic Coastlines

Early morning walk to Ponta da Piedade in Lagos.

Painting there at 10:00, focusing on cliffs, rock formations, and coastal structure.
Strong contrasts, bold shapes, and expressive brushwork take centre stage.
A powerful painting day ;)

Afternoon

Closing, sharing, group reflection.

Evening travel (around 17:00)

Transfer Lagos → Sagres (approx. 30 min)

Arrival around 18:00 · Farewell dinner around 19:30 (ocean view).

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Morning painting · Afternoon rest/exploration · Evening travel

DAY 7 — Sagres

Theme: Essence

Morning (from 10:00)

Final (optional & free!) painting session at Sagres / Cabo de São Vicente.

Vast space, open Atlantic, long horizons.

Minimal compositions, reduction, and expressive final studies.

Group departure after lunch

Return Sagres → Lagos, onward by train to Faro or Lisbon.





WEST ALGARVE ART ESCAPE

Frequently Asked Questions

° What's included in the €750 price?

- 6-day guided watercolor program across five Algarve towns
- 3-hour morning teaching sessions daily with an experienced tutor, optional free-painting sessions and feedback in the afternoons
- All local train/transfer travel between towns
(Faro - Silves - Ferragudo - Monchique - Lagos - Sagres)
- Group coordination, tips, and support throughout the journey
- Watercolor paper: we provide high quality paper - watercolor paper pad OR sketchbook, 300g/m2, aprox. A4 size.
- A convenient field easel will be provided

° What's not included?

- Your travel to and from Faro before/after the course
- Accommodation (we provide recommendations!)
- Meals (we usually have lunch together; dinner is optional)
- Art materials beside paper (you will receive a materials list upon registration)

° Can you help with accommodation?

Yes! We'll send a curated list of charming, centrally located guesthouses in each town – all under €100/night. You'll be responsible for booking your own room, but we're happy to coordinate shared bookings or help match you with a roommate if you prefer.

° **How does travel between towns work?**

We'll use local trains and short transfer/bus rides (e.g., to Monchique).

It's easy, eco-friendly, and part of the fun.

All travel tickets during the 7 days are included in your course fee.

We'll travel as a group.

° **What should I bring?**

Your watercolor painting materials, apart from paper - your

brushes, paints & palette - just the essential painting gear.

Comfortable clothes and shoes for walking & standing outdoors.

Please, travel "light"! Preferably with a small backpack only.

This workshop is a journey, we use local transport, and will change the location.

The less stuff you carry, the more relaxed and fun your experience will be!

October in the Algarve offers comfortable warmth during the day (around 22–25 °C / 72–77 °F) and cooler evenings, making it ideal for focused outdoor painting.

° **Is this suitable for beginners?**

This workshop is ideal for those with some experience in watercolor and/or drawing. Total beginners are welcome, but they should be prepared for an immersive week outdoors with daily painting practice.

° **Will we eat meals together?**

Yes! We typically enjoy lunch together as a group after the morning class – it's a great moment to connect and relax. Dinners are informal and optional; you're welcome to join us or explore on your own.

° **Can I join just for one day?**

YES! We offer a limited number of single-day spots for local participants (€120/day). Please contact us in advance if you're interested.

° **Where does the course start and end?**

We begin on Sunday, **Oct 11**, 10 AM in **Faro** (the meeting point will be sent in advance). The journey concludes on Saturday after lunch, **Oct 16**, in **Sagres**.