

BRYAN HANSEL PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography Workshop Equipment Checklist

In photography, you can always spend more money. Consider this list the ideal list, but don't feel strained to purchase everything on it. You can use what you have and decide if you want to buy more equipment later.

Clothing - General

Bring what you'd normally wear for the time of year and supplement it as needed. I also suggest using synthetic clothing when possible. Synthetic clothing generally keeps you drier and works better in outdoor environments.

T-Shirt
Fleece Jacket, Softshell Jacket, Windbreaker
Shorts
Long Pants
Synthetic socks
Hiking Boots
Rain Jacket and Pants
Extra Change of Clothing
Hat
Sunglasses

Other Items

Headlamp - Required
Sunscreen
Bug netting or hood or hat (for bug session which is generally May through August)
Umbrella
Chemical hand and toe warmers (warmth and to keep your lens from fogging on night classes)
Bug spray
Closed-toe sandals for wading in streams

Backpack

The ideal backpack is big enough for your camera gear, rain gear, snacks and extra equipment.

Backpack
Backpack rain cover

Clothing - Winter

It can be brutal in winter if you don't have the right gear. Remember the Minnesotan proverb, "There is no bad weather, only the wrong clothing." It's always better to have more than not enough.

Synthetic or Wool Base Layers – Long underwear top and bottom. Layering multiple base layers adds a ton of warmth.
Synthetic or Wool Insulation - Fleece or down. Bring several layers for both tops and bottoms
Outerwear - Coat
Outerwear - Pants
Synthetic or Wool Socks -- No cotton socks!
Synthetic or Wool Hat
Balaclava for Winter or Gales
Thin Base Layer Gloves - Thin enough to operate all the buttons and dials on your camera
Insulated Gloves - Leather work gloves
Shell Gloves/Mittens to wear over your other gloves
Extra change of clothing
Insulated Boots or Mukluks
Ice Cleats or Crampons
Read this article: Winter Traction Devices
Snowshoes (Rent in Grand Marais at the Lake Superior Trading Post)

Food and Water

It's a good idea to bring snacks, water and lunch. Staying hydrated and having enough calories to burn keeps you more alert, creative and warmer. It's easy to forget to drink enough water and become dehydrated.

Two 1-liter water bottles
Water bottle insulation for winter workshops
Thermos with a hot drink for winter or night
Snacks or energy bars - 2 to 3 per day
Lunch when required

Computer

The main reason to haul along computer equipment is to process images. Some workshops have an image review and you'll need a way to transfer images to me.

Laptop computer
Card reader
Image processing program
USB thumb drive
Power cord

Camera Gear

Any interchangeable-lens camera is acceptable. For additional suggestions, see the notes in the pdfs for winter, macro and night sky workshops.

Camera body
Backup camera body (optional but recommended)
Memory cards for 400 photos a day - Label your cards with your name, recommended max of 32 to 64GB cards
Four or more camera batteries (especially in winter and for night workshops. If you shoot a mirrorless camera make sure to bring extra batteries)
Battery charger
Car charger
Shutter release cord
Waterproof camera cover
Camera neck strap (optional)
Lenspen or microfiber cloth to clean your lenses
Hot-shoe bubble level (optional)
Cotton cloth or bandana (wiping water from lens)

Lenses

The choices below are the ideal choices for an outdoor photographer. If you don't have all, don't worry. Bring what you have and only buy lenses that you need for special purposes, such as a macro class or night sky class.

Wide angle lens for landscapes
Mid-range zoom for walking around
Telephoto to compress the scene
Macro for flowers and details
Fast, wide lens for night photography
Super telephoto to 500mm for wildlife in national parks

Tripod

A sturdy tripod is a must. Consider something high-quality. If you need a suggestion, see my [Best Inexpensive Tripod for the Money](#) article. On workshops, I've seen inexpensive plastic tripods break.

[Article link: Best Inexpensive Tripod for the Money](#)

Tripod
Quick-release ball head
Monopod (optional)
Pipe insulation or insulated leg covers for winter workshops.
Duct tape to tape pipe insulation to tripod
Quick-release plate for your camera & footed lenses

Filters

This list is nearly all the filters that I personally use and carry. You don't need to buy all of them. Read the filter pdf for more info. The information sheet you received when you registered may list suggested filters. You get a 10% discount when ordering from Singh-Ray by using the code "hansel10".

3-stop Reverse ND Grad, 4x6-inch
2-stop Soft ND Grad, 4x6-inch
3-stop Soft ND Grad, 4x6-inch
2-stop Reverse ND Grad, 4x6-inch
5-stop ND Filter, 4x4-inch
10-stop ND Filter, 4x4-inch
LB Neutral Polarizer
Bryan Hansel Waterfall Polarizer
Filter holder, 4x6-inch
Adapter rings for your lenses
Step-up rings as required

Lighting Equipment (Optional)

On the night workshops, I provide all the lighting equipment. This is what I bring.

LED Lights x 3 - Lume Cube
LED Lantern
Headlamp
Waterproof tea lights - yellow
Westcott 43-inch umbrellas
Light stands x 2
Flash bracket x 2
Gaffer's tape
Rosco Sun 85 CTO Gel

Panoramic Equipment (Optional)

Some workshops offer opportunities for panos. If the one you are attending does it will say so in the information sheet you received at registration. This is optional.

	L-bracket designed for your camera
	Panoramic rotator, such as the Gemtune panohead
	Nodal slider as long as your lens plus camera body
	Nodal Ninja or RRS pano-gimbal head (multi-row)

Tools (Optional)

Screws and bolts tend to loosen over time, especially on tripods. Having a few tools can save the day. I carry a repair kit with me on workshops.

	Hex keys to fit tripod parts
	Screwdrivers to fit tripod parts

Personal First Aid Kit (Optional)

Although I carry a day-trip-sized first aid kit with me and usually a larger kit in the car, you should consider carrying a small personal kit for minor injuries such as cuts or headaches. This should live in your camera bag.

	Adventure Medical Ultralight / Watertight .5 Medical Kit
	1 or 2 pairs of Powder-Free Nitrile Exam Gloves
	Medications as needed
	Epi Pen (if needed)