

Gerlach Nature Photography

Grand Tetons National Park

Late Spring Photography Workshop

June 18 – 23, 2023

With John Gerlach and Dixie Calderone

www.gerlachnaturephoto.com

Gerlach Nature Photography is an Authorized Permittee of the National Park Service



Figure 1 Schwabacher's Landing is a super spot to photograph the mountains of Grand Tetons National Park reflected in the still waters of this small segment of the snake river.

Grand Teton National Park offers stunning landscapes of the magnificent mountains towering above the rolling hills, lakes, and rivers of western Wyoming. You will photograph plenty of exquisite landscapes under the expert guidance of John and Dixie as they teach you the best photo techniques to use that produce outstanding images. In addition to the landscape, the plentiful wildlife is a key part of this workshop experience.



Figure 2 Oxbow Bend during June makes a fine dawn destination. We like photographing it when the morning sun first lights the mountains, but the trees are still in the shade.

John and Dixie live in Idaho where they view the Grand Tetons from their home. We frequently photograph the Tetons and know the area thoroughly. From having led hundreds of field workshops on photography over the decades, we are skilled at guiding photo groups to optimum locations to perfect their photo skills, shoot memorable images, and above all, to simply enjoy the grandeur of magnificent Grand Tetons National Park.

John and Dixie believe in intensive teaching during all photo workshops and tours. We continually offer suggestions for composition, light, exposure, focus stacking, and clearly explain and demonstrate the best photo techniques to use.

Key Photo Skills you will learn:

- How to expose digital images easily and quickly using manual exposure and Auto ISO
- The best camera techniques for shooting landscapes
- The enormous benefit of focus stacking the landscape
- How to make strong wildlife compositions
- How to use long lenses to make sharp wildlife images
- Mastering light – color, direction, contrast to produce the best images
- Using wide-angle lenses for stunning landscape images
- How to process images and combine focus stacks with Helicon Focus

- How to photograph wildflowers
- Simplify your camera with custom shooting modes for landscapes, macro, and wildlife
- How to photograph the stars over the Tetons

Field Trips

We all travel together in our two SUVs. Each morning field trip begins early to be on location before sunrise. Spectacular spots we are certain to photograph include Oxbow Bend, Mormon Row barns, Schwabacher's Landing, wildflower meadows, and other fine dawn locations offering gorgeous mountain views. Evening field trips begin about three hours before sunset.

Average June Temperature

High:73

Low: 37

Sunrise and Sunset

Sunrise: 5:41

Sunset 9:07

What's Included:

- **Intensive photo instruction** from John and Dixie in the classroom and in the field
- **All meals** beginning with dinner on the first evening and ending with breakfast on the last morning
- **5 nights lodging** at the Lexington Hotel (everyone enjoys the hotel and rooms here!!!)
- **All ground** transportation in our two SUVs
- **3 Teaching slide programs** presented on **Wildlife, Macro, and Landscape** Photography

Not Included:

- Airfare
- Items of a personal nature, such as alcoholic drinks
- Park Pass or Entrance Fee
- Trip Cancellation Insurance

Do not rent a car. The Lexington Hotel offers a free shuttle to and from Jackson Hole airport (JAC). We travel together in our two SUVs. Everything is provided for you. Fly to Jackson, catch the hotel's shuttle, rest up in your wonderful Lexington Hotel suite, and then join us for the first evening dinner and meeting. Then we drive you around the park over the next four days to inspiring photo locations that we know so well and take you to a large variety of Jackson restaurants when it is time to eat. Order off the menu and we pay the bill!

Price and Payments

Price:

\$3785 for a private suite

\$2985 each – two participants sharing a suite

Deposit: \$1000

Unfortunately, hotel prices during the summer in Jackson are steep and they are always sold out. Dixie negotiated a reduced rate, but these splendid rooms at the Lexington Hotel are still over \$400 per night. If you can come with a roomie, that helps out a lot with a big savings! These hotel suites are super nice with lots of room, so there is no problem at all for two photographers sharing a room.

Payment:

Payment can be made by check and made payable to: Gerlach Nature Photography. Mail check to John Gerlach/PO Box 318/Island Park, ID 83429. To use a credit card (3% credit card use fee is applied), call Dixie at (812) 350-0799.

A \$1000 per-person **deposit** holds your space in this photo workshop. **Full Payment is due April 1, 2023.**

We suggest buying trip cancellation insurance to protect your investment.

Refunds and Cancellation Policy

If written Cancellation is Received:

90 days or prior: You get a 100% refund minus any fees we cannot recover like credit card fees and a \$100 service charge.

89 to 61 days prior: 50% of the entire trip fee is refunded

60 or fewer days: No refund unless we can refill your spot

The Grand Tetons is an extremely popular photo workshop. Contact us right away to make sure you get one of the eight spots.

John Gerlach or Dixie Calderone

johngerlachphotography@gmail.com

812-350-0799



Figure 3 While we cannot promise you will see and photograph red fox; they are common in the park and June is an excellent month to meet them. This is a pair of fox cubs playing in a warm June meadow.

Itinerary:

Day 1: Fly to Jackson, WY (JAC). The hotel offers a free shuttle to and from the airport. Meet in the hotel lobby at 5:30 pm to go to our group dinner. Then we return to the hotel conference room for a short meeting.

Day 2-5: We depart the hotel each morning before sunrise to be on location to catch the first rays of sunshine lighting the mountains. After sunrise, we look for wildlife and photograph them when we find them and always stop for fine landscape images too. By mid-morning, we return to Jackson for breakfast/lunch at one of the many excellent restaurants in town. Then we take a short break at the hotel. That is a good time to download images and charge camera batteries. In mid-afternoon when the light is unfavorable for photos, we present instructional slide programs in the hotel's conference room. In late afternoon, we pursue landscapes, wildflowers, and wildlife till dark.

Day 6: We begin with a sunrise shoot if weather conditions are suitable and then we enjoy a hearty breakfast together. If you need to fly out early, we understand you won't make our dawn field trip!



Figure 4 Bison are quite common.

Group Size:

The group size is limited to **eight** clients, plus Dixie and John. We like the small group size in two vehicles because it is easier to park in some of the smaller parking areas, we can teach everyone more about photography and the Grand Tetons, and seating at restaurants is easier.

It is easy for us to provide continuous one-on-one instruction in the field. Our goal is to teach you how to use your camera gear to best advantage to make superior quality images.

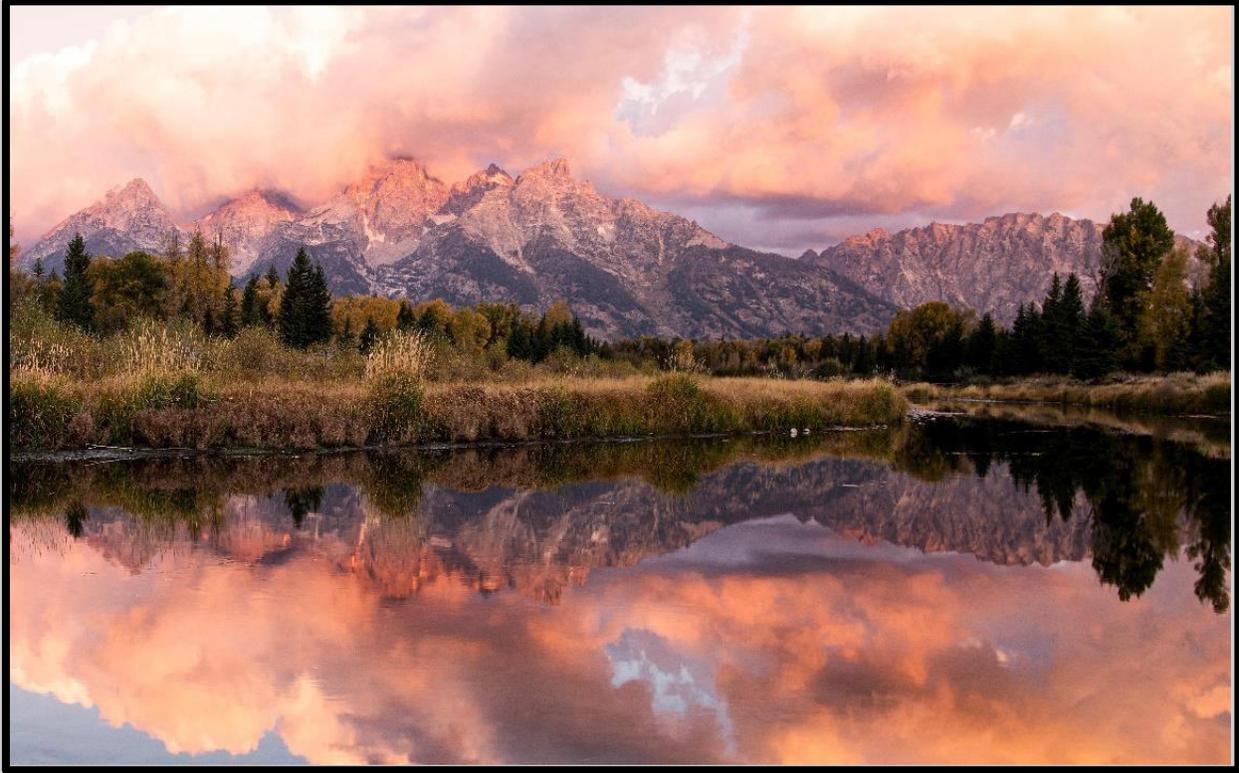


Figure 8 Schwabacher's Landing at dawn

What to bring:

Clothes

Mid-June offers splendid weather at Grand Tetons National Park. Wear warm clothes for morning field trips as the average high at dawn is around 40 degrees, but dress in layers so you can remove some clothes as the temperature warms. Comfortable light hiking boots work well on our field trips and gloves and a hat might be desirable at dawn.

Park Pass and Driver's License

You must have a park pass and a driver's license to prove who you are to enter national parks.

Camera Equipment

- 2 cameras (in case one malfunctions)
- Lenses that cover 24mm to 300mm for landscapes and sometimes wildlife
- Polarizing filter to remove glare and darken a blue sky
- Long lens for wildlife! Any lens that reaches 500mm, whether a 500mm prime lens, a shorter lens with a teleconverter to make it long, or the crop factor of small-sensor cameras that give the angle of view of a long lens.

- Tripod for shooting landscapes, macro, and wildlife
- Bring all required batteries with their charger!
- Bring 20 images from home to share with the group

Examples: Long prime lenses of 500mm and 600mm are excellent for wildlife. But they are big and expensive. A shorter lens such as a 300mm f/4 become a 420mm f5.6 lens when a 1.4x teleconverter is used. That works well. And so does a small-sensor camera that makes your lenses have more reach. That means the lens sees a smaller angle of view and appears to be a longer lens. A 1.6x crop factor camera used on a 300mm lens is like having a $300\text{mm} \times 1.6 = 480\text{mm}$ lens!

For the record, Dixie is using a Nikon 500mm f/6.3 lens and John uses a Canon RF 100 - 500mm f/7.1 lens for wildlife.



Figure 9 Sunrise at Schwabacher's Landing

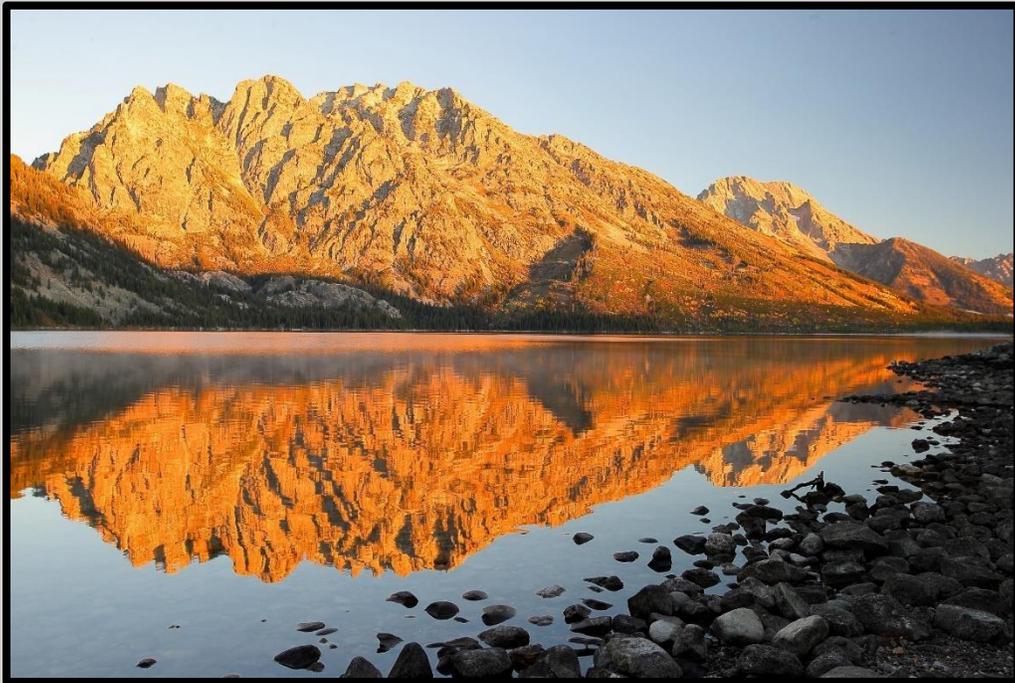


Figure 13 The mountains at sunrise on a calm morning is a spectacular scene to photograph.



Figure 1 Cinnamon teal and other ducks are fairly common at the viewing area along Flat Creek near our hotel. We will stop to photograph them in late afternoon when the light is best.



Figure 15 The Mormon barns are fascinating to visit and photograph with the Grand Tetons in the background.



Figure 2 Pronghorn antelope are common in the Grand Tetons during June. We will surely photograph them well.

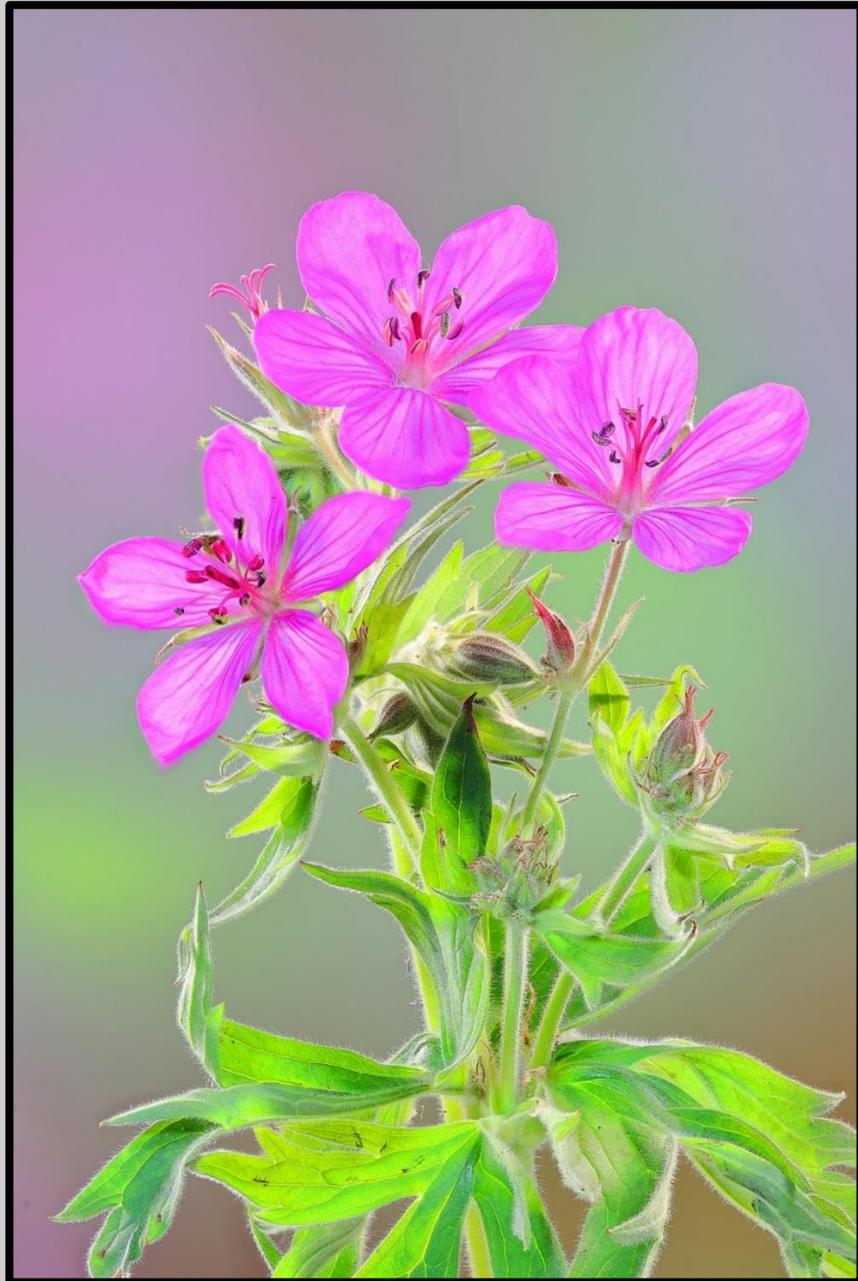


Figure 3 Wildflowers will be in peak bloom during June. We plan to photograph many of them, especially with the Tetons in the background.