

Winter Trees

I enjoy taking images of trees in their winter skeletal shape. You can use them in many ways in your landscape images. A lone tree always makes a good focal point but in winter you have the beauty of the structural shape that the branches form.

You can use a lone tree set against a wonderful sunrise or sunset. Find a tree close to where you like and take note of where the sun rises and sets. When you have a great sky or the prospect of one you will know what angle you want to take the tree at and not have too far to go to catch the rapidly changing light.

It could mean an early start for a sunrise but winter is the best time and not nearly such an early venture out



Sun sets are good you can see them build late afternoon on a winters day

Exposure can be a problem. Both getting it right for the sky and the foreground. This is where working on a raw image is so useful. You can make two exposures and then blend them together. I prefer to use the brush tool in Raw to paint the light back into the foreground. I expose for the sky so that the foreground is dark, then paint back where you want. Painting the detail back into the trunk and branches as well as the foreground.

When ever I go out I am always on the look out for a tree with a great shape. You may only get the one chance to take an image of that particular tree but good lighting is what makes the picture.

I took this tree in Yorkshire back in January. I would have loved to have found it with a coating of snow on the ground. We had a little but not enough.

The lighting was good just after the rain had stopped so that has helped me here. There were lots of trees but this one stood out for me.



So find a tree and have fun taking images of it during the winter.

This is my personal favourite tree and luckily enough it is just at the end of my road.

I took this image after chasing the cloud home from work one afternoon. I had to rush in, grab my camera and hope the cloud would be in the position that I wanted. I just got there in time.



Most of all get out and about and enjoy your photography.

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