



# OJAI VALLEY INN & SPA

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## GUESTS HONE ARTISTIC SKILLS AT OJAI VALLEY INN & SPA'S NEW ARTIST'S COTTAGE & APOTHECARY

### Local Artists and Aromatherapists Lead Creative and Eclectic Endeavors

OJAI, CA (January 2009) – Ojai Valley Inn & Spa recently unveiled a hacienda-style Artist's Cottage & Apothecary as the new centerpiece for its expanded arts program. As one of the few real art studios at any resort, Spa Ojai combines its world-class spa experience with programs of artistic self-discovery. Spa Ojai's art program includes classes ranging from mixed media, painting on glass, silverpoint drawing, and silk scarf painting, to our signature mandala drawing, an introspective, revealing and very personal class. Local artisans teach guests valuable techniques while allowing for the freedom of individual self-expression. The apothecary provides a perfect setting for creating your own personal scent of essential therapeutic oils which carry your name.

Spa Ojai's 1,200 square foot Artist's Cottage is nestled beneath a centuries-old oak tree, coined the "friendship tree," adjacent to Spa Ojai. A paseo-style tiled patio encircles the cottage allowing for plein air painting. Expansive windows and doors open the interiors to the outdoors creating a versatile workspace without walls. The cottage houses old-fashioned artist's easels, art books for inspiration, high-quality art supplies, and plenty of raw materials to entice creativity.

### Artist's Cottage Highlights

Guests can choose from open studio time, where they are free to explore under light guidance, group art sessions, where artistic exploration takes place with others, or private art sessions for more in-depth and personal instruction.

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Art classes available include:

**MANDALA:** A Sanskrit word, meaning the center and the circle, mandala can be a focal point for centering in meditation, or a medium to find one's place in the greater scheme of things. Guests are led to consider seasonal, multi-cultural, astrological or numeric themes to create their own personalized circular symbol of wholeness.

**MIXED MEDIA:** Guests combine acrylic paints, oil pastels and a variety of found materials to create a unique collage. The beautiful finished product will be a remembrance of the time spent creating the piece, and the reasons for selecting certain materials.

**GLASS PAINTING:** Visitors to the cottage learn the art of painting on glass. They choose from a variety of vessels to create a beautiful piece for oneself or a gift for a friend.

### **The Apothecary**

The Apothecary portion of the Cottage teaches guests the art of custom blending. Guests can attend an herbal distillation demonstration, which shows them how to distill herbs in an old-fashioned French alembic. In the blending class, guests choose from a wide selection of essential oils and blend their own personalized scent to use in their spa treatments or take home with them. The Apothecary can formulate additional quantities of guests' concoctions for re-orders after the guest has returned home and run out of their formulation.

Since 1923, vacationing guests have sought the tranquil pleasures of the historic Ojai Valley Inn & Spa, a AAA Five Diamond property located on 220 tree-shaded acres 35 miles south of Santa Barbara. Affirmed by its many prestigious awards and fresh from a \$90 million renovation, the legendary Inn is one of the nation's unique hidden treasures. Reservations: 1-800-422-6524 (OJAI). Internet: <http://www.ojairesort.com>

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