



Most common mistakes made by a wildlife photographer

I was asked a while ago what I thought were the most common mistakes a wildlife photographer could make. It set me thinking; what are the things I do, or see others do on my workshops that result in images that we are less than proud of. In considering this I have written an article to be found in the "musings" section of my website with my top 8, I am sure that you could think of more but hope that these will help you when out shooting wildlife a subject which is often very challenging as action often happens very fast and conditions e.g. lighting etc. are frequently very demanding. Having read my thoughts [here](#) if you can think of any that you might like to add to the list please do email me at bob@naturesphotos.co.uk and I willingly post them with this article on my website so others can benefit too.



Read my thoughts [here](#)

British Mammal Photo Workshops proving extremely popular.

Last year (2015) two of my workshops which sold the fastest and were the most popular were those focusing on British Mammals namely:

- The British Wildlife Centre in Surrey
- Secret British Mammals in Devon

I have therefore increased the number of dates for 2106 all of which can be found on my website. The first for both are in March 2016 each is already filling fast with only a few vacancies for both locations. I only take a very limited number of guests on each so that I can give you as much attention as possible. Therefore if you are interested in this spring trip please visit my website [here](#) and book quickly.



More details [here](#)

Feedback from a couple of previous guests on these workshops:-

"Many and varied opportunities from sleek shiny otters, fast tricky weasels, acrobatic stealthy wild cats, cheeky red squirrels, shady foxes and more in beautiful settings. There is much to learn and plenty to challenge. A full and truly entertaining day in perfect light (very well organised), spent in the company of a lovely bunch of folks. Loved every minute."

Michele Davies - British Wildlife Centre

"My reasoning for doing the course was to have the chance to photograph animals that have evaded me despite spending many hours patiently waiting. The venue certainly fulfilled this. Having Bob on hand to give advice on technique and equipment in such a clear and concise manner was simply excellent. The Animal handler could not have been more helpful in trying to get the subjects to perform and her knowledge was very interesting. What more can I say it was a brilliant week end, perfect in every way and a learnt so much. Cannot honestly see how it could be improved."

Phil Kemp – Secret British Mammals Devon

There is further feedback and a selection of photos taken by previous guests by clicking the links below and scroll to the bottom of the page–

- [British Wildlife Centre - Surrey](#)
- [Secret British Mammals Workshop – Devon](#)

NEW Private British Mammal Photo Workshops.

Last year I started running private sessions based around my [Secret British Mammals Workshop in Devon](#) - for groups of friends interested in wildlife photography e.g. from camera clubs or wildlife groups. These proved immensely successful and I am already booked to run similar sessions again in 2016. If you have 5, 6 or max 7 people wanting to share 2 days learning more about your camera and photographing our secret British Mammals in superb naturalistic settings please do get in touch. We use a local friendly farm house B&B and this represents a great opportunity to advance your photography, get some great shots and share the company of like-minded photography friends.



Rare Scottish wildcat

Following the success of a trial last year I am also able to add an extra day of landscape photography run by Huw Alban, an experienced and published landscape photographer if required.

NEW Workshop dates for 2016

2016 will be the 4th full year for Natures Photos and I am very pleased to say that all my workshops, tours and safaris continue to prove very popular. All the dates for 2016 are listed below and are kept up to date, with availability, on my website. Some are sold out already! I am looking at adding some new venues for 2016 and will announce these first in this newsletter and on the website.

If you have looked at the website and seen a workshop you were interested in is already full or the dates don't suit you please add your name to the waiting list for that workshop by clicking the "please add me to the waiting list button" or visiting [here](#). If I arrange any new dates or get any cancellations I will come to the waiting list first.



Bavaria – Europe's Great Predators Workshop 2016

2016 will be the third year that I have run this exciting and unique workshop. We visit the Bavarian National Park to photograph some spectacular and enigmatic predators such as grey wolves, brown bears and lynx. On each occasion it's proved very popular and sold out quickly.

To run this very unique workshop I team up with a leading German ecologist, Gerhard Schwab, who lives in and knows the area very well. Most of these animals we will photograph used to roam free in Europe and indeed many once upon a time in the UK but now even in this beautiful and isolated part of Germany only the Lynx remains as a supreme predator. The wolves and bears have long gone although there are often rumours of the odd wolf crossing from deep in the Czech republic.

Thankfully for us though the Bavarian National Park authorities have established two large areas with specially designed wildlife enclosures which will allow you to capture those "once in a life time" images of over 30 different species of these, Europe's most endangered and enigmatic species.

Although the animals are held in enclosures, they are vast in comparison to anywhere else I know. The largest is tens of hectares in size and all are within the natural forest providing superb backdrops for your photographs. This approach permits the animals to live naturally, whilst still providing us with good opportunities to observe and photograph them – a true wildlife photographers dream!



For more details or to book a place click [here](#).

UK Workshops 2016

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(If you are reading reading this electronically please click the **brown underlined** links to be taken directly to the relevant section of my website either for **more details** or to **book a place**)

Specialist birds of prey photo shoot – 1 day workshop Midlands

I run this extremely popular workshop most months of the year. It's a unique trip to a private falconry centre to photograph a wide range of birds of prey in great locations. The currently arranged dates for 2016 are below but I may add more as these fill up. Check the website for current information.

If a group of you would like to book a private session at this location please get in touch via the website or by e-mail to [**bob@naturesphotos.co.uk**](mailto:bob@naturesphotos.co.uk).

- 13th March 2016
- 17th April 2016
- 15th May 2016
- 3rd July 2016
- 9th October 2016
- 6th November 2016



[**More Details**](#)

[**Book a place**](#)

Secret British Mammals - 2 day residential workshop in Devon

I only take a maximum of 6 on these workshops which are to a private location in Devon with some of the most wonderful collections of British Mammals to be found anywhere. As with the British Wildlife Centre (below) these are in large naturalistic enclosures most of which we can enter.

As there are so many animals to photograph this is a 2 day residential workshop which also means we can spend as long as we like with individual species and enjoy a wonderful farm B&B and meals in the evening while sharing our photographs or experiences.

In addition to running this workshop in the same form as all my others it is becoming increasingly popular with groups of friends from camera clubs. If you would like your own session and have 6 people interested please contact me at [**bob@naturesphotos.co.uk**](mailto:bob@naturesphotos.co.uk) and I will try to arrange a date just for you.

Current dates for 2016 are:

- 19th and 20th March 2016
- 7th and 8th May 2016
- 18th and 19th June 2016
- 9th and 10th July 2016



[**More Details**](#)

[**Book a place**](#)

British Wildlife Centre – 1 day workshop in Surrey

This amazing location offers some amazing opportunities for photographing British wildlife. The centre has been especially created with large enclosures designed specifically with photographers in mind. Some of the major TV channels including the BBC use this venue regularly. On my days we are the only guests there. One of the highlights of the centre are the red squirrels in a natural woodland glade.

- 16th March 2016
- 12th May 2016
- 1st July 2016
- 5th September 2016
- 19th October 2016



[**More Details**](#)

[**Book a place**](#)

Harvest Mouse Workshop – ½ day workshop Northamptonshire

A very popular workshop photographing these enigmatic little rodents.

Each ½ day workshop is just for 2 or maximum 3 delegates and therefore suited for both experienced and less confident photographers. I am happy to discuss your expectations for the session by e-mail in advance so that I can tailor the time to suit your specific needs. I run these workshops from March through to October. Check the website for up to date availability and future sessions.



[More Details](#)

[Book a place](#)

Dragonfly photo workshop

I run this workshop jointly with the British Dragonfly society at Wicken Fen in Cambridgeshire. This is a truly unique workshop which aims to equip you with all the necessary photo skills together with knowledge of the insects. After attending this workshop you should be in the perfect position to return home and continue your collection of exquisite photographs.

The dragonfly season is a very short one and I have only two dates available each year.

- 2nd July 2016
- 23rd July 2016



[More Details](#)

[Book a place](#)

Fungi Macro and Close-up – 1 day workshop Buckinghamshire

Working with an expert mycologist I am able to provide the opportunity to improve your close up photography and photograph some amazing fungi at the same time.

- 29th October 2016
- 5th November 2016



[More Details](#)

[Book a place](#)

Wolves – 1 day workshop Reading

The UK Wolf Conservancy Trust is the only location where you can see Arctic, and Canadian wolves at one location. All the animals are housed in very large open landscaped enclosures with natural mounds, trees and ponds to provide the perfect backdrops for your photos. As the wolves at the Trust are socialised the handlers can coax them into good positions for photos. The best time to photograph wolves is when they are in their thick winter coats in October and November.

- 17th March 2016
- Autumn dates to be arranged soon – please add your name to the waiting list if interested.



[More Details](#)

[Book a place](#)

[Join the waiting list](#)

Crocodiles – 1 day workshop Oxfordshire

The only such workshop in the UK and the most extensive crocodile collection in the UK. This was a new workshop for Natures Photos for 2015 which proved very successful with dates filling up as soon as they were advertised. Given it is indoors I can run it at any time of the year and working with the centre I have recently expanded the options to include baby crocodiles in special water sets.

- Dates for 2016 to be arranged – please add your name to the waiting list if interested.



[More Details](#)

[Book a place](#)

[Join the waiting list](#)

Taking control of your camera – 1 day workshop at Icarus Falconry – North Northamptonshire

With a healthy mixture of classroom and practical sessions this workshop provides a relaxing and comfortable setting where you can learn more about your camera and practise your new knowledge by taking some stunning photos of birds of prey. You will learn how to control aperture, shutter speed and ISO to produce more creative images.

- 16th April 2016
- 22nd June 2016
- 16th July 2016



[More Details](#)

[Book a place](#)

Gift Vouchers as a present for the photographer in your life.

Gift vouchers make excellent presents for the hard to please photographer. They are available from my website in a variety of designs or values – click [here](#) or visit the 'gift voucher' page on my website. I can also supply gift vouchers specific to a particular workshop enquire at bob@nauresphotos.co.uk for more details.



Regards Bob

If you have a friend who you think might be interested in this e-mail please forward it to them and suggest that they sign up to my mailing list to receive future announcements and newsletters.

Bob Brind-Surch

If you should wish to leave my mailing list for any reason whilst I will be very sorry to lose you I quite understand.

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