



CreativeEscapes 

PHOTOGRAPHY

INTENSIVE

Overview

Purchased a film or digital SLR camera and not really sure how to use it? Do you feel uninspired by the images that you take? Want to become more comfortable with the technical aspects of your camera so you can focus on the creative sides of picture-taking? Our four-day intensive photography course is designed to rapidly improve both your technical and creative skills through tutorials, live shoots, field trips and one-on-one clinics. We guarantee that by the end of our course, your camera know-how will improve, you will become more comfortable behind the lens and you will feel newly inspired to get out and shoot great images.

Day One

After settling in, we begin with the basics of camera control and exposure. We review every operation and dial to ensure you feel totally comfortable with your equipment, then teach professional techniques about how to get the perfect exposure every time. In detail, we cover

- Basic and advanced camera operation
- The concept of exposure
- Aperture, shutter speed and ISO
- Light metering, highlights and shadows

This session is very hands-on and interactive, mixing classroom-based learning with mini-practical exercises that allow you to apply the theories we learn in real-world shooting situations.

Day Two

Once we have mastered the basics, we venture out for an in-the-field assignment to further practice the first day's theory, then continue with more tutorials on advanced camera and image manipulation. These sessions include:

- Bracketing and white balance
- Lens selection and properties
- Composition rules and examples

We round off the day with a presentation on different genres of photography and its most famous artists, paying specific attention to what makes a great image great.

Day Three

Now that we have the fundamentals down, we focus on how to conceive of, find and capture great images: this second part of the course is all about creativity. Building on your knowledge and comfort, we engage students in a variety of practical exercises, getting out into the surrounding region - typically a bustling local market, local winery or countryside village - in order to try out shooting various examples of portraiture, still life and documentary. We will pay specific attention to:

- How to translate creative ideas into shots
- Approaching your subject
- Natural, supplementary and fill lighting
- Styles and genres

After lunch, we review our images as a group, then pair you up with a student from our travel writing course to brainstorm, research and shoot a story as a photojournalist team.

Day Four

The final day is spent planning, preparing and shooting a major work, based upon students' specific interests and ability. This project enables students to put together everything they have absorbed over the past several days, as well as giving everyone a chance to see some of the highlights of the region. Our tutors will again review your work, and indicate to you their view of your particular strengths and style, plus provide direction for you after the course. Students will be given the opportunity to present their final work to the group.

Our 4-day intensive course is taught by two professional photographers with over 20 years of experience.

Jon Cunningham is a professional travel and lifestyle photographer, with clients including several Conde Nast, Vogue Travel and Small Luxury Hotels of the World members. He is a staff photographer for Inimage Agency and an associate of the British Institute of Professional Photographers.

Mike Smith specialises in advertising photography, with clients ranging from Paul Smith to Diesel. He is also a photography lecturer at Central St. Martins in London, one of Europe's leading art schools.