

# Tips for Landscape Photography



By Bob Spalding

Landscape photography focuses on the natural world. Anything that is a part of the environment can be considered an apt subject for landscape photography. However, most people think of Landscapes as open vistas, mountains, lakes, waterfalls, etc. Landscape photography relies on an interesting perspective and a balanced composition to make it stand out.



Good Landscape photos can be taken with any type of camera; phone, Point & Shoot or a dSLR. Ideally, if using a dSLR you would have a wide angle lens, medium telephoto lens or a long telephoto lens, tripod and a Polarizing Filter. The Polarizing Filter will cut down on glare from water or other shining objects.



Follow good Composition guidelines: Definite Subject, Rule of Thirds, uncluttered background and foreground, etc.



When making a photo, if there is nothing going on in the sky, only include 1/3 of it. If there are a lot of puffy clouds or a beautiful sunrise or sunset, include 2/3 of the sky.



It is always a good idea to shoot multiple exposures of a subject, one at the correct setting according to the camera and underexposure one stop and overexposure one stop.



Another important aspect of Landscape Photography is to get everything in focus from the camera to the subject. This is called Depth of Field (DOF). You can accomplish this by using a high F-stop such as F16 or F22. (See photo on left)

If you want a shallow DOF, then you would use a low F-stop such as F4 or F5.6 as shown by the photo on the right

