

DESERT INSTITUTE

at Joshua Tree National Park Association

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Spring Session

2023

Morning Light In The Park

Information

Date/Time: Sunday, March 4, 2023, 7:00 am – 11:00 am

Meet at: Joshua Tree Visitor Center, 6554 Park Blvd, Joshua Tree, CA 92252

Instructor: Craig Fucile, Photographer and Educator

Overview

In this four hour class you'll be making photographs at the start of the day, when the light beautifully reveals shapes and textures of the high desert. Before the park gets busy, we'll be out with our cameras photographing massive rock formations and intimate details inside reclusive Hidden Valley. From there we really get off the beaten track for another session, this time at Keys Ranch, an historic homestead of old buildings, mining machinery, abandoned cars, plus an array of artifacts from early ranch life. All this ringed by a backdrop of huge boulder piles. Our group will be the only visitors at the ranch that morning. The workshop pace is relaxed, well suited for photographic exploration. Throughout the morning your instructor will be assisting students with their cameras, explaining how and why we use certain camera settings to improve our photography. Your questions will be answered!

Itinerary

Sunday, March 4, 7:00 am – 11:00 am

- 7:00 am — Meet at Joshua Tree Visitor Center. Car caravan to Hidden Valley Day Use Area
- 7:15 am — 8:15 am Photography along the Hidden Valley Nature Trail
- 8:15 am — 8:45 am Break Time
- 8:45 am — Car caravan to Keys Ranch
- 9:00 am — 11:00 am Photography at Keys Ranch

What to Bring to the Course

Photography equipment

- Digital camera with automatic and manual controls
- Camera gear that you feel comfortable carrying
- Tripod and remote switch or wireless shutter release
- Extra camera battery and memory card
- Your camera manual
- Camera/lens cleaning supplies
- your camera manual

Other items

- Snacks/drinks (recommended at least 2 litre water)
- Layered clothing for chilly to cold temperatures.
- Small pack or camera bag
- appropriate footwear (no open-toed shoes, no sandals)
- sun protection: sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, long-sleeved shirt

Activity Level

Moderate, as you will be out in the elements for four hours, standing with some walking

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 the western 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 Craig 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.

* 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.