



March 2017

Waterfall Outing on Sat 11th February.

We started off at Normans house at 9am meeting everyone at 10am at the base of Macquarie pass on a stinking hot day with temperatures of 39° but cooler in the rain forest. There were 4 of us who attended from Dapto Camera Club with the experience of Norman and Tony to guide us. On arriving we set up our tripods and were given instructions on which settings to use for best results. We spent a few hours learning to be confident with our cameras. We also had a lot of laughs with Tony slipping into one of the rock pools and getting soaked, Norman posing for photos and Debbie picking up an unexpected hitch hiker on her foot! It was a very informative and relaxing day had by all and we look forward to many more.

Many thanks from Leanne, Debbie, Vera and Sue



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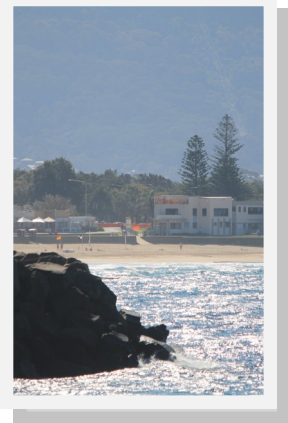
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How to Photograph Landscapes



You can use any camera to take Landscape Photos. For serious photographers, a single lens reflex camera is preferred over a point-and-shoot because there is a great selection of lenses, and the quality of the lens optic is likely to be superior. Many very serious landscape photographers use either medium format cameras or view cameras. Since the typical landscape tends to take in an expanse of terrain, a larger piece of film will give greater detail than can be captured on a 35mm piece of film.

Your choice of lens focal length will depend on the landscape subject and your position relative to it. Often, wide-angle lenses make it possible to cram a great deal of the view into your photograph. However, if you're at the Grand Canyon, you may find using a long lens to isolate an interesting portion of this massive natural wonder makes more sense.

If the sun is in your photograph or just outside the frame you've selected, there's a danger of flare. For this reason, it makes sense to use a lens hood or lens shade to prevent unwanted flare in your photograph. That doesn't mean you should avoid flare at all costs. There are times when a little flare might help make a photo, particularly if you're photographing particularly harsh tropical or desert scenery.

Tripod

For many photographers who love making landscape images, a tripod is an invaluable asset. If you want to get maximum depth of field in your image, you'll want to use a small aperture opening. If you are using slow film, say ISO 50 or 100, many landscape scenes will require that you use a slow shutter speed in order to use a small aperture opening. Used properly (that's an article unto itself!) a decent tripod will keep your camera rock steady. Nothing can ruin a landscape photo more quickly than camera shake.

Another benefit to a tripod is that it will

allow you to make sharp photos when the illumination is very low. Lots of great scenic photos are made in and around dawn or sunset, or in evening twilight. You'll find it is impossible to handhold your camera under those circumstances.

Film and Filters

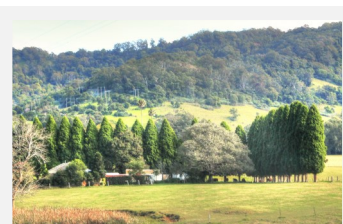
You can use any of today's great films for landscape photography. When it appeared on the scene over ten years ago, the bright colours of Fuji's slide film Velvia set a new standard for crisp colours and clear blue skies. Since that time loads of new "enhanced" films have been brought onto the market by both Kodak and Fuji.

There are photographers who use only slide film for landscapes and others who use only colour negative films. If you're considering making very large prints of your photos, you will probably be wise to use an relatively slow (ISO 50 to 200) film to avoid grain in your prints. However, bear in mind that all of today's films have such an improved grain structure over the products available twenty years ago, that grain is by no means as big a problem today as it was in yesterday.

Black-and-white film has enjoyed a resurgence in recent times. Black-and-white was no limitation in the awe-inspiring landscape work of Ansel Adams. One of the exciting things about black-and-white film is the way you can use yellow, orange and red filters with b/w film to darken skies and bring out clouds. If you're interested in black-and-white film but have difficulty finding processing in your area, you might want to try one of the black-and-white films that can be processed in colour (C-41) chemistry. Ilford makes XP-2 and Kodak offers TCN-400.

Filters can also be used with colour film and offer a range of creative possibilities. Many landscape photographers avoid the use of any filter other than a polarizer and perhaps a haze filter. Others use an arsenal of different filters to

**Don't assume
your camera's
battery is fully
charged -
make sure it
is.**



Special Photo Outings For You.

Saturday 11 March —

Dragon Boat racing at Lake Illawarra, to be held at the Illawarra Rowing Club, near the Yacht Club from 7.30am till 2pm. We need volunteers to man our display and members are invited to take photos that will be collated afterwards to be presented to the Illawarra Rowing Club on a USB flash drive.



Bundanoon Highland Gathering Festival - Bundanoon - 1st of April.

Enjoy a street parade with marching pipe bands, Clan Societies, children's decorated floats, The Tartan Warriors: Bundanoon Stones of Manhood, Mary Kiani: Scottish Singer, String Loaded Fiddle Band: Bob MacInnes and Friends: Fiddler performing in the Fiddlers Tent, Scottish Highland and Country Dancing, 120 specialty crafts,



souvenirs and food stalls.

Bass Point Reserve - Shellharbour

Bass Point Reserve is a 72 hectare coastal jewel, located just south of Shellharbour Village and contains one of the few littoral rainforest areas in



the Illawarra. The reserve is recognized as one of the most important archaeological sites on the NSW coast and is listed on the Australian Heritage Commission register. You will always be able to find something to photograph here.

Wings Over Illawarra 2017 [6th and 7th May]

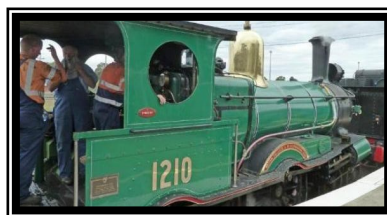
Relive the past with a spectacular display of classic warbirds and amazing vintage aircraft of yesteryear. Be inspired by the Australian Defense Force as they present the best Australia has to offer. Loud, fast jets and formation flying will delight and provide you with an unforgettable experience as they perform breath-taking maneuvers above the beautiful Illawarra. Don't miss heart stopping aerial antics, flying displays, fantastic static displays, classic cars and motorbikes, a free Kid's Zone presented by McDonalds Illawarra, souvenirs and



simulators - there is no better way to spend an unforgettable day with family and friends!

Illawarra Light Railway Museum - Albion Park

The whole family will love cheering and waving from the steam train as it travels past the station and navigates its way through the quiet bushland setting in Albion Park. The museum also has tram and miniature train rides that let the children



experience a piece of history that

A great chance to take some great photos.

From page 2..... **Photograph Landscapes**

enhance the natural appearance of a scene. These can affect colour, and can also be used to cut down the brightness of the sky without dimming the landscape. There are many manufacturers that make various types of filters from glass and plastic. There's so much information on this subject that we'll have an entire story about filters on this Site in the near future.

It's hard to use filters with most point-and-shoot cameras. Again, this is an area where users of professional SLR and rangefinder cameras as well as large format view cameras have an advantage.

Camera Position

Once you are outdoors with your gear and have your camera loaded, the creative choices really begin. Where do you place your camera? Do you point it up or down, or keep it level? There are no rules. Generally, if there is a horizon line in your image, it is best to keep it level.

This is an area where your creative decisions can make your landscapes special and personal. If you're visiting a scenic area, it might make sense to look at some published landscape photographs to get an idea how other photographers have captured the area. This will give you an idea of the possibilities, as well as perhaps an idea of what photos have been "done to death" and should be avoided.

Direction and Type of Light

This is the other key creative area that can set your photos apart from the work of others. Sometimes, you can be in the right place at the right time and everything is magical. Other times, you can wait a very long time for even decent, much less perfect, picture conditions.

Unless you're independently wealthy or very serious and prepared to starve,

your time is probably limited. Particularly if you're visiting a far away location, you may only have a day, or perhaps a few hours at some magnificent location. In these circumstances, you'll have to take the weather conditions and lighting that you encounter.

Great landscape photographers often need remarkable patience to get the photograph they desire. Ansel Adams would often wait an entire day for the proper lighting and cloud conditions. Sometimes, he would wait more than a day. A few years ago, landscape photographer David Muench told us that he had visited the Grand Canyon "over 150 times." By now, he's probably been there two hundred times. Few of us will have that privilege.

By NYIP Staff on July 6th, 2010



Great landscape photographers often need remarkable patience to get the photograph they desire.



Digital Camera Tips:

Always reset camera settings

There are few things worse than taking what you think is a stunning picture, only to find your camera's ISO and saturation were cranked right up from a previous shoot and you've missed the moment. Avoid this by checking - and resetting - all of your settings before moving from one picture-taking opportunity to the next (find out The right way to set up your camera).

Format, not erase

Formatting your memory card wipes it clean and rewrites any pertinent camera information. Erasing your images does not. So always format your cards to minimize the risk of any data corruption.

Update your firmware

Firmware is the in-camera software used for processing images, setting a whole range of parameters and even controlling what features are available to you. Check your camera manufacturer's website to ensure your digital camera's firmware is as up to date as possible.

Charge your batteries

Don't assume your camera's battery is fully charged - make sure it is. Charge it before you go out so you're certain there's enough life in it, and invest in a spare battery if you regularly find yourself shooting beyond its capacity.

Set the image size

Most times you'll be shooting at the highest resolution your camera offers, regardless of what it is you're photographing. But do you always need to? Sometimes a smaller image size might be all you need, and reducing the resolution not only means more images will fit on a memory card, but you can achieve a faster shooting rate, too. If sports photography is your thing, reducing the resolution will help you avoid delays as your camera clears its buffer.



File format: RAW, JPEG or both?

If you intend to do any manipulation or retouching, shooting RAW is often the best solution thanks to its increased bit depth.

However, RAW files are larger, so take longer for the camera to deal with, and you also need to process them before they can be printed.

JPEG files, on the other hand, are processed in-camera at the time of shooting, so you can print or share them immediately, and you'll find that you can shoot a much longer burst of consecutive frames at a much quicker rate.

Providing you don't want to make too many radical changes to an image after you've taken it, you may find you can't tell the difference between a JPEG file and a RAW one.

For the ultimate in choice, though, and when speed isn't important, why not shoot both? Most digital cameras give you this option, and you can then decide what you want to do when you're back at your computer. Just make sure you pack an extra memory card.

Watermark.

A watermark is a logo or text superimposed on an image to help prevent an image from being copied or allow others to know where it was copied from and who owns the rights. A picture or text can be used as a watermark.

You can use software as simple as MS Paint or as complicated as Photoshop to place your Text/Logo on your photo.

This will not stop those who wish to take your photos, but may give them second thoughts, so that they look elsewhere.



Don't assume your camera's battery is fully charged - make sure it is.

Black and White photography .



Norman Blake

**but not all
monochrome
images are
black and
white!**



Bernadette Wilson

Black and White photography can provide some stunningly beautiful images that have a classic feel if done really well.

There was a time when all photographs were done only in black and white, and people were still able to see the different tones (i.e. the tonal range) in black and white. That is immense beauty in black and white photography and it's important to show tonal variations in black and white too.

This week we've got some quick tips for you on how to create beautiful black and white photographs. This applies to both photography and the conversion process.

Quick tip:

Remember an important fact to be kept in mind while using the term monochrome (varying tones of one color); all black and white photographs are monochrome, but not all monochrome images are black and white!

Did you know about the Zone system of exposure that was developed by Ansel Adams and his friend Fred Archer?

Ansel Adams known for his famous black and white landscape photographs, was very particular about capturing as much dynamic range in his images (from the deepest black (shadows) to the brightest whites (highlights)).

So he developed this system for metering and exposure that made him stand out from other photographers of his time.

His images stood out so beautifully because of the range of tones that they had between the color black and white.

Tip Number 1: Learn to use your histogram

Keep a check on your histogram to see that you have a full range of tones before you start the process of black and white conversion, or if you are shooting black and white, make sure that your histogram has enough details for you to bring out the perfect tonal range in your photograph.

Black and white photography is not about capturing just the color black

and the color white, but about capturing all the other shades of gray that lie in between black and white!

Look for yourself at the difference in Histograms when you change contrast and exposure in an image.

Image Pay close attention to the histogram. And, look at the histogram for the picture with a correct exposure; you see that there are a good range of tonal variations!

Tip number 2: Understanding Tonality

You need to choose a scene that has contrasting tonal values. Yes, tonality matters. What happens if you disregard this? You'll simply end up with flat images that will look and feel lifeless with not much to look at.

Truth is, not all images will look good in black and white and you may have to tweak them a bit in the conversion process so that they don't look flat.

This also tells, do not use automatic black and white settings in your camera, but instead shoot RAW in color and do the conversion manually so that you can tweak up the image later to bring in the tonal range.

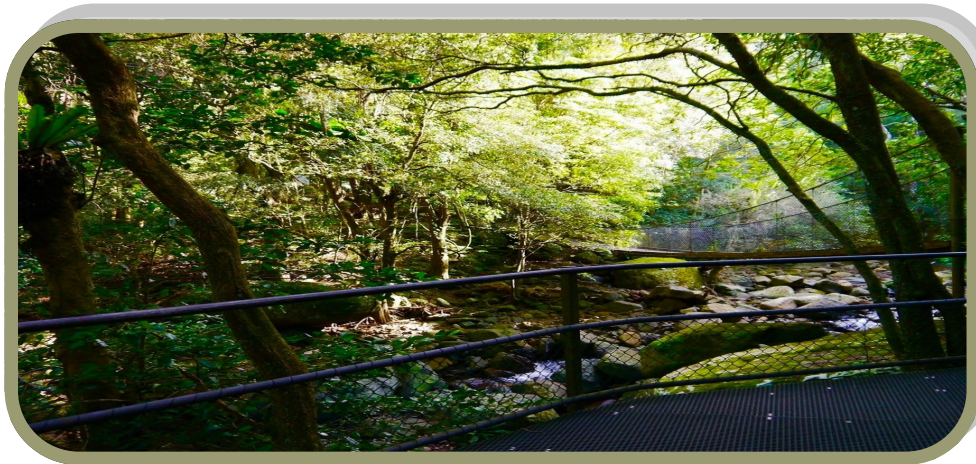
What is tonality? It's the lightness of the image and is very important while shooting black and white. Colors that look very distinct may actually look the same when converted to black and white!

Tip number 3: Choosing a good photograph for conversion to black and white

So from the above two tips, what do you gather? You need a photograph that has plenty of shadows and highlights, good tonal ranges and some textures wouldn't hurt at all, but create a striking black and white photograph.

So, choosing an image that will create a decent black and white photograph is important and that doesn't mean that you cannot make a good conversion from other pictures, but it simply means that it will be more difficult to achieve it.

[lightstalking.com]



Amelia Patman

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Waterfall photography tips

The best thing to do is show up at sunrise and sunset. Waterfalls are often in deep canyons, so as long as the sun is behind the mountains with the whole waterfall in the shade, you can achieve a long exposure with nice even light. In fact, you can plan ahead to maximize this. If you think about it, if the waterfall you're wanting to shoot is facing east, sunrise would not be the best time of day because it will catch the light right on the falls. So an east facing waterfall will be best shot in the late afternoon.

On Manual, I usually start with the slowest ISO my camera can go, 100. Then I set my aperture small enough to maximize focus, usually around f/8 to f/10. Then I see what kinds of shutter speeds that nets.

buy yourself some more camera time is to hike on overcast rainy days. You get all the benefits of shooting when the sun is low, with the freedom to shoot all day. I also find you get much better colour when it's overcast so things like mossy rocks or autumn leaves really pop.

One pitfall you need to avoid on cloudy days is including the sky. Depending on the waterfall, if you can get up high to shoot down on the falls, eliminating the sky from the shot, you will avoid getting a boring grey sky over your waterfall.

Like anything in photography, it takes practice and experimentation. Get out there have a go don't be afraid.

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