

# Ocotillo Wells Desert Wildflower

## Photography Workshop

**Wed Mar 3, Wed Mar 10, or Sat Mar 13**



Come spend a day and learn how to take pictures that you'll want to share with your friends! Bring your digital camera and get ready to enjoy the spring wildflowers. Whether you're a snap shooter or a camera junkie the flowers will provide the subject to make you grow as a nature observer. We will start the morning in the classroom talking about composition, light, depth of field, and equipment to get you up close and personal with the flowers. Discussions will include how to shoot close-ups, abstracts, landscapes, and panoramas. Then were off to the field to get down and dirty. Some of the best shots will require getting down on hands and knees. Be ready to get low.....comfortable walking shoes and jeans are the order of the day. Expect to hike about 1 mile or so on the trails behind the Ocotillo Wells Discovery Center.

After a light lunch of sandwiches, yogurt, fruit and cold drinks we'll settle into class to learn some editing to make our pictures pop! Then we're going 4 wheeling, because that's what we do in Ocotillo Wells "Off Road" State Park! We'll visit a nearby scenic overlook; bring your 4 wheel vehicle or take a ride in the parks 4 wheel drive vehicles to shoot flowers as part of the desert landscape. We'll learn about how to plan, set-up and shoot a digital panorama. When we return to the class room, we'll download and process the afternoon's pictures. Producing and editing the evening slide show will round out the afternoon.

After an exciting day in the desert, we'll enjoy a dinner of salad, pizza and lasagna (veggie options will be available). For the evening slide show were going back outdoors to OW's new amphitheater. We'll share a campfire, view our slide show and review our wildflower images.

This free, hands on workshop will be a day to remember. Class will start at 9:00am at the new OW Discovery Center and wrap up around 7:30pm. Bring your digital camera, a point and shoot or SLR; we'll be able to download images from most standard storage cards. If you have one, bring your laptop and learn some editing techniques. Bring a water bottle, a hat, and sunscreen. A tripod is recommended but not required, or bring a bean bag to rest your camera on, this will help you get down to where the action is.

Instructor for the day will be Ocotillo Wells Interpreter Ken Conway. Ken's experience includes 30 years of flower photography with 35mm, digital, medium format, and 4x5 cameras. After spending a career in the wholesale floral industry, Ken and his wife hit the road and live as fulltime RVer's, with summers in Yellowstone NP and winters at Ocotillo Wells State Park. Ken will share his experience, images, and love of flowers.

Reservations are required and the class size is limited to 12 chairs, come spend a day with the Flowers at Ocotillo Wells OHV state park and make some new friends. Call 760-791-8231 or email [kconway@parks.ca.gov](mailto:kconway@parks.ca.gov) to make reservations.