

# Landscape Photography

## Foreground to horizon sharpness – Controlling Depth of field

- Short focal length lenses give greater depth of field, and also give the wider field of view needed for landscapes.
- Smaller apertures such as f8 or f11 will give greater depth of field.
- The shorter the distance from lens to subject, the smaller the depth of field.
- For a constant field of view, smaller sensor cameras give a greater depth of field.

For maximum depth of field;

- Use a short focus lens
- Use a small aperture
- Focus on an object about one third into the scene.

Check foreground and background sharpness on screen, with magnification.

## Exposure

- Use Aperture priority to maintain control of the depth of field.
- If your camera will shoot in RAW, use it to give maximum flexibility in post processing.
- Landscapes can be very high contrast, with a risk of burnt out highlights. Switch on highlight alert, and reduce the exposure to avoid burn out.
- Take multiple shots at different under and over exposures (Exposure bracketing), or use automatic exposure bracketing.
- Detail can be recovered from dark shadows, but not from burnt-out highlights, so tend to under exposure rather than to over exposure.

## Filters

Polarising filters have application in landscape photography, and work best when the line of view is at right angles to the sun. They improve sky contrast, brighten colours, and block off some of the light, which helps with long exposure images.

## Key Messages

Use wide angle lenses and small apertures to maximise depth of field

Use aperture priority or manual to avoid the camera re-focussing

Shoot in RAW and avoid clipping highlights.

Use a strong tripod, with remote shutter release.

Bracket exposure settings, then use the best images.

# Wildlife Photography

## Equipment

- Avoid wearing bright coloured clothing
- Warm waterproof clothing and shoes/boots
- Tripod
- Telephoto or macro lens
- Lens Hoods
- Cameras

## Lenses

Long focus lenses have a number of advantages

- Can shoot from a distance
- Narrow angle of view
- Small depth of field to blur backgrounds
- Teleconverters can be used, and can give better results than cropping, but sacrifice 1-2 stops exposure
- APS-C cameras have a 1.5 to 1.6X telephoto effect for the same lens used with a full frame camera.

## Constraints - Depth of field

For example, a 400 mm lens, full frame sensor

<u>Focussing Distance</u>	<u>Depth of Field</u>	
	<u>f5.6</u>	<u>f11</u>
2m	1cm	1cm
5m	5cm	9cm
10m	20cm	40cm
50m	5.2m	10.3m

(Canon Depth of Field Calculator)

## Shooting

- Shoot in RAW, and using a tripod whenever possible
- Aperture priority is usually the best choice, with a wide aperture to achieve fast shutter speeds
- Alternatively use manual, setting aperture and shutter speed, with ISO on "Auto"

- For moving subjects, use continuous drive, with servo autofocus
- Exposure can be a problem with furry or feathered animals. Take multiple shots at different exposures to show detail.

## **Close- Ups**

- Telephoto lenses can be used, also with close-up filters or extension tubes.
- Macro lenses are best for extreme close – ups.
- Anticipate the subject's position, and try using remote release with the camera mounted on a tripod.
- Focussing is a challenge because of the very small depth of field!
- Manual focussing can be used for stationary subjects, otherwise choose a single AF point that lines up with the eye pupil.

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