

JPC MAGAZINE

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Vol 1 . Issue 1 . September 2023

CARAVAN-E-SPITI

ARTISIAN SHOWCASE

Anuj Jain
Amit Vakil

PAATHSHALA

Astrophotography

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Editor's Note

"Through the lens, we uncover the poetry in the ordinary, the magic in the mundane, and the stories that surround us every day." With this sentiment in mind, I sit down to write this editor's note for the very first issue of the Jaipur Photographers' Club Magazine (JPC Magazine), a whirlwind of emotions engulfing me. It's a moment of immense pride, a pinch of disbelief, and above all, an overwhelming sense of gratitude.

You see, JPC and this magazine are both a testament to dreams that began with so little but have blossomed into something beyond our wildest imaginations.

Several years ago (2010), I founded JPC with nothing but a camera and a vision. Little did I know that this small seed of an idea would grow into a thriving community of passionate photographers from all walks of life. Our shared love for the art of photography united us, and together, we embarked on a journey of discovery, creativity, and friendship only to discover that our collective vision deserved a broader canvas, a platform to showcase the incredible talent that thrives within our club.

And so, the idea of the Jaipur Photographers' Club Magazine was born. Today, as I hold the first issue in my hands, I can't help but feel overwhelmed by the sheer dedication and passion that our club members have poured into this endeavor. It's a testament to their unwavering commitment to the art of photography.

This debut issue is open-themed, a celebration of the myriad of perspectives and talents within our ranks. Our contributors have poured their hearts and souls into this magazine, showcasing their expertise through snapshots that speak volumes and providing insightful content to deepen your appreciation for the art of photography.

Whether you're flipping through the pages of our glossy print edition or swiping through our digital version, I hope you'll be transported into a world where every image has a story to tell and where every photographer's passion shines through. After all, JPC Magazine is not just a collection of photographs; it's a glimpse into the souls of our members, each frame a window to their unique perspectives.

Thus, as we take this first step into the world of publishing, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to every member of the Jaipur Photographers' Club, our contributors, and our readers. You have turned this dream into reality, and for that, I am eternally thankful. I invite you to immerse yourself in the world of JPC Magazine, to explore the beauty, diversity, and creativity that our members bring to the realm of visual storytelling.

As they say, every picture tells a story, and in these pages, you'll find a multitude of stories waiting to be discovered.

Warm Regards,

Anil Khubani

Founder and Editor

Jaipur Photographers' Club Magazine

ABOUT

TEAM



Purvi Khemani

Assistant Editor

A Mass Media Graduate from
Jai Hind College

With a flair for finesse and a keen eye, she moulds every article into a 'pixel-perfect' scene. Whether she's refining an exposé on exposure or crafting a feature on framing, Purvi ensures that she turns every page into a captivating canvas. So, as you delve into her work, you'll discover a fusion of photography and storytelling, where precision and clarity reign supreme, making your reading experience truly delightful.

Design, Website & Social Media

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Anuj Jain

Chandigarh, Punjab

An engineer-turned-readymade-garment retailer, Chandigarh has been his hometown for 43 years, with a brief stint in the USA for studies. In 2014, he embarked on his photographic journey, initially exploring landscapes and delving into street and still-life photography. However, it was in April 2019 that he discovered his true calling: "Bird photography." Since then, he has wholeheartedly dedicated himself to this craft, quickly gaining recognition and earning accolades. His work has been featured in esteemed publications, including National Geographic India, National Geographic Traveler India, and leading newspapers in the UK and India. A recent highlight was one of his images gracing the front page of Smart Photography magazine, accompanied by an in-depth 8-page interview. He says, "My photography is a testament to my deep connection with nature, aiming to capture its beauty and tell the untold stories within. Through my lens, I aspire to convey the wonder of the avian world while remaining grounded in humility and gratitude."

THE NATURE'S HUG



Gear Used: Nikon D750, Lens: 200-500mm





Anuj Jain
Chandigarh, Punjab
Gear Used: Nikon D750
Lens 200-500mm



COLORS OF OF PUSHKAR



Amit Vakil

Chamba, Himachal Pradesh

Based in Chamba, Himachal Pradesh, Amit started photography as a hobby but soon it turned into a passion. Since then, he hasn't looked back and has won a few photography competitions, including the "Colours of Macao" Photography Contest organized by "Nat Geo Traveller India" in 2016. He also won the Artistique Photography Contest organized by "Asian Photography Magazine" under the theme Black & White in 2017-18. Furthermore, he received the 1st prize in the "7th National Photography Competition" from Mr. Jual Oram, Minister for Tribal Affairs, Government of India, in 2014-2015. Amit went to Sri Lanka for a photography assignment with National Geographic Traveller India and Vivo in March 2019, and he also visited Gujarat twice for photography assignments with Gujarat Tourism to capture the essence of the state, in May 2019 and October 2019. He was the recipient of the "Right Xposure Photographer of The Year 2020 Award" and won the "Vision 2020 Photo Competition," a wildlife photo contest by "Pangolin Photo Safaris" in Botswana, South Africa, in May 2020.



Gear Used: Canon 5D MARK 3, Lenses: Canon 70-200mm f2.8
Canon- 24-105mm





APNI TOH PAATH SHALA



A Comprehensive Guide to Astrophotography - Capturing the Cosmos

Introduction

Astrophotography, the art of capturing celestial wonders through the lens of a camera, has a rich history dating back to the mid-19th century. Early pioneers pointed their cameras skyward, attempting to record the beauty and mysteries of the night sky. These early attempts laid the foundation for a captivating and ever-evolving photographic discipline that continues to inspire photographers today.

Astrophotography is a unique blend of science and artistry, where patience, precision, and creativity combine to reveal the wonders of the universe. So, whether you are seeking to capture the Milky Way's brilliance, the colourful trails of meteor showers, or the distant glow of far-off galaxies, this tutorial will equip you with the knowledge and skills to venture into the realm of astrophotography. From the earliest photographs of the moon's craters to the awe-inspiring images of distant galaxies and nebulae captured by modern astrophotographers, this step-to-step guide will take you through the essential techniques and equipment needed to embark on your own journey into the cosmos.

So, grab your camera and tripod, and let us explore the limitless beauty of the night sky together.

Gear and Preparation

1. Camera and Lens Selection

For astrophotography, you will need a DSLR or mirrorless camera with manual settings. A wide-angle lens (f/2.8 or faster) is recommended for capturing more light and wider fields of view.

2. Sturdy Tripod

A stable tripod is essential to prevent camera shake during long exposures. Ensure it's set up on a solid surface.

3. Remote Shutter Release

A remote shutter release or interval timer helps minimize camera shake when capturing long exposures.

4. Flashlight

A red flashlight is crucial to preserve night vision. Avoid white light as it can disrupt your adaptation to the dark.

5. Smartphone Apps

Use astronomy apps like Stellarium or SkySafari to locate celestial objects and plan your shots.



Camera Settings

1. Manual Mode

Switch to manual mode to have full control over exposure settings.

2. ISO

Start with a low ISO (around 400-800) to reduce noise, and then adjust as needed to capture sufficient light.

3. Aperture

Use the widest aperture (lowest f-number) your lens allows to gather more light. f/2.8 or lower is ideal.

4. Shutter Speed

Set your shutter speed to a long exposure (typically 20-30 seconds). Experiment to avoid star trails.

5. White Balance

Choose a white balance setting suitable for your environment; usually, "Daylight" or "Tungsten" works well.



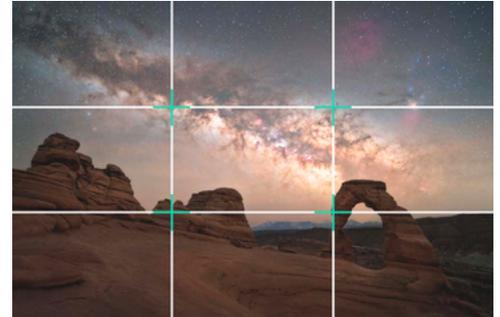
Focusing

1. Manual Focus

Switch to manual focus and use the Live View mode to zoom in on a bright star. Adjust the focus ring until the star appears sharp.

2. Infinity Focus

Mark your lens focus ring at the infinity position for quick refocusing during the shoot.



Framing Your Shot

1. Composition

Compose your shot with a captivating foreground element, like a tree or landmark, to add depth and interest.

2. Rule of Thirds

Use the rule of thirds to create a balanced composition. Place the Milky Way or stars along these lines.

Shooting

1. Bulb Mode

If your camera has a "Bulb" mode, consider using it for exposures longer than 30 seconds.

2. Continuous Shooting

Capture multiple frames to reduce noise. Stack them later in post-processing for cleaner images.

3. Light Painting

Experiment with light painting to illuminate foreground objects or add creative elements to your photos.

Post-Processing

1. RAW Format

Shoot in RAW to retain maximum image data for post-processing.

2. Stacking

Stack multiple exposures using software like DeepSkyStacker or Sequator to reduce noise and enhance details.

3. Lightroom/Photoshop

Adjust exposure, contrast, and color balance in post-processing software to bring out the beauty of the night sky.

Conclusion

Astrophotography is a rewarding but challenging genre. Be patient, practice, and continue learning. With dedication and the right gear, you can capture the cosmos in all its breathtaking glory. Explore the night sky and share your celestial masterpieces with the world!



Shubham Vinod Singh
Mumbai, Maharashtra



The Art of Survival A Black and white image of a busy street of Matheran
Canon 80D, with Tamron 70-300 mm, 1/500 sec, f/4.5, ISO:400.



Buddha In Tabo Canon 5D Mark III Lens 150-500mm
ISO 500 SS 1/500 f/11 Focal Length 500mm



Parveen Jaggi
Mohali, Punjab

CARAVAN-E-SPITI

Organised by Jaipur Photographers' Club

Exploring the Enchanting Kinnaur, Spiti & Lahaul Region of Himachal Pradesh

Duration: 6 September to 16 September 2023

Travellers: Ajay Nair, Shibu Nair, Pavnesh Arora & Mehul Jain with Anil Khubani



Highlights of the Expedition

- Scenic Journey:** The unforgettable journey began from Jaipur and took us through a mesmerizing route, including Narkanda, Manali, Kaza, Pin Valley, Chandra Taal, and Mandi, before returning to Jaipur. The Spiti region welcomed us with its stunning landscapes and rich culture.
- Photography Paradise:** The trip was a paradise for all the photographers. The group indulged in landscape photography, capturing the breathtaking vistas of the Spiti Valley. The clear skies were boon to all to engage in astrophotography, revealing the wonders of the night sky.
- Spiritual Exploration:** Along the way, the group explored several ancient monasteries, immersing themselves in the spiritual aura of the region. The serene places added depth to the journey, allowing everyone to connect with the local culture and traditions.
- Holy Dip in Chandrataal:** One of the highlights of the trip was visit to Chandrataal, a sacred lake nestled amidst the Himalayas. Taking a dip in its crystal-clear waters was a spiritually enriching experience that will be etched in memories forever.
- Off-Roading Adventures:** To reach some of the most remote and stunning locations, the group ventured into off-roading, navigating challenging terrains that tested the driving skills. These adrenaline-pumping moments added an adventurous twist to the trip.
- Weather Challenges:** As everyone ascended in altitude, they encountered significant climate changes. The temperature dropped on higher altitudes, and the air became thinner, resulting in lower oxygen levels. However, the group was well-prepared, and everyone adapted to the changing environment, ensuring everyone's safety and well-being.
- Wildlife Encounters:** The Spiti region's unique ecosystem allowed the group to witness rare wildlife, including Ibex and Himalayan Griffins. The group was also treated to the sight of birds that are native to this particular region of Himachal Pradesh, adding to the region's natural charm.

UDTI KHABREIN

Past Events

27th August - JPC ADDA Meeting
(Chai Pe Charcha)

3rd September - JPC Photowalk
(Life in a Metro)



Upcoming Events*



1st October - JPC Photowalk

14th October - JPC ADDA and Field Workshop

*Dates to the events are Tentative

Rajasthan Photo Utsav 2023

Photography exhibition organized by
LIT FRAME PHOTOGRAPHY FOUNDATION

Date - 27th - 29th September 2023

Venue - City Palace, Jaipur



Straight from the Club Member



Nand Kishor
Mumbai, Maharashtra

I recall my childhood days, gazing in wonder at foreign tourists capturing the essence of Jaipur from the rooftops at the Badi Chopar circle. I held onto my Baba's hand, yearning for the day when I would possess a DSLR camera just like them, and could freeze moments in time with my own lens. In my youthful dreams, I even envisioned a camera miraculously falling from a passing airplane, granting my photography wish. Well, let's just leave that as a childhood fantasy!

I was blessed to be able to purchase a DSLR for myself back in 2010 only to realize that having a DSLR camera is just the beginning of this journey. I used to watch YouTube videos and read blogs to learn how to use the machine that I got, but hands-on experience was a major lack. I came across the JPC through social media platforms and found the hands of the masters under the mentorship of Anil Sir. I learned photography basics through regular photo walks, photo competitions, and workshops organised by JPC. It led me to be a part of the Coffee Table Book project, Photo Exhibitions, and JPC Annual Calendar. Creative learning and a friendly environment are the norms at JPC.

I am indebted to JPC as it not only helped me hone my photography skills and creativity but it also played a crucial role in my personal healing journey. Battling depression, I discovered that my newfound creativity found solace and expression through photography, leading to a profound sense of well-being. To merely offer thanks would be a colossal understatement for the immeasurable gifts I've received from JPC.



JAIPUR PHOTOGRAPHERS' CLUB

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JPC Calendar 2024

THEME
**Landscapes of
INDIA**

Date of Submission
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your entries



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Here's to your magazine becoming a canvas for photographers to showcase their artistic vision and creativity."



May your magazine's lighting up photographs and fascinating stories bring the magic of pictures and enjoyment to life.



Wishing your magazine a successful start! Allow it to capture the joy and passion that photography can express.



May your magazine serve as a way through which we can recognise nature's beauty and understand the value of its preservation

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