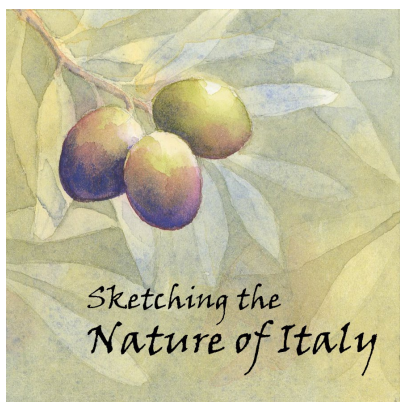




Materials List & Notes

Travel sketching requires paring down and figuring out what is essential and what is extra. This list includes my recommendations, but you should feel free to bring what works for you. We will be sketching and painting at Castello di Petroia and outside “in the field,” so consider portability when choosing supplies. Don’t hesitate to write a note in the group chat if you have a question. Chances are good that someone else will have the same question or a suggestion to offer.

Essentials

- **Pencils-** F, HB, B, or 2B
- **Kneaded eraser** or white vinyl eraser
- **Black pen with waterproof ink-** **Pigma Micron** or **Staedtler** pigment liners are both good. The ink is archival quality, waterproof, and the pens come in various sizes. The size(s) you choose should suit your style and the paper you are using. Sizes 01 or 02 make a nice fine line, size 005 is especially good for very fine detailed work.
- **Small set of watercolors-** pans are recommended as they are much easier than tubes to take into the field. Popular brands include Winsor & Newton, Daniel Smith, QoR, M. Graham, and Holbein. If you are buying new, I recommend artist grade paints, though the Winsor and Newton Cotman student grade sets are quite good if you are just starting out. See below for color suggestions.
- **Watercolor sketchbook-** There are many options for sizes and brands: **Handbook, Stillman & Birn (Beta or Zeta), Moleskin, Strathmore, and Etchr** are a few good choices. Avoid getting a journal that is too small; 3x5 or 4x6 will leave you with a lot of tiny, unimpactful sketches. Try 5.5x8 (which will open to 11x8), 7x10 or 8x10. **IMPORTANT:** get a journal with 120-140lb (270-300gsm) watercolor paper. You will get more satisfying results. If this is your first time getting a watercolor sketchbook, you may want to test drive one at home to see if you like it and familiarize yourself with the paper.
- **Drawing paper-** A small pad or a few loose sheets of drawing paper for doing practice exercises, thumbnail sketches, or taking notes outside your watercolor sketchbook.
- **Tracing paper-** A few sheets is fine. You can fold and carry them in the back of your sketchbook.
- **Watercolor brushes-** round sizes 2, 6, and 8 or 10 (small, medium, large). Also bring a waterbrush, size medium or large. I use Escoda versatil travel brushes—the brush folds into the handle, which protects the bristles and makes the brush more compact. They hold a lot of water, come to a nice point, and last well. There are other brands that make travel brushes that are probably equally good—I just haven’t tried them.
- **Small jar** with a lid for water

- **Absorbent cloth rag or paper towels-** An old cotton tube sock with the foot cut off makes an excellent “cuff” worn around the wrist and used in place of paper towels when painting in the field.
- **Ruler-** Six-inch clear ruler
- **A small backpack or messenger bag** to carry your art supplies while exploring. A large zip lock bag is also handy for holding a few art supplies and a sketchbook and keeping them dry.

Optional

- **Watercolor block or pad-** 140lb. cold press for doing some “finished” paintings that are not in your sketchbook.
- **Watercolor brushes-** Bring additional brushes if you have favorites that you use frequently. I pack an old stiff brush for spatter and a flat brush for washes, but I consider them “extra.”
- **Water-soluble pen** for ink and wash sketching.
- **1-gal Ziplock bag-** I fit almost all of my essential sketching supplies in a large Ziplock bag, which I can tuck into a small backpack or travel bag.

We will have small folding stools available for use at the castle.

Good basic palette:

- Ultramarine Blue
- Cobalt Blue or Cerulean blue
- Phthalo Blue
- Lemon Yellow
- Hansa Yellow Medium or Cadmium Yellow Medium
- Yellow Ochre or Raw Sienna
- Permanent Alizarin Crimson
- Cadmium Red or Transparent Pyrrol Orange
- Burnt Sienna (Winsor & Newton preferred)
- Burnt Umber

And a few more...

- Quinacridone Gold
- Permanent Sap Green- Many people mix their own greens from combinations of blues and yellows or blues and browns. Others select a green that mixes well with blues for darker shades and yellows for lighter ones. (Daniel Smith preferred).
- Cobalt Violet Deep Hue or Winsor Violet- useful for mixing shadow tones and neutrals

I also use: Prussian blue and Aureolin yellow