

Through The Lens

*A guide to digital photography for computer enthusiasts.
After the click of your camera, you're only half done!*

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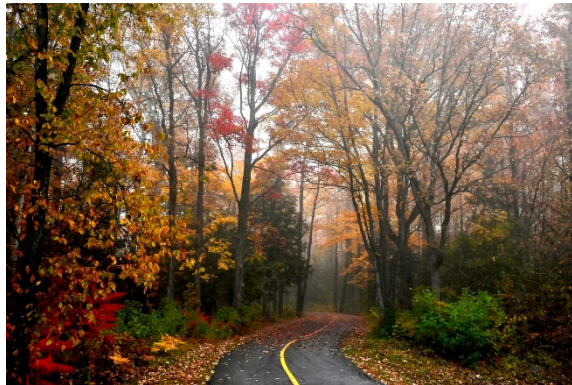
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Tips for fall photography

by Lynda Buske

Autumn is by far my favourite time of the year for photography. There is just so much to capture! Last year was not atypical and I shot on Oct 17, Oct 18, Oct 19, Oct 20, Oct 21, Oct 24 ...you get the idea! I just keep heading out and usually something photo-worthy appears.

One of the things I most look forward to is the presence of early morning mist caused by the air temperature dropping lower than the water temperature. It doesn't last long if it's a sunny day but well worth the early rise! And actually, it's not all that early during fall months compared to mid-summer.



While I am not a bird photographer, there are many species that migrate through Ottawa in the fall. Even I can shoot geese as you don't need a super long lens or a fast exposure. They are big and flap relatively slowly. They are very verbal just before the sun rises and take off when it appears so you get lots of lead time to set up a birds-in-flight shot. I can often photograph multiple flocks in the same image as they are so numerous.

Of course, in this area of the world, the star of the show is the fall foliage! To help plan day excursions or especially longer stays, use the links below to determine when the colours are peaking in the various regions of Ontario and Quebec.

<https://www.ontarioparks.ca/fallcolour>

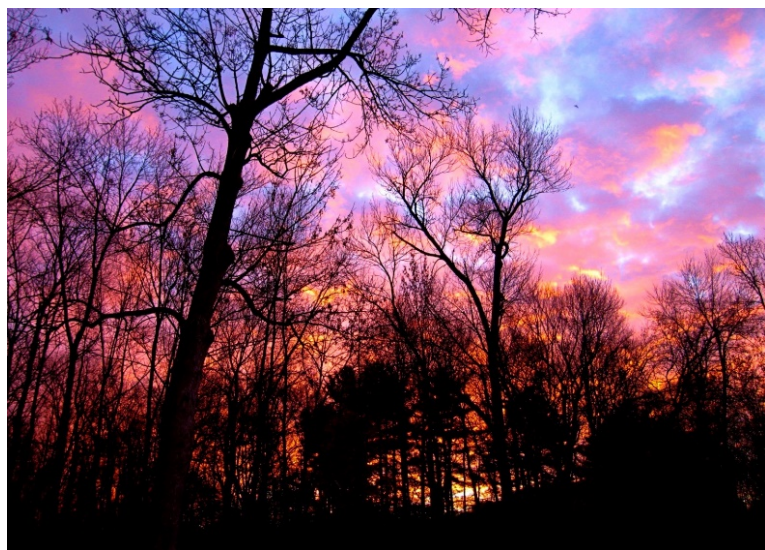
<https://www.bonjourquebec.com/en-ca/explore/seasons/fall>



There is lots of flora to photograph in the fall, such as asters and fungi. I especially love when the milkweed plants open up their seed pods to let them drift away. Morning frosts can make even dried-up leaves or blossoms look enchanting!



November tends to be underutilized by many photographers. While it doesn't have the stunning colours of October, there is still lots to photograph and some advantages. You have a greater chance of frost, late dawns and no leaves on the trees. The latter comes in handy when shooting long exposures at waterfalls or during blue hour. For example, during a 4 second exposure, leaves can often move but branches are not likely to budge unless the wind is very strong. That means everything in your photo will be in focus regardless of the exposure time. November trees can look lovely in a sunset image since the colours are not blocked by leaves. The branches just become nice sharp silhouetted shapes.



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