

Road Warriors...

Bobbie Goodrich Photography Workshops



White Lions of South Africa. ©Bobbie Goodrich

Shadow & Light Magazine: Once a decision is made, as far as a workshop location, such as the Camargue, what kind of advance planning is required?

Bobbie Goodrich: My passion for travel has taken me around the globe and when I feel that a location or a country offers a unique photographic opportunity or something specific to my interests I do some homework in regard to a photo tour.

Ideally, I would have visited a location prior to the workshop and familiarize and explore the area and arrange for accommodations and guides.

As the world becomes smaller it is increasingly difficult to stumble onto unique places in the world not yet photographically discovered. It helps that I have a niche for horse and wildlife photography so I concentrate a lot on that option when choosing a location.

SLM: How far in advance of the cut-off date as far as registrations are concerned, do you send out info packs to registrants?

BG: I try and keep my tours limited to 8-10 participants. If there is a strong interest and the trip is filled. I have done back-to-back workshops to accommodate everyone, as best I can. At the time of registration what is required is a deposit and the signed waivers for the tour must be submitted.

I send out quarterly newsletters that include listings of my upcoming international photo tours and Santa Fe workshops. I am fortunate to base my workshops in a beautiful place like Santa Fe, which is rich in culture, history and stunning topography of lakes and canyons, including Lake Abiquiú and Georgia O'Keeffe country. Some workshops include photo shoots at private ranches, when available.

SLM: What (and how much) equipment will you bring?

BG: I keep it simple as possible: a laptop for post-processing sessions when required; a portable hard-drive for image storage; plenty of 32- and 64-GB SD cards (I shoot a lot of frames when photographing moving subjects); two camera bodies a Nikon D800e and a backup lightweight mirrorless Sony NEX 7.

My Nikon lenses are 70/200 2.8 and a doubler when required and a 24/55 3.5 zoom. My Sony

Additional information about Bobbie Goodrich Photography workshops can be found below:
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lenses are 55/210, F4/5-6.3 zoom and an 18/55, 3.5 zoom

SLM: Do you bring extra accessories for those people who forget things?

BG: No... however if someone is need of a camera or other equipment I share what I am not using at the time.

SLM: Have you ever forgotten something extremely important?

BG: Thank God, no! I have never left anything behind. I stay well organized and pack my equipment days before my departure and double check everything the night before leaving for a tour.



White Horses of the Camargue, France. ©Bobbie Goodrich

SLM: Do you have an anecdote about a workshop you hosted that didn't go quite as planned?

BG: Only minor mishaps like the time during a Camargue tour after a visit to the Arles outdoor market. Upon leaving the underground parking lot we were stuck for several hours in search of the attendant until someone found him snoozing in a parked car.

One year a participant showed up a year early for a Santa Fe-based (image, below) workshop. I felt so badly for him I refunded his payment and my assistant provided a special day long private post processing session for him at no cost. He was pleased.



Tent Rocks, Cochiti Pueblo. NM. ©Bobbie Goodrich

SLM: Where is your absolute, most favorite international location to teach a workshop?

BG: Without a doubt: Africa. I have been traveling to Africa since 2005 and each visit is unique. My last organized safari to Botswana and Zimbabwe was in 2013. I lead safaris in Zambia and Kenya and Tanzania as well as Namibia.

SLM: Do you have any basic tips for anyone wanting to begin teaching those kinds of workshops.

BG: Arranging for photo tours to exotic place requires a lot of research, time and effort when first beginning this type of business. Teaching is demanding and requires lots of patience, skills and expertise both in camera and post-processing. Included in my workshops are post production sessions.

Working and demonstrating various software programs used as a plug-ins to Photoshop, my students learn specific techniques for producing a more compelling image from their RAW capture.

My workshops are more than just photo tours they encompass acquiring a skill set from raw to final print. When you take one of my workshops, you don't just shoot and go home.

My business has grown because 50% of my participants are repeat attendees and recommend my workshops to other photographers aspiring to reach a higher level of creative expression in their work. ○

Note: In this section we will be featuring photographers who spend a good deal of time on the road, from workshop leaders to National Geographic photographers to photojournalists to travel photographers. If you are a professional photographer who spends a lot of time "on the road," and if you have some valuable tips, I want to hear from you.