

TOUR #2925 - Early Morning Crane Photography - November 9, 2025

TOUR DATE: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2025

TIME: 5:45 – 7:45 a.m.

DESCRIPTION: Join this tour for an opportunity to photograph Sandhill Cranes and other birds in the early dawn. The tour is designed for experienced photographers with a basic knowledge of their camera (aperture, shutter speed and ISO). If you are interested in learning more about how to capture high quality images in low light and fog, with the challenges of early morning set ups, this is the tour for you. Your guide will cover topics such as composition and framing, the effects of lighting, birds and their early morning behaviors, and exposure selections.

DIRECTIONS TO THE TOUR: This tour takes place at Staten Island. Travel West from Interstate 5 on Walnut Grove Road about 4 miles and turn left on Staten Island Road. (When you cross the Mokelumne River you are only a few hundred yards from Staten Island Road.) If you cross the Mokelumne River a second time, you went too far.

Driving north on Interstate 5.

1. Drive north 9 miles past the Highway 12/Lodi exit to the Thornton/Walnut Grove exit.
2. Exit and turn left under the freeway.
3. Drive west 3.5 miles to Staten Island Road and turn left. (You will know you are almost to Staten Island Road when you cross the Mokelumne River. If you cross the river for a second time, you went too far.)
4. Drive south on Staten Island Road a short distance
5. Check in with your guide at the Kiosk/information board across the street from the large grain silos 5:50 a.m.

Driving south on Interstate 5.

1. Drive south 4 miles past the Twin Cities Road exit to the Thornton/Walnut Grove exit.
2. Exit and turn right.
3. Drive west 3.5 miles to Staten Island Road and turn left. (You will know you are almost to Staten Island Road when you cross the Mokelumne River. If you cross the river for a second time, you went too far.)
4. Drive south on Staten Island Road a short distance
5. Check in with your guide at the Kiosk/information board across the street from the large grain silos 5:30 a.m.

INSTRUCTIONS: Plan extra time to arrive because it will be dark and possibly rainy, or foggy. Don't forget to bring a flashlight with a red lens.

DRIVE TIME: The drive time from Hutchins Street Square in Lodi, California to this tour is approximately 30 minutes.

LANDS PASS: No Lands Pass is required for this tour

TRANSPORTATION: You will drive your own personal vehicle

CHECK-IN: Check in with your guide at the Information Kiosk across from the grain silo on Staten Road at 5:30 am. Plan extra time to arrive because it will be dark and possibly rainy, or foggy.

NOTE: This tour takes place during the harvest season. Large trucks and farm equipment will be on the road. Use extreme caution and be aware of your surroundings.