

Dillman's

ART WORKSHOP RETREAT

Bob Burrige's Suggested Materials List for En Plein Air Painting in Costa Rica

Updated 1/24/2016

IMPORTANT! Keep it simple and portable.

This workshop will emphasize loose, expressive techniques, not necessarily photo-realism techniques — of course, your style is up to you and I will help you with yours. I'm planning to focus on painting a series, based on specific color combinations and themes. One thing I will not do is capturing everything I see, knowing I will be overwhelmed by the awesomeness of this trip! Your painting goals are also important to me. Please write down these goals in your travel sketchbook before departing.

- **EASEL:** Any small easel set-up is fine. Don't carry a cumbersome set-up. Some painters prefer only a lapboard. Whatever you decide, make it work for you. Don't feel you need to bring an easel. You can work from a lapboard. Use gator board that is a little bigger (approximately 1/2" larger than the size of the canvas or paper you will be working on) and then you can staple or tape your canvas/paper to the gator board.
- **PALETTE:** Any convenient surface for mixing your paint.
- **PAINTS:** Any professional-grade paint (no cheap, student grade paints). Your choice of colors. I will be painting with Holbein Artist Acrylic paint - colors to match my Goof-Proof Color Wheel, plus black and white. Note: "Color Comparison Chart" available on my website. Feel free to bring pastels, fluid acrylics, watercolors, water-soluble pencils, Derwent brand, ink pencils, or Derwent blocks. If you bring pastels, we suggest you bring a fixative like SpectraFix.
- **DRAWING PENCILS:** Such as a Derwent water-soluble very dark drawing pencil
- **BRUSHES:** You don't need a lot of brushes. I suggest one each Isacryl Synthetic, rounds, brights and filberts, or your own favorite brand, half-inch up to one inch.
- **SURFACES:** I'm using 9x12 inch Prime Canvas Panels from Cheap Joe's Art Stuff, at least 2 panels per day. I plan on doing daily quick warm-up paint sketches on pre-gessoed Fabriano WC paper cut to 9x12 inches. Work on the size that is comfortable and feels right FOR YOU.
- For **WATER**, a low 10x10 inch Tupperware-type container, or similar.
- **PAPER TOWELS:** Dillman's will supply – you do not need to pack any paper towels.

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- TABLE COVERING: Clear, 4ml plastic sheet, precut to 4 ft x 8 ft. Strong tape. (not green or blue painters' tape). Bring one sheet and we will take from location to location.
- Small plastic GARAGE BAG for trash.
- ARTIST'S SKETCHBOOK, spiral bound.
- CLOTH BAG or backpack to carry all of your stuff.

ALL OF THE ABOVE FITS INTO ONE OF MY TWO CHECKED PIECES OF LUGGAGE, under 50 lbs (one bag for art and the second bag for clothing.)

As mentioned, we have weight restrictions on the flight from Arenal to Drake Bay. Please plan on one checked bag at 50lb and one carryon bag at 20lb. There will be additional charges for additional weight/bags. And most importantly, I suggest that you assemble all of the above, go outside and practice painting en plein air. Familiarize yourself with the outdoor experience! Please solve your problematic issues, such as equipment setup, working in bright sun light or inclement weather, etc. prior to arriving.

Whatever you bring, make it work for you. IMPORTANT! Keep it simple and portable. Remember, you are solely responsible for carrying your own gear when we go plein air. Bring only as much as you can comfortably carry! Label EVERYTHING with your name and telephone number.

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