

Plein Air Supply List

1. palette (can be wood, disposable paper palette or plastic. Don't buy a plastic palette with sections, that is for watercolor)
2. palette knife (should have a curved flexible blade so your knuckles don't get in the paint, no plastic) Dick Blick store on Howe Avenue has decent palette knives
3. painting panel (8x10, 9x12, are good sizes)
4. oil paint, box set of basic colors, or purchase individual tubes of:
Hansa lemon, yellow ochre or cadmium yellow,
bright red, alizarin crimson,
French Ultramarine and Cerulean blue or serves blue
large tube of titanium white
additional colors that I use are yellow green, terra verde, permanent rose,
If you already have paint, bring what you prefer
5. brushes start with flat bristle brushes, #2, #6 and #10 (optional or bring what you have)
6. odorless turpentine or gamsol (if you use brushes)
7. paper towels
8. portable easel
9. camera (if you like to refer back to the scene for touch-ups)
10. pastel pencil or charcoal for drawing scene
11. box to bring painting home

Other considerations

In plein air, there are a few other items to consider. Don't forget protection, such as bug spray and sunscreen as well as sunhat or visor. I seldom use an umbrella as I find it ends up being more of a hazard. I will try to find a place that has enough shade. If you want to bring an umbrella, that's fine. We may walk a bit unless that could cause a problem. Let me know. If you like to sit while painting you might want to bring a folding chair and I use a bungee cord to attach paper towels to my easel. I also bring plastic bags for garbage.

Finally, it's a good idea to bring something in which to store wet paintings so you can easily transport them in your car. An inexpensive way is to use pizza boxes or a store box, ie Macy's. I've also used the flat boxes that you get when purchasing a case of water, can goods, and the like. You can also purchase travel boxes from art supply stores. I use RayMar boxes.