

# QUEST PHOTOGRAPHY HOLIDAYS & WORKSHOPS - 2017

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Welcome to our Quest 2017 programme! Exciting trips to Iceland are again included, with one in the spring and another in the autumn, plus a new trip to Northern Ireland and Donegal. Final details of this one are not yet available as it is still being planned with an exploratory visit due to take place this October. Please register your interest, without obligation, for a priority booking. We are also returning to the superb scenic UK locations of the Isle of Skye and Northumberland.

Unfortunately, the Brexit vote has severely impacted on the value of sterling against the Icelandic krona, with a depreciation of over 20% compared with last year. While Quest has been able to absorb much of this, the price of the Iceland trips has inevitably had to be increased a little in order to continue to make them viable. However, our prices remain extremely competitive when compared with other operators.

There are some exciting new workshops on offer - including the darkroom! These 'hands on' darkroom courses are designed for photographers who haven't experienced the magic of making real silver prints in the traditional way. You can also experience the thrill of making photographs 'developed' by sunlight - taking us back to the very beginnings of photography in the mid 19th century. For landscape lovers, 'The Expressive Landscape' will explore this subject in depth with the aim of making your landscape photographs 'special'.

So do come and join us! Having experienced Quest, many photographers return year after year, but try and book early as some trips fill very quickly.

## **THE EXPRESSIVE LANDSCAPE, with Colin Westgate FRPS**

**2 Day Workshop, West Mersea. Two dates, 4/5 Feb 2017 (Sat/Sun) and 22/23 Nov 2017 (Weds/Thurs)**

Why are so many landscape photographs disappointing and fail to stir the emotions? Often it is because they lack atmosphere and light, plus post processing technique. In this pro-active workshop, we will explore the elements, aesthetics and techniques that go towards making your landscapes 'special' and, yes, 'expressive'. Based at West Mersea, the workshop will include discussion and at least one field trip.

**Price £150 (deposit £50) - 4 places**

## **BACK TO THE DARKROOM!, with Colin Westgate FRPS**

**2 day workshop, West Mersea. Two dates. 22/23 March 2017 (Wed/Thur) and 2/3 Dec (Sat/Sun)**

Yes, the photographic darkroom is alive and well! If you have ever fancied trying some *real* photography and exploring the mysteries of the darkroom, here is your chance - no previous experience necessary! The workshop will include using a film camera (supplied!), developing the film and making a real silver black and white print in the darkroom. All materials supplied.

**Price £165 (deposit £40) - 2 places only.**

## **ISLE OF SKYE and APPLECROSS**

**Saturday 1 to Saturday 8 April 2017. 7 nights**

Skye has been in almost every Quest programme since our foundation in 1993 and remains one of our most popular destinations. The "Misty Isle" is surely one of the most beautiful parts of the United Kingdom, full of mood and mountains, rivers, bays and lochs. There is all that the landscape photographer could want - but Skye does not give it up that easily, as it is well known for the fickleness of its weather. But the weather makes the mood, and magic moments are never far away - if only the photographer is in the right place at the right time! This year, the trip will include a day in the dramatic Applecross peninsula.

We will, as usual, be based at The Skye Picture House, near Broadford where our hosts, Stuart and Sarah Brumpton, have a reputation for their warm hospitality. The guest house is situated in a stunning location, at the edge of a loch, with superb views, especially for the morning sunrise. Otters and seals can sometimes be seen. A talk by photographer Ken Bryan, who lives on Skye, will be arranged if he is available. We will fly to Inverness, where we will collect the minibus for the onward journey to Skye.

**Price £975 (deposit £200) Single supplement £100. 7 places.**

*Cost includes B&B and evening meal and is based on a shared twin room. A supplement is payable for single occupation. It also includes all minibus travel in Scotland but does not include the cost of flights.*

## **ICELAND - THE GRAND TOUR**

**Saturday 22 April to Wednesday 3 May 2017. Hotel/Guest House based tour, 11 nights.**

Iceland is now Quest's most popular destination, which is not surprising, as this amazing island has so much to offer the photographer. The landscape is full of unique and often bizarre features, including magnificent waterfalls, black sand beaches, lava fields, glaciers, icebergs, active volcanoes, mud pools, hot springs, geysers, and more. The light and weather can be exciting too, with everything from sunshine to blizzards!. The tour will take in much of the island, with the exception of the interior, which is not accessible at this time of the year, or the remote northwest, which would require an extra few days. We will, therefore, travel round the island, staying for one, or sometimes two, nights at hotels en route. The itinerary will include many of Iceland's top scenic locations and has been arranged to allow ample time for in depth photography in selected areas, as well as plenty of impromptu stops.

**Price £2150** (deposit £500) 7 places. Single supplement £525 Accommodation (B&B) and travel in Iceland included. Flights (normally approx.£250/£300) and other meals are not included. Travel insurance essential.

## **MAKING SUN PRINTS, with Colin Westgate FRPS**

**1 day workshop, at West Mersea, Saturday 20 May 2017**

This practical workshop takes us back to the earliest days of photography, when pictures were 'developed' in sunlight. We will firstly look at Cyanotype, which was, invented in 1842. It is also known as a 'blueprint' as the resulting image is an attractive deep prussian blue. Time permitting, we will also make an 'Argyrotypes', sometimes known as the 'Van Dyke' process, which produces images of a rich brown tone. The processes will firstly be demonstrated, following which participants will all make their own sun prints by coating a water colour paper with a special solution. The paper will then be placed in contact with a natural element, such as a flower, or with a digital negative created on the day. This will then be 'developed' by sunlight (weather permitting!) but in the absence of this, we will use an Ultra Violet lightbox. All materials supplied.

**Price £125** (deposit £40) - 4 places

## **SOUTHERN ICELAND - (includes LANDMANNALAUGAR & THE INTERIOR)**

**Monday 18 to Thursday 28 September 2017, Hotel/Guesthouse based, 10 nights (6 places only)**

Travel into the interior of Iceland is only feasible in summer and early autumn, as the unpaved roads there are inaccessible at other times. Even when the roads are open, good four wheel drive vehicles are a necessity, as frequently rough terrain and fording rivers are obstacles that ordinary vehicles cannot manage. In this trip, we will spend 3 days in the interior which will include the active volcano Mount Hekla, Thorsmork valley and Landmannalaugar. There we will see colourful rhyolite mountains and dramatic scenery enhanced by autumn colour. We will be using two comfortable 4wd vehicles capable of crossing the rough terrain and the journey will be exciting!

The remainder of the trip will continue along the south coast of Iceland where there is an abundance of subject matter, including the Seljalandsfoss and Skogafoss waterfalls, the glacier head at Solheimajokull, the black sand beaches at Reynisfjara and Vik and the wonderful glacial lagoon, filled with icebergs, at Jokulsarlon, where we will stay two nights. We will then retrace our steps, taking in any features that we missed on the way out, and we will spend our last night at Hotel Geysir, adjacent to the hot springs and geysers. We will also visit the spectacular nearby Gullfoss waterfall, arguably Iceland's most majestic, which tumbles dramatically into a rift valley gorge. At this time of year, there is a good chance we will see the Northern Lights too - although this cannot of course be guaranteed. Due to the capacity of the vehicles, this trip will be limited to just **six** people

**Price £2325** (deposit £450). Single supplement £500.- 6 places.

Accommodation (B&B) and travel in Iceland included. Flights (approx.£200/250 and other meals are not included. Travel insurance essential.

## **NORTHERN IRELAND and DONEGAL - Colin Westgate & David Robinson ARPS**

**provisional date Saturday 14 to Tuesday 24 October 2017. 10 nights (7 places)**

This trip is at the planning stage and full details will be available from November 2016. It will be based on Quest's very successful first trip to Northern Ireland in 2015, but will be extended to include Donegal across the border. It will be co-led by David Robinson ARPS. David lived in Northern Ireland for many years and indeed his family are still residents there. He has an intimate knowledge of the country and will take us to numerous scenic locations, some obvious, such as the well known Giant's Causeway, as well as many other 'secret' locations. Northern Ireland is not as well known to most people as is the south, but there are plenty of photo opportunities there, from superb beaches to hidden wooded glens. The Donegal extension will take us into one of Ireland's scenic gems, with further great opportunities for the camera.

Northern Ireland is sometimes not seen as a prime photographic location, but this is truly unjustified and there are some wonderful locations there. We fly into Belfast where we will collect the minibus prior to proceeding to Carnlough on the north east coast. The trip will be hotel based with good quality accommodation.

**Price t.b.a.** (deposit £ ). Single supplement £ ). 7 places

Includes half-board accommodation (Dinner, B&B), all travel in Ireland. Does not include flights or daytime snacks. **Please enquire if you are interested in this trip**

## NORTHUMBERLAND and the BORDERS

**Saturday 4 to Saturday 11 November 2017. 7 nights (7 places)**

On this trip, we will explore the superb coastline of unspoilt Northumberland. The beaches there are some of the loveliest in the UK, but as well as these, there are the Cheviot Hills, Roughing Lynn waterfall and a number of castles. The week will include a day on Lindisfarne (Holy Island). There will be plenty of subjects for the camera and the evenings, after dinner, will be spent viewing and discussing pictures.

**Price £925.** (deposit £150). *Single supp. £90 (7 nights)*

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## ABOUT QUEST

**Quest Photography was established by Colin Westgate in 1993** following early retirement from his career in Banking. Having had a lifelong passion for photography, the opportunity to work professionally in the medium was one he relished. The main function of **Quest** was initially photographic tuition, mostly based in the darkroom, but today the emphasis is on the provision of photographic holidays and of course guidance and tuition are always available. Colin's ethic is to provide value for money, friendliness and photography in spectacular locations.

Colin Westgate commenced his interest in photography in 1959, and it quickly became an essential part of his life. His early love of landscape has not diminished and he has travelled extensively, both in the UK and overseas, particularly to Iceland, to which he travels three or four times every year. He was awarded Fellowship of the Royal Photographic Society in 1976 and in 1990, obtained Mastership of the International Federation of Photographic Art - at the time only the second British photographer to earn this distinction. More recently, he was awarded Mastership of the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain. He is also a Member of the London Salon of Photography and has sat on the panels for the Royal Photographic Society's Licentiateship distinctions, and for Associate & Fellowship in Photographic Printing. He has exhibited throughout the world, gaining many awards and he has been a selector at a number of home and International exhibitions. He lectures and judges at Camera Clubs throughout the U.K.

## FOTOSPEED

Colin Westgate is a sponsored lecturer for Fotospeed, suppliers of premium ink jet papers and continuous ink systems. These materials are available through Colin at significantly discounted prices – please enquire... Catalogues on request or see the Fotospeed website [www.fotospeed.com](http://www.fotospeed.com) for details of the company's full range of products.

Colin Westgate is also part of the Fotospeed Lecture Service, please enquire for details of lectures in your area.

## PRIVATE GROUP TRIPS

Quest will be pleased to arrange trips for small groups of up to 8 people to the destinations in this programme and other locations by arrangement. Ideal for Camera Clubs etc. Discounts sometimes available. Please enquire if this is of interest.

## BOOKINGS

A booking form is available on the Quest website - please complete this or alternatively send an email to [questphoto@btinternet.com](mailto:questphoto@btinternet.com) with your request. A deposit is payable at the time of booking, and the balance is due two months prior to the workshop date. When a booking is made within two months before the workshop date, payment is due in full. Payment may be made by BACS (preferred) to **Sort Code 20-49-76, Account Quest Photography, No. 80310905** or by cheque or PayPal... **Telephone** and **E-mail** reservations will be accepted, subject to receipt of the appropriate payment within seven days, or alternatively complete the booking form on the Quest website. Bookings and cancellations are accepted subject to the conditions detailed on Quest website.

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