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Natures  
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## Specialist Raptor (Evening light) Workshop

In common with my other bird of prey workshops this one is held at a private bird of prey centre in North Northamptonshire which provides the opportunity to photograph a truly unique range of birds. Unlike most other centres most of these birds are trained and actively used for hunting so are in excellent condition, very keen and fit. Uniquely for falconry centres they are kept with the minimum of equipment making semi natural shots all the easier and much more realistic. The centre itself is located in the centre of a splendid 3,000 acre private estate providing us with excellent opportunities to photograph birds in a wide range of natural settings. We will have access to the whole of the estate and working with the owner and head falconer I will have selected a number of natural settings for us to use to photograph the birds.

This workshop is deliberately scheduled to offer an opportunity to photograph the birds and especially owls into the magical evening light or “golden hour” in the summer. This session is scheduled to start at 2 PM and run through into mid evening finishing at about 7:30 PM.

This workshop is offered no where else and has been specially arranged by Natures Photos to allow you to shoot in that beautiful light that is only available in the summer. It is 5 hours and starts at 2:00pm running through till 7:30pm with a short break.

As your wildlife photography guide I will lead the workshop and provide all the necessary photographic guidance and training especially that pertaining to lowlight photography. Either the centre’s head falconer and owner Tom Morath who is an extremely experienced falconer and





renowned raptor expert or one of his more experienced staff will be with us all day to fly and manage the birds. With such experienced and enthusiastic falconers you will have plenty of opportunities to ask any raptor or falconry specific questions you might have.

The numbers of places on this workshop is limited to no more than 8 to give all delegates ample opportunity to take photos and sufficient time to experiment with different positions and different lighting.

Almost any medium length lens will do for this workshop but for the flight shots a lens reaching 200mm or more would be better. A fast (wide aperture) lens of 200mm or more would also give pleasing head shots. Shorter lenses are better for capturing static shots e.g. birds on fence posts etc. In reality a combination of lenses from 70mm to 300mm or longer, perhaps as zooms, will therefore be ideal. A tripod isn't necessary but if you are taking a longer lens you might like to include one. We will be visiting a number of different areas but will travel around by vehicle so carrying equipment will not be a problem.

The workshop is offered only in the summer months and will last about 5 hours. It will start at 2 PM running through to mid evening to take best advantage of the evening light. The centre is situated just to the north of Northampton and I will provide full directions timing etc. on booking. We will hope for good weather but if this isn't the case we will fly the birds less and spend more time taking portraits and staged shots of birds in specific and species appropriate settings. In the event of very poor weather I will attempt to contact everyone the day before and if possible reschedule for a later date. This session has been individually arranged for me and the people I take and thus we can, within reason and respecting the bird's welfare, ask Tom to take as long as we like with a particular bird and vary the positioning and lighting to suit our requirements.

It could be a chilly especially into the evening so please bring suitable warm waterproof clothing and suitable footwear. Some of the shots will be taken laying on the ground so you will get dirty ! Hot drinks will be provided throughout the session but could you please bring a packed tea.

This will be an intensive workshop so bring plenty of memory cards and batteries and expect to take home lots of great images.

Bob Brind-Surch

All dates, availability and costs are advertised on my website, [www.naturesphotos.co.uk](http://www.naturesphotos.co.uk).

Other dates may be available if groups wanted to book them. Please contact me for further information.

The charge for the day includes tea/coffee on arrival, full photographic tuition and falconer guides plus entrance to the venue

To book places please visit my website and complete an online booking form or contact me direct, details below.

Telephone 01536 3739775 or Mobile 07983 427202 (preferred) or email [bob@naturesphotos.co.uk](mailto:bob@naturesphotos.co.uk).

