

Happy New Year !!!

We have so much to be thankful here at Jim Cline Photo Tours – what a year it has been! We would like to thank all of you who joined us on our photo journeys around the world, and so many of you for returning on trips with us. We had 62 return participants on our trips in 2011!

Every year we strive to make our trips better and better – this is why we run many of the same trips over and over again, and maintain our small group sizes.

Earlier this year I visited Cuba and here is the first of my galleries from there – these are some images from the city of Havana – definitely a better experience if you view them with some good Cuban music playing: To see the gallery go to www.jimcline.com/havana2011 or click on the image below:



Havana Taxi Driver

Tour Participant News

Lou Montrose was named Travel Photographer of the Year!

The Royal Geographic Society named Lou *Travel Photographer of the Year*. One of Lou's two winning portfolios was his B&W work from his 2 trips to the *Day of the Dead in Oaxaca* with Jim. To see the story with images <u>click here</u>

Freedom From Hunger

As you probably know, Karl works extensively on photo assignments for humanitarian organizations such as *Freedom From Hunger*, and I do occasionally. These experiences are tremendously fulfilling, <u>Freedom From Hunger</u> and everyone who works for them are truly inspiring – our images are featured in their 2012 calendar – to view the calendar <u>click here</u>

Also in an excellent article about a couple of their hard-working educators - to view click here

Tours – Winter / Early Spring of 2012

Thailand, Laos & Cambodia with Karl Grobl, Jan 19 – Feb 3, 2012

Trip full, waitlist available (2013 Interest List Forming)

From Thailand's beautiful temples, bustling floating markets, and fascinating hill tribes, to the authentic traditional cultures of **Luang Prabang** in Laos, an extended boat trip down the **Mekong River** with an overnight stay along its banks, and the mystical **Angkor Wat** in Cambodia, this trip has it all.

To see Karl's slide show video of the 2009 tour go to http://www.karlgrobl.com/SoutheastAsia2009/index.html

As Recommended in the 2009 Frommer's Central America guidebook (p 177)

<u>Guatemala, the Living Maya</u>, with Jim Cline February 3 – 13, 2012 Trip full, waitlist available (2013 Interest List forming)

This trip is not to be missed; it's one of the most beautiful areas to photograph (and one of my personal favorites). We'll visit the colonial gem of Antigua, the beautiful Lake Atitlan ringed by traditional villages, the famous Mayan market at Chichicastenango, and several less-visited villages outside of Quetzaltenango, I have many friends in the Mayan villages and we will have photo opportunities that other tourists never have.

To view a gallery of Jim's images from the 2007 tour go to http://www.jimcline.com/guatemala2007/index.htm

<u>Amazing Myanmar (Burma)</u>, Feb 14 – 28, with Karl Grobl Trip full, waitlist available

Join Humanitarian Photojournalist Karl Grobl and discover the Golden Land, perhaps the least discovered country in Southeast Asia. This journey includes visits to Yangon's Schwedegon Pagoda, the ancient city of Bagan where the landscape is dotted with more than one thousand temples, Inle Lake where we will photograph local fishermen, bustling local markets and lakeside life seemingly unchanged for centuries.

To see Karl's slide show video of the 2008 tour go to <u>www.karlgrobl.com/Burma2008/index.html</u> To see testimonials from Karl's recent 2009 tour <u>click here</u>

<u>Vietnam Explorer</u> with Karl Grobl, March 20 – April 3, 2012 Trip full, waitlist available (2013 Interest List forming)

Vietnam is truly one of the few "authentic" destinations left in this modern ever-homogenizing world. With its amazing diversity and rich cultural history, Vietnam offers the adventurous traveler a unique opportunity to experience and photograph an exciting mix of landscapes, people, places, philosophies, cuisines, crafts, and religions.

Trip leader Karl Grobl

Karl is actually taking a break from the road for a few weeks before he heads back out to work more assignments and to lead 3 tours – *Thailand, Laos & Cambodia, Myanmar*, and *Vietnam*. These trips are all booked full, but the Interest Lists are forming for 2013!

> He has been busy adding many terrific blogs to his site – check them out at www.karlgrobl.com/blog

Tours & Workshops Late Spring / Summer of 2012

Peru, Machu Picchu & the Sacred Valley of the Incas May 2 – 12, 2012 with Jim Cline – *Trip full* May 16 – 26, 2012 with Jim Cline –spaces available The first trip booked up so early, I've added a second trip. May is the best time to visit the highlands of Peru.





Peru is truly an amazing photography destination with colonial cities and mystical Inca ruins situated high in the Andes, with friendly people in their colorful markets with traditional clothing. I know this area very well and have many friends to photograph, as I've been there 12 times in the past 8 years! **To see the testimonials from the recent 2011 trip <u>click here</u>.** To see images from this trip go to <u>http://www.jimcline.com/perumay2006/index.htm</u> or <u>http://www.jimcline.com/peru04/index.htm</u>



Karl discovered wonderful scenic areas with beautiful rice paddies, old Spanish colonial cities, picturesque beaches, and the wonderful photo-friendly people. Additionally, he uncovered some wonderful photo opportunities in the bustling Philippines capital, Manila. **To see the video Karl produced from this past year's tour go to** <u>http://www.jimclinephotoworkshops.com/2010/01/philippines-photo-tour</u> and click on *"Multimedia"*. To see a beautiful book produced by participant Ruti Alon, which contains images from all of the

participants, go to <u>http://www.blurb.com/books/2435827</u>. To see some great testimonials from the 2011 tour go to http://www.jimclinephotoworkshops.com/philippines-testimonials

<u>Angkor Photo Workshop</u> July 16 – 30, 2012 with Karl Grobl, Matt Brandon, Gavin Gough & Marco Ryan *Spaces Available*



The hybrid "Workshop / photo tour" is a combination of a workshop and photo tour experience, aimed at those of you who want more of an intensive classroom type experience, in a setting that allows for fantastic photo opportunities. This past year's workshop was a big success, and the instructors are excited to run it again in 2012!

To see testimonials from the 2011 workshop <u>click here</u>. To see a write-up in an online travel magazine on this workshop <u>click here</u>.

Tours – Fall of 2011

<u>Amazing Myanmar (Burma)</u>, Sep 11 – 25, 2012, with Karl Grobl Trip full, waitlist available

Join Humanitarian Photojournalist Karl Grobl and discover the Golden Land, perhaps the least discovered country in Southeast Asia. This journey includes visits to Yangon's Schwedegon Pagoda, the ancient city of Bagan where the landscape is dotted with more than one thousand temples, Inle Lake where we will photograph local fishermen, bustling local markets and lakeside life seemingly unchanged for centuries.

To see Karl's slide show video of the 2008 tour go to <u>www.karlgrobl.com/Burma2008/index.html</u> To see testimonials from Karl's recent 2009 tour <u>click here</u>

Bhutan & Nepal, Oct 22 – Nov 4, 2012, with Karl Grobi Trip full, waitlist available (2013 Interest List Forming)

The Kingdom of Bhutan, the "Land of the Thunder Dragon", remains one of the last places on earth where you can experience true Himalayan culture, seemingly unchanged for centuries. Nepal is a land of yaks and yetis, stupas and Sherpas and the home of 3 great mini-kingdoms of the Kathmandu Valley. The tour has been timed to coincide with a prime festival season in Bhutan.

Day of the Dead in Oaxaca, Oct 28 – Nov 5, 2012, with Jim Cline 3 spaces available!



This trip is a personal favorite – this will be my 14th straight year photographing in Oaxaca during the Day of the Dead celebrations!!! Many other companies have now jumped on the bandwagon, bringing large groups, but I have a more intimate knowledge of this amazing celebration, and now how to find the action and chase the light there like no one else – and I keep my group size small. We'll be photographing the parties in several village cemeteries, as well as colorful parades, spectacular colonial architecture, Zapotec pyramids, indigenous markets, traditional dance performances, and the daily life of Oaxaca.

To see a gallery of Jim's images from the 2011 tour go to <u>www.jimcline.com/oaxaca11</u> To see testimonials from this trip <u>click here</u>.

We have had several people attend this trip, who liked it so much they came back on it again another year.

<u>Chiapas, Mexico: The Mayan World</u> November 10 – 19, 2012, with Jim Cline 2 spaces available!





I will be leading this trip again to my favorite area in Mexico. We'll photograph Mayan pyramids, the current day descendents of the Mayans with their weaving traditions, turquoise rivers and wildlife (hopefully crocodiles), waterfalls, and the beautiful colonial city of San Cristobal de las Casas. To see a gallery of my images from there go to www.jimcline.com/chiapas To see a gallery of images from the 2008 tour go to www.jimcline.com/chiapasnov08

<u>India: Pushkar & Rajasthan</u> November 14 – 28, 2012, with Karl Grobl (Interest List available)



This is a trip of a lifetime to one of the most photo friendly locations on earth – one not to be missed! To see Karl's terrific slide show video of the 2008 tour go to www.karlgrobl.com/India2008/index.html

New Member of our Team – Kat Miner!

Kat Miner has recently joined the Jim Cline Photo Tours team. She's been helping us with many of the tour logistics including handling emails, working with our tour operators, and much, much more. In addition to her administrative skills, Kat is also a skilled photographer and has been making photos for more than 25 years. Her work was recently featured on the cover of the Polish magazine, "Hiro" and in a recently published coffee table book about Catalina Island where several of her images were featured. She is passionate about sharing photography with others and has taught privately for several years. Karl and I met Kat years ago when we all won awards in the *San Diego County Fair International Exhibition of Photography*. When she's not working for us, Kat does freelance photography work for a local newspaper. We're excited and grateful to have her on board as part of our team. You can see samples of her work on her website at www.seethingsdifferently.com.

We now have a Jim Cline Photo Tours Facebook Group Page – check it out! <u>Our Facebook</u> <u>Group Page</u>

We're in Rough Guides!

We are already listed in *Moon Handbooks* and *Frommer's guidebooks*. Now we have been written up in *Rough Guides* as well!

See our write-up here

"The Coolest Tours on Earth"- Could be true? ©

There was recently a write-up on our tours, and specifically Karl's upcoming Angkor Photo Workshop in the online magazine, Argophilia Travel News Here's the story, check it out! : <u>http://www.argophilia.com/news/angkor-photo-workshop/22623</u> *"The Sum of All Coolness"*, you gotta love it !!! Since this article went up, I've found it on various other travel websites as well!

More Published Work

I have created a webpage with links to some of my published work (and a couple of articles about me): www.jimcline.com/Tearsheets.htm I'm about 2 years behind, I'll try to update it soon!

Testimonials!

Karl and I are very proud of the testimonials we've received – I hope you'll take a look at what some of our participants have had to say about our tours. I still have a lot more to add to the list: <u>http://www.jimcline.com/PhotoTours/testimonials1.html</u>

To see a partial list of our testimonials from 2008 go to http://www.jimcline.com/Testimonials%202008.pdf

Recent Newsletters (click on month to view):

November 2011 September 2011 June 2011 March 2011 December 2010 September 2010 July 2010 April 2010 March 2010 January 2010 December 2009 October 2009 September 2009 August 2009 June 2009 May 2009 **April 2009** January 2009 December 2008 October 2008 September 2008 August 2008 July 2008 June 2008 May 2008 April 2008 February 2008

"The journey not the arrival matters" T.S. Eliot

If you would like to be added to our Newsletter List send an e-mail to <u>Jim@JimCline.com</u>

If you don't want to receive our newsletters reply to this email and type "remove" in the subject line.

JIM CLINE PHOTO TOURS

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