



View through a tree example

The Types of Nature Photography

By: Joseph Dowgos

There are Several Types of Nature Photography, which are quite commonly used in modern day and even past day usage. Whether it be close-ups of a single thing in nature, to a panoramic view in nature, the objective of nature photography is to capture what the photographer sees in the particular moment of time. The level of detail in this genre of photography is often higher than the other genres. In several of the close up shots, the photos are so focused that you can see the texture of the leaves, or petals, or even the fuzz on a bumblebee. Nature Photography has many names, and is often considered as a generalization of several Genres instead of one genre itself, like Wildlife Photography, Garden Photography, or even Landscape Photography. Color is not everything in nature photography however, a great many



Garden Photography Example

photos have been taken in black and white, and can often be interpreted differently, in many different ways. A lot of time black and white photography can be used to show incredible detail in photos, like the texture on a petal on a flower. It tends to show a greater amount of detail than a color photo, as color is eliminated, which causes the lighter colors to be brighter and the darker ones darker. It increases contrast in the photos, often giving a more dramatic look. Close up photography is commonly used in black and white photography, as it can be used to create great and detailed photos, showing even the littlest detail in high quality. Color Photography can be just as good however, with panoramic shots, or scenic shots like a tree on a hill or a field of flowers, some blurred out and some in focus, creating many layers and depth into the shot,



Black and White Example

which creates a better shot than one that looks flat and lackluster of color. Nature shots are commonly layered and quite colorful. The type of shot depends on the photographer, and the type of moment they want to capture. Whether it be of a singular flower growing in a place like a desert or a field of flowers with the sun shining down onto them, brightening the petals to give the illusion that they are glowing, the shot can usually be an insight into the photographer's way of seeing things. Those uses of lighting, of the shadows, make amazing nature shots, and are some of the principles in photo shooting. Put too many subjects into the shot and your photo will lose focus. The other types of subjects and method of shooting will be talked about in the next page.



Example of Close Up Photography

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Subjects in Nature Photography

The Subjects in nature photography can often include:

- **Singular Flowers** – These are usually like a single blooming flower, surrounded by like grass, or dirt, or even deserts sometimes depending on the flower
- **A Field of flowers** – a hill of flowers or even a garden are ones that are typically used for the shots that fit under this subject matter
- **Panoramic shots of Hills, mountains, etc.** – These shots are commonly acquired by climbing one of the hills or mountains to view the other hilltops/ mountains
- **Animal wildlife in its natural habitat** – These shots can come out amazing if the animal lets you get the shot (they are quite difficult sometimes depending on the matter)
- **Singular trees sitting on a hill** – this one speaks for itself.
- **Flowers on a tree (layered shot typically)** – these shots are typically the ones that are layered the most, due to the amount of flowers on branches
- **Rivers, streams and/or oceans** – moving, or even frozen water can be great subject of nature depending on how the shot is taken
- **Patterns in Nature** – repeating trees, or flowers (natural patterns in nature)
- **Textural shots in nature** – like bark, or the texture on a flower petal, etc.



Layered Flower Example

Tips For Shooting Nature Shots

When Making Nature shots, be sure to:

- **Focus on what you want to capture** – don't pull any unnecessary attention to the other matter in the shot
- **Make sure the subject matter you want to take is in focus** – if it is not in focus and other matter in the shot is, it will draw more attention away from the shot you want to have
- **Make sure the lens you have is the one you want to use** – not having the right lens for the job can often distort and affect the outcome of the shot
- **Make sure the shutter speed and aperture is correct** – inexperienced photographers commonly use the auto setting on the camera. To get the best shots, you want to make sure the aperture and shutter speed are correct, as the incorrect setting can either make the subject matter too light, or too dark, which would mean you would need to either retake the photo, or fix it in an editing software such as Photoshop or Lightroom.
- **Take Multiple Photos** – taking multiple shots of the same subject matter can be especially useful, if you are changing the aperture and shutter speed frequently.
- **Make sure the lens cap is off** – Sounds silly I know, but it actually happens more often than you think.
- **Is the Weather good for that day?** – if weather conditions are not good for that day, than you will most likely need to adjust your shutter speed and aperture accordingly.



Singular Tree Example