

Milanese and European Laces
Claire Bonito

17th - 19th Aug 2026
Monday to Wednesday

This is a three day course with a primary focus on Milanese lace with other European laces supported. This course offers individual tuition to focus on a new project, a new lace or continue and make progress on an existing project. This course will give you more concentrated time than a weekly class to make significant progress. The course is taught through individual learning and group demonstrations of techniques as appropriate.

Description

Lacemakers who would like to try Milanese lace for the first time will learn the techniques to get started with a beginner's piece that introduces commonly used techniques and decorative braids. More advanced and experienced lacemakers will receive individual guidance on their chosen project. Everyone is welcome at all levels in Milanese as well as those working on other European laces. The focus of this course will be primarily Milanese, with other European laces supported depending on individual's specific needs. Please contact the tutor in advance to discuss your particular requirements.

Please bring with you

Lace pillow, bobbins, pins, cover cloths (round with a central hole recommended for Milanese), scissors, thread suitable for pattern, pattern/book that pattern is in, glasses/magnifier (if needed). Ideally come with pattern prepared and bobbins wound to enable work to start straight away. Contact will be made with students prior to the course to confirm what pattern is being planned for or what pattern is required to start.

Available to purchase from the tutor

All my designs/pattern packs will be available to purchase as well as Finca thread in white and a selection of thread packs for use with my designs. If something specific is required this needs to be organised with the tutor in good time before the start of the course.

Level

This course is suitable for all levels, including beginners to Milanese or for other European/braid based laces.

About Claire Bonito

Claire has over 25 years of experience in making and designing lace, learning her craft from Pat Read MBE and later from Jacquie Tinch. She has been teaching regularly for over 15 years now. She teaches a range of laces but specialises in Milanese and has become well known for her contemporary designs using both Milanese and Withof lace techniques. Claire teaches in a range of settings across the UK. She is extremely talented, both as a lacemaker and designer, and is a very good communicator with all levels of lacemaking. Her students say that she has an easy manner and friendly nature, and her classes are popular with both new and regular students alike. Claire was awarded both the Individual's and the Visitor's Choice Trophies in the Lace Guild's 'Contrasts'


Course Location:


CIM Business Centre Cookham

Moor Hall
 Cookham
 Maidenhead
 Berkshire SL6 9QH

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| Monday | |
| 9.15am | Students arrive (coffee available) |
| 9.30am | Teaching session |
| 12.45-1.45 | Lunch for all |
| 1.45-5pm | Teaching session |
| 6.45 for 7pm | Dinner for residents |
| Tuesday | |
| 7-9.00am | Breakfast for residents |
| 9.30am | Teaching session |
| 12.45-1.45 | Lunch for all |
| 1.45-5pm | Teaching session |
| 6.45 for 7pm | Dinner for residents |
| Wednesday | |
| 7-9.00am | Breakfast for residents |
| 9.30am | Teaching session |
| 12.45-1.45 | Lunch for all |
| 1.45-5pm | Last teaching session |

Exhibition, and was awarded a Medal for Excellence for her 'Waterlily Mat' in the 'Movement' exhibition.
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