

Yosemite Photography Experience
In Partnership with Château du Sureau and The Ansel Adams Gallery
Itinerary for Saturday, November 4, 2023

Program For Beginner Photographers, Hobbyist, and Ansel Adams Enthusiasts

This program will begin by offering an insight into the artistic creativity of Ansel Adams through a curatorial discussion and presentation of Adams' fine print original photographs.

Participants will then be transported to an instructional "outside classroom" atmosphere with topics including digital camera techniques and compositional theory. This walking tour of Cooks Meadow presents scenic views of Yosemite Falls, Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, and the Merced River.

For the anticipated crescendo, guests board private transportation where they are afforded the opportunity to utilize their new photographic inspiration while experiencing breathtaking views of Half Dome, El Capitan, Yosemite Falls, Bridalveil Fall, and the Merced River. Along the way, the guides and instructors will be available to coach the attendees with camera technique and photographic composition.

Itinerary Outline:

- 9:30 am Depart Château du Sureau via private van
- 11:15 am
to 12:15 am Guests arrive at The Ansel Adams Gallery.
Ansel Adams original fine print presentation with Curator Evan Russel
Presentation in the Ansel Adams Darkroom
Q&A period (restrooms are available)
- 12:30
to 1:00 pm Packed gourmet lunch provided by Château du Sureau.
Weather permitting, lunch will be offered outside in the courtyard of the
Ansel Adams Family House
- 1:15
to 1:45 pm Guest refreshments, family house tour, or browsing time in The Ansel Adams
Gallery
- 2:00
to 5:45 pm Transportation to Cooks Meadow for Walking Instructional Tour
Guests to board transportation at back parking lot of The Gallery

Continued transportation around Yosemite Valley for photographic guiding session

5:45 pm Begin Journey back to Château du Sureau

6:45 pm Arrive at Château du Sureau

Required Equipment and Gear

Photography Gear (aka your camera body)

This is a prerequisite for making photographs. You don't need to make photographs to have a good time on this outing, but it is geared towards doing that so you will feel left out sometimes without something to make photographs with.

A Tripod.

This is not strictly necessary, but a tripod allows photographs to be made with longer shutter speeds. This is great for lower light conditions and if you wish to explore compositions with water whereby the water is more flowy and less still.

Lenses

A wide angle and zoom is recommended for most photographs in Yosemite. The wide angle is ideal when wanting to capture the whole scene, while the zoom can isolate elements of a scene for composition reasons and allow you to take great photographs of wildlife without having to get too close. Other lenses are reasonable to bring, but if you only have room for two these are the two to choose.

Filters

The two most useful filters are a graduated neutral density filter and a circular polarizer. Graduated neutral density filters help even out the light when you have a horizon (above the horizon tends to be much lighter than below it and that makes it harder to capture everything evenly); and circular polarizers help cut down on reflected light off granite faces and water. A third filter that could be useful (especially in Spring) is a neutral density filter. A neutral density filter makes everything darker which allows a longer shutter speed for if the photographer is interested in keeping the shutter open longer (applications include making a waterfall or rapids look more flowy versus still). A tripod is a prerequisite if using a neutral density filter.

Carrying Bag

You may have noticed that many items are listed. With this it is helpful for organizational purposes to have a photo bag that can be used to carry and organize all the gear.

An Exploratory Attitude

You're in a new and majestic place. Get ready to explore and make new compositions!