



Fall Colors Galore G221038 John Hayden & Kent Bowser

OCTOBER 8-14, 2022

We are excited you will be attending the Fall Colors Galore workshop at Ghost Ranch and would like to provide some information that may be helpful as you prepare. This class will accommodate all levels of expertise – beginner to advanced. Of course, do not hesitate to call your instructors. For general questions, contact Kent Bowser at 505-473-2657 or email at kentbowser@hotmail.com. John Hayden is more technical savvy and you can call him at 505-281-0643 or email him at misterjohnhayden@live.com.

Our class will be hiking in several locations on the 33 square miles of Ghost Ranch. For those of you who have previously visited the Ranch, keep in mind areas you have explored and would like to revisit during the class. For those participants coming to Ghost Ranch for the first time, it is suggested that you make a targeted list of your interests, which will be taken into consideration as we decide where to shoot. Of course, weather (clouds, precipitations, wind, etc.), affect our options, as well as participants' physical condition. You should be prepared to hike with equipment.

Early October in Northern New Mexico is spectacular, and typically has warm afternoons with cool mornings and cold evenings. Rain and snow are possible, but rarely last long. It is recommended that you check a weather website for the long-term forecast just before you pack (use the city of Abiquiu or Espanola, NM for your search).

Layers for the variable temperatures and weather conditions, with a wind and waterproof jacket, work best. Lightweight gloves may be needed to work camera controls if you plan on doing night photography. The sun is intense at 6500+ feet, so sunglasses and a cap or hat with a good brim are important. Don't forget sunscreen, skin lotion for the low humidity, water bottles, bandanas, beanies for the colder times, flashlights/headlamps for night walks and photography (a red LED is a good idea for night work), sturdy walking shoes or light to mid-weight hiking boots (to keep cactus spines at bay and handle uneven, rough terrain), and perhaps a compact umbrella for sun, inclement weather, or shading your camera. Our shorter hikes will rarely exceed four to five miles, but an all-day hike, if we decide to do one, could be double that.

Bring your digital camera along with any of its lenses. Have a spare battery, your camera's instructions book, and a tablet or laptop (with its attachment cords and chargers) which will be used to review and exhibit your imagery, a thumb/flash drive for storage, and a backup storage unit if you have one. A memory card or two with 16 or

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32 gigs should do. To modify your photographs, you can use the tools that may have come with your camera, as well as Lightroom 6 with the classic slide show programs (comes as a package for \$10 a month). There are several other options that will modify/clean your images that work – bring what you are familiar with. Make sure everything is in working order and you know how to transfer your images to your laptop/tablet and how to make a slide show – John can help you with this if you need instructions.

Bring a camera bag or backpack that has padding to protect your equipment, and has enough room for the camera equipment that will be critical on a hike (e.g., lenses, lens cloths, etc.), as well as room for snacks, meals, water bottles, jacket, etc. Bags with good shoulder straps, adequate padding, and protected zippers are a good idea. Night photography is always an option, so bring a sturdy tripod if that interest you; we will have dark skies towards the end of the week as the blue moon month of October begins and ends with a full moon.

Ghost Ranch will also be providing you with information specific to safe and required practices that will be in place due to the current health crisis.

Texts are not required, but some suggested reading include:

- Kelby's The Adobe Photoshop Lightroom CC Book for Digital Photography
- Farris-Belt's The Elements of Photography: Understanding and Creating Sophisticated Imagery – second edition
- Kemig's Night Photography and Light Painting, second edition (Please call if you are interested in night work)

We are looking forward to meeting you and having a great class!
John Hayden and Kent Bowser