



Nevada Northern Railway Foundation
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Nevada Northern Night Photo Shoot

Recommendations for a safe and successful night photo shoot

By Steve Crise

In order to insure that your results at the night photo shoot are successful, we have listed a few rules, suggestions and recommendations that will enhance your night photography experience at the Nevada Northern Railway.

1. Dress warmly! Warm gloves, coat, hat and shoes are highly recommended. You will be exposed to cold temperatures for up to three hours.
2. Be a good neighbor. Be mindful and respectful of others around you. Don't walk in front of other photographers in the middle of an exposure. We typically do over 100+ exposures an evening so there will be time enough to find and shoot other views during the event.
3. You will need a flashlight! This will aid you with making camera settings and maneuvering around the set without tripping, falling or accidentally kicking another photographer's tripod.
4. You will need a good sturdy tripod. Exposures could last up to 20 seconds at a time. Hand holding your camera during long exposures will not result in satisfactory images.
5. A cable release or remote trigger is highly recommended! This will help eliminate most of the camera movement when the shutter is opened and closed.
6. Turn off you built-in camera flashes!!! Leave your hot shoe mounted flashes in your camera bag!!! They are too weak to produce any usable light and could inadvertently trigger the studio strobes and damage them.
7. **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES DO YOU HANDLE, TOUCH OR ADJUST THE STROBE LIGHTS!!!** These are high voltage units and if not handled properly, have the potential to harm or kill you. Failing to adhere to this policy will end the photo shoot immediately. If you have a problem or suggestion regarding the lighting, please bring it to our attention.

Award Winning Destination

Best Tour in Rural Nevada – 2017

Nevada State Treasure – 2013 & 2012

Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence – 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014

Best Preservation Effort in the West • Attraction of the Year – 2012

Best Museum in Rural Nevada – 2017, 2016, 2014, 2013, 2010, 2009, 2008

Best Museum - Special Recognition – 2010 • Favorite Nevada Attraction – 2008

Best Event in Rural Nevada – The Polar Express – 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014 & 2013

Best Place to Take the Kids in Rural Nevada – 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007

8. If your camera lens is equipped with **"Image Stabilization"**, it is highly recommended that this function be **turned OFF** for the duration of the night photo shoot. Using Image Stabilization during long exposures cause the lens to "search" and can result in creating a blurry image.
9. It is very important that your camera has a "Manual" mode and you know how to use the manual setting **BEFORE** you come to the night photo shoot. There is no automatic setting on any camera that will be able to provide you with any assistance in making night exposures with studio strobe lighting. **We will not be able to give you lessons on how to operate your camera during the night shoot.** Taking the time to teach you how to operate your camera would not be fair to the other photographers who come prepared.
10. Our photography staff can assist you with suggestions on ISO and f-stop settings with your camera and are happy to do so. **HOWEVER, it is your responsibility to be proficient enough to operate and set your own camera.**
11. Film shooters are welcome! Based on the ASA of your film, we would be happy to provide you with suggestions and recommendations for making exposures for you negative and positive films. For you large format shooters, 4 x 5 and above, please let me know who you are since we will have to make special arrangements for you with multiple flash sequencing.
12. Please study your camera's manual thoroughly before attending the night photo shoot. In particular, brush up on instructions in making long exposures with your camera and how to operate it in the manual mode. Doing this simple task can insure that you have the best experience possible and be able to create some truly stunning night images.