

# Susan Abbott

## Exploring Color in Santa Fe

### General supplies:

#### Sun hat and sunblock

An **art bag or small backpack** or **caddy** for carrying sketching and misc. painting supplies. You'll want to be able to move around comfortably with your gear.

**Water bottles** for drinking plus carrying painting water.

**Portable stool** (optional) One small enough to fit in your backpack

#### Lightweight watercolor easel (optional)

Not necessary but if you want to do more painting than sketching it will be useful. Here are possibilities for lightweight watercolor easels if you don't have one:

<https://enpleinairpro.com/collections/packages>

### SKETCHING

**Sketchbook** small enough to carry easily for notes and sketches in the field, around 6" x 9". It should be able to take a watercolor wash and drawing with a pen. Possibilities are:

Holbein multimedia sketchbook:

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/holbein-multimedia-books/>

Canson sketchbooks:

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/canson-artist-series-mix-media-books/>

Hand Book sketchbook:

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/hand-book-paper-co-travelogue-watercolor-journals/?>

fromSearch=%2Fsearch%2F%3Fq%3DHand%2520book%2520sketchbook

**Waterproof pens** for sketching, such as Faber-Castell Pitt pens in black and sanguine, Fine and Medium nibs

## **WATERCOLOR**

Arches or another good brand **watercolor block 9”x 12”** OR **watercolor paper** approximately 10 sheets cut to 9” x 12”, 140 lb. cold-pressed paper. (You won’t be happy with the poor quality of student grade or Strathmore paper for your plein air paintings.)

2 pieces of **foam core if you aren't using a block**, a little bigger than your watercolor paper, sandwiched around the watercolor paper to protect it and to use as a support.

**White artist's masking tape** (not blue painter’s tape, which can throw off your color)

**Brushes** in a protective case (3 or 4 rounds and flats, medium size)

Robert Simmons Sceptre series are an affordable choice:

<http://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-and-newton-sceptre-gold-brushes/>

**Pencils, erasers, sharpener** (H or HB pencil for drawing with watercolor)

**Watercolor palette** filled with dried watercolors. Give your palette a few days to dry with the cover off. Let me know if you want to start a new palette, and I'll email you a suggested color placement. Here's is a good one for travel if you don't currently have a watercolor palette:

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/mijello-fusion-airtightleakproof-palettes/>

**Water holder** like this:

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/holbein-bellows-brush-washer/?fromSearch=%2Fsearch%2F%3Fq%3Dholbein%2520water%2520holder>

### **Suggested watercolors:**

You don't need to refill your palette with these colors, but these are what I use and teach with. Brands are Winsor Newton (WN), Schmincke (SCH) and Daniel Smith (DS). No abbreviation after pigment means any brand professional grade paint will do.

Hansa Yellow Medium (DS)

Cadmium red (light or middle, not deep) or another warm red

Quinacridone Coral (DS)

Permanent Alizarin Crimson

Permanent Rose

Ultramarine Blue (not “green shade” or “red shade”)

Cerulean Blue (SCH Helio Cerulean is less opaque) or Manganese Blue

Prussian blue or Thalo blue or Winsor blue

Yellow ochre or Quinacridone gold (DS)

Quinacridone Sienna (DS) or Burnt Sienna

Naples Yellow

Please feel free to call (802-454-1621) or email me at [sa@susanabbott.com](mailto:sa@susanabbott.com) with any supply or packing question.