

Solar Eclipse 2024 – Once in a Lifetime Event

Speaking Notes - 20240205 1057

- I. Introduction - Solar Eclipse 2024- Once in a Lifetime Event – Open (SLIDE)
 - a. Next total solar eclipse over US - (SLIDE)
 - i. 2045 – 21 years
 - ii. No where near the magnitude of this eclipse
 - iii. Eclipses 375 years same path (think 1649) - 2399
 - b. Next lunar eclipse is March 25
 - i. A lunar eclipse occurs about two weeks before or after a solar eclipse.
 - ii. As photographers, why are we not excited?
- II. Where?
 - a. Walmart parking lot (SLIDE)
 - b. Where you are located (SLIDE)
 - i. Why – one reason only - weather (SLIDE)
 - c. Understand the Length (SLIDE)
 - i. Kaufman – Ground Zero (SLIDE)
 - ii. 200 miles – SW or NE – Sunrise 7am
 - d. Understand the Width (SLIDE)
 - e. Understand Time (SLIDE)
 - i. Totality Time
- III. Equipment
 - a. Travel check list (SLIDE)
 - b. Base equipment needed (SLIDE)
 - c. Which Lens?
 - i. Teleconverters \ Extenders (SLIDE)
 - ii. Solar filters (SLIDE)
 - iii. Solar glasses (SLIDE)
 - d. Camera settings
 - i. Portrait or landscape (SLIDE)
 1. L-bracket
 2. Lens foot-turn
 - ii. Manual or Aperture – Totality (SLIDE)
 1. Best practice
 - a. No filter (have pocket ready to hold)
 - b. ISO – native
 - c. Aperture – wide open or wide open +2 f/stops
 - d. Speed – bracket starting at 1 second – move toward 1/1000. If you need to start over, first take a picture of

your hand close to the lens and when finished, repeat the hand picture.

- e. You will screw this up – practice the motions with camera set to 65 degrees from chair set up in your living room days before the event.

IV. Practice

- a. Eclipse Simulator (SLIDE)
- b. Equipment setup (SLIDE)
- c. Just do it! (SLIDE)
 - i. Several days before, but especially the day before the event, run a calibration test on the “un-eclipsed” sun between noon to 2pm.
 - ii. ISO is set to native on your camera
 - iii. Aperture stays constant. Set between f8 and f16. If you are using a long lens, may I suggest a wide-open aperture + 2 f/stops.
 - iv. Experiment with shutter speeds starting at 4000 and work backwards, down to 50. If you need to start over, first take a picture of your hand close to the lens and when finished, repeat the hand picture.
 - v. Winner – histogram should not be clipped but lie toward the upper end of brightness values. You now have your aperture, speed and ISO for the less than totality image.

V. Post Processing – Workflow (SLIDE)

- a. Upload, Import, Presets - “R” Crop
- b. Auto – No
- c. Start with Black to the left
- d. White to the right
- e. Contrast to the right
- f. Highlights to the right
- g. Dehaze to the left

VI. Why you need 2 cameras (SLIDE)

VII. Parting Thought (SLIDE)

VIII. Questions (SLIDE)

IX. Resources(SLIDE)

- a. Eclipse Simulator - [Interactive map for the 2024 Eclipse Simulator | Eclipse2024.org](https://www.eclipse2024.org)
- b. PPC Sight
- c. [SE-Exposure1w.GIF \(759×949\) \(mreclipse.com\)](https://www.mreclipse.com)

Please note – speaking notes are not comprehensive