

DOWNLOAD PDF CREATIVE TECHNIQUES IN UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY

Chapter 1 : How to be creative with wildlife photography part 2 | TIPS AND TRICKS | Photography

Other techniques, like black and white photography, bokeh, and silhouettes are popular among land photographers, but take on a whole new set of possibilities and challenges when used underwater. Use this series of articles written by experienced underwater photographers to go beyond the basics and learn some of the fun, creative techniques of.

Jumping from a cliff. Diving with whale sharks. Documenting a road trip. The compact, rugged technology of the GoPro has created incredible opportunities for capturing the action of events like these. And being able to shoot in adverse conditions opens new opportunities for creative photography. I used a GoPro under water to capture the behavior of these breeding salmon in Alaska. Know the Minimum Focus Distance You may already know that the GoPro has a very wide field of view FOV , which lets you frame a subject with the contextual scene around it. When searching for an image, focus on your desired foreground element and then get as close to it that foreground element as you ethically can. Placing the foreground element about 12 inches from the camera will emphasize it while still providing surrounding context. I kept the minimum focusing distance in mind for this coral. The image was taken from very close while snorkeling. Even though GoPros are waterproof, I use a third-party housing to further protect the camera. This will require you to aim your camera precisely, which can be difficult if snorkeling or swimming. Of course, you can keep an eye on the back screen to help you compose the shot. I used a narrow field of view to capture this image of this large trigger fish in Hawaii. Set Your Camera Defaults to Maintain Image Quality Setting your default settings ahead of time will help you capture quality photographs. GoPros have pretty good image quality in well-lit conditions, but the image graininess noise will increase quickly as the camera adapts its ISO to low-light conditions. You can control the image quality by setting a maximum ISO setting. With your phone connected to your GoPro, go into your settings and change the maximum ISO to a value of or less. Doing this will ensure you can quickly take a photo if your GoPro shuts off while underwater and you need to turn it back on. Underwater conditions can be very murky and may cause your camera to boost the ISO, which will result in greater image noise. A slower shutter speed due to low light caused some of the darting herring in this image to blur. You can also mount the GoPro to a tripod and place it in a suitable location. This is more useful when a phenomena or animal is predictable, such as salmon in a river. Just as it does on land, using a tripod will help stabilize the image. I captured this image from a tripod. This was necessary because this salmon was wary of any movement in the river that reminded it of a bear. You can buy one, or even build one relatively easily. A long pole will help you photograph something far away, and if you have a long pole say 12 feet the top of it will help counterbalance the GoPro at the bottom. I used a long pole and a GoPro to capture an image of this sponge during a low-tide cycle in Alaska. I braced the pole against the bottom to take this image. This image combines a couple of the concepts discussed in this article. I kept the camera on a pole and maintained the minimum focusing distance to capture the image of this octopus in a tide pool. I used a pole and a GoPro to photograph these colorful tube worms and anemones under a dock. Another camera setting useful for stability is the time lapse mode. Set the camera to time lapse say, one shot every second and start taking images. Compose your shot underwater, and then hold the camera in place while it takes pictures. I used the time lapse mode to capture this school of fish in the clear waters of Hawaii. In some situations you may be able to trigger the camera with your phone. Remotely triggering the camera may help you ethically and safely photograph wildlife. I remotely triggered this image of a large coastal brown bear moving up a river in Alaska. These will help keep your shutter speed up and your ISO low. But use them with discretion depending on your subject. In some circumstances they may be detrimental to wildlife. Use a Housing for Split-Level Photography Split-level imagery is a way to help give an image context and tell a story. To create the effect, use an underwater housing with a convex dome and then place the dome half-in and half-out of the water. By doing so you get to observe both the underwater world and the terrestrial world. I use a housing by GoPole to create split-level images capturing the streams and local salmon runs of Alaska. You can use this technique

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anywhere to create compelling images. You can create split-level images by hand-holding the camera or using a tripod as I mentioned earlier. A GoPole dome housing was used to create this split-level image of a large coastal brown bear. The split-level shot helps tell the story of these spawning pink salmon under a large log in Alaska. The GoPro is a fun way to learn underwater photography techniques without breaking the bank. And since GoPros are naturally waterproof, the likelihood of destroying gear is lowered substantially.

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Chapter 2 : 45 Amazing Underwater Photography Ideas and Tips

Welcome to the Underwater Photography Guide. This online book and magazine is a complete underwater photography tutorial full of u/w photography tips and techniques.

By GetaMov Leave a Comment Experimenting with underwater photography can be an exciting prospect, but one can often feel overwhelmed by the amount of necessary knowledge. This article intends to help you choose the best kind of camera and equipment required for capturing the most vivid images beneath the waves. Read on to find some useful underwater photography tips on how to get started. What Is Underwater Photography? If you want to learn the basics of underwater photography, our guide is the perfect place for you. Below you will find the most important theoretical things you need to know. Underwater photography deals with taking photographs while submerged in a lake, the sea or the ocean. It usually occurs during scuba diving trips, but the photographer can also capture the underwater landscape by simply swimming or snorkeling. Underwater images can also be taken in pools or water-tanks. Light, for instance, travels differently through water, which means that you will need external artificial lighting to get vivid, colorful photos. Without a strobe or a light, your pictures will be predominantly blue and kind of murky. Secondly, also keep in mind that water gets in the way of sharp, fully-contrasted images. Therefore, underwater photos require the photographer to get really close to the subject – sometimes even within 1 meter – to capture satisfying raw images. Backscatter is what happens when you try to shoot an underwater subject in the distance without the appropriate external lighting. Thirdly, you might want to get your diving skills under control before you take your camera underwater. Using the equipment can be rather distracting, which can lead to random resurfacing or even clashing with the corals. Waterproof up to 82 feet in depth, this model is one of the best for amateurs and professionals alike. At the same time, the GoPro Hero Session could be a great option for beginners. It takes amazing underwater videos and it makes it easier for first-timers to get the hang of UW photography. Must-have Accessories for UW Photography But equally important when it comes to underwater sessions is the protective equipment you buy for your camera. As soon as you buy your camera and lens, you need to start looking for an underwater housing. Since saltwater is the most abusive to sensitive photography gear, it is vital that you buy the appropriate housing for your camera. With prices ranging from expensive to affordable, these three companies are often mentioned and used by professional diving photographers. Also important is the fact that you should know that the accessories required for underwater photography can get pretty expensive – almost as expensive as the camera itself. As we said before, the internal flash of the camera is rarely enough for clear, crisp underwater pictures, so you need the help of a strobe or two to get the job done. Example of strobe light; this one is an Ikelite AF35 Optical Slave TTL Strobe For more information on strobes and other types of lighting that you might need, you can check the Ikelite website they also present user reviews of the equipment. Believe it or not, underwater wildlife photography is by far the only one when it comes to capturing subaquatic shots. However, taking photos near the surface can also be very rewarding, because whales and sharks are more easily found there. Underwater Fashion Photography This type of UW photography allows the photographer to experiment with the ways fabric sways in this environment. Soft fabrics and uncomplicated outfits are some of the things you should look into for the first shots. When it comes the model, beauty, and good looks are not enough. Needless to say, your subject needs to feel comfortable posing underwater, so keep that factor in mind. Obviously, there are more types of UW photography, focusing on animals, surf, maternity shots, and even baby photo sessions. Underwater dog photography, for example, is pretty popular. The ocean – and your imagination – is the limit. For those who are more apt for visual learning, check the YouTube tutorial embed below to help you get going. However, one of the most extensive resources online on the matter of UW photography is www.thisisunderwater.com. This website can guide you through what could be a very technical and unapproachable subject. Another useful provider is Dive Photo Guide. The resources featured in the piece can help you do more than scratch the

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surface, so have a look. Have you tried underwater photography?

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Chapter 3 : Underwater Photography Basics Guide - www.nxgvision.com

*A Diver's Guide to The Art of Underwater Photography, Creative Techniques and Camera Systems for Digital and Film [Andrea Ferrari, Antonella Ferrari] on www.nxgvision.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers.*

By Joshua Nichol森 Leave a Comment Underwater photography is a fun new way to take pictures while snorkeling. Imagine capturing photos of exotic marine life or glistening coral reefs. Thanks to new and improved digital cameras, we have the means to do so. In this article, we will go over our top nine underwater photography tips and how you can perfect your own. First, Focus On Diving And Swimming The first of our underwater photography tips involves boosting up your swimming and diving knowledge. Plus, amateur swimmers pose a threat to underwater environments such as aquatic animals or reefs. Even the smallest accident can turn into a threat for underwater creatures. One of the easiest ways to do this is to visit a local diving shop, buy some gear, and take some classes. This usually costs around three hundred dollars, but you can always order online for cheaper costs. However, you should plan to spend a week learning how to dive at your local shop. Underwater photography can be tricky since light has to travel from the same to your target, and back again. This may seem like a pain to take pictures, but you can opt in for a wide-angle lens for easier use. However, this is also why getting as close to your target is important. But, keep in mind that there are some underwater creatures that you should avoid getting too friendly with, such as sharks. Sound waves act differently underwater than they do above water. The deeper your dive, the less light reflects. The first color to go is red, then orange, and finally, yellow. Without the use of a camera with a flash, your targets will only look blue or green. Plus, the addition of a flashlight also helps your target come out better in your photos. However, some cameras even have an underwater mode to help filter out the blue in your photos and make your target look better. When deciding when to shoot, you should consider sunny days when the sun can better reflect on the water. With the help of the sunbeams shooting from the surface of the water, you can better photograph your target. Paying attention to the angle that you are taking your photo at is one of the most vital underwater photography tips. Composition Is Key Remember how to take good compositions. Keep in mind that your target in the middle, with the horizon at the top or bottom third of the frame. With these underwater photography tips fresh in your head, you can always improve on your underwater photographs and become and even better photographer. However, this can be difficult since you will need to add artificial lighting. The best way to create better exposure is to add in ISO, increased shutter speed, adding strobes, or creating and independent aperture. When underwater, it can be easy to forget about your photography basics. That is why this is one of the best underwater photo tips. Be Patient This is one of the most crucial underwater photography tips. With all photography, patience is a necessity. However, with underwater photography, you need even more patience. Taking photos underwater is a lot more difficult than shooting on land, especially when you are just beginning. Get ready to take a lot of photos to get just a few good ones. Try experimenting with a few different settings and using different lighting. By getting out there and taking lots and lots of photos, you will begin improving in no time at all. Practice Makes Perfect The best way to learn how to take better underwater photos is by jumping in the water and trying it out. However, the only way you can improve is through practice. Start small by taking pictures in a pool and work up to those underwater ocean coral reefs. Conclusion Underwater photo shoots can be incredibly difficult, with with the help of these underwater photography tips, you should be able to take more professional pictures. Keep in mind that swimming is key to a better underwater picture and get a better grasp of your camera to get the best tones in your photos. But, most importantly, have fun! Leave a Reply Your email address will not be published.

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Chapter 4 : Underwater Photography Workshops in Sydney and Wollongong - Matty Smith Photo

Creative lighting helps take underwater photography to the next level. Brent Durand Exposure can be adjusted by metering the scene in front of you (noting the EV display on the DC).

Our idea is simple - learn, shoot, explore. Whatever I am feeling as I explore a shipwreck, I want to capture that moment in my photography. But photographing shipwrecks can be challenging, and how do you convey your experience to others? It all starts with having a good foundation of photographic tools to draw from. One of the most apparent challenges of wreck photography is how to light the wreck. Most shipwrecks are much bigger than our strobes can cover, so we are limited to either shooting with ambient light, which we can leave natural or turn to black and white in post processing or we can shoot just a portion of the wreck. When we photograph a wreck using ambient light, we must adjust the camera settings to let in as much light as needed so that the background is a nice blue, and the wreck is properly exposed. I would suggest you test shoot several images to get the exposure right. Remember that if you want good depth of field you will need a higher aperture, so ISO is the most likely adjustment you will make. Look on the LCD to see if there is good detail in the wreck. You will want to see a range of shadows and highlights. It is also important to note which direction the natural light from the sun is coming from. If the sun is behind you, you can expect more detail in the subject. If the sun is behind the wreck, you can expect it to be in silhouette. In the image above, the sun is behind me. Another tool you can use to light a large wreck is a filter. They work best without strobes, with the sun at your back and your camera angled slightly down. You will need to set your camera to manual white balance, so that the image is processed in camera with the correct colors. The advantage to using filters is that you have good color throughout the image, including the blue water, which often looks washed out without them. If you are using strobes, then it is important that you capture areas of the wreck that are identifying elements, and that they are small enough to be covered by the strobes. Popular elements are propellers, ladders, winches and rudders. The image below is of a locomotive that lies in feet of water next to the Thistlegorm in the Red Sea. You can see that only the very front of the car could be captured by the strobes. This element of the ship is important because it helped to identify the ship as being from the WWI era, and ultimately identify which ship it was, as only two vessels from that time period are known to have sunk here. Taking images of significant elements such as these is artistic because it illustrates the story. Another tool that is always present in good underwater photography is a sense of depth. We often take images of a fish, with a reef behind them, and perhaps a diver in the background to give a sense of depth. On a wreck, it is important to give that same sense of depth. But if you are photographing something inside, that can be a challenge. A way to overcome this is to look for ways you can use ambient light in the background. In the image below, you can see a cargo hold filled with stacks of Italian tile. The ambient light in the background helps convey the vastness of the space. Sometimes there is no possibility of bringing in ambient light, and you still want to convey a sense of depth. This is an additional strobe that is triggered remotely by the light from your strobes. You can place it wherever you want to create dimension to a closed space. This truck is in a closed portion of the cargo hold of the Thistlegorm in the Red Sea. There are several trucks in this space, so I put the remote strobe in the cab of the second truck giving depth to the area. A remote strobe can also be used to light something in a room such as the boiler, or steering wheel, or some other interesting element. The image below shows a lot of dimension with the use of a remote strobe to light the back room, and blue water and fish in the background. Light beams from the sun give moodiness to an image so if they are available, use them to create atmosphere. Beams of light can be difficult to capture, especially in a dark space. There is enough particulate in the water that the sunbeams are captured by it, even with a slow shutter speed. Using different lighting techniques goes a long way when you are trying to transfer your underwater experience to your audience. They are all tools that you can use to improve your underwater photography, and give value to your images. Be sure to read all of our Shipwreck Photo Tutorials.

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Chapter 5 : Consent Form | Scuba Diving

Underwater photo shoots can be incredibly difficult, with the help of these underwater photography tips, you should be able to take more professional pictures. Just remember, practice makes perfect, these tips for underwater photography won't make you a pro in seconds.

Diver on Corals Swimmer in the Ocean For this kind of photography, one must always remember that the medium the light travels through is not air, but water. The main thing to watch out for by an underwater photographer is to maintain the balance of color and contrast. The subjects available can vary from the marine life to coral reefs, underwater caves, and shipwrecks. Every plunge in the roaring waves will reveal new subjects and landscapes to capture. You would also require the latest equipment. The cameras should primarily have the sea mode, land mode, and also an external flash mode. This is essential to obtain better quality pictures even in the most adverse conditions. One of the most difficult aspects of this type of photography remains the use of the flash. The photographer has to achieve the right balance between natural light and the use of flash. Modern cameras have tried to implement new techniques to simplify this process, as natural light and visibility are often limited. Underwater digital cameras also have built in features for color correction filters and flash diffusers and they are also equipped with complete storage and image editing software. This adds to the sophistication of the camera and also makes them easy to manipulate as per the situation. The ones available today are completely high tech and are used not only for personal reasons but also for exploring, monitoring swim areas, and fishing and also for documenting shipwrecks. Today, we also have offshore trolling cameras. These have been designed specially for the videographers and fishermen. Underwater photography has its own limitations in terms of the conditions the photographer has to face. Basic Tips and Ideas When you dive into the ocean, ensure you do it sans your camera. Diving with your camera will easily flood the camera with water. Therefore always procure or pass the equipment once you are in the water to another person on the boat. Do not drag your equipment once you are in the deep waters. This may cause damage to the marine life. Use an upward angle of the camera to obtain dramatic results. Be constantly aware of all the dive gear that may float before your lens. Ensure you use the empty space for text or graphics that can be added on, later. The best time to take the plunge is around midday. The sun being overhead would illuminate the subjects underwater. The underwater world changes often at the very blink of an eye. Perhaps this is what fascinates people all over and they overlook the risk factors and dive into the depth of the oceans. The vivid colors, the dangers lurking around the corner, the peace and the tranquility, all add to the mystery and aura of the underwater life. No prizes for guessing why this remains to be one of the most popular forms of photography even today!

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Chapter 6 : Derek Berwin (Author of Creative Techniques in Underwater Photography)

Group Description This group is all about being creative with your underwater photography. Either by using: A. Photographic techniques such as slow shutter speeds (to get.

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Chapter 7 : Underwater Photography Tips | Outdoor Photography Guide

Underwater includes essential advice on choosing the right equipment, and in straightforward language discusses lighting, creative composition, making the most of a subject and macrophotography, showing how the basic principles of photography change when shooting underwater.

A cold beer or cocktail is probably higher up on your wish list. But night dives can be one of the most rewarding opportunities for underwater photographers. Animals that you might otherwise never see during the day—crustaceans, eels, and cephalopods—come out to play at night. And then there are a ton of wonderful behaviors to photograph such as predation and cleaning. The first step is to have both a primary and secondary dive light. Also, the buddy team is extra important during night dives—not just for safety, but also to help identify potential photography subjects. Never point your light directly at a subject, but rather illuminate it with the softer edge of the beam. And always make sure to shine your light onto your hands when giving hand signals. Diving at night brings you subjects rarely seen during the day, or unique nocturnal behaviors. Here, a manta ray munches on microscopic krill in Hawaii. Night Dive Underwater Photo Subjects While the specific species you are likely to encounter on a night dive differ from location to location, there are some subjects that are essentially nocturnal and only come out for photographers when the sun goes down. Many species of cephalopods, such as octopus, cuttlefish, and squid are frequently seen at night. Also, many crustaceans such as shrimp, crab, and lobster are far more active at night, often hunting their prey. Other subjects that bolt around in the daylight, such as parrotfish, become sedentary at night, making for a much easier shot. Some specialized photography opportunities are also available when the sun goes down. Photographing the natural fluorescence of marine life using specialized filters is a new trend in underwater imaging, best accomplished during night dives. Parrotfish zip around the reef during the day. Equipment for Underwater Photography at Night Essentially, the underwater photography gear you use during the day will serve you well at night. However, there are some modifications and equipment selections that can streamline the experience. Use a Dedicated Focus Light and Strobes: You will also need at least one powerful strobe ideally two since this is the only source of light that will illuminate the subject. For the most part, you will use the continuous lights to focus on your subjects, and your strobes to light the scene. Use of continuous light is recommended only if you have sufficient power 2, lumens or more or for specific circumstances, such as to create a spotlight effect see below. We already addressed the importance of having a backup light for safety, but there are also photographic advantages to having dual focus lights. Some manufacturers include glow-in-the-dark labels on the housing. For this reason, macro is usually the way to go. Although the vast majority of subjects to be photographed during night dives are medium-sized and macro, there are opportunities for wide angle as well. But wide-angle reef scenes and close-focus wide-angle opportunities exist as well. Underwater Photography at Night: Tips and Techniques The big thing to have success photographing on a night dive—as previously mentioned—is to be comfortable in the situation with or without your camera. If this means going on several dark dives without your camera, then that would be encouraged. Once you feel comfortable to juggle your rig in the dark, here are some key tips and techniques: If possible, try to begin your dive at dusk, rather than once it is completely dark. Getting in the water just 10 minutes before sunset will provide the available light to fiddle with your settings and get settled in the underwater environment. It also provides a transition from the familiar day dive to the nighttime. Diving at dusk is a great way to transition into the night. Here, mandarin fish mate at dusk. Use a Fast Shutter Speed with Strobes: Many people are worried about how continuous focus lights will impact their strobe-lit image, especially at night when they appear to put a spotlight on the dark background. This can easily be avoided by using a fast enough shutter speed to cancel out the continuous focus light. It works much the same way as when shooting in daylight with strobes, where using a fast shutter speed limits the amount of ambient light from the sun hitting your camera sensor. The shutter speed required to do this at night varies based on the output of the focus light—which can typically

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range from to 4, lumens. The appropriately named stargazer is a popular nighttime subject in the Coral Triangle. Using a fast shutter speed eliminates the spotlight beam coming from a focus light. Use a Continuous Light Only: Sure, you can go the traditional route to eliminate the spotlight effect of your focus light with fast shutter speeds. Alternatively, you can go the opposite direction for a snooting effect without an additional light-shaping device. This spotlight effect works nicely for critters in the sand or environments where they tend to blend in. Turn off your strobes and use the focus light to shine a spotlight on the subject. You can also use the spot beam of your light to create a snooting effect, which in this case spotlights a crocodilefish hiding in the sand. During your night dives, you may want to be more selective about which subjects you spend time with and those you may pass on. Many subjects are active only at night hunting, feeding, cleaning, etc. Spending extra time with subjects at night will likely lead to unique behaviors to photograph, such as the yawn of a frogfish. Experiment with Strobe Positions: One reason why night diving is a great opportunity for novice photographers is because it simplifies the lighting situation. During the day, underwater photographers are required to balance two light sources: But at night you only have artificial light to contend with. This provides a great opportunity to master manual control of your strobe output and using various positioning to achieve different lighting effects. Take Advantage of the Black: When most people see a macro image with a black background, the initial response is often to assume it was photographed at night. However, most of these images are photographed during the day with a more advanced technique to create a black background. Just make sure to frame your subject against open water so that the only lit portion of the frame is your foreground subject. Just make sure there is open water behind the foreground so that your strobes only illuminate the subject. Final Thoughts It seems much of the trepidation to start taking underwater images at night lies with a sense of unease in the dark. But as any seasoned night diver will tell you "the ocean truly comes alive when the sun goes down. Being comfortable diving in darkness will let you focus on the photography and experiment with the techniques discussed here. Some nighttime subjects can be focused right near the surface, like this juvenile needlefish.

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