



Eagles, Skagit River, Washington

January 4 - 7, 2022

Every year hundreds of eagles winter in and around Rockport, Washington. The eagles gather on the Skagit River for the salmon run.

While eagles can be seen from the shore, the only way to get great photographs is by boat. I have rented the only jet boat on the river for our trip giving us the best photographic opportunities.

During this tour we are going to spend 3 days

concentrating on photographing eagles in their nature habitat. The tour is limited to just 5 participants, so there is plenty of time for one to one help. There will be images of eagles flying, fishing, fighting and more. And all at close range, where lenses from 100-400 will be all you need.





We will be going out in a boat on five excursions with a wonderful guide/captain with years of experience. While on the boat, we will be feeding the eagles herring, making sure that they are close and plentiful. We will have ample opportunity to work on our flight images. I will teach you how to

photograph on manual and

what settings you need to take razor sharp eagle images. I will be talking about shutter speeds, aperture, metering patterns, and ISO settings. From the boat our images will be hand held. Be prepared to take lots of pictures! Bring lots of memory cards as you will be taking between 2000-3000 images a day, downloading at night and doing it again the next day!



This is a great trip and limited to only 5 participants, so don't wait, sign up now before it fills up!



Disclaimer

We will be feeding the eagles fish during the workshop, so if you have a problem with that please don't sign up for the tour.

Itinerary

January 4, 2022 - Travel to your lodging destination in Washington. There are several lodging options for this tour. I will be staying in Concrete, Washington at The Mt. Baker Hotel - <https://www.mtbakerhotel.com/>. This one of the closest locations to the start of the boat trips. **For more lodging options see Lodging section below.**

January 5 and 6 – Two full days of boat excursions to photograph eagles. The day consists of two 3-hour sessions with a break in between for lunch. Boat tours depart at 8:30 AM, so you need to be at Howard Miller Steelhead Park in Rockport between 8:00 and 8:15 AM to get geared up and ready to go. The afternoon tour leaves around 12:30.

You will need to bring everything you need for the day. Our lunch breaks are short, and I recommend you purchase lunch the day before and leave it in the car. Evenings will be spent having dinner and downloading and editing pictures.

January 7 - Morning boat excursion. We will finish our trip on the river at 12:30. At this point you are free to continue any other travel plans you may make in the area; or to return to the motel if you plan to spend the night; or to return to Seattle for an evening flight home. There are restrooms at the boat launch where you can change your clothes if you want.



Price: \$1750 check, Zelle (lewis@lewiskemper.com) or cash; \$1950 credit card. Send check to Lewis Kemper 800 Saverien Dr, Sacramento, CA 95864. Fee includes 5 boat excursions, **boat guide tips**, and photo instruction. Not included

– travel to and from Washington, lodging, ground transportation within Washington, and meals.

Deposit - please send \$950 ASAP to the address above to hold your space, balance due December 1, 2021. LIMITED TO FIVE.

Lodging: I will be staying in Concrete, Washington at The Mt. Baker Hotel - <https://www.mtbakerhotel.com/>. This one of the closest locations to the start of the boat trips. Other option in the Concrete are include Ovenalls - <https://www.ovenells-inn.com/> and Grace Haven Cabins - <https://sites.google.com/site/gracehavenllc/home>. Concrete is a small town with limited amenities but does have a few restaurants, groceries and gas.

If you want more amenities then another option is to stay in Mount Vernon, Washington, which is approximately 50 minutes away. I recommend [Best Western Plus Skagit River Inn and Convention Center](#), and there are several other options in Mt. Vernon. The road from Mt. Vernon to Concrete can be challenging to drive in the event of snow. That is why I am staying in Concrete which is only 15 minutes from the boat launch.

Refunds: a refund minus \$150 will be available 60 days or more prior to trip; inside of 60 days, a refund is only available if I fill your space with another participant.



Weather

Weather in Washington in January is unpredictable. Days can be sunny and in the 40's to snowing, raining, windy and in the 20's. You need to be prepared for everything!

Due to weather there may be condition to severe to take the boat out. If this happens (it is rare) we will try to make up time but there are NO GUARANTEES that all excursions will take place. There are no refunds due to weather.

Clothing suggestions

Clothing needs to be warm and comfortable enough to give you freedom of movement. I recommend dressing in layers as the weather can change. It will be freezing in the mornings and hopefully warming up in the afternoons. I recommend moisture wicking long underwear, fleece pants, **good raingear**; warm hats, gloves (either fingerless or lightweight) and warm boots. I recommend [Muck Boots](#) or something similar. Here is a link to a less expensive version: <https://amzn.to/2qogKF9>.

Another option would be Pak Boots such as https://amazon.com/s?k=pac+boots&i=fashion&ref=nb_sb_noss_1 or something similar.

I also recommend snow pants. I use Columbia brand pants and love them. https://www.amazon.com/s?k=columbia+snow+pants&ref=nb_sb_noss_1

This year I spent the big bucks and bought [Heat Company](#) gloves. It was well worth it, these gloves are a system with liners and shell mittens, both of which hold chemical handwarmer packs. My hands were very comfortable, both on this trip and to Homer, Alaska, where it got down to -11.

Camera Gear

Lenses similar in range to a 100-400, will be all you need for the flight shots of the eagles. A 150-600mm may be useful for the portraits and fishing shots. I recommend bringing more than one camera body in case of emergency and also because it would be better to have one camera with a lens in the 70-400 range and one with the 24-100 range so you don't need to be changing lenses in the field if the weather is less than ideal.

Flash with flash extender such as Better Beamer or MagBeam. I will be instructing on their use if you are interested.



Images taken from the boat will be hand held, so you need a good comfortable strap or something like the [Cotton Carrier](https://www.cottoncarrier.com/?ref=xge7kjfrdnm) (<https://www.cottoncarrier.com/?ref=xge7kjfrdnm> use coupon code LEWISKEMPER to get a 10% discount) for when you are at rest. I don't go anywhere without my Cotton Carrier!

You also need lots of storage cards to hold 2000-3000 images a day, and ideally a way to download and view your images in the evenings.

REGISTRATION FORM
please enclose this form with your deposit

NAME _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____ HOME PHONE _____

CITY, STATE _____ MOBILE PHONE _____

ZIP _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Email _____

OCCUPATION _____

WORKSHOP NAME _____

WORKSHOP DATES _____

SMOKER _____ NON SMOKER _____

NAME AND PHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO CONTACT IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

ANY SPECIAL MEDICATIONS TAKEN? _

ARE YOU ALLERGIC TO ANY MEDICATIONS? IF SO WHAT?

ANY SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS?

RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK

Please Read Carefully

RETURN THIS FORM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

I, _____, Hereby acknowledge that I am aware that during a photography workshop or other trip that I am participating in under the arrangements of LEWIS KEMPER AND HIS AGENTS OR ASSOCIATES, certain risks and dangers may arise, including but not limited to, the hazards of traveling in wilderness and remote areas, travel by automobile, truck, boat, or other conveyance, the forces of nature, animal attack, and accident or illness in remote regions without means of rapid evacuation or medical facilities. I am also aware and clearly understand that LEWIS KEMPER will have no liability regarding the provision of medical care or adequacy of any care that may be rendered.

I am voluntarily participating in these activities with knowledge of the dangers involved and hereby agree to accept any and all risk including injury and death.

AS LAWFUL CONSIDERATION for the agreement with LEWIS KEMPER to participate in such trips and activities, I hereby agree that I will not make a claim against LEWIS KEMPER or sue for bodily injury, emotional trauma, death, and/or property damage resulting from negligence or other acts, however caused, as a result of participation in the trip. I therefore release and discharge LEWIS KEMPER and his agents and employees from all claims, actions and demands that may have bodily injury, death or property damage arising from participation in the trip.

This release of Liability of Risk agreement is entered into on behalf of all members of participant's family, including any accompanying minors. This agreement is binding on participant's heirs, legal representatives and assigns. If any portion of this agreement is unenforceable, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect. Under no circumstances shall LEWIS KEMPER be liable to any participant for more than \$500.00. All applications are subject to acceptance by LEWIS KEMPER. Upon payment/deposit for trip, this agreement shall be deemed to have been entered onto at Sacramento, California and shall be construed according to the laws of the State of California. In the unlikely event a legal dispute should arise, I agree the dispute shall exclusively be brought before the appropriate court in Sacramento County, California.

I have carefully read and do agree to all conditions as stated in the LEWIS KEMPER INFORMATION PACKET including conditions regarding cancellations and refunds. I have also carefully read this entire release of liability and assumption of risk and fully understand its contents.

Signature of Trip Participant: _____

Date: _____