

PHOTOGRAPHING THE NATURAL WORLD

On this Wildlife Photography Course you will learn how to take a variety of eye catching still photographs, from close-ups to landscapes, how to make the best use of light, great composition, which features of your camera to use and the skills you will need. You will also learn the best ways to get close to wildlife using hides and camouflage, and simply how to take stunning wildlife images that will require minimal adjustments in Photoshop or Elements.



We never assume any prior knowledge, whether you are a newcomer or more experienced photographer you are sure to enjoy the opportunity to increase your skills to photograph a wider range of subjects.

Andrew Cooper is an award winning BBC wildlife film maker with some 30 years experience photographing nature worldwide. His photographs are widely published and he is the author of nine books featuring his extensive library of wildlife and landscape photographs.

The pace of the course will be enjoyable and your day is designed to be fun. Although we will be out and about for most of the session, making full use of our ancient woods, meadows, lake and waterfall, we will return to the conference room or courtyard for tea and coffee. Toilet facilities are never far away. During our lunch break there will be more opportunities to discuss and answer individual questions.

You will learn how to:

- think like a professional photographer
- create great composition
- get a blurred background to your shots and control shutter speed
- use ISO to change shutter speed
- use your camera's autofocus points
- set the appropriate focus mode
- the importance of correct exposures and using fill-in light
- get close to wild animals



ITINERARY

Spring- Summer - Autumn 2011

9.45am Registration and introductions

10.00am Introduction to wildlife photography

Introductions and format for the day. What makes a good photograph? The inspiration to start thinking like a professional photographer.

11.15am Coffee break and chance to ask more questions

11.45am Essential equipment and techniques

Introduction to imaging, choice of cameras, lenses, lens shading, camera support, camera skills and basic field craft. Also and the 'extras' which tip the balance in your favour. Mastering basic techniques and getting to grips with your camera – film speed, shutter speed, depth of field and looking after your equipment.

1pm – lunch.

2pm Landscape photography

How to take great wide angles. Learn the essentials of good composition and the use of filters and polarisers. Water, sun and sky. Shooting stunning panoramas.

2.30pm Plant and close-up photography

How to take great close ups of flowers and insects.

3pm Animal photography

Fieldcraft techniques, finding wildlife, tracks and trails, and using your senses. Getting close to wildlife – using hides and camouflage. Remote control.

4pm Tea break and chance to ask more questions

4.30pm Don't just shoot – create. The art of story.

5pm - course ends.



WILDLIFE PHOTO COURSE

Skills you can learn:

- Planning the Shot
- Photographic Composition
- Correct Exposure
- Aperture and Depth of Field
- Photographing Movement
- Using Filters
- Post Production – Getting the best from your digital images
- RAW files

What you need to bring if you have them:

- SLR Camera (Digital or Film)
- Lenses (optional: Filters NDs etc)
- Tripod (optional)
- Memory Cards / Film
- Warm, Waterproof Clothing and suitable footwear – boots if wet

The following would also be an advantage but not essential:

- Cable release/infra red release
- Laptop (digital users)
- Polarising Filter