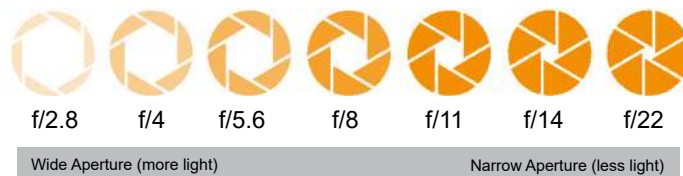


LONG EXPOSURE PHOTOGRAPHY

CHEAT SHEET

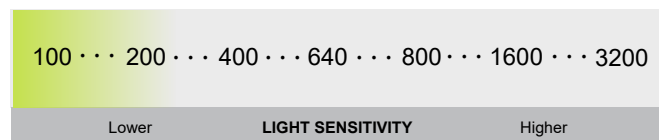


APERTURE



Keep the aperture medium or narrow to avoid overexposed or out of focus images at very slow shutter speeds.

ISO



Keep the ISO as low as possible to enable longer exposure and to avoid noise due to low light.

SHUTTER SPEED



For a longer exposure, use a slower shutter speed (5 - 30 seconds), in order to achieve effects such as light trails or soft and cloudy motion blur.

1 STABILIZATION

Solid tripod is a must if you want to explore long exposure photography! It's impossible to take sharp pictures at very slow shutter speeds without one.



Besides a tripod, it's a great idea to use a shutter release as well, because it can reduce any unwanted vibrations and make your photos even sharper.

TIP:

Once you have stabilized your camera, you'll be able to take photos even in bulb mode (30+ seconds shutter speed!)

2 ND FILTERS

If you want to experiment with long exposures during daytime, you should consider buying Neutral Density Filters. Landscape photographers use them to achieve that soft misty effect.



There are normal ND filters and graduated ND filters and they can vary greatly in their strength - from 2 stops to 10 stops (the number refers to how much light it blocks.)

TIP:

To get the effect of "silky water" you can use a 10-stop filter and a shutter speed that is 1000x longer than the original one.

3 THE ESSENTIALS

3 MANUAL FOCUS

Long exposures are often too challenging for the camera's autofocus, so you might have to rely on manual focus.



Try shooting multiple images and move your focal point bit by bit until you get it right.

TIP:

If you're shooting outdoors at night, you should use Live View mode in order to set your focus properly.