

Materials for Tom's Workshop:

Sketchbook

Strathmore 140 lb watercolour travel journals or equivalent to paper quality.

5 x 8" up to 8.5 x 11" are suitable. Just remember.. Bigger pieces are a bit more demanding. Choose a sketchbook size that works for you. I tend to switch it up everytime.. Smaller books are more manageable.. bigger books allow for bigger, bolder pieces. I haven't decided what to use for this course yet, but likely 7x10" Strathmore makes a great one of these.. And we could likely fill it during our time together.

"Throw-away" sketchbook

Any old notebook or sketchbook for notes and doodles along the way.

Pencil (s)

Any sort of pencil for roughing in basic shapes before we go to ink. I use a crappy carpenters pencil with a hard lead to make sure I don't spend too much time drawing with pencil.

Pen (s)"

I work with a flex nib fountain pen. Specifically a BAMF fountain pen from The Desiderata Pen co". But less expensive options like "Noodler's Ahab Flex nib" or "Lamy Safari" will do the trick. Any fountain pen that you enjoy is great! The reason I use this tool is for line variety.. With a flex nib fountain pen, I can get line thickness from .05 up to 10 with a single pen. Make sure your fountain pen is equipped with a plunger, for filling with ink.

Alternative is a set of micron or staedtler pens in a variety of line thicknesses. *Please test them to make sure the ink dries waterproof*

Ink

I use Platinum Carbon in my fountain pen. It dries waterproof and does not clog up or corrode my pen. Noodler's waterproof ink is a decent alternative, but I have found that it does not dry quite waterproof enough.

Watercolour "spit box" travel set

There are many options out there..I recommend one that is empty, which you can fill with your own cakes or tubes of paint.

Colour Palette:

This is up to you, but I use an earth tone palette:

Ultramarine Blue
Turquoise
Neutral tint
Cadmium Red
Alizarin Red
Cadmium Yellow
Raw Umber
Burnt Sienna
Yellow Ochre

Water Bottle and water bowl/cup

Some watercolour kits come with a little bowl attachment for water . Otherwise a little cup for water is needed.

Brushes

No. 10 round watercolour brush

No. 4 round watercolour brush

Some folks like to use those watercolour brushes that have water inside the barrel, which is fine..I've never been a fan of those, and I use normal watercolour brushes, so I may not be able to offer the best instruction for folks using those.

Since we're working relatively small, a few smaller brushes will do just fine. For years I've gotten away with using a single, no 8 round brush, and lately have added a no 4 round for details.

Escoda travel brush sets are fantastic

Fuumuui makes a decent, significantly less expensive alternative travel brush set. (that's what I'm currently using)

Kneadable eraser**Small tube of white gouache****Small foldable stool if sitting on the ground is uncomfortable**

(Napkins or paper folded paper towels will be available at La Romita but it never hurts to pack a few with you. If you forget anything, there will be opportunities to hit a local, well-stocked art store.)