

SLR

PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDE

NOVEMBER
2017 ISSUE



Still Life Photography
Building An Instagram Following

2017

NOVEMBER EDITION

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY MAGAZINE - EDITOR TANYA PUNTTI
SLRPHOTOGRAPHYGUIDE.COM



Cover photo by Leo van Vuuren, South Africa
1/800 sec, ISO 1250, f/7.1, 600mm



Up and coming courses
available soon

Night Sky
Bird Photography
Flash Fundamentals
Time Lapse 101

Check out our full list of online photography courses over at
<https://www.slrphotographyguide.com/photography-courses/>

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Photo by Bill Sterk, US - f/9, 1/80 sec, ISO 3200, Focal length 11mm





Photo by Elizabeth Stead, US. ISO 800, 24mm, f/4, 1/250sec

© Stead Photography 2017





Photo by Star Boyle Mcdade, US
ISO 600, 80mm, f/4, 1/160sec

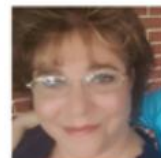




Photo by Judy Mitschelen, US
ISO 1600, f/9, 1/200sec

Beautiful Still Life Photos

exploring still life photography

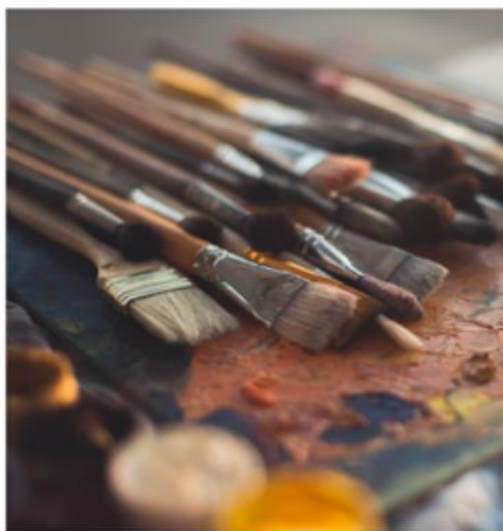
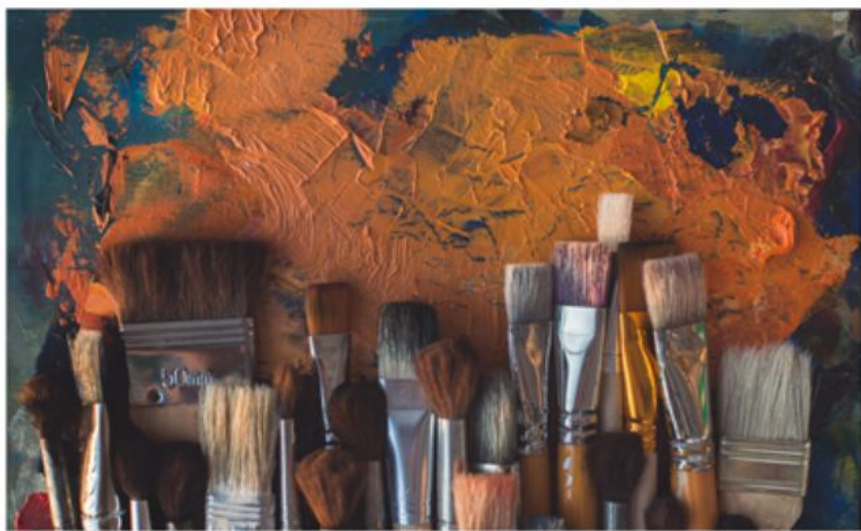
Do you want to take beautiful photos without leaving the comfort of your own home? A simple table top and window light is all you'll need for this popular genre. Chances are, you most likely already have interesting subjects around your house to get you started. Subjects like flowers, food, household objects are perfect for photographing indoors. Look for items with interesting shapes, colors, patterns and textures. Something that looks ordinary sitting in your cupboard can look amazing when placed in the right light.



For simple compositions, take note of the items you use every day around your home. How can you use them to tell a story about your day? Simple subjects to practice your photography skills on where there's no pressure to take a perfect shot. Shown below is a writing pad positioned in front of several different textures. Doesn't get easier than that. The only limit is your imagination!



Art and craft materials make a perfect subject to practice your photography. Experiment with different angles and light. Remember there's no pressure when it comes to still life photos. Rearrange the items, place them on all different backgrounds, and remember to have fun.



After a while you'll find yourself filling your home with items that you consider will look good in photographs. If you buy a pen, consider the color and how you might use it in pictures. Items that look antique or rustic also photograph well.



Try unusual angles like this image of a lamp shade.



Take as many photos as you like. Shooting hundreds of digital images will cost the same as taking several snaps. Use the whole day and experiment with both natural and artificial light. Be bold, make mistakes. You'll learn much faster than someone who keeps the camera locked away until they are on vacation in some exotic location.



Backlight your subjects or photograph shadows around your home.



Learn to think creatively. The key to taking great photos around your home is to think creatively and experiment with different camera settings. For low light indoor lighting, an aperture such as $f/2.8$ is perfect for hand held shots. If you are using a tripod, I recommend trying $f/5.6$ or thereabouts. These apertures will help separate the main subject from the background, creating beautiful blurs.



Perfect Bokeh

Each month we'll be showcasing student photos that demonstrate the skill needed to create silky smooth backgrounds. Upload your best bokeh photos to our Facebook group (students only) and use #bokeh in the caption for a chance to see it published in our magazine.



Photo by Graham Moore

Photo by Shiannon Corcoran, AU
500mm, 1/640sec, f/6.3, ISO 1250



Photo by Georgie Riley, AU
f/4.5, 1/200sec, ISO 100



Georgie Riley

Creative Flower Photography

Showcasing images we fell in love with from members taking our Creative Flower Photography course over at <https://www.slrphotographyguide.com/creative-flower-photography/>



Photo by Pam Fraser, Canada



Photo by Bonnie Slacum, US



Photo by Maria D Espinoza, US

Instead of shooting the first version shown below, shoot the second. These images were taken on the same day, one after another in-camera. Same floral bush, different techniques.



If you feel you are stuck in a rut, or bored with your photography, we guarantee this course will help you to start thinking more creatively. Once it becomes a habit, it will not only help take your flower photography to a new level, but all genres thereafter.

Learn more over at -

<https://www.slrphotographyguide.com/creative-flower-photography/>

Cami MzHcone

(student profile)



<https://www.facebook.com/camikreativefotos/>
<https://www.camiskreativefotos.com>

It's been a pleasure to watch Cami grow into the professional photographer she is today. Such a beautiful soul and it shows through in her work. Time and time again, she nails one shot after another.

How did you first become interested in photography?

I have always been fond of photography every since I was a little girl. The thrill of being able to see how the picture would turn out. It was always fun to catch people off guard ... then show them the photo. The candid moments have always been my favorite part of the taking pictures.



My advice to others is ...
*NEVER GIVE UP,
KEEP SHOOTING,
EVEN ON RAINY DAYS*



What or who inspires you?

I would have to say that my husband has always inspired me the most. He continues to push me even when there's times that I wanted to give up. He never lets me give up on my dreams. When my husband I were traveling to Portland next to Columbia River, I looked over and saw the sun setting. I knew I just had to have that picture. I grabbed my cellphone and starting snapping shots. After we arrived at the hotel for the night, I showed him all the photos I had taken. He purchased me my first camera two days later and it started from there, to where it is today with me shooting professionally.





Cami. & KreActive Foto's

How has our photography course helped you?

This course has helped me so much. When my husband saw how well I was doing he joined as well. This course breaks it down into the simplest form. Tanya has made it so easy to understand and you learn at your own pace. I would highly recommend it others. It is worth every dime. I learn something new every day.





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camiskreativefotos.com



What plans do you have for the future of your photography?

I hope within the next year or two I will move into a studio instead of working from home.

Your favorite location?

I don't have a favorite location seeing that I live in Las Vegas, there's so many great places to shoot, it's hard to choose just one.

To see more of Cami's work, visit <https://www.facebook.com/camikreativefotos/> or her website over at <https://www.camiskreativefotos.com>

Learn more about our photography course over at <https://www.slrphotographyguide.com/online-courses.html>



Dedicated To Macro

Showcasing a handful of images that we fell in love with from students taking our Macro Photography Course over at <https://www.slrphotographyguide.com/macro-photography-course.html>



Photo by Sheryn Deall, AU
1/2sec, f/13, 28 mm, ISO 1600



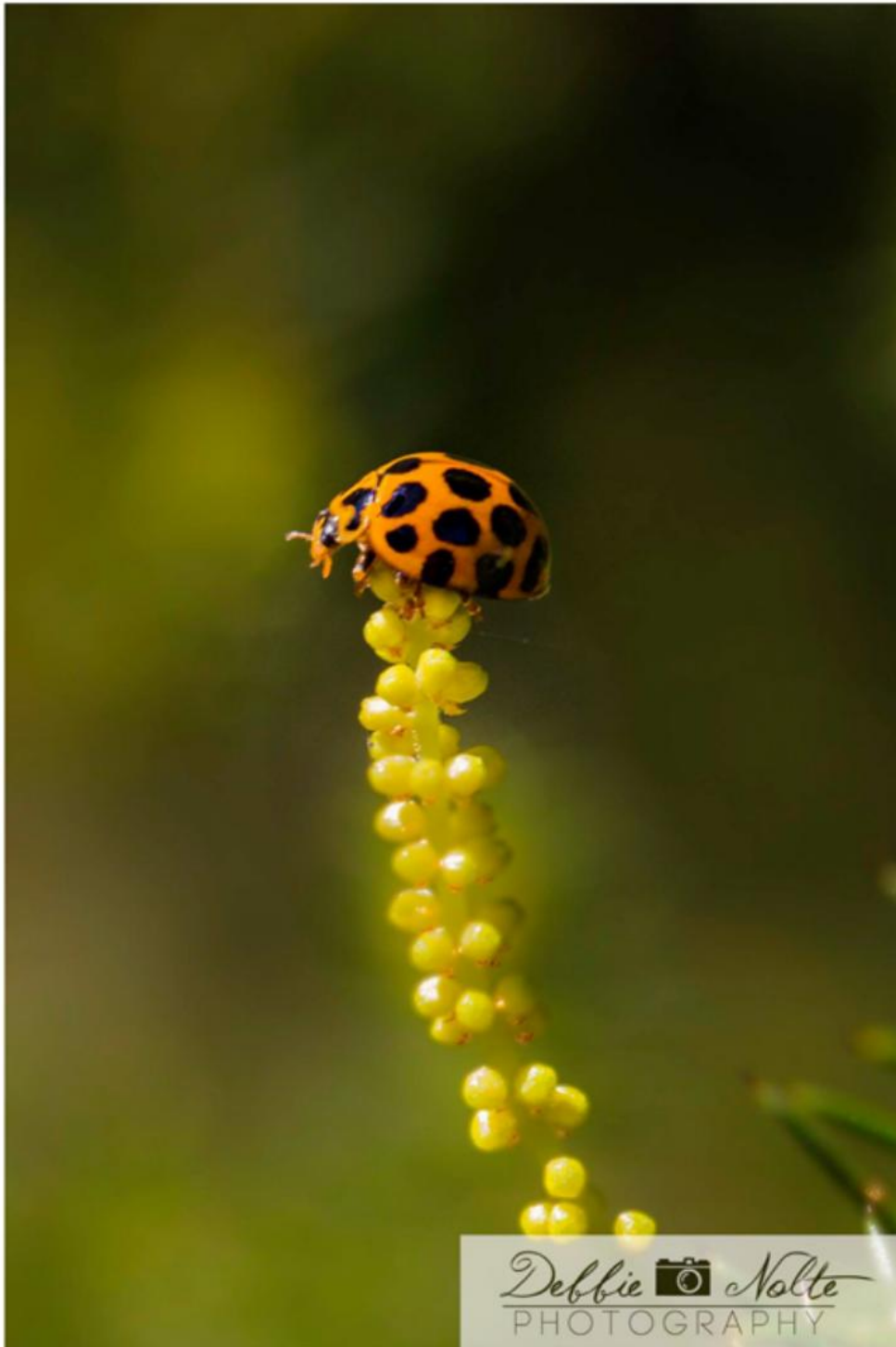


Photo by Debbie Nolte, AU
f/8, ISO 400, 1/250sec



Photo by Aimee Love, AU
105mm, f/5, 1/3200sec

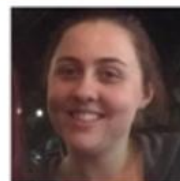




Photo by Apinya Pongprayoon, AU
Canon 85mm lens with kenko extension tube 36mm
ISO 1250, f/6.3, 1/500sec
Flash with diffusion



Photo Edit Like A Pro

For those taking our photo editing course over at <https://www.slrphotographyguide.com/photo-edit-like-a-pro.html> we now have a new lesson up that explains my Lightroom Workflow process. This one teaches you how to import, organise and export your images in Lightroom.

In the meantime check out this awesome image below taken by Marie Arnold, then edited using techniques taught in our Web Sharpening lesson.





This is my second attempt at editing, using Day To Night lesson. I found the tutorial really easy to follow, thank you Tanya.

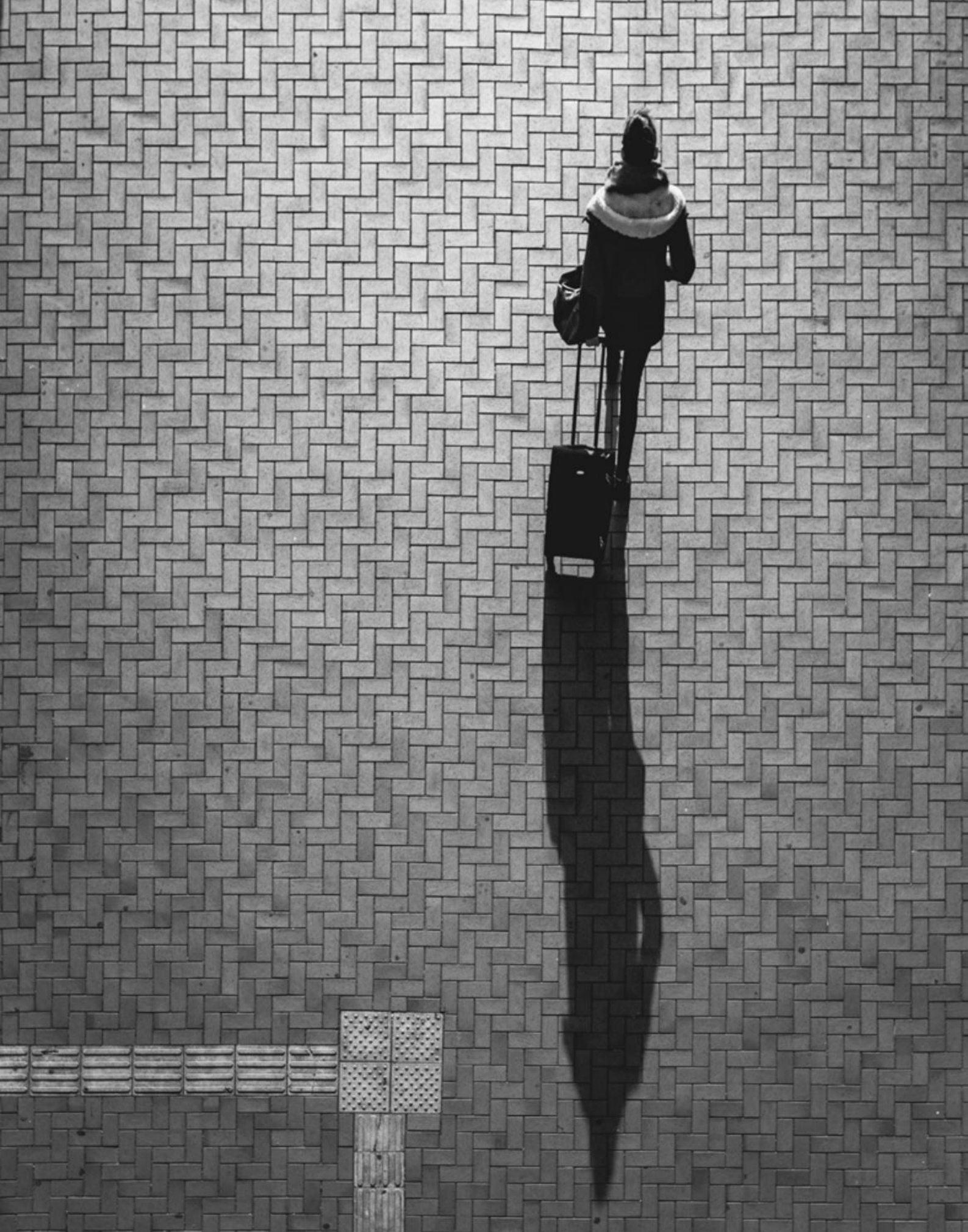
Jenny Golding Baron, AU

This month's challenge is: Long Shadows

Long shadows cast by the afternoon sun can often be more interesting than your subject. Shadows create stunning images, especially when converted to black and white. Shooting with the sun in front of you will ensure the shadows stay in the foreground of the image. You might also need to manually adjust the exposure of the camera so the shadows are captured much darker than they normally appear.

Upload your shots to our private facebook group (students only) and label them 'Long Shadows Challenge'. Don't forget to add your camera settings and a little about how you took the image.





Low Angle

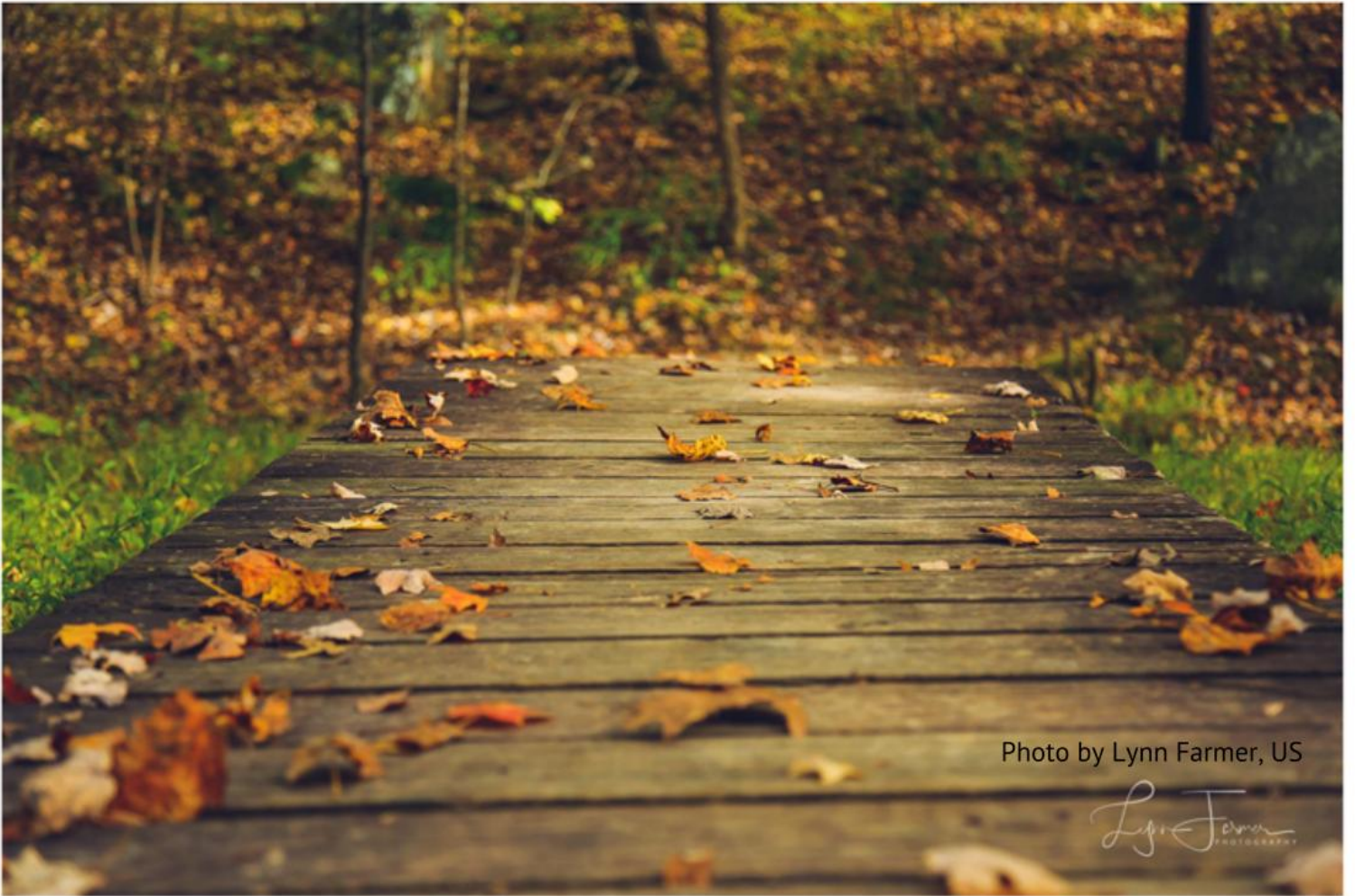


Photo by Lynn Farmer, US

Lynn Farmer
PHOTOGRAPHY



Photo by Fred Harkins, CA

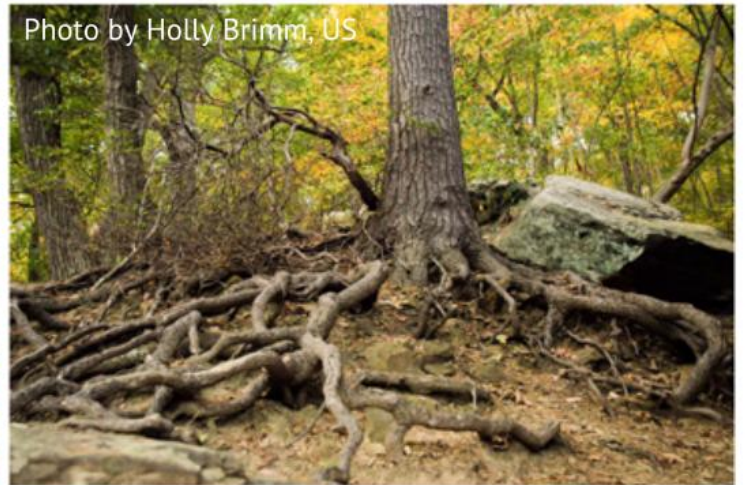


Photo by Holly Brimm, US

Highlights from last month's challenge



Photo by Jan Watt, AU



Photo by Darlene Ryder



Photo by Lisa Lewis, AU

Instagram Tips For Getting Your Photos Noticed

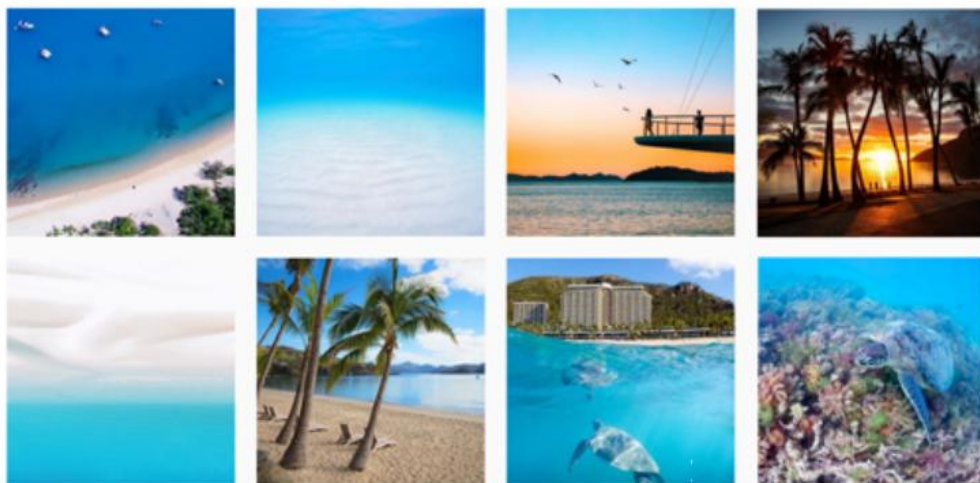
Photographer's Guide To Marketing

<https://www.slrphotographyguide.com/marketing-course.html>

With over 400 million users and over 80 million posts per day, Instagram has become an essential tool for photographers serious about growing their online presence. The platform was created for photography, so it makes sense to use it. When I first checked it out several years ago it was for the most part aimed at mobile users. However these past couple of years it has grown to largely include DSLR photographers as well. You still need to upload images via your mobile or tablet, however it's easy to simply airdrop or email your images to your phone then upload from there. Here are some of our best tips to help you get started.

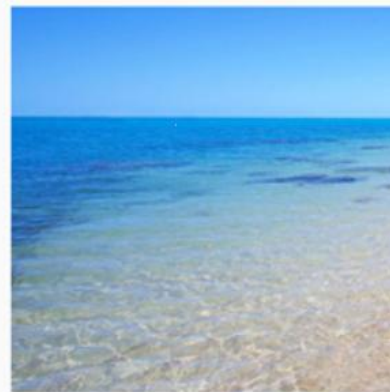
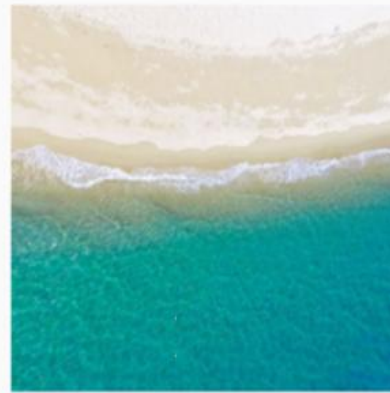
1. Only Post Your Best Photos

Post only your best work and your photos have a much better chance of receiving a positive reaction. Be consistent in your theme or genre. Instagram fans can be fast to judge and will stop following you if you suddenly post a snapshot of your meal, cat or anything that goes against the reason they followed you in the first place. Your goal should be to have a beautiful photo gallery.



2. Post Regularly

If possible, try to post one photo every day. If you don't be consistent, your followers won't become strong fans. Instagram's algorithm is about showcasing images you interact with the most. If your fans are not interacting with you consistently, chances are they won't naturally see any images you do upload. Keep to one or two uploads spaced throughout the day. You don't want to overdo it. No one wants to see twenty of your photos one after another on their feed.



3. Make Your Profile Public

If you make your posts private, people will have to send you a follow request to see your photos. Chances are they won't do that! So keep your photos public if you want them to be seen by more people.

4. Add A Description To Your Photo

Don't just upload a photo. Add a description to let viewers know what they're looking at. Talk to your fans. The more natural your description sounds, the better it will be received. It's best to do this at the time of uploading so the comment appears directly beneath the photo.



5. Add Useful Hashtags

Using hashtags in your description or comments provide a way for others to find your photos under a specific theme or topic. For example, if you use #sunset and someone searches the keyword 'sunset', you'll improve your chances of being seen. It's important to use the most relevant hashtags for each image. You won't get any new eyes on your work if you hashtag 'beach' and your photo is a portrait taken in the mountains.



whitsundaysphotography #hamiltonisland
#whitsundays #queensland #australia
#sunsetsky #sunsetlover #natureart
#naturebeauty #nature_lovers
#naturephotographer #naturephotos
#tropicalliving #tropicallife #islandlife
#goneawol #wanderlusting #orangesky
#orangesunset #tropicalvibes #paintthesky
#qualia #greatbarrierreef #openmyworld
#mytinyatlas #travelholic
#travellingdestinations

6. Follow Other Photographers And Interact With Them

Follow favorite photographers for inspiration and comment on their photos. Remember, social media is about building relationships. The more you converse back and forward with others, the more likely they'll interact with your images.

7. Always Reply To Comments On Your Photos

Let people know you are interested in what they had to say about your image. If you are pushed for time, a simple thank you or smiley face emoticon will do. Don't forget to tag the person with their username in your reply so they get notified that you replied. Remember always, the key to building a good following is to build relationships with people. You never know where your next client or sale will come from.

Want to learn how to make the best use of social media for growing a successful photography business? Check out our class over at <https://www.slrphotographyguide.com/marketing-course.html>



Did you know our online photography course now comes with 40 Photography Cheat Sheets?

"If you haven't taken advantage of printing the cheat sheets, I strongly suggest you take time to do so. These alone are worth the price of the course." ~ John Smith (student)

Check out our online photography course over at

<https://www.slrphotographyguide.com/online-courses.html>