



SF's Painted Ladies

CUE Photo

Wharf, North Beach and Golden Gate Park are all worth exploring, too. Your guide lived in the area for 38 years and knows where the pictures are. We'll have a wonderful feast in Chinatown on our last night to celebrate our in depth discovery of some of Northern California's most spectacular scenery and images.

Day 8 (February 11) Flights home today: Book your return flights for anytime today. The hotel provides a free hot breakfast and airport shuttle. Thanks for joining me. You'll find my field notes from the trip to help you identify your images at www.mytb.org/cuephoto and images from this and other Close-Up Expeditions at www.donlyon.zenfolio.com



Your guide Don Lyon

GENERAL INFORMATION and CONDITIONS

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS: A \$500US per person deposit and a signed application is required to confirm any reservation. Balance of payment is due 60 days prior to departure. Visa and Mastercard are accepted for deposits.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Minimum cancellation fees, shown below, are in addition to any non-recoverable deposits made to suppliers and are based on the number of days prior to departure that we receive written notice of cancellation. More than 120 days--\$200. 60-120 days--\$500. Less than 60 days--50% of Land Costs or per person fixed operating costs plus non recoverable deposits, whichever is greater. Within 30 days, 100% of Land Costs is forfeited.

CANCELLED EXPEDITIONS: Close-Up Expeditions retains the right to cancel any trip which does not have the stated minimum number of participants. Deposits will be refunded. Deposits collected for Expeditions cancelled due to events beyond our control will be refunded minus unrecoverable expenses.

EXPEDITION COSTS INCLUDE: unless stated otherwise in the brochure, Accommodations based on two people sharing one room. Meals--included to limit shown. Land Transportation by van. Sightseeing and Admissions--as indicated in the brochure. Baggage and Personal Equipment: Handling of one medium size suitcase, not to exceed 27" X 21" x 9" (or combined dimensions of 57") and 45 lbs is included. Guides may refuse to carry luggage exceeding these limits. Hand-baggage and camera equipment should be of a size convenient to carry and be kept with you in the vehicle without inconvenience to others, and is entirely the responsibility of the client.

SMOKING & CELLPHONE use not permitted in Vehicles and at group meals.

GUIDE SERVICES & PHOTOGRAPHIC INSTRUCTION: The services of your CUE leader are included from arrival at the Meeting Point on Day One, terminating on the last day as indicated in the brochure. Photographic advice and instruction is included on a group basis and individually as time permits.

EXPEDITION COSTS DO NOT INCLUDE: items of a personal nature such as snacks, laundry, tips for special services, excess baggage charges, gratuities to guides and drivers and expenses due to events beyond the control of Close-Up Expeditions.

FOR RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION:



**CLOSE-UP
EXPEDITIONS**

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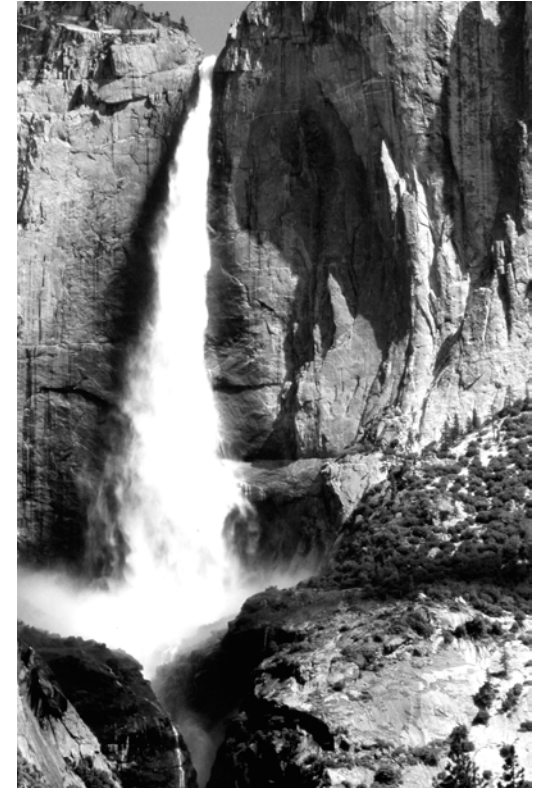
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PHOTOGRAPHIC ADVENTURES

YOSEMITE WINTER

February 4-11, 2012



Yosemite Falls Winter

CUE Photo

Includes Gold Rush Country
and San Francisco. Limited to
7. Guide Don Lyon.



**CLOSE-UP
EXPEDITIONS**

www.cuephoto.com



Half Dome in Winter

CUE Photo

YOSEMITE in WINTER

with San Francisco & Gold Rush Country
February 4-11, 2012

Yosemite's iconic landmarks photograph beautifully in Winter and it's Spring in the Gold Rush Country and San Francisco. Join guide, Don Lyon for a week of photographic fun. Group size is just seven in our large Ford Van. Excellent accommodations--great photography!

7 Day Tour Cost	\$2050.
<u>Meal budget</u>	<u>\$280.</u>
Total	\$2330.

Tour price (minimum 6) includes accommodations (twin basis), transportation, admissions as described, and services of your photographic guide. Limited single rooms are available for a supplement of \$470.

Our Itinerary

Day 1 (Feb. 4), SFO to Yosemite: Guide Don Lyon meets you at your SFO Airport hotel after breakfast this morning to drive east through rolling green hills—it's spring in this part of California! Our destination is El Portal—the gateway to Yosemite National Park. Our comfortable motel is just minutes away from wonderful images along the scenic

Merced River. Best Western Cedar Lodge—3 nights.

Days 2 & 3, Photo Exploring Yosemite Valley: Yosemite Valley is stunningly beautiful any time of year but ethereal in winter when a foot of snow mantles the granite crags that spring up from the 4000 foot valley floor to 8000' all around us. El Capitan and Half Dome are just the two best known—and instantly recognizable. They serve as the backdrops as we search along the Merced River for reflections that interpret our own vision of this majestic place. In winter the crowds of tourists that throng every vista point are gone and we have the perfection of solitude in their stead. High above the valley we stop at Tunnel View to appreciate the geologic story laid out before us.

Days 4 & 5, Gold Rush Country: We leave the Park via Big Oak Flat—shooting all the way. Many minor scenes emerge in the waterfalls and streams that tumble down towards the Merced. Giant redwoods survive at Tuolumne Grove—great black & white subject in winter. Soon we are following the Tuolumne River Valley towards Chinese Camp and Highway 49 which courses north through the Sierra foothills connecting most all of the gold rush communities that sprung up virtually overnight after gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill in 1848. This was to be the gold rush of all gold rushes—the Mother Lode and early placer miners averaged \$100 per day while \$1 per day was the normal salary in San Francisco or Philadelphia. The history and traditions of these times are colorfully preserved at Columbia State Historic Park. The schoolhouse, bank, newspaper office, saloon and Wells Fargo office, and 30 other buildings, have been restored to reflect the life and times of the Gold Rush. You can try your luck panning for gold but the real nuggets are all around you in the weathered buildings, iron (and fireproof) shutters, and



Yosemite Falls Winter

CUE Photo

reflections of the past in the windowpanes. We have almost two days to explore up and down the trail of the 49'ers meeting Mark Twain's Celebrated Jumping Frog at Angels Camp and Jackson where the giant headframes of the Kennedy and Argonaut Mines pulled ore carts from a mile deep. We stay in Sonora—"Queen of the Southern Mines"—the biggest and wildest of the boomtowns where fandango halls and saloons outnumbered churches 16 to one. San Andreas was the scene of Black Bart's last stagecoach robbery in 1883. Daffodil Hill is a colorful hillside crowded with thousands of blooms. Best Western Sonora Oaks Lodge—2 nights.

Days 6 & 7: Sonora to San Francisco: It is a lovely drive back to the Bay Area over Altamont Pass, through Livermore's Ranches and Vineyards. We won't linger, though, as San Francisco is as full of iconic images as any city in the world. Little cable cars climbing halfway to the stars—for example. Then there are the Painted Ladies—the colorfully painted Victorian homes with SF skyline behind. The Golden Gate Bridge will figure into numerous shots from Baker Beach, Fort Point and from Marin County. Neighborhoods such as Chinatown, Haight-Ashbury, the Castro and the Mission tell of the ethnic and cultural diversity that gives San Francisco the edge as "everybody's favorite city." Fisherman's