



5 TIPS FOR PHOTOGRAPHING INTIMATE LANDSCAPES

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I'm Margaret Soraya, a photographer based in Scotland, who works in nature's quiet places, capturing beautiful landscapes that touch the soul.

Photographing intimate landscapes is a very mindful way of using photography to slow down and really notice the world.

HELLO



INTRO

In this ebook I wanted to share my tips for photographing intimate landscapes. We don't all have access to the big wide sweeping scenes in our day to day life. But there is beauty in the small things that often get overlooked.

Choosing your subject is the first step. Look for flowers, textures and plant life that may otherwise be overlooked.



1.

Using the Light

Look out for where the light is coming from. Backlit images are fabulous. Sometimes there is no sunlight, but when there is, the direction is crucial.

I mostly shoot backlit. Directly into the sun, keeping it behind the subject. As long as the sun is not actually in the frame itself, you will be ok.

Keep it tight on the subject matter. This will give you a beautiful backlit image, often with light sparkling around the edges.



2.

Getting Low

Generally speaking try and get on the same focal plane as your subject.

If the subject is on the ground, lie on the ground!



3.

Distance & Background

Make sure that you are aware of what is in the background and use it.

Throw the background out of focus and use the blurred colours.

You can exaggerate the effect by distancing the subject from the background. The further away the background is from the focus point, the more shallow depth of field you will capture (blurred background).

When photographing intimate landscapes, a blurred background is often what we are looking for.



4.

Aperture

Lens choice is important because of the aperture it can stop down to.

With these type of images, the wider the aperture the lens can go (meaning the smaller the number on the lens) the better it will create this background blur.

So you are looking for lenses that go to f/2.8 or even f/1.8 if at all possible.



5.

Lenses

When it comes to photographing intimate landscapes, lens and aperture can make a big difference.

I used Nikon cameras for many years and my favourite lenses for this type of work were the 70-200mm f/2.8 lens and the 60mm prime lens. Generally speaking, you are looking for lenses that will allow for a shallow depth of field. Ones that stop down to f/2.8 or as close to as possible.

You can look for macro lenses or use extension tubes.



RECAP

Here are the steps to think about when photographing intimate landscapes;

- Light
- Get on the same focal plane
- Distance & Background
- Aperture
- Lens choice

I hope this ebook inspires you to look for those small details in nature! Enjoy x