



# Spring Wildlife, Landscape and Wildflower Workshop

Smoky Mountains/Cades Cove

*April 22 to 27, 2012.*

Great Smoky Mountains National Park is a world-renowned preserve of wildflower diversity—over 1,660 kinds of flowering plants are found in the park, more than in any other North American national park. In fact, the park is sometimes referred to as the “Wildflower National Park.” From the earliest hepaticas and spring-beauties in the late winter to the last asters in the late fall, blooming flowers can be found year-round in the park. Wildlife is fairly abundant in Cades Cove and we will have opportunities if lucky, to photograph bears. There is approximately one bear per square mile in the Great Smoky Mountain National park although they are rarely seen except in Cades Cove. Other wildlife include bobcats, both red and gray foxes, coyotes, beavers raccoons, red wolves and the river otter. Elk have been reintroduced in Cades Cove and white-tailed deer are abundant.

A group of flowers known as spring ephemerals start blooming. They appear above ground only in late winter and early spring, then flower, fruit, and die back within a short two month period. They

emerge from February through April, and are gone (dormant) by May or June. It is the season for dogwoods, rhododendrons and azaleas.

The workshop will begin with a classroom session devoted to teaching exposure theory, macro photography, composition and field techniques.

You will gain a better understanding of both the technical side of wildlife and nature photography, and most importantly the subject.

In the field you will be provided instruction based upon your needs. We will cover:

- Light
- Light Quality and Quantity
- Temperature
- Direction, side and backlighting
- Exposure
- Metering for the best exposure

How to obtain tack sharp images:

- Auto Focus Modes
- Manual Focus Mode
- Focus Stacking

You will also learn how to work your subject:

- Perspective



- Subject isolation

## *ITINERARY*

Our days will be based on a very flexible schedule allowing us to respond to the opportunities based on flora, wildlife, weather, and light conditions, so you can have the best experience each day. We start each day early so as to capture images in the best light. We will grab a coffee and quick breakfast en-route. We photograph throughout the morning, breaking at midday for lunch and open discussion sessions. After lunch we head out for more photography, concluding near after sunset. Dinner is at a location of your choosing. We will then meet to do image downloads and have a feedback session. Instruction sessions will be included as will a prep session for the next day and reception.

### *Day 1*

We will meet at the Econo Lodge Motel at 6:30pm, to socialize, get to know each other and go over our workshop schedule. We will also have a short instructional session.

### *Day 2*

We will venture out at sunrise into Cades Cove and spend the earlier part of the morning in Cades Cove. Once the light gets harsh we will travel towards Gatlinberg to a motor accessible nature trail to photograph flora, water falls, and old cabins.

We will break for lunch and stay in the same area for the afternoon. Late afternoon we will go to a beautiful overlook to photograph the sunset.

### *Day 3*

We will leave early morning about an hour and a half before sunrise, drive toward Gatlinberg to photograph the sunrise. We will then photograph wild flowers and break for Brunch.

The afternoon will be spent capturing images of beautiful streams lined with rhododendrons and dogwoods.

### *Day 4*

The morning will be spent photographing various scenics, streams and rapids. We will venture out on short trails for macro photography of wild flowers.

After lunch we will return to Cades Cove for evening shots of landscapes, wildlife and flora.

### *Day 5*

An early morning drive through Cades Cove and then on to Gatlinberg. We will drive a motor trail and have numerous opportunities to capture beautiful landscapes, old cabins, a grist mill and mist rising over moss covered rocks, reflections and flowing streams.

## Day 6

For those who have later flights you will have another opportunity to photograph Cades Cove or one of the trails before departing for home.



## Registration

Registration is limited to 10 photographers and the cost is \$800 per photographer. Your air fare, rental car, lodging, site fees, insurance, meals and incidentals are not included. Please complete the registration and release forms. A \$400 deposit is required to confirm your reservation. The balance is due by March 30, 2011. Please make your payments to **Monica Verma** and mail them to 652 Dedham Street, Wrentham, MA 02093-1149

## Accommodation & Travel

The closest airport to Townsend is the McGhee Tyson Airport in Maryville, Tennessee. The airport serves the Knoxville area and eastern Tennessee. As of 2010, eight major airlines fly non-stop to 19 destinations from the airport. Most destinations from McGhee Tyson Airport are in the eastern United States, including hub cities for most major U.S. airlines. It is located approximately 22 miles from Townsend, with a driving time to and from the airport being about 30 to 40 minutes.

A block of rooms at discounted rates of \$80/night - double occupancy, has been reserved at the Econo Lodge at 824 East Lamar Alexander Parkway, Townsend, TN 37882

Call 865-448-9000 to make your reservations and request rates for shiv verma | photography group before March 20, 2012.

## Information

Contact us at 617.759.0010 or email [s.verma@me.com](mailto:s.verma@me.com)

