



Horsetail Falls Yosemite Photo Safari—Advanced

Get beyond taking pictures, and instead create beautiful photographs in Yosemite Valley, one of greatest treasures of California. Learn to produce powerful images and develop your “eye” for photography using composition and technique including depth of field, high-dynamic range, and more. Photograph Yosemite’s Horsetail Falls, with February weather ranging from blue skies to winter snow. The post-trip meeting will provide an opportunity to review and critique photos. Students are expected to have a good working knowledge of their cameras, including exposure and aperture. This class is suitable for any format of film or digital camera with manual controls.

About your leader:

Larry Stein is a professional printer and photographer. Owner of Warp 9 Imaging, in El Cajon, Stein creates fine-art prints for artists, photographers, and himself. He offers personalized training for photography and “Photoshop for Photographers.” He specializes in art and landscape photography utilizing digital and film, DSLR to view camera.

Trip: Thursday, February 25; 8 AM to Sunday, February 28, 2010; 6 PM

Classes:

Pre-trip: Thursday, February 18; 6–9 PM

We’ll use this time to review basic photographic techniques including composition, exposure and digital camera features.

Post-trip: Tuesday, March 9, 2010; 6–9 PM

This will give us an opportunity to review the trip and do a class slideshow and critique. This is a great opportunity to get feedback and resolve any unanswered questions.

Cost: \$400 per person; Single supplement \$230; Optional \$200 transportation

DAY 1

7:45 AM Meet at the Mission Brewery Airport Parking located at 1765 Hancock Street, San Diego (\$8–9 per day; 619.296.7275) at 8 AM to depart in Museum van.

We will depart promptly at 8 AM.

Or, leave on your own to arrive at Yosemite Lodge (209.379.2612), 1122 Highway 41, in El Portal, west of the park entrance on Highway 140. For road and weather information, please call 209.372.0209.

No activities are planned other than a 7:30 PM group meeting after a no-host dinner.

DAYS 2–3

We'll be getting up about 1 ½ hours before sunrise to capture the morning light. Actual events will depend upon the weather conditions. Generally we will have a morning photo session and a late afternoon/sunset session. Our evening photo session will focus on Horsetail Falls. Also, since we'll have a near full moon, this is a great time to get out and do some nighttime photography. During the day we'll take the opportunity to take advantage of some of the many trails and sights in Yosemite Valley. Expect to do some hiking, from easy to moderate. There will be some free time during the day for you to explore on your own.

After dinner we'll get together to discuss the days shoot, do some photo review (for those shooting with digital) and have an open forum to discuss any photo questions.

DAY 4

After photographing the sunrise, we'll venture to the world famous Ahwahnee Hotel to enjoy their great Sunday brunch at 9 AM. Afterwards we'll pack up and head home.

Cost includes:

Accommodations at Yosemite Lodge, farewell brunch at the Ahwahnee Hotel, and an amazing array of field locations.

Cost does not include:

Meals not included except for Sunday brunch.

Suggested Equipment List (will finalize at pre-trip meeting):

- clothing for cool conditions and possible rain and snow, a sun hat and a knit or ski cap might both be appropriate
- comfortable walking shoes, preferably boots
- money for meals
- snacks and water for the road

Photographic Equipment:

Camera formats of all types are welcome. There will be some additional emphasis on Digital techniques for High Dynamic Range photography and exploration of the features available on the digital-camera platforms.

A tripod is a must. Consider bringing a cable release.

In case of questionable weather, a shower cap works great for a protective covering for your camera, and stores nicely on your head when not in use.

Weather: Yosemite in February is often a time of change; prepare for the weather to be snowy and cold though sunny and chilly days are not uncommon. The valley floor is at 4000 feet elevation, surrounded by 7000 foot vertical walls. Prepare for temperature ranges from the high 20's in the morning to high 50's in the afternoon.

Note: If you'd like to share some of your own images with the group, bring digital images (on a CD, thumb file or your laptop), and/or as many prints as you wish.

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