



Badlands and Black Hills Photography Workshop

The Badlands and Black Hills Photography Workshop starts in Badlands National Park. We'll photograph the Badlands for two and a half days before heading to Custer. Once in Custer we'll spend the two and a half days photographing the Black Hills. Destinations include Custer State Park, the Needles, Sylvan Lake and Wind Cave National Park.

Welcome to the Workshop

Thanks for signing up for this photography workshop. The following pages and the [participant package](#) should answer all your questions, but if you still have questions, please, give me a call.

Thanks,
Bryan Hansel
218-370-8351

Bryan Hansel Photography is an authorized permittee of the National Park Service and operates under a Commercial Use Authorization from the National Park Service.

Carpooling

We will carpool during the workshop. We need to use 4 or fewer cars. The park requires that I drive my own car without passengers. When carpooling, you always wait for the car behind you before making/leaving a turn. Everyone should grab a park map, and all drivers should talk to me about our next destination before leaving.

Cell and Internet Service

Cell Service is limited in the park. You should not expect to have cell service in most areas. My cell number is 218-370-8351.

Dates

September 27 to October 1, 2021

Demo Filters and Discounts on Singh-Ray Filters

If you need to buy filters, you can get 10% off by buying direct from [Singh-Ray](#) and using the code “hansel10”. While not required, I suggest the following filters for this workshop:

- Split ND Grads (4x6-inch filters): 3-stop reverse, 2-stop soft.
- Polarizers: LB Neutral
- 10-stop Mor-Slo

I have three sets of Singh-Ray demo filters. Each set includes:

- Split ND Grads (4x6-inch filters): 3-stop reverse, 2-stop soft
- ND Filters: 5-stop Mor-Slo
- Polarizers: LB Neutral Polarizer

If you are interested in using a Singh-Ray demo filter set during the workshop, let me know. Because the number is limited, the first three people that want to use a set get dibs.

Important note: I have filter holders and adapter rings for lens threads of 67, 72, 77 and 82. If your lenses have different size threads, you will need to supply a step-up ring going from your thread size to one of the threads on the adapter rings. For example, if you have 52mm threads on your lenses, you should buy a 52mm to 77mm step-up ring. A 52mm to 67mm step-up ring would also work.

You can read more about filters in the larger participant package.

Ethics

All my workshops operate under both [Leave No Trace](#) and [Tread Lightly](#) outdoor ethics. Please, take time to visit those websites and understand the expectations. I'm attaching an LNT pamphlet for your review. The National Forest Service and local parks expect that we will follow these principles. In addition, we will practice [my basic outdoor photography ethics and etiquette](#). The following three points sum up my outdoor ethics philosophy:

- Only take an action when your action's impact and anyone else doing the same won't inhibit the ability of the land to heal itself.
- Consider the interests of others above your selfish needs.
- Only act in a way that benefits the group. The group defined as everyone in a location. Further, the group defined as future visitors to that location.

Equipment Notes

For photography gear, bring a wide assortment of lenses and the normal gear that you'd bring. **Bring rain gear, a camera cover and a rain umbrella.** The umbrella is handy when or if it rains. We stay in the field during rain. Also, bring sturdy hiking boots or hiking shoes. We will hike up to 3 miles round trip and some of the trails can be considered moderately rough. See the equipment list for more details.

Consider bringing a super telephoto zoom, such as the Tamron 150-600. This works well if we run into any wildlife and it works surprisingly well at sunrise and sunset.

Final Payment – Due Date: July 29, 2021

If you paid the non-refundable deposit only, the final amount is due 60 days before the workshop. Final payment will open on January 1st. Please, plan accordingly. I'll send out a reminder when the final payment is due.

Pay Here:

- <https://www.bryanhansel.com/shop/photography-workshop-full-payment/>

First Meetup

Optional Sunset on Sunday night. 5am on Monday morning at the hotel.

Food – Important!!!!

All meals and drinks are the responsibility of participants. We will eat lunch in the field on most days. This means that you will need to get groceries and pack them with you.

You should bring:

- 2 to 3 liters of water a day (Nalgene bottles and Platypus water bags are perfect for this and they are reusable)
- Coffee or whatever you use to caffeinate
- Snacks for the entire day
- Breakfast
- Lunch

We will eat a late dinner every night after shooting sunset. Wall offers a small number of restaurants. Custer offers more.

Getting There

The Badlands National Park and Wall, South Dakota is located about 55 miles east of Rapid City, South Dakota on Interstate 90. From Minneapolis, it's a 7.5-hour drive via US-169S to MN-60 W and I90 (check Google Maps for the exact route). Rapid City has a small regional airport (RAP). Devil's Tower is 107 miles north of Rapid City (check Google Maps for the exact route).

Itinerary

Note: The itinerary will be fluid based on the weather.

Sunday

Check in at Custer, South Dakota. Although the Workshop officially starts at sunrise on Monday, you have the option to meet up at 5pm for a sunset session. You'll need a permit, so you should either get it earlier in the day or expect to buy one at the gate.

Monday

Sunrise is at 6:45am. After the golden hour light ends, we'll head back to the hotel for a break. Then it's back into the field for the day. We'll explore and photograph the Black Hills. Sunset is at about 6:35pm.

Tuesday

Sunrise in the field. We'll photograph the park until mid-morning, so bring breakfast. After we finish, we'll return to the hotel for a break and lunch. In the afternoon, we head back out in the field and stay out for sunset.

Wednesday

After sunrise in the park and breakfast. We check out and head to Scenic, a ghost town. Then we go to Wall, SD. In Wall, you'll check into your hotel and we'll head back out into the field after everyone is organized.

Thursday

We'll start at sunrise and end at sunset with breaks for breakfast. Lunch will be in the field or at a restaurant near wherever we are for the day. If we're near Wall for the evening, we'll eat a dinner there, otherwise we'll eat near wherever we're photographing. The longest drive we will take could be up to an hour each way. We'll base our locations on the conditions that we're experiencing to take advantage of the lighting.

Friday

We'll photograph the sunrise and stay in the field until the good light fades. After sunrise the workshop finishes.

Lodging

Lodging Partner

There are two lodging partners for this workshop with special room rates. We will also meet at these hotels each morning before heading out for the sunrise. Room rate is not included in the workshop fee. They have a block of rooms set aside under my name that releases to the public 60 days before the workshop. You must register for your room at Aspen Lodge before the release date. They will make the reservation under your name and collect a credit card number. When you register let me know you are part of the Bryan Hansel Photography Workshop group.

- The Comfort Inn & Suites is our location in Custer. (605) 673-3221
- Best Western Plains Motel is our location in Wall. (605) 279-2145

This is what you book: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday night in Custer. Wednesday and Thursday in Wall.

Park Stickers and Entrance Fees

All the parks we will visit require entrance fees. You'll need both South Dakota state park stickers as well as a National Park Pass.

Participant Package

Here's a link to the participant package and suggested equipment list: [Participant Package](#)

Sunrise and Sunset Times

Sunrise is at approximately 6:4am and sunset is approximately 6:32pm.

Team Reach

Before and during the workshop, you can use the [Team Reach](#) app to communicate and coordinate flights, rooms and car rentals. We may also use it during the workshop to communicate.

Use the code: bad2021 to join our group.

Vices

Due to permits, federal regulations and state park regulations, alcohol and firearms are prohibited. Illegal substances are also prohibited. If you are going to use tobacco products or other types of inhalers step far enough

away from the group so that no one can smell it. Dispose of your cigarette butts properly. Before offering to drive in a carpool state that you are a smoker, so people can sort themselves accordingly.

Weather

In the Badlands, the average temps are 52°F for lows and 76°F for highs. In the Black Hills, average temps are 43°F for lows and 72°F for highs. Expect windy and potentially stormy conditions with cold wind chills at sunrise.

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- Keep campsites small. Focus activity in areas where vegetation is absent.

In pristine areas

- Disperse use to prevent the creation of campsites and trails.
- Avoid places where impacts are just beginning.

DISPOSE OF WASTE PROPERLY

- Pack it in, pack it out. Inspect your campsite and rest areas for trash or spilled foods. Pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter.



- Deposit solid human waste in catholes dug 6 to 8 inches deep at least 200 feet from water, camp, and trails. Cover and disguise the cathole when finished.
- Pack out toilet paper and hygiene products.
- To wash yourself or your dishes, carry water 200 feet away from streams or lakes and use small amounts of biodegradable soap. Scatter strained dishwater.

LEAVE WHAT YOU FIND

- Preserve the past: observe, but do not touch, cultural or historic structures and artifacts.
- Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them.



- Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species.
- Do not build structures, furniture, or dig trenches.



**LEAVE NO TRACE
PRINCIPLES of OUTDOOR ETHICS**



For more information please contact the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics at www.LNT.org or call 1.800.332.4100

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Center for Outdoor Ethics

PLAN AHEAD AND PREPARE

- Know the regulations and special concerns for the area you'll visit.
- Prepare for extreme weather, hazards, and emergencies.
- Schedule your trip to avoid times of high use.
- Visit in small groups. Split larger parties into smaller groups.
- Repackage food to minimize waste.
- Use a map and compass to eliminate the use of marking paint, rock cairns or flagging.



TRAVEL AND CAMP ON DURABLE SURFACES

- Durable surfaces include established trails and campsites, rock, gravel, dry grasses or snow.
 - Protect riparian areas by camping at least 200 feet from lakes and streams.
 - Good campsites are found, not made. Altering a site is not necessary.
- In popular areas**
- Concentrate use on existing trails and campsites.
 - Walk single file in the middle of the trail, even when wet or muddy.



MINIMIZE CAMPFIRE IMPACTS

- Campfires can cause lasting impacts to the backcountry. Use a lightweight stove for cooking and enjoy a candle lantern for light.
- Where fires are permitted, use established fire rings, fire pans, or mound fires.
- Keep fires small. Only use sticks from the ground that can be broken by hand.
- Don't bring firewood from home. It may be contaminated with tree-killing insects or diseases. Instead, buy local wood near your destination or gather onsite if allowed.
- Burn all wood and coals to ash, put out campfires completely, then scatter cool ashes.



RESPECT WILDLIFE

- Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them.
- Never feed animals. Feeding wildlife damages their health, alters natural behaviors, and exposes them to predators and other dangers.
- Protect wildlife and your food by storing rations and trash securely.
- Control pets at all times, or leave them at home.



- Avoid wildlife during sensitive times: mating, nesting, raising young, or winter.



BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHER VISITORS

- Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience.
- Be courteous. Yield to other users on the trail.
- Step to the downhill side of the trail when encountering pack stock.
- Take breaks and camp away from trails and other visitors.
- Let nature's sounds prevail. Avoid loud voices and noises.