

TEXAS BIRDS Workshop Itinerary

March 9-11, 2012

Friday March 9, 2012

- 8:30am Registration / Workshop Introduction, Fulton Harbor Inn
9:00am **Meet your Mentor – Bob Smith**
9:30am Break
9:45am **Meet your Mentor – Layne Kennedy**
10:15am Break
10:30-11:30am Camera Q & A (menu settings, histograms, white balance, etc.)
11:30-1pm Lunch (on your own)
1:00pm Depart for **Aransas National Wildlife Refuge**
2-5:00pm Photograph at various considered photo stops along the road, as well as at wildlife observation points: Ringed by tidal marshes and broken by long, narrow ponds, Aransas is home for cranes, alligators, deer, and many other species of wildlife. We are also likely to spot: herons & egrets, roseate spoonbills, scarlet tanager, white tailed hawk, double-crested cormorant, northern bobwhite, kingfishers, meadowlarks, and many many more
5:15pm Depart for **Copano Bay Fishing Pier**
5:30-7pm Photograph shorebirds along the water, and the pier at sunset
7:30pm Return to the hotel
8:00pm Dinner (on your own)
Download your images

Saturday March 10, 2012

- 6-7:00am Breakfast (on your own)
7:00am Depart for Fulton Marina to board our **own private vessel**
7:30-11am Travel north by boat across the **Aransas Bay** and into the Refuge where we will find the rare **Whooping Cranes**. The boat was built to navigate the shallow waters and will allow us to get close up to these incredible birds. Take your time to observe and photograph the birds stalking the marsh in search of blue crabs, or turn your lens on the hundreds of other species that can be seen in this part of the country this time of year.
11:30am Return to the hotel / Lunch on your own / Download your images
1-2:30pm **Digital Review Session** – show your mentor 5 images on your laptop
3:00pm Depart for **Goose Island State Park**
3:30-7:30pm Photograph at Goose Island State Park
We are likely to come across: water birds, waterfowl, shorebirds at St. Charles Bay, and passerines both in migration and in residence. Focus your lens on: warblers, hawks, falcons, Least Bitterns, herons and egrets, Roseate Spoonbills, Killdeer and Willets, and six species of terns, plus many more. We will catch **sunset** from a considered vantage point
8:00pm Return to the hotel / Dinner on your own

Sunday March 11, 2012

- 6:00am Depart for **Fulton Marina**
6-8:00am Photograph the bay and around the marina as the sun rises. Capture the details, the fishing boats, and the marina during the golden hour.
8-9:00am Breakfast (on your own)
9:00am Depart for **Rockport Beach**
9:30-11am Meander the beach, photograph Aransas Bay, migrating shorebirds & dolphins
11:30am-1pm Return to the hotel & check out / download your images / Lunch (on your own)
1-2:30pm **Final Digital Review Session**, show your mentor 5 images on your laptop
Turn in images for the final slide show
2:30pm Final slide show / Workshop Closing

Itinerary subject to change