

On the sand

YOU WILL NEED

Paint colours: cobalt blue, alizarin crimson, Sand, yellow ochre, Hooker's green, light red, burnt sienna, raw umber

Brushes: 19mm (¾in) flat wash brush, size 8 round brush, size 4 round brush

Other: tracing number 17, cadmium red gouache

The shadow is the all-important thing on these boats; what is casting a shadow where, and on what. Shadow also helps the boats appear to 'sit' on the sand and take their place within the landscape.

As you paint in the boats, remember that they will get stronger in colour, depth of colour and detail as you move forwards in the scene. Avoid spending too much time on the details on the boats in the background.

That one rope curling away helps to lead the eye into the picture.



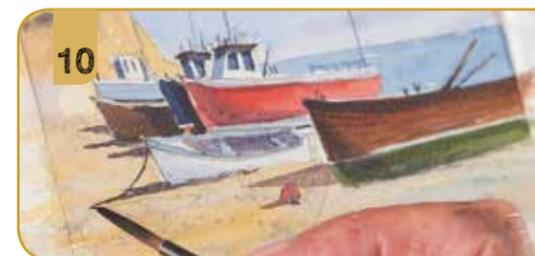
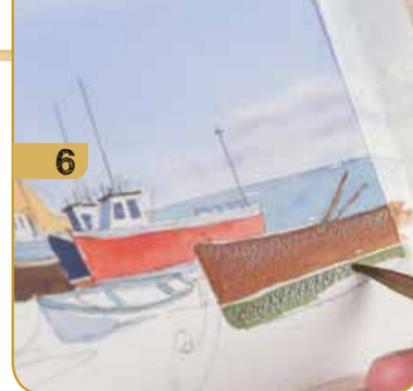
1 Prewet the sky with the flat wash brush and drop in some cobalt blue. Make the wash weaker as you move downwards. Take the colour over the cliff. Add alizarin crimson to the blue and dab in areas of warmth at the bottom of the sky. With a clean, damp brush, suck out some cloud areas, then allow the sky to dry before putting in the cliff. Mix Sand with yellow ochre for the cliff face, painting around the boats. Add more water into the base of the cliff to soften the colour, then dot in grasses along the top of the cliff in a Hooker's green–yellow ochre mix. Allow to dry before adding the shadows.

2 Sweep in the sea, a dilute cobalt blue, Hooker's green and light red mix, in from the horizon, working around the boats.

3 Mix cobalt blue, alizarin crimson and burnt sienna with plenty of water and dot in shadow on the size 8 round brush where the grass comes down into the cliff face. Soften the colour downwards with a clean, damp brush to help the grass 'sit' on the clifftop.

4 Mix cobalt blue with Hooker's green: on the size 4 round brush, block in the hull of the boat nearest the cliff. Put in the adjacent hull in a mix of raw umber, burnt sienna and cobalt blue for a wooden boat. Dilute the mix and stroke in the colour on the inside of the boat. Use a mix of ultramarine blue and burnt sienna for the next hull along. Leave a strip of white under the dark blue, and run in a little light red for the base. For the red, central boat, use cadmium red gouache to make it stand out.

5 Mix a tiny touch of light red into cobalt blue and dot in any white areas on the boats that need shadow. Mix raw umber and burnt sienna and dot in the wooden tops of boats here and there. Run cobalt blue into the white area on the base of the vibrant red boat, and on its top lip. Use the same colour to put in the windows on the boats, the paraphernalia in the hulls, and the masts. Run a rail around the top of the red boat in cobalt blue.



6 Use cobalt blue mixed with Hooker's green for the top of the boat on its side. Put cobalt blue into the front of the hull, using a curving motion to shape it. With a mix of raw umber, burnt sienna and cobalt blue, fill in the top of the hull of the foreground boat. Suggest oars, poking out, then mix Hooker's green with light red for the base.

7 Run a shadow mix of cobalt blue, alizarin crimson and burnt sienna under the foreground boat, over the tops and down the sides edges of the windows. Where the roofs meet the cabins, put in a dark shadow line. Use the shadow mix to give more depth to the wooden boat, and to show where a boat casts a shadow on the boat behind it. Dilute the mix and curve the shadows to give each boat more shape. Suggest more details on each boat, including the shadow of oars on the foreground boat.

8 Use the flat wash brush to run Sand into the beach. Work carefully around the boats, then dot in areas of yellow followed by cobalt blue and light red mixed for texture. Soften the colours with a clean, damp brush.

9 Load a dry flat brush with a strong mix of cobalt blue, alizarin crimson and light red. Flick the colour onto the painting. Cover any parts where you don't want the colour to land.

10 Fill in the buoy with alizarin crimson and yellow ochre mixed, and dot cobalt blue–burnt sienna onto the tip. With the shadow mix, pull out the shadows of each boat, towards the left of the paper. Finally, with the shadow mix, run in ropes leading away from the boats, with one coming towards the foreground, to add perspective.

