Welcome to the Cog Railway Photo Workshop and Tour!

The objective of this class is to provide you with some further knowledge of photography (hows, whys, what to do when..), give you a chance to photograph and apply your new skills in the unique and dramatic environment on Mt Washington and the White Mountains with someone to guide you to the best places to shoot, unique alpine subjects, and times to catch the trains on the mountain.

This photo workshop is open to all experience levels* and will be lead by veteran photographer George Mitchell. George will be bringing his years of experience in the field and his creative New England flair to provide a dynamic learning session that will cover basic concepts and landscape, macro, artistic and portrait photography.

We have put this pdf booklet together for you to help you properly prepare for your adventure. Mount Washington’s weather is known for quickly changing conditions. The workshop will proceed rain or shine. In severely inclement weather, an alternate tour option will be available. This will add depth and opportunity to learn photography in various conditions that are unique to this location. It is our goal that participants will have an enjoyable experience while learning useful knowledge they can apply to their future photography goals.

Enjoy your adventure, and be safe!
The Mount Washington Cog Railway

Some of the things we will talk about.

Some basic information about Mt Washington and the Cog Railway.
Safety while we are on the mountain.

Photography
Know your camera.
What does your camera do well, what does your camera not do well.
What do all the numbers mean? F/stop, Shutter speed, ISO & focal length.
How does it work? focus, meter & flash.

Lighting.
Composition

Flora and Fauna we will be shooting on the mountain

We will have a severe inclement weather option in place in the event that the weather at the summit is inconducive to shooting. In this instance we will shorten our time at the top and provide nature and waterfall shooting instruction around the base of Mount Washington.
Preparation Guide

Thank you for choosing to join us. There are several things that should be done to prepare.

Your Physical Condition:
The terrain on Mt Washington is rocky, especially around the summit, and does require sturdy comfortable shoes. Please take time to do some walks (up and down hills if you can) to prepare for any hiking that might be done during the class.

What you need to bring:

Photo equipment; Bring what you want to carry in one easy to carry bag,
- Camera Body (s), Len (s),
- Batteries and spares (charged),
- Recording media, anything else that you might want.
- Please test your equipment to make sure that it is working before leaving home.
- Make sure that it fits into the bag that you have chosen.
- Make sure that you have not over packed what you need.
- I would suggest that you bring the camera body that you use the most, a normal to wide angle lens (large zooms and telephotos might be a bit much to fit and carry with you), a macro lens or close up rings if you want and have them & any filters that you might want to use.
- Camera manual- Please read through and bring your camera manual with you for reference.
- Cell phone, please bring one if you have it, make sure it has a full charge!
- Clear plastic bag that will fit over your lens or camera cover

Clothing
Remember the old boy scout motto “be prepared” this applies here. Temperatures and weather conditions in the summer on Mt Washington often change from minute to minute. Layering your clothing is a good idea, then you will be able to take off or add layers as needed. (insulated shirt, t-shirt, rain jacket). A full change of clothing is recommended, you may want to leave this at the base for your return-

Rain Gear; hooded wind/rain jacket, pants if you have them

Light Hat and Gloves; (it might be 80 at the base but at the summit there could be really cold damp conditions that everyone needs to be ready for), good sturdy and comfortable hiking/walking shoes, spare socks, sweatshirt.

Shoes; good sturdy and comfortable hiking/walking shoes hiking sneakers are all sufficient

Additional items; insect repellant (make sure that your bug spray does not contain anything
that could harm your photo equipment, if you are not sure, ask, the instructor and guide will have extra!), sunscreen, sunglasses, water, snacks & any medication that you might need (I go everywhere with an epipen)

**Other things to do to properly prepare for your time spent with us:**
Take the time to read your camera & lens manuals completely through. (Don’t forget to bring your manual along!)

Know the basic operation of your camera, if you have a question about a function, be sure to write it down along with your list of goals for the day.

Have some idea of what you might want to achieve with your photographs. Write those down and bring the list with you.

Make sure that you have any specific questions you may have written down so they may be addressed.

Please cut out photos that you “like” and put them in an envelope and bring the envelope with you when you come. We will discuss how the photo was taken and what to do to achieve similar results.

*This sounds like a great deal of home work but it will pay off big if you take the time and effort.*

Thank you,
George Mitchell