



Yosemite's Water Works: A Natural History and Photography Tour

In mid-May, waterfalls are vigorously flowing, there are juxtapositions of light and shadow, and a natural sense of form and texture. Photograph breathtaking Half Dome and El Capitan, watch for animals, look for wildflowers, and see yourself in a reflecting pool.

About your leader:

Dave Wyman has conducted photography workshops and family camping trips since 1983. He founded the travel photography program and directed the wilderness outings program at the University of Southern California for 14 years. Wyman is the author and photographer of the guidebook, *Backroads of Northern California*.

Dates: Monday, May 11 to Thursday, May 14, 2009

Cost: \$400 per person; Single supplement \$165; Optional \$150 transportation

DAY 1

Meet at the Mission Brewery Airport Parking located at 1765 Hancock Street, San Diego (\$8 per day; 619.296.7275) at 8 AM to depart in Museum van. Or, leave on your own to arrive at Cedar Lodge (209.379.2612), 9966 Highway 140, in El Portal, west of the park entrance on Highway 140. No activities are planned other than a group dinner and a slide show.

DAY 2

Make an early departure for the Valley floor and spend the day there, with an afternoon foray out of the Valley to visit the historic barns at Foresta. Return to Cedar Lodge after an early dinner.

DAY 3

Photography session at the Mariposa Grove of giant sequoias. After breakfast, head for Glacier Point, stopping along the way to photograph at Summit Meadow and Washburn Point. Return to Cedar Lodge by early evening.

DAY 4

After photographing the nearby Chilnualna Falls, enjoy a farewell brunch at the Wawona Hotel. Return to Cedar Lodge then begin the journey home.

Cost includes:

Accommodations at Cedar Lodge (209.379.2612), farewell brunch at the Wawona Hotel on the final morning, and an amazing array of field locations.

Cost does not include:

Other meals not included.

Suggested Equipment List:

- clothing for warm and cool conditions and possible rain—a sun hat and a knit or ski cap might both be appropriate
- comfortable walking shoes
- money for meals

Photographic Equipment: You don't need to spend any money on equipment you don't already have. A basic 35mm camera will serve you well. If you are serious about photography, however, you should attempt to bring along two accessories: a tripod and cable release. These items will allow you to photograph in the early morning hours and into evening, and will allow for creative techniques.

Tripods can be rented from some camera shops, or perhaps you can find a friend who will loan you one. The instructor may also bring along a few extra tripods to loan out. Digital- and medium-format cameras are also welcome.

Film Considerations: Bring any sort of film. If you use print film, film speeds from ISO 200–400 will allow you to more easily hold your camera, without incurring blur from camera shake.

Both Fuji and Kodak have excellent print films. Fuji has its premium Reala as well as its basic Fujicolor, and Kodak has its Kodacolor films. Slide films: currently, Fujichrome films offer the best color saturation combined with very fine grain—Fujichrome films are the instructor's choice. Fuji's Sensia II is a good film, as are the professional Fuji films, Provia and Velvia.

Weather: Expect mild to warm days, and cool evenings. Just about anything is possible, from temperatures in the 80's during the day and down to the 30's in the evening (although either extreme is rare). Be prepared with a variety of clothing. "Bad" weather, often in the form of afternoon thundershowers, is sometimes the best weather for photography and won't cancel or curtail our field sessions.

Note: If you'd like to share some of your own images with the group, bring slides (12 slides maximum), digital images (on a CD or your laptop), and/or as many prints as you wish. Also, **share your favorite photos** from a Museum overnight expedition! Visit <http://www.sdnhm.org/trips/index.html>.

To register, call 619.255.0203 or visit www.sdnhm.org.