* Journaling Supply List:

1. Paper   Watercolor paper comes in basically 3 weights,  90 pound, 140 pound, and 300 pound.  I would suggest that you do not use 90 pound as it does not take washes well.  Paper comes in 3 finishes,  hot press or plate (smooth), cold press (not so smooth), and rough which is used mostly for paintings of water.  I would suggest you bring either hot press or cold press.  The whiteness of the paper defers depending on the manufacturer.   It is a matter of taste.  Some people do not use the bright whites because of the glare outside but I use them and just find some shade.  I also use 4 or 5 ply bristol board which can only be bought in large sheets which I cut to size.  **The 2 ply bristol board sold in pads is not thick enough for watercolor.**  You are also welcome to try YUPO paper in this class. I will have samples of 4 ply bristol board.  When buying pads of paper try to find spiral bound pads as they will sit flat.  Watercolor blocks are also an option.  I do not use them often for journaling as they are heavy and you cannot work on two paintings at the same time easily.  For journaling keep the size of paper no larger than 9” X !2” and no smaller than 5” by 7”.   Any brand of paper is OK,  just make sure of the weight, type of pad, size, and binding.
2. Brushes   Cheap brushes are just too hard to use.  However there are some good synthetic brushes that work well and are not expensive.  You do not have to get Kolinsky sable brushes.  They are very expensive.  I suggest Winsor Newton Series 233 brushes.  They are good, cheap, and come in all sizes. Also any synthetic house brand like Cheap Joes are good to start.   As to sizes,  4, 6, 8, 10, 12 are all good sizes for rounds.  Nothing smaller and you really can do without every one of these.  If you only want 2 of them then go for the 4 and 8.  If you will be drawing a lot of buildings then a 1/2 inch brush will come in handy but it is definitely not a requirement.  Again the same Winsor Newton series is good.  Remember to clean the brushes well. The hair may become stained but that is OK as long as the paint is removed.  The brushes must be stored carefully so as to not bend the hair.  Never leave a brush hair down in the water bowl.   A  cloth case to roll up the brushes is a good idea.  There are also travel brushes available but they tend to be expensive so wait and get these only if you are going to be doing a lot of journaling. There are also some short handled travel brushes that are cheaper and pack easily. You can also use the new bushes from Japan that have a hollow handle that you fill with water.  You can prefill you brushes and not have to work about a water container.  My only consideration is that they are a little difficult to refill in the field.  If you would like to try them before buying I will have some available to try.  I believe they are also available at any craft supply store.  The brand that I have is NIJI Waterbrush.  If you will be using watercolor pencils than q-tips work fine as brushes.  Twenty should be enough.
3. Paint  I would prefer you bring either watercolor paints or watercolor pencils but acrylic paint is another option. However in the sun acryliccs dry very quickly and cannot be rewetted after drying so not the best for journaling on location.  Pastels and Oils are really not good choices for journaling. Watercolor paint comes in a tube, pan (either hard or soft pour), sticks, and pencils.  Watercolor pencils are easily transported and only need a brush or Q-Tip and water to blend them.  They are inexpensive and fun and easy to use for someone just starting.  **Inexpensive student grade watercolor pan sets are not a good buy.  They are hard to use and will frustrate anyone.**  Soft pour pan sets from Yarka (a Russian company) stay relatively soft and are easy to use and transport in their own palette.  I do spray them with water often to keep them soft.  If you prefer tubes then there are many brands to choose from.  All are good.  The Cotman brand is the student grade of Winsor Newton are fine.  I also suggest Cheap Joes and DaVinci as good and less expensive  tube paints.  As to colors, I suggest cadmium yellow light, lemon yellow, yellow ocher, cadmium red light or permanent red, alizarin crimson, cerulean blue, ultramarine blue, cobalt blue, raw umber, burnt umber, brunt sienna, and sepia.  If you want a green then alizarin green or sap green are good additions however you can always mix a green.  If you notice I do not suggest a black as that can be mixed.  Do not buy white watercolor paint.  The white of the paper is all you need.  If I want to travel light I use a Winsor Newton field box, travel brushes, and a small watercolor pad.  If you have a travel set of watercolor pans then by all means bring those to the workshop.  The pans can be refilled with tube paint and work just fine.  The trick to painting with watercolor is to keep the color pure and bright.  It is so easy to use too much water and not enough pigment.  Tube paint and pans harden but if you spray them the night before you will be using them they will soften and be fine.  You can even order empty half pan sets and just fill the pans with tube paint before you go out to paint.  You can even make your own travel paint set from an old peppermint mint metal case.  We will cover all the options in detail in class.
4. Pens and Pencils   I use Uni-Ball Vision black waterproof and fade proof micro and fine pens which are inexpensive and available at office supply stores and Walmart.  Be sure to buy only the ones that say waterproof and fade proof or check protect on the blister pack.  If you have or prefer other waterproof artist ink pens they are also fine.  Sharpie has also come out with an ultra fine point permanent marker that is another option.  You can use pencil,  an HB is a good choice.  I would prefer you use pen and not waste time erasing. If you have a white crayola crayon it makes a good resist.  If you have masking fluid that is good too.  The masking fluid and crayon are not necessary just a good extra.
5. More supplies.  You will need some king of bag or fanny pack to carry your supplies.  Any palette is OK.   Keep it small enough to pack easily.  A white saucer or meat tray will work.  Many travel sets have a small palette incorporated in the set so you can skip an additional palette. Keep your water container a size you can easily carry.  I use old pill bottles and small water bottles and use one pill bottle as a water cup. A small travel size spray bottle for water will keep your paints wet.  You will also need a 5 or so squares of paper towels, sun hat, an apron or cover up, and a small backing board if you are not using a pad or bristol paper.  Remember some watercolor paints stain so wear old clothes. Since we hope to spend sometime painting outdoors you will need a stool or chair.  If you do have a french easel or watercolor easel they will be fine also but definitely not needed.  I cannot stress enough the importance of keeping your supplies at a minimum.  The more you have to cart to location the less likely you are to find the time and energy to paint.

Supply Check List

Watercolor Paper

(6-8 pieces)

Brushes or Q-Tips or both

Paint

(watercolor paint or pencils)

(Acrylics only if you do not have above)

Permanent and Waterproof Pens

(alternative is HP drawing pencil and eraser)

Extras

Bag for supplies, small palette if needed, water bottles (2 one for drinking and one for painting), small water cup for rinsing brush, small spray bottle, paper towels, sun hat, apron or cover up, small backing board if needed, and a stool or chair (an upside down bucket works as both a stool and carry bag).  If you prefer to stand then a travel easel would be nice.

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