

Salton Sea Photo Safari with Sandi Wheaton, May 3, 2024

The Salton Sea, California's largest lake, was formed by accident in 1905 by an engineering mishap during irrigation of the Imperial Valley. Over time, this desert lake has been a hotbed for sports fishing, a recreational area boasting more visitors than Yosemite, an important wetland for migratory birds - and more recently, a haven for artists. The sea's decaying ruins, plentiful birdlife, intriguing off-the-grid culture, and gorgeous light have made it something of a Mecca for photographers.

Sandi Wheaton has been traveling to the Salton Sea annually to document its constantly changing landscape since 2004, and knows exactly where the great places are for interesting photographs. Your tour will start with coffee/tea and a slideshow at Bombay Soleil (Sandi's studio in Bombay Beach), introducing you to the area, its history, and the sites you will be visiting. You will then head out to explore and photograph the east shores and discover inspiring art sites like Leonard Knight's Salvation Mountain (featured in the movie "Into the Wild"), East Jesus sculpture garden, and the growing art community of Bombay Beach. At the end of the day, you will spend time capturing sunset among the beautiful natural landscapes and seascapes along the southeast shores of the Salton Sea.