

Bass Coast Camera Club

A Program of the Bass Coast Artists' Society Inc. A0003365V

Based at the Goods Shed, Wonthaggi. Enter from the BigW carpark.

Meeting on the 3rd Saturday of the month, 1.30pm to 4.30pm unless otherwise notified.

<http://www.basscoastartists.org.au/>

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Change of Coordinator

Gayle Marien advised the members that she will not be continuing as coordinator in 2020. Anybody interested in taking up the reins can contact Diana Holmberg, BCAS President, on info@basscoastartists.org.au

Our Photography Month

In the November meeting members presented their photos from the Kilcunda Rock Pools and Sunset Shoot Outing. The challenge was Action and Movement and as always members stepped up to the task.

Gayle Marien was this month's featured photographer. Gayle chatted about wildlife photography techniques.

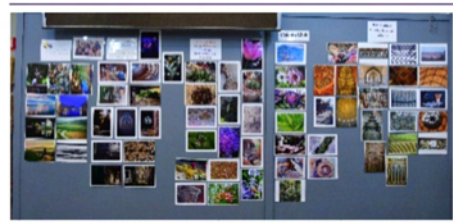
After news and club business Gayle offered a review of the free photo management software from Adobe. Members then eagerly indulged in an afternoon tea of cake and coffee.

In preparation for the Christmas holidays this month's learning topic was Taking Good Family and Holiday Photos. Members received a cheat sheet for group photo shoots and viewed a presentation with more than 20 tips their holiday snaps. For our first challenge of 2020, the group looked at photographing using the composition technique of rule of thirds.

The meeting finished with some videos of amusing and quirky photo ideas.

We would like to say a warm hello to Janice who came along for the first time this month.

For information contact Gayle Marien on gayleb@ozemail.com.au
Phone: 0414 627 155



Our photo wall – October / November

Dec 15th 2019

Christmas Get Together

The camera club's Christmas get together will be **a lunch** this year. It will be held on **Sunday 15th December commencing at 12.30.**

Val and Pam Michelangeli have kindly offered up their home at **26 Townsend Bluff Road, Inverloch** for the afternoon. Val will be firing up the barbie for us. Many thanks to Val and Pam.

Partners are welcome and it would be very helpful to get an idea of who will be attending.

Drinks are BYO. Members are asked to bring food so please give some thought to what you might be able to contribute and let me know so I can ensure we have a variety of dishes. We will need meats for the BBQ, salads, cold cuts and desserts.

RSVP by 1st December to:
gayleb@ozemail.com.au or 0414 627 155

First Meeting of 2020

Photo Challenge Presentation

The photo challenge is 'Rule of Thirds' You might find some inspiration here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7PMwmlK8dyo>

Gayle Marien

Featured Photographer

Wildlife Photography

Most of you will know that wildlife photography and particularly bird photography is my passion. For this display I have chosen photos that illustrate wildlife photography techniques. All these photos are of animals in the wild; none were taken at zoos or wildlife parks.

Equipment and Focus

I use a Nikon D7500 which is a 1.5 crop sensor camera with an option for a further 1.3 crop. This camera was a deliberate choice for bird photography. I use a Tamron 18-400mm telephoto lens for animals and birds and usually crop the photos both for a closer image and for better composition. For insect macro photography I use a Nikon Micro 105mm lens. For wildlife (not macro) I am currently using back button focus with continuous auto focus. I use a single focus point for still animals and multiple points for birds in flight or fast moving animals.

View Point

View point is extremely important in wildlife photography. One of the best ways to bring out the personality of the animal or bird is to be at eye level with them whenever possible. This means instead of standing and taking the photo from above, I sit or stoop or even lay on the ground to get to their level. I aim to capture the animal's eyes in the photo. Many wildlife photographers say if you haven't got the eyes you haven't got the shot.

The Bush Rat

For the shot of the bush rat taken near the Kilcunda trestle bridge I laid on the ground, 2 metres from the animal. This was as close as I could get before it got skittish. I was using a fast shutter speed of 1/1000th of a second to freeze motion which cranked the ISO up to 1800. I liked the blue tint in his eyes and his bony, little "old man's hands."

The Echidna

For the echidna I wasn't able to lay flat. The Wonthaggi Wetlands were living up to their name and as it was my boots were full of water and were squelching. Instead I stooped and used the Liveview screen instead of the view finder to get the camera low enough. I used +0.33 exposure compensation to supplement the high ISO as the animal was in the shade of bushes.



An Australian Bush Rat near the Bourne Creek
Trestle Bridge in Kilcunda
f/8, 1/1000s, ISO-1800, 400mm, 04/05/2019
Cropped



An Echidna in the Wonthaggi Wetlands Conservation Park
f/6.3, 1/800s, ISO-1250, EV +0.33, 400mm, 11/09/2019
Cropped and Sharpened

Gayle Marien – Featured Photographer (Continued)

The Gippsland Water Dragon

This Gippsland Water dragon unexpectedly emerged from Lake Guthridge in Sale just as Roger and I were walking by on the path. I couldn't get to its level as the bank sloped away. It was less than a metre from us so I was able to get good detail with the telephoto lens out to its full 400mm. This is a heavy crop of the full animal to highlight the pattern of its scales and the vibrant colours of the eye and throat. The full photo was made too busy as there was grass around and in front of the subject. The crop is a cleaner image.



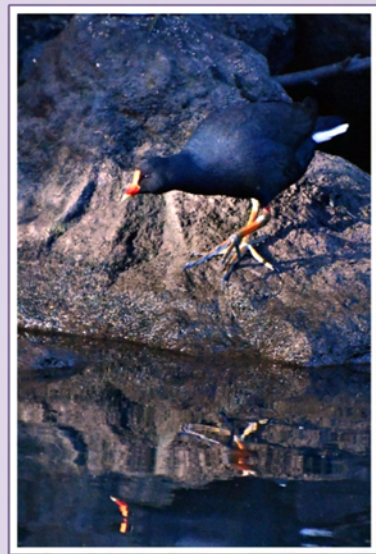
A Gippsland Water Dragon at Guthridge Lake in Sale
f/6.3, 1/400s, ISO-160 400mm, 15/08/2019
Heavily Cropped

The Dusky Moorhen

The dusky moorhen was on the banks of flooding creek many metres below ground level and was completely shaded. Neither high ISO nor exposure compensation was helping so I had to wait for the bird to step into a small sliver of sunshine falling across the rocks. Sometimes you just have to wait for the light.

Background, Foreground and Bokeh

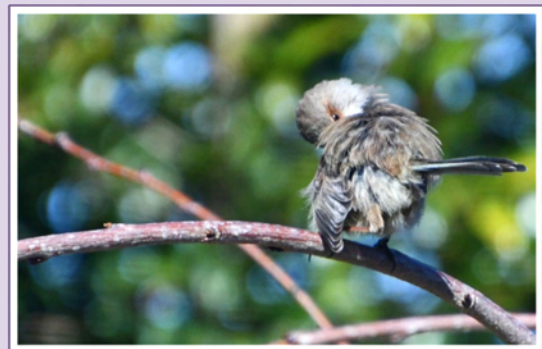
Both the extended telephoto lens and the macro lens give a good artistic blurred background referred to as bokeh. Most of my wildlife photos are opportunistic but where possible I look for background that will give an artistic effect. If the surrounds allow it, the subject can be isolated between both foreground and background bokeh.



A Dusky Moorhen Stepping into a Patch of Sunlight
At Flooding Creek in Sale
f/6.3, 1/800s, ISO-3200, EV +1.0, 10/08/2019, Cropped

The Female Superb Fairy Wren

Notice the blurred spheres of blue, green, yellow and white light behind the wren. These are the result of a lilly pilly tree with gaps between the leaves to the open sky. The perch the wren is sitting on is at the top of a weeping tree in our back yard which I know is a good spot for photos. The wrens, and other small birds are frequent visitors and I know they will usually end up in this perch. In order not to spook the birds I often photograph through the back window as was the case with this image.

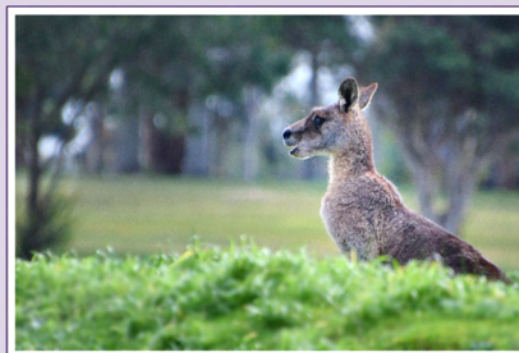


A Female Superb Fairy Wren Preening Herself in a Wonthaggi Garden
f/6.3, 1/1250s, ISO-630, 400mm, 30/08/2019, Cropped

Gayle Marien – Featured Photographer (Continued)

The Eastern Grey Kangaroo

The photo of the eastern grey kangaroo illustrates the use of bokeh in both the foreground and background. The roo was on the other side of a levy bank on the edge of the driving range. As the grass on the top of the bank is on a different focal plane to the roo, the bokeh could be obtained. This can be achieved with anything forward of the focal plane such as grass, flowers or of the trees where the light was shining through. To achieve the positioning I want with a stationary subject I move to one side or another.



An Eastern Grey Kangaroo at the Wonthaggi Golf Course
f/6.3, 1/640s, ISO-400, 400mm, 18/07/2019, Cropped

The European Honey Bee

In the macro image of the European honey bee, white flower petals in the foreground provide a soft veiled effect. The blurred foreground is designed to provide context and to draw the eye up to the bee which is in sharp focus. A fast shutter speed of 1/1000th of a second is used to freeze the motion of the bee. Although this is a macro photo I pulled back and used auto focus which I find more accurate than my manual focussing attempts. I cropped the photo to get a close-up of the bee.



A European Honey Bee in a Wonthaggi Garden
f/7.1, 1/1000s, ISO-360, 105mm, 23/09/2019, Cropped

Post Production and Cleaning up the Image

Birds photographed in trees or bushes not only make focusing a challenge but often end up lost in the busyness of the image. Sometimes an otherwise good capture is spoiled by branches that appear to be growing out of the bird's body. I'm not a huge fan of post processing but if it is feasible I will clone away unwanted parts of an image.

The Male Superb Fairy Wren

In the original image of the male superb fairy wren a number of twigs behind him appeared to be protruding from his rear end. Since the blurred background of the photo is relatively even and simple it was easy to remove the unwanted twigs using the clone brush. I use Photoscape for post processing which is a free to download program.



A Male Superb Fairy Wren in the
Wonthaggi Wetlands Conservation Park
f/6.3, 1/500s, ISO-1600, EV +1.0, 18/10/2019
Cropped and
Superfluous Branches Cloned out around the Bird's Body

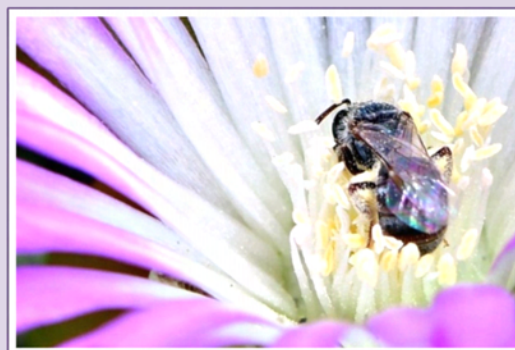
Gayle Marien – Featured Photographer (Continued)

Macro Photography Reveals Secrets

Macro photography can sometimes uncover the unexpected, such as a tiny bug not seen with the naked eye.

The Australian Native Resin Bee

When I took the photo of the resin bee in a pig face flower I thought it might be an Australian native bee. I wasn't even sure of that though, let alone what type it was. The photo is a heavy crop but is sharp enough to enable me to identify the insect. It is much smaller than a honey bee and is almost submerged in the centre of the flower.



An Australian Native Resin Bee at Shack Bay, Inverloch
f/11. 1/1250s, ISO-160, 105mm, 05/11/2019
Cropped, Sharpened and Contrast Increased

Respect the Wildlife

I bought a DSLR to photograph birds. That passion moved on to encompass animals and insects. These wild creatures give me endless hours of enjoyment and in return I give them my respect. These are the rules I set for myself. I never use a flash for wildlife photography, I never deliberately disturb wildlife to get a photo and I never kill an insect to photograph it.

Free Photo Management Software from Adobe

Gayle talked about her experience with the free to download Adobe Bridge program. Adobe Bridge software is a powerful, easy-to-use media manager. You can edit metadata, add keywords, and add titles and descriptions. Labels and ratings can be assigned to photos. Photos can be organized using collections and searched for using powerful filters and advanced metadata search features. This program works with your photos where they are on your hard drive, it does not require them to be loaded into the program itself.

Gayle is using Adobe Bridge to assign keywords to photos. This can be done on multiple photos at one time. Additional keywords can then be added to all or some of the keywords in the batch. For example Gayle went on a macro photo shoot to Shack Bay so assigned keywords related to macro and to Shack Bay to all the photos from that shoot. Then she added specific keywords to individual photos depending on their subject (shells, rocks, plants, bees etc.) This has made searching for individual photos using Adobe Bridge or Windows itself very easy. Descriptions can be assigned to one or many photos at once. Copyright notices can be applied. Photos can be organized into collections (e.g. Birds) without moving them from their original location.

For photographers wishing to upload photos to stock photo sites for sale, this is ideal. The information applied to the photos in Adobe Bridge will automatically populate when uploaded to the stock photo site. This saves a great deal of time if uploading to more than one site. The Adobe Bridge program provides a bulk drag and drop feature for uploading photos for sale on Adobe Stock.

Gayle has not yet learned all of the features of the program but so far it is impressive and very user friendly. Adobe Bridge can be downloaded from: <https://creativecloud.adobe.com/apps/download/bridge>

A Solo Exhibition by our own Jenny McDonald

Jenny is having her first solo photographic exhibition next month in Toora. Please come along and support her if you get the opportunity.



Free Long Exposure Photography Course

By Atillio Ruffo

Renowned landscape photographer Atillio Ruffo has commenced a Free Long Exposure Photography Course on YouTube. He is releasing the videos on Thursdays with lessons 1 and 2 already out.

You can find these and many how to videos for long exposure landscape photography and general photography on his YouTube Channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/scattionline>

The two lessons released are:

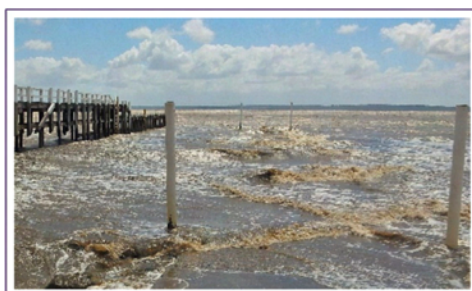
1: Why Take Long Exposure Photos?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UPX0w30gC-c>

2. What do you need to Start?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GLZfYlpdHlk>

Member Photos – Action & Movement



Wild winds whipping up sand and surf at the Grantville boat ramp
Photo Copyright Gayle Marien



Spinning propellers at the 2017 Yarram Centeery Air Show
Photo Copyright Gayle Marien

Links to November Reference Videos and Articles

Taking Good Family and Holiday Photos (Articles)

- 12 Tips for Better Vacation Photos by Nikon USA <https://www.nikonusa.com/en/learn-and-explore/a/tips-and-techniques/12-tips-for-better-vacation-photos.html>
- 4 Tips for Taking Better Holiday Photos by Digital Photography School <https://digital-photography-school.com/4-tips-for-taking-better-holiday-photos/>
- 10 Simple Tips to Improve Your Family Photos by Swiss Family Travel <https://swissfamilytravel.com/blog/2017/9/7/10-simple-tips-to-help-your-family-travel-photos>

► Rule of Thirds (Video)

- How to Use Rule of Thirds for Stunning Composition by PhotographyPro (Video) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7PMwmlK8dyo>

► Fun and Quirky Photos and Ideas (Videos)

- Cooph YouTube Channel <https://www.youtube.com/user/TheCooph>
- Cooph - 10 Images That Will Make You Smile 1:40 mins <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2DFLkBJ2iY&list=PL-hSyxBxF94IzXQP0r5oLWSqLoXBvYv26&index=12&t=0s>
- Cooph - Ideas for crafty photography composing 4:10 mins <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AWVyaYeQkk>
- Jordi Koalitic - 10 Photography Tips to Go Viral 3:21 mins <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DP6UtePp8yw>

Gippsland Photography News, Events and Photographic Opportunities



Woolamai Picnic Races are a good opportunity to practice photographing sports, animals and people. Sat. 23rd Nov 2019 and Sat. 4th Jan 2020 are both confirmed race days. <https://country.racing.com/woolamai>



Photo Rangers on Phillip Island have two courses on offer in Nov. 23rd Nov. Adventure Based Intimate Landscapes at Kitty Miller Bay \$80 and 30th Nov. Adventure Based Basic Camera Workshop \$95 at Woolamai Beach. <https://www.photorangers.com.au/events>



Photography Through the Artists Eye free photo walks with Norm Hanson. These are not Gippsland Events; they run at Jells Park in Wheelers Hill which is about 1 ½ hours' drive from Wonthaggi, but they are worth thinking about as Norm brings a good combination of artistic and photographic skills to the event. Registration is required.

- On Sunday 8th December 2019 Norm is running Photograph with An Artist's Eye: Harsh Light <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/photograph-with-an-artist-eyes-harsh-light-tickets-76843409707?aff=ebapi>
- On Wednesday 5th February 2020, Norm is running Photograph with an Artist's Eye: Birds and Golden Light. <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/photograph-with-an-artist-eyes-birds-golden-light-tickets-76840547145?aff=ebapi>

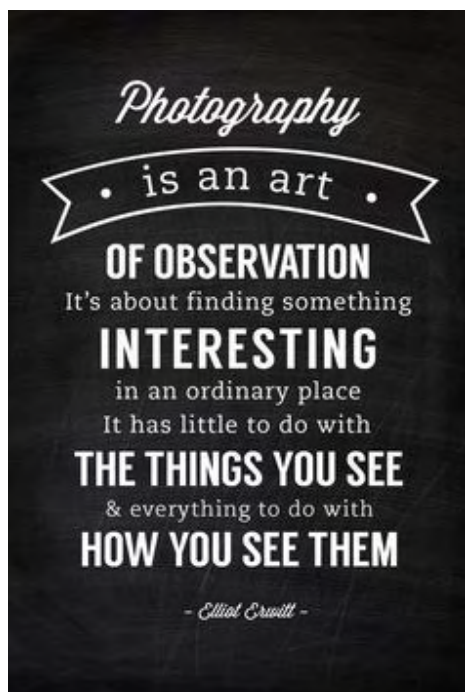


The Bass Coast Summer Agricultural Show provides endless opportunities for photography. Practice shooting motion at the rides, the axe chopping or the dog trails; street photography as the people move about the show; close-ups or macro on the displays in the pavilion; and the list goes on. The show is on Saturday, January 11th, 2020. <https://www.basscoastagshow.org.au/>



The Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta will provide a great opportunity to photograph boats both in and out of the water and to practice photographing motion. The regatta runs from Sat., Jan. 25, 2020 9:00 pm – Tues., Jan. 28, 2020 4:00 am. <https://atdw.com.au/listing-detail/?id=5d75943cb48842fd06e79168>

Quote of the Month



Current Competitions

Bass Coast Summer Agricultural Show Wonthaggi

Saturday 11th January 2020. The Amateur Open Photography Exhibition will accept entries Tue 7th and Wed 8th January in both black and white and colour across 36 categories (classes) with separate classes specifically for Bass Coast residents. Card mounted small photos entries. Trophy prize only. (Website is challenging to navigate.)

<https://www.basscoastagshow.org.au/>

iPhone Photography Awards

An international competition for photos taken with an iPhone or iPad which closes at 31 March 2020. There are 19 categories. There are entry fees and prizes are announced annually.

<https://www.ippawards.com/the-competition/>

Members should check competition entry conditions. Some competitions may require you to pass copyright to the hosting organization.

Member Photos – Action and Movement

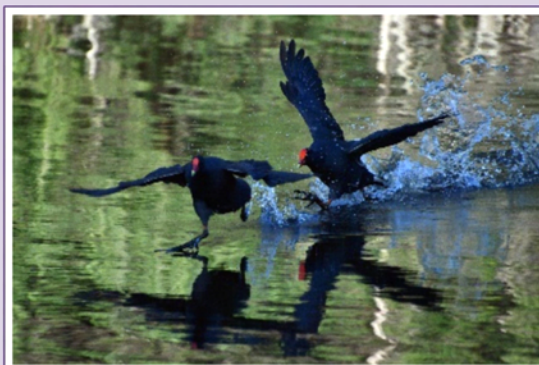


Barcelona - Photo © Murray Fox
Nikon D7000 1.20 sec. f7.1 40 mm ISO 100



2015 "Diggers Cup" ANZAC Day Races at Longreach, Qld.

Photo © Gayle Marien
Nikon Coolpix P500 Bridging Camera,
(On Auto) f/5.6 1/800s, ISO-160, 38mm



Dusky Moorhens at the
Wonthaggi Wetlands Conservation Park
Photo © Gayle Marien
Nikon D7500 and Tamron 18-400mm
f/6.3 1/1600s, ISO-1250, 400mm

2019 Agenda

The following is the 2019 agenda was aimed at

- providing members with learning opportunities around photography and camera functions
- preparing members for the monthly challenges to assist them in enhancing their photographic skills
- offering enjoyable photography based outings

Monthly Meeting	Photo Presentations	Challenge Prep.	Learning Topic	Using Our Photos	Outings	Courses and Tutorials
Feb. 16th	Summer/Festive Season					4 x 2 hr weekly sessions with Mick Green and Rob Kenyon
Mar. 16th	New Growth Featured Photographer				Sat March 16th: Wonthaggi Desalination Plant	
April 27th	Desalination Plant Outing Leading Lines Featured Photographer	Natural Framing	Composition Techniques	Photo Cards		
May 18th	Natural Framing Featured Photographer	Winter in Black & White	Exposure Triangle – ISO Aperture, Shutter Speed	Framing for Hanging	Sun. May 26th: Photography with an Artist's Eye by Norman Hanson at Walkerville South	
June 15th	Walkerville South Outing Winter in Black & White Featured Photographer	Nightscape or Night Sky	Light Meter, Metering and the Histogram	Photo Books	Sat Jun 22nd: Milky Way Photography Experience	Sat Jun.22nd 1.5 hrs How to Photograph the Milky Way
July 20th	Milky Way Outing Night Street Photo Walk Nightscape/Night Sky Featured Photographer	Minimalism	Photo Editing Software including Freeware	Electronic Platforms e.g. Instagram, Pinterest, Facebook	Wed Jul 10th Night Street Photography Photo Walk in Wonthaggi.	Wed. Jul 24th: 3 hours Photography Basics Encore - Composition, the Exposure Triangle (aperture, shutter speed and ISO), the Light Meter and the Histogram

Monthly Meeting	Photo Presentations	Challenge Prep.	Learning Topic	Using Our Photos	Outings	Courses and Tutorials
Aug 17th	Coal Creek Outing Minimalism Challenge Featured Photographer	Panorama and Stitching	Focus and Depth of Field including back button focus	Calendars and Gifts	Sun Aug 4th: Coal Creek Photo Exhibition and Photography with an antique feel	
Sept 21st	Mouth of Powlett and Archies Creek Outing Panorama and Stitching Featured Photographer	Patterns	Up Close and Personal and Macro Photography	Stock Photo Outlets e.g. Adobe, Shutterstock	Sun 15th Sept: Panorama and anything else at Mouth of Powlett and Archies Creek	
Oct 19th	Korumburra Lights Outing Macro Photo Walk Patterns Featured Photographer	Action and Movement	Long Exposure Photography and Neutral Density Filters	Annual Photographic Competitions	Fri Oct 4th - Korumburra Southern Lights After Dark Sun Oct 6th – Macro and Close-up Photo Walk	
Nov 16th	Action and Movement Featured Photographer	Rule of Thirds (Present in Jan.)	Taking good family holiday snaps	Just for Fun – An intro. to CoopH and Jordi Koalitic		
Dec TBA	No Meeting in December – Christmas Get Together at Val and Pam Michelangeli's place at 26 Townsend Bluff Road, Inverloch at 12.30 for lunch on Sunday 15 th December, 2019.				Sun 15th Dec: Christmas Party 12.30 (for lunch)	
1 st meeting 2020	Rule of Thirds					

Tips for Taking Good Family and Holiday Snaps

Prepared by Gayle Marien

Introduction

As we approach the Christmas holiday period it is timely to look at some tips to get the most out of photographing and preserving memories of your family get-togethers and holidays.

These are general, not technical tips. They are gathered from a number of articles. Most are extracts but links to the full articles are provided, should you want to explore the topic in greater detail.

These 26 tips apply equally to any photographic equipment from mobile phone cameras to DSLR's.

12 Tips for Better Vacation Photos

Featuring [Diane Berkenfeld](#) & [Lindsay Silverman](#)

Reference: <https://www.nikonusa.com/en/learn-and-explore/a/tips-and-techniques/12-tips-for-better-vacation-photos.html>

- 1. Make sure your batteries are fresh** (if your camera uses Alkaline batteries) and fully charged (if your camera uses rechargeable Li-ion ones); We've all run out of power at one inopportune time or another but doing so while traveling can be devastating.
- 2. Bring extra media cards.** You don't want to face the decision of having to delete images or video clips to make room for new ones in the middle of your vacation.
- 3. Do your homework. Research the location** if you aren't familiar with it. Once there, you can even ask the locals if there are any places off the beaten path that might make for interesting photographs or video. Taking maps or guidebooks with you on your trip? Take a photo of the family gathered together, with the maps and books spread out, as a fun way to start your vacation image capture.



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- 4. Have fun. Look for unique angles** such as carefully climbing high above your subjects, or getting the camera low to the ground for a change in viewpoint. Take both video and stills when you do this for more variety.
- 5. Take some candid photos** during the vacation of everyone having fun. You can capture great expressions and moments when your subject isn't aware that the camera is pointed at them.
- 6. Stabilize the camera whenever possible.** If your camera has VR (Vibration Reduction), turn it on.
- 7. Take a shot of the nearby signage** so it will be easy for you to recall where you were for a specific photo or video.



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8. Zoom in on the details. Fill the frame with your entire subject. Fun photos at a market, for example, might be a shot where the entire image is a close up of one particular subject such as a basket of ripe fruit or veggies, or table full of souvenirs.

9. Shoot your food! It's easy to take a great shot of a mouth-watering plate of food by using the Macro mode or zooming in tight on the dish. This is a fun photo you can take to remember the delicacies you enjoyed on your trip.

10. Take a variety of photos: wide establishing shots that show the whole scene, as well as photos that focus on one subject. This will help you tell a more complete story of your trip.

11. Pass the camera around. How will anyone know you were there if you stay behind the camera the entire time? Have others in your group take pictures or shoot video of you having fun too.



12 Tips for Better Vacation Photos

Featuring [Diane Berkenfeld](#) & [Lindsay Silverman](#)

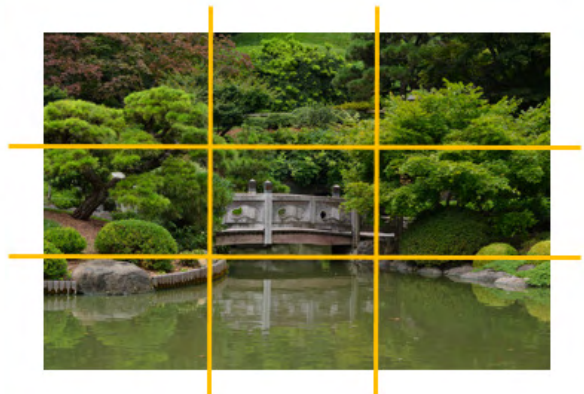
Reference: <https://www.nikonusa.com/en/learn-and-explore/a/tips-and-techniques/12-tips-for-better-vacation-photos.html>

12. Follow these three easy rules of composition:

Rule of thirds: When you look through your viewfinder or at the LCD screen, imagine a tic-tac-toe grid over the scene. The rule of thirds suggests that the points where the lines intersect are the best places to position your subject. Doing so will generally result in a pleasant and balanced composition;

Most pictures look better if the **horizon is positioned above or below the middle of the frame**, not directly in the centre of the image. The exception is when shooting a reflection;

When photographing people and animals it's best to have them looking into the frame



4 Tips for Taking Better Holiday Photos – An Extract

A Post By: [Simon Ringsmuth](#)

Full article at: <https://digital-photography-school.com/4-tips-for-taking-better-holiday-photos/>

1. Get down to eye level with the kids

It's tempting to shoot down at kids from your eye level, but this often results in unflattering pictures that seem cold and distant. Putting yourself physically at the same level as the kids offers a much more interesting view of their world, and makes for photos that are far more personal and memorable.



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2. Adjust the ISO instead of using the flash

If you leave your camera on Automatic mode, you might notice the flash constantly going off which can result in washed-out colours and unnatural shadows across people's faces.

But if you try to disable the flash, your photos will often come out blurry or out of focus.

To fix this, [take your camera off auto so you can let the ISO automatically adjust or control it yourself.]



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3. Shoot moments, not poses

Capturing the essence of what people are doing – talking, laughing, opening presents, sharing a drink – often makes for much more interesting photos as well as better memories in years to come.



4 Tips for Taking Better Holiday Photos – An Extract

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4. Know when to put your camera down

This might sound counter-intuitive for an article about how to get better holiday photos, but as the saying goes, there is a time for everything under the sun. This includes a time to shoot pictures and a time to just be with friends and family.

Rather than 100 photos of your family opening presents, just take a handful and use the rest of your time to simply be with your loved ones and enjoy your time together.



10 Simple Tips to Improve Your Family Photos – An Extract

A Post By: Swiss Family Travel

Full article at: <https://swissfamilytravel.com/blog/2017/9/7/10-simple-tips-to-help-your-family-travel-photos>

1. Change your schedule

Have breakfast out and enjoy the beautiful sunshine. Kids up at the first ray of sunshine? Instead of telling them to be quiet, head out and explore during this period of magical light.

2. Find open shade

Move your subjects to take advantage of the shade. Open shade is shade created with shade of a building, a tree or anything that casts a nice large shadow.



10 Simple Tips to Improve Your Family Photos – An Extract

A Post By: Swiss Family Travel

Full article at: <https://swissfamilytravel.com/blog/2017/9/7/10-simple-tips-to-help-your-family-travel-photos>

3. Use a polarizing filter

Have you ever noticed that when you are wearing your sunglasses, the blue sky and green colours of the ocean are even more vivid? You can thank the polarising glass in your sunglasses for creating this effect, and the great news is you can also buy sunglasses for your camera- polarising filters.

BCCC Note: If you don't have a DSLR try holding your sunnies in front of your camera or phone.



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4. Get creative in order to shade your subject

Why not experiment with using your body, or one of your handy kid helpers to shade your subject.

5. Have the sun behind you

Having the sun behind you is the best way to get the most colour in your photos when shooting during the brightest parts of the day.

When you shoot into the sun you not only lose detail but it casts unwanted shadows.

If having the sun behind you doesn't work, try having the sun to the side instead of behind the subject.



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6. Use the middle of the day as nap time

If you nap after lunch you can recharge and head out again around 3 pm. Of course this doesn't always work, but if you can spend the height of the sun hours indoors recharging, having lunch and napping, you avoid the problem of the sun high in the sky.

7. Shade and sun don't mix

- Get the bright light behind the photographer.
- Either get entirely in the shade, or entirely in the sunshine.



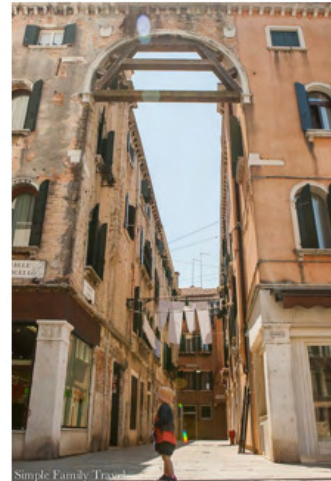
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8. Reset your expectations

What are your real expectations for your travel photos? What do you want to feel when you look back at them?But more often than not, my day to day photography is for our memories only. They don't have to be of print quality or win any national geographic travel photography prize.



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9. Prioritise kid free photography time

I like to have my kids in our family photos, but sometimes I want a more cooperative subject who won't complain about having their photo taken.

10. Don't use a flash

I almost never use a flash. Yes I have the bonus of having equipment that enables me to shoot in low light, but even when using my iPhone I never turn the flash on. A flash, when not used correctly, doesn't provide the most flattering light.



Tips and Tricks – Group Photo Cheat Sheet

Reference: <https://121clicks.com/tutorials/25-useful-photography-cheat-sheets-part2>

