



Art Retreat with Shelly Perkins

Please bring all the supplies you'll need for this workshop with you to the park. Happy Isles Art & Nature Center only carries a limited supply of student grade materials and may not have everything listed on this packing list.

ART SUPPLIES TO BRING (suggested by Shelly)

SKETCHBOOK: A hard backed watercolor sketchbook with paper suitable for fine lines and thick enough for watercolor. Hot pressed ideally, with a smooth surface that's good for fluid line work as well as water colour. Any format is okay: portrait, landscape or square; Size A4 (21 x 29cm).

WATERCOLORS: Shelly recommends a portable travel set, a double primary palette (warm red and cool red, warm yellow and cool yellow and warm blue and cool blue) as a good start with the addition of a dark colour, such as paynes grey. Paint that's been squeezed and dried in a palette is great for saving space outside. In addition to the traditional primary palette she sometimes likes to add an "Ochre" and a "Burnt Sienna". Shelly also likes [Daniel Smith](#) "Lavender" and "Turquoise". A few other brand recommendations are [Winsor & Newton professional watercolor tubes](#) and White Knights pan sets. Whichever palette you choose, make sure to pre-squeeze your paints before our retreat! [This video](#) gives some helpful tips if you are setting up a palette for the first time.

BRUSHES: Shelly recommends having a selection of round and flat watercolor brushes of varied sizes! She feels that a lot can be done with just a single large round brush with a good point! She always uses synthetic. A large wash brush is a great item to have also. You can bring additional sizes and brush shapes if you have them. A travel brush that folds back away into its own tube is nice to keep it damage free.

WATER BRUSH: [Water brushes](#) are great for outdoor travel since you can fill the plastic barrel of the brush with water and paint anywhere. Recommended brands: Niji or Pentel.

WATERPROOF PENS: Black ink pen with waterproof ink. Shelly recommends bringing a finer nibbed pen (like #02) and a larger brush nib. Suggested brands: [Sakura Pigma Micron](#), [Kuretake Zig Millenium](#), [Copic Multiliner](#), or [Staedtler Pigment Liner Markers](#). The sigma brush pens are also lovely for some fluid line work.

PENCIL: Shelly suggests a range of soft pencils from 3B - 9B and a graphite stick for line-mark making. Don't forget a pencil sharpener and baggie to collect pencil shavings!

ERASER: kneaded or white plastic

MASKING FLUID: Shelly enjoys using masking fluid to save the whites on those flowing waterfalls!

WATER CONTAINER: You'll need one or two small cups or jars for water. Collapsible cups are terrific for saving space when backpacking, but not necessary for the workshop. Bring a full water bottle to fill your water cup and a bottle to carry out used paint water – we will be following Leave No Trace ethics in this workshop.

PAPER TOWELS, a sponge, or fabric to help clean your brush between colors.

EQUIPMENT & GEAR TO BRING

You'll need to be prepared to paint comfortably outdoors. Common sense prevails, but here are some specifics that will be helpful:

- **Backpack** to hold all your supplies! This will help keep your hands free as you walk around.
- If your sketchbook does not have a hard cover, it can be convenient to have a support under your sketchbook while working in the field, such as a **clipboard or piece of foam board**.
- **A portable stool, camping chair,** sitting pad, towel or plastic trash bag to sit on.
- **Water bottle** for drinking water
- **Weather appropriate attire** (packable waterproof jacket for unexpected rain storms)
- **Sunscreen/hat and sunglasses**
- **Lunch/snacks**
- **Bicycle** (optional, but can be helpful to bring in order to get around Yosemite Valley to different class locations!)