

Westchester Photographic Society

Field Trip

Rhinebeck, NY

Saturday, August 15, 2009 2:00 pm



The Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome is a true "living" museum of antique aviation located in Rhinebeck, New York. It presents one of the largest collections of early aeroplanes in the world, many of which regularly take to the air in all their glory during our weekend airshows. The Aerodrome features aeroplanes, automobiles, motorcycles, early engines and memorabilia from 1900-1935. In addition to the airshows, there are four museum buildings displaying aircraft from the Pioneer Era, World War I and the Lindbergh/Barnstorming era. These were the golden years of aviation.

The weekend air shows are scheduled from mid-June through mid-October. On these weekends (weather permitting), the Aerodrome turns back the hands of time and relives the years of early aviation. The colorful era of early aviation is brought back to life amidst the roar of rotary engines and is great entertainment for all ages.

The Saturday Shows chronicle the History of Flight with Pioneer, World War I and Lindbergh era aircraft taking to the skies. If the winds are calm you'll even see their 1909 Bleriot (the oldest flying aircraft in the United States) take to the air. The Sunday Shows feature a World War I dogfight plus Barnstorming Aircraft and you will never forget the Flying Farmer created by world-renowned pilot, Stan Segalla.

This Saturday, 8/15/09, will also feature an annual art (and photography) show.

Barnstorming flights over the scenic Hudson Valley are available before and after the shows. Biplane rides are \$65.00/person - Rides take you over the beautiful Hudson River, the Kingston-Rhinecliff Bridge and back again. Flights are of course, " weather permitting" and the decision to fly is always left to the discretion of the pilot. Flights book quickly on a " first-come/ first-serve" basis, so sign up early

What to bring:

Camera Gear: Photo opportunities will present themselves in two ways. For dynamic shots of flying aircraft, with leather hooded pilots trailing long scarves, a 300 mm lens (or longer) will be ideal. The grass runway will be no more than 20-30 yards in front of the seating area and planes will not only take off and land on this strip, but they will fly low passes directly over it.

You will also have the opportunity to shoot close-up images of the planes before and after the airshow so a normal lens or low power zoom will also be helpful.

Clothing: You will be sitting out in direct sunlight so a hat and sunscreen are advisable. Dress according to the day's weather forecast but be aware that temperatures in Rhinebeck are likely to be up to 10° lower than in Westchester.

Directions: Taconic Parkway to exit for Route 199 Rhinebeck/Red Hook. Follow route 199 west for 6.8 miles. Turn left onto Orlich Road, then almost an immediate right onto Norton Road. The aerodrome will be approximately 1.5 miles. Parking is across the street from the airfield.

Admission Fee:

Admission is \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors 65+.

NOTE:

Since these planes are very fragile, most will not fly if the weather conditions are less than ideal. If all the planes aren't flying, it will be a disappointing day. Be sure to leave a phone number with Warren so that he may call all participants Saturday morning (by 10:30 am) if we are a no-go.

Please note, onsite parking is very limited so carpooling is advised.

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