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Autumn landscapes

Create your best autumn landscape photographs

Autumn is the best time of year for landscape photography, in terms of colour. While the other seasons alter landscapes in their own way, none are as pleasing as experiencing leaves changing colour and falling to the ground – with the standard orange and red. As you walk into an open field, or a river clearing, and see the golden-yellow, orange, and red leaves mixed in with evergreen trees. The combination of the scenery and cool air is a wonderful gift from Mother Nature.

As photographers, all this colourful inspiration hits us immediately, and at times it can be overwhelming.

When that happens, it's important to look for details that enhance your images, rather than blasting your camera sensors with colour,

The biggest challenge of autumn photography

Let's say you've just arrived at your favorite park, stream, and fall is in full swing. The sun is out, the birds are chirping, and the breeze blowing across your face is just cool enough to be refreshing. You're ready, camera in hand, to get started on your photo session. Then you ask yourself the question: where to begin?

The biggest challenge is not a technical one; it's fighting the desire to capture as much colour as you can in a single frame.

Autumn is all levels of inspiring, and while there's no harm in trying to capture all the colour, the best photos will use elements of autumn to convey the season without overdoing it.

Shooting the familiar, with an autumn twist

Through practice and intention, capture autumn images by incorporating the colours of the season into a normal style of shooting. That may sound confusing, but it really means the story of the image isn't derived from colour; rather, the story of the image is derived from my intended subject, enhanced by autumn colour.

Use autumn leaves, or some other seasonal condition, as the primary subject, then orient the frequently photographed subject to be in the background. Viewers will instantly recognize the background, but because of the subject's orientation, their attention will be drawn to the foreground.

Hidden falls are frequently photographed. Using leaves as the subject use an aperture that keeps the background mostly in focus, giving the viewer a sense of place

Key Lesson: In autumn, it's possible to create unique images in popular places by shifting the location of the main subject and using the colours of the season to draw the viewer's attention.

Creating the shot you want

As photographers, we seek to document the world as it is, imperfections and all. Sometimes, though, as artists, we long for perfection in an image, and we are reluctant to change the scene, hoping that we'll find a composition that fits our vision. This is sometimes a long and frustrating process.

Stage the scene you want to photograph. After all, it is your vision.

Staging a scene to photograph may feel taboo, but it is an easy way to ensure you can convey the story of your image.

Take Outdoor Portraits

Fall is a great time for taking outdoor portrait photos of people use leaves and the colours of the season as a backdrop for my portrait photos.

Adding a human to the scene will give your photo an extra dimension. It helps the viewer connect with the image, naturally making it a stronger photo.

There are many ways that you can use an autumn scene for the backdrop of your portrait photos. You could simply photograph a person standing in a landscape full of vivid colored trees.

But also try doing something a bit different. You could ask your subject to lie on the ground amongst the fallen leaves, then photograph them from directly above. Or ask your subject to stand in front of a tree or bush, using the leaves as an interesting backdrop.

Look for subjects that really represent the season, and use them to your advantage. Fill the frame with your subjects to create an intimate feel and a strong theme in your portrait photos.

So catching the season is more than just visuals and colours. It's a great opportunity to tell a story about what's going on or where we're heading.

Remember that photographing people doesn't just have to involve full body or head shots. A simple image of a hand reaching into a pile of fallen leaves can have a powerful impact too.

Candid Moments

Document the simple joys of autumn. Candid shots of people playing in piles of leaves, sipping hot cider, or sharing a laugh by the bonfire can convey the warmth and nostalgia of the season.

Editing tips for autumn photography

Editing images containing autumn elements is pretty straightforward. There are some things to watch out for while you are editing.

Too much warmth

When adjusting the white balance slider, you'll see that a warmer image will, at the beginning, start to look more appealing. It is easy to go overboard with warmth, though. The white balance slider will also have an impact on the overall brightness of the image.

Try sliding the white balance to the right - toward the warm side - and watch the histogram as you move. You should have seen that the histogram representation of your image also moves to the right. The same thing happens when you move the white balance slider toward the cool side. As you move the slider to the left, the histogram data moves right.

adjust your white balance enough to keep the colour of the supporting elements in your image true, and then adjust the colours of the specific elements with the HSL controls,

Oversaturation

We all love a good, colourful photograph. Bright colours, especially fall colours, have something about them that makes us feel warm inside. Too much colour is a turnoff. The feeling which errs on the side of being overly dramatic, is that your eyes are burning from all the colour. The colours of autumn are quickly over-done by the saturation slider. If the other elements in the image are dull – let's say rocks or something typically not bright in colour – then grabbing a handful of the saturation slider will saturate everything, which may not be desirable.

Key Lesson: You can process autumn photos like you would any other. Just watch out for trying to boost colour via the white balance or saturation sliders.

Using the HSL slider to tweak colours

An easy way to add and shift the colours of photographic elements is by using the HSL slider in Lightroom. The HSL panel is broken down into three distinct areas: Hue, Saturation, and Luminance. The Hue area shifts the designated colour in a given range. The Saturation section allows adjustments in the range of no saturation to over-saturated. The Luminance sliders impact how bright the colours will be in an image. Think of the luminance sliders as mixing in white or black into the selected colour.

Your autumn photos will have a lot of orange, yellow, and red elements in them, so those are the colours we'll be looking at when adjusting the sliders. For the experiment below, select an image to use. When you are done, reset the image to return the colour to its previous state.

In the hue section, move the orange slider all the way to the left. You'll see that anything orange has now shifted to magenta, and it likely looks terrible. Double-click the name of the slider you just moved to reset it. Next, try the yellow slider. Try shifting the slider to both ends. You should see that you can shift the yellows to almost green, or almost orange. You will probably also see a smaller section of your image change.

Let's do the same experiments with the two other sections. Shifting the orange or yellow saturation slider to the extremes yields a lot of colour, or no colour. When shifting the luminance sliders, we get a near white, or a flattened, muddy representation of colour. What I'm hoping you get out of these experiments is that colour can get out of hand quickly, so the slider adjustments should be made in tiny increments.

Take a break, then review

Using the HSL sliders you can tweak the colours of autumn elements in your images, but it can get out of hand quickly take a break-review process when editing your images.

When you feel you have completed the editing process, take a break for a couple of hours. Come back to your images with fresh eyes. Review your edits. Do you like the images with your previous edits, or do they still need some work?

Key Lesson: Using the HSL Panel in Lightroom will allow colours to be fine-tuned. This is particularly helpful when photographing autumn landscapes.

Final thoughts

As photographers, we find immense inspiration from the colours of autumn. While the colourful landscapes are awe-inspiring, it is imperative, for good photography, to use the elements presented by autumn to help us tell better stories through our images. you are now better armed to use the seasonal elements to your advantage when creating compelling images, even of oft-photographed places.

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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

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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.

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