

# LHTP



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Photo = 'light'    Graphia = 'drawing'

PHOTOGRAPHY = DRAWING with LIGHT



Learn  
how to  
Photograph  
[www.lhttp.com.au](http://www.lhttp.com.au)



Shining a light

on your  
photography

*Learn the secret to finding the LIGHT so that you can master your photography skills, without the technical jargon.*





*Hello there fellow Togs (photographers)*

*I'm so glad that you've opted in to get your hands on this resource about my favourite subject – LIGHT!*

*If you know me at all you know how passionate I am about LIGHT in photography, arguably the most important element in photography.*

*Learn how to 'see the LIGHT' and you just might be surprised at how far it will take your photography, you will go to the next level!*

*I can't even begin to describe to you how excited I get when I see the LIGHT that I know will help me take a great photo, I want you to feel that same excitement ... you'll never look at LIGHT the same way again!*

*After being a professional photographer for 'well too many years', now I get to really follow my passion by teaching photography ... from the beginning, and in a non-technical jargon manner so that you can take the photo you see.*

*If you want to keep learning the skills to keep on improving your photography, and be proud of the photos you take, then don't forget to have a look at my Beginners Photography course, this is the course where I'll walk you through step by step the photography skills you need – nope, this is not a technical course where you need to understand all that jargon, this is the course that will make sense to you!*

*Learn more about the course here:*

*<https://www.learnhowtophotograph.com.au>*

*Before you get on to reading through this resource, remember ... it is you that will take a great photo, not the camera, and your understanding of LIGHT is going to increase your skills to help you take that great photo.*

*Let's get to it then ... Learn about the LIGHT!*

*Derry*

## ***Let's start with Visualisation!***



*When you visualise your photo, that is 'see' your photo, or what you want your photo to be, give this a go before you actually take the shot:*

- *Look at the subject*
- *Look to see how the light (whatever the light source may be) is falling or reflecting on your subject*
- *Walk around the subject, if you can*

*Then ask yourself:*

- *What is the **quality** of the light*
  - *Is the light 'hard and harsh', or 'contrasty, or is it 'soft and gentle'?*
  - *Is it 'colourful' or 'white'*
- *Should I, or can I, come back when the light is 'better'?*
- *When would a better time be?*
- *Does / will the light change?*



## ***Qualities of Light***

What are those 'qualities' of light:

- **Hard**
  - Focused, often bright, will often cast harsh shadows on your subject.
- **Harsh**
  - This is where the 'highlights' and the 'blacks' within your scene are spaced out.
  - There's a 'hard' line between the light and shadow in your scene.
- **Contrasty**
  - This is the 'range' of the 'brightness' in your photo, from the lightest to the darkest in your image.
  - Your photo will likely have really bright highlights and really dark shadows.
- **Soft**
  - You won't see hard shadows with this type of lighting. The transition between the light and the shadows will be quite gradual and smooth.
- **Gentle**
  - Like soft light. The light source might be diffused providing a subtle effect on your subject.
- **Colourful**
  - shows how blue or yellow your light source might be.
- **White**
  - This type of light is a combination, in equal amounts, of all colours in the colour spectrum – I know, we're getting way too technical.

The 'quality' of the light you are photographing in will determine the end result of your image.

Think about what it is you want to achieve in your image and then consider the 'quality' of the light you want to use.

## **Types of LIGHT**

- **Daylight**
  - Generally 'white' light.
  - Can be 'hard and contrasty', or 'soft and diffused', reflective or direct.
- **Sunset**
  - Generally golden, warm and soft.
  - Loved by photographers!
  - This is a 'transitional' light, goes from white, to yellow, to golden.
- **Sunrise**
  - Similar to sunset.
  - Warm, soft, yellow/golden.
- **Moonlight**
  - Can be white and bright, but it can also be warm and soft.
  - Not as bright as daylight but still bright enough to light up the landscape.
- **Starlight**
  - White, but not usually bright.
- **Inside light**
  - Bright and harsh, bright or soft or even dull.
  - Inside light can be all colours – yellow, white, green, any colour, and can be quite tricky to learn to photograph in.
- **Reflective light**
  - Hard and bright.

*Now these are just a few examples of light.*

*Light is never just as simple as a definitive list as it continually changes and moves, within seconds, minutes, hours, days, months, and even with the seasons.*

*Light even changes from the Southern to Northern Hemisphere, and from country to country, city to city!*

*Again, it's up to you, what do you want your image to look like?*

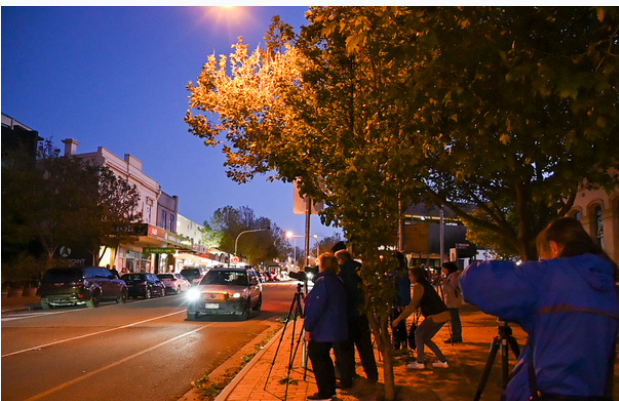


## ***Now let's get back to Visualisation!***



*I want you to give this a go ...*

- *Get out a photo, or two or three, that you've always loved*
- *Have a really good look at it*
- *What it is that you love about this photo*
  - *Ask yourself ... is it the light!*



## ***Additional Resources***

*Light is so important to photographers that there are even apps that have been created to help you 'find the light'.*

*Some you can download for free, and some you might need to purchase.*

*Used for Landscape photography these apps will help you plan your shoot by providing you information such as:*

- *Monitor your location at a specific period in time*
- *Identify the position of the Sun and the moon*
- *Tide and Current times ... just in case you're thinking of getting your feet wet!*
- *Sunset and Sunrise times / locations*
- *Some will help you visualise how the sun or moon will illuminate or cast shadows on your subject*
- *How long a certain period, ie..Golden Hour, will last for*

*Just check each app to see which one may work best for you.*



*Photopills*



*Sun Seeker*



*Magic Hour*



*Sun Surveyor*



## ***A photographer's favourite...***

### ***Golden Hour light***

*Occurs (approximately) one hour before sunset and one hour after sunrise.*

*Golden Hour light moves across the landscape, not shining down on to the landscape like it does at midday.*

*When light moves across the landscape it create shadows and adds fall and depth in your photo.*

*During Golden Hour, the sun's rays are long and golden giving your subject a beautiful warm glow.*

*If you've headed out with your camera during sunset or sunrise, you probably already know how beautiful it can be, but have you noticed how it changes and how the light moves through phases?*

*Golden Hour is the only (2) times in the day when the sun 'lights' the underneath of the clouds, instead of 'through' them.*

*Understanding how this light works is a creative skill that YOU have control over, and YOU can learn.*



## ***And don't forget***

*Your learning experience doesn't have to end here, there is still plenty of photography skills training I have for you.*

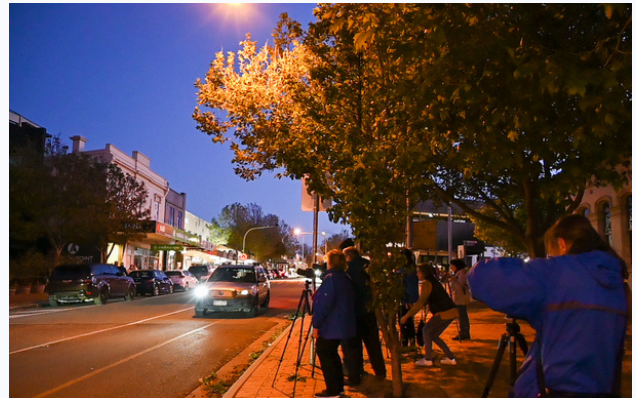
*Some of the courses and workshops designed to improve your photography skills ...*

- *Beginners Class – face to face, and 'online'*
- *Workshops*
  - *Looking for Light*
  - *Full Moon*
  - *Melbourne City*
  - *Streetscapes*
- *and of course our pièce de résistance*
  - *New Zealand, South Island, Photography Workshops*



*Simply head on over to our website to see what will suit you to continue to improve your photography skills.*

***[www.lhttp.com.au](http://www.lhttp.com.au)***





## ***Keep Learning!***

*You can spend a lifetime seeing and understanding light, and learning how important it is to your photography ... just like I have, and still do.*

*In fact, it is such a passion of mine that I am writing a book all about it – due for release late 2024.*

*When you see a good image, you may not realise that a 'perfect storm' of elements have come together to create that image.*

*Learning to understand how the light falls on the landscape, or which direction it faces, and how it falls on your subject, is a skill, albeit a skill that you can master.*

*Above anything technical, light is the most important element to learn to understand.*

*If you see and understand light, a whole new world will open up to you!*

*Don't forget to head over to Facebook to connect with our Community page to share your photography experiences with like minded 'togs, and of course we'd love to see your 'light' photos.*

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/LHTPCommunity>



*Derry*