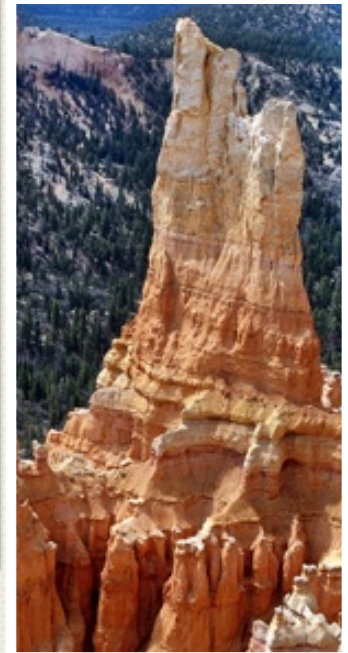


IMPRESSIONS

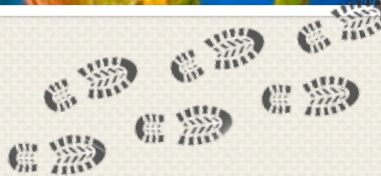
"Take nothing but photos, leave nothing but footprints"



Bryce Canyon, April 2012 Tour

Monument Valley Photo Tour

April 26th to May 5th 2012



Impressions Newsletter ... Photograph the landscapes of the Southwest

Monument Valley provides some of the most enduring and definitive images of the American Southwest. Isolated red mesas and buttes surrounded by desert sand set the backdrop for our April photo tour to

this region. The valley is not a conventional valley, but rather a wide flat, sometimes desolate landscape, mixed with crumbling formations rising 400 to 1000 feet into the air. These are the last remnants of the

sandstone layers that once covered this entire region. With the right angle of the sun, and shadows the valley offers up many spectacular photographic opportunities.

The landscape overwhelms, not



MONUMENT VALLEY PHOTO TOUR
APRIL 26TH TO MAY 5TH 2012



NEW YORK CITY PHOTO TOUR
MAY 17TH TO MAY 21ST, 2012



ICELAND PHOTO TOUR
JUNE 15TH TO 23RD, 2012

PHOTO TOUR TREKKERS

“Monument Valley Photo Tour”



just by the beauty but also by the size. The fragile pinnacles of rock are surrounded by miles of mesas, buttes, shrubs, trees and windblown sand all combine together to create the magnificent colours of the valley.

The Navajo Name for Monument Valley is Tse'Bii'Ndzisgaili. The valley is 5,564 feet above sea level and covers 91,696 acres of land as it extends into the states of Arizona and Utah.

Monument Valley is just one of many locations we will be visiting and photographing during our photo tour in April.

The path we will be following is often referred to as the Grand Circle Road Trip. Which will also include Bryce Canyon, Zion National Park, Capitol Reef National Park, Canyonlands and Arches National Park.

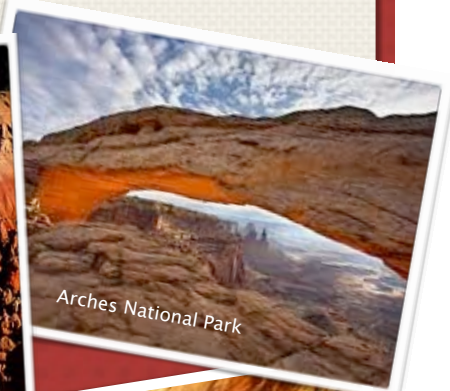
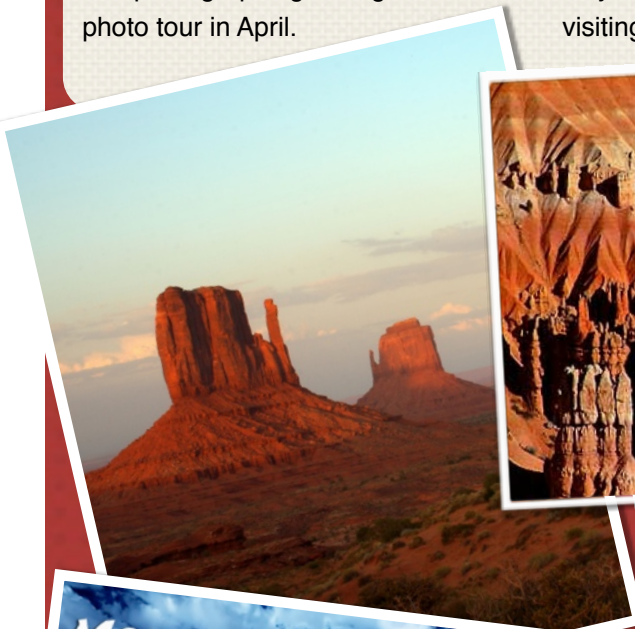
I'm pleased that Dave Chidley will be joining us on this tour as my co-host. Dave had traveled and photographed on many of our Trekker Tours and enjoys sharing his photographic techniques and ideas.

As with all our tours we try to stay close to the locations we are visiting, thus allowing maximum

opportunities for sunrise and sunset photography.

Space is still available for this tour. To register please visit PhotoTourTrekks.com, our registration cut off is Feb 23, 2012.

This is a great way to travel with other photographers, learn new techniques, and experience the beauty nature has to offer. Dave and I look forward to see you in April. If you have additional questions please email me at jcowie@carlsonwagonlit.com or by phone 519-679-8520 ex 2223, or toll free at 1-866-614-7717.



Congratulations Brenda Fee-Perkins and the Great Grey Owl by Sue Southon



CONGRATULATIONS Brenda Fee-Perkins



Congratulations are in order for Brenda Fee-Perkins.

In December's newsletter, Brenda was so kind to send me this image she took at the Holiday Train when we got together for some festive light photography in November.

Well Brenda entered the image into a Photo Contest hosted by Facebook and Nikon Canada the theme was "At the Heart of the Holidays"

Brenda won second place with the above image and the prize was a Nikon Coolpix AW100 digital camera. Very cool.

Again congratulations Brenda I'm sure it was a great way to start the holidays and well deserved to such a creative photographer.

Great Grey Owl:

First off thank you Sue for sharing one of your beautiful images of the Great Grey Owl. It is very rare to see them in this part of Ontario as they are usually found north of Lake Superior. This guy made the headlines of newspapers and television in late December. Birding photographers and naturalists drove from all over Ontario and Michigan some up to 5 hours to get a look at this beautiful Owl. Below are Sue's note to me from her experience. Thanks again, Sue you have a great talent for capturing birds.

The Great Grey owl, the largest known in North America. It is down here due to lack of food. A cyclical event occurs every few years or so wherein there is a lemming crash in the far north. This brings down the snowy owls as wells the great greys. There are a number of snowy owls being reported in various areas.

Let me set the scene with regard to the Great Grey Owl. It is along the roadside at the edge of a woodlot. Of course, the road is busy especially with its presence. In the roadside ditch below where the bird is perched is food in the way of mice, voles and moles and maybe the odd chipmunk or squirrel. It watches the ditch with great intensity for movement. We did see it swoop down, catch something and eat it. Now, those with tiny cameras, be it point and shoot or phone cameras or even

longish lenses are crowding alongside the ditch it wants to hunt in. Firstly, anything scurrying in the ditch will stop due to the movement of people and secondly, the bird may not come down due to the close proximity of the people. The end result is one starving bird.

There is also no need to bait a bird that is so close for viewing that the need for binoculars is a non- issue. Baiting will only bring the bird onto the road and perhaps a deadly meeting with a vehicle. Stopping with a car or truck on the road is unnecessary as it takes a few minutes to park and view from a safe distance.

I have to say, that maybe only one or two with a longish lens crossed the line. The rest of us were on the opposite side of the road, with hopes of getting a flight picture.



Great Grey Owl - Image by Sue Southon



NEW YORK CITY PHOTO TOUR - MAY 17TH TO 21ST, 2012 - Tour details and reservations will open up for this trek in February. If you are interested in joining us, you may enter your name and email address at the bottom of the future tours page on the website for advance notice.

Photography Tips and Travel News



New to the Trekkers Website:

Weekly Travel Photo Tips ...

Starting the first week of January we added a new feature page to the Photo Tour Trekkers website called Weekly Travel Photo Tips.

Each week the site is updated with a new photo tip. These photo tidbits are great for when you travel and are also useful with your everyday photography.

You can access the tips page by visiting the website, the photo tips link is located in the top right of the main page. Once you are on the current photo tip page you can view past tips by selecting them from the right hand side column.



Silhouettes Make Interesting Photographs:

Backlight can work against us when taking photographs. But it can also engage your

viewer and spark all sorts of thoughts as they study your work.

Silhouettes leave a portion of the image up to the imagination,

thus creating an interesting element to your work. An elderly man walking towards an arch. Is he anxious about something, headed to meet someone and you get a sense of coldness. None of this might have been what the shooter was thinking, but it evokes different emotions and thoughts. That is what makes a good silhouette photograph.

To achieve a good silhouette image it requires good back lighting. You want to make sure the maximum amount of light is coming from behind your subject.

Focus your camera on your main subject and of course you want it to be sharp so make sure you use an aperture of f8 or higher. The other supporting reason for this is you also want your background to be sharp. Using aperture priority is a good way to achieve this effect, but make sure you keep your shutter speed above 60th of a second or you may need a tripod to make it work.

The beauty of digital you can make several exposures and check them with in your cameras LCD viewer.

It may take a few times to perfect this technique, but once you do, you can create some very interesting and thought provoking images.



Monument Valley Awaits ...

Another April and another amazing adventure awaits all. OK I got as many A's in the first sentence as I could. I'm always thrilled to be part of Photo Trekkers adventure as they are A+ for sure. A+ and Monumental! OK, I got that pun in before James.

I am excited but not entirely sold on the Grand Circle tour idea, as I'm sure we are going to hear James once again claim "don't worry it's just around the corner", and he will have us going in circles!

Without a doubt on a Photo Tour Trekkers journey, that around every curve in the road there will be another breath-taking photo opportunity. I am really pumped about another western trek to Las Vegas. Oh, and those other places too! Just look at the view from the balcony of The View Hotel, no need to walk anywhere!

As always, and more so in the land of HooDoo's, there will be a few DaveyDoo's, some mind expanding "outside-the-box" photo exercises to push the creativity. Let's have some Kodak moments before they are gone.



POLAR BEAR PHOTO TOUR - OCTOBER 27TH TO NOV 1ST, 2012 - We will be releasing information and make reservations available by email. If you are interested in booking this tour you may leave your name and email for early notice on the bottom of the future tours page on the trekkers website. A Northern Experience.



Iceland ... “the Land of Fire and Ice” India ... “timeless mystery”



Iceland Photo Tour

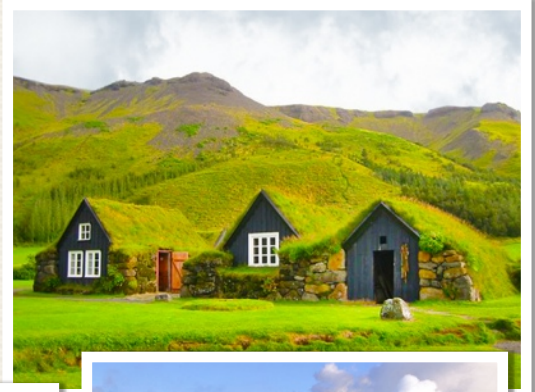
We are now taking bookings for our Iceland Photo Adventure which will take place June 15th to the 23rd this year. We will be traveling to Iceland via Iceland Air then cover the full circle of the island via motor coach experience the many photo opportunities this amazing island has to offer. We have selected some of the most photographic regions during our tour of Iceland.

Flying into Reykjavik is where our adventure begins. After spending the first day exploring the nations capital we will begin our coach journey exploring the fascinating landscapes of the island. During our journey we will be visiting the hot springs of Geysir and the beautiful Gullfoss waterfalls, the National Park of Skafftafell where we will visit Europe’s largest glacier. Each day will offer up different landscape and cultural photo opportunities.

If you are interested in joining us on our Iceland Photo Adventure,

space is still available but booking fast. As of February 2nd there were 7 spaces available for the tour.

You can reserve space by visiting the Trekkers website and use our online reservations form. If you have any additional questions please feel free to contact Shari Parker or myself at 519-679-8520 or toll free 1-866-614-7717.



BLUE LAGOON



India Nov 18th to 30th, 2012

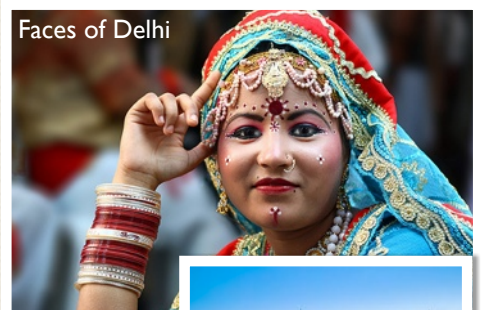
The timeless mystery of India and a land rich with cultural experiences will be our November destination. This tour is set to launch and take reservations later this month. During our trek we will be visiting and staying in a Fort at Ramathra, this will be exclusive to our group. While in this region we will go out on Safari and experience the surrounding lands which will offer up many photo opportunities.

Other locations while in India, Delhi, Jaipur, Ajmer, Bharatpur and Agra. We have also secured exclusive space at the Taj Mahal for full moon photography, then return for sunrise. Our journey will be filled with

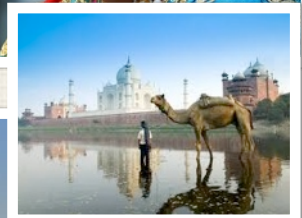
many photographic locations, culture experiences, historical landmarks, and urban landscapes.

The cost of the tour along with our other photo treks are listed on the last page of our newsletter.

Due to some of the locations we will be visiting this tour is limited to 23 guests. Watch for an email release on this tour this month.



Faces of Delhi



Puskar Camel Festival



Jaipur Lakeplace

2012 Photo Tours



2012 Photo Treks:

Monument Valley April 2012: April 26th to May 5th, 2012

Often referred to as the Golden Circle Road Trip, this will be a great opportunity to experience America's Southwest at it's best. This trek has been a long time in the planning, mainly because of getting enough group space at the locations I have selected for us to visit and photograph. Tour cost \$2899.00 CAD per person including all taxes based on double occupancy. To book online please visit the trekkers website. Registration cut off is Feb 23, 2012.

New York City Tour May 17th to 21st, 2012

Getting you close to all the actions, we will be staying only a couple of blocks from Time Square. This will be urban photography at it's best. New York City will be our weekend destination. We will top off this tour with a Broadway show. Visit the trekkers website then future tours section at the bottom of the page you can submit your name to have it on the tour notification list. Pricing and reservations will open up in Feb.

Iceland Photo Tour June 15th to 23rd 2012:

We are excited to present this photo trek to the Land of Fire and Ice which promises to deliver images beyond belief. During the tour we will travel the famous Golden Circle taking in Gullfoss Gysir region, East fjords and some of the most breathtaking waterfalls you will ever photograph. The cost of this tour including flights is \$4975.00 CAD per person including all taxes based on double occupancy. Full details, terms and conditions and online booking is available for this tour on the PhotoTourTrekks website.

Mount Tremblant & Park Omega Sept 27th to 30th, 2012

October offers up fall colours, and Park Omega will offer up interesting animals such as the Wolves and Bears. This will be a great weekend photo trek and to top it off with great colour a visit to Mont Tremblant.

Polar Bears Churchill Manitoba Oct 28th to Nov 3rd, 2012

After a great response to our first trek we are pleased to offer this tour again in 2012. The polar bears, combined with the tundra of Canada's North make a perfect backdrop for photography.

India Photo Tour November 18th to 30th, 2012

Offering up beauty, culture, urban life and landscapes our India Photo Tour will be an experience to photograph and remember. Full details will be available this month including being able to make reservations for this trek. The cost of the tour including airfare will be \$5559.00 CAD including taxes per person. We look forward to you joining us on this photo tour.

Joshua Tree National Park and Mojave Desert April 2013

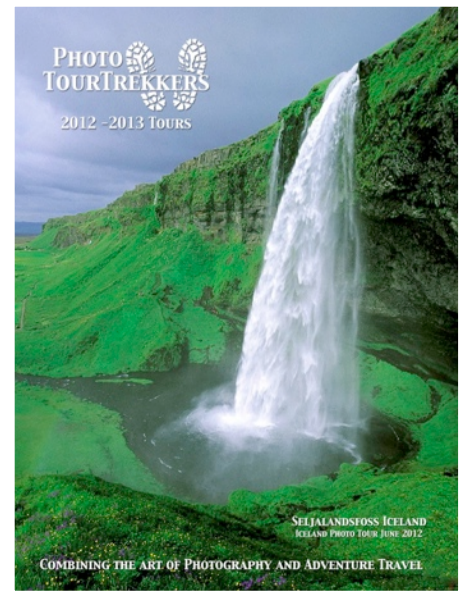
America's southwest experience continues with this trek.

Ireland August 2013

The beauty of the Emerald Isle comes alive with this trek in 2013

Namibia October 2013

Africa at it's best the fall of 2013, this trek will reward photographers with beauty beyond belief. The Namibia desert is to be experienced besides photographed.



Trekks 2012 / 2013 Brochure

If you have been a guest on one of our past tours, watch your mail towards the end of February as we will be sending out our new brochure. If you have not traveled with us but would like to receive a copy of the brochure email James at jcowie@carlsonwagonlit.com with your full name address and postal code and we will be happy to send you out a copy.

Booking your Photo Tour

Booking one of our photo adventures only takes a few minutes and is quick and easy with our online booking form.

www.PhotoTourTrekks.com

Select the tour you wish to join from the main page then once you have reviewed the tour click on the register link and you are set to join us on the trek.

Contact Information:

1-866-614-7717

1-519-679-8520

James Cowie ext. 2223

Shari Parker ext. 2231



TICO Registration # 50017274



Tour Details, Dates, Brochures and On-line booking available at www.PhotoTourTrekks.com