

# Welcome



## Watercolor II

G26070302

with Patsy Welch  
July 19-25, 2026

Hello,

I am really looking forward to our class, Watercolor II, at Ghost Ranch. I hope this letter will answer some of your questions and will lay out how we will spend our time in class.

Each morning for 5 days we will begin class at 9:00 in the main studio at the Arts Center. We will often be working from photos, so please bring your cell phone and/or iPad. In the morning session I will first spend time explaining what we will be learning that day. Several times during the morning I will demonstrate techniques, and the class will work on these while I roam around the studio talking to each student individually about their painting. At 11:30 we will all gather around and discuss the morning's work. This is the time when people ask questions of their fellow students that lead to discussions about the possibilities of watercolor. At 12:00 pm we will break for lunch and return to the studio at 2:00. The afternoon session is used to continue what we started in the morning. Since July at Ghost Ranch offers many afternoon activities, you are free to attend one of these in the afternoon. The studio is open for your use 24 hours a day. So you can catch up on your painting whenever it suits you. Each day's lessons are built on what we learned the previous day. We will finish the afternoon session at 4:00. Evenings will be free time with some optional activities available. Dinner is served from 5:30 - 6:30.

As a watercolor teacher, I feel my job is a bit like a coach. My task is to bring out the best painter in you, whether you lean towards hyper-realism, expressionism, impressionism, or more abstract painting. I do not paint along with the class, because I don't want my manner of painting to mute your own individual way of paint-

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ing. I will always demonstrate the techniques we will be using to help you discover your own painting path.

Please email me at [patsywelch@gmail.com](mailto:patsywelch@gmail.com) with any questions concerning the class.

When packing for your trip to Ghost Ranch, please keep in mind that watercolor can stain your clothes, and please remember to bring the following:

- water bottle
- sun hat and/or warm hat
- clothing layers - average temperatures in July run from 89 degrees- 60 degrees
- sturdy shoes for walking and hiking on uneven ground
- hiking sticks if needed
- sunglasses
- sunscreen
- flashlight or headlamp – one with a red lamp lets you see the stars at night
- small backpack or bag for carrying watercolor supplies
- cell phone and/or iPad
- raincoat or rain poncho (just in case)

Looking forward to meeting you,

Patsy

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Workshop Itinerary:

**Sunday, July 19** – Check in begins at 3:00 pm  
Dinner is 5:30 – 6:30 followed by Orientation and instructor introductions at 6:45

**Monday morning 9:00 – 12:00:** We will experiment with rubbing alcohol, salt, candle wax as well as sea sponges to create as many different textures as possible. We build up layers of these textures using different colors to make bushes, trees plant life, as well as the rocks and mountains here.

**Monday afternoon 2:00 - 4:00:** We will continue working on what we learned in the morning session. Students are free to take advantage of the many activities at Ghost Ranch, and come to the studio at any time to catch up on their afternoon painting.

**Tuesday morning 9:00 – 12:00:** We will take photos of the landscape to use during class. We will spend the morning learning how to use masking fluid to leave white paper. I encourage everyone to walk around and see each other's work.

**Tuesday afternoon** - same as previous afternoon

**Wednesday morning 9:00 – 12:00:** We learn about all of the different effects of mixing diluted gum arabic with our paints.  
Wednesday afternoon - same as previous afternoon

**Thursday morning 9:00 – 12:00:** We will learn that we can undo our watercolor mistakes. We take photos of the landscape, and work from the photos combining what we have learned this week.

**Thursday afternoon** - same as previous afternoon

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Workshop Itinerary:

**Friday 9:00 – 12:00:** Students will go outside and take photos of the landscape. I talk to each student about which painting from this week they would like to put in the art show tonight.

**4:00 pm** – Set up for art show

**Friday evening** Ghost Ranch Arts Show in the Art Center - time to be announced

**Saturday, July 25** – After breakfast – check out time – 10:00 am