



ART RETREAT INFORMATION

WHERE

Australia Zoo
1638 Steve Irwin Way, Beerwah Qld 4519
Ph: [\(07\) 5436 2000](tel:(07)54362000)

WHEN

Monday 30th August to Friday 3rd September 2027
5 Full days entry to Australia Zoo
4 nights Accommodation at Crocodile Hunter Lodge
A full day of reference photography and creative planning, followed by 3 days of guided art sessions, demonstrations and studio time with Kerri and plenty of freedom to explore the Zoo along the way.

WEATHER

Average Daytime Temp 26 degrees
down to 16 degrees at night.
The lodge has a 25-metre heated infinity pool if you'd like a dip

TRANSPORT

The Crocodile Lodge accommodation is 500 mtrs from Australia Zoo and we have Free shuttle service between the two. Brisbane Airport transfers by arrangement with Kerri.

MEALS

All meals are catered for and included in cost by Australia Zoo and Warrior Restaurant starting and finishing from check-in & check-out. Any food outside of these times is not included. This includes tea and coffee facilities at the lodge, but does not include alcohol which can be bought from the bar at guests own expense. Each cabin has a full kitchen so bring along own alcohol and snacks to enjoy in your accommodation.

ART SUPPLIES

Kerri will be supplying all art materials needed, however if you have a set of pastel pencils, then you are encouraged to bring them. No need for pastel sticks or paper. If you don't have any pastel pencils, Kerri will have some for you to use. An A4 sketchbook and lead pencil would be handy for sketching along with walking shoes, hat, water bottle.

A couple of A3 pieces of foam board to protect your work to come home with would be a great idea. Kerri will have glassine paper available.



ART RETREAT

5 DAY ITINERARY

RETREAT FOCUS

From capturing inspiring reference images to developing them into paintings, this retreat is about learning to see through an artist's eyes while enjoying relaxed creative time surrounded by wildlife and nature.

MONDAY 30.08.27

DAY 1 — Inspiration & Reference Photography

- 10.00am — Meet at Australia Zoo Entrance

Catch the shuttle up to Africa and wander up to the Grasslands Café.

- 11.00am — Kerri's Reference Photography Session

Over coffee at the Grasslands Café, Kerri will share what she looks for when photographing animals for future paintings from light and expression to composition, backgrounds and those little moments that tell a story.

- 11.30am - Photography Time — Africa

Now it's time to put those ideas into practice. Spend the next hour wandering through Africa, photographing the animals and looking for the light, expressions, compositions and little moments that catch your eye before we meet back at the Grasslands Café for lunch.

- 12.30pm — Lunch at Africa Café

- 1.30pm — Photography Walk - Asia to Australia

We'll make our way through Bindi's Island and down towards Asia and finally Australia, putting what we've learnt into practice and gathering photographs, colours, textures and inspiration along the way.

- 3.30pm — Head to Crocodile Hunter Lodge & check in

- 4.30pm — Kerri Demo: From Photo to Painting

Learn how to take your favourite reference images and explore different crops, thumbnail sketches and composition ideas to find the strongest painting within the photograph.

We'll then begin choosing our main retreat subjects, printing references and preparing line art ready for our studio days.

- 5.00pm — Free time, swim or nibbles

- 6.00pm — Dinner at Warrior Restaurant

- After Dinner - Optional Line Art Help with Kerri

If you haven't quite finished preparing your line art, Kerri will be available after dinner to help you get it ready, so you can arrive at the studio the next morning ready to jump straight into your artwork.



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TUESDAY 31.08.27

DAY 2 — Building the Painting

- 7.30am — Breakfast at Warrior Restaurant

- 9.00am — Shuttle to Australia Zoo

Kerri will be on the first shuttle to the zoo at 9am each studio morning for anyone who wants to make the most of their studio time. Shuttles run approximately every 10 minutes, so you're welcome to join her or enjoy a slower morning and catch the next one. This is your retreat, and I want you to enjoy it at your own pace.

- 10.00am — Kerri Demo: Creating Backgrounds

Kerri will demonstrate creating a soft sky and clouds while exploring colour, atmosphere, edges and how to simplify a background so your animal remains the star of the painting.

We'll then move into our main artworks, preparing line art, backgrounds and those important first layers.

- 12.30pm — Lunch at the Crocoseum Café

- 1.00pm — Optional Crocoseum Show

- After Lunch — Open Studio

Continue your main artwork with individual guidance from Kerri. If you need another particular reference or simply want a creative break, you're welcome to head back out into the zoo.

- 4.30pm — Shuttle back to Crocodile Hunter Lodge

- 5.00pm — Free time, swim or nibbles

feel free to bring your work and pencils back to your cabin to keep working on your artwork.

- 6.00pm — Dinner at Warrior Restaurant



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WEDNESDAY 01.09.27

DAY 3 — Bringing it to Life

- 7.30am — Breakfast at Warrior Restaurant
- 9.00am — Shuttle to Australia Zoo
- 10.00am — Kerri Demo: Creating Realistic Animal Textures

Learn how Kerri approaches fur and textured skin, using layers, direction, values and edges to create realism without feeling the need to draw every single hair or wrinkle.

The rest of the morning will be spent developing your main artwork with individual guidance from Kerri.

- 12.30pm — Lunch at the Crocoseum Café
- 1.00pm — Optional Crocoseum Show
- After Lunch — Open Studio

Continue working on your painting and bringing all those layers and details together.

- 3.30pm — Kerri Mini Session: Sit Back & Look!

Sometimes the best thing you can do for your painting is put the pencils down and step away from it!

Together we'll look at how to assess an unfinished artwork, identify what's working, what needs attention and the next things you need to do.

- 4.30pm — Shuttle back to Crocodile Hunter Lodge
- 5.00pm — Time to relax, swim or enjoy nibblies.

feel free to bring your work and pencils back to your cabin to keep working on your artwork.

- 6.00pm — Dinner at Warrior Restaurant



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THURSDAY 02.09.27

DAY 4 — See & Sketch

- 7.30am — Breakfast at Warrior Restaurant
- 9.00am — Shuttle to Australia Zoo
- 10.00am — Sketching Animals from Life with Kerri

Join Kerri for some relaxed sketching in the zoo. We'll practice capturing simple shapes, gesture and movement quickly — no finished drawings needed, especially when your model decides to hop away! Afterwards, choose how you'd like to spend the rest of your time — finish your painting, keep sketching, catch a show, take more photos or simply explore the zoo.

- 12.30pm — Lunch at the Crocoseum Café
- 1.00pm — Optional Crocoseum Show
- After Lunch — Open Studio

Continue working on your painting and bringing all those layers and details together.

- 4.00pm — Pack up our studio and return to Crocodile Hunter Lodge.
- 4.30pm — Time to relax, swim or enjoy nibbles.
- 6.00pm — Farewell Dinner at Warrior Restaurant

You may not completely finish your painting during the retreat — and that's perfectly okay. The aim is for you to leave knowing exactly how to confidently finish it at home.



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5 DAY ITINERARY

FRIDAY 03.09.27

DAY 5 — One last day to Enjoy!

- 7.30am — Breakfast at Warrior Restaurant
- 9.00am — Pack up rooms
- 10.00am — Check out of Crocodile Hunter Lodge.

But there's no need to rush away!

Spend your final day relaxing around the lodge, enjoying one last swim, sketching or catching up with your fellow retreat artists — or head back into Australia Zoo to use your final day's entry, revisit a favourite animal, catch a show and gather those last reference photos before heading home.

Farewells will happen throughout the afternoon as everyone begins their journey home.

PLEASE DO NOT BOOK DEPARTING FLIGHTS BEFORE 3PM ON OUR FINAL DAY.

*Thank you for joining me for these few special days at Australia Zoo.
I hope you head home feeling inspired, with new skills, new friendships, plenty of
wonderful memories and far too many reference photos!
Most of all, I hope you leave excited about all the artworks still waiting
to be created from our time together.*

— Kerri xx