

# North Georgia Photography Workshop

April 18-23, 2022, with Reed Hoffmann and Michael Schwarz

*(must have completed COVID vaccination and booster to attend)*



When people think of Georgia, they usually think of Atlanta, peaches, Savannah and perhaps the SEC. But for photographers, the state offers much, much more. How do I know that? Because my old friend (and former Nikon School instructor) Michael Schwarz has lived there for over thirty years as a [photographer doing assignments for national and international organizations](#) all across the state. So when I called Michael and asked if Georgia might be a good place to do a spring photography workshop, his answer was a resounding, “Absolutely!” I expected Atlanta to be a big part of any trip there, but he convinced me otherwise when I visited last May for a scout trip. We traveled north of Atlanta, into the mountains there, where we visited an amazing variety of locations to create this unique workshop. You can read my blog post about that trip [here](#), and now for the details of what we’ve put together for April of 2022.

(the itinerary below is what’s planned, but what we do at what exact times may change based on weather or other conditions)

### Monday, April 18, 2022

We'll pick everyone up from the Atlanta Airport (ATL) in the early afternoon (plan to arrive no later than 2pm, or come in the night before), then make a stop at an abandoned textile mill before heading to Rome, GA, where we'll stay for the duration of the trip.



### Tuesday, April 19

Tuesday we'll start with a visit to Cloudland Canyon State Park, where we'll have photograph the canyon from above, as well as hike down to one of its beautiful waterfalls. After lunch, we'll drive to Finster's Paradise Garden, which can be hard to describe with just words. It's a visual potpourri, and we'll spend a good part of our afternoon there. That evening we'll visit either Myrtle Cemetery or Berry College, depending on weather.





### Wednesday, April 20

Our morning shoot on Wednesday will be at Barnsley Gardens, an old southern estate that's now a resort. After lunch in Rome, we'll head to the highlight of the day, and another visual feast, Old Car City USA. With 34 acres of cars dating back to the 1930s, you could easily spend an entire day exploring all it has to offer. We'll stay for several hours.



### Thursday, April 21

The first visit this day will be to the New Echota State Historic Site. There you'll be able to explore this area of both original and reconstructed buildings that date to the Cherokee town's founding in 1825. Sadly, these people were then forced from their lands and onto the Trail of Tears, where many died. After lunch we'll either have critique/review sessions at the hotel or another shoot we're trying to set up. Following dinner, we'll go to either Berry College or Myrtle Cemetery, whichever we didn't do Tuesday evening.



### Friday, April 22

An early start will get us to Gibbs Gardens around the time they open (9am), so we can take advantage of morning light to explore these expansive gardens. We'll spend several hours there, and you still won't have seen all of it. After lunch, we'll take the afternoon to wander the trails at the famous Amicalola Falls. Our plan is to have dinner there at the lodge, then, if the conditions are right, do a night shoot before heading back to Rome for our final night.





### Saturday, April 23

With the workshop over, we'll drive back to the Atlanta airport so everyone can begin their return trips home. You can book a flight as early as 11am that morning, though no earlier. We'll have everyone to the airport no later than 11:30am Saturday morning.

### Cost:

The fee for this workshop is a bit more than I normally charge, because instead of just me, you have a second professional instructor in Michael. Despite that, the price is just \$2450/person. Because there are two of us teaching, we'll have a minimum of six clients and a maximum of nine. That includes all transportation around Georgia, starting and ending at Atlanta International Airport. We'll use minivans, with just four people per vehicle (including the driver), which means two vans if there are eight of us or three vans if twelve. All entry fees are included, as well as planning and instruction from the two of us as well as occasional critiques (as requested). The price does not include flights to/from Atlanta, meals or lodging. I've reserved a block of rooms for five nights for us at a Days Inn in Rome, GA, the only place we'll stay. The cost of the rooms is \$104/night plus tax, which you'll pay when you arrive there.

Level of knowledge needed:

Both Michael and I have over a decade of experience teaching to all levels of photographers, so we're equally comfortable working with beginners as well as those much more advanced. We've both taught multiple brands of camera, although I primarily shoot Nikon and Michael Sony. Michael has also done a lot of drone work, so will bring one along for anyone who's interested in learning a bit about that.

Level of difficulty:

Moderate, with some hiking on trails.

Weather:

Temperatures in April in that area tend to range from the 70s to the 40s, with an average of seven days of rain during of the month. Of course, check the weather forecast a day or two before leaving and then pack accordingly.

Release:

All clients must be fully vaccinated against COVID (plus booster) and sign an assumption of risk form:

[https://reedhoffmann.com/PARTICIPANT\\_AGREEMENT.pdf](https://reedhoffmann.com/PARTICIPANT_AGREEMENT.pdf)

Payment:

Confirm with me (email or phone) that there's still a spot available, then send \$650 to hold that spot. That's refundable until January 18 in case you have to cancel. After that, it's refundable if you or I can find someone to take your spot.

Don't book travel to/from Atlanta until you get confirmation from me that we have enough people to run the trip. And, if I have to cancel the trip for any reason, everyone will get a full refund of any money they've sent me.

The balance of \$1800 is due February 25. After that date, if you have to cancel, I can refund all your money if either you or I can find someone to take your spot. If you're worried that you might have to cancel, I'd suggest looking into trip insurance. For both the deposit and balance, you can pay by check, making it out to me and mail to the address below. If you want to pay using PayPal or Venmo, let me know and I'll send you that information. Questions? Let me know.

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