



PAA News and Updates

Photographic Alliance of America (PAA)

By Joanne Stolte, HonFPSA, MPSA, EFIAP, ESFIAP, HonFPAA

President, Photographic Alliance of America • FIAP Liaison Officer for the United States of America

PAA Website: paausa.org

FIAP News Includes PAA Member Photo Recommendations

The quarterly FIAP News includes mini articles that recommend a setting someplace in the world that provides photographic opportunities. Each issue of the FIAP News since August 2021 has included a mini article by a PAA member sharing a photo opportunity location in the USA. Four of these articles were described in the May 2022 PAA article, three were included in the April 2023 PAA article, and three were included in the January 2024 PAA article in the *PSA Journal*.

In the February 2024 issue of the FIAP News **Donna Hom, MPSA, AFIAP**, of Alameda, CA, explored photographing San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge.

Also in the February 2024 issue was an article by **Lisa Marie Cirincione, PPSA, AFIAP**, of State

College, PA, where she

described the photography opportunities around Canton, Ohio, including the American Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Larry Cowles, HonPSA, GMPSA/P, GPSA, EFIAP/d3, of Sun City West, AZ, described photographing Nelson Ghost Town, just south of Las Vegas, NV, in the February 2025 FIAP News.

Past issues of the FIAP News are linked from the FIAP web site at: fiap.net/en/fiap-news and previous PAA member recommendation articles are in the first gallery on the PAA website at paausa.org/fiap-news.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The World-Famous Golden Gate Bridge, USA

By Donna Hom, AFIAP, MPSA

The Golden Gate Bridge was described in Frommer's Travel Guide as "possibly the most beautiful, certainly the most photographed, bridge in the world." It is in San Francisco, California. When the bridge was opened to the public in 1937, it was the longest and tallest suspension bridge in the world. The two towers of the bridge are 746 feet in height, and street level is 500 feet above the water.

There are various locations where you can take beautiful photos of the Golden Gate Bridge: Hawk Hill, Golden Gate Overlook, Battery Spencer, Marshall's Beach, Baker Beach, Christy Field, Fort Point, Kirby Cove, and the Presidio Tunnel Tops is a natural park built on and around the Presidio Parkway (tunnel) to Alamo a few.

The best time to take photos of the Golden Gate Bridge are the golden hour, blue hour, and when the fog is about 550 feet above the water. During the golden hour, the soft light shines upon the bridge with the background of the San Francisco skyline. During the blue hour, the city of San Francisco is lit up as well as the lights on the Golden Gate Bridge.

Photo opportunities vary depending on the location from which the photo is taken. From Marshall's beach, you may get the bridge reflection if it is low tide and the water is relatively calm. A 500-step hike is required for this. If you are in the Presidio Tunnel Tops, you will get the car trails leading to the bridge. This would require approximately a two-mile hike one way. During the first weekend of October of each year, it is Fleet Week in the San Francisco Bay Area. When the Blue Angels (U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron) fly through the Golden Gate Bridge, it is another beautiful scene for the Golden Gate Bridge. Getting the sunrise and moonrise near the Golden Gate Bridge is also an interesting scene. From Hawk Hill, you can do both depending on the months of the year. You can get the moonrise near the bridge in July or August, and the sunrise at any time with weather permitting.



Golden Gate Bridge from Hawk Hill



Golden Gate Bridge from Presidio Tunnel Tops

RECOMMENDATIONS

Canton, Ohio, the Home of the American Pro Football Hall of Fame, USA

By Lisa Marie Cirincione, AFIAP, GPSA

If you are a fan of American Football, then Canton, Ohio is your Mecca. The birthplace of the National Football League (NFL) and the home of the Pro Football Hall of Fame, Canton is visited year-round by football fans of all ages. Officially opened in 1963, it has grown by leaps and bounds since then. Each August, the Pro Football Enshrinement kicks off the NFL season celebrating new inductees to the Hall of Fame, with a Festival Balloon Classic, the first professional football game of the season and a ceremony inducting new members into the Hall of Fame.

The Enshrinement Festival is a highlight during the weekend before the game. It features a world-class hot-air Balloon Classic, attracting ballooneers from all over the USA. It spans a full weekend, and there are usually three morning flights and fantastic fireworks. Weather permitting, there are also two night glows: A night glow is when the hot-air balloons are blown up and lit from within. They are tethered to the ground. It is a beautiful display of the balloons all lit up. Over 130,000 spectators are said to enjoy the festival. It is located on the Kent State Stark Campus. The Festival also includes a parade, a fun run and a photo contest.



Balloon Glow

Canton was also the home of the 25th U.S. President, William McKinley. His life and presidency are commemorated with the McKinley National Memorial and the William McKinley Presidential Library and Museum.

The Canton Museum of Art was established in the 1920s and focuses on 19th and 20th century artworks, specifically works on paper and ceramic arts. The city's art district, located downtown, has a tremendous amount of interesting outdoor sculptures and murals.

An American photographer and essayist, James H. Kavan, (1920-2002) was from Canton. He was an assignment for *Look Magazine* during the voting march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, in March 1965. His single best-known image is the iconic photograph of the Selma to Montgomery march showing people proudly marching along the highway under a cloudy turbulent sky.



NFL Draft sculpture downtown

Canton is located on the edge of Ohio's Amish Country. It is reachable from a few airports, 10 miles from Akron-Canton (CAK), 60 miles from Cleveland Hopkins International (CLE), 79 miles from Pittsburgh International (PIT) and 130 miles from Columbus International (CMH).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Nelson Ghost Town, USA

By Larry Cowles, FIAP/d3

When traveling to other countries, we generally have an itinerary that includes some of the more well known and much photographed locations, but we are always on the lookout for those lesser-known locations. If you ever visit Las Vegas, Nevada, consider a trip to Nelson Ghost Town. When you get tired of photographing the action, glitz and lights of the Las Vegas Strip, you should get out of the city and visit this exciting mining town.

It's an easy 45 minute drive from downtown Las Vegas taking Highway 11. At Boulder City, head south on Highway 95 into the desert which passes the Hoover Dam and several large solar energy farms where solar panels stretch for miles along the desert. Go another 22 miles to Highway 165 for the road to Nelson on the left.

This area is part of El Dorado Canyon that lies along the Colorado River separating Arizona from Nevada. Spaniards first found gold in this area as early as 1775. Large numbers of miners started coming here in the mid 1800's. The Teichert Mine opened about 1861 with over 10 million dollars of gold, silver, copper and lead being dug out of the ground between 1864-1900. As the shipments diminished, the mine was closed in the 1840's and Nelson along with other mining towns became deserted. In 1994, Tony and Bobbie Wierly bought the 50-acre property and cleaned it up, opening it as a ghost town. Several of the original buildings still stand including a general store, gas station, bars and an old church. You can find old mining equipment, trucks, cars and even a couple of old crashed airplanes that were used in a movie, 7000 miles to Gaoiliang, one of several movies that were filmed here. The mine is open for tours. The general store acts as the office where you can pay the small fee to photograph. Be sure to visit all the rooms full of antiques that can be photographed.

The landscape around the town has views of rugged mountains and desert. Be careful as you walk among the cacti. Cholla Cactus, known as jumping cactus has spines that really don't jump, but a very slight brush against them and you will be taking home an unwanted souvenir.

Nelson is open daily from 9am-9pm (office closes at 5pm). The best time for a visit is from September - April as summers can be very hot with temperatures reaching 110 degrees (43 C). A car is the best way to get there. Several tour companies offer a tour of the town and mine.

You can get more information at <https://thelivingghosttown.com/>



Gas Station



Nelson Desert Overview

For information regarding the Photographic Alliance of America (PAA): paausa.org

Like PAA on Facebook: Photographic Alliance of America