

# LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY

## BLUEPRINT



### APERTURE



f/2.8    f/4    f/5.6    f/8    f/11    f/14    f/22

Wide Aperture (more light)

Narrow Aperture (less light)

You need to use a higher f-stop, or narrow aperture, to get more of your scene in focus. Generally, you'll want to shoot in the f/8 to f/14 range, topping out at around f/16.

### ISO

100 ··· 200 ··· 400 ··· 640 ··· 800 ··· 1600 ··· 3200

Lower

LIGHT SENSITIVITY

Higher

In order to compensate for the smaller aperture, you may need to bump up the ISO a bit, but then you want to avoid noise in your landscape shots and to do this you will need a lower ISO. Keep it under 400 and preferably at 100.

### SHUTTER SPEED



Blur Motion

Tripod Recommended

Handheld Ok

Freeze Motion

Use a tripod if it's too slow to hand hold and you are getting blurry shots. You'll definitely need a tripod if the shutter speed is slower than 1/50s.

## 1 EXPOSURE

Look at your histogram! You will usually want to see a bell shaped histogram that is slightly to the right of center. It's crucial to understand why you want this kind of histogram.



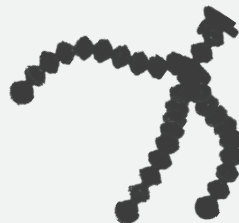
This makes post production easier as bringing a slightly over-exposed image down doesn't introduce noise whereas increasing exposure in post processing reduces the quality of your image by making it more grainy.

**TIP:**

It also helps to capture as much information as possible by shooting raw files.

## 2 GEAR SELECTION

It is possible to get a great landscape without much gear, but it's a lot more difficult. The bare essentials for great landscapes are a wide angle lens and a tripod.



Many landscape photographers will also add a polarizing filter, an ND filter and an ND grad filter (individually or stacked).

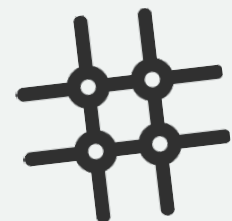
**TIP:**

Wind is your enemy so do whatever you can to stabilize your camera to avoid blur.

## 3 THE ESSENTIALS

### 3 COMPOSITION

The classic rules of composition tend to produce very powerful landscape images.



That means thinking about the rule of thirds as well as looking for elements such as roads, rivers and fences to act as leading lines.

**TIP:**

Be aware of the visual weight of elements so that you get a balanced composition.