



Tips for photographing fall colours

Photographers' favorite time of year is just around the corner...fall! To make the most of your photography sessions this autumn season, you'll need to be prepared. The tips below will explain how to take your fall foliage photos to the next level!

Whether you are photographing locally or traveling long distances for fall colour shooting, make sure to check colour reports ahead of time. Avoid booking travel too far ahead of time, as colours change at different times each year depending on rainfall, temperatures and more. There are also several groups on Facebook for sharing current fall colour conditions in specific areas. In

Shooting the beginning and middle of the foliage colour turn even more as it allows for maximum colour variety. Shooting early means more colour contrast and visual interest in images. Timing is everything to make this successful, but it can have very pleasing results.

Watch the weather: overcast is best

Shoot during the golden hours

Use a polarizing filter

Check sharpness of foliage when reviewing shots

Look for reflections

Try using intentional camera movement

Small scenes can have large impact

Look for colour harmonies

Utilize long exposures in your shots

Get low and close

Don't forget to look up

Watch the weather: overcast is best

Overcast days are great for shooting fall colours. At other times of the year, overcast days can leave your photos feeling flat. fall is the best time to shoot when clouds are thick overhead. The soft, low contrast lighting on overcast days means foliage colours look saturated and rich. Without direct light on leaves, there is much less glare to deal with as well. Avoid compositions that include the white, colourless sky to maximize the impact of your images. Bonus: Overcast weather means you can shoot all day!

Shoot on days with little or no wind. Since the focus of fall colour shooting is on foliage, wind is the enemy. During blue hour and golden hour when the light is low, this is especially true. Make sure to account for any movement in foliage by reviewing your images in the field and adjusting to faster shutter speeds if necessary.

Foggy days can create incredible atmosphere. With cooler days, fog becomes more common. Shooting in foggy conditions is ideal for fall colours, as it reduces contrast and gives your photos a dreamy atmosphere. Look for low lying areas or bodies of water that are more likely to gather fog overnight. Typically, morning is best for capturing fog, as it burns off throughout the day.

Since fog is white, check your exposure to make sure you are not underexposing your images. Camera light meters often underexpose when large portions of the scene are white or gray.

Shoot during the golden hours

The golden hours surrounding sunrise and sunset are great any time of the year, but in autumn they enhance the warmth of scenes and can lower contrast from the brighter times of day. The light changes rapidly once the sun is up, so make sure to be ready at your chosen composition ahead of time.

Photographers tend to pack up after sunrise, and not shoot again until sunset. This is a mistake! Watch the weather conditions and light, and always have your camera ready when out exploring.

Front light (sun at your back) works well if you want to enhance colour separation and make colours really stand out. However, this type of lighting situation also tends to make scenes feel flat and two dimensional.

Side light (sun to your right or left) is great to add three dimensionality and depth to your images. It enhances textures, and allows great colour separation. Scenes with strong sidelight tend to look best when the sun is lowest in the sky, as the light is diffused.

Back lighting (sun in front of you) is something many people avoid. It can be difficult to avoid sun flares and the dynamic range is extreme, but when done well it can be unique and beautiful. Foliage take on a three-dimensional depth that cannot be achieved in any other way. Backlit leaves glow, yet retain their colour creating complex and interesting scenes. Experimentation is key to find the best ways to utilize this lighting scenario.

Use a polarizing filter

Perhaps the one filter that cannot be replicated in post processing is the circular polarizer. When shooting fall colours, you want to retain all the rich colour detail in foliage. Without a polarizer, glare is a significant issue that can reduce the impact of your photos, and colours tend to be less saturated in general. When using a polarizer, make sure to compose your shot and then turn your polarizer to see how it affects the scene. Sometimes you will want to reduce the strength of the effect, especially when using a wide-angle lens or when the sky is a large portion of the image. If it has recently rained, or your composition includes water, a polarizer is a crucial piece of hardware.

Check sharpness of foliage when reviewing shots

As mentioned above, wind can be difficult to deal with when shooting foliage. Make sure you are reviewing your images as you take them and are zooming in to 100% to ensure no blurring from movement has occurred. Without zooming in, it is easy to gloss over major image imperfections that can be solved by simply increasing shutter speed.

Look for reflections

Reflections are one of my favorite compositional tools. Using reflections in wide angle compositions is a great way to increase visual interest and make scenes more compelling. Utilizing a telephoto lens to isolate colours, textures or unique elements in water is also a fantastic way to add an abstract touch to your imagery.

Try using intentional camera movement

Photographers generally want their cameras firmly planted on a tripod while taking photos. The exception to this is called “intentional camera movement” which is a unique technique to create abstract images. Most often seen in compositions with straight tree trunks, it can be used in a variety of scenes. To utilize this effect, mount your camera on a tripod and compose a scene. Adjust your shutter speed to between 1/4sec & 1 sec and trigger the shutter while simultaneously tilting your camera up or down. This technique allows you to retain some details in the scene, while also creating an abstract look and feel.

Small scenes can have large impact

Use a telephoto lens to isolate subjects such as lone trees, leaves or other small scenes. By excluding the wide vista, you can create a more intimate view of the autumn colours. This technique can be used to create images that are uniquely yours.

Look for colour harmonies

Colour harmony is created when colour combinations are pleasing to the eye. This can be achieved by using contrast or consonance, and there are no strict rules to this idea. However, understanding colour harmony will allow you to create stronger compositions while in the field. To learn more, check out [Harmonious Colour Schemes](#).

Utilize long exposures in your shots

Fall colours can oftentimes seem riotous or chaotic in images. To soften that effect, search out scenes with moving water to utilize long exposures. Long exposures of water offer a soothing, soft feel that complements the sharp contrasts of fall colours.

Get low and close

To maximize impact, get low and close to your foreground subjects. By using the near-far technique with a wide-angle lens, you can focus your viewer’s attention and create depth in scenes.

Don't forget to look up

Tree canopies in burst of autumn colour can be a splendid sight to behold. Make sure to find a grouping of trees who's canopy fills at least 3/4 of the sky and work the scene until you find the perfect composition.

Legal notice

The Publisher has strived to be as accurate and complete as possible in the creation of this book, notwithstanding the fact that he does not warrant or represent at any time that the contents within are accurate due to the rapidly changing nature of technology.

While all attempts have been made to verify information provided in this publication, the Publisher assumes no responsibility for errors, omissions, or contrary interpretation of the subject matter herein. Any perceived slights of specific persons, peoples, or organizations are unintentional.

In practical advice books, like anything else in life, there are no guarantees of income made. Readers are cautioned rely on their own judgment about their individual circumstances to act accordingly.

This book is not intended for use as a source of legal, business, accounting or financial advice. All readers are advised to seek services of competent professionals in legal, business, accounting, and finance field.

Bio

My name is David Wright.

I have many years' experience writing procedures on how to test high tech electronic equipment. Re wrote technical manuals so that the average person could understand them.

Set up numerous training programs to train junior techs.

My documenting skills are excellent paying attention to details satisfying the toughest ISO auditors.

I have enhanced my writing skills by successfully completing a course in Writing for Children's literature.

Completed course from AWAI in Copy writing service, B2B copy writing, Seo management , Email marketing and web design

This has helped me write how to articles and Information Books that you will find on my website Discount E Books <http://www.discount-ebook-s.com/>

I have had a Camera in my Hand since 1965 Gone pro In 1999

Took the course from ICS in Photography

I am now at a point in life I would like to share my knowledge with the world and the best way I know how is by Print either electronically or Hard copy paper.

David Wright

Electronic service technician

Professional Photographer

Experience writer