

COLLE AI LECCI

# DESIGNING & BUILDING WITH EARTH modern use of an ancient material

Workshop with Barbara Beetz & Elisa Berker from CLAYA at Colle ai Lecci - Tuscany

Supported by Conluto





### EXPLORING EARTH

Earth, one of humanity's oldest building materials, fascinates us with its simplicity and immense potential for various applications in the construction sector. Earth holds the promise of becoming a central material for creating healthy, environmentally friendly spaces due to its numerous positive qualities. Furthermore, its regional diversity offers endless aesthetic and functional possibilities, sparking our curiosity to explore and innovate. With every project, you can uncover fresh perspectives on this ancient and versatile material.

In the upcoming workshops, we are excited to explore the versatility and aesthetics of earth as a building material together. Participants will have the opportunity to experiment with various techniques, focusing on clay plaster and rammed earth construction.





# CHOOSE YOUR DATE

Summer workshop 16th - 20th of July 2025

Autumn workshop 3rd - 7th of September 2025





# EARTH WORKSHOP

The workshop imparts material expertise & planning knowledge, creating a bridge between theory and craft:

- knowledge of the building material and its techniques
- basic knowledge for planning with earth as a building material
- building physics and indoor climate properties
- earth in architecture ancient, contemporary and visionary
- modern rammed earth construction
- hands-on exploration of clay plaster and rammed earth



# MATERIAL SCIENCE & THE EXPERIMENT

Through small-scale elements, such as creating earthen surfaces as "images" and crafting small objects from rammed earth, we will explore the fundamental principles of these techniques. The workshop will also provide theoretical knowledge about earth as a building material, offering insights into its properties, potential, and sustainable applications.











## WHO IT SUITS

We are targeting architects, interior designers, artists, graphic designers, space planners, and anyone eager to discover this material. Additionally, participants are welcome to bring specific questions related to their own projects, and we will offer guidance on using sustainable materials in their designs. This workshop encourages hands-on exploration, providing a space to test creative ideas, push boundaries, and gain practical advice. Together, we will dive into the rich textures, finishes, and structural potential of earth.









# WORKSHOP PACKAGE

- 5 days: Wednesday Sunday (4 nights) either in one of our design apartments with private balcony or garden, or camping in our olive grove if the apartments are full
- workshop sessions with different techniques of building such as clay plaster and rammed earth in our outdoor areas or our indoor atelier space
- welcome drink on the day of your arrival
- free mineral water and biological tee or coffee throughout your stay
- rich daily brunch at 9.00 am with organic + local ingredients
- daily snack at 1:00 pm to re-energize your body
- daily vegan and vegetarian dinner served in our garden at 7:00 pm
- free use of the pool and all our outdoor spaces



## WHAT YOU WILL TAKE HOME

- a deeper connection with the material
- a profound knowledge of earthen building methods
- skills in handicraft techniques
- self made creative pieces
- insights into different uses of earth in architecture
- inspiration for your creative design activities
- new friends and deep connections







# YOUR TEACHERS AND EXPERTS

CLAYA is a German practice founded by Elisa Berker and Barbara Beetz. The name CLAYA, meaning "made from clay", reflects their affinity and focus on earth as a building material. They are a young collective of architects and craftswomen who share the same vision of how they see their future in terms of sustainability in building processes. Their passion for combining design and craftmanship gave them the idea to found CLAYA in 2020.

Learn more about their work: www.claya.net or on instagram: www.instagram.com/claya\_arch/

# YOUR TIME YOUR CREATIVE RETREAT



#### PROGRAM

Wednesday: arrival & welcome 03.00 pm Individual arrival Welcome & get together 04.00 pm 05.00 pm Introduction to the content 07.00 pm Dinner

Thursday: regular day 09.00 am Breakfast/Brunch 10.30 am Workshop 01.00 pm Snack Workshop 02.30 pm 05.30 pm Leisure time 07.00 pm Dinner

Friday: regular day 09.00 am Breakfast/Brunch 10.30 am Workshop 01.00 pm Snack Workshop 02.30 pm 05.30 pm Leisure time 07.00 pm Dinner

09.00 am 10.30 am Workshop 01.00 pm Snack 02.30 pm Workshop 05.30 pm Leisure time 07.00 pm Dinner

#### Sunday: departure

09.00 am 11.00 am

Breakfast/Brunch Individual departure

Saturday: regular day Breakfast/Brunch

CI AYA





## WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- travel costs like flights, train or rental car
- all activities beside the retreat
- alcoholic drinks

Tip: The drive from the airport in Florence to the accommodation takes approximately 90 minutes. If you choose to travel by train, arriving in Siena and renting a car for the last 29 kilometres to Colle ai Lecci, is advisable, as it also gives you the freedom to freely explore the region by car, for the duration of your stay. Carpooling with other guests may also save you money and energy.







Colle ai Lecci is a place where a collective of people creates projects that reframe the way we live and interact.

Our place is unfolding since the creation of Colle ai Lecci in the beginning of 2022. The transformation of a former winery into a creative place that sets the stage for a new concept of living and working together.

Three simple Italian farm houses revive as a "borgo", a little village with ateliers, organic garden, olive groves, and the close contact to nature. We assemble a community of designers, farmers, artists, artisans, architects and other creative minds, whose work engages with pureness toward a resetting of values.



# COLLE AI LECCI - AGRITURISMO

Colle ai Lecci is an intimate place in the middle of the Tuscan landscape, located only 29 kilometres away from Siena. The biological farm makes its own olive oil and offers contemporary designed apartments for relaxing holidays.

#### PURE LIVING

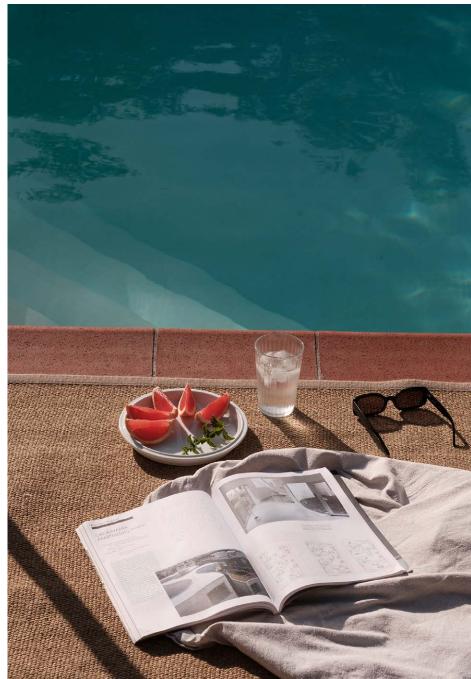
The lifestyle in Colle ai Lecci aims to get closer to nature, simple values, rediscovering the senses and slowness of being.

#### GARDEN / POOL

The Borgo is surrounded by cypresses and a natural garden with wild herbs, fruit and flowers. In the middle of our olive grove, you can let your mind wander and body relax in the 8x9m large swimming pool.

#### NATURE

The olive grove, adjacent to the buildings, is available for relaxing in a hammock or having a meal amongst the olive trees. If you feel like a refreshing walk through our oak forest, we can gladly provide trail tips.



# COLLE AI LECCI ACCOMODATION

We offer 4 different options of staying with us during the Creative Retreat. All options include the participation in the workshop, organic meals freshly prepared by our chef, the use of all our facilities like the pool, the garden, our bikes etc.:

THE SUITE-APARTMENT - PAOLO Suite with 49 sqm, double bedroom, a bathroom, a cosy living area, a kitchen and private balcony Per person including workshop 1.960 € Per accompanying person without workshop 1.560 €

THE 2 STOREY-APARTMENT - ANA Suite with 53 sqm, double bedroom, a bathroom, a living area with kitchen and private garden Per person including workshop 1.840 € Per accompanying person without workshop 1.440 €

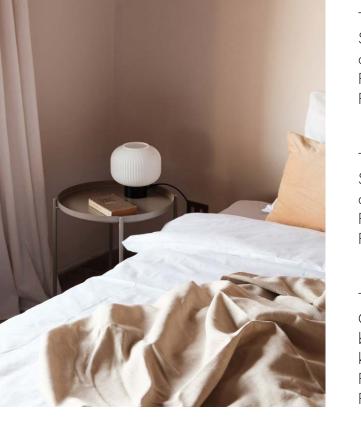
THE GARDEN APARTMENT - MANU Ground floor apartment with 41 sqm, double bedroom, a bathroom, a cosy living area with kitchenette and private garden Per person including workshop 1.760 € Per accompanying person without workshop 1.360 €

#### THE MAIN APARTMENT - 2 DOUBLE ROOMS WITH SHARED BATHROOM Two double bedrooms in our spacious main apartment on the first floor, with a big shared bathroom with bathtub and a private terrace Per person including workshop 1.680 € Per accompanying person without workshop 1.280 €

#### Our special offer! In case all rooms are booked:

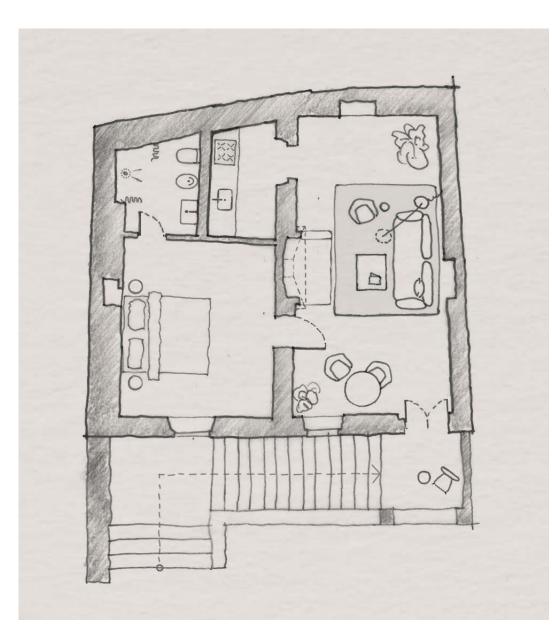
CAMPING - YOU LIKE TO SLEEP UNDER THE STARS? Either you bring your tent to sleep in our olive grove or you spend the nights in your van, a shared bathroom with shower and toilet, a spacious living area and our kitchen on the ground floor are at your disposal. Per person including workshop 1.480 € Per accompanying person without workshop 980 €

Please find all the detailed information below!









#### SUITE APARTMENT PAOLO

- Suite with 49 sqm
- situated on the first floor
- large living room with dining area
- fully equipped kitchen
- bedroom with double bed
- bathroom with shower
- private balcony

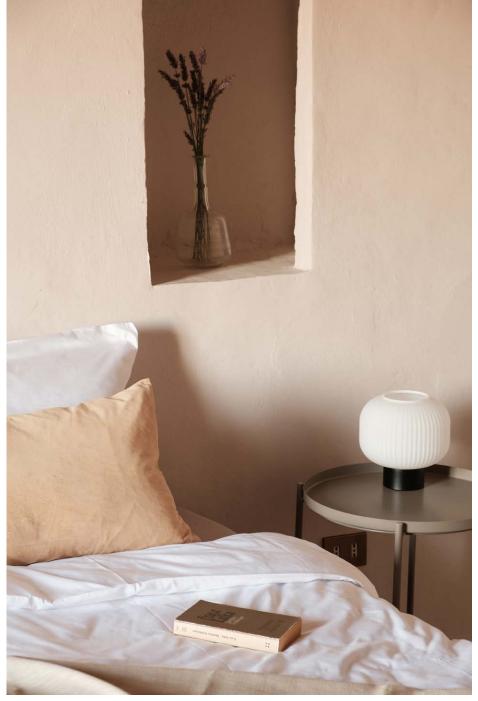
5 days all inclusive Creative Retreat (4 nights): Per person including workshop 1.960 € Per accompanying person without workshop 1.560 €



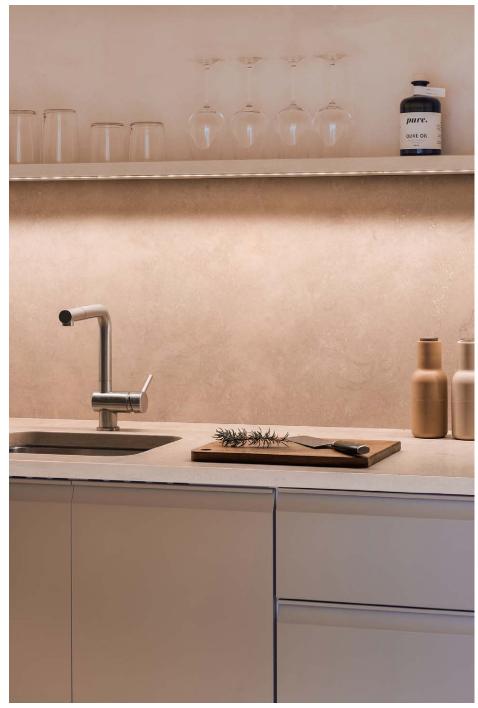


Apartment Paolo





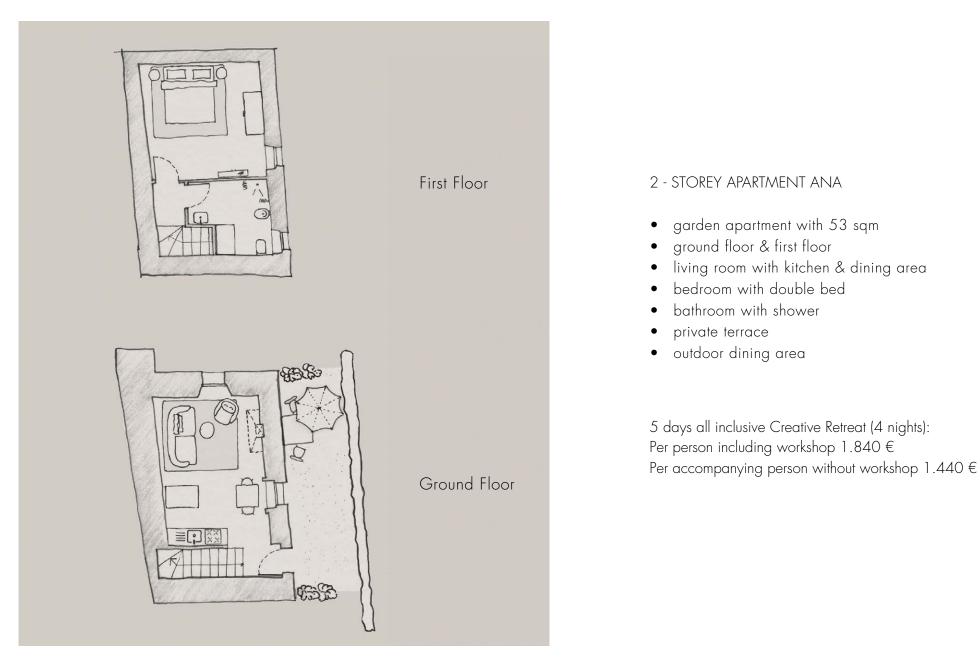
Apartment Paolo





Apartment Paolo









Apartment Ana











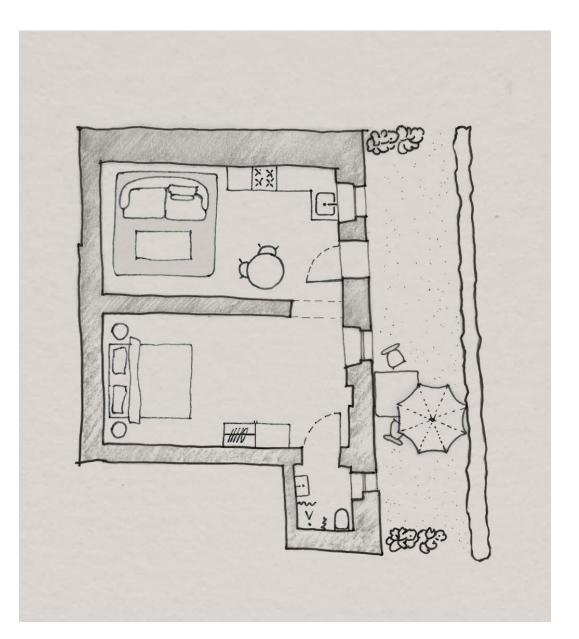




Apartment Ana







#### GARDEN APARTMENT MANU

- garden apartment with 41 sqm
- ground floor
- stair free
- living room with kitchen & dining area
- bedroom with double bed
- bathroom with shower
- private terrace
- outdoor dining area

5 days all inclusive Creative Retreat (4 nights): Per person including workshop 1.760 € Per accompanying person without workshop 1.360 €





Apartment Manu

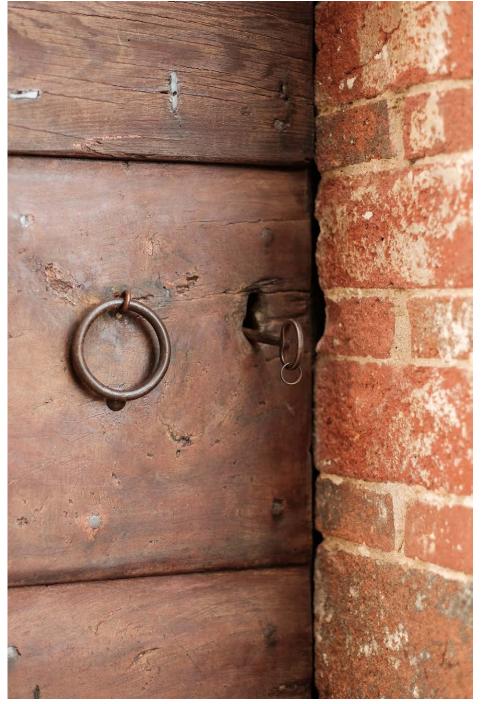




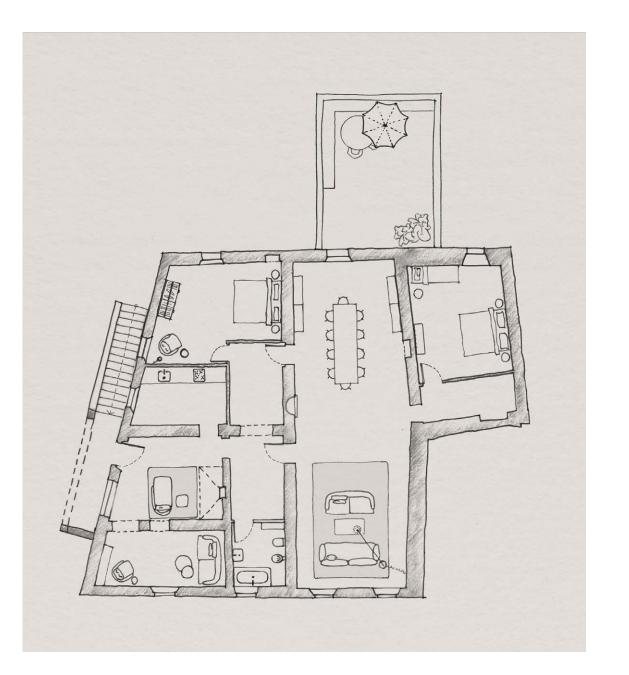
Apartment Manu







Apartment Manu



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#### MAIN APARTMENT

- 2 bedrooms with double beds
- in the main apartment 154 sqm
- first floor in the main building
- large fully equipped kitchen
- chimney room
- spacious living room & dining area
- bathrooms with bathtub
- large private terrace

5 days all inclusive Creative Retreat (4 nights): Per person including workshop 1.680 € Per accompanying person without workshop 1.280 €

#### DESIGNING & BUILDING WITH EARTH WORKSHOP





#### CAMPING

- you can park your van in a quiet place in our garden
- or set up your tent in the olive grove
- a shared bathroom with shower + toilet is at your disposal
- you can use the common kitchen and the spacious living area and our library
- wifi is available in different common areas

5 days all inclusive Creative Retreat (4 nights): Per person including workshop 1.480 € Per accompanying person without workshop 980 €

all prices include Italian VAT



# BOOKING INFORMATION TERMS & CONDITIONS

#### THE RETREAT

The minimum number of participants is 6 persons. In case the minimum number of participants is not reached 8 weeks before the start of the retreat, we'll inform you immediately. A cancellation at this point would be free of charge. Of course, you can have your stay with us without the Yoga classes for a special rate.

#### BOOKING

Booking directly at Colle ai Lecci under the email: hello@colleailecci.it or via phone +43 665 65259237

You can find further information about our property and activities on our website: www.colleailecci.it

#### COMMUNICATION

For a smooth way of communication between you and the workshop experts, we'll forward your name and email-address after your booking. In case you don't want us to do so, please let us know after you receive the booking confirmation.

#### CHECK IN - CHECK OUT

On the day of your arrival check in is possible in the afternoon from 14:00 to 18:00 or in special cases by telephone agreement. In order for our housekeeping to be able to make the rooms spotless again, we would be grateful if you would check out your room by 10:00 am at the latest.

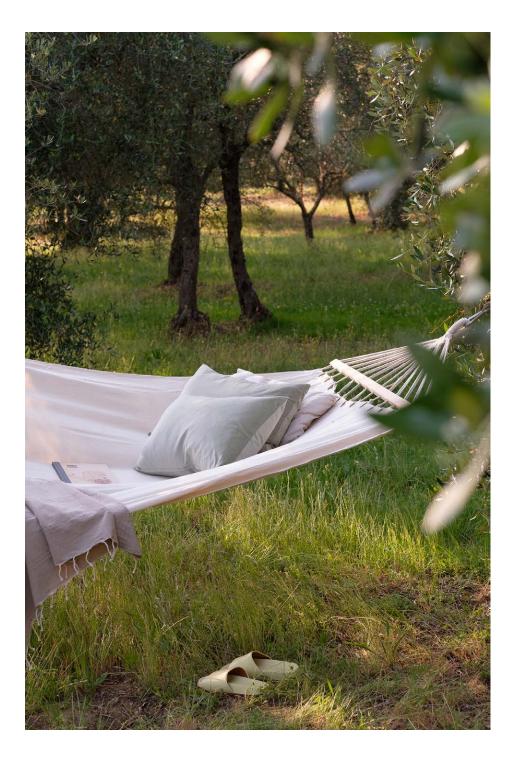
#### PAYMENT CONDITIONS

We kindly ask for a downpayment of 100% in advance on the day of your booking. Cancellation is possible with a 100% refund until 60 days before the scheduled check-in. Cancellation is possible with a 50% refund until 30 days before the scheduled check-in. We unfortunately cannot offer any refund in case of cancellation during the 30 days before the scheduled check-in. All above-mentioned prices including Italian VAT.

#### DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?

Please feel free to contact us. It's a pleasure to help you with any further information. We would be happy to welcome you at Colle ai Lecci in the heart of Tuscany!

Your hosts Ana & Nina



# SEE YOU SOON



COLLE AI LECCI

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