

Booking the right time slot

The best time of day to photograph a desert home

Desert light does not behave like light anywhere else. Scheduling a shoot as though it does costs you the photographs you wanted.

EAST FACING

8am to 10:30am, earlier in summer

WEST FACING

3:30pm to 6pm, later in summer

TWILIGHT

\$200, a separate 20 minute visit after sunset

TIME ON SITE

60 to 90 minutes for most homes

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Which way does the front of the house face ☐ Is the backyard or the view the main selling point ☐ Is there a pool, and is it clean ☐ Does the property have exterior or landscape lighting ☐ Is the house tenanted, and what access hours are allowed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Are there HOA rules on photography or drones ☐ What is the listing go live date ☐ Is there a gate code or lockbox I will need ☐ Any rooms not being photographed ☐ Anything scheduled that day that would put cars on the driveway |
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QUICK ANSWERS

How long does a listing shoot take on site?

Most homes up to 3,000 sq ft take 60 to 90 minutes for interior and exterior coverage. Larger properties, or ones with a lot of outdoor space, run longer.

Can you shoot on a cloudy day?

Yes, and in the desert an overcast day is often easier than a clear one. Soft light removes the hard shadow problem entirely.

Is twilight photography worth the extra cost?

On a property with good exterior lighting, glass facing the yard, or a lit pool, it is usually the strongest image in the set. On a plain frontage with no landscape lighting, it adds less.

What if the schedule cannot work around the light?

It happens, particularly with tenanted properties. HDR processing and sky replacement recover a great deal, and I will shoot the elevations that work at that hour and adjust the framing on t...

ALSO COVERED IN THE FULL GUIDE

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 01 The valley's problem: too much light, not too little 02 Which way the house faces decides the schedule 03 Pools and mountains change the answer again 04 What twilight actually buys you | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 05 What the valley calendar actually looks like 06 Two local things that catch people out 07 Summer is a different calendar 08 The short version |
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Questions, or ready to book?

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