

DESERT INSTITUTE

at Joshua Tree National Park

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Fall Session

2022

Keys Ranch Nightscape Photography Workshop

Information

Date/ Time: Saturday, August 27, 5:30 pm – midnight

Meet at: Joshua Tree Visitor Center, 6554 Park Blvd., Joshua Tree

Instructor: Scott Klinger, Nightscape Photography Instructor

Overview

With new digital camera technologies, nighttime has become the right time to make spectacular images! Unlock your creativity and take your photography to a new place in this one-night workshop on the photographic techniques after dark including wide-field astro-photography, light painting, and light drawing. Learn how to photograph the night sky with your DSLR camera. Light painting and light drawing are photographic techniques in which images are made using long shutter speeds as the photographer uses a hand-held light source, such as a flashlight, to create the exposure. The photographer either points the light source directly at the camera to “draw with light” or “paints with light” by shining the light source on an object or scene to create the illumination. From Ansel Adams to Pablo Picasso, these seemingly magical techniques have long inspired photographers and artists alike with their ability to make visible the invisible and to play with time.

Class participants will be sent an advance instructional video to review two days prior to the class to prepare and you will be able to contact the instructor with any additional questions prior to the course. Upon arrival on the day of the workshop, participants will meet at the Visitor Center in Joshua Tree for check-in and then participants will caravan out to the restricted historic Keys Ranch where participants will have the opportunity to photograph the cosmos amongst the historic ranch buildings and artifacts.

Itinerary

Saturday, August 27, 5:30 pm – midnight

Joshua Tree Visitor Center

- 5:30 pm – meet at Joshua Tree Visitor Center and car caravan to Keys Ranch
- 6:00 – midnight– nightscape photography

What to Bring to the Course

- Digital camera with full manual controls, 30 second exposure capability, 3200 – 6400 ISO capability
 - A wide and fast lens with manual focus ability. An f/2.8 14 – 24 mm full frame equivalent is ideal
 - Sturdy tripod
 - Extra batteries and memory cards
 - Remote shutter release
 - Incandescent or zenon bulb flashlight for light painting, or LED panel with orange filter
 - Headlamp or small flashlight for walking (ideally with red light capability)
 - Camera/lens cleaning supplies
 - Your camera manual – you must know your own camera
 - Snacks/drinks
 - Appropriate clothing – extra layers, light gloves, beanie hat
 - Small pack or camera bag – we won't be walking far, but it's always handy to have a few items with you.
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The 10 Essentials: Every day in the Desert

- Day pack
- 4 quarts of water
- Closed toe hiking shoes
- Snacks
- Clothing layers
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Notebook and pencil/pen
- Whistle

Fitness Requirements

Participants must be in good physical condition for courses/activities in a desert that may be hot, dry, windy, and sometimes surprisingly cold

Hike Level

Easy

Guidelines

- You are responsible for your safety.
- Park your car in designated areas only. Parking along the side of the road is dangerous to you and the environment.
- Rattlesnakes are present in the desert. Avoid contact with wildlife. Put your hands and feet only where you can see them.

- Stay with the group. If you get lost, stay put.
- Drink plenty of water. If you run out, notify the instructor or the Desert Institute Representative.
- Watch your step. Some of the class is at night, please bring a flashlight and beware of uneven ground and equipment.
- Before leaving the class, check out with the Desert Institute Representative.

Instructor Biography

SCOTT KLINGER is a professional photographer, filmmaker and educator with over 15 years of experience. Scott's photographs and films have been exhibited throughout the world. Recent screenings include 66th Festival de Cannes and the Hollywood Reel Independent Film Festival. Recent exhibitions include LAXART in Los Angeles, Anfiteatro Arte in Milan, and La Generale en Manufacture in Paris. His work is held in the permanent collection of the Kiyosato Museum of Photographic Art. He currently lives in San Diego, CA is an Associate Professor of Photographic Technology at Palomar College.

* The Desert Institute staff/instructors will attempt to accommodate participant's needs; however, we reserve the right to deny a student participation in the course due to concerns regarding health and safety issues.