

Reserve Eclipse Night

1/20/19

Although types of equipment and photographing strategies for lunar eclipses are almost limitless, tonight we'll be focusing on using DSLRs to capture the Moon during totality. However please feel free to bring other types of cameras and we'll give those a try as well. Because of the low light conditions, the only limit is that the camera will allow at least several seconds of exposure. Since totality lasts one hour, you'll have time to try whatever equipment you bring.

- Suggested Equipment List
 - Headlamp with a red lens.
 - DSLR Camera
 - Fully charged battery and back-ups.
 - Sturdy Tripod (tracking capability would be a bonus).
 - Wide Angle lens. 18mm – 35mm recommended for including landscape.
 - Telephoto lens. 70mm – 300mm recommended.
 - Wired or remote cable release or camera self timer.
- Hints
 - Be familiar with how to operate your camera at night with only the light from your headlamp. Buttons that are easy to find in daylight can be difficult at night.
 - If you don't have a headlamp, a small flashlight is okay as long as it has several layers of red cellophane attached. Stray bright lights will not only interfere with your night vision, but can interfere with your exposure and those around you.
 - Assemble your set-up in your backyard prior to the event and take practice shots of the Moon. Although settings during the eclipse will be far different than a bright Moon, this is a useful exercise to become familiar with the process.
 - Focusing at night is problematic. For telephoto lenses, using auto focus on the Moon and switching to manual generally works. For wide angle lenses, auto focusing during daylight hours, switching to manual and then taping the focus ring so it doesn't move in transit is an option.
 - We'll be working with low light levels and a Moon that is moving, so the faster the lens (widest aperture/smallest f stop) the better.