



Dear Master Class Participant,

It is our pleasure to welcome you to our **Winter Photography Master Class** at Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont. Whether there is snow or not, you'll get to see a side of Great Smoky Mountains National Park few visitors ever do. Please read this letter in full, as it contains information about our procedures related to **COVID-19**.

This one-of-a-kind workshop led by veteran photographers Will Clay and Ken Thompson will feature the "creative uses of winter light." An emphasis will be placed on the use of focus stack techniques to create extreme depth of field for both landscape and close-up photographs. The workshop will also feature the conversion of color photographs to black & white. There will be formal lectures and instruction during this workshop on both focus stack and black & white conversions in the classroom and in the field. Class participants will present a short portfolio of their work on Sunday evening.

**Arrival:**

Our check-in has been modified due to **COVID-19**. Check-in at Tremont on Friday will take place between 4:00 pm–5:00 pm, which will give you enough time to move into the dorm before our 5:45 pm evening meal. A staff member will be posted at the gate to direct you to the check-in station where you will have your temperature taken; if no one is at the gate to greet you, follow the instructions for late arrivals below.

Late arrivals: If you arrive after 5:00 pm, please park in the lot across from the gate, walk past the gate across the bridge, up the service road, stay to the right of the green dormitory building, and proceed to the open-air Pavilion where you will find the check-in station. If you expect to arrive late, please call 865-448-9732 ext. 23 and leave a message with your expected arrival time.

Early arrivals: Beginning at 2:00 pm there will be an optional shooting session along the Middle Prong River in the Tremont area. Meet at the parking area just past the bridge leading to Tremont Institute. Even if you arrive after 2:00 pm, you can join us along the river for a first look at the Smoky Mountains in winter. Simply continue along the gravel portion of Tremont Road looking for the group. Regardless of precisely when you arrive, please adhere to the 4:00pm-5:00 check-in window at the Tremont bridge.

**Departure:**

The program ends after breakfast on Monday. This day will include an optional morning shoot, location TBA.

**Logistics:**

Please read our COVIDSafe guidelines and let us know if you have any questions or concerns. In order to slow the spread of **COVID-19**, please bring a mask and wear it when social distancing is impractical. Also please read the "Your Visit to Tremont" document for important packing information.

Along with your linens and toiletries, you may want to bring a mattress pad to ease the firm mattress, plus a bedside light or headlamp if you are a late-night reader. Note: though wifi is available in the Activity Center, we invite and encourage you to unplug for the weekend.

Learn more about our [food](#) and [facilities](#). Note that food is not allowed in the dorm.

**Weather:**

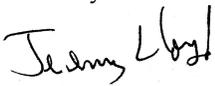
Winter in the Smokies is typically moderate, but extremes do occur, especially at higher elevations. February sees an average daily high of 54° F, and low of 28° F. So dress warm, bring rain gear and extra socks, and expect the unexpected. Mother Nature follows her own schedule and we will adjust accordingly.

**A special offer just for YOU...**

We are offering you a 15% discount in our bookstore during the workshop. **Please note that the bookstore will only be open Friday 4:00 pm–5:30 pm.**

I hope this information is helpful to you in planning for your upcoming visit to Tremont. Please tell a friend about us so that they too can learn about the wonders of the Smokies. If you have further questions, please feel free to call.

Sincerely,



Jeremy Lloyd  
Manager of Field Programs and Collegiate Studies