

Icon Painting Course & Tour of Painted Monasteries



Valeni, Romania



Itinerary

Day 1: morning flight from Luton Airport to Romania (airport tbc) transfer by minibus to Valeni.

Days 2, 3 & 4: icon painting workshop at Valeni Manor. You will paint Saint Parascheva (above) of the Balkans or Saint Andrew (below left).

Day 5: learn how to paint eggs in the Ukrainian style using hot wax and dyes.

Day 6: visit local museums in Piatre Neamt a nearby town.

Day 7: visit nearby Agapia and Bistrita monasteries

Day 8, 9 and 10: travel to Bucovina and spend two days visiting the painted monasteries and egg museums. Then transfer to airport for flight home.

Icons will be blessed in Valeni church by Fr George (main picture)



"Exceeded my expectations!"

(2024 course participant)

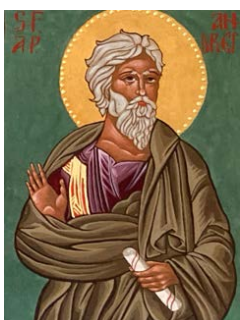


30th April - 11th May 2027

Join us for a three-day icon painting course in the historic Manor House of Valeni, Romania, and visit the painted monasteries of Bukovina, a World Heritage site. You'll learn too the intricacies of Ukrainian egg painting and experience an Orthodox Easter service at the village church.

Valeni is situated in the rolling countryside of Moldavia, Romania, from where you can see the Carpathian Mountains. Strip farming still exists as does some ploughing with horses.

The Manor House is a traditional Moldavian style building dating back to the late 1700s. The house has been completely restored and renovated using traditional materials and incorporating modern facilities. Full details can be found at www.valenimanor.com.



There will be a choice of icons to paint, either St Parascheva (pictured above) who lived in the 10th century and is the patron saint of the Balkans, or St Andrew (pictured left) who became the patron saint of Romania in the 1990's.

"It was an uplifting and refreshing week for body, mind and soul."

2026 course participant



Where you will stay and paint

The accommodation at Valeni Manor House is luxurious. The bedrooms are spacious and all have ensuite facilities, wifi but no televisions. The main house, vaulted entrance hall and one of the bedrooms (r) are pictured above.

The studio space you will use for icon and egg painting is a restored hot house for over-wintering plants, well lit, warm and comfortable. Participants on the 2026 course are seen at work in the photograph above.

Jackie Hunt, an iconographer working in the Byzantine style, will lead the icon course. She is a trained artist and has run icon painting workshops for many years. Course participants will gild using 23 carat gold leaf and paint using egg tempera.



Above: Jackie pictured in her studio in Hampshire. Left: painted monastery.

Jilly Wise runs Ukrainian Egg Painting workshops in the UK and has been painting eggs for 30 years. Jilly will teach you how to paint eggs in the traditional way using hot wax and dyes.

If you are interested in joining us in Valeni in 2027, please contact Jackie Hunt at jack.swallow@icloud.com or call 07940 649691

Web: www.jackiehunticons.co.uk

The package

30th April to 11th May 2027

- 7 nights full board at Valeni Manor House plus 2 nights in traditional accommodation in Bukovina (above left)
- All tuition and materials (for both icon and egg painting workshops)
- All transport within Romania provided, incl. airport transfers

£1,950 + flights

Flights to be booked by individual travellers at their own cost. Carrier: Wizz Air.

Outward flight departs London Luton Airport times tbc.
Flight duration: 3 hrs 15 mins.
Romania is 2 hrs ahead of UK time.

Return flight airport tbc

"It was a privilege to spend time in such a restful and beautiful environment"

(2026 course member)