

Basic Sketching Materials

This is a general list of recommended materials for urban sketching:

- **Sketchbook, pad, or loose sheets of paper.** A weight of **300 gsm** is recommended (in any case, it should not be below **200 gsm**). A percentage of **cotton content** helps prevent the paper from warping. You will find hot-pressed, cold-pressed, and rough papers on the market. As a general rule, we avoid **rough grain**, as it makes it harder for fineliner ink to glide smoothly.

If you are a beginner, we recommend using an A4 size (21 × 30 cm) or similar. Smaller formats do not provide enough space to explore basic notions of perspective or watercolor handling.

- **Pencil.** Pencils come in different hardness levels. Avoid pencils that are too soft or too hard. **HB** is a good middle ground and would be our recommended choice.
- **Eraser**
- **Waterproof ink fineliner.** There are many nib sizes available. Choose the one that best suits the level of emphasis you want your lines to have.
- **Brushes.** You can use water-brushes (with a built-in reservoir) or traditional brushes. In any case, we recommend bringing **2 or 3 different sizes**. For traditional brushes, we suggest the following sizes (measured by number): **1 or 2, 6 or 8, 14 or 16**.
- **Watercolors.** A **12-color set** is more than enough for sketching during our sketching sessions.
- **Water container.** If you are not using water-brushes, you will also need a small container (foldable versions exist) and a bit of water.
- **Folding stool.** If you can bring a lightweight folding stool, we highly recommend it — it will make sketching much more comfortable. If you don't have one or cannot transport it, please contact us and we will do our best to lend you one.