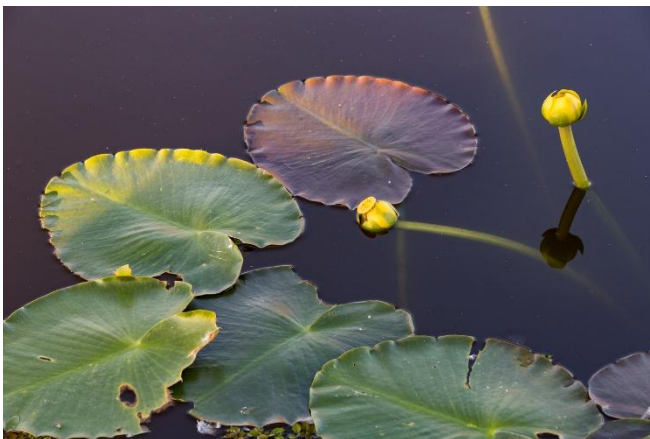


Caddo Lake Fall Color
Dallas Camera Club Field Trip
November 7-9, 2025

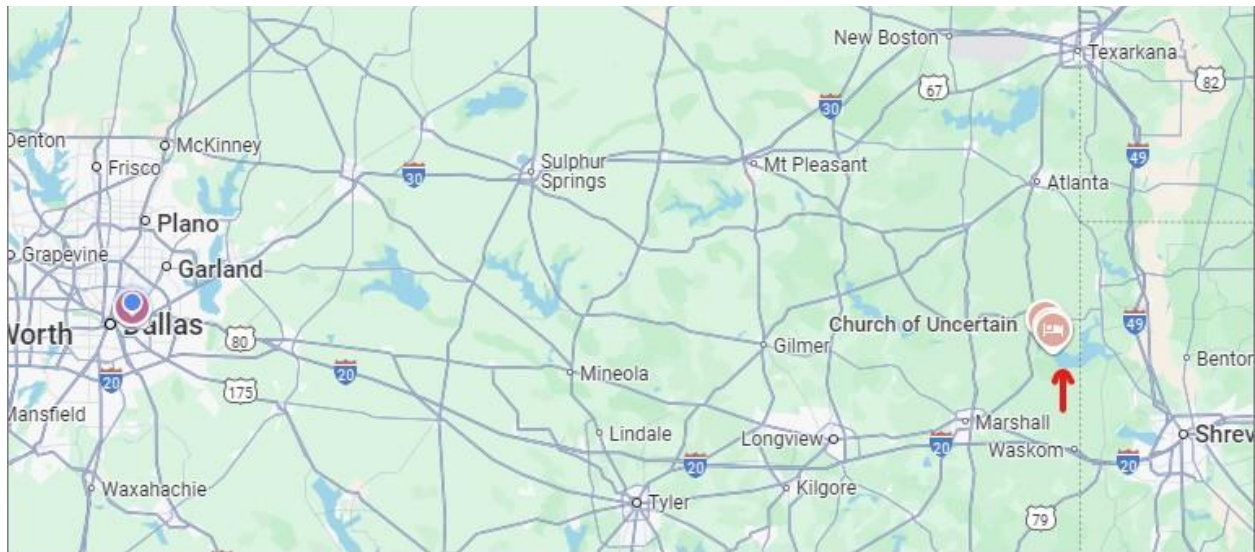
The Dallas Camera Club is going to Caddo Lake this year for its annual Fall Color field trip. It has been almost 10 years since the club last visited Caddo Lake, so many members may not be familiar with the lake. Here is a short introduction. For more details, see the links at the end.

Caddo Lake is one of Texas' few natural lakes. Some say the only one. It is also one of 27 wetlands in the US recognized by Ramsar Convention. Lodging and boat rentals are centered around the tiny town of Uncertain, Texas, population less than 100. Caddo Lake is on the Texas–Louisiana border about 3 hours east of Dallas. It has diverse aquatic plant life and wildlife in a bald cypress swamp with a bottomland hardwood forest. It is home to 190 species of trees and shrubs, 22 species of amphibians, 47 mammal species and more than 220 kinds of birds. Over 40 of the native bird species are endangered. Here are a few photos from around the lake.

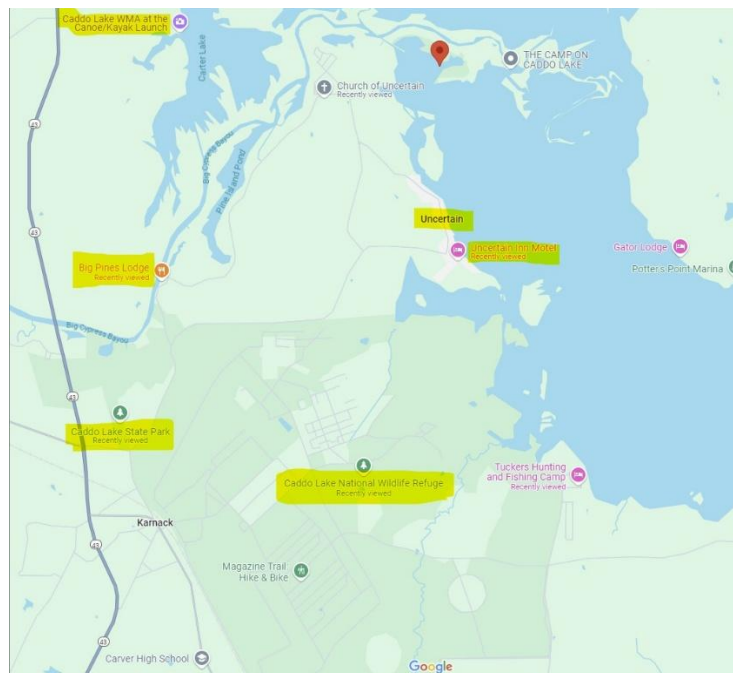




Where is Caddo Lake – The red arrow points to Caddo Lake. Uncertain, Tx is 170 miles from Dallas taking I20 and it takes about 3 hours to get there.



What is there to do - The area around Uncertain is shown in more detail below. The main attraction is photographing from a boat out on the lake. There are other interesting things around Uncertain to check out during the day on Saturday or coming or going. These include canoeing or kayaking on the lake, the shoreline around Uncertain, Caddo Lake State Park, Caddo Lake State Wildlife Management Area, Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge, and Jefferson, TX.



Activities – Our field trip revolves around photo boat cruises at sunrise (6:40 am) and sunset (5:20 pm). The big picture plan is below. We will put times on these activities as we get closer to the field trip.

- Friday Nov 7
 - Travel
 - Sunset photo boat cruise (2 hr)
- Saturday Nov 8
 - Sunrise photo boat cruise (3 hr)
 - Free time
 - Sunset photo boat cruise (3 hr)
 - Group dinner after sunset cruise
- Sunday Nov 9
 - Sunrise photo boat cruise (2 hr)
 - Travel

Fall color is becoming a really big deal at Caddo with photographers coming from all over the US. Groups are already booking lodging and boats. So, we have had to do the same.

Photo Boats - The club has booked 3 boats which will hold a total of 22 photographers. These will be available for all 4 scheduled cruises on a first come basis. If the need exists, we will try to find more boats. The boats are 20', 22' and 24' pontoon boats. We are limiting the number of photographers to 6, 8 and 8 respectively so that you have room use tripods and monopods and to move around. The 22' boat fee is \$40 per hour per person and the other two are \$50. Boats will all leave from, or near to, the Johnson Ranch Marina.

We ask you to signup via email to f-richards@sbcglobal.net indicating which cruises you would like to take along with the names of photographers and guests. Spaces will be allocated in the order that you sign up. A waitlist will be maintained and we will attempt to get additional boats if needed.

Lodging – There are only two small motels in Uncertain which describe themselves as lodges, inns or resorts. There are a few 2 to 5 unit “motels” as well. The State Park also has cabins and campgrounds (these can only be booked 5 months in advance). Other cabins and houses in town are available as well. **You will need to make you own arrangements for your party.**

We have blocked out 8 rooms at the Uncertain Lodge and Inn – Roadside unit, 903-789-3292. Each room has one or two beds. The rooms rent for \$100 per night due when you check-in (\$90 if you pay cash) and a one-time cleaning fee of \$25. The motel is about a half mile down highway 2198 from Johnson Ranch marina. To reserve a room, call the owner, Kieth, at the number above and tell him that you would like one of the rooms he is holding for Frank Richards. You will need to make a \$100 deposit to reserve the room.

The other “motel” is Shady Glade Resort, 903-789-3295, which is about a quarter-mile down the road from Johnson Ranch Marina. It has a 5-room motel. All rooms have 2 beds. In addition, 9 or so more units on the property are a hodge podge of converted travel trailers and small cabins. Lots of character and comfortable. These rooms run from \$100 to 150 per night.

Dinner – We have reservations at the Big Pines Lodge just outside of Uncertain on Saturday evening after the sunset photo cruise. This is the only place in the immediate area that can accommodate our party and they have darn good catfish.

Bottomline – We are going to Caddo Lake November 7-9, 2025. We have 3 pontoon boats reserved that can accommodate a total of 22 photographers. Lodging accommodations will fill up long before November. Most of the motels and cottages have pretty reasonable cancellation policies, so book early if you are planning to go. I will keep you informed as more information is available.

Links to more information

[Caddo Lake](#) - Wikipedia

[Uncertain, TX](#)

[Uncertain Lodge and Inn](#)

[Shady Glade Resort](#)

[Johnson Ranch Marina](#)

[Caddo Lake State Park](#)

[Caddo Lake Wildlife Management Area](#)

[Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge](#)

[Jefferson, TX](#)