

2018 DPI-SIG Monthly Outings

Please note that certain months have more than one outing option, depending on various conditions that are present near the time of the event. Decisions will generally be announced at the preceding DPI-SIG meeting as well as emailed to members. Other events may have incomplete information. These events will be updated when information is available.

February

February 10th- Venice Rookery wading bird rookery

Drive on your own or meet at the Cracker Barrel at 5:30 AM to carpool. Arrival to the rookery at about 7:30 AM and shoot until 10:30 or 11:00 AM, taking advantage of the best light. More info at <https://www.outdoorphotographer.com/on-location/favorite-places/venice-area-audubon-rookery/>

February 24th- Freedom Park and Gordon River Greenway

Freedom Park is located on the north side of Golden Gate Parkway, just east of Goodlette-Frank Road. Meet at 8:00 AM. For those that want to stroll through the Gordon River Greenway, meet in the parking lot at 8:00 AM. Also, just east of Goodlette-Frank Road, but across from of Freedom park south side Golden Gate Parkway. More info at <http://www.colliergov.net/your-government/divisions-a-e/conservation-collier/preserve-information/freedom-park> or <http://www.colliergov.net/your-government/divisions-f-r/parks-and-recreation/parks/gordon-river-greenway>

March

Option 1-- March 24th- Wakodahatchee Wetlands (Option 1 and 2 to be determined by March 8th DPI-SIG mtg.)

Drive on your own or meet at the Cracker Barrel at 5:30 AM to carpool. Arrival to the rookery at about 7:30 AM and shoot until 10:30 or 11:00 AM, taking advantage of the best light. More info at <https://www.birdwatchingdaily.com/hotspots/210-wakodahatchee-wetlands-delray-beach-florida/>

Option 2-- March 24th- Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge (Option 1 and 2 to be determined by the March 8th DPI-SIG mtg., depending on habitat conditions)

Drive on your own or meet at the Cracker Barrel at 7:00 AM to carpool. Arrival to the Refuge Administration Office at 7:30 AM (State Road 29, 1.5 mile north of Interstate 75). The Refuge is planning on a number of prescribed fires along State Road 29 that will produce abundant wild flowers and opportunities to photograph wildlife and landscapes. More info at https://www.fws.gov/refugee/Florida_Panther/about.html

April

Option 1-- April 21- Marsh Trail, Ten Thousand Islands National Wildlife Refuge (Option 1 and 2, to be determined by the April 12th DPI-SIG mtg.)

Drive on your own or arrange carpooling on your own. The Marsh Trail parking lot is located about three miles east of Collier-Seminole State Park and County Road 92. Getting there from I-75 in Naples, take exit 101. Then follow Collier Blvd south to its junction with U.S. 41. Turn left. The Marsh Trail access area is 11 miles east along U.S. 41. Turnoffs for Goodland and Collier-Seminole State Park will be passed before you reach the parking area near mile marker 31. Marsh trail provides opportunities to photograph all sorts of birds, particularly wading birds from the trail or observation tower. Alligators are present and at least one crocodile was frequently observed in 2017. More info at https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Florida_Panther/about.html

Option 2-- April 21th- Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge (Option 1 and 2, to be determined by the April 12th DPI-SIG mtg., depending on habitat conditions)

Drive on your own or meet at the Cracker Barrel at 7:00 AM to carpool. Arrival to the Refuge Administration Office at 7:30 AM (State Road 29, 1.5 mile north of Interstate 75). The Refuge is planning on a number of prescribed fires along State Road 29 that will produce abundant wild flowers and opportunities to photograph wildlife and landscapes. More info at https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Florida_Panther/about.html

May

May 12th- The Great Dock Canoe Race, Naples

Park at the City Dock (intersection of 12th Ave. S and 9th St. S) or nearby parking to the Dock at Crayton Cove restaurant, where the great canoe race will be held. Arrive at the dock and pick your seat early, as good vantage points are limited on the dock. Details of the race are not yet posted. Updated as the information becomes available. More info at <https://www.greatdockcanoeraces.com/>

June

June 2nd- Naples Zoo (Free Day at the Zoo)

Meet in front of Safari Canyon, inside the Zoo, at 9:15 AM. The Zoo opens at 9:00 AM. More info at <http://www.napleszoo.org/>

July

July 14th- Sunset Time Lapse Shoot at the Beach

Join Jim Robellard at the beach, on the north side of the pier, for a short course in time-lapse photography as the sun sets over the Gulf. Sunset is at 8:21 PM. Please arrive by 7:30 PM. Bring your tripod, drinking water, bug spray and rubber duckie.

July 14th- Morning light at the Garden of Hope

Join us at the Naples Community Hospital's Garden of Hope. Meet in the garden at 8:00 AM, located on the south side of the hospital. The garden is beautifully landscaped with a pond and several statues.

August

August 14th (Tuesday)- The Naples Botanical Garden

Meet in front of the Garden entrance at 7:45 AM, and enter at 8:00 AM, when it opens. Certainly, flowers are everywhere to photograph, but also butterflies and birds. Consider shooting both macro and longer lenses. There are certain restrictions at the Garden for photographers. For more Info, go to at <https://www.naplesgarden.org/>. Also, few the Garden's photography policy at <https://www.naplesgarden.org/visit/plan-your-visit/photography-policy/>

September

September 5th- Naples Pier Photo Mob

Plan to arrive and set up by 7:00 PM, on the beach on the north side of the pier. Sunset is at 7:42 PM. The Naples Pier re-build is supposed to be completed by this date and the entire pier opened to the public. This will be a very orchestrated night "shoot," whereby participants will be divided into two teams. While Team 1 is positioned on the beach with cameras on tripods, Team 2 will be divided into sub-groups, using a variety of lighting (lasers, flashes, flashlights, etc.) to apply during the camera exposure. The idea is to expose the pier in a way it has never been seen. There will be no moon on this night, so the stars (hopefully no clouds) should make a beautiful backdrop. Plans will be handed out at the August DPI-SIG meeting.

October

October 13th Kowiachobee Animal Preserve, Naples

Kowiachobee Animal Preserve is a non-profit organization with over 130 animals under its care. Admission is free, yet they survive on financial and other donations (see their list). Kowiachobee has very limited parking, therefore carpooling is a must. We will meet at the Cracker Barrel at 8:30 AM to carpool. Arrangements will be made with John Slaby (CEO) prior to our visit to determine the number of photographers Kowiachobee

can accommodate. A signup will be required with a special notice sent to members; first come, first served.

More info at <http://www.kowiachobee.org/>

October 20th- Arcadia Rodeo

Drive on your own or meet at the Cracker Barrel at 7:00 AM to carpool. Arrive in Arcadia by 8:30 AM. Plan on meeting in front of the admissions booths at 8:30 AM.
More info at <https://www.ArcadiaRodeo.com>

November

Dates to be determined- Pro Watercross World Championships at Sugden Park

Details to be announced as soon as they are available. A week-long collection of water sport races (jet ski) and demonstrations at Sugden Regional Park (4284 Avalon Dr., Naples, FL 34112, Naples). Primarily for those who want to shoot action photography.

November 17th (estimated)- Old Florida Festival, Collier County Museum

Details to be updated as the Festival plans are published. The event is held at the Collier County Museum, with ample parking at the adjacent Government. More info at <https://www.colliermuseums.com/calendar-event/old-florida-festival>

November 17th (estimated)- Christmas Tree lighting and parade, 3rd Street South, Naples

Annual Tree Lighting & Festival will probably be on November 17th from 6:00 – 9:00 PM with snow showers, parade and Christmas lighting. Park where you can find it and meet at 5:30PM at the corner of 12th Ave. S and 3rd St. South.

December

December 8th- Naples Pier Photo Mob (makeup date if the September date washes out)

Plan to arrive and set up by 5:00 PM, on the beach on the north side of the pier. Sunset is at 6:58 PM. There is a 2% crescent moon which will set at 6:58 PM. At which time the sky should sufficiently reveal the stars. The Naples Pier re-build is supposed to be completed by August and the entire pier will be open to the public. This will be a very orchestrated night “shoot,” whereby participants will be divided into two teams. While Team 1 is positioned on the beach with cameras on tripods, Team 2 will be divided into sub-groups, using a variety of lighting (lasers, flashes, flashlights, etc.) to apply during the camera exposure. The idea is to expose the pier in a way it has never been seen. There will be no moon on this night, so the stars (hopefully no clouds) should make a beautiful backdrop. Plans will be handed out at the August DPI-SIG meeting.

December 15th- Eagle Lakes Park, Naples

Meet at the parking lot at 8:00 AM, when it opens (Located along Tamiami Trail at 11565 Tamiami Tr. E., Naples, FL 34112. Primarily a birding shoot, so longer lenses are recommended. However, wider lenses for landscape shots might be warranted for the creative. More info at <http://www.coliergov.net/your-government/divisions-f-r/parks-and-recreation/parks/eagle-lakes-community-par>