

Mono Basin & Bodie Photography



June 25–27, 2022 • David J. Gubernick

\$325 per person / \$310 for Mono Lake Committee members
enrollment limited to 12 participants

Welcome to our field workshop on nighttime photography in the Mono Basin and at Bodie State Historic Park. This workshop is designed to enhance your picture-taking abilities in a supportive learning environment. Learn to read your histogram, understand different f/stops, shutter speeds, shooting modes, ISO settings, depth-of-field, white balance, nighttime exposures, and more. In addition to mastering the technical aspects of creating images, we will explore the artistry of photography with an emphasis on composition. Classroom sessions will entail reviews of images and post-processing demonstrations with the use of Lightroom Classic. Through field trips in the Mono Basin and special access to Bodie State Historic Park after hours, coaching in the field, and review and post-processing of images, you will learn to create better images with visual impact.

David J. Gubernick, Ph.D., is an internationally and nationally published and award-winning nature photographer and workshop leader. Some of his exhibition prints can be seen at 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 was a best-seller, garnering rave reviews.

ITINERARY

Saturday, June 25 at 2:00pm: Meet at the Lee Vining Community Center (296 Mattly Avenue) in Lee Vining. After registration and brief introductions, we will go over equipment and review participants' prior work; please bring five examples of your work on a flash drive. We will go over camera controls and functions, depth-of-field, histograms and how to get good nighttime exposures, focusing, and noise reduction; please bring your camera and tripod to the classroom. We will adjourn for dinner at a local restaurant by 5:00pm. At 6:00pm, we will leave for South Tufa for sunset and nighttime photography ending around 11:00pm (*sunset 8:24pm*).

Sunday, June 26 at 1:00pm: We will meet at the Lee Vining Community Center to review images taken the previous day. Please bring your camera, tripod, and three images from Saturday's outdoor session on a flash drive. We will again go over how to get good nighttime exposures, focusing, and noise reduction and address any questions before we caravan to Bodie State Historic Park for our after-hours, twilight and nighttime field session.

We will leave the Lee Vining Community Center for Bodie at 4:15pm. Please bring a bag dinner, snacks for the evening, and plenty of water. We will arrive in Bodie at about 5:00pm to allow time to eat dinner and set up equipment before we are allowed into the park when it closes at 6:00pm. We can photograph in Bodie until 1:00am, but you may choose to conclude the evening earlier (*sunset 8:24pm*). It can be cold at Bodie in the evening, so please come prepared.

Monday, June 27 at 1:00pm: Meet at the Lee Vining Community Center to review our images from Bodie and for brief post-processing demonstrations using Lightroom Classic. If you have Lightroom Classic, bring your laptop to follow along with the demonstrations. Participants can work on their own images and ask questions and get feedback. We will adjourn around 4:30pm.

This itinerary is subject to change to take advantage of prevailing local conditions at the time of the workshop.

ACTIVITY LEVEL: MODERATE

This seminar's activity level: *moderate*. We will be walking up to two miles a day at a leisurely pace, some of which will be over uneven terrain, off trail, and may include stepping up and over obstacles. Finding stable footing can be difficult at night. Participants will need to carry their camera equipment from the cars to field locations and back. We will be standing for several hours at a time while out in the field; some of that time may be in the sun without much shade.

WEATHER & ALTITUDE

Temperatures in summer will be hot during the day and drop to chilly at night, with possible windy conditions and afternoon thunderstorms. Average temperatures in June in Lee Vining are 76°F (max) and 47°F (min).

This seminar will take place at elevations ranging from about 6,000 to 10,000 feet above sea level. It is a good idea to acclimate at the elevation of Lee Vining for at least 24 hours prior to the start of the seminar. Those with a history of heart, ear, or respiratory problems should consult their

doctors before attending. Anyone restricted to lower elevations should not enroll. *Note: If you have residual respiratory effects from having Covid-19, activities at altitude may be particularly difficult for you.

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

MEALS

Meals are not covered by tuition. On Saturday night we will eat dinner together as a group at a local restaurant; non-photographer partners are welcome to join us. Please bring a bag dinner to eat in Bodie on Sunday. Please bring plenty of snacks and water for the field each day.

FEES

- **South Tufa fee:** the \$3-per-person entrance fee to South Tufa is good for a week; 80% of it stays at Mono Lake for improvements to interpretive/educational activities.
- **Old Marina fee:** the \$3-per-car-per-day fee enables Mono Lake's State Park to stay open.

TO BRING

- ___ digital SLR camera (no point-and-shoot digital cameras)
- ___ lenses, especially wide angles; moderate telephotos zoom may also be helpful
- ___ tripod (tripods without interconnecting spokes between legs allow the legs to spread out)
- ___ tripod head (ball head; avoid heads with several handles)
- ___ cable release, preferably with a built-in timer
- ___ watch, stopwatch, or timer to time long exposures if no cable release with built-in timer
- ___ memory cards
- ___ fully charged camera batteries and extra batteries and battery charger (long exposures drain batteries)
- ___ owner's manual for your camera
- ___ flashlights for light painting at Bodie, extra batteries
- ___ laptop with card reader and image editing software, preferably Lightroom Classic
- ___ flash drive to transfer images for review
- ___ warm clothing—dress in layers, be prepared for variable weather. It can be very chilly at night in Bodie. Bring plenty of warm items—hat, scarf/balaclava, gloves, jacket, long underwear, wool socks, windproof outer layers.
- ___ sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, insect repellent
- ___ snacks for evenings in the field
- ___ plenty of water
- ___ face mask (N95 or KN95 recommended)

If you have any questions about the specifics of the workshop, please contact David by email at davidgub1@earthlink.net. For any other questions, please contact the Mono Lake Committee.

COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS FOR 2022

All participants and instructors must be fully vaccinated and boosted. Proof of vaccination will be required after you register for a seminar.

Please minimize your exposure to Covid in the time leading up to your seminar. We recommend obtaining a negative PCR test result within 72 hours prior to your seminar starting.* If your PCR test comes back positive for Covid, you must cancel your registration and stay home. If you begin to feel sick in the days leading up to your seminar, you must cancel your registration and stay home. You will receive a full refund in either case.

*Depending on the regional Covid situation we may need to *require* a negative PCR test result within 72 hours prior to your seminar starting.

During the seminars masks will be required indoors and in carpools/Mono Lake Committee van in accordance with Mono County requirements (N95 or KN95 masks offer the best protection). If Mono County has lifted the mask requirement, masks will not be required indoors and in vehicles during the seminars. (You may wear a mask at any time if you wish to.)

If you begin to feel ill with Covid symptoms at any time during the seminar, you must immediately notify the instructor or staff member accompanying the group and leave the seminar.

Please keep in mind that conditions may change at any time and we may have to change our procedures in order to provide the opportunity for everyone involved with the Field Seminars to safely participate. Depending on the Covid situation in the weeks leading up to your seminar, we may have to plan to hold the seminar completely outdoors. Mask requirements may change. There's a chance we may have to cancel seminars altogether. We will communicate with you about any of these changes, and you can always get in touch with us if you have questions or need more clarification about specific circumstances, by emailing fieldseminars@monolake.org or by calling (760) 647-6595.



Mono Lake Committee Field Seminars

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