

# Photographing Joshua Tree by Moonlight

## Information

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**Date/ Time:** Friday, March 3, 6 pm – 10 pm  
JTNP Visitor Center 6554 Park Blvd., Joshua Tree, CA 92252  
**Instructor:** Craig Fucile, Photography Instructor and Educator

## Overview

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Seeing the desert illuminated by moonlight is an experience not to be missed. It's a chance to encounter a quiet world of deep shadows and pale highlights, perceived by the eye as a soft-edged, nearly black and white landscape, where a familiar scene in daytime can start to look mysterious. The sky, absent all but the brightest stars and planets, attains a steely darkness. Yet as our eyes adapt to the dim light, we can notice the subtle beauty of the desert under moonlight.

In this evening field class, you'll learn useful photographic techniques such as camera placement, focusing, exposure, lens settings, and composing the photograph. Craig Fucile, photography instructor at University of California Riverside Extension, will guide and assist participants in making moonlight photographs at two locations in the Park, away from city lights. Participants should bring a tripod and remote (or wireless) switch for their camera.

## Itinerary

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### Friday, March 3, 6 pm – 10 pm

*Meet at Joshua Tree Visitor Center*

- 6:00 pm – Orientation, introductions
- 6:15 pm – Car caravan to Hemingway Climbing Area
- 6:45 pm – 8:15 pm Photography at Hemingway
- 8:15 pm – Car caravan to Cap Rock Day Use Area
- 8:30 pm – 9:15 pm Photography at Cap Rock
- 9:15 pm – Car caravan to Quail Springs Day Use Area
- 9:30 pm – 10:00 pm Photography at Quail Springs

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## What to Bring

### Photography equipment

- Digital camera with automatic and manual exposures to 30 seconds , ISO 3200 – 6400
- One or more lenses with larger apertures such as  $f$  2.8, 3.5 or 4
- Tripod and remote switch or wireless shutter release
- Extra battery and memory card
- Regular LED flashlight
- Small **red light** flashlight
- Camera/lens cleaning supplies
- Your camera manual

### other items

- Snacks/drinks (2-3 litre water)
- Clothing layers for chilly temperatures
- Small pack or camera bag
- appropriate close-toed footwear, no sandals

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## Activity Level

Moderate, we will be out in the elements for four hours in the dark. It may be windy and quite cold.

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## Instructor Biography

**Craig Fucile**, B.A., Physical Geography, has taught photography for the University of California Extension programs of Irvine, Riverside and Santa Cruz. He has also taught for University of La Verne, the Sierra Club and Friends of Photography. He is a long time workshop instructor, leading workshops in western the landscapes he enjoys photographing: Joshua Tree, Death Valley, Mojave Preserve, Owens Valley, Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon, Anza-Borrego, Kings Canyon, and Sequoia. During Fall 2017 he was an artist in residence for Angeles National Forest/ San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. He received the Fall 2010 Instructor Excellence Award from UC Riverside Extension and the 2007 Distinguished Instructor Award from UC Irvine Extension.

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\* 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.