

The Civita Institute Creative Residency Fellowship

Civita di Bagnoregio, Italy
La Stagione Pasquale

March 2 – 29, 2027



Imagine climbing a steep pathway and, with labored breath, passing beneath this ancient Etruscan *porta* to [step back into a medieval Italian village](#).

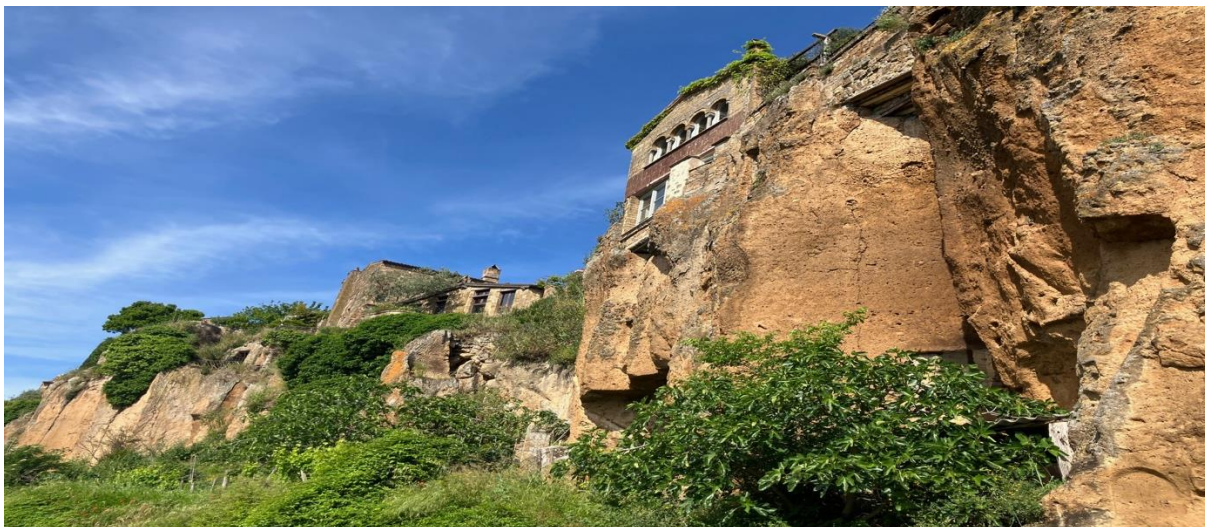


No cars, no roads, no modern pavement underfoot, just the narrow lanes of cobblestone that the *Civitonici* have trod for millennia. Around every corner the observant eye will find a small detail of a stone stairway, an iron grille, or a niche in an ancient wall to draw the curious mind. Turning again, a dramatic view out over the city walls to the *Valle dei Calanchi* will catch your breath. Time slows and you simply wander.



Now imagine spending 4 weeks in this magical place; 28 evenings to savor the quiet that descends on the village after the tourists depart; 28 mornings to wake up with the sun and wander out into a tranquil village, finding new vantage points from its ancient walls; 28 days to focus your creative energies on a project of your choosing, inspired by the unique qualities of this place and those of nearby hill towns, sharing ideas and fellowship with other creatives, each bringing their own lens to the experience.

That is the opportunity offered by a [Creative Retreat Fellowship with The Civita Institute](#). The fellowship is open to designers, artists, writers, or any creative whose curiosity and imagination will be stirred by the other-worldly setting and fragile beauty of [Civita di Bagnoregio](#).





[The Civita Institute](#) owns an enclave of historic *tufo* stone buildings grouped around a courtyard and garden tucked away in this extraordinary hill town in the province of Viterbo in the Lazio region north of Rome. In March 2027, the Institute is hosting a month-long residency for four selected fellows whose proposals respond to the organization's interdisciplinary mission:

To inspire and foster an interdisciplinary understanding of the unique qualities of Italian hill towns that remain pertinent to our contemporary experience through the promotion of historic preservation, education and scholarly research, artistic creation, cultural exchange, and professional explorations.

During their residency Creative Fellows may produce a work of art, of research or of cross disciplinary discovery. The spirit of the fellowship may be seen in the breadth of work produced by [prior Fellows of The Civita Institute](#). The primary objective of the residency is to foster a supportive community framework within which Creative Residency Fellows can share work, exchange ideas and stimulate deeper creativity.



Fellows will occupy one of four [houses in the Institute's complex](#) and enjoy use of the communal spaces of the Sala Grande and the adjoining *cortile* and *giardino*, providing opportunity for casual interactions and coordinated gatherings with other fellows. Each of the houses is fully private with its own bathroom and kitchen.

The goal of the Creative Residency program is to enhance the development of each fellowship project through a supportive cohort framework for sharing work and exploring interdisciplinary conversations. During the fellowship season, two Institute members will be in residence as Facilities Docents, managing the operations of the complex and serving as hosts, fostering community connections and facilitating social and intellectual engagement of the fellowship cohort. These informal opportunities will include regular coffee hours and aperitivo gatherings, informal presentations of work in progress and a culminating exhibition, if desired, day walks or outings to nearby markets, a field trip to an historic town, villa, or garden, and a group dinner culminating the Creative Residency Fellowship. These opportunities are arranged for fellows and any accompanying partners who wish to participate with the aim of stimulating deeper creativity and enhancing the overall experience through social connections, shared knowledge of the local environs, and cultural engagement with the village of Civita di Bagnoregio and nearby hill towns.



This year, the Creative Residency Fellowship will correspond with *la Stagione Pasquale*, the Easter season, which is celebrated in Civita di Bagnoregio with a 400-year old historical, cultural and religious observation, the [Processione del Venerdì Santo di Bagnoregio](#), during which the wooden Holy Crucifix of the Church of San Donato in Civita is taken down and laid on a coffin and carried in procession down from the village and around the town of Bagnoregio, before being returned to its rightful place in the church before midnight.



Photo credit www.10cose.it/civita-di-bagnoregio

The four-week residency fellowship is partially supported by The Civita Institute, with a Fellows' contribution ranging from \$2,600 to \$3,500, depending on the house occupied. Details may be found in the [Creative Residency Fellowship application](#). Joint Creative Residency Fellowships are available. A partner may also join a Creative Residency Fellow, sharing accommodations and contributing a Cohort Engagement supplement, encouraging their participation in the socializing and intellectual engagement of the Fellows' cohort. Additional family members or pets cannot be accommodated. Fellows will handle their own grocery shopping, housekeeping and meals during the residency and are encouraged to patronize the many local restaurants and businesses.

The Creative Residency Fellowship season is a chance to immerse yourself in this place out of time, far from routine obligations, and commit your talent to providing a new lens on the mission of The Civita Institute and the extraordinary place that is Civita de Bagnoregio, promoting understanding and intrigue for those who may experience it only through your work.



Photos by Stephen Day, Nancy Josephson, and Tory Laughlin Taylor, courtesy of The Civita Institute