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This monthly news letter is brought to you by  
Casual and Action Photography  
Streetsville Ontario Canada  
[www.casualandactionphotography.com](http://www.casualandactionphotography.com)

It is our intention enhance your Photography  
experiences

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Night time photography

Your travel destination has two lives – Day And Night  
Unfortunately most people put the camera away after the sun goes down.  
Are you one of them?  
If you are then it is time to change your habits. Night time photography  
captures a different type of excitement of any destination.  
Every destination has a dark side that is very easy to capture but you must  
have a tripod and a camera capable of using manual settings. (Nighttime  
shots in auto made always come out dark.) At the end of this newsletter  
there is a chart of recommend settings for various light conditions. This is  
just a guide or a starting point as every camera is different and it is up to  
you as a photographer to know your equipment. (This comes with practice).

The moody skyline image of any city will add a new perspective to your  
travel portfolio.  
The best time to shoot is just after sunset or just before sunrise, typically 60  
minutes after sunset and 60 minutes before sunrise. The buildings tend to  
have a blueish tint in late evening and a pinkest early morning surrounded  
by total darkness. To capture the scene easy you need a good vantage point  
a steady camera with manual control.  
Try to capture people in the scene their movement will appear blurred but  
this works to you advantage –no model release is required.  
To eliminate moving objects keep you shutter open for 25 seconds and they  
will pass through your frame without a trace.  
To capture the drama of a streaming car lights, select a section of the street  
with dim lights or no lights at all. Frame your shot and time how long it  
takes for a car to enter and leave the frame. For example if the car takes 5  
seconds set your shutter for 8 seconds to record the full path of the lights.  
Compose the shoot just as the car enters the corner of the frame and capture  
the tail lights (headlights are too bright and burn out the image). Gently  
press the shutter release button just before the car enters the frame and hold  
it down until the camera closes the shutter this will help eliminate camera  
shake.

Bright light shots with small apertures F/16 and f/22 appear as glowing stars  
bursts. Some are ok but too many will ruin the image. The wide aperture of  
f/2.8 of f/4 will produce a softer more romantic image but not as sharp.  
Nighttime photography is more forgiving than daylight. Know your camera  
settings use the enclosed chart as a guide and take a small flash light to set

the camera settings in the dark. Take your time. As they say patience is virtue.

Tips :

- Shoot a low ISO 100 or 200 – High ISO record more light but also tend to have a grainy or gritty texture to your image.
- Use a tripod to steady the camera thus to allow leaving the shutter open longer and capturing more light.
- With slow shutter speeds even the pressing of the shutter is enough to blur the your image – use a remote shutter release if possible , or the self- time set for 3 to 5 seconds. This allows time for the camera to stop vibrating before opening the shutter
- If a tripod is not available rest your camera on a table or car hood, railing Garbage can or a mailbox.
- Review each shoot at 100% magnification to make sure it is sharp.
- Bean bags work well for stabilization your camera at night. the special photographic bags are expensive but you can use a standard hot/cold therapy bag available from your local drug store . They are a lot cheaper and a little bit more durable plus if stolen or lost they are easy to replace

Sky line 25 sec F/11

Building 4 sec f/8

Streetscene 8 sec f/11

Neon lights 1/8 sec f/8

Deserted street 25 – 30 sec f/22

Car lights 8 – 10 sec f/15

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Training Courses

<http://www.casualandactionphotography.com/training.html>