

ART SAFARI

NORTHUMBERLAND

Holy Island &
Coastal Sketching

15-19 June 2020

With artist Karen Pearson

Feel the sea breeze in your hair and listen to the crash of waves as you sketch dramatic ruins, castles, picturesque villages and puffins! Join us to paint in Northumberland from 15-19 June 2020.

Karen Pearson leads this short art break with demonstrations, exercises and one-to-one tuition time. She will encourage you to fill your sketchbooks with sweeping brush strokes, vast skies, watery reflections and colourful fishing boats.

Out and about, sketching and painting en plein air, we will spend time on Holy Island and at Lindisfarne Priory, Bamburgh Castle, and the delightful coast village of Alnmouth. There is also the option to take a boat trip to the Farne Islands, a sanctuary for seabirds and seals. June is the height of the puffin breeding season, so there will be plenty of opportunities to paint these endearing and unforgettable birds too.

Suitable for artists of all abilities, join Karen for days filled with creativity and inspiration.

Tour Cost: £955 per person (inc VAT)

Includes: Accommodation with breakfast, all art tuition and excursions as detailed on the itinerary.

Enquire now: 01394 382235 or info@artsafari.co.uk





Monday 15 June – Arrive Middleton Hall, Middleton

Arrive in Middleton and check-in at Middleton Hall.

Guests will be arriving at different times today - some by train and some by car.

For those arriving by train into Berwick-Upon-Tweed, Karen will be available to pick up guests at the station at around 13:30 for a transfer to Middleton Hall (approx. 15 minutes).

Our base for the next 4 nights is in the stylish self-catering accommodation on the Middleton Hall country estate, where there's plenty of space for living and painting, as well as flexibility for eating. We are surrounded by beautiful grounds with mature woodland, calming lakes, a Victorian walled garden, and wonderful countryside.

In the evenings we can choose to eat in and self-cater or to go out to nearby pubs or restaurants (lunches and dinners are not included).

This afternoon, for the early arrivals we could take a short drive to Beal. The 'Barn at Beal' coffee shop enjoys a spectacular location overlooking the Lindisfarne National Nature Reserve.

Fortified with tea, we could spend the early evening sketching on the beach, exploring the distant shapes of Lindisfarne beyond the bay and the bands of colour created by the sands.

Before supper we will get together for introductions and a chance to discuss your plans and aims for the week with Karen.



Tuesday 16 June: Holy Island



We head back to Beal (*approx. 10 mins from Middleton*) again this morning to cross the dramatic sandy causeway to explore the picturesque Holy Island.

This tiny island is home to Lindisfarne Priory, which was founded in 634A.D. and was one of the most important centres of early Christianity in Anglo-Saxon England.

The monastery was dissolved by Henry VIII in 1539/1540 and now stands in graceful ruins. Stones from the priory were used to build the nearby Lindisfarne Castle, which was built in 1550 in defence of the realm against attack by Scotland. The castle perches atop a low volcanic mound and the views from the top across the tidal mudflats and salt marshes are stunning.

We will spend the day sketching and painting the atmospheric ruins and castle. There will also be the option to visit the Island museum to discover the fascinating story of St Cuthbert, one of the most important medieval saints of Northern England.

We will find somewhere for lunch on Holy Island (not included), or you may wish to bring a picnic.

Lindisfarne Castle admission included

Wednesday 17 June: Bamburgh

This morning we travel to the beautiful village of Bamburgh (*approx. 15mins from Middleton*). The castle here was once the ancient royal seat of the Kings of Northumbria and is one of Northumberland's most iconic buildings. The castle stands on a 180-foot high basalt crag, with all-round views of the coast and surrounding countryside.



The epic scale and vast, imposing walls of the castle will encourage us to be strong in our paintwork, whilst the architectural element means that measuring will be key to giving it stature on the page. Hopefully we will have some swirling skies to add drama to the whole scene.

In the afternoon we can choose to continue with a different view of the castle from the beach, or we could turn away to concentrate on sea and sky.

Thursday 18 June: Dunstanburgh and Inner Farne

This morning we travel to the small fishing village of Craster (*approx. 30 mins from Middleton*) famous for its kippers; it is also the access point to Dunstanburgh Castle. The village has a small harbour with views northward along the rocky shore to the mighty ruins of the 14th Century Dunstable Castle. The panorama is magnificent. For anyone who wishes to paint the Castle at closer quarters it is a gentle and relatively short walk of about 1 mile along the beautiful coast.

In the afternoon, if the weather is fine, we will take a boat trip to visit Inner Farne bird sanctuary, following the route taken by British folklore heroine Grace Darling and her father during their heroic rescue of the Forfarshire in 1838. We will make rapid sketches of puffins, terns, shags, cormorants and eider ducks and razorbills.



The Farne Islands are amongst the most exciting seabird colonies in England, with unrivalled views of 23 species, including 43,000 pairs of puffins. Inner Farne covers 16 acres and is the largest of the Farne Islands; it has strong links with Celtic Christianity and St Cuthbert, who lived here in the 7th Century. On the island are a medieval chapel, Victorian lighthouse and from May to July flocks of dive-bombing terns!

There are regular boat departures in the summer and the trips last for approx. 2½ hrs with an hour landing and sketching on the Island. Our time will be short, but it will be fabulous to sketch there.

Anyone not wishing to go on a boat will be set fiendish painting tasks on land – you can choose from lobster pots, cluster of boats, cottages or people instead!

Inner Farne Boat trip included (National Trust Fees additional – please bring your membership card if you have one)

Friday 19 June: Alnmouth



We will spend our last morning in the coastal village of Alnmouth (*approx. 35 mins from Middleton*). The village can trace its history back to 1207 when it was granted a charter for a port and market. Its fortunes waxed and waned over the years, peaking in the 17th and 18th century as a grain port and shipbuilding centre. Port traffic declined in the 19th century but the village was saved by a new role as a Victorian holiday resort. It is a much-painted village of enormous charm, with plenty of colour in the boats and in the houses. The winding estuary, big skies and sandy beach offer wonderful opportunities for big brush painting.

We will spend our last morning sketching coastal views, boats, beaches and village houses, and in particular consider colour and reflections.

For those departing by train, Karen will be able to drop guests off at Alnmouth station at around 13:00.

This is a guideline itinerary only and may be subject to change according to the weather conditions!

Any questions or additions, please contact Mary-Anne, Heidi or Sarah on 01394 382235

Artists' Equipment List

This list is meant as a **guide** to useful materials. **Feel free to paint and draw with what you are most comfortable, though make sure you have good quality materials and paper.** You can bring your own preferences of drawing and water-based painting materials, though please avoid slow drying oils or acrylics.

We will concentrate on drawing and water-based paints as the safari format of our days will keep us on the move. Easy to carry, quick drying and easy fixing of materials are all very useful when travelling.

Bring a light stool and drawing board if you want them.

Paper

I will encourage you to work fast and roar through your sketch books, how many and what size you bring is entirely up to you. It's great to have A5 or A6 to hand all the time, then A4 or A3 for longer stops. Also, long landscape formats are very useful. You will draw many pages every day, I suggest that you bring: -

- 1 hardback sketch books (e.g. Seawhite of Brighton or Daler Rowney cartridge)
- 1 water-colour paper sketchbook (e.g. RK Fat Pad, Saunders Waterford 300g)

Some people like to bring a selection of loose water colour sheets for larger works, keep to 300g if possible.

Drawing

Drawing is the best way to warm up, learn new shapes and to think about your environment. Bring monochrome (pencils and charcoal), and supplement it with colour if you like. Bring some of the following: -

- Pencil – a selection of e.g. HB, 2B, 3B, 4B, 6B
- Conté crayons
- Charcoal (plus fixative or hairspray)
- Pastels (plus fixative or hairspray)
- Putty rubber and sharpener or blade
- Wax crayons
- Ink pen

If you are using conté, charcoal or pastel that needs immediate fixing, please bring fixative with you. For those that like charcoal and pastels, bear in mind we are not always drawing next to a water source – so hand wipes can be useful. Some people like to draw with a pen.

Water-based paints

We will use water-based paints for washes over drawings and finished paintings. Bring full pans or tubes squeezed into full pans and a mixing palette unless one is integral. Watercolour pencils are useful especially when sitting in a boat or in a drought!

When travelling it is much easier to work from a palette of colours in pans or squeezed in a box, rather than juggling tubes. **Suggested** colours (artist quality preferable): -

- Ultramarine
- Prussian Blue
- Cobalt Blue
- Cerulean
- Cadmium & Lemon yellow
- Burnt umber
- Yellow Ochre or Naples Yellow
- Burnt sienna
- Raw sienna
- Carmine Red or Alizarin Crimson
- Light Red
- Cadmium Red or Winsor Red
- Magenta
- Payne's Grey or Indigo
- Violet
- Viridian

Brushes

I tend to take only four or five brushes with me, partly to restrict my choice and speed up my painting. Your style may dictate other sizes. Bring your old favourites too. I travel with: -

- 1 large wash brush (e.g. big flat Chinese – 'Hake')
- 1 large water-colour brush with a good point e.g. size 18 (top quality synthetic or sable)
- 1 medium water-colour brush with a good point e.g. size 10 (top quality synthetic or sable)
- 1 small line-writer or 'Rigger' brush e.g. size 1 or 2
- Old stiff toothbrush for splattering

The rest of the kit

The rest of the kit is very important!

- Art box or bag that fits EVERYTHING
- Sun hat, sunglasses & sun cream
- Mixing palette (if your box doesn't have one)
- Plastic water mug (collapsible ones are good)
- Bull dog clips or masking tape or elastic bands
- Waterproofs
- Drinking water or flask
- Binoculars
- Camera
- Insect repellent
- Stool (optional but gives you more choice of where to sit and paint). A kneeling pad can be useful to sit on.
- Drawing board (optional)
- Travel easel (optional)
- National Trust/English Heritage Membership Cards if you have them

You may wish to bring some snacks and provisions with you, especially a drinking flask and plenty of fluids so that you are not dehydrated while we sketch plein-air.

Don't forget to pack your sun protection and insect protection.

Confirmation & Booking Form



Art Safari Art Breaks 2020

Art Break: Coastal Sketching in Northumberland
Art Tutor: Karen Pearson
Start Date: Monday 15 June 2020 at 14:00
Finish Date: Friday 19 June 2020 at 13:00
Joining point: Berwick-Upon-Tweed Station or Middleton Hall

Price: £955 per person including VAT

Sharers discount: £150pp (1 twin room available)

Includes: Accommodation with breakfast, all art tuition and excursions as detailed on the itinerary.

Excludes: Transport to/from Middleton, lunches and suppers, drinks, art materials and personal expenses, shared taxis for evenings and arrival/departure, minibus transfers for painting excursions as detailed on the itinerary - please see note below.

Group transport: Share of transport costs will be on a sliding scale from £75 per person in a shared 9-seater vehicle if there are 8 people in the group (or up to £150 per person if there are only four people in the group).

Please note: unlike 'Hire and Reward' operators we do not make profit on transportation and charge it at cost price divided by the number of participants. There is no obligation to use our transportation to join the tour and paying to join the tour does not give you the right to be carried in our vehicle. Transportation is provided as a courtesy between guided locations. If preferred, you can join the tour by following us in your own vehicle.

Personal details:

Title	
Full Name	
Address	
Post Code	
Email	
Tel Nos	
Allergies or Disabilities	

Please note that this holiday will involve some walking and getting on and off boats. Pending the Art Safari Fitbit, please describe about how far you're happy to walk carrying your art pack to painting spots in a day:

Up to 2 miles
3 to 4 miles
5 -10 miles

Any other health information Art Safari should know about you (confidential)

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Travel arrangements

Car: I/we expect to arrive at Middleton Hall at approximately AM/PM

Train: I/we expect to arrive at Berwick-upon-Tweed Station at AM/PM

Other: Arrangements have been made as follows

Car sharing

I am willing to offer a lift share to painting locations YES / NO

Rooming

I would like to have a single room YES / NO

I am happy to share a room YES / NO (sharers discount applies)

Sharing details before departure:

With your permission, we allow our contact details to be sent to other guests participating in this Art Safari:

Tel: YES / NO

Email: YES / NO

Emergency Contact details:

Name	
Tel No.	
Relationship	

Travel Insurance

Name of Insurer	
Policy Reference No.	
Travel Insurance Claims No.	

Confirming my booking

I enclose a non-refundable deposit of **GBP £238** for the above Art Break.

Please tick one box to advise us how you wish to pay:

- I wish to pay by debit or credit card
- I wish to pay by a direct bank transfer
- I wish to pay by cheque

I hereby accept the terms and conditions stated in the contract:

Signature

Printed Name

Today's Date

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ATOL 9916



How to pay for your Art Safari

Payments must be made directly to our bank account **or** you can send a cheque to **Art Safari Ltd** to our registered address at The Harbourmasters Office, Ferry Quay, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 1BW

Bank details

Account Name	Art Safari Ltd
Bankers	Barclays, Woodbridge Business Centre, 4 Church Street, Woodbridge, IP12 1DJ
Account Number	30 – 95 – 47 – 80
Bank Code	20 – 98 – 07
IBAN	GB 16 BARC 20 – 98 – 07 30 – 95 – 47 – 80



We can accept card payments, including Amex.

Please ring us with your card details.

Directions

Middleton Hall

Middleton, Belford, Northumberland, **NE70 7LF**

Owners Brian and June - 01668 219 677

By train to Berwick-upon-Tweed

There is a direct service from **London Kings Cross** to Berwick-upon-Tweed.

On weekdays trains run on the hour and the average journey time is 3 hrs and 41 minutes

There is also a direct service from **Edinburgh** to Berwick-upon Tweed.

On weekdays trains run approx. every half hour and the average journey time is 43 minutes.

Berwick-upon-Tweed is 13.5 miles from Middleton Hall.

The X15 bus service runs from Berwick-upon-Tweed Station to Middleton and takes approx. 25 mins.

From the bus stop in Middleton to Middleton Hall it is approx. a 15-minute walk.

On the return journey there is a regular service from **Alnmouth** to London Kings Cross either direct or with a change in Newcastle. There is also a regular twice hourly service to Edinburgh.

By car:

Enter the postcode into your Sat Nav to view the driving directions.

From the south follow the A1, to The North/ Doncaster, continue onto Doncaster Bypass/A1 then continue on the A1 for Wetherby/ Manchester/ Leeds. Turn left off the A1 after Belford Village, onto Cragmill Road, then turn right to N Bank Road. Follow N Bank Road for 0.9 miles, after passing a row of cottages on your left, turn left between two white pillars and follow the road, you will pass a lake on your left, continue for 0.4 miles then turn left again into Middleton Hall.

From the North follow the A1 to Northumberland. Turn off the A1 onto N Bank Road towards the village of Middleton. As you approach the village there will be a bus stop on your left, turn right here, between two white pillars and follow the road, you will pass a lake on your left, continue for 0.4 miles then turn left again into Middleton Hall.