

## **Oil Painting Workshops with Sheena Ridley**

These 3-day workshops offer self-catering accommodation on site and focus on the application of oil paint with the palette knife and brush. The numbers of students attending is kept to a maximum of 6 to ensure personal attention.

These workshops may include painting outdoors. Plein-air painting is defined as painting in the landscape. Here you must work quickly to capture the light as it is at that moment. It is a rapid and fresh way to paint. I love working with the palette knife, and will show you methods and techniques of this tool.

Points of study that we will cover include :

Practicalities of working outdoors

Initial layout and composition

Tonal aspects and use of light

Mixing of oil paints with various solvents and mediums

Application of oil paints with the palette knife and brush

Refining of artistic skill and the use of new tools.

The workshops are held in beautiful picturesque farming areas, **Langkloof, Noll** (near Uniondale in the Klein Karoo, 80kms from George) and **Vermaaklikheid** (close to Riversdale, Western Cape). There is onsite accommodation at both venues, and groups are restricted to a maximum of six students at a time.

### **Langkloof Gallery and Sculpture Garden, Noll oil painting workshop:**

. This experience will place you in the Bo-Langkloof, Klein Karoo, 80 kms inland from George, towards Uniondale. This unique area has orchards, farmlands, old buildings and valley views where light and colour create ever-changing landscapes. Situated on a working sheep and fruit farm, here we are surrounded by the Outeniqua and Kammanassie mountains with beautiful views all around. There are great scenic gravel roads to walk or cycle on and the garden is a birders paradise.

The daily routine is as follows: 8.30am-11.00 am painting in the landscape or the studio, coffee break, studio time at base till lunch 1-2 pm then an hour or so to complete the mornings work. Free time is from 3.30pm. Each day may be 3 hours in the landscape and 3 hours studio time. The studio time is in the large studio with a fireplace if bad weather pulls in. If we have a bad weather day, we will do still-life painting.

### **Accommodation:**

The accommodation is away from the main house and has separate entrances and parking. It is surrounded by the indigenous garden. There are a number of quiet peaceful seating spaces in the garden. There are dogs on the property, well socialised and friendly. There are chickens and cats on the property.

Melkstal Cottage is fully equipped, with a double bed and an en-suite bathroom with a shower, basin and toilet. The open plan kitchen and dining space is shared with students from the Blue Room. There is a two-plate gas hob and a fridge. There is also a lovely wood-burning stove and large windows looking into the indigenous garden. You have use of a seated covered braai area, shared with the Blue Room.

The Blue Room has two single beds that can be placed together, and an en-suite bathroom with a bath, shower, basin and toilet. You have a fridge and tea and coffee making facilities. You have the use of the open plan kitchen and dining area in the Melkstal Cottage and the use of the covered braai area.

The accommodation can be viewed here:

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/20489951> with various pictures of the rooms on offer.

If there are more than 3 students, or more than four if there is a couple, we can hire other accommodation close by- within 10 km radius.

Smoking is not permitted in the houses, and I do request that smokers respect the other students and smoke far away from everyone. I also request no cell phone calls during workshop hours. There is no wi-fi on site, but good Vodacom reception so bring your mobile data with you.

The workshops start on the first day at 8.30 am, and end on the third day after lunch. You are advised to arrive the evening before to settle into the new environment and be ready for the early morning start. I provide a free dinner on that night at the main house. It is a good time to get to know each other and share our creative ideas. The final day lunch is a bring-a-plate communal affair. You are welcome to stay the last night too, the Bo-Langkloof is a difficult place to leave!

**Prices:** The workshop (three days) is R2700 per person. Students bring their own materials- I will send you a suggested material list once you have booked your place.

**Accommodation prices:**

Double bed bedrooms R700 per night for one person, and R200 pp extra (you may bring your spouse or partner) Shared single bed bedrooms R450 pp per night.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to join us, and your choice of accommodation. Your place is confirmed once you have paid the 40 % required deposit. We all have things that happen, so I do have a cancellation policy in that if you cannot attend the dates you have chosen, I retain your deposit and you can book any other workshop within six months from the original booking. After that you will lose your deposit.

**A bit about me Sheena Ridley:**

I have painted and sculpted since childhood, and studied Fine Arts at Michaelis at the University of Cape Town. I worked as a set painter for CAPAB, the Cape Town base for the theatre at the Nico Malan, now Artscape, wonderful exploratory work learning about different materials effects and in large format. I restored antique porcelain with David Vickers.

I sculpt in clay, plaster, wax and cement. I paint in oils using the palette knife and brushes. You can see my work on my website [www.ridley.co.za](http://www.ridley.co.za) or Facebook Sheena Ridley or Instagram sheenaridley, or in my gallery in the Klein Karoo, the Langkloof Gallery and Sculpture Garden.

I have held a number of sculpture workshops at my studio in Noll over the last 8 years. They are great fun and informative and my past students have shown a lot of appreciation and enjoyment of what they have learnt and experienced.

**DATES FOR OIL PAINTING WORKSHOPS AT LANGKLOOF GALLERY AND  
SCULPTURE GARDEN, NOLL, WINTER 2024**

**12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> July**

**2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> August**

**27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> September**

**25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> October**

**DATES FOR OIL PAINTING WORKSHOPS AT VERMAAKLIKHEID,  
WINTER 2024**

**14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> June**

**28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> June**

**16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> August**

**4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> October**

Please contact me if you have any queries. I look forward to hearing from you!

Regards Sheena

**PS:** I also offer ferrocement sculpture courses (5 days), and wax sculpture courses (4 days). Please email me if you would like details of these additional courses.

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