Venice on the Grand Canal

Colour by numbers



1 Powder blue	2 Warm cream	3 Peach	4 Golden ochre	5 Terracotta	6 Dusty rose
7 Sage green	8 Slate blue	9 Lagoon turquoise	10 Deep teal	11 Burnt umber	12 Indigo

Match each number to a coloured pencil. Leave small unnumbered details white. See page 2 for pencil techniques.

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Choose your pencils

Match twelve dry coloured pencils to the swatches. Try each pencil in the empty square beside its number.

One regular set works well. If you have a choice, use soft-core pencils for broad areas and firmer, sharp points for small details.

1 Powder blue *Sky*

Hold the pencil on its side and feather pale, overlapping strokes.

2 Warm cream *Cloud and stone highlights*

Use the side of the lead with very light pressure.

3 Peach *Sunlit stone*

Use a rounded tip and build warmth in small, light circles.

4 Golden ochre *Sun and ochre façades*

Circle lightly over the sun with a medium point. Stroke up the walls.

5 Terracotta *Roof tiles*

Use a sharp point and short, light strokes down the roof slope.

6 Dusty rose *Façades and upholstery*

Overlap soft circles with a rounded tip. Add a layer at shaded edges.

7 Sage green *Patinated domes*

Curve light strokes from crown to rim with a medium point.

8 Slate blue *Shaded stone and ripples*

Hatch shadowed stone with a fine point. Shade ripples sideways.

9 Lagoon turquoise *Broad canal water*

Use the side of the lead for long, light horizontal strokes.

10 Deep teal *Ripples and window glass*

Layer short, level strokes on water. Use a fine tip inside the windows.

11 Burnt umber *Timber and boat trim*

Use a sharp point and short, light strokes along the grain.

12 Indigo *Gondola hull and trousers*

Trace inside the edge with a fine tip, then layer to deepen the tone.

PRINT THE SCENE

Print page 1 at A4 landscape, actual size (100%). For larger spaces, select A3 landscape and Fit to page.

BUILD LIGHT LAYERS

Start with sky and stone. Add the domes, canalside houses and water. Finish with the darkest shapes.

KEEP THE GLINTS

Leave small unnumbered details white. Fine interior lines suggest texture within the numbered shapes.

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The finished palette



1. Powder blue
2. Warm cream
3. Peach
4. Golden ochre
5. Terracotta
6. Dusty rose
7. Sage green
8. Slate blue
9. Lagoon turquoise
10. Deep teal
11. Burnt umber
12. Indigo

Use this colour study to check the light on the stone, the dome shadows and the changing water.

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