



**Swinton's**  
*everything art*

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## **Casa Buena Art Retreat Supply List**

Please contact Swinton's if you would like them to put together a supply kit. All students get 10% off at our store.

### **Date & Time:**

**January 7 - 17, 2026**

**50% of learning to paint is in the supplies you use. If you use inferior-grade products, expect inferior results with your painting.**

## **PAINTS**

Here is a list of the least expensive colours that make the most mixes and are my Current favourites for outdoor painting:

- Cadmium Yellow Light
- Cadmium Yellow Deep
- Yellow Ochre
- Cadmium Orange
- Perylene Maroon
- Quinacridone Rose or Permanent Rose
- Ultramarine Blue
- Manganese Blue Hue
- Viridian Green
- Titanium White

Please try to use artist-grade paints (Gamblin, M. Graham, etc.). Do not use student-grade paints or craft paints.

For those of you working in oils, we will provide thinner so you will not have to fly with it.

## **PALETTE**

The bigger the better. Strip-off palettes are great. Please NO egg cartons or Styrofoam meat trays. Bring a good plastic palette if you work in gouache or watercolour.

## BRUSHES

NO Dollar Store brushes.

### For Oil:

Bring good-quality Natural Bristle Brushes.

Sizes

- #2 Flat
- #4 Flat
- #6 Flat
- #8 Flat
- #10 Flat
- #1- 3" cheap big bristle brush for blending.
- #1 or 2 Taklon liner brush
- A small amount of cotton swabs, kept in a ziploc bag.

### For Acrylic:

Same as oil, but synthetic bristles are okay - Catalyst brands are great.

- Also a 1-inch synthetic soft flat brush (Heinz Jordan or Silver brands are good) for glazing.

### For Watercolour or Gouache:

- 3/4" flat,
- #6 round and
- #2 round
- #1 or #2 liner brush.

## BRUSH WASHER

### For Oil:

- A good metal leakproof brush washer is a very good item to invest in. You will thank us for it.

### For Acrylic, Gouache or Watercolour:

Yogurt containers with a kitchen scratchy (this is a must if you want clean brushes) in the bottom.

You do not need to bring solvent down with you. We will supply, and have lots.

You also do not need to bring a medium with you, as I will bring that down with me. - Retarder medium for acrylic. It's hot and things dry fast. This is a must if you're an acrylic painter.

## **MEDIUMS:**

**For Oil:** We will provide oil medium for participants.

### **Acrylic:**

- A retarder medium for acrylic is a must if you're an outdoor acrylic painter. Acrylic dries very fast when it's hot and windy.
- One tube of 'Open' acrylic in your favourite drawing colour (I like Transparent Red)
- Iron Oxide or Permanent Rose) is also helpful in the early stages of your work because it allows you to make adjustments more easily.

## **CANVAS**

Any size you would like to try. Smaller canvases are easier to get finished in class; large canvases will allow you less time to try things.

We will be painting up to 4-5 paintings a day.

6- 6x8,  
6-8x10,  
4- 9x12,  
3- 11x14

Value econo canvas boards/ panels, masonite boards.

I will show you how to get them home easily. -Sketchbook for thumb-nails and taking notes.

- Vine charcoal
- Blue shop towels (hardware store)
- Garbage bags (Safeway bag)

## **EASEL**

- A Good quality outdoor pochade or plein air easel will be a necessity.
- If you dare to do Acrylic, gouache or watercolour, you will want some kind of foldable or collapsable water containers.
- Spritz bottle for keeping things moist.
- Hat, sunscreen, bug spray.
- We will not be hiking per se, but appropriate footwear for walking small distances.

It's Mexico and beautiful by the pool. Bikini is essential. I'm bringing mine!

-Wine for the instructor.

That should do for now.

Guitars, Cadillac's and hillbilly music, the only thing that keeps me hanging on.

Doug.