

The items on this art supply list are suggestions, and my favorites, they are not requirements.

Sketchbook, Hardbound

SIZE:

8.5 x 11" or A4: 210 x 300cm - Portrait format

or

8.3x5.8" or A5: 184x210 - Portrait format

PAPER QUALITY: 80-100 lbs.

I personally prefer smooth paper, like [Hahnemühle Nostalgie](#) (on which watercolours will behave quite different than on watercolour paper).

Sketchbook tips:

-If you have a favourite brand or type of sketchbook, that's awesome. Bring it. I recommend to choose a size that isn't smaller than A5. It will help you to work a little bolder and courageous, I promise!

-When traveling, you'll often use your sketchbook on your lap. So I recommend to choose a hardbound sketchbook. That way, your sketchbook lies flat on your lap.

-I never use ringbound sketchbooks, but some people love them, because they lie flatter than a bound sketchbook. However, in the workshops, we are going to fill a lot of double pages (pages facing each other), so then the ringbound would be in the way.

Pen with water-resistant ink.

Suggestions: Fineliner, uni pin 08 or Uniball Eye rollerball pen or Fountain Pen (like a Lamy Safari) with a medium or broad nib. You will need a water resistant fountain pen ink for this. Suggested brands: [Platinum Carbon ink](#), [Deatramentis Document ink](#), [SketchInk by Rohrer&Klingner](#)

A watercolor set

Suggested Brands: [Winsor & Newton](#), [Van Gogh](#), Schminke

A Water brush, or if you prefer, you can bring a watercolor brush and a water container

Suggestions for waterbrush: [Pentel Aquash waterbrush](#)

Paper towel or a cloth to wipe your brush

A small folding stool like [this](#) or a foldable outdoor sitting mat like [this](#), which is what I prefer to use because it weighs almost nothing and folds flat (but you have to be comfortable sitting on the ground instead of elevated on a stool).

Glue stick

Optional:

Crayons (I love using [Caran d'Ache Neocolor 1 water resistant crayons](#), and often combine them with my watercolors)

Colored pencils, just a basic set of primary and secondary colors. (my favorite colored pencils are [Caran d'Ache Luminance](#), because they are quite soft and have very bright colors. Also great for the same reasons: [Derwent light Fast](#), and [Faber-Castell Polychromos pencils](#)).

If you take colored pencils with you, bring a pencil sharpener too.

Wait, what? No pencil?

Sure, you can use a pencil if you prefer. But leave your eraser at home. We are going to train ourselves to be fearless in our sketchbooks! Mistakes? We will embrace them, rather than trying to fix and erase. Trust me, you can do it!

Bring ANY art supplies you prefer, but make sure you can make a small kit so you don't need to carry too much when we're going on our walks. You will be thanking yourself if you don't pack too much. Remember, you're surrounded by other artists, so there will be plenty of art supplies!

FAQ

What if I am just starting out drawing? Is there a way to prepare and warm up for our trip?

-Do fun exercises like continuous contour drawing. Also, looking for negative spaces. These are exercises that are fantastic to train your eye-hand coordination, and make you feel more confident about your skills..

I suck at drawing buildings. And people. Help!

-The fun of doing a drawing, is *the act of Drawing*, not what the drawing looks like. The process is what feels so good. Of course its nice when you end up with a drawing that you like. And by practicing a lot, you will see that more and more often you feel pretty happy about your sketchbook pages.

When urban sketching, it's more important what story you want to tell, than whether or not you're accurately drawing a building, or capture likeness when drawing people in view. And a travel sketchbook is not only about architecture and picturesque sites. We'll be drawing a whole lot of other stuff. But yes, we'll be drawing in the streets together.

Don't worry about what you can't do yet, just enjoy the fact that you're making art! Remember, you will be filling YOUR travel Sketchbook so you can fill those pages with whatever you like! It's important that you choose your subjects so the drawing process brings you joy. That doesn't mean that you should avoid challenging things, but be creative about it and above all have fun.

Here are a few videos on my YouTube channel that can be helpful:

[Limit your color](#)

[How to draw plants and trees](#)

[Paint first draw later](#)

[How to start a drawing](#)

[Tips for travel journaling](#)

[Drawing people in perspective](#)

[Negative space](#)

[Continuous contour line](#)

[Drawing people on the move](#)

[Continuous line urban sketching](#)

And of course -for more inspiration: read my book [Life Is Better When You Draw \(It\)](#)

I am looking forward to our adventure together. If you have any specific questions you can email me at klik@koosjekoene.nl