



Moab – Arches and Canyonlands

October 21-26, 2025

During this photography workshop we'll visit some of the best locations in two iconic areas of the southwest – Arches and Canyonlands – and do night photography each evening. Staying at a hotel in Moab, we'll have easy access to both parks as well as lots of dining choices. This is a small group trip, limited to six clients, me and an assistant. We'll use two vehicles, which means everyone will have their own door and plenty of room. The trip starts and ends in Salt Lake City, though if you'd prefer to meet us in Moab, that's fine. There will be a fair bit of walking involved, including a slot canyon that requires a bit of scrambling and a three-mile round-trip to Delicate Arch, uphill most of the way in. Sunrise at this time of year is around 7:30am and sunset around 6:30pm. Moonset is fairly early, so shouldn't have much impact on our night shoots.

The price is \$2350/person. That includes transportation from Salt Lake City to Moab and back, all local travel around the Moab area, entry fees as well as planning and instruction and occasional critiques (as requested). It does not include flights to/from Salt Lake City, meals, or

lodging (although I have reserved a block of rooms for us in Moab – you'll pay for that when you get there). Payment details for the trip are at the bottom of this note.



Here's the itinerary (dates are fixed, but what we do at what exact times may change based on weather or other changing conditions):

Tuesday, October 21

We'll meet at the SLC airport shortly after noon (plan to arrive no later than 2pm, or come in the night before), then drive to Moab (four hours). We'll spend the next five nights there, at Hotel Moab Downtown. It's nothing fancy, but much less expensive than the other options (about \$122/night), right in the heart of Moab.

Wednesday, October 22

Morning:

This is our one very early day, to catch sunrise in Canyonlands at one of the classics, **Mesa Arch**. It's an up-and-down, 3/8 mile trail to the arch. Flashlights (or headlamps) are needed for the hike in. From there we'll be facing east towards the Colorado River. As the sun rises above the horizon, the underside of the arch is illuminated and glows bright orange. You can also get on the rock ledges to the left and right of the arch for some alternate (in my opinion, better) vantage points. Afterwards we'll visit the **Green River Overlook** before heading back to

Moab for a late breakfast. Then we'll take a break, so everyone can get lunch on their own and rest and recharge before the afternoon and evening shoots.



Afternoon:

Our first visit to **Arches National Park**, we'll make a stop pr two on our way to **North** and **South Windows** and **Turret Arch**, and stay there through sunset.



Evening:

Night shoot at **Double Arch**, then back to Moab for dinner.



Thursday, Oct. 23

This morning we'll head off to the Hanksville area for the day. We'll start with a visit to **Crack Canyon**, where Jim (my assistant on this trip) will use his 4WD truck to get us within easy walking distance of it. After exploring there, we'll have lunch in a nearby town and then shift to nearby **Goblin Valley State Park** for late afternoon light. That's where we'll also have our picnic dinner



(sandwiches from Moab or Hanksville), at a shelter off the parking lot (nice bathrooms there!). As darkness falls, I'll do a light painting demonstration for our night shoot before heading back to Moab late.



Friday, Oct. 24

Morning:

After breakfast we'll depart for **Arches** again to spend the morning exploring Devil's Garden. Return to Moab for a break and lunch on your own.

Afternoon:

We'll return in the early PM for our **Delicate Arch** hike and shoot. It's only 1.5 miles in, but most of that is uphill, so we take it slow and easy. If you'd rather not do the hike, we'll try to find another option for you. Once at the arch, I'll show you the best places to photograph it from and we'll stay through sunset. As soon as the sun's down, we head back to avoid a hike down in the dark. Then we'll stop at **Balanced Rock** and/or another location for our night shoot. Return to Moab for dinner.



Saturday, Oct. 25

Morning:

After an early breakfast, we'll be off to nearby **Dead Horse Point State Park** for our sunrise shoot. After that we return to Moab for breakfast and lunch on your own.

Afternoon:

We'll leave after lunch we'll head north from Moab, following the Colorado river, for another change of southwestern scenery. We'll explore several different areas in the late afternoon light, including **Fisher Towers**, then shoot through sunset at a small ghost town before another night shoot with light painting. Back to Moab for a late dinner.



Sunday, Oct. 26

Return to SLC for our flights home. Don't book any flights before 1pm, as it's about a 4-hr. drive from Moab to SLC.

Level of difficulty: Moderate, on often uneven ground. Mesa Arch is about a 3/8 mile hike one-way. Delicate Arch is a 3-mile roundtrip, mostly on open rock, but it's nearly all uphill going in. The slot canyon we'll visit involves some scrambling, and at least a half-mile walking over uneven terrain (and you can choose to go further). Most locations involve at least a couple of hundred yards of walking, though you can do more if you like. Supportive footwear with good tread is a must as we're regularly off-trail.

Weather: Expect 60s in the daytime and down to 30s overnight. There's a slight possibility we'll encounter some snow (rare) or rain (also rare). Plan to dress in layers.

All clients must sign an assumption of risk form
(https://reedhoffmann.com/PARTICIPANT_AGREEMENT.pdf)

Here's how to register and pay:

To register, simply call or email me to confirm that there's a spot available for you. After that, I'll let you know when it's time to send me your deposit (\$900) and book travel. The deposit is fully refundable until July 15 if you have to cancel.

The balance, \$1450, is due September 1. After that, 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.

You can pay via PayPal or Venmo (as a "friend," please, otherwise I'll have to add the 3% service fee they charge), or send a check to me at:

My address is: Reed Hoffmann
 13169 Carter Street
 Overland Park, KS 66213

Questions? Let me know - Reed