

Death Valley temperatures can reach 120° in mid-summer. Late November is the earliest in the season that you can expect cool days. December through mid-March are usually the best months to visit. April can bring 100° days again. Christmas holidays and the President's Birthday holidays in February, are usually the busiest times in the valley. Make your lodging reservations well in advance.

Scotty's Castle is interesting for the tourists but not worth too much time for the photographer.

Parts of Rhyolite are being closed up and fenced off by a mining company. The Bottle House is closed but the ruins of the bank, hotel, and school are still great subjects in the late afternoon light.

Eureka Dunes are best visited late in the day for the best light. A 4x4 is needed if you want to drive around the dunes to shoot from the southeast side.

Titus Canyon is a one-way 4x4 road to toward the west. Watch for the Indian petroglyphs a mile beyond the Leadville ruins.

Walk out on the west end of the dunes and follow the ridges toward the east. Start about 30 minutes before the sun rises.

BEATTY



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Watch for the Cotton Top Cactus on the north side of the Daylight Pass Road. Afternoon light is best.

AMARGOSA VALLEY

TO LAS VEGAS

It's a long, rough 4x4 road to The Racetrack but the all-day trip is worthwhile, if you arrive for the late afternoon light striking the "Grand Stand." Look for the tracks of the "moving rocks."

STOVE PIPE WELLS VILLAGE

Zabriskie Point is the second-best place to photograph a Death Valley sunrise. After sunrise, walk the trail down into Golden Canyon. Allow an hour for this easy, down-hill trek.

Mosaic Canyon is near Stove Pipe Wells and is an easy walk from the parking lot. The colors are most vivid after a rain.

FURNACE CREEK

The contrast on the Artist's Palette is better if you follow the trail into the wash and up the canyon for a side view.

PANAMINT SPRINGS

Drive out onto the salt flats on the West Side Road. Use a wide-angle lens and look towards the north.

DEATH VALLEY JUNCTION

NEVADA CALIFORNIA

The charcoal kilns above the Wildrose Pass Road face the south and look good in morning and afternoon light.

Badwater is best shot at sunrise when the first light strikes Telescope Peak and the Panamint Range. Use a wide-angle and move in close to the edge of the pond.

Dantes View is a must for a sunset photograph of the Valley. Walk out to the point SW of the parking area and wait for the sun to reach the western horizon.

SHOSHONE

TO BAKER, CALIF.

Stay at Stove Pipe Wells Village, either at the motel or the campground for several days if you want to photograph the sand dunes at sunrise. Stay at Furnace Creek if you want to photograph Zabriskie Point and the southern parts of Death Valley. Allow 30 minutes driving time from Stove Pipe Wells to Zabriskie Point. There is a new MOTEL 6 in Beatty, Nevada. Plan a 7-day trip to see and photograph all of Death Valley. A 3-day trip is a minimum visit to photograph the place.

Photograph Death Valley