

Newsletter

InFocus at DVCC

27th April 2025



Learn, Develop, Share, Support

Caption

This week's guest article. Landscape Photography.

If you love the idea of capturing sweeping landscapes, golden sunsets, or moody mountain scenes but aren't sure where to start (or want to take your skills to the next level), this month's feature is for you! We're diving into the best techniques, must-have gear, and timeless lessons from legends like Ansel Adams to help you create truly breathtaking landscape photos. Grab your camera – adventure awaits!

There's something magical about stepping into nature with a camera in hand – the fresh air, the shifting light, the feeling that this might be the moment you capture something amazing. Landscape photography is one of the most rewarding (and sometimes challenging) styles to master. But with the right techniques, gear, and a little inspiration from the greats like Ansel Adams, you'll be well on your way to creating stunning shots.

Here are some hints and tips that might be of help. Top techniques for awesome landscape shots include

1. Chase Good Light

Light is everything. Early morning (sunrise) and late evening (sunset) are when the magic happens – soft, golden light that makes everything glow. Midday sun can be tricky, but sometimes dramatic shadows can work in your favour.

2. Always Use a Tripod

No shame in carrying the extra gear! A solid tripod keeps your shots crisp, especially if you're working with longer exposures (think flowing waterfalls or dreamy cloudscapes). Not got a tripod try a rock, or a fence post.

3. Think About Your Composition

Use tricks like the Rule of Thirds – putting the horizon or key points off-center – and look for leading lines (roads, rivers, trails) to draw people into your scene. Once you know the rules, don't be afraid to break them if it feels right.

Some upcoming events:

Not necessarily DVCC attended event but here are some event you might like to pop into your diary

YPU awards and Exhibition
Doncaster Grammar School,
10th May then Doncaster
Museum

Society of Photographers
Roadshow, Wetherby
Racecourse 13th May 2025

Rugby Union 7 a side
competition in Hemsworth
10:00 to circa 5:00pm on
14th June

Steam Punk Festival at
Bolsover Castle, (English
Heritage Site) on 29th June

Equestrian Eventing, Show
jumping and dressage at
Frickley Park, 14th to 17th
August 2025

Downhill bike racing time
trials, Peaty's DownHill
Series, City of Steel in
Grenoside woods, Sheffield
13th September 2025

4. Focus for Maximum Sharpness

Set your aperture between f/11 and f/16 for sharpness from front to back. Pro tip: focus about a third of the way into the scene to get everything nice and crisp.

5. Filters, a game changer

Graduated neutral density filters help balance bright skies with darker landscapes. Polarizers can punch up the colours and knock down reflections from water and leaves.

6. Patience Pays Off

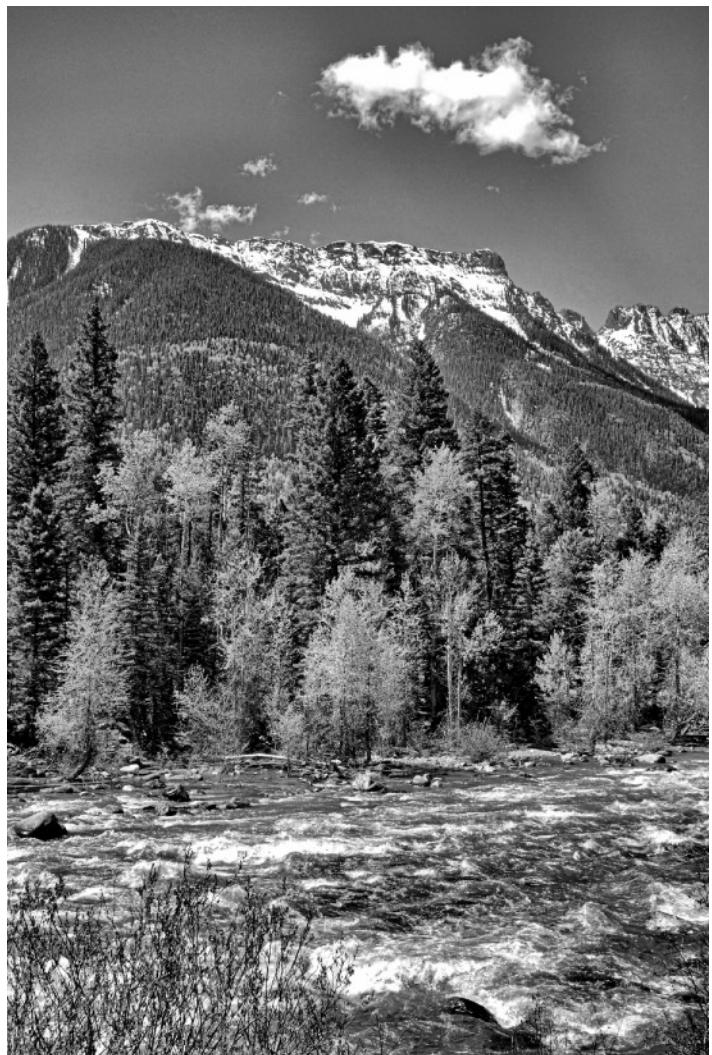
Great landscapes usually don't happen on the first try. Be ready to return to a spot a few times. Different weather, light, or seasons can totally transform a scene.

Learning from the Legends: Ansel Adams and Beyond

If there's one name every landscape photographer should know, it's **Ansel Adams**.

His breathtaking black-and-white images of Yosemite and the American West basically

defined what we think of as classic landscape photography of course there others 'greats' to perhaps **Galen Rowell**: Took his camera on epic adventures – think crazy mountain climbs at sunset; **Michael Kenna**:: Master of minimalism and mood – check out his long exposures or perhaps the calm, balanced painting like work of **Charlie Waite**



Keep Growing Your Skills

- **Practice:** Get out often – sunrises, stormy skies, foggy mornings. The more you shoot, the better you'll see.
- **Workshops and Meetups:** Let camera club friends know if you'd like some help or if you'd like to meet up for a landscape day out
- **Stay Inspired:** Read photography books, visit exhibits, scroll through the work of photographers you admire.

In the end, landscape photography is about slowing down and *really* seeing. It's about being in the right place, at the right time – and knowing what to do when you are.

Ansel Adams said it best: "*You don't take a photograph, you make it.*" So let's get out there, get a little muddy, maybe a little cold, and make some magic!

Look ups and Links.

None of these are endorsed by DVCC, they are things I've found on the internet that might (or might not) be helpful and or interesting and offer you some places to go

[How to Capture Stunning Landscape Photos: A Beginner's Guide](#)

[A Landscape Photography Tutorial - The Do's and Don'ts](#)

[Photographing woodlands](#)

Calendar of events - Look on the website for the new schedule.

01/05/2025	Thu	ZOOM	External Speaker: <u>Mike Martin</u> "It's not what you see its what you make". Mike describes this as a mixed evening - in addition to an overview of his people photography, he also showcases some of his non-portrait photography, and step by step walk through making of some of my creative images using a live Photoshop demo and sharing some of my creative projects during lockdown.
7/05/2025	Wed	Wath	Practical: Still life and or product photography. Bring some items from how to enable you to build both a 'set' and some subject material
14/05/2025	Wed	ZOOM	Tutorial: Using software to create composite images
21/05/2025	Wed	Wath	Members Photography Journey: Gill Batson
28/05/2025	Wed	Wath	Planning

Look out for the minor changes to the events over next few weeks

Get your thinking caps on, last meeting of this season is about planning the next set of events. Probably do this in small groups to establish the sort of activities and events we want to explore, challenge ourselves, and enjoy. Its your chance to influence the calendar.