

Nature Photography with David Saxe, USA Aloft, LLC, [www.usaaloft.com](http://www.usaaloft.com).

This is a general description of the workshop which is tailored to the needs of a specific group. Typically the workshop is presented as three sessions of three hours but may be extended for increased field experience or in depth coverage of a topic.

### **Nature Photography Workshop**

Nature photography encompasses a wide range of venues, subjects and purposes. This workshop mixes instruction with practical field experience, introducing aspects of nature photography including composition, exposure, focusing, lighting, camera operation and field techniques. Examples of topics covered include: nature photography venues and examples, composition techniques, tools for composition, natural and modified lighting, controlling exposure, focusing methods, depth of field, camera equipment and operation, polarizing filter use, field equipment, practical tips for the field, and projects for the beginner. Throughout, application of these techniques to nature photography is highlighted. Field exercises augment the classroom instruction and permit the students to practice the techniques they have learned.

Based on the interests and ability level of the group, an advanced topic may be introduced. Possibilities include post processing and printing, computer controlled camera operation, stereo photography and time-lapse techniques.

### **Prerequisites.**

The workshop is intended for beginner to intermediate photographers. Students should bring a camera (digital strongly preferred) and be able to operate it in point and shoot mode. (Bring enough memory or film and batteries! Plan on 1 – 2 hours of fieldwork each session, depending on the weather.) Students may bring their own laptops for downloading and viewing their photographs. To facilitate review and class discussion of student work, students should be prepared to “hand in” a few images of their choice. This would be best accomplished via downloading and email at home or by creation of a CD or DVD at home. Students using film or without electronic means may bring prints. Facilities for downloading directly to the instructor’s computer from cameras or other portable memory devices will *not* be available. Although camera operation will be discussed at a generic level, students should also have access to their own camera manuals. (Electronic versions of camera manuals are often available at the manufacturer’s web site.)