

Eastern Sierra Fall 2019 Field Trio
October 10-13, 2019

(Revised: 18 July 2019)

The Thousand Oaks Photo Group is going to Bishop and the Eastern Sierras during what should be the peak week of fall color! Pete Scifres will be handling the planning and guiding of this trip.

You must be a TOPG member to go on this trip, paid your annual dues which are due by the end of September, and have signed the club's Liability Waiver (note that as of September signing this waiver is a condition of your TOPG membership). **Non TOPG member partners/guests must also sign the waiver. This is on the club's website where it can be downloaded. Please print, sign, and scan/email or give to Pete. If you are bringing a guest/partner, please do this as soon as you RSVP and not require me to follow up on this.**

It is extremely important that you RSVP both on TOPG's MeetUp site, and by sending an email to with your cell # to landscapeSIG@tophotogroup.org. It is reasonably likely that we will need to make itinerary or other changes to this trip and these are the only way you will get these updates

It's important to set expectations about Thousand Oaks Photo Group (TOPG) overnight field trips. These are not paid workshops and Participants (Participant is any person who goes on this TOPG field trip) won't get many of the amenities that come with paid workshops (although Participants will get most of them, for free). The club will:

- Identify a "group" motel

- Publish a schedule of "shoots", locations and meet times (see below)

- To the degree experienced members are available and willing (they almost always are) help with camera set up and composition

TOPG will not:

- Wait past meet times or otherwise confirm that all are present before departure to "shoots" (although we will try and "eyeball" this)

- Be responsible for housing, motels, etc.

- Be responsible for transportation, although we will try and assist in coordinating carpools

As always with TOPG field trips, Participant financial arrangements for this trip are Participant individual, personal responsibilities, not the club's, and by voluntarily going on this field trip you agree to and acknowledge this. It is possible that the club would have to cancel this trip either due to weather, the leaders not being available, or other reasons. Do not make non-refundable motel (or other transportation related) arrangements unless you are willing to assume these costs

Participants are free to follow, or not, the published itinerary.

Carpooling.....Participants should arrange this on their own, although I will try to help if needed.

Housing in Bishop.....I am going to be staying in the Best Western Bishop Lodge (760-873-3543), 1025 North Main Street. All trip meetings will be conducted there. There are many motels in Bishop and Participants should make their own arrangements based on what works best for them, cost-, location- and amenity-wise. **IMPORTANT: This is possibly the busiest week for visitors in Bishop and suggest you make your reservations soon!**

Based on my experience at the Feb 2018 Lone Pine field trip, group size will preclude “caravanning”, so we will just meet where I have described. I suggest you try to set up local carpools so we are in as few vehicles as possible.

Two of our shooting locations will be at elevations of around 10,00 feet and involve a little uphill walking. **Please carefully considered your ability to safely do this.** I can suggest other shooting alternatives if these conditions are a problem

Itinerary (this is weather and related condition dependent and may change):

Thursday, Oct 10: Drive to Bishop, team meeting in lobby of BWBL at 7:30pm. This is an important meeting and we will go over many trip details, do QnA, etc.

Friday morning, Oct 11, **arrive** at the North Lake parking area for morning shoot at 6:20am (leave Bishop at about 5:45). This location will be VERY crowded. I will wait in the parking lot and give directions on where to walk to. (Google Directions from Bishop to North Lake Campground, this is not the exact spot but close enough. If you drive by the lake on your right you went too far and overshot the lake’s parking lot).

Possible option after this (or on Sat morning) is to drive the June Lake loop for yellow aspens, about 40 miles north on 395 (assumes you don’t want to sit thru my mini-seminar, no harm, no foul, see 4 pp’s below).

Friday afternoon, Oct 11, **arrive** at the Mono Lake South Tufa parking area off of Rte 120 (east of 395) at 4:00pm (leave Bishop at about 3:00). (Google Directions from Bishop to Mono Lake South Tufa Area) Optional, unguided suggestion: leave after lunch and drive the June Lake Loop for more yellow Aspens, then go to Mono Lake, see above paragraph

Saturday morning, Oct 12, **arrive** at the junction of Rte 168 and Buttermilk Rd, about 10 miles west of Bishop, for sunrise shoot on “Buttermilks” at 6:15am (leave Bishop at about 5:50).

Saturday afternoon, Oct 12, **arrive** at Bristlecone Pine Forest parking area at 4:15pm (leave Bishop at about 3:15) (Google Directions from Bishop to Ancient Bristlecone Pine forest)

On Friday morning at 10:00 I will conduct a mini-seminar on a photo topic that I haven't figured out yet, location to be announced.

These are the scheduled events as of now. We may discuss others at our team meeting on the evening of Thursday the 10th.

For anyone interested, I am leading a hike to Lower Lamarck Lake, departing from BWCI at 8:45 am on Saturday. Expect to be back around 2:00pm. About a 5 mile round trip, moderately paced, hiking from about 10,000 to 11,500 ft. All Participants are welcome but please consider your ability before joining.

Driving.....**all drivers should have good maps and a clear understanding of where these locations are and how to get to them.**

Sunrise on Friday Oct 11 is 6:45am

Sunset on Friday Oct 11 is 6:12pm

Moonrise on Friday Oct 11 is 5:36pm, 94%. Full moon on Sun the 13th

Before the Club's Sept 10 meeting, 5:30, in the back of the room I will be there to answer questions

Questions: Contact Pete Scifres at landscapeSIG@tophotogroup.org.