

## **WATERCOLOR SUPPLY LIST FOR PLEIN AIR** Catherine Hillis ©

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*There is no substitute for good quality paper and paint. If you already own watercolor supplies, please bring what you have, and don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions. Remember to only bring the essentials and make your equipment lightweight and portable. Backpacks and fanny packs are good choices.*

Paper: A small Arches 140lb cold pressed or rough watercolor block. 12 x 16 or smaller or a watercolor sketch book to paint in.

Sketchbook: You may prefer painting in a sketchbook and sitting on a stool or wall instead of using an easel. Sketchbooks will also be used for studies.

Board: This is only needed if you use separate sheets of paper. A gator board/corrugated plastic board or similar and masking tape. Keep it small and lightweight.

Accessories: Portable stool/chair (our host may have these available and please check); sunblock, bug repellent, portable water container and water, paper towels, pencil, kneaded eraser, a small spray bottle for water. Bring a phone or iPad for taking pictures. Snacks, money, lunch, hat, trash bag, water to drink.

Umbrella: Not necessary because we can often find shade. I use the EASEYL umbrella from <http://artworkessentials.com/products/UMK-45/UMK45.htm>

Easel: Not necessary. Also, our host may have easels available, or you can sit on a bench/wall and paint on your lap. I use the En Plein Air easel because it's light yet durable from <https://enpleinairpro.com/>.

Palette: Your choice: make it light and portable. Most people like a pan palette. I use the Quiller Palette or similar which is very large but it's what I've always used. I advise you use something smaller.

Brushes, Pencils, Erasers: Your choice. I use a medium round mop (#8), a small round for details (#4), some riggers, and a 2" flat. I have many more brushes but the ones above are my hard workers. Here are some reasonably priced brands: Raphael Soft Aquas, Princeton watercolor brushes, Cheap Joe's Dream Catcher line and Golden Fleece line and Stephen Quiller's brushes. I use #2 pencils, kneaded and white erasers.

Paint: Use only professional grade paints. I use Daniel Smith, Dick Blick, American Journey, Mijello, Da Vinci, A. Gallo, etc. My colors can change but today here are *some of the colors* on my palette - Ultramarine Blue, Cobalt Blue, Cerulean Blue, Quinacridone Rose or Alizarin Crimson, Red Hot Mama or Pyrrole Scarlet, Quinacridone Magenta, Bumblebee Yellow or Hansa Yellow and Lemon Yellow, Permanent Green, Perylene Green, Neutral Tint, Sepia and Burnt Sienna. I think these are essential. Also on my palette are Permanent Green, Viridian Green, Serpentine Green, Lavender, Cobalt Violet, Manganese Violet, Quinacridone Purple, Raw Umber and Sepia.