



Photo 24 London: The Shoot

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN OUR FIRST 24-HOUR PHOTO MEET IN LONDON, SPONSORED BY SAMSUNG. WE HOPE TO HAVE A GREAT DAY INDULGING OUR PASSION FOR PHOTOGRAPHY IN ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST VIBRANT AND PHOTOGENIC CAPITAL CITIES. ALMOST REGARDLESS OF YOUR PHOTO INTERESTS, OUR SHOOT WILL HAVE SOMETHING FOR YOU.

What you shoot and where you go is entirely up to you, but please bear in mind the safety advice given, ie. don't wander off on your own in the dark, and stay within sight of each other when away from busy areas. For those shooting between 10pm and 6am, it's a good idea to buddy up and swap phone numbers with other togs.

Basically, this itinerary is a suggestion. Spend as much or as little time at our suggested points or do something totally different and meet up again later in the shoot.

Members of the *Advanced Photographer* team will be (roughly) following the timetable and you are welcome to join us. We will be regularly texting and Tweeting/Facebooking where we will be so no problem if you prefer to take your time or decide to linger and wait for the light to change.

Our contests (details will be provided on registering) are only for images taken during this 24-hour shoot. Make sure your camera's time and date are correctly set as we may request original files before confirming the result.

This is an informal photo meet, not a structured tutorial. Of course, if you do need some technique advice on an area of photography new to you, please ask a fellow photographer or a member of the *Advanced Photographer/Digital SLR* magazine team. We're more than happy to help where we can.

So, please read and absorb the supplied notes and we look forward to seeing you on the day.

5:30PM || Meet and briefing, shoot begins 6pm-ish

Meeting point: Shelley Dryden and Byron Suite, Kingsway Hall Hotel, 66 Great Queen Street, Covent Garden, London WC2B 5BX

Sign in and collect a badge and details of the contest themes to explore with the chance to win some great prizes kindly provided by Samsung. Registration is open until 8pm.

The shoot lasts 24 hours but you do not have to turn up at our meeting point on Friday evening. Representatives from *Advanced Photographer* and *Digital SLR* magazines will be on hand from 8am to 11am on Saturday morning and also at the end of the shoot between 5pm and 7pm.

We'll be using text, Twitter and *DSLR's* Facebook site to tell latecomers where we are. This suggested itinerary will help too.

What kit you bring is entirely up to you, but you have to carry it and its safekeeping is your responsibility. Please note that Bright Publishing cannot be held responsible for anything that gets lost, damaged or stolen during this shoot.

6:00PM - 9:21PM || Leading up to sunset

Sunset time is 9.21pm so there's plenty of time to enjoy the (hopefully!) good light. Don't hang around though, because the light goes quickly in the city.

You can explore Covent Garden, get the Tube to the City, head down to the Thames or go to one of the parks (St James's or Hyde) to enjoy the light. In the City, the light will go much more quickly so don't hang around if you want to explore buildings.

We have picked three areas of the Thames that could be good for sunset and twilight. Get there from 8pm onwards if you think it will be worthwhile. Members of the magazine team will be at the three areas listed below. There's plenty to explore in all three areas too.

If you prefer other options, try Greenwich or the Thames Barrier - low warm light on the Barrier can look great. The tide will be coming in so plenty of water for reflections; Saturday at sunrise, it'll be going out.

On the What to bring sheet we have suggested some apps you can use to check the sun's position on the day.

LOCATION 1 || Waterloo Bridge

Waterloo Bridge, The Eye and heading towards Westminster Bridge
Waterloo Jubilee, Northern and Bakerloo lines

Try slow shutter speed technique on buses going across the Bridge and then do some low-light work around the Houses of Parliament. The area is good for light trails.

Avoid Thames House, Millbank, on the north bank looking over Lambeth Bridge (the one upriver from Westminster Bridge).

It's the headquarters of the security services (MI5, MI6) and photographers shooting the building have been quizzed by police before.

LOCATION 2 || Tower Bridge, the City

Tower Hill Circle and District lines

If you prefer, head to the area around Tower Bridge for sunset. Much of the South Bank is privately owned so if you use a tripod you may get asked to stop. St Katherine's Dock next to Tower Bridge is private too. You can use something more discrete like a Gorillapod to get long exposures.

Tower Bridge itself at twilight is a good subject and there is also the chance to shoot light trails if you find a suitable spot. Watch the traffic, though.

LOCATION 3 || Canary Wharf

Canary Wharf Jubilee Line and DLR

The light falling on the modern buildings can look great.

For guidelines on shooting at Canary Wharf, see canarywharf.com/aboutus/Media/Filming-and-Photography2/

Basically, shooting for hobbyist, non-commercial use, outdoors, and without causing disruption is fine. Just don't shoot entrances or security arrangements.

AFTER SUNSET ||

We hope to enjoy a good spell of twilight before darkness descends and light pollution takes over, by which time it'll be around 11pm. After twilight is probably a good time to have a break and grab some food anyway – you will already have been shooting for several hours.

Full moon is actually on 23 June so it's getting close (91%) to being full for Photo 24. It could be a good feature in your night shots of landmarks like Big Ben, the Eye, Nelson's Column etc.

Before Photo 24, think about how you are going to occupy yourself for the hours of darkness – at least it's the shortest night of the year.

Remember the Tube network closes down at night – last train times vary but use midnight as a guide. See www.tfl.gov.uk or use the free London Underground app for details.

Either use the night buses or share a cab with your buddy – or choose a location you can explore on foot, ie. the West End. Cabs can be expensive, but splitting the fare will keep the cost down.

We're organising a photographic treasure hunt with a prize for the best shots taken during the hours of darkness. Details of this will be provided at registration.

London is a city that doesn't sleep so there's plenty of chances to shoot light trails, buildings; experiment with light painting using a torch; or set a very high ISO and try some street photography.

A couple of pieces of advice on street photography:

- If you are in Soho, do not photograph the sex workers and their clients. It's not even worth sneaking one. You will get a very aggressive, hostile response. Just don't – you've been warned.
- People who have had a few drinks might not like to be photographed either so ask permission if you really want to.

If you're after something different, apply (in advance) for permission to shoot these two well-known early morning markets. As no commercial photography is allowed, you should make your applications as individuals. Look at the websites for more details:

New Covent Garden Open midnight-6am

www.newcoventgardenmarket.com/

020 7501 3495 info@cgma.co.uk

Billingsgate Market Open 4-9.30am

www.billingsgate-market.org.uk

020 7987 1118 billingsgatemarket@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Please remember our suggestions regarding personal safety during the hours of darkness, ie. buddy up and don't go wandering off on your own.

4:00AM || Sunrise

Sunrise time is 4.43am, although the sun might not appear till much later because of tall buildings or low cloud. Obviously it starts getting light before then, so allow time to get (walk!) to your chosen area.

Various spots along the Thames could be good. We've gone for some of the two spots in central London, ie. the areas around Waterloo Bridge and Tower Bridge, that are walkable from the West End. Obviously, different light gives different opportunities, but if you want a change of scenery, go to a location you didn't do for sunset. If you prefer, use LightTrac or The Photographers Ephemeris (TPE) and pick your own spot.

Remember it's not necessarily the sunrise itself you want, but the buildings and structures it lights up.

LOCATION 1 || Waterloo Bridge

Waterloo Bridge, The Eye and heading towards Westminster Bridge

Waterloo Jubilee, Northern and Bakerloo lines

If we do get a sun, enjoy the early morning light – the Houses of Parliament and the Bridge itself could look great.

LOCATION 2 || Tower Bridge, the City

Tower Hill Circle and District lines

After sunrise you might get some nice light on the City Hall.

Being up this early is the perfect opportunity to shoot tourist hotspots while they're quiet – and hopefully in lovely light. ▶

You can head towards Buckingham Palace via Birdcage Walk/ St James's Park or go via Whitehall, Horse Guards, Trafalgar Square and The Mall. The Royal Parks open at 5am.

Another option, given the early hour, is to buy a new Off-Peak One-Day Travelcard and jump on the Tube while it's quiet. First trains start from around 5am, depending on the line and where you are (www.tfl.gov.uk). Tripods and flash are not permitted so explore the higher regions of your camera's ISO range. The extra noise can add mood to your shots.

See separate sheet for two Tube tours.

8:00AM ONWARDS || Registration

 **Meeting point:** *Shelley, Dryden and Byron Suite, Kingsway Hall Hotel, 66 Great Queen Street, Covent Garden, London WC2B 5BX*

For those who couldn't make the Friday evening shoot, representatives from the magazines will be available for registration until 11am at the Kingsway Hall Hotel.

After the sunrise shoot, the Tube Tour or photo walk, it's time for breakfast and to decide on your plans for the day. The *Advanced Photographer/Digital SLR* team will be back at the hotel around 9am if you want any advice, ideas or just to show us what you have shot so far.

FROM MID-MORNING ||

As London stirs you could head for one of the markets, such as Borough Market, the Backyard Market in Brick Lane, Portobello Market, Brixton Market or Camden Market.

Or if the weather is poor, you may want to explore the museums. Check out the Natural History Museum, Science Museum, Victoria & Albert (nearest Tube is South Kensington, District, Circle and Piccadilly lines) or the British Museum (Russell Square, Piccadilly line). All allow personal photography (with the exception of a few galleries/exhibitions) but no tripods/monopods and, in many cases, no flash.

At the Natural History Museum, take time to see Sebastião Salgado's *Genesis* at the Waterhouse Gallery. £10 for adults.

For something more gothic, get the Tube to Archway and head to Highgate Cemetery. It opens at 11am (no tripods allowed). £4

If you fancy something more urban, try the South Bank near Waterloo where you will get skateboarders/BMX bikers, especially later in the day. Ask them for permission and they will do a few stunts for you in return for some pictures. Afterwards head towards Leake Street (also known as Banksy Tunnel), under Waterloo station for some graffiti. It's a short walk from the London Eye.

Another option is to head into the City, which is relatively quiet on a Saturday. The Gherkin, Lloyds Building and Leadenhall Market are subjects all worth shooting.

NOON || Greenwich+Docklands International Festival

 *Canary Wharf, Greenwich Park, Greenwich town centre & Island Gardens*
 *Canary Wharf Jubilee Line and DLR* *Cutty Sark DLR*

The Greenwich+Docklands International Festival is free and there's the chance to shoot dance, theatre and street acts, and much more at various venues including Canary Wharf, Greenwich Park, Greenwich town centre and Island Gardens. If you want to shoot this, check out www.festival.org in advance; there's a lot going on and not all of it happens on 22 June. One thing – it'll be busy so take care, make sure you keep hydrated and look after your kit.

Of course, the area also features the Cutty Sark, the Old Naval College and the Royal Observatory – more subjects for your lens.

6:00PM || Meet back at the hotel

 **Meeting point:** *Shelley, Dryden and Byron Suite, Kingsway Hall Hotel, 66 Great Queen Street, Covent Garden, London WC2B 5BX*

Photo 24 officially ends at 6pm so head back to the Kingsway Hall Hotel. This is not absolutely essential. However, if you did sign in 24 hours earlier, signing off at 6pm will win you a special, limited edition T-shirt.

And that's it. Thank you for supporting the first *Digital SLR* and *Advanced Photographer* Photo 24 meet sponsored by Samsung. We hope you enjoy it and more importantly, get some great pictures in the 24 hours.

Remember to upload your pictures to the relevant contest (details available at registration) and we wish you good luck. The closing date for entries is **12 July 2013**. A feature about the shoot will appear in both *Digital SLR* and *Advanced Photographer* magazines.