

IMPRESSIONS

“Take nothing but photos, leave nothing but footprints”



Snapshots of Ontario Photo Tour Sunday June 3rd, 2012

Cheltenham Badlands
Image by Jim Patte

Impressions Newsletter ... *India Update - Tigers - Polar Bears and more ...*

Wow, where to start ... We have so much to share in this issue. Pour yourself a cup of coffee and follow along as we update you on our upcoming events, some of our recent tours, mixed in with a few interesting photography articles.

Snapshots of Ontario is our Spring day trip this year and will take place Sunday June 3rd, 2012. We will be spending the day visiting and photographing interesting locations in Southwestern Ontario, all the while working our way towards the

Cheltenham Badlands. We will be sharing with you unique ways to see and capture small town churches, graveyards, landscapes, and all the other interesting items to photograph that make up our small towns and villages. Then by mid afternoon we



SNAPSHOTS OF ONTARIO
PHOTO TOUR JUNE 3RD, 2012



POLAR BEAR PHOTO TOUR
OCT 27TH TO NOV 1ST 2012



INDIA PHOTO TOUR
NOV 18TH TO DEC 01, 2012

PHOTO TOUR TREKKERS

"Snapshots of Ontario Photo Tour"



reach the Cheltenham Badlands, which is four acres of eroded landscape that makes for the most interesting photography.

Bill and Deb Hall, photographers from Woodstock, Ont. will be joining us on this tour as my co-hosts. Bill and Deb are both very creative photographers and are anxious to share their ideas and techniques with the group.

Another highlight of the tour will be a visit to the Otterville Station and Mill. You will find interesting images at every corner. We will also have opportunity during the day to photograph some abandoned buildings and brick ruins.

After our visit to the Cheltenham Badlands in the afternoon we will work our way back towards the town of Terra Cotta, Ontario. We will be stopping for dinner at the Terra Cotta Inn. Located on a beautiful gardens and water setting.

The cost of the tour is \$89.99 plus HST and includes morning coffee, a box lunch and dinner.

To book online visit the Photo Tour Trekkers Website. For additional questions you may contact James by email at jcowie@carlsonwagonlit.com or by phone 519-679-8520 or toll free at 1-844-614-7717 ex 2223.



2012 Tour Space Updates

Listed below is space updates for our upcoming 2012 Photo Tours as of May 23rd, 2012.

Snapshots of Ontario Photo Day Trip June 3rd, 2012 - 18 spaces available

Iceland Photo Tour June 2012 - 3 spaces available

Polar Bears Photo Tour Oct 27th - Nov 1st, 2012 - 9 spaces available

India Photo Tour November 18th to December 1st - Sold out (See page 7 for additional details)

2012 Tours still to be announced

Parc Omega and Fall in Mont Tremblant - September 27th to 30th, 2012

Fall Colours Tour - October 14th, 2012

Additional information about all our photo tours, including 2013 treks and beyond are available by visiting www.PhotoTourTrekks.com





India pre-tour visit and the tiger



India Pre-Tour Visit - On the 5th of April I flew to India to visit the regions we will be visiting with our group of photographers in November. It was an amazing trip filled with more photo opportunities than one could ever imagine, people, architecture, landscape and nature.

I spent eleven days with Dinesh Durani, who was my guide during the visit and he will be with the group when we return in November. His knowledge of the country, 25 years in the travel industry and passion for wildlife and nature will be an added bonus during our journey.

One of his passions is the preservation of the tiger, and during my visit introduced me to several key Indian people who are working very hard to make sure they don't disappear from India's landscape. Dinesh is the founder of the Sariska Tiger Foundation, which is a national organization dedicated to preservation of the tiger. The foundation has made Photo Tour Trekkers a life member of the organization and we are proud to promote the importance of the conservation and preservation of this beautiful cat. <http://www.sariskatigerfoundation.org/>

Another gentleman I met while in the Ranthambhore National Park was Mr. Singh. He has been a naturalist for the India park service for 30 years, dedicating most of his work to the study and re-population of the tiger. I had dinner with him one evening, then morning tea in the jungle with him the next day. Sixteen months ago Mr. Singh was called out one evening as a tiger has strayed too close to one of the surrounding villages. His job that evening was to tranquilize the tiger and return her deeper into the jungle.



43rd Tiger Cub in Ranthambhore

Mr. Singh and his crew were met with an angry mob of villagers, so he also had to act as diplomat and calm the people down. A disturbance broke out, and things got a little hectic. As the tiger approached he turned to get the tranquilizer gun from the hood of the jeep only to find it had been taken. He turned back to see the whereabouts of the tiger and she jumped on Mr. Singh, biting down on the left side of his face.

Mr. Singh was rushed 18 KM to a helo pad and evacuated to hospital. Subsequently he has undergone 11 surgeries, had a major portion of the left side of his face reconstructed and is with us to tell the story. Mr. Singh will be joining our group for dinner one evening while in Ranthambhore to share his story and continuing passion for the preservation of the tiger. It truly is, Incredible India.



Mosque in Delhi,



Family in Old Delhi,



Bharatpur, India



Mr. Singh, Dinesh Durani and James morning tea in the Ranthambhore jungle.

Monument Valley - Wrap Up ...



Monument Valley Photo Tour:

Another amazing photo journey ... I would like to thank all the photographers that joined us on our trek across the southwest.

I've heard from quite a few of our fellow travelers since our return and I'm pleased to report many great photographs from our journey.

As always it was a pleasure to travel with you, and I hope you enjoyed the journey as much as we enjoyed presenting it to you. As always Dave, thank you too. If you have not checked out the tour blog please do, each day is full of beautiful images from the tour.

A message from Dave ...

It always amazes me that you can board an aircraft and in a few short hours be transported to

a new and magical land. The Monument Valley Grand Circle tour didn't disappoint.

The variety of out-of-this-world landscapes at each and every stop kept me and the whole Trekker group challenged and inspired. We photographed valleys and monuments that were unique visual opportunities only found in this special region.

Our group of travelers had a great collective spirit, challenging each other and sharing tips and knowledge along the way. Most of us knew little of the destinations but soon discovered the highlights of each stop as we maximized each day from before sunrise, sometimes to well into the night to create images not possible elsewhere.

Thanks to James and all the Trekkers for allowing me to be part of the journey, squirrels and all.



POLAR BEAR PHOTO TOUR - OCTOBER 27TH TO NOV 1ST, 2012 - We are please to announce our second tour to Churchill, Manitoba to photograph the Polar Bears just prior to thier migration towards the artic. Tour details and registraton is now available by visiting www.PhotoTourTrekks.com click on Polar Bear Tour.

There are still great people out there...



There are still great people out there ...

I wanted to share this story with all the followers of our Impressions Newsletter as it is great to reassure everyone there are still great people in this world we all share.

A month ago Patti Hinton who quite a few of you folk know and is also a very creative photographer, was traveling to work on the London Transit Bus.

This particular day she had her canvas camera bag with a selection of some of her camera gear and a new Fuji pro camera she had just purchased. Lets just say the value of the combined gear in the bag was enough to pay the hydro bill for an average house hold for 30 months.

As she boarded the bus with all the other items in hand she left the canvas bag by the seat at the bus stop. She only realized what had happened when she got to her office and was sorting everything out. Patti called the transit office to alert them but as of yet nothing had been turned in. What a blow, all that gear.

Patti made up a series of notices and posted them along the Highbury bus route in hopes for a lead on her gear. And of course to add to the days events had to rush her dog to the vet for emergency surgery to his paw that same evening.

In comes Darren MacDonald, who works for Miller Waste Systems who have the contract for curbside recycling in London. He saw the bag picked it up and looked for ID. Unfortunately there was none.

So on his way home that evening he drove along Highbury Ave. and saw the signs Patti had posted. He called her cell and told her the good news.

Patti was still at the vets when the call came in, and not only was he relieved that he had found her. He would not hear of her driving over to WhiteOaks area to him, he drove it directly to the vets office in Masonville where she was with her dog.

Darren MacDonald we salute you, and are thankful there are still people in this city/world that look out for others.

Photo Trekkers has donated \$50 in Darren's name to the Children's Hospital here in London for being such a Good Samaritan.

Monthly Photo Tip: Working with exposure ...

You have heard this said many times before, your camera is just the box that captures the light. It is so true and the difference between a great image and a snapshot is the way it is exposed.

It does not matter if you use program, aperture or shutter



priority it is what you are comfortable with and the most familiar when capturing your images.

Enter in your exposure compensation. This is one of the handiest ways to refine your exposure to compensate for your shadows or highlights. Take some time and become familiar with what exposure compensation can do.

For instance on a blue sky day, if you select -1/3 exposure compensation you will have a richer blue sky instead of a washed out sky. If a face is backlight select a +1/3 or greater to bring your subject out of the shadows.

It is a simple action when setting up your shot, and by becoming familiar with this simple adjustment will make a world of difference to your images.

Remember this is one of the great things about the world of digital. It does not cost any more to try a few different exposures. Use your preview screen to judge the results of your settings, then make any additional adjustments as required.

Space still available for our June 3rd Photo Tour, Snap Shots of Ontario. Visit the Photo Tour Trekkers website for trip details and to sign up.

New York City Photo Tour ...



New York City Photo Tour:

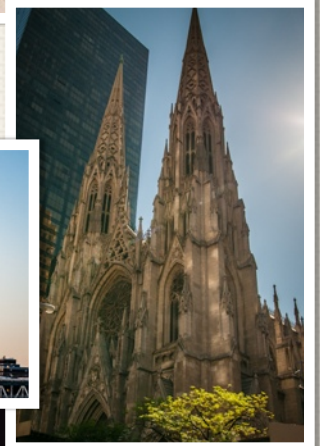
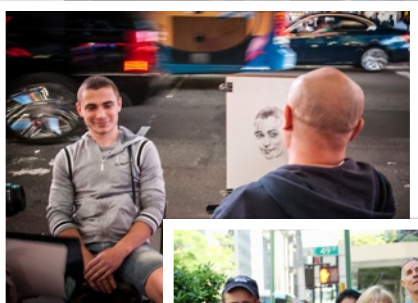
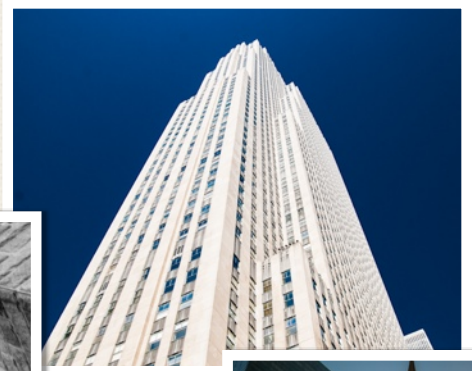
Wow another great adventure. Our long weekend tour in New York City was a great success, seeing all our photographers coming home with some great images of this amazing city, new photo ideas and most important have made new friends. Photographers are great folk to travel with, and I must say as always I have enjoy sharing and traveling with all of you.

A special thanks to my co-host on this trip, Dave Chidley. Your continued energy and excitement about sharing photography techniques is never ending and always enjoyed by everyone. It was great to have you with us.

I think one of the most moving experiences on this tour was to visit the 911 Memorial, it has been well thought out, well laid out and you can't but feel the emotion as you walk through the gardens. Anyone visiting New York City must take a few minutes and visit the memorial. It will impact you for sure.

Below are some additional images from our trip, and if you have not checked out our tour blog, please visit www.PhotoTourTrekks.com and see more great captures from this adventure.

Thanks again to all our guests and I look forward to traveling with you again real soon.



Polar Bear Photo Tour Oct 27th to Nov 1st, 2012



Polar Bear Photo Tour Oct 27 to Nov 1st, 2012

Experiencing the migration of the Polar Bear at the gateway to the Arctic Circle is beyond words. And to photograph them up close in their natural habitat is an experience you won't soon forget.

Join us in Churchill, Manitoba for an opportunity to photograph the Polar Bear from the tundra, dogsled, on foot and from the sky by helicopter. October 27th to November 1st, 2012.

We will be staying in Churchill at the Aurora Inn, centrally located to all our activities.

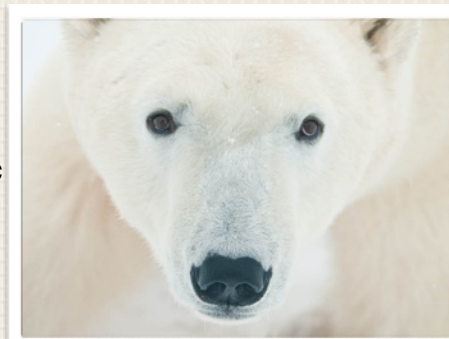
Weather permitting we will be keeping our eyes on the sky and if they are visible we will head out in the evening to photograph the Northern Lights.

We will be exploring and photographing the arctic tundra and venture into the tree line of the vast Boreal forest of the Canadian Shield. Caribou, Arctic Fox, Arctic Hare and Lemmings are other wildlife we may encounter. The Snowy Owl, Gyrfalcon, Ptarmigan and many other arctic birds that call this region home.

At the time of publishing our newsletter there are still 9 spaces available for this tour.

To reserve space please visit the Trekkers website and use our online reservations form. For additional questions please feel free to contact Shari Parker or myself at 519-679-8520 or toll free 1-866-614-7717.

Single supplement is available for this tour.



The cost of the tour is \$4650 CAD per person plus HST. If you wish to add the helicopter adventure it is an additional \$300.00 plus HST. Price based on double occupancy. Guests joining us from London and region airfare from London to Winnipeg direct via Westjet is \$313.20 per person plus air tax of \$86.25 and HST. Tour includes round trip airfare from Winnipeg, coach and transfers during our tour, two nights accommodations at the Hilton Suites in Winnipeg, and three nights accommodations at the Aurora Inn Churchill, all meals, tundra vehicle and dog sledding.

India February 3rd to 17th, 2013

Our November India Tour is sold out, and we have continued to have requests for space.

We are pleased to announce a second tour to India in February of 2013. This tour also comes with limited space, we can take 15 photographers in this group.

Pricing and tour details will be released the first week in June. If you are interested in space please email me at jcowie@carlsonwagonlit.com our tour itinerary will be very similar to our November Trek.

November thru February is prime time to travel to India as temperatures are more moderate and there is

plenty of water in the nature reserves and bird sanctuaries to attract wildlife to photograph.

India is an incredible country just waiting to be photographed and explored.



2012 Photo Tours



Snapshots of Ontario Tour Sunday June 3rd, 2012

Join us for a day of photography and exploring southwestern Ontario.

Small towns, old barns, churches, and other landmarks are on our schedule. We will finish the day with a visit to the Cheltenham Badlands.

The cost of the tour is \$89.99 CAD per person and includes morning coffee, box lunch and dinner. Online booking is available for this tour.

Iceland Photo Tour June 19th to 29th 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 Gulfoss Gyser 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. Book space today.

India Photo Tour November 19th to 30th, 2012

Offering up beauty, culture, urban life and landscapes our India Photo Tour will be an experience to photograph and remember. This tour is now sold out, but due to continued space requests we are pleased to be offering it again in Feb of 2012.

India Photo Tour February 3rd to 17th, 2013

Our second tour to India. This will be a similar Itinerary to our November 2012 tour. Space is limited to 15 photographers.

If you are interested please send us advance notice to reserve space to jcowie@carlsonwagonlit.com

Joshua Tree National Park and Mojave Desert April 2013

America's southwest experience continues with this trek.

New York City May 2013

We are already receiving requests for a repeat of NYC. So we are pleased to be adding it back to our schedule for 2012. Visit the Future Tours page on the trekkers website to reserve space today. Reservations are on the bottom of the page.

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.



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