

# WORKSHOPS

## SANDRA LEE PHOTOGRAPHY

### INVEST IN NATURE



## **BORREGO EXPLORER PHOTO WORKSHOP 2018**

Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> – Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>

*With workshop co-leaders – **Sandy Zelasko & Barbara Swanson***

### ***Workshop Itinerary***

[www.SandraLeePhotography.com](http://www.SandraLeePhotography.com)  
760-749-2174      Sandy Zelasko

[www.InvestInNature.org](http://www.InvestInNature.org)  
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## INTRODUCTION

Anza Borrego Desert State Park (ABDSP), located within the Colorado Desert of southern California, is the largest state park in California and second largest in the contiguous United States. Located about a two-hour drive northeast of San Diego, it is a diverse and fascinating landscape with over 600,000 acres to explore, many unique microclimates and environs. Perfect for the nature photographer.

The park contains *bajadas*, or desert washes, whose best kept secret are the numerous wildflowers found amongst rock formations and colorful badlands. Seasonal displays include subtle smoke tree blooms, beavertail cactus crowned with brilliant pink flowers, cholla cactus with its barbed spines and yellow buds, the orange flares which adorn the lanky ocotillo plant, trumpet-like desert lily flowers and too many more to mention here.

Palm Canyon is home to the parks namesake, *borrego*, the Spanish word for bighorn sheep. This population of Peninsular bighorn are holding their own and can frequently be found dispersed amount the popular hiking trail and sometimes viewed hydrating at the pup fish pond.

Not to be overlooked are the many types of fauna, including a variety of active desert birds, reptiles, jackrabbits, antelope squirrels, rattlesnakes and elusive mountain lion, kit fox, mule deer, coyote and more.

ABDSP lies in a unique geologic setting and inspires the landscape photographer. Paleontological remains are widespread and numerous Native American sites are dispersed throughout the park.

Nearby visitors can enjoy wildlife in forested Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, explore the highly-debated Salton Sea and find lodging in the quaint desert town of Borrego Springs with its spas, golf courses and “international dark sky” designation.

**Sandy Zelasko, DBA Sandra Lee Photography is an authorized permittee with the National Park Service, US Fish & Wildlife and California State Parks and maintains a CUA for the purpose of field guided photography instruction.**

## TRIP ITINERARY

This **Borrego Explorer** photography workshop begins Friday, March 23, 2018 at 4:00 PM and ends Sunday, March 25, 2018 at dusk. Photographers of all levels are encouraged to participate. A low student to instructor ratio affords individual attention and flexibility.

Please plan to arrive and check into your preferred hotel in Borrego Springs, California in time for the group orientation at 4:00-5:30 PM, March 23, 2018. Orientation will be held at the Anza Borrego Desert Natural History Association, 652 Palm Canyon Drive, Borrego Springs, CA 92004. The orientation will include participant introductions, discussion on safety and ethics of desert environs, logistics of the outings and your goals for the workshop.

Plan your trip to include at least **two overnight** stays in Borrego Springs, CA beginning March 23, 2018 checking out March 25, 2018 unless you are extending your stay beyond the scope of this workshop. You are responsible for transportation to and from Borrego Springs and throughout the park every day. You can reserve and pick up a rental car at the airport in San Diego, CA if you are flying in for the workshop. San Diego (SAN) is the nearest commercial airport to Borrego Springs and is approximately 90 miles or a two-hour drive. Here is a link to google maps, <https://goo.gl/WUohjK>.

Borrego Springs has a hometown grocery store, gasoline, lodging, eateries and a few art galleries. Your trip leaders will be staying at the Standlunds Inn & Suites but you have a number of places to choose from. Here is a link where a list of lodgings in Borrego Springs can be found, <https://goo.gl/uD8RBt>.

**Your instructors** have an exciting workshop planned for you; however, note that this itinerary will be flexible in response to weather, lighting, availability of animals, client safety and/or desires of the group. A three-hour midday break is planned for lunch on your own or with the group, image processing, additional shooting or free time. Your instructors will be available and welcome your questions although they will need time to eat and review scheduled activities.

**A typical day will go something like this:** Meet at the pre-determined time to photograph sunrise, scenery and wildlife in the area. We will have a midday break then resume photographing in the afternoon until dusk or pre-determined time.

Make sure to plan your breakfasts so we are in the field at the pre-determined hour. Be courteous to your fellow participants and please be on time. We suggest you have snacks and water available throughout the day.

Places high on our list to photograph are:

- **Mine Wash**
- **Native American sites**
- **Glorietta Canyon**
- **Milky Way**
- **Palm Canyon**
- **Peninsular bighorn sheep**
- **Seasonal bloom**
- **Resident birds**
- **Macro/details**
- **Desert landscapes**





### Day 1 – Friday, March 23

- Check into your accommodations and prepare your gear for a weekend full of photography.
- We'll kickoff our workshop with an **orientation from 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm** which will include participant introductions, itinerary details, maps, safety, ethics and a Q & A session.
- At 5:30 pm we'll drive to our evening location and work on photo techniques until dusk (approx. 7:30 pm). Wear appropriate shoes and layer your clothing.
- Afterwards we can gather for dinner as a group or on your own. Then get ready for an early morning!

### Day 2 – Saturday, March 24

- Start the day with a hearty breakfast on your own. Meet near the **Christmas Circle sign at 6:45 am** for a short drive to our morning photo location. Plan to be in the field from 7:00 am – 10:00 am.
- There will be a break from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm for lunch and image processing.
- At 1:00 pm we will reconvene for a one hour post-processing information session and to answer any questions you may have.
- At 2:00 pm we will drive to our next photo location and shoot until dusk. At approx. 7:30 pm we will break for dinner then reconvene for a night photo shoot.

### Day 3 – Sunday, March 25

- Begin your day with breakfast on your own. Meet near the **Christmas Circle sign at 6:15 am** and drive to our morning photo location for an easy to moderate hike (your choice). Plan to be in the field from 6:30 am – 10:00 am. Remember to wear appropriate shoes.
- We will break again from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm to work on images and have lunch. Please have up to four images ready to share in our afternoon critique.
- At 1:00 pm we will gather as a group for a one hour critique session and to answer any questions you may have.
- At 2:00 pm we set out to our afternoon photo location and shoot until dusk. This workshop is scheduled to end at 7:30 pm. Depart for home or gather for dinner.



## DETAILS

**Your Investment: \$495** per person, 2 ½ days –8 participants maximum/4 participants minimum. Note: In the event there are less than 4 participants, a small group supplement of \$50 will be added to the price above for each person. You are always welcome to check with us BEFORE making airline reservations if you have a question about attendance.

**Start date:** Friday, March 23, 2018, 4:00 pm      **End date:** Sunday, March 25, 2018, 7:30 pm

**Deposit: \$150** to hold a spot in this workshop. **Balance is due by February 6, 2018.** Make your payment out to **Sandra Lee Photography and mail to 15864 Severino Lane, Valley Center, CA 92082** or call **760-749-2174** to process your credit card. Visa, MasterCard, cash, check or money order are all acceptable forms of payment.

### What is included:

- Two instructors/trip leaders, Sandy Zelasko and Barbara Swanson.
- Field sessions, instruction and image critique per itinerary.
- Combined 30+ years of desert photography experience in ABDSP.

### Not included:

- Lodging, airfare, transportation and meals. Participants are urged to ride-share to shooting locations.
- Day use parking at one location. \$10 per vehicle.
- Trip insurance. You are encouraged to purchase trip insurance in case of an unforeseen emergency which requires you to cancel.

### Cancellation policy:

- Cancellations 75 days prior to workshop, full refund, less \$50 processing fee.
- Cancellations made between 74-46 days prior to workshop, forfeit deposit.
- Cancellations made 45 days from the start of the workshop are non-refundable.

## RESOURCES

To help plan your trip, visit the Anza Borrego Desert State Park website at [https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=638](https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=638). Workshop dates were selected for peak season conditions. Below are a few helpful links for planning your trip.

### Lodging, dining, shopping, services, etc:

- **Borrego Springs Chamber of Commerce** - <https://goo.gl/uD8RBt>

### Additional attractions in the region:

- **Borrego Art Institute** - <http://www.borregoartinstitute.org>
- **Galleta Meadows Metal Sculptures** - <https://californiathroughmylens.com/anza-borrego-sculptures>
- **Julian, CA** - <http://juliantrek.com/#10/33.2283/-116.4056> & <http://www.visitjulian.com>
- **Cuyamaca Rancho State Park** - <http://www.parks.ca.gov/667>

### Suggested packing:

- Bring a laptop with photo editing software.
- A detailed suggested packing list and suggested equipment list will be sent upon booking.

If you have questions, please feel free call Sandy at 760-749-2174.

## Image Gallery

