

IMBER COURT PHOTO TRAINING

PHOTOGRAPHY HOLIDAY

Scottish Highlands and Islands



SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS SUMMARY

- Spend eleven days in the company of Imber Court Photo Training developing and improving your photographic skills touring the west coast of Scotland and the Outer Hebrides.
- Single occupancy en-suite accommodation with breakfast included at Riverside Ullapool for 3 nights, The Harris Hotel, Tarbert for 5 nights and 2 nights in The Royal Hotel, Stornoway, 1 night back in Ullapool at Riverside prior to departure.
- Spend the days exploring the landscapes and seascapes of Assynt and Torridon followed by the Isles of Lewis, Harris and North Uist. The areas you will visit are considered to be one of the most beautiful and dramatic areas in Europe. A photographer's paradise!
- Tutorials and individual tuition will be available throughout the week when required with time spent reviewing and critiquing images each day.
- Maximum of seven clients plus Ashley.



DATE'S	11 th – 22nd October 2021	STARTS/ FINISHES	London Heathrow
DURATION	11 days/11 nights	GRADING	Easy
LOCATION	Highlands and Outer Hebrides	PRICE	£2295.00

HOLIDAY DETAILS

Join Imber Court Photo Training on this new photographic holiday exploring this wonderful region of the UK. Starting in the Western Highlands of Scotland and based in Ullapool for three nights you will be photographing the stunning scenery north and south of Ullapool visiting The Summer Isles, Loch Assynt, Glenn Torridon, Loch Torridon and Loch Maree. Followed by seven nights exploring the Outer Hebridean islands of Harris, Lewis and North Uist, based in Stornoway on Lewis for two nights and Tarbert on Harris for 5 nights. Mountains, moors and machair covered, white sandy beaches host the absolute best of Gaelic culture, land and seascapes, wildlife, food, drink, and arts. The Outer Hebrides are unlike anywhere you've ever been before. Home to otters, crofters, eagles, orcas and deer, the Outer Hebrides map is magical. A landscape defined by ice, wind, magical lighting conditions and ceaseless Atlantic pounding. So, if you're looking for a captivating photographic island escape, look no further.

WHATS INCLUDED IN THIS PHOTOGRAPHY HOLIDAY?

- Eleven nights' accommodation
- Each client will have a private room with ensuite facilities
- Breakfast is included
- Personal tuition and tutorials
- All transport including return flights with British Airways from London Heathrow to Inverness along with an air conditioned 9 seater minibus from and to Inverness Airport and throughout the trip.



PHYSICAL DIFFICULTY - EASY

The days are leisurely with no major ascents or descents. Any walking will be over solid ground although footpaths may be muddy so the appropriate footwear will be required. Most locations are easily accessible from our own transport.



HOLIDAY ITINERARY

Below is a typical itinerary, this may inevitably change due to weather conditions so we will ensure that each location is visited at the most suitable time and in the most optimum conditions.

DAY 1 – PICK UP, INVERNESS AIRPORT AND TRAVEL TO ULLAPOOL

Morning British Airways flight from Heathrow T5 to Inverness. Ashley will meet you as you leave the arrivals hall at Inverness Airport. We will travel by minibus to Ullapool and check into Riverside with an evening meal booked at The Arch Inn. If time and weather allow, we may be able to squeeze in a short trip to Rhue Lighthouse for sunset.

DAY 2 – THE SUMMER ISLES AND LOCH ASYNT

After breakfast at Riverside, we will travel North of Ullapool and begin to explore the small lochs leading West towards The Summer Isles and the baron landscapes reaching out on to the Atlantic coast. A stop for lunch in Lochinver and then onto the beautiful Loch Assynt with its ancient Caledonian pines and ruined castle.

DAY 3 – LOCH TORRIDON, GLENN TORRIDON AND LOCH MARIE

Today we travel south from Ullapool to Glenn Torridon, Loch Torridon and Loch Marie. An area with some outstanding landscapes, seascapes, and waterfalls.

DAY 4 – TRAVEL TO STORNOWAY AND WEST COAST OF LEWIS

Check out of Riverside and the morning CalMac ferry to Stornoway a two and a half hour journey with some magnificent views whilst underway. On arrival in the Outer Hebrides (Western Isles) we will check into The Cabarfeidh Hotel on the outskirts of Stornoway for two nights. The afternoon will be spent in the beautiful area of Mealasta, wild Atlantic seascapes and beautiful rock formations on the west coast of the island.

DAY 5 - CALLANISH STONE CIRCLE, THE BLACKHOUSE VILLAGE, AND THE BUTT OF LEWIS LIGHTHOUSE.

Today we travel up the West coast of Lewis and our first stop will be the Callanish Stone Circle, which was erected in the late Neolithic era, and were a focus for ritual activity during the Bronze Age. The Blackhouse Village is our next stop a coastal crofting village on north of Carloway. The area has been settled since ancient times, but the village at Gearrannan dates to the 17th century. Gearrannan inhabitants lived in a type of thatched cottage known as a 'blackhouse', built of stone and turf, with walls of double thickness. The dramatic view from the base of the towering red-brick lighthouse at the Butt of Lewis has nearly 360 degree views across waters busy with sea-life and skies full of birds. The cliffs are made of beautiful, twisted rocks and are home to an abundance of seabirds nesting along the jagged edges. On clear days, the mountains of the mainland can be seen to the east, while to the west the sea stretches out, towards America.

DAY 6 – ISLE OF HARRIS

During our stay on Harris, we will explore everything it has to offer from its beautiful beaches and wild coasts, amazing sunrises and sunsets, the pretty highland cattle grazing everywhere, the tiny villages and inlets along the Golden Road, seals basking on the rocks and much much more!

Travel south to the Isle of Harris and check in to The Harris Hotel in Tarbert. The Isle of Harris is quite simply an extraordinary place! To the north, the peaks provide remarkable Highland drama. To the south, the coast has staggering beaches hemmed in by wildflower-strewn machair and boulder fields. The scenery is absolutely amazing throughout the island, a photographer's paradise! We visit Luskentyre and Rosamol beaches in the afternoon. Incredible white sands along with vivid colours and wonderful views.

DAY 7 – ISLE OF HARRIS

By now you will have started to unwind and realise that you have left the frantic pace of modern life behind. We start the day travelling along the road to Hushinish passing the disused whaling station with various stops on the way to capture the wonderful sites. During the afternoon we visit the area around Rodel and its tiny harbour.

DAY 8 – ISLE OF HARRIS

Today we follow The Golden Road south along the east coast visiting the many small inlets and villages amongst the wonderful scenery. The chance to see wildlife including white tailed eagles and seals basking on the rocks.

DAY 9 – NORTH UIST

A short weaving ferry journey from Leverburgh to Berneray, which is linked to North Uist by a causeway. North Uist has a wonderful pristine beach along its west coast and has a landscape of both fresh and saltwater lochs. Again, the area is a photographers and bird watchers paradise. Return ferry journey to Harris in the late afternoon.

DAY 10 - ISLE OF HARRIS

Our last day on Harris with the opportunity to visit your favourite places on the island again and perhaps a second chance to capture the shot that didn't quite work out! There will also be the option to have a guided tour of the Harris Gin Distillery in Tarbert during the day.

DAY -11 – ISLE OF HARRIS TO ULLAPOOL

Check out of The Harris Hotel with a lunchtime ferry from Stornoway back to Ullapool, evening meal at The Arch Inn and a night at Riverside.

DAY 12 – TRAVEL TO INVERNESS AIRPORT AND FLIGHT BACK TO HEATHROW

A leisurely morning in Ullapool and late morning departure for Inverness, with a flight home to Heathrow in the late afternoon.



MORE INFORMATION

FLIGHTS

British Airways flights from London Heathrow Terminal 5 to Inverness. Departing T5 at 1305 arriving Inverness 1445. Returning at 1535 and arriving back at Heathrow at 1655.

MEETING INSTRUCTIONS

When arriving at Inverness Airport do not leave the airport building. Ashley will be waiting for you at the exit from the arrivals lounge into the main airport building.

ACCOMODATION AND FOOD

Riverside in Ullapool, The Royal Hotel in Stornoway, and The Harris Hotel in Tarbert offer excellent hospitality all rooms are ensuite and everything is to an excellent standard. Breakfast and some evening meals will be taken at the hotel while there are some other excellent restaurants close by where we can eat in the evenings.

HOLIDAY PRICING

The cost of the holiday is £2295.00 per person. Group size is a maximum of seven which ensures that Ashley can give you his full attention throughout the trip.

THE PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

Transport to and from Heathrow Airport
Travel Insurance and personal equipment
Meals apart from breakfast
Alcohol and soft drinks
Any other items not mentioned as included

PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

The ability to respond to the ever changing weather conditions will enhance your enjoyment of the trip. A waterproof jacket and fleece along with comfortable walking shoes are a must. A warm hat and gloves may come in useful. Casual clothing for the evenings at the hotel and other restaurants is fine.



PHOTOGRAPHY EQUIPMENT

Cameras – Camera equipment is very much a personal choice and is dependent on individual preference, budget, and experience. Whether you shoot with a full frame DSLR, consumer DSLR or a mirrorless system is unimportant. What is important is that you are familiar with your camera's settings and layout and can find the relevant settings in your menu. You will also need to understand how the various shooting modes effect our images. If you are in any doubt speak to us and I will send you some information to study.

The information below is just a guide to help you get the most from your trip.

Camera Bag

Bring a camera bag that allows you to comfortably carry all your equipment. Backpacks distribute the weight between your shoulders and hips and make walking much easier than a bag with a single shoulder strap and are normally protected from the rain and light bangs!

Tripod

The ideal tripod needs to be light enough to carry comfortably but to be sufficiently strong to withstand strong winds. When using a tripod photographers seem to spend more time on composition and allows the use of slow shutter speeds. There are a wide range of tripods available aluminium and the more expensive carbon fibre type which are lighter, but both do the same job. If unsure most Manfrotto models will do the job.

Lenses

We are always asked, what lens should I bring? Our answer is all of them! We guarantee that the one you leave at home will be the one that you wish you had bought along! Obviously, you need to be able to carry them but a standard 18 -55 or 24 – 70 along with a telephoto zoom up to around 300 will be perfect.

Filters

Not essential but please be careful as many cheap versions of filters can degrade your images. The most used filters are graduated neutral density filters used to reduce exposure in the sky during landscape photography. A polarising filter along with a neutral density filter may also be useful. If in doubt, contact us.

Backup and Storage

Ensure that you have enough memory cards and a means of backing up your images either on a laptop or tablet.

A laptop will be extremely useful for viewing and editing images and letting the rest of the group see your wonderful works of art!

Remote Release

Perfect for avoiding camera shake when the camera is mounted on a tripod. There are various types available both remote and cable. We find the cable version to be more reliable.

Spare Batteries

Bring additional batteries just in case!



BOOKING AND TRAVEL INSURANCE

HOW TO BOOK

We accept bookings online, by phone and post. Please read our Terms and Conditions and complete our booking form which will be sent to you. For telephone bookings we accept debit and credit cards with no surcharge. All transactions are via Worldpay and are totally secure. A deposit of £500 is payable to secure your place with the remainder of your balance due 60 days prior to departure. If you prefer to pay by cheque or bank transfer, please let us know and an invoice will be emailed to you at the time of booking.

INSURANCE

It is one of our booking conditions that you are insured against medical and personal accident risks. This must include cover for the activities to be undertaken during your holiday. We strongly recommend that you are covered for cancellation, curtailment, and lost baggage.

