



# South Western Florida Photography Workshop

Little Estero, Sanibel, Venice, Marco Island

*March 16 - 23, 2013*

Florida is famous for bird photography, and the South West has some of the best bird photography opportunities in the state. Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel Island, Little Estero Lagoon and the Venice Rookery are some of the finest locations and provide us plenty of great opportunities to capture great wildlife images.



Our days will be based on a very flexible schedule allowing us to respond to the opportunities based on wildlife, weather, and light conditions, so you can have the best experience each day. We start each day early so as to capture images in the best light. We will grab a coffee and quick breakfast en-route. We photograph throughout the morning, breaking at midday for lunch and open discussion sessions. After lunch we head out for more photography, concluding near sunset, or after, based on location. We will then return to the hotel. Dinner is at a location of your choosing. We will then meet to do image downloads and have a feedback session. Instruction sessions will be included as will a prep session for the next day.

*The workshop will begin with a classroom session devoted to teaching exposure theory, composition and field techniques on how to photograph birds.*



You will gain a better understanding of both the technical side of wildlife photography, and most importantly the subject. In the field you will be provided instruction based upon your needs. We will cover:

- Light
- Light Quality and Quantity
- Temperature
- Direction, side and backlighting
- Exposure
- Metering for the best exposure

How to obtain tack sharp images:

- Auto Focus Modes
- Manual Focus Mode
- Flight shot Techniques – hand held and using a tripod with an appropriate lens mount
- Panning technique
- Perspective
- Subject isolation



## *ITINERARY*

### *Day 1*

Arrival and reception. We will meet at the Hampton Inn at 6:30pm, to socialize, get to know each other and go over our workshop schedule. We will also have a short instructional session.

## *Day 2*

We will venture out into the Estero Beach and Lagoon at low tides to photograph Egrets, Herons, Reddish Egret and other shore birds. A white morph of the reddish egret frequents the area and if we are lucky we may see and photograph it. Brown pelicans and various song birds are also abundant here. Opportunities for intimate landscapes and for macro photography are your choice.

After brunch/lunch we will visit the fishing pier in Sanibel Island to photograph diving pelicans and terns. Hopefully we may also capture images of the Northern Parula and an Osprey or two on the nest. Opportunity to photograph a good sunset and seascapes will be explored.

## *Day 3*

We will drive to Sanibel Island – to the Ding Darling NWR to photograph Roseate Spoonbills, Reddish Egrets dancing, and a slew of other avians. If one is lucky frigate birds, osprey and raccoons are also a possibility.

We will have lunch in Captiva and photograph other locations in the area or return to Ding Darling. We will photograph the sunset at Ding Darling before returning to the Hotel. Dinner will be followed by a review and instruction session.

## *Day 4*

We will drive to the Venice Rookery where we will photograph various herons and egrets in breeding plumage, building nests and a great deal of interaction. Coots, moorhens, red bellied woodpeckers and verios can be photographed along with other avian species.

After lunch we will explore the Venice pier to photograph pelicans, terns, etc. Those who wish to rest or get some shopping done may do so. We will meet again at the rookery for some evening shots before going for dinner. Weather permitting we will return to the rookery to do night photography in the light of the full moon.

## *Day 5*

We will do one more trip to Sanibel /Captiva some more incredible photo opportunities. We will visit the fishing pier for more sea birds.

## *Day 6*

We will drive to Marco Island for more avian photography. After lunch we will drive to Cape Coral to photograph Burrowing Owls. We will return to the hotel for dinner followed by a review and a final instructional session.

## *Day 7*

We will do another trip to the lagoons of Little Estero . Late after noon we will spend time in the Bunch Beach area for some spectacular sunset and low light bird photography. We will return to the

hotel for dinner followed by a review and a final instructional session.



### *Day 8*

For those who have later flights you will have another opportunity to photograph in the area before leaving for the airport.

### *Registration*

Registration is limited to a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 12 photographers and the cost is \$950 per photographer. Your air fare, rental car, lodging, site fees, insurance, meals and incidentals are not included. Please complete the registration and release forms. A \$500 deposit is required by January 31, 2013 to confirm your reservation. The balance is due by March 1, 2013. Please make your payments to **Shiv Verma** and mail them to 652 Dedham Street, Wrentham, MA 02093-1149. Please call if you would like to pay by credit card or PayPal

### *Accommodation & Travel*

A block of rooms has been reserved for \$124 a night single or double occupancy, at the:

Hampton Inn & Suites Ft Myers Beach  
11281 Summerlin Square Blvd.,  
Fort Myers Beach, Florida, USA 33931

Tel: 1-239-437-8888

Breakfast is included with your room.

Call the hotel and ask for the discounted rate for **shiv verma | photography**

### *Information*

Contact us at 617.759.0010 or email  
[s.verma@me.com](mailto:s.verma@me.com)

## Hotel Amenities

Complimentary Deluxe Hot Hampton Breakfast

Heated Outdoor Pool with Tropical Landscaping

Complimentary USA Today Newspaper

Complimentary High Speed Internet

24 hour Suite Shop Convenience Store in the Lobby

24 hour Fitness Room

One Palm Green Hotel

Large well-lit desk in rooms and convenient lap desk

Deluxe Cloud Nine bedding in all guest rooms

Complimentary Business Center

We recommend sharing a room with a fellow photographer and car pooling to reduce your expenses.

I will rent a larger vehicle and share the cost with three others - please let me know if you would like to do this.



## From and To the Nearest Airport

Southwest Florida International Airport (RSW)

Distance: 16.3 MI SOUTH WEST to Hotel

Directions: I-75 exit 131 Daniels Rd West 9 miles to Summerlin Road, turn left on Summerlin Rd. Follow Summerlin Road approximately 5 miles to Pine Ridge Road. Make a left onto Pine Ridge Road, then an immediate right onto Summerlin Square Blvd. Hotel will be on left.