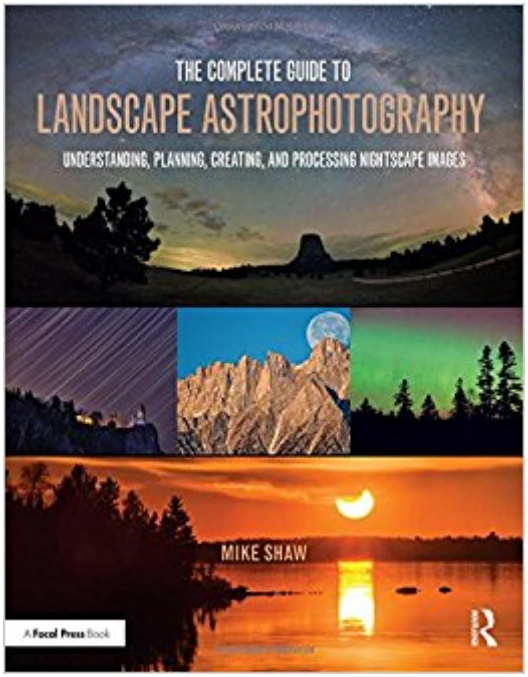
The Complete Guide To Landscape Astrophotography: Understanding, Planning, Creating, And Processing Nightscape Images



Synopsis

The Complete Guide to Landscape Astrophotography is the ultimate manual for anyone looking to create spectacular landscape astrophotography images. By explaining the science of landscape astrophotography in clear and straightforward language, it provides insights into phenomena such as the appearance or absence of the Milky Way, the moon, and constellations. This unique approach, which combines the underlying scientific principles of astronomy with those of photography, will help deepen your understanding and give you the tools you need to fulfil your artistic vision. Key features include: Ã¢â ¬Â¢ Distinguished Guest Gallery of images from renowned nightscape photographers such as Babak Tafreshi, Bryan Peterson, Alan Dyer, Brenda Tharp, Royce Bair, Wally Pacholka, and David Kingham Ã¢â ¬Â¢ The twenty-five best landscape astrophotography subjects and how to photograph them Ã¢â ¬Â¢ Astronomy 101 - build your knowledge of night sky objects and their motion: the Milky Way, moon, Aurora Borealis/Australis, constellations, meteors and comets Ã¢â ¬Â¢ Information on state-of-the-art planning software and apps designed to enable you to capture and enhance your landscape astrophotography Ã¢â ¬Â¢ Field guide for creating a detailed plan for your night shoot Ã¢â ¬Â¢ Description of the best moon phases for specific types of nightscape images, and the best months and times of night to see the Milky Way Ã¢â ¬Â¢ How-to guide for creating stunning time-lapse videos of the night sky, including Holy Grail transitions from pre-sunset to complete darkness Ã¢â ¬Â¢ Four detailed case studies on creating landscape astrophotography images of the Milky Way, full moon, star trails, and constellations

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> Photography & Video > Equipment, Techniques & Reference > Reference

Customer Reviews

Mike Shaw is a renowned professional photographer who leads night and nature photography workshops around the world. He holds a Ph.D. in Materials Engineering from the University of California, Santa Barbara, an M.S. in Ceramic Engineering from the Ohio State University, and a B.S. in Materials Science and Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley. Shaw is a former physics and astronomy professor who has taught thousands of students. He also conducts educational photography workshops for the community, including astronomy and astrophotography outreach seminars for the U.S. National Park Service.

I was disappointed in the book. Given its size and cost I figured it would cover in great detail the processing of images in Photoshop. All it says are some general phrases like "blend in Photoshop". I covers planning very well and perhaps it should be titled Planning Landscape Astrophotography. What I need is what to do with multiple exposures of both the stars and the foreground and how to bring them together.

There is so much useful information packed into this book: instructions, examples, tips. Mr. Shaw invites you to come along with him to stunning photos, in a way that makes it all accessible to all. And the photos are simply breathtaking!

Dr. Michael C. Shaw asked to include one of my images in his expansive book (see page 399). The book is chock full of eye popping images from some of the best Landscape Astrophotographers I know or have ever heard of. But that’s not the best part! Mike covers nearly all the topics I’ve covered over years and years in workshops, my blog and classes and he does so VERY well.The book has copious illustrations and the writing is enthusiastic, and comprehensive. It seems to be impossible to cover EVERYTHING on the subject but Dr. Shaw has just about done that. Here some examples that you’ll find in the book:- Curious what that green (or red) glow in the sky is in your photo (and you know it’s not the aurora borealis) see page 59.- Want to know why after midnight and before dawn is the best time to catch a meteor shower? (illustration 7.4, page 98)- Want to determine what exposure(s) will capture the Milky Way? (page 177)- Would you like help planning to capture a great image? (Chapter 16, pp 236-256)- Want to know about tools and apps for planning shots - Chapter 17.- Need to clean your lens or sensor? (pp 300-305)...And much more.Certainly

you'll also find information about Timelapses, Star trails, Milky Way seasonality, the moon, light painting, color, human visual perception, camera optics and even how to compose and adjust your images.The list of important, fun, and useful topics is long. While covering these topics, Dr. Shaw maintains a scholarly and scientific view but with a light touch so you are not likely to become lost in terminology. Even though I've been doing Landscape Astrophotograpy quite a long time, there are definitely some gems that I picked up. For example page 138 has an illuminating chart comparing the light from different sources.A nitpick is that near the center of the book - chapter 15 (pp 209-236) - there are no page numbers so references in the index make those items harder to find... but the book DOES have an index! It's surprising how few books do that these days. The index turns a great book into a great REFERENCE book.IN SUMMARYI find the book eminently useful, fascinating, illuminating and well thought out.DISCLOSUREI received a free copy because of the inclusion of one of my photographs, but I was NOT asked to write a review - I did so because I am impressed. This is a GREAT book.WHO AM I?I was the Royal Observatory, Greenwich's Astronomy Photographer of the Year in 2010, and runner up in 2012. My images have appeared in national and international publications and I have taught hundreds of classes to thousands of students.

If you're looking to pick up a great book covering every aspect of astrophotography, this book is THE one-stop shop for beginners and veterans alike.My first impression when I got this book in the mail was the sheer size. Upon paging quickly through the book, I was quite impressed to see the wide array of subject matter Mike covers. As someone who has been shooting landscape astrophotos, I was very impressed to see the depth of the subjects Mike takes you through.While large, the book isn't overbearing. It's very easy to read and Mike does a wonderful job keeping you engaged with the very expansive subjects that encompass astrophotography. Mike does a brilliant job covering the basics and explaining the various equipment, lenses, locations, applications, and software that uses and recommends. Once the basics are covered, he takes you into more challenging shots and subject matter. He covers moon photography, star trails, photographing the aurora, the Milky Way and so much more.I literally could not put this book down and have since tabulated mine. I'm actually in the second round of reading my copy and hope to have it read through a second time as the Milky Way core season approaches.If there's every one book to read, and your looking to get into landscape astrophotography, this is it. If you ever have any questions about the book or the subject matter, Mike is wonderful to talk with!

A superb compilation of techniques for shooting the twilight and night sky, with the emphasis on still image "nightscapes." This is the best reference to the topic in print. Buy it! The book is particularly strong on explaining how the sky works and how to plan shoots to contain the Milky Way, and to use moonlight for illumination. Too many other books and tutorials on the subject ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ and their authors ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ fail to understand or explain the sky, but knowing how the sky moves and where celestial subjects will be is essential knowledge for great shots. A great section covers planning apps and software. The book also has tremendous information on setting exposures for various subjects and styes of images. Highly recommended!

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