Watercolor Sketching with Kristen Olson Stone
The watercolor sketching kits are easy to store in a small kitchen drawer or take with you on the road anywhere in the world.

What You Need

1, 12 -24 pan watercolor set. I prefer Rembrandt but any artist quality brand is fine.

1 round brush such as a #6 or #8 or a dagger brush. There are travel brushes where the handle becomes the cap such as The Silver Brush Black Velvet Voyage brushes or Tintoretto that are very nice.

1, 6” x 8” or similar size hardbound watercolor sketch book.

1, permanent black ink pen 1, Posca brush tip white acrylic pen.

A few paper towels and a small, unbreakable water cup, ziplock bag.

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Painting On Location

Here I am at The Living Desert Zoo and Botanical Gardens in Palm Desert with my watercolor painting of the Australian Kookabura bird, Tarzana.

What a great time it is to sit in a quiet, shady place with paints in hand and sketch wildlife or gardens from life. I enjoy the portability of my watercolors. Everything I need including my lunch and a water bottle fits in a simple tote bag. My lightweight aluminum stool is also easy to carry. I can go anywhere in the world and create books of beautiful painting memories. Travel to me is more about what I experience in a place rather than just sightseeing. Painting on location allows you to immerse yourself in the environment. When I look at my paintings they instantly take me back to the place I was, they help me to remember everything that went on that day. It's a much different experience than simply taking a photograph.
Watercolor kits are small and neat enough to paint with in a cafe or even on a cruise ship.
Painting should be fun! If you have a good time painting, it always seems to show in your work. By using a permanent ink pen to draw with instead of a pencil and eraser, we all “commit” to our drawings. You will avoid the bad habit of repeatedly erasing your pencil lines as there is no erasing permanent ink.

I’ll show you how to scribble your way through your drawing making perfectly imperfect lines which will actually add charm to your sketches. You’ll gain confidence in your drawing abilities with this method. I’ll explain division of space and how to do some small 2” thumbnail sketches before embarking on your larger sketch.

I’ll demonstrate how to mix an array of colors. I paint in a wide variety of mediums and believe that watercolor is the best way to learn color mixing. This course is perfect for complete beginners as well as established artists.

I’ll demonstrate brushwork and how to control the amount of water you use to paint. Learning the correct amount of water to use is one of the secrets of painting vibrant colors with watercolor paints.

We will cover values, design and so much more. Join this class with friends to learn a skill that you can do together while you explore new places. Keep your small kit somewhere in your home so you can practice painting your favorite personal photos, dishes, flowers or whatever you choose!