

# Great Smoky Mountains National Park with Roger Trentham and Barbara Eddy

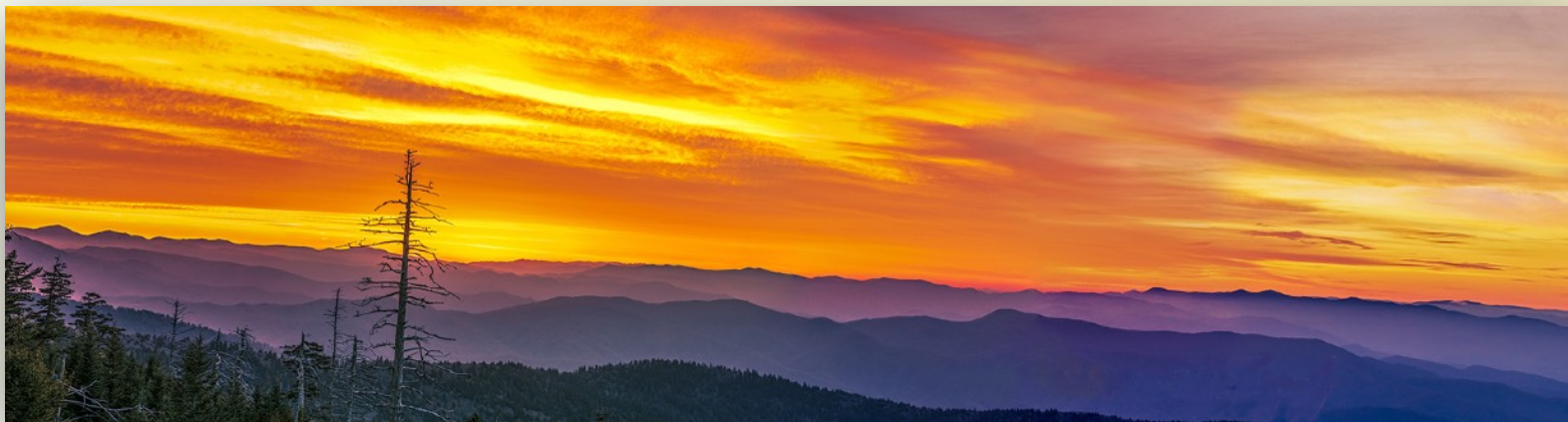
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A Spring Photography Expedition  
April 13 - 18, 2025 - 6 days/6 nights - Limited to 12 photographers

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## SPRING IN THE SMOKIES

### STREAMS, WATERFALLS, WILDFLOWERS AND MORE...

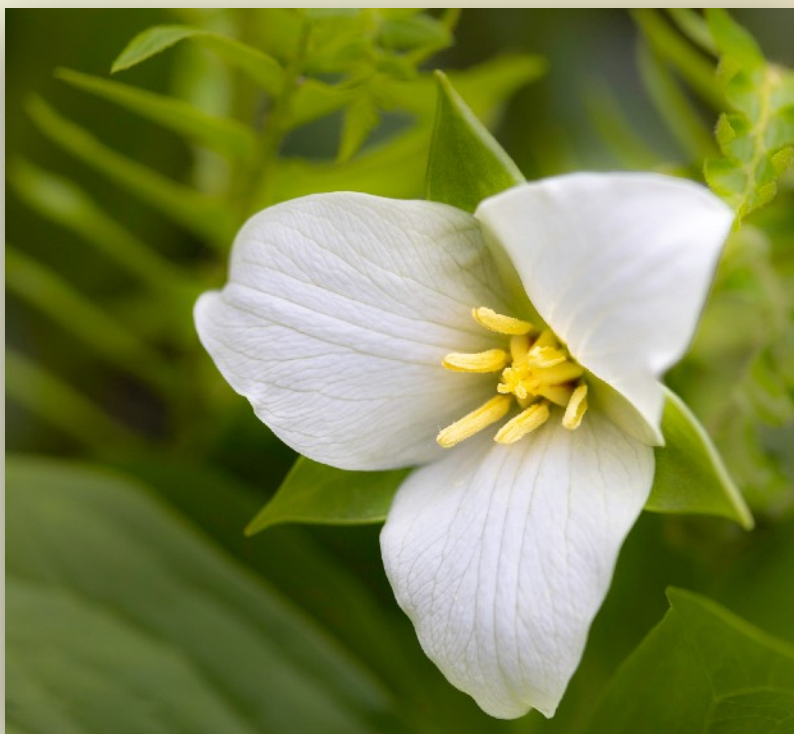
Few places rival the diversity of spring in the Great Smoky Mountains. The forest begins to awaken from its winter slumber in late March through early April and comes to a full-blown eruption of wildflowers in mid to late April. Many species of trilliums, jack-in-the pulpit, fringed phacelia, wild geranium, dwarf crested iris, and many others carpet the forest floor. Ferns emerge among the fresh green mosses and numerous mountain streams and waterfalls are in full flow. Come join like-minded nature photographers and be inspired by incredible sunrises and sunsets from the highest mountains in the Smokies. During our week together we will lead you to a multitude of enchanting choices in gorgeous locations.

For this workshop, I have enlisted Smoky Mountain native Roger Trentham who knows these mountains and their photographic locations as few others. Roger's family dates back to the first European settlers of these mountains, and he continually scouts the best locations to make the most productive use of your time. There is no doubt that you will have the opportunities to get the best wildflower, sunrise and mountain stream photography the Smokies can offer. In addition, you will have access to private areas for wildflower photography where we will instruct you in close-up methods such as focus stacking, exposure the easy way, artful compositions, and the use of natural and manmade light sources to truly enhance your macro images.

#### Our Destinations

Our workshop takes you to locations where you are sure to find magnificent subjects to photograph. We show you how to select prime photo prospects from the chaos of nature. Then we demonstrate how to shoot superb images of the subject with high-quality techniques that anyone can learn and master. We spend 100% of our time in the field helping you take pictures with your equipment. We help you use your equipment to best advantage, and on occasion, we demonstrate certain equipment and techniques like focus stacking, fill-flash, main flash, and live view shooting strategies.

To ensure that instruction is complete, informative, and helpful, the group size is limited to only twelve (12) participants.







Depending on weather conditions, we may present instructional image programs on getting the best nature photography images but we will emphasize keeping you in the forests and on the streams as much as possible. We attempt to kindly critique your images during the week (time permitting) and present a spirited showing of each participant's best images made during the week.

### **Digital Photography**

We ask each of you to bring some digital images or prints from home to share with the group.

Although this is optional, it's an effective way for us to see where you have been. If you would like a critique of your images, just ask and we will gladly do this for you. We eat, breathe, and sleep nature photography at each workshop, but that doesn't mean it's all work and no play. We take our field trips at a







leisurely pace, so there is time to relax and enjoy the beautiful Smokies. We may even get a little silly at times, but then laughter and humor add to the workshop experience.

Please give us a copy of your images on a jump drive to let us view them. If you bring images please place them on a flash drive and label each image with your last name\_first name\_consecutive numbers (Trentham\_Roger\_1). Bringing a laptop computer is highly encouraged!

## Daily Schedule - Itinerary

Participating in this nature photography workshop is not only a super way to improve your nature photography and to learn about nature, it's a wonderful "learning vacation" as well. It's always a pleasure to share experiences and knowledge with fellow nature photographers. However, our workshops are not for everyone. If you are looking for a workshop that takes you into the field from 9 to 5 when the light isn't photogenic and the wind may be blowing, our workshop is not appropriate for you. We believe in taking our field trips at the times that we would normally be out capturing our own images. Therefore, we take field trips every morning, beginning at least an hour before sunrise, and stay out until 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. Getting up for our early morning field trips isn't going to be as tough as it sounds after you see the first magnificent sunrise from Clingmans Dome.

Evening field trips begin in late afternoon, depending on the day's destination, and we always stay out for the sunset if the weather allows.

We'll conduct most of our instructional programs – which may cover exposure, close-ups, and advanced flash techniques – during the middle of the day because the light isn't normally the best for photography. All mornings and evenings are reserved for field trips.

### Field Trips

Field trips are 3-4 hours long, so we can shoot many great nature images. We'll visit scenic overlooks, moss-covered forests, flowing streams, waterfalls, wildflowers, and much more of the incredible Smoky Mountains where subjects abound. We'll car pool on each field trip. Since Roger lives here and knows this gorgeous part of the world so well, we'll take you to many magical places that are known to only a few while avoiding the most crowded areas and most congested times.

## FITNESS AND HEALTH

### Physical Abilities

While these workshops are designed to accommodate the physical abilities of most healthy adults, we will do some moderate hiking on uneven surfaces. We will be taking the group into wilderness settings and you must be able to carry your equipment up inclines, over rocky trails and small stream crossings. Some shooting will be done from parking lots and roadways but participants must be able to leave these surfaces and go along streams and trails for the best photographic opportunities. If you have any question about the physical requirements of these workshops please email us any questions you may have. Please know your limitations and inform us at the beginning of the workshop. We can certainly work with everyone to ensure a safe and enjoyable shoot.



**Workshop Dates: April 13 - 18, 2025.** Our journey will begin in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. We will travel into the Smoky Mountain National Park and private property near the Park. The week begins Sunday evening on April 13 and runs through our last Friday sunset shoot (weather permitting) on April 18, 2025

### **When the Workshop Starts and Ends**

The workshop begins Sunday at 4:00 P.M. at our private property location. All participants will be given directions to a meeting location where we will carpool to the property. Non-shooting spouses are encouraged to attend this meeting. The program ends after our last Friday sunset shoot (weather permitting) on April 18, 2025.

### **How to Get to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.**

Since most of our workshop participants will be driving to the Smokies, we will always rely on carpooling. For those participants flying in, you should choose either the Knoxville McGhee Tyson Airport (TYS), which is only about 45 miles from Gatlinburg or the Asheville (North Carolina) Regional Airport (AVL) which is about 54 miles driving distance. There are car rental companies at both airports. We recommend renting a car because it's convenient to have your own wheels. If you wish to rely on car pooling, you can get a taxi at the airport. The fee for a taxi ride to Gatlinburg from the Knoxville Airport is about \$85 one-way. If you would like to share a rented car with another participant, let us know, and we'll connect all interested parties. Many of our guests do this!

Please join us for a solid week of being fully immersed in nature and photography.

To register, simply send an email to: [contact@barbaraeddyphotography.com](mailto:contact@barbaraeddyphotography.com) expressing your interest in the Smokies Spring Workshop and we'll be in touch with registration details.

Barbara and Roger are looking forward to seeing you in the Spring!





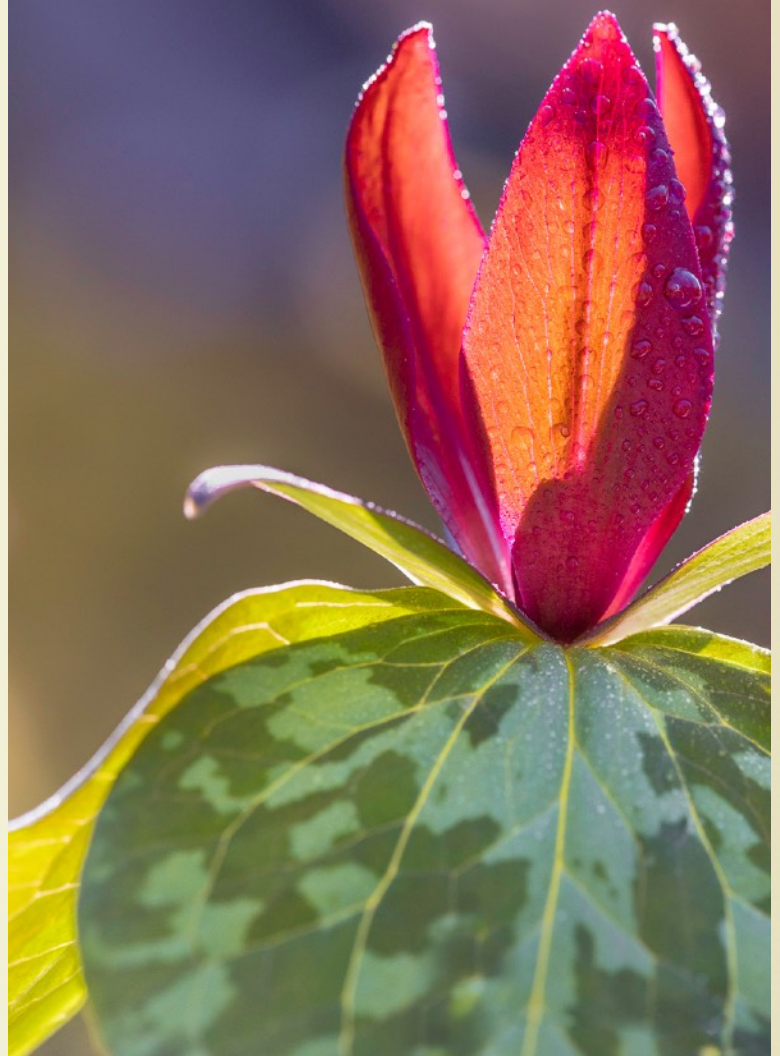
## Travel and Equipment Information

After making a reservation, we'll send you pre-departure information describing photographic equipment and clothing that is most suitable for the workshop.

## Camera Gear

The Smokies offers many photographic opportunities ranging from landscapes to close-ups of beautiful flowers to the possibility of wildlife.

Lenses from a 24mm to a 400 or 500mm will be useful. I like using zoom lenses. Below you will find what I will be packing for this trip. For wildlife you can't beat a zoom lens in the range of 200-500mm. I will be bringing my Nikon 180-600 but the zooms of 80-400 or 100-400 will do well in the Smokies. These particular lenses allow you to zoom in on more distant or smaller subjects as well as closer subjects. A tripod is useful to support the camera and lens in position while photographing landscapes, wildlife and wildflowers. If you are using a camera with a crop factor (small sensor) consider what it does to your focal length. If your camera has a 1.5x crop factor, the field of view of a 300mm lens is similar to a much longer 450mm lens. The focal length is still 300mm, but the subject will be much larger in the viewfinder!



Here is a list of the equipment that I am bringing. You do not need to duplicate this list. It is meant only as a guide to help you decide what to bring. Remember, I typically favor long focal length lenses for wildlife, so I need the reach of a 400 to 600mm to make my subjects larger in the frame.

## Barbara's Nikon Gear

This is what Barbara will bring				
<i>Nikon Z9 and backup</i>	<i>180-600mm lens</i>	<i>2x teleconverter</i>	<i>24-120mm lens</i>	<i>14mm-24mm lens</i>
<i>Kirk BH-1 ball head</i>	<i>Gitzo tripod</i>	<i>Camera/lens raincoat</i>	<i>200mm Macro Lens</i>	<i>Flash</i>

This is my list - your guideline - I don't expect you to have all this - bring comparable.

## Don't forget these important items

Here are some suggestions		
<i>Laptop computer with 2TB external hard drive for storing images</i>		<i>Chargers for camera and computer</i>
<i>Day pack</i>	<i>Lens cleaner, blower for sensor</i>	<i>Extra Camera Batteries</i>



### **Weather Note:**

Weather in the Smokies is always highly variable and April is no exception. We will be visiting areas pre-dawn that vary in elevation from 1,200 feet to 6,600 feet. Rain is always possible and welcome as it gives the Smokies its ethereal feel and name. April averages over 4 inches (10.2 centimeters) of rain, usually in the form of afternoon showers.

By mid-April, daytime high temperatures are typically in the 70s and occasionally the 80s. Below freezing temperatures at night still occur in the higher elevations.

Prepare for all weather extremes from warm, mild days to very cold sunrise shoots that can be in the twenties. Rain jackets, hats and gloves are recommended. Hiking boots are necessary and rubber knee boots can be of use for stream side shoots.

### **What to Wear**

Layering is how I dress for my days in the Smokies. Early morning will find me in a hat and gloves with a light jacket and maybe a fleece. Late mornings, I may shed my jacket. A reverse of this in the evenings. I may put my jacket back on before finishing for the day. I like the quick dry fabrics for my shirts and pants. A raincoat and rain pants will be very important to pack as well as waterproof boots. We will send more complete packing instructions after you have enrolled.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

Carpooling will be encourage to make parking and getting to the locations easier.







## ACCOMMODATIONS AND FOOD

### Lodging

Our workshops are based at a private location. Participants may stay at a location of their choice in the Gatlinburg area. Please be aware that many lodging establishments and cabin rentals use the Gatlinburg name when they are not, in fact, near Gatlinburg. Staying in or near U.S. 321 in the Gatlinburg area will be advantageous for early morning meetings before traveling to our sunrise and other locations. If you are interested in a cabin rental we would suggest White Oak Lodge and Resort, 170 White Oak Resort Way, Gatlinburg, TN 37738, telephone 888-537-8088, [www.whiteoaklodgeandresort.com](http://www.whiteoaklodgeandresort.com). For a more hotel type accommodations: Deer Ridge Mountain Resort, 3710 Weber Rd, C-302, Gatlinburg, TN 37738, 877-333-7743.

### Meals

We eat many meals as a group, but meal times are highly variable. The weather dictates our field trips. Meals must be worked in around photography. We'll attempt to eat lunch as a group after the morning field trip. All other meals depend on our schedule. Since predicting the weather with is not our specialty, we'll have to see what happens. In all cases, when we go to restaurants, everyone orders off the menu and pays for his/her meal then. Nobody has ever gone hungry, nor lost weight during our workshops. But, we do work our meals around taking beautiful images, not the other way around!



## PRE-DEPARTURE PREPARATION

Travel and packing information will be sent to you upon your enrollment in this program.

**Workshop Cost** - \$1,225 per person

### Tuition

Tuition for the workshop is \$1,225. A \$600 deposit is required now to hold your space in the workshop. The deposit is refundable, less a \$250 service fee, until January 1, 2025. After January 1, the \$600 deposit becomes non-refundable, unless we can refill your space on such short notice (minus the \$250 service fee). Tuition includes all classroom and field instruction, detailed notes, and access to our private property shooting and meeting location. Meals, lodging, and items of a personal nature are not included.

### Non-participating Spouse or Friend

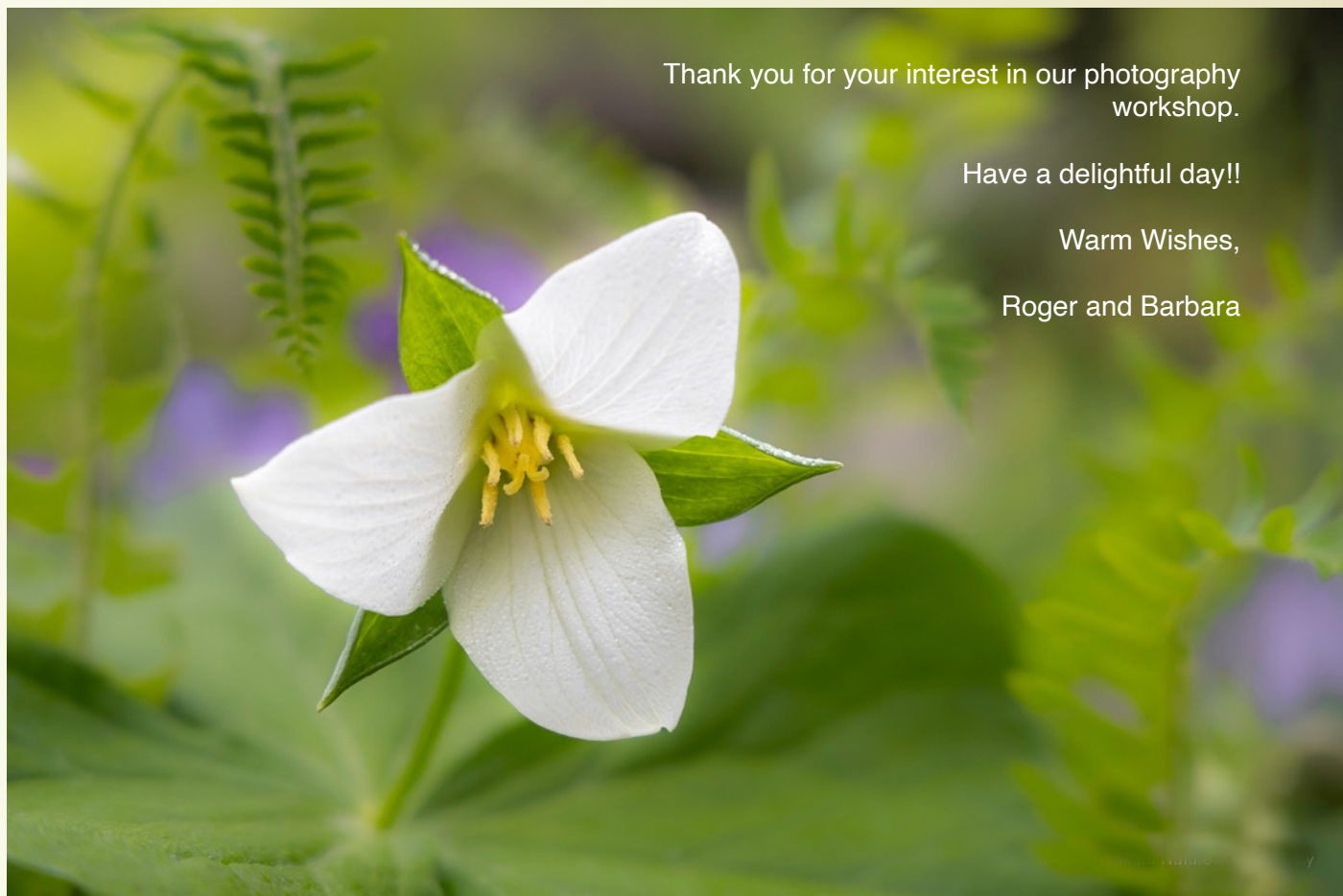
As we are being headquartered in the Gatlinburg area, non-participating spouses are encouraged to attend. While participants are in the field, non-participating spouses will have ample time to explore Gatlinburg, Pigeon Forge and the surrounding areas. We encourage you to visit [www.gatlinburg.com](http://www.gatlinburg.com) to learn about all that this gateway to the Smokies offers. Unfortunately, since the meeting room space is limited, non-participating spouses are not allowed to attend any of the instructional programs. Due to limited parking at many locations, non-participating spouses cannot join field trips with their spouse except the days we will be shooting wildflowers at our private location.

*Deposits can be made by check. Please make payable to Barbara Eddy. Send payment to*

*Barbara Eddy*

*PO Box 575*

*Ronan MT 59864-0575*



Thank you for your interest in our photography workshop.

Have a delightful day!!

Warm Wishes,

Roger and Barbara



