

# Digital Photography Basics



*The Bennettville Trail, photo courtesy of David Gubernick*

## David Gubernick • June 22–24, 2012

\$225 per person / \$200 for Mono Lake Committee members  
\$10 materials fee to be paid to the instructor  
enrollment limited to 12 participants

Welcome to our field workshop on the basics of digital photography. This workshop is designed to demystify the technical terms and functions of your digital SLR camera and enhance your picture-taking abilities in a warm and supportive learning environment. Learn how to get good exposures, read your histogram, understand different f-stops, shutter speeds, shooting modes, ISO settings, depth-of-field, white balance, lens choices, and much more. In addition to mastering the technical aspects of creating images, we will explore the artistry of photography with an emphasis on composition. Through guided practice sessions, field trips in the Mono Basin, coaching in the field, and review of images, you will learn to create better images with visual impact.

David Gubernick, PhD, is an internationally and nationally published and award-winning nature photographer and workshop leader. Some of his exhibition prints can be seen at Gallery Sur in Carmel and the Ventana Inn & Spa in Big Sur. He provides fine art prints and stock images for the advertising, corporate, editorial, and home décor markets. His first photography book, *Wildflowers of Monterey County*, was published in 2002 and has been a best-seller, garnering rave reviews.

### ITINERARY

On **Friday, June 22 at 6:30pm**, meet at the **Mono Lake Committee Information Center & Bookstore** in Lee Vining. After registration and brief introductions, we will go over equipment and

review participants' prior work (please bring 6–8 examples of your work). We will go over camera controls and functions, depth-of-field, and histograms; please bring your camera and equipment.

On **Saturday, June 23 at 9:00am**, meet at the **Mono Lake Committee**. Bring your equipment for more discussion on histograms, ISO, and other functions. After about an hour we will carpool to a location in the field for guided photography practice, coaching, and exercises. We will break for lunch in the field; please bring your lunch. Please also bring your laptop in the field for a review of the morning shoot. We will continue to shoot in the field after lunch and then reconvene back at the Mono Lake Committee for review of images taken in the afternoon. At 5:00pm we will drive to the Whoa Nellie Deli for dinner as a group before heading out to Mono Lake for a sunset shoot. The day will conclude at dark.

On **Sunday, June 24** we will meet at a location along Mono Lake's shore at 6:00am for a sunrise shoot (optional). At 9:00am we will review our images back at the Mono Lake Committee. We will return to the field mid-morning for more photography with coaching and guidance, again breaking for lunch in the field. At 3:00pm we will meet back at the Mono Lake Committee and review our latest images, have time for questions, and adjourn around 5:00pm.

***Altitude and Dehydration Cautions:*** Remember to bring (and drink!) lots of water because your body loses more water at the higher altitudes of the Mono Basin. Experts recommend that you begin drinking extra water as you drive to higher elevation in order to prevent dehydration and headaches. Also, the sun is rather fierce at high elevations, capable of burning even on cool and cloudy days, so be sure to protect yourself thoroughly using sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat.

## TO BRING

digital SLR camera (no point-and-shoot digital cameras)  
 compact flash cards  
 lenses  
 tripod  
 cable release  
 extra camera batteries and charger

owner's manual for your camera  
 laptop, card reader, image editing software  
 warm clothing—dress in layers, be prepared for variable weather  
 sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, repellent  
 small notepad and pen for taking notes

## MEALS

Bring picnic lunches both Saturday and Sunday to eat in the field. Saturday evening we will have a group dinner at one of the local restaurants—cost of dinner is not covered by tuition.

## RECOMMENDED READING

- Peterson, Bryan. *Understanding Photography Field Guide*. Amphoto Books, 2009.
- Kelby, Scott. *The Digital Photography Book*. Peachpit Press, 2006.

If you have any questions about the specifics of the workshop, please contact David by email at [david@rainbowspirit.com](mailto:david@rainbowspirit.com). For any other questions, please contact the Mono Lake Committee.



## Mono Lake Committee Field Seminars

P.O. Box 29 • Lee Vining, CA 93541 • (760) 647-6595 • [www.monolake.org](http://www.monolake.org)