

# **Bryan Hansel Photography Workshop Participant Package**



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## General Overview

Thank you for signing up for one of my workshops.

This participant package will help you prepare for the workshop and let you know what to expect. The package is divided into several sections starting with general information that applies to all workshops. An overview of each workshop I offer and suggested equipment lists follow that. The participant package finishes with additional workshop specific reading and a suggested reading list that includes links to my newsletters and several recommended books. I highly recommend you read the linked article on filters.

If you have any questions, please, call. My cell number is 218-370-8351. Generally, I'm around the cell Monday through Friday from 9 to 6pm and sometimes later. I may also be available on the weekends, so it never hurts to try. If I'm traveling, I might be in a location without cell service. I'll return your phone call as soon as I can. You can also email, but if it's a complicated question that requires more than three sentence answer, it's much better to call.

Thanks,

Bryan

## Contact Information

Bryan Hansel Photography

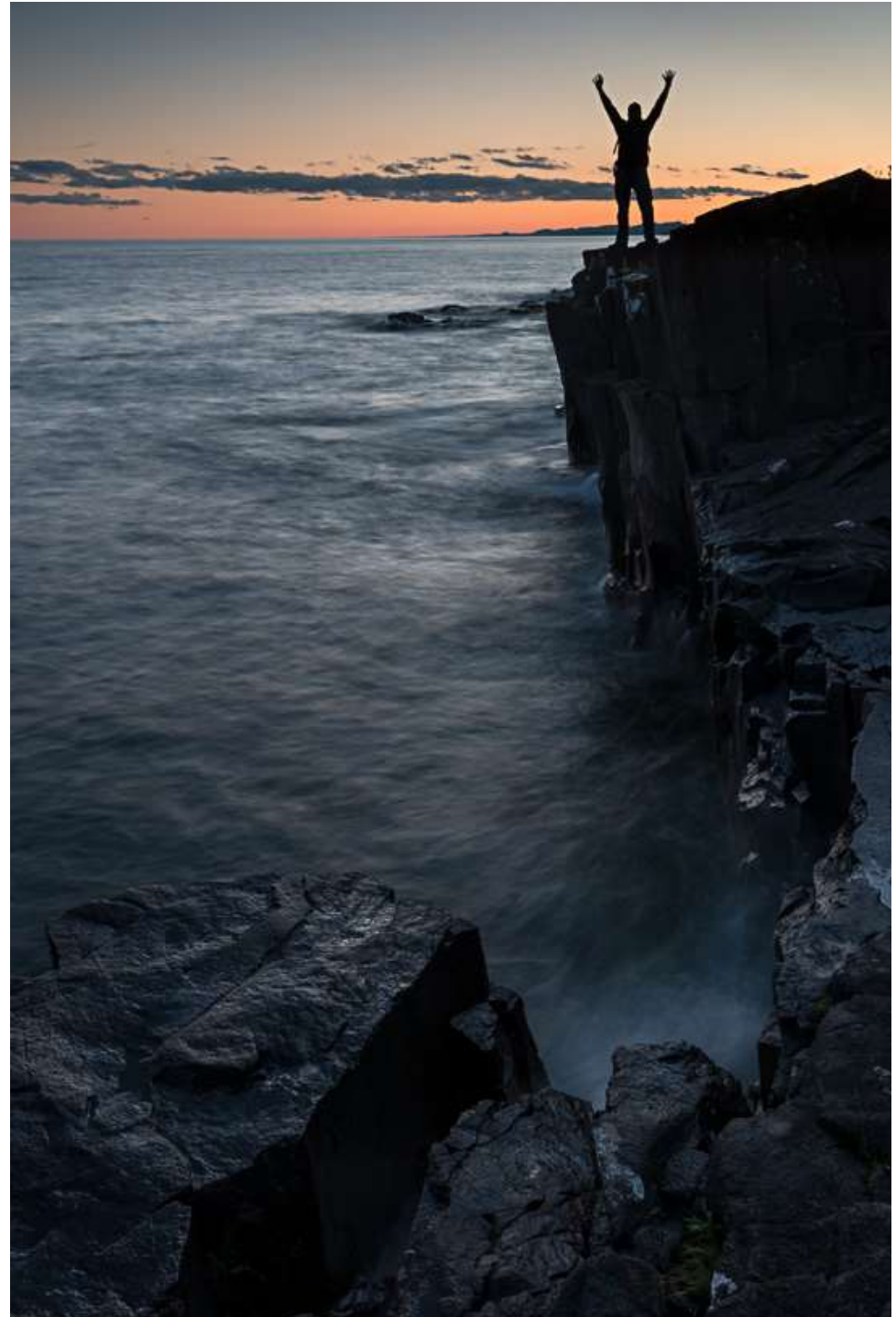
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## Final Payments

If you paid the non-refundable deposit only, the final amount is due 60 days before the workshop (unless otherwise noted in the online workshop description). I'll send out a reminder when the final payment is due. Some workshops require three payments: a non-refundable commitment fee paid in the calendar year before the workshop, a non-refundable deposit and a final payment. This is noted in the online workshop description.

## Where to Pay Your Final Payment

- <http://www.bryanhansel.com/shop/photography-workshop-full-payment/>

## Cancellations

It isn't fun to talk about workshop cancellations, because everyone expects to make it to the workshop. To be clear, these are my policies on when or if I'll cancel a workshop.

- Several workshops require a minimum number of students to run. If that minimum isn't met, the workshop is canceled.
- Workshops go out in all weather conditions such as but not limited to rain, snow, sleet, cool temperatures, hot temperatures or fog. Bad weather is not a reason for cancellation.
- I reserve the right to cancel any workshop. If I cancel the workshop, I'll do everything I can to reschedule, but if I'm unable to accommodate you, you are eligible for a full refund. Refunds may take up to 4 to 6 weeks to process. I'm not responsible for reimbursement of airline tickets or other travel expenses in the event of a workshop cancellation. I highly recommend purchasing travel insurance.

Find the cancellation policy here:

<http://www.bryanhansel.com/services/registration-and-cancellation-policies/>

## Travel Insurance and Travel Expenses

I highly recommend purchasing travel insurance both for all your travel plans and for the workshop fee. You can purchase trip cancellation insurance for as little as \$40. Use a site like [insuremytrip.com](http://insuremytrip.com) to compare plans against one another. Because most travel insurance plans have time sensitive benefits, it's important to book your travel insurance when you book the workshop.

Bryan Hansel Photography is not responsible for reimbursement of any travel or other expenses, such as but not limited to nonrefundable or refundable airline tickets, hotel rooms, workshop fees or other travel expenses or expenses, related to a workshop cancellation or other events. Bryan Hansel Photography is also not responsible for events that prevent you from arriving at the workshop, such as but not limited to weather events, canceled flights, government shutdowns or other foreseen or unforeseen events and circumstances. Bryan Hansel Photography reserves the right to cancel any workshop.

## Types of Workshops

I offer several types of workshops and the structure is slightly different for each style.

- **North House Folk School:** Takes place at the North House Folk School in Grand Marais, Minnesota. These workshops have different registration and cancellation policies than my workshops. Each workshop is 1.5 days long with a slideshow, field time and an image review.
- **Grand Marais Art Colony:** Takes place at the Grand Marais Art Colony. These workshops have different registration and cancellation policies than my workshops. These are classroom-style courses with no field time.
- **Standard Workshops:** This is the style of workshops that I offer most often. It's a mix of classroom slideshows, field time and image reviews.
- **Field Only Workshops:** While a field workshop may have an initial classroom presentation most of the workshop time is spent in the field. Image review is via the Facebook group.

## Time Zone

We operate on the destination's time zone.

## Transportation

We will drive to the field locations. The furthest location could be an hour away depending on conditions and the workshop. To get to the locations, you'll use your personal cars. In some locations, we'll be parking either on the shoulder of a highway or a small and busy parking lot. I highly recommend finding a way to carpool together, but I'll leave that up to you. Carpooling is essential in national parks.

Before we leave each location I'll let you know where we are going next. If you are a driver, make sure to get directions to the next location before

we leave. Consider picking up a highway map from a local gas station or a park map from a park visitor center. For workshops in Cook County, Minnesota buy a Cook County Highway map at one of the Grand Marais gas stations.

If you are carpooling with someone, please, help cover their fuel costs and park entrance fees.

## Park Stickers and Entrance Fees

Many of the parks that we visit require an entrance fee. You can pay the fee and pick up a permit at the park's entrance gate. It's always a good idea to pay the fee the day before the workshop so that you'll have the sticker or entrance permit for the first sunrise of the workshop.

## If You Get Lost

While it doesn't happen often, it is possible to get lost. If you get lost, my cell number is 218-370-8351. Keep in mind that cell service is limited in many of the workshop locations.





## **Food**

All meals and drinks are the responsibility of participants. On the workshops that have field time, we will likely eat lunch in the field. On some of the field workshops, we will eat both breakfast and lunch in the field. You should also bring two to three water bottles and snack food, like energy bars or gorp. If you're not used to eating in the field, pb&j sandwiches, an apple and chips work well. Both peanut butter and jelly survive fine without refrigeration for the amount of time we'll be in the field. During shoulder seasons, winter or night workshops, a thermos of hot chocolate is a welcome treat.

For workshops in Grand Marais, Grand Marais offers wide-ranging breakfast and dinner menus at various restaurants. We will eat lunch in the field on Saturday. You can order box lunches from Java Moose in town or pack your own. I highly recommend the Java Moose lunches.

For workshops at national parks, we'll likely eat dinner together each night. Gatlinburg, TN is a fun town with many great restaurants and a great grocery store. Wall, SD has limited restaurants with a good grocery store. Medora, ND has limited restaurants and a convenience store for groceries. It's better to buy groceries in Dickinson, which is about 30 miles east of Medora. Jackson, WY has excellent food Colter Bay has several dinners.

## **Fitness and Medical and Hiking**

To reach some of the field locations, we may have to hike several miles. The hikes are considered easy to moderate. To participate at that field location, you must be able to hike one to four miles round trip on moderate terrain. If you have concerns about your physical fitness, call me to discuss. You can also sit out a field location. There are plenty of subjects to photograph near the parking lots.

You are responsible for determining your fitness for any trip. If you have any medical conditions that require regular treatment or that is affected by activity, weather, foods, natural conditions, you must notify me in advance of the trip. Medical disclosure forms are available upon request. Please, understand that Bryan Hansel Photography assumes no liability for medical care. Bryan Hansel Photography makes the ultimate determination of your fitness to embark upon or to continue a trip. Medical conditions are not considered exceptions to the cancellation policy.

## **Image Review**

On Standard Workshops, you should sort images you've made during the workshop and find five to share with the class on the last day. Convert all images to jpeg and put on a USB memory stick. Several workshops have multiple image reviews.

## **North Shore Workshop Facebook Group**

After the workshop, you'll receive an invite to a secret photography group. You're welcome to share photos there, comment on other photos, keep in touch with other photographers on the workshop or ask questions. It's a fun and supportive group of photographers made up of former workshop students.

## **Schedule**

You'll receive a schedule on the first night of the class. All schedules are subject to change and will likely change.

## **Bugs**

During the spring and summer months, especially in June, you can expect bugs. I highly recommend bringing bug spray, and for workshops in June and July a headnet or bug jacket.

## Workshop Descriptions

The following section includes descriptions for all my current workshops and several that I'm not offering this year. The workshops that I'm not offering this year may be offered in the future. If you have any questions about any of the workshops, please, give me a call. I'm more than happy to talk your ear off and try to sell you on all my workshops. ☺

### 2016 Photography Workshops

- February 12 to 14, 2016 — Lake Superior Winter Photo Workshop
- February 19 to 21, 2016 — Lake Superior Winter Photo Workshop
- April 16-17, 2016 — Neal Smith Wildlife Refuge Photography Workshop
- April 22 to 24, 2016 — Spring Waterfall Photography Workshop
- April 29 to May 1, 2016 — Spring Waterfall Photography Workshop (opens after 1st fills)
- May 19-22 — Spring in Theodore Roosevelt National Park Photography Workshop – NEW
- June 17 to 19, 2016 — North Shore Wildflower Photography Workshop – NEW
- June 22 to 26, 2016 — Badlands and the Black Hills Photography Workshop – NEW
- August 3 to 7th, 2016 — Northern Night Skies: Night Photography Workshop
- September 1 to 3, 2016 — Night Skies of the Gunflint Trail
- September 7 to 11, 2016 — Grand Tetons National Park Photography Workshop – NEW
- September 14- to 18, 2016 — Grand Tetons National Park Photography Workshop – NEW
- September 27 to October 2, 2016 — North Shore of Lake Superior Fall Photography Workshop

- October 20 to 23, 2016 — Great Smoky Mountains National Park Fall Photography Workshop
- November 4 to 6, 2016 — Gales of November Photography Workshop
- November 12-13, 2015 — Achieve Your Vision: Processing Photos in the Digital Darkroom
- December 2 to 4, 2016 — Badlands National Park Photography Workshop

### 2016 North House Folk School Photography Classes – 1.5 day classes

- March 11-12, 2016: Capturing the Frozen Shoreline
- May 13-14, 2016: Focus! Camera Basics
- October 8-9, 2016: October Skies: Night Photography Workshop

### One-on-One, Small Group and Photography Club Workshops and Presentations

- By arrangement





## Lake Superior Winter Photography Workshop

In the winter, the combination of all-day, golden-hour light, sea fog, ice and open water make Lake Superior's shoreline and tributaries the premier winter photo destination in the Midwest. The best month to photograph the area is February, because the sun sets and rises over Lake Superior and the rivers are solid ice which allows for exploration. During the workshop, we hike up the frozen river valleys during the day and spend time on the shore at sunrise and sunset. You also learn how to keep your camera running in the cold. This one always fills up quickly, so we often add a second session.

- Type of Workshop: Standard Workshop
- Lodging: The lodging partner for this workshop is Aspen Lodge (218-387-2500). They have a discounted block of rooms set aside under my name that releases to the public 30 days before the workshop. You must register for your room at Aspen Lodge before the release date. They will make the reservation under your name and collect a credit card number.
- How to Get There: Grand Marais, Minnesota is 110 miles north of Duluth, Minnesota on Highway 61. Duluth boasts a small international airport. Grand Marais is 260 miles north of Minneapolis, Minnesota, which has an international airport that also acts as a regional hub. Grand Marais is 128 kilometers south of Thunder Bay, Ontario on Highway 61. Thunderbay has a small airport. Car rentals are available at the airports.
- First meeting time: Friday at 1pm in the Lobby for an optional field session. Friday at 6pm in the Conference Room.
- Add-ons: Friday at 9am is the Just the Basics Add-on class. A night class may be available on Sunday night.
- Weather: The average temps are 10°F for lows and 28°F for highs. The records are -34°F and 58°F. Count on snow on the ground and ice.



## Des Moines Photography Workshop at Neal Smith

Join me this spring in Des Moines, Iowa for a weekend long photography workshop at the Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge has great classrooms, a bison herd, elk, tallgrass prairie, oak savannas and sedge meadows. I'm staging this workshop at a perfect time to kick off your spring and summer photography. You'll learn tons.

- Type of Workshop: Standard Workshop with many classroom sessions. John Gregor joins me as an instructor on this workshop.
- Lodging: The closest hotels to the workshop are the Microtel Inn & Suites by Wyndham Colfax/Newton (515-674-0600) and the Colfax Inn & Suites (515-674-4455). There is no lodging partner for this workshop. I recommend that you make your reservation when you register for the workshop.
- How to Get There: The refuge is located 18 miles east of Des Moines, Iowa, on State Highway 163. Follow the refuge direction signs just south of Prairie City at exit 18. Travelers on Interstate I-80 should use exit number 155 at Colfax and follow direction signs approximately 7 miles south on Highway 117 to the refuge.
- First meeting time: 9am at the Neal Smith Wildlife Refuge classroom
- Weather: The average temps in Des Moines, IA are 40°F for lows and 61°F for highs. The records are 9°F and 93°F.





## Spring Waterfall Photo Workshop

In April when winter's snowpack melts, it rushes down Lake Superior's tributaries and over the numerous waterfalls. The waterfalls thunder, the narrow canyons fill and the ground shakes from the excess water. No other time of year allows for the dynamic photography of waterfalls along Lake Superior.

- Type of Workshop: Standard Workshop
- Lodging: The lodging partner for this workshop is Aspen Lodge (218-387-2500). They have a block of discounted rooms set aside under my name that releases to the public 30 days before the workshop. You must register for your room at Aspen Lodge before the release date. They will make the reservation under your name and collect a credit card number.
- How to Get There: Grand Marais, Minnesota is 110 miles north of Duluth, Minnesota on Highway 61. Duluth boasts a small international airport. Grand Marais is 260 miles north of Minneapolis, Minnesota, which has an international airport that also acts as a regional hub. Grand Marais is 128 kilometers south of Thunder Bay, Ontario on Highway 61. Thunderbay has a small airport. Car rentals are available at the airports.
- First meeting time: Friday at 1pm in the Lobby for an optional field session. Friday at 6pm for the start of the workshop in the Conference Room.
- Add-ons: Friday at 9am is the Just the Basics Add-on class. A night class may be available on Sunday night.
- Weather: The average temps are 30°F for lows and 46°F for highs. The records are -8°F and 83°F. Generally, the later part of the month is warmer. Plan for snow, because about 40% of the workshops have seen snow.





## Spring in the Badlands Photo Workshop

May in the Badlands is a time when the life is returning to the park, the grass starts to green and some wild flowers start to appear. On this Badlands Photography Workshop, we'll spend three days photographing the park from sunrise to sunset. If the weather looks favorable, we'll photograph the Milky Way one night.

**Dates:** Not running this in 2016. Join me for a 5-day Badlands/Black Hills workshop instead. Or come to Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

- Type of Workshop: Standard Workshop
- Lodging: You'll need to make a room reservation at the Days Inn Wall at 605-279-2000. When making the reservation, tell them it's for a Bryan Hansel Photography Workshop.
- How to Get There: The Badlands National Park and Wall, South Dakota is located about 55 miles east of Rapid City, South Dakota on Interstate 90. From Minneapolis, it's a 7.5 hour drive via US-169S to MN-60 W and I90 (check Google Maps for the exact route). Rapid City is the closest airport.
- First meeting time: Thursday at 6pm for dinner.
- Weather: The average temps in Wall, SD are 44°F for lows and 71°F for highs. The records are 15°F and 102°F.





## Spring in Theodore Roosevelt National Park Photography Workshop

May in Theodore Roosevelt National Park is when the park comes back alive from a long winter. The golden grasses contrast with the spring green cottonwood trees. The bison and wild horse have calves and the landscape is bathed in fog and golden light. Come experience the park that made President Roosevelt the man he was.

- Type of Workshop: Field Workshop
- Lodging: There is no lodging partner for the Theodore Roosevelt National Park Photography Workshop. You can stay at whatever hotel that you like, but book in Medora, North Dakota.
  - AmericInn Lodge & Suites Medora, 800-634-3444: About \$100 a night in May. It's nice, but away from downtown.
  - Badlands Motel, 701-623-4444: Seems okay and it's right downtown. About \$100 per night in May.
  - Rough Rider Hotel, 800-633-6721: About \$130 per night in May. It's downtown, fancy and has a history old west feel.
  - There is a campground in Theodore Roosevelt National Park. inside the park and about a 30 minute drive from Medora.
  - Medora Campground, 800-633-6721: Ranges from \$20 to \$40 per night. Near downtown.
- How to Get There: The Theodore Roosevelt National Park and Medora, North Dakota is located about 36 miles west of Dickinson, North Dakota on Interstate 90. From Minneapolis, it's an 8-hour drive via Interstate 94 (check Google Maps for the exact route). Dickinson has the closest airport, but Bismarck is the closest major airport.
- First meeting time: Thursday at 6pm.
- Weather: The average temps are 42°F for lows and 70°F for highs. The records are 8°F and 101°F. Rain is not unusual in May. It could also snow.



## Badlands and Black Hills Photography Workshop

The Badlands and Black Hills Photography Workshop starts in Badlands National Park. We'll photograph the Badlands for two days before heading to Custer. Once in Custer we'll spend the next three days photographing the Black Hills. Destinations include Custer State Park, the Needles, Sylvan Lake, Spearfish Canyon and depending on conditions Bear Butte.

- Type of Workshop: Combo Standard and Field Workshop
- Lodging: The Days Inn in Wall, South Dakota is hosting the Badlands portion of the workshop. We will also meet there each morning before heading out for the sunrise. Room rate is not included in the workshop fee. When you make your reservation tell them it's a "Bryan Hansel" room. Days Inn phone number: 605-279-2000. There is no lodging partner in Custer. You can stay at whatever hotel you like. We'll meet at the sunrise location each day. Tuesday and Wednesday and Thursday is in Wall. Friday through Saturday is in Custer.
- How to Get There: The Badlands National Park and Wall, South Dakota is located about 55 miles east of Rapid City, South Dakota on Interstate 90. From Minneapolis, it's a 7.5 hour drive via US-169S to MN-60 W and I90 (check Google Maps for the exact route). Rapid City is the closest airport.
- First meeting time: Tuesday, 7pm at the Days Inn lobby for a sunset session.
- Weather: The average temps in Wall, SD are 54°F for lows and 81°F for highs. The records are 32°F and 111°F. The average temps in Custer, SD are 46°F for lows and 73°F for highs. The records are 19°F and 97°F. June also brings thunderstorms.





## North Shore Wildflower Photography Workshop

In the middle of June, the wildflowers along the north shore of Lake Superior peak. The lupine start to appear and the lady slippers bloom. In past years, I offered this as a one day workshop and in one day, we often photographed as many as 30 to 40 unique wild flowers in bloom. The common request was to make the workshop longer. It's now a full weekend of wild flower photography.

- Type of Workshop: Standard Workshop
- Lodging: The lodging partner for this workshop is Aspen Lodge (218-387-2500). They have a block of rooms set aside under my name that releases to the public 30 days before the workshop. You must register for your room at Aspen Lodge before the release date. They will make the reservation under your name and collect a credit card number.
- How to Get There: Grand Marais, Minnesota is 110 miles north of Duluth, Minnesota on Highway 61. Duluth boasts a small international airport. It's 260 miles north of Minneapolis, Minnesota, which has an international airport that also acts as a regional hub. Grand Marais is 128 kilometers south of Thunder Bay, Ontario on Highway 61. Thunderbay has a small airport. Car rentals are available at the airports.
- First meeting time: Friday at 1pm in the Lobby for an optional field session. Friday at 6pm for the start of the workshop in the Conference Room.
- Weather: The average low is 44°F, and the average high is 63°F. The records are 25°F and 93°F. June can be rainy, so plan accordingly.



## Northern Night Skies: Night Photography Workshop

Cook County, Minnesota on the north shore of Lake Superior is 92% public and undeveloped land. With a summer population of about 10,000 people mainly living near the shore of Lake Superior, there isn't much in the way of night pollution. When it's dark out, the stars fill the sky, the Milky Way is bright and because of our proximity to the magnetic north pole, we get northern lights more often than other areas at the same latitude. August generally has clear nights or nights with lightning and thunderstorms, and this night photography workshop takes advantage of those clear summer nights. For five days, we'll work on capturing night images and learning how to process them.

- Type of Workshop: Standard Workshop
- Lodging: The lodging partner for this workshop is Aspen Lodge (218-387-2500). They have a block of rooms set aside under my name that releases to the public 30 days before the workshop. You must register for your room at Aspen Lodge before the release date. They will make the reservation under your name and collect a credit card number.
- How to Get There: Grand Marais, Minnesota is 110 miles north of Duluth, Minnesota on Highway 61. Duluth boasts a small international airport. Grand Marais is 260 miles north of Minneapolis, Minnesota, which has an international airport that also acts as a regional hub. Grand Marais is 128 kilometers south of Thunder Bay, Ontario on Highway 61. Thunder Bay has a small airport. Car rentals are available at the airports.
- First meeting time: Wednesday, 7pm at Aspen Lodge's meeting room.
- Weather The average high is 71°F, and the average low is 52°F. The records are 90° and 37°F.



## Night Skies of the Gunflint Trail

Join me for a 3-day field workshop and learn how to photograph the Milky Way over the inland lakes and streams of the Gunflint Trail. This Minnesota photography workshop takes place in one of the darkest places in Minnesota and one of the darkest places in the world.

- Type of Workshop: Field Workshop w/ one classroom session
- Lodging: The lodging partner for this workshop is Aspen Lodge (218-387-2500). They have a block of rooms set aside under my name that releases to the public 30 days before the workshop. You must register for your room at Aspen Lodge before the release date. They will make the reservation under your name and collect a credit card number.
- How to Get There: Grand Marais, Minnesota is 110 miles north of Duluth, Minnesota on Highway 61. Duluth boasts a small international airport. It's 260 miles north of Minneapolis, Minnesota, which has an international airport that also acts as a regional hub. Grand Marais is 128 kilometers south of Thunder Bay, Ontario on Highway 61. Thunderbay has a small airport. Car rentals are available at the airports.
- First meeting time: Thursday, 6pm
- Weather: The average high in September is 63°F. The average low is 47°F. That can and does vary. The records are 23°F and 89°F.





## Milky Way over Lake Superior Photography Workshop

Join me for a 3-day field workshop and learn how to photograph the Milky Way above Lake Superior and the inland lakes and streams of Cook County. This Minnesota photography workshop takes place in one of the darkest places in Minnesota and one of the darkest places in the world.

Not running in 2016

- Type of Workshop: Field Workshop w/ one classroom session
- Lodging: The lodging partner for this workshop is Aspen Lodge (218-387-2500). They have a block of rooms set aside under my name that releases to the public 30 days before the workshop. You must register for your room at Aspen Lodge before the release date. They will make the reservation under your name and collect a credit card number.
- How to Get There: Grand Marais, Minnesota is 110 miles north of Duluth, Minnesota on Highway 61. Duluth boasts a small international airport. It's 260 miles north of Minneapolis, Minnesota, which has an international airport that also acts as a regional hub. Grand Marais is 128 kilometers south of Thunder Bay, Ontario on Highway 61. Thunderbay has a small airport. Car rentals are available at the airports.
- First meeting time: Thursday at 6pm in the Aspen Lodge meeting room.
- Weather: Depends on the time of year. The lows during the summer season range from 44°F and 54°F.



## Grand Tetons National Park Photography Workshop

The second weekend in September in the Grand Tetons National Park isn't yet fall, but it isn't summer either. The grasses have gone brown and a tree here and there might just show signs of color. It can be stormy (rain or snow), and it can be clear. It's the transition time between seasons that I love to photograph. It's also a relatively slow time in the park. I wouldn't be surprised if we have some of the sunrise locations to ourselves. That makes these weekends perfect for a Grand Teton Photography Workshop.

- Type of Workshop: Field Workshop – Advanced Beginner and above
- Lodging: While there is no lodging partner, there are plenty of places to stay. The town of Jackson offers a large number of hotels. I suggest finding one in your price range and booking it today. They fill up quickly. The park also offers lodging. The Jackson Lake Lodge offers high-end lodging and dining. I'm camping at Colter Bay. You won't need reservations if you plan on camping, but if you're staying in a hotel, you'll need to book ASAP. Colter Bay offers reasonably priced lodging in cabins and two diners. Colter Bay is the ideal location to stay because while not central, it provides easy access to the sunrise and sunset locations.
- How to Get There: You can fly to JAC (Jackson, WY). From MSP, it's about \$500 round trip. If you drive, it took us 2 days last year from Grand Marais, Minnesota. We will carpool in the park, so you will need to either have a car rental or coordinate with other folks. I can help facilitate this if people are interested in saving cash.
- First meeting time: Thursday at 6pm in the Aspen Lodge meeting room.
- Weather: Temps are awesome with averages ranging from 32 to 70°F.





## Minnesota's North Shore of Lake Superior Fall Workshop

During late September, the hills and shoreline surrounding Lake Superior turn a mix of fiery red and yellow. The combination of the dramatic shoreline and moody fall weather makes the north shore the best photography destination in Minnesota. During the workshop, we'll visit the best locations to capture fall colors, visit a maple syrup factory and drive roads that will literally take your breath away. During the workshop, you'll learn compositional techniques, how to use several filters and how to control your camera to capture stunning fall photos.

I found an amazing new location that we'll visit in 2016.

- Type of Workshop: Standard Workshop
- Lodging: The lodging partner for this workshop is Aspen Lodge (218-387-2500). They have a block of rooms set aside under my name that releases to the public 30 days before the workshop. You must register for your room at Aspen Lodge before the release date.
- How to Get There: Grand Marais, Minnesota is 110 miles north of Duluth, Minnesota on Highway 61. Duluth boasts a small international airport. Grand Marais is 260 miles north of Minneapolis, Minnesota, which has an international airport that also acts as a regional hub. Grand Marais is 128 kilometers south of Thunder Bay, Ontario on Highway 61. Thunderbay has a small airport. Car rentals are available at the airports.
- First meeting time: 6am at Coast Guard Building in Grand Marais (optional), 1pm in the conference room at Aspen Lodge (official start).
- Weather: The average high in September is 63°F. The average low is 47°F. That can and does vary. The records are 23°F and 89°F. September is one of the rainiest months, but, generally, the rainstorms are brief.





## Fall in the Great Smoky Mountains Photography Workshop

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park is one of America's greatest and most majestic national parks. During the fall, weathered ridges covered with fall colors literally stretch as far as the eye can see. Streams run down all the valleys and traverse a diversity of biomes. The northern forest intermixes with the southern forest in one of the biologically richest places on the planet. We'll spend three days immersed from dawn to dusk photographing the fall colors on the peaks and in the streams.

- Type of Workshop: Field Workshop
- Lodging: While there is no specific lodging partner for this workshop, I'm booked at Econo Lodge Inn & Suites on the River in Gatlinburg ((865) 436-5836) and recommend that you stay there to make carpooling easy. Any hotel in Gatlinburg will work for the workshop and there is camping nearby as well. There are also many options in Pigeon Forge.
- How to Get There: Gatlinburg is a small resort town serving the northern side of the park. The closest big city is Knoxville, TN. The closest airport is TYS-McGhee Tyson. TYS is about an hour drive from Gatlinburg. You take US-411 to Pigeon Forge and then US-321 into Gatlinburg. Atlanta is approximately 4 hours away on US-23 to US-441.
- First meeting time: Thursday at 7pm at the Econo Lodge Inn & Suites on the River
- Weather: Fall weather in the Smoky Mountains varies based on the elevation. In Gatlinburg, the highs may get into the 70s and the lows down into the 40s. It rains about six days in the month of October. In the higher elevations in the park, the temps reach 50s for highs and 30s for low. It can snow in October anywhere in the Smokies, but is more likely in the higher elevations.



## Gales of November Photography Workshop

November is the stormiest month on Lake Superior. It's the month with the best chance of capturing this inland ocean showing off its explosive nature. I lead you on a learning experience to some of the most beautiful out-of-the-way locations for making great storm and lake images. Workshop time is divided between the classroom – learning about metering, manual camera controls, lighting, composition – and the field. Evenings are spent peer reviewing the day's images. Although there will be some classroom time, expect to spend most of this workshop in the field.

- Type of Workshop: Standard Workshop
- Lodging: The lodging partner for this workshop is Aspen Lodge (218-387-2500). They have a block of rooms set aside under my name that releases to the public 30 days before the workshop. You must register for your room at Aspen Lodge before the release date. They will make the reservation under your name and collect a credit card number.
- How to Get There: Grand Marais, Minnesota is 110 miles north of Duluth, Minnesota on Highway 61. Duluth boasts a small international airport. Grand Marais is 260 miles north of Minneapolis, Minnesota, which has an international airport that also acts as a regional hub. Grand Marais is 128 kilometers south of Thunder Bay, Ontario on Highway 61. Thunderbay has a small airport. Car rentals are available at the airports.
- First meeting time: Friday at 1pm in the Lobby for an optional field session. Friday at 6pm for the start of the workshop in the Conference Room.
- Weather: The average high temp is 38°F and the average low is 25°F. The record high is 67°F and the record low is -14°F. The beginning of the month is generally warmer. November is also the stormiest month of the year.





## Early Winter in the Badlands National Park Photography Workshop

The landscape in South Dakota's Badlands National Park feels like something out of a futuristic movie. Rugged Badlands formations seem to rise abruptly out of the grassy plains and rise into a crisp sky. When standing at overlooks, the terrain unfolds before your eyes. Your eyes follow the lines carved by water for 10s of 1000s of years. December in the Badlands is a time of transition and the perfect time for photography. On this Badlands Photography Workshop, we'll spend three days photographing the park from sunrise to sunset.

- Type of Workshop: Standard Workshop
- Lodging: You'll need to make a room reservation at the Days Inn Wall at 605-279-2000. When making the reservation, tell them it's for a Bryan Hansel Photography Workshop.
- How to Get There: The Badlands National Park and Wall, South Dakota is located about 55 miles east of Rapid City, South Dakota on Interstate 90. From Minneapolis, it's a 7.5 hour drive via US-169S to MN-60 W and I90 (check Google Maps for the exact route). Rapid City is the closest airport.
- First meeting time: Thursday at 6pm in the Days Inn lobby.
- Weather: December in the Badlands is one of the coldest months there. Average temperatures range from 38°F to 16°F. Records range from 72°F to -31°F. Like the rest of the park, the temperatures can seem unreal with large fluctuations. I've left Grand Marais in winter to vacation in the Badlands and had 70°F temps and 0°F on the same trip. Because of this bring a wide range of clothing, especially warm winter gear. We'll be in the field regardless of the weather.





## One-on-One and Small Group Workshops

I offer personal Minnesota photography workshops and Lake Superior photography workshops targeting your learning needs. The workshops are hands-on in the field. We'll visit a location and spend time on subjects that you need help with. I'll teach you my approach to photography and by the end of the workshop; you'll have learned skills that will improve your photography. Select a half-day or a full-day workshop.

Time:

- Half-day: A four to five hour private photo workshop starting before sunrise or leading up to sunset. Midday lessons are also available.
- Full-day: We meet before the sunrise and shoot for around eight and nine hours or shoot eight hours leading up to sunset. In the winter, that might mean that we shoot both the sunrise and sunset. Total lesson time runs between eight and nine hours.
- Weekend: Contact me for special full weekend workshops for six or more people.

Required down-payment: Full payment. 50% of the total is nonrefundable but may be transferred.

## Photography Club Workshops and Presentations

I've been told that I'm a dynamic speaker able to keep a room full of 100s engaged in my presentations. I try to give between three and five presentations a year to photography clubs and at kayaking and canoeing events. I like to speak to all sizes of photography clubs and offer many different presentations and slideshows. With photography clubs, I like to do a presentation and then offer a workshop. This works well, because it allows us to get into the field after my presentation to practice the techniques that I spoke about. It's a better learning experience that way.

If you belong to a photography club, let your club board or leadership know that I do presentations. I'd love to talk to your club.

- **Rates:** Rates vary depending on the scope of the event. Generally, I cover my traveling expenses and receive a speaker fee. If we schedule a workshop in addition to the presentation, the workshop fee is paid by the participants.



## Add-on Classes Descriptions

These workshop sessions are available during select three-day workshops.

**Just the Basics** (\$50): This extra session is a three-hour classroom session on Friday morning from 9am to noon. Although I cover aperture, shutter speed and ISO in my main slideshow, this extra session covers the topics more in depth. I'll also cover white balance, file formats, exposure, manual camera settings, understand and thinking in "stops" of light and more. This is designed for someone who hasn't had a lot of experience shooting in manual mode, someone who just got a new digital camera, someone just getting into photography or for someone that wants a refresher on the topics. This session is completely in the classroom at Aspen Lodge, but you'll use your camera during several exercises. Three hours are scheduled but it could be shorter depending on the number of questions.

### Back to the Basics Topics

- Image Quality
- Exposure Systems
- Focus Systems
- Aperture
- Shutter Speed
- ISO
- Stops of Light
- White Balance
- Diopter Adjustment
- VR, IS, OS
- Focal Length Choice
- Sensor Dust and Cleaning

**Night Photography Add-on** (\$100): This extra session includes two parts. The first is a one-hour long slideshow on night photography. The second part is a three hour long night photography outing. If the stars are out, we'll concentrate on shooting stars, but if it is cloudy or stormy, we'll concentrate on light painting or burning steel wool. Depending on the moon phase, we may spend time shooting the Milky Way or spend time shooting the moonlit landscape.



## Equipment List

This equipment list includes my suggestions. Even if you think you have perfect clothing and camera kits, I suggest you look it over. There might be a few pieces of kit that you might not have thought about. The key is to bring extra clothing. In almost all the locations I offer workshops, the weather can be extreme, and I often hear participants say they wish they would have brought more clothing.

### Clothing – General

Bring what you'd normally wear for the time of year and supplement it with the follow. I also suggest using synthetic clothing when possible. Synthetic clothing generally keeps you drier and works better in outdoor environments.

- ☐ T-shirt
- ☐ Fleece jacket, Softshell jacket
- ☐ Long sleeve t-shirt
- ☐ Shorts
- ☐ Long pants
- ☐ Synthetic socks
- ☐ Hiking boots
- ☐ Rain jacket and rain pants
- ☐ Extra change of clothing
- ☐ Hat
- ☐ Sunglasses

### Other

- ☐ Headlamp or flashlight
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Bug netting hood or hat (for bug session May through September)
- ☐ Umbrella for rain
- ☐ Chemical hand and toe warmers (warmth and to keep you lens from fogging on night classes)

### Clothing – Shoulder Seasons (Fall, Winter, Spring and Night Classes)

It can be brutal in winter if you don't have the right gear. Remember the Minnesotan proverb, "There is no bad weather, only the worn clothing." It's always better to have more than not enough.

- ☐ Synthetic or Wool Base Layers – Long underwear top and bottom. Layer multiple base layers adds a ton of warmth.
- ☐ Synthetic or Wool Insulation – Fleece or down – top and pants – Bring several layers
- ☐ Outerwear – Coat with hood and pants – like a Gore-tex rain jacket and pants or ski gear
- ☐ Synthetic or Wool Socks – No cotton socks – Bring several to layer
- ☐ Synthetic or Wool hat
- ☐ Balaclava for winter or Gales
- ☐ Thin Base Layer Gloves – Thin enough to operate all buttons and dials on your camera
- ☐ Synthetic or Wool Insulation Gloves – Wear over your base layer gloves – I use insulated leather work gloves
- ☐ Shell Gloves or Mittens – Wear over your other gloves
- ☐ Extra change of clothing
- ☐ Insulated boots or mukluks – must be good for walking
- ☐ Ice traction devices or ice cleats or crampons (see Reading below. For winter or Gales and sometimes spring waterfalls)
- ☐ Snowshoes (for winter months)



## Backpack

While you can buy a camera specific backpack or use one you already own, I suggest considering buying a padded camera case, such as F-stop Gear's Internal Camera Units and combining it with a backpack that you buy at REI. Going this route usually gets you a more versatile pack. The style of pack I'd suggest is something like [Gregory's Targhee 45](#) and a medium or large slope ICU.

- ☐ Backpack big enough for extra layers of clothing, your camera gear, snack, water, tripod.

## Computer

The computer is used to process images. On standard workshops, you'll share five images with the class on Sunday. On standard workshops, I do an image processing demo using Adobe Lightroom, but you can use whatever program you like. Something to think about is that Adobe has switched to a month subscription plan and you can find deals for \$10 per month for Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop. You can buy Lightroom for about \$149 and lower if you keep your eyes peeled for deals.

- ☐ Laptop computer (for downloading images to share on the final day)
- ☐ Card reader
- ☐ Image manipulation program
- ☐ USB thumb drive
- ☐ Power cord

## Food and Water

We often eat in the field. It's a good idea to bring snacks, water and lunch. In the winter, one way to stay warm depends on having enough calories to burn and staying hydrated. Bring lots of easy to eat snacks and water. In the shoulder seasons and summer, it's easy to forget to drink enough water which results in dehydration.

- ☐ Two 1-liter water bottles
- ☐ Water bottle insulation
- ☐ Thermos with hot drink (optional but wonderful to have)
- ☐ Snacks or energy bars – 2 to 3 per day
- ☐ Lunch when required

## Camera Gear

Any camera with interchangeable lenses is acceptable. See notes in the Reading Section for winter, macro and night sky workshops. For filters see the link in the Reading Section.

- ☐ Camera body
  - ☐ Backup Camera body
- ☐ Lenses ranging from 18 mm to 200 mm
  - ☐ Wide Angle lens for landscapes
  - ☐ Mid-range zoom for walk around
  - ☐ Telephoto to compress the scene
  - ☐ Macro for flowers and details
  - ☐ Fast wide lens for night photography. Max aperture of f/1.4, f/1.8 or f/2.8 is highly recommended.
  - ☐ Super telephoto to 500mm for national park workshops where wildlife is around
- ☐ Memory for 400 photos a day
  - ☐ Label your memory cards with your name
  - ☐ Recommend a max of 16 or 32GB cards
- ☐ Four or more camera batteries (especially in winter and for night workshop. If you shoot a mirrorless camera that has an electronic LCD make sure to bring extra batteries)
- ☐ Battery charger
  - ☐ Car charger can be handy
- ☐ Tripod w/ quick release ball head – a sturdy tripod is a must. Consider something high quality if you need suggestions see the

reading section below. Note: I've seen many plastic inexpensive tripods break during workshops.

- ☐ Shutter release cord
  - ☐ Intervolometer
- ☐ Waterproof camera cover
- ☐ Monopod (optional)
- ☐ Camera neck strap (optional)
- ☐ Lenspen or way to clean your lens
- ☐ Filters (see reading below)
  - ☐ Filter holder
  - ☐ Adapter ring
  - ☐ ND Grads: 3-stop and 2-stop soft and reverse
  - ☐ ND Filters: 3-stop, 5-stop, 10-stop
  - ☐ Polarizer
- ☐ Hot-shoe bubble level (optional)
- ☐ Pipe insulation to cover the upper parts of your tripod's legs or an insulation pad that covers the upper parts of your tripod's legs (winter) or leg covers
- ☐ Duct tape to tape pipe insulation to tripod's legs (winter)
- ☐ Trash bags (to protect your camera gear when going from the cold outside to the warm moist inside during shoulder seasons and winter months)
- ☐ Cotton cloth or bandana (for wiping rain, snow or spray off your lens)

## Reading List

The items on the reading list include articles that I've written on my website. The articles are designed to get you prepared for the workshop and help you make the right gear choices before you come. If you have questions, please, call me.

### Filters – HIGHLY RECOMMENDED READING

I highly recommend picking up several filters for this workshop. You will get more out of the workshop and go home with better pictures if you do. Learn more here:

- <http://www.bryanhansel.com/2015/filters-for-outdoor-photography-polarizers-nd-filters-and-nd-grads-revisited/>

### Winter Cleats and Traction Devices – MUST READ FOR WINTER

On the winter workshops and the Gales of November workshop, we may encounter icy shorelines. For the winter workshop, cleats are a must. For Gales, consider bringing them. You may not need them, but it's better to have them than not.

- <http://www.bryanhansel.com/2015/winter-traction-device-winter-photography-dont-fall-ice/>

### Ethics

In order to preserve the areas that we visit for other visitors, for other photographers and for future visits, we will practice a set of ethics. Please, read about the ethics here:

- <http://www.bryanhansel.com/2015/outdoor-photography-ethics-101/>

### Tripod

A sturdy tripod is a must for great landscape photos. While a plastic tripod with a pan/tilt head bought from a big-box store may seem like it will work. It likely won't. Cheap tripods are just that. They're cheap. They break. And worst of all, they are NOT steady. While you don't need to spend \$1000 to get the latest carbon fiber tripod from Gitzo or RRS, I do suggest that you consider buying a good tripod if you don't already own one. If you don't want to spend a lot of money, read this article. You won't regret buying an expensive tripod. I love my carbonfiber Gitzo with a Kirk BH-1 ball head.

- <http://www.bryanhansel.com/2015/march-newsletter-the-best-inexpensive-tripod-for-the-money/>

### Picking a camera system

If you're still working on building a photography system, learn more in this article:

- <http://www.bryanhansel.com/2015/february-newsletter-lens-choices-and-building-a-photography-system/>



## Extra Reading – Macro Photography Workshops

### Marco Lens

The most confusing part of macro photography is figuring out the lens. I recommend using a 105mm macro lens for this workshop. If you don't have a macro lens or don't want to buy one just yet, then you can use close-up filters, also known as macro diopters. Here's a link to an Amazon search for these filters: <http://amzn.to/1EEhYZA> Close-up filters screw onto the end of a lens and help the lens focus closer. Combining close-up filters and a 55-200mm or a 70-300mm lens can create a serviceable marco lens. When ordering a close-up filter make sure the thread size matches the threads on your lens. If you plan on doing lots of macro photography, you'll be happier with a 105mm or 200mm macro lens.

You could also select extension tubes. Extension tubes change the minimum focusing distance of your lens, which allows the lens to get closer to your subject. This can turn a 55-200mm or 70-300mm lens into a serviceable marco lens. Here's a link to an Amazon search for these filters: <http://amzn.to/1G7r2NP>

## Extra Reading – Night Sky Workshops

Any camera with interchangeable lenses is acceptable, but more recent models will do better at night. Full frame models are better than cropped sensor models. Night photography is hard on batteries and sucks the life out of them much faster than you'd expect. While newer batteries are often better than older ones, I still carry backup batteries to make sure I have enough juice for the entire day. You may not need four batteries, but four is a safe bet.

For lens selections and to learn more about the northern lights see:

- <http://www.bryanhansel.com/2015/northern-lights-viewing-faq/>

Either approach will work, but the close-up filter approach is an easier way to go.

### Camera

Before you come to the workshop, check your manual to see if your camera can do double exposures. If it can, please, take the time to figure out how to do it. One technique that I'll teach uses double exposures. If your camera doesn't do double exposures, there is a way to recreate the technique using the computer to combine two images.

### Umbrella

Making macro images on a bright sunny day is difficult. A white photography umbrella, like you'd use for portraits, helps block the sun and lets just enough diffused light into the photo to give a nice soft glow. I carry a Wescott 32-inch umbrella with me for macro. Here's a link to it at Amazon: <http://amzn.to/1EEiJw>

Instead of an umbrella, you can use any scrim-like material, such as the translucent part of this reflector: <http://amzn.to/1LO2B6T>

## Extra Reading – Winter Workshops

### Clothing

Temps can range from -30 to +30°F so make sure to bring a wide range of clothing. We will be outside even if it's -30°F and a blizzard out. While it may sound daunting if you haven't spent time outdoors in sub-zero temps, wearing the right clothing makes the cold bearable and enjoyable.

A key concept to keep in mind during winter photography is thermoregulation, which is keeping your body temperature within a range around normal body temperature of 98.6°F (37°C). Your body has mechanisms designed to help you maintain your normal body temperature. When you're hot, you sweat. When you're cold, you shiver. Clothing affects body thermoregulation. If you have a ton of warm clothing on and you start sweating, you'll likely continue to sweat and soak your clothing making it more difficult to stay warm. If you have too little of clothing on in the winter, you'll likely shiver and get too cold and perhaps end up with some of cold related medical issues. You need to select your clothing to help your body's thermoregulation succeed. When in the field, you need to adjust your clothing to help maintain normal body temperature.

One way to help your body maintain the proper temperature is to use a method of dressing known as layering. Layering is the use of several different pieces of clothing known as "layers" to give you flexibility in how much clothing you have on at any one time. The clothing system consists of three parts: a base layer, mid-layer (or insulation) and a shell. Each of those components accomplishes a different function.

When using layers in the field, if you get too hot, you can start to shed layers until you're just right. If you're too cold, you add layers until you're just right. One common problem with photographers is that we're often put into two different types of clothing situations in the same outing. We may stand still in one place for a long period of time, which

requires warmer clothing, and then hike on to the next photo location, which requires fewer items of clothing. Those two situations put two different types of strains on our bodies and you need to be proactive to avoid any problems.

While standing around waiting for a photo, you'll need to add layers, and before you get overheated and start sweating on the hike, you need to remove layers. I like to keep an extra layer of clothing handy in my backpack and then put it on while standing around. Before I set off on a hike, I'll often remove clothing even if it feels slightly cold, because I know I'll soon be warm. The other way to do it is start hiking and when you feel your body just starting to heat up, but before you start to sweat, remove a clothing item. Through practice, you'll find exactly what you need in each situation, but before you do that, just add and subtract layers to stay just warm enough so you don't soak your clothing with sweat.

### Gloves

You need to be careful with your hands, because if you touch metal in below zero temps with bare skin, you could end up with a cold injury (remember not to stick your tongue to your tripod as well), and exposure to the cold air and wind can drop the temperature in your hands quickly making them extremely uncomfortable and more susceptible to cold injuries. You need a glove system that allows you to access and control all the functions on your camera while keeping your hands protected and warm. For that, a three layer system works well.

In that three layer system, I recommend wearing a thin synthetic or wool liner glove under your other gloves. The liner acts like a base layer, but more importantly you always keep the liner glove on and it's thin enough to accurately push buttons, turn knobs and spin dials. One consideration when choosing your gloves is whether or not your liners will fit

comfortably under your next layer, so bring your gloves with you when shopping.

For the next layer of gloves, you'll need something that provides insulation and helps stop the wind. Windstopper fleece or other types of softshell gloves work well for this. Don't write off insulated leather work gloves. Even the inexpensive brands lined with thinsulate from home improvement stores provide lots of warmth for the weight. The downside with leather gloves is that it gets wet more easily than fleece or softshells. With practice you can learn to manipulate all the parts of your camera with both the liner and insulation-layer gloves on. This is something you can practice while sitting on the couch at home. Once you're in the cold, it's much harder and more frustrating to learn to manipulate the controls with two layers of gloves on your hand.

For shell gloves, look for something that fits over your other gloves and can be quickly removed, such as a Gore-tex over mitten. An example is Outdoor Research's Mt. Baker Modular Mittens. Over-mittens, such as these, trap the radiant heat near your hands and prevent convective heat loss. A nice feature to look for is a lanyard attachment. With a lanyard, you can clinch the strap around your wrist or forearm and let the mitten dangle when you take it off. This is much easier to do in winter, especially when it's windy, then trying to tuck it into a pocket or stuff it under your armpit or between your knees. The only disadvantage to using a lanyard is that over-mitts work well as extra insulation under your knees if you need to kneel and a lanyard makes it inconvenient to use in this way.

If you get cold hands using hand warmers in your gloves works well to keep your hands warm. Some styles of gloves and mittens feature zippered pockets designed for the chemical hand warmers packs. Typical hand warmers, such as Grabber's, maintain temps of 135 to 156°F and last up to seven hours. At less than a dollar a pair, it's good insurance to carry these in your backpack for the colder days.

NOTE: If you have a touchscreen on your camera, you must buy a pair of gloves that works with a touchscreen. Taking your gloves off in sub-zero temps is not an option.

### **Balaclavas**

On your head, I recommend wearing a balaclava and synthetic or wool hat. If you're a glasses wearer, you need to buy a balaclava that directs your breath downward instead of towards your eyes and glasses; otherwise your glasses will fog and ice up. Balaclavas that work for glasses wearers usually have an opening for both your nose and mouth. If you don't wear glasses, you can use whatever variety of balaclava you like.

### **Snowshoes and Traction Devices**

There are two pieces of specialty gear that are required for the workshop: snowshoes and ice cleats. We'll use the snowshoes to hike up frozen river canyons and we'll use the ice traction devices along Lake Superior's shore.

If you need to rent snowshoes, reserve a pair from the Lake Superior Trading Post (218-387-2020). For ice cleats read the linked article in the above reading list.

### **Camera Gear**

The cold is hard on batteries and sucks the life out of them much faster than you'd expect. While newer batteries are often better than older ones, you should carry backup batteries to make sure you have enough juice for the entire day. I highly recommend that you test your camera in cold weather to see how quickly your batteries drain and then plan accordingly. You may not need four batteries, but four is a safe bet.

If you use a mirrorless camera, consider four batteries a minimum.





## Discounts

As a photography workshop student, you have the opportunity for discounts from several companies.

- **Singh-Ray:** As a workshop participant, you qualify for a 10% discount on Singh-Ray filters. Purchase direct and enter "hansel10" at checkout. You can also order by phone and use the same code for the same discount.
- **SmugMug:** If you're looking for an easy to use website to host your portfolio and offer your images for sale, SmugMug is one of the places. For new users, you get a 10 to 15% discount by using this link: <http://www.bryanhansel.com/out/smugmug>

## Other Photography Resources

The following photography resources are those that I love. The online ones are ones that I check out often for inspiration or just because they're interesting. The books are ones that I return to now and then for inspiration, especially the Galen Rowell books.

### On the Web

- [The Online Photographer](#): Consistently the best and most intelligent photography resource on the Internet. Michael Johnston, the primary author, has figured out a way to make money in photography by running a blog and there's good reason that he makes his living via the blog. It's always good. It's the first thing that I read on my RRS feed each day.
- [David Muench](#) invented near/far but doesn't have any books about it. You can visit his work on the website. He's one of the photographers whose prints I own.
- [Digital Photography School](#): I have mixed feeling about Digital Photography School, but I read it now and then while keeping in mind that the website is designed specifically for SEO and selling their eBooks. I'll pick up tips and tricks every now and then that make visiting the website worth it.
- [Nikon Rumors](#): I mainly shoot Nikon and like to read rumors about what is coming next. It helps me plan for future expenses and such. There are rumor sites for all major brands, so if you're a gearhead, they can be fun. If you're not, then not so much.

### Books

- [National Geographic Photography Field Guide](#): Landscape: This book is a solid introduction to landscape photography. It's pithy and has beautiful photography. National Geo produces a number of photography field guides covering all kinds of subjects.

- [Galen Rowell's Inner Game of Outdoor Photography](#): This is a good starting point to Galen Rowell and a book I come back to over and over, but I come back to his books all the time. He passed away before his time, but his look still feels modern and has impact. Once you finish this book, you should get the rest of his books. The subject matter is diverse and the tricks and tips you find in his books are like finding gold in the bottom of your pan.
- [Ansel Adams' Examples: The Making of 40 Photographs](#): Do you question whether or not you should use filters, develop your images using Photoshop? If so, pick up a copy of this book and you'll see everything that Ansel Adams did both in the field, during developing and in the darkroom to make his prints. If you've never shot black and white, some of the technical terms will go over your head, but he talks about his vision and then what he did to make that vision happen on the print.
- John Shaw's [Guide to Digital Nature Photography](#): Great beginners guide to nature photography. Recently updated to digital.
- [Art Wolfe's The Art of the Photograph: Essential Habits for Stronger Compositions](#): While not written by Wolfe, the book has amazing photography and good advice.
- [Art Wolfe's The New Art of Photographing Nature](#): While not written by Wolfe, the book has inspirational photography and good advice.
- [Bruce Barnbaum's The Art of Photography: An Approach to Personal Expression](#): The first seven chapters of this book are pure gold. While I disagree with some of his ideas about why composition works and the elements of composition and think he mixes composition technique with the elements of composition, this book covers a wide range in a short time. The stuff about film

can mainly be ignored and there is no “zone” system for digital. For digital, we call it expose to the right and it exposes differently than the zone system, so you can read the chapter, but it’s just a solid okay. Chapters 13 onward are all excellent. This is a worthwhile book to own and study.

## Magazines

- Outdoor Photography Magazine is a good magazine. I don’t subscribe anymore, because they recycle topics about every two years and I got sick of how to become a digital Ansel Adams

articles, which haven’t really talked about Adams’ vision and have instead concentrated on how to make a color digital file black and white. I still read that magazine, but it isn’t one that I keep on the shelf. The magazine is now under new ownership, so, hopefully, it will get better.

## Miscellaneous Links

- Adventure Cycling Association’s Blog Post on Travel Insurance: <http://www.adventurecycling.org/resources/blog/travel-insurance-be-protected-from-the-unexpected/>

