

28 September – 3 October 2009

Photography Course



Michael Hardy

*An intensive
photography course in
a beautiful and
unspoiled corner of
rural France.*

*Programme includes
course,
accommodation and
all meals.*

Book by 31 July 2009



Bob Aylott

Learn how to shoot great pictures with easy to follow techniques from the professionals.

The Course

Photojournalist Michael Hardy and **Press Photographer Bob Aylott** have designed this informative and exciting course which aims to improve the eye for a picture through better awareness of subjects and surroundings and how to apply the key techniques professionals use to take winning pictures.

The Auvergne region of France, where the course is based, is an inspirational background for a photographic course. It is rich in photogenic images, from its stunning scenery with mountains, rivers, volcanic gorges and towns and villages with important mediaeval architecture.

A typical day will begin with discussion of a chosen subject and the setting of an assignment for the day's picture taking. Discussion topics include:

- image management
- the use of light
- the relationship of the subject matter to the background - depth of focus, colour texture, use of reflection etc.
- basic composition – golden rule, large mass balanced against small mass etc.
- portrait photography – different ways of photographing people, at work, movement etc.
- the secret of landscape photography

- close up photography – different textures found in nature, volcanic rocks, trees, flowers etc.
- colour theory – using colour as a graphic element, colour discord, colour harmony

Evenings are spent downloading the day's pictures and discussing the results over a pre dinner drink.

A full itinerary includes:

- **A typical French market** where photographers can concentrate on photographing people, close ups, working, communicating etc, the use of colour and seeing close up opportunities
- The picturesque town of **Le Puy en Velay** where the class will be able to use the buildings and squares to try out ideas of composition and vertical, horizontal, and converging lines and the use of people when they are photographing architecture
- **Landscapes** and beauty spots, sunrise and sunsets, shooting with tripods, showing the importance of a large depth of field and the use of long exposures.
- **A working farm** or local producer
- **River or lake locations** providing opportunities for dramatic pictures and a chance to photograph reflections on the water and the movement of water using slow shutter speeds
- **Gardens** for shooting macro and close ups of flowers and plants and the use of fill in flash and reflectors and spray to enhance the subject

There will be an opportunity to execute a **photojournalism assignment** for those participants who have a special interest in the subject.

The course ends with a **competition** with prizes for the best pictures.

The region is ideal for nature lovers and will appeal to **non participating partners** who can choose to take part in activities such as walks, bird watching, riding or even mushroom gathering with a local guide.

Important notes:

- The course is open to photographers of all levels aged 18 or older
- Enrolment is limited to 14 participants
- Photographers must bring their own digital cameras with USB leads, memory cards and where possible their own laptops

The Tutors

Michael Hardy began his career as a photographer when he joined the Daily Express in London in 1958 and soon after he was sent to Paris as their staff photographer. From there he travelled across Europe and Africa covering the major news stories of the time including the wars in Algeria and the Congo. Returning to London at the end of 1963 he became freelance and worked for the Weekend Telegraph Magazine, Paris Match, Newsweek, several leading charities and international magazines like Time. He became Picture Editor of Weekend Telegraph in 1980. His other achievements include teaching 'Visual Journalism' at City University London and being Picture Editor of Woman's Own Magazine for 12 years and helping to set up an internal digital library at IPC, a leading UK consumer magazine publisher.

Bob Aylott began a career in photography starting as a tea boy at The Sport & General Press Agency in Fleet Street. He moved to the dark room at Fox Photos, and then became a photographer in 1967 with The Keystone Press Agency. A year later he was named British News Photographer of the Year. He joined the Daily Sketch in 1969, then the Daily Mail a year later. His photographs have been widely exhibited and he has won numerous awards, including The Colour Picture of the Year in 1971 for his images from the cholera camps during the India-Pakistan war and the World Press Award for his prison pictures of Charles Manson, while working in America for their biggest tabloid The National Enquirer. He returned to London in 1987 to join the Express and Daily Star. He has been features editor of Amateur Photographer for the last 7 years, where he has interviewed many of the world's greatest photographers.

The Venue



The course will be based at Chateau Chazelles in the Auvergne region of South Eastern France, a region virtually undiscovered by tourism. Participants will be accommodated at the Chateau or nearby alternative of similar standard, depending on availability. More information on the Chateau and the region is available at www.chateau-chazelles.com.

Fees

Course Fee for participants

Course Fee, payable in advance: includes tutor fees, travel to and from picture taking locations on course itinerary, refreshments and 4 lunches.	£ 395
---	--------------

5 nights Half Board Accommodation*

Bed and Breakfast Accommodation in Chateau Chazelles or Hotel Le Relais Des Seigneurs, depending on availability. All evening meals are provided at Chateau Chazelles.	263 € per person based on 2 people sharing
--	--

* Payable locally on departure.

Getting There

Air: nearest international airport is Lyon - major airlines; Easyjet **Train:** regular connections from Lyon and St Etienne to Retournac (10 minutes from Chateau Chazelles, pickup possible) **Car:** Calais 8h30m

Enquiries and Bookings

For all enquiries and bookings and any special requests please contact us on:

Email: themasterclasses@googlemail.com

Telephone: +33 (0) 471 58 40 11

Please note booking period closes on 31 July 2009.