

# SCOTLAND

Into the thin air

Great days  
of photography  
with expert

**Tom D. Jones**

better



moments

PHASE**ONE**

E X P L O R E R



# Better Moments means Photography with passion



Thanks for choosing Better Moments for your next adventure workshop.

Better Moments was founded in 2011 by Philip Boissevain and me, two experienced veterans of the international professional photography industry. We met when working at Hasselblad, Philip as the Global Marketing Manager and me as the Global Photographer Relations Manager.

Today Better Moments has become the leading photo workshop platform organizing high-end workshops for photo enthusiasts worldwide.

You will learn from the world's most experienced photographers within their fields to refine your personal style and sharpen your technical skills. Additionally, we want you to share your excitement for photography and enjoy great moments in life. And we want you to explore your passion and expand your photographic skills and vision.

Better Moments mission is to deliver exclusive workshops in landscape, wildlife and travel photography at unique locations around the world. I want you to explore your passion for photography and work and earn from the world's most renowned photographers who all have excellent teaching skills, local knowledge and experience.

Photography with passion,  
Christian Nørgaard

**better  
moments**



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Photo above by David Trud

Cover photo by Tom D. Jones

Discover  
the future of  
photography at our  
exclusive Scotland workshop



# Better Moments & Phase One **EXPLORER** Scotland

BETTER MOMENTS & PHASE ONE EXPLORER is your gateway to working with top of the line equipment from Phase One, while simultaneously exploring one of the most scenic destinations on the planet. **We provide guests with free exclusive access to the power and versatility of the Phase One Premiere XF Camera System and Capture One soft-**

**ware, as well as continuous support and training from both Phase One experts and award-winning Better Moments photographers.** This workshop offers you the opportunity to learn, discover and explore the dramatic landscapes of Scotland together with passionate and like-minded enthusiasts, using the best photographic equipment on the market.

**All our guests will receive – for free – exclusive Phase One equipment, software and training for use during this workshop, including:**

- Premiere XF Camera System sent directly to your private address for training before the workshop
- One-to-one Master Class with a Phase One expert prior to departure and after ended workshop
  - CaptureOne Software training and support before and during workshop
- Follow-up training and support from Phase One after completion of workshop

PHASE**ONE**

what the world's best photography is made of















# Into the thin air

The Isle of Skye is probably one of the most iconic locations for great landscape photography.

Majestic mountain peaks, roaring waterfalls, dramatic coastlines, unique volcanic rock formations, natural woodland, beaches, lighthouses, and ancient castles.

It's a place of extremes – from the craggy outline of the Cuillin that dominate the landscape to the sheer cliffs and imposing headlands that descend down to peaceful bays and beaches.

Its changing weather patterns create wonderfully atmospheric lighting conditions for photography and, given the right weather conditions, Skye can be an ideal location for glorious sunrises and sunsets.





# Highlights

Better Moments' mission is to deliver exclusive workshops and we want you to explore your passion for photography and work with one of the best photographers, Tom D. Jones, during your Scotland Photo Workshop.

## ■ HIGHLIGHTS

- Shoot Glenfinnan Viaduct, the famous "Harry Potter bridge".
- Shoot amazing sunsets at the Quiraing.
- Shoot at the remote and serene lighthouse at Neist Point, with the opportunity to see whales, dolphins, porpoises and basking sharks.
- Boat trip in Loch Coruisk.
- Lecture on "How to become Hasselblad Master in Landscape photography".
- The Fairy Pools in Glen Brittle.
- The Sligachan stone bridge and the Eilean Donan Castle.

## ■ WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

You will learn how to approach the unique challenges of landscape photography. Tom D. Jones will use his experience from his many years of professional work to help you maximize your photographic opportunities with landscape photography.

## ■ ON LOCATION

- Teaching and training in the best techniques and personal hints and advice.
- Composition and focus on lines, golden section, perspective, foreground, midground and background.
- Work in different lighting and with short/long exposure times and apertures.
- How to handle equipment with care on location.
- Private hands-on lessons that can help take your photography skills to the next level.

## ■ IN CLASSROOM

- Expert review and constructive criticism of the images taken during the day.
- Workflow in Photoshop and/or Lightroom, and printing.
- Portfolio Review.
- A Better Moments Certified Photo Instructor is available during the entire workshop to offer assistance with camera settings, the basics of composition, and to generally guide and help.

PRICE & BOOKING

















# Explore Scotland together with award winning photographer Tom D. Jones

His work represents artistic photography with simple and yet complex compositions. Tom's perspective introduces us to a world of perplexing beauty, serene and simple compositions with light and depth, always containing a creative touch of movement.

Tom D. Jones is Better Moments' guide to the wonders of Scotland. During the workshop, Tom will deliver educational and inspiring seminars and give personal guidance on location in Scotland.

But besides doing stunning landscape photography, some of Tom's best work is pure fine art. For example, the amazing Papillon series of butterflies.

"I shot the images for 'Papillon' with a 120 mm macro lens. The shots are super-sharp and really reveal the extraordinary detail of these beautiful creatures. You don't appreciate how stunning these insects are until you get right up close to them."













# Photography with passion

Tom was raised by an amateur photographer, his father, and spent many hours in the darkroom and with the slide projector. Consequently, his father's passion rubbed off on him and Tom found himself, through the years, drawn to contemporary art and fine art photography.

In the beginning, after being self-taught, he worked on commissioned photography while using his spare time to unwind and express creativity through photography.

As photography became part of his life, it also led him to the woman of his dreams. He found a lady sharing his interest in photography. Tom and his wife, Sylvia, wanted the same thing, that is their very own photo studio. In 1999 they started their first studio together.

Talking about becoming a great photographer, Tom replies in an interview to Digital SLR Photography: "There are no secrets; I do not have to trouble myself to do so. Lionel Messi does not have secrets to becoming such a great footballer either. I built my career up through very hard work and being very critical of myself. Start small and give yourself time to grow. If you create quality products and provide good service, clients will always find you – they will spread the word and so on. Firstly, save money to buy a good DSLR and a good set of lenses. Once you have clients and tasks, you will see that you can afford more and more. In the beginning, however, you have to live sober and invest all that hard-earned money in yourself and your company."

Tom D. Jones is famous for his fine art photography, for which he has received numerous awards, for example the European Fine Art Photographer Of The Year 2009. He's part of the prestigious association Master Qualified European Photographer and in 2012 he distinguished himself with the well deserved Hasselblad Master Award 2012 in Landscape/Nature.











# Itinerary

## DAY 1

### ■ ARRIVAL IN EDINBURGH

Arrival and meet-up in Edinburgh. The city is divided in two parts with the old and the new. The new part has diverse and exciting shopping possibilities and the old part is a wonderful and historic area with many museums.

## DAY 2

### ■ GLEN COE AND GLENFINNAN VIADUCT

We drive from Edinburgh to Skye. On our way we'll see the amazing Glen Coe pass, stopping at the famous Three Sisters continuing to Mallaig, where we take the ferry to Skye. We will also stop to shoot Glenfinnan Viaduct, the famous "Harry Potter bridge". In the evening we arrive at the Cuillin Hills Hotel and its wonderful restaurant with panoramic views over the harbor and Cuillin Hills.

## DAY 3

### ■ THE QUIRAING AND SUNSET SESSIONS

The morning begins with a hike to The Old Man of Storr. After lunch we continue to The Quiraing, with wonderful panoramic views over Trotternish. The Quiraing is a fascinating rugged landscape on the Trotternish Peninsula with views east across to the mainland and the iconic Old Man of Storr. We will work a full day in the hills until the last light of day and make sure to be at the best locations at sunset – thus you get a soft light to work with, as well as massive cloud formations over the hills. After dinner we will work on photos from the day and Tom will guide and advise in Lightroom and Photoshop.

## DAY 4

### ■ COASTLINE PHOTOGRAPHY

We'll be doing coastline photography and a boat trip from Elgol to 'Loch Coruisk' in the heart of the Cuillin Hills, where we'll be dropped off to work around the lake. During the boat trip we will spot a seal colony on the small isles in front of the Cuillin Hills.

## DAY 5

### ■ THE FAIRY POOLS AND NEIST POINT VOLCANIC ROCK FORMATIONS

The Fairy Pools in Glen Brittle. A location dominated by the Cuillin Hills. The water running off the hills flows down into the glen via a series of picturesque rocky waterfalls. After lunch we continue to Neist point. The beautiful lighthouse, which is located at the most western point on the Duirinish Peninsula, is astonishing with the dramatic and extremely photogenic cliffs surrounding the lighthouse. The location also offers the opportunity to see whales, dolphins, porpoises and basking sharks – if we are lucky.

After dinner, objective criticism by Tom on today's pictures, and advice about how to optimize your photographic skill

## DAY 6

### ■ DELVING INTO THE LANDSCAPE

Due to the unpredictability of Scottish weather, we have put in an extra day here which will allow you to explore more of your favorite locations on Skye – either to do reshoots or discover new possibilities.

## DAY 7

### ■ A PERFECT CLOSURE

On our way back to Edinburgh we'll shoot over the Sligachan stone bridge crossing the river which carries the water down from the Cuillin. The bridge is a magnificent sight, surrounded by the hills. Afterwards we stop by Eilean Donan Castle. One of the most photographed Scottish Castles. A real "Braveheart" feeling and a perfect closure for this Scottish Highland adventure. In the evening we arrive in Edinburgh for a farewell dinner – with real malt whisky!

## DAY 8

### ■ DEPARTURE

After breakfast we depart for our home destinations.

## PRICE & BOOKING















# Quick guide

We wish you to travel with the greatest possible comfort and to know that you have received as much information as possible.

## ■ IMPORTANT

The program will be flexible to make the best use of the locations, the light and the prevailing weather conditions.

Better Moments will arrange one pickup transfer and one return transfer to the airport on the arrival- and the departure day.

## ■ GETTING THERE

There are several flights, many on a daily basis to and from international Airports, possibly with change in Manchester or Dublin.

## ■ VISA

You must have a valid passport from before the start of your journey to Scotland. Visitors outside UK and EU may need a visa, otherwise you can stay as long as required. Please check with the local embassy and read more at <http://www.visitscotland.com/travel/information/passports-visas-customs>

## ■ WEATHER

The weather can change very quickly on Skye – so bring good clothes! Luckily, forecasting has improved much and generally forecasts for the next 12-24 hours will be very accurate.

July is the hottest month on the Isle of Skye with an average temperature of 13°C (55°F) and the coldest is January at 4°C (39°F). The wettest month is October with an average of 152 mm of rain.

## ■ LANGUAGE

The main language spoken in Scotland is English, while Scots and Scottish Gaelic are minority languages. The dialect of English spoken in Scotland is referred to as Scottish English.

## ■ CURRENCY

The monetary currency used is British Pound (GBP).

## ■ QUICK GUIDE

- The Isle of Skye (an t-Eilean Sgiathanach in Gaelic) takes its name from the old Norse sky-a, meaning 'cloud island', a Viking reference to the often-mist-en-shrouded Cuillin Hills.
- A bridge connects to the mainland since 1996.
- Skye is the largest island in the Inner Hebrides.
- Skye covers an area of 1,656 km<sup>2</sup> (639 sq mi).
- The highest elevation is Sgùrr Alasdair 993 metres (3,258 ft).
- There's only a small population of 10,008 people.
- Portree is Skye's largest and liveliest town. Its name (Gaelic for King's Harbour) commemorates James V, who came here in 1540 to pacify the local clans.
- Skye also has many cozy pubs and restaurants; there are also dozens of art galleries and craft studios.
- Emergency phone number: 999 and 112. Non-urgent calls to 101.



# Equipment

Whether this is your first trip or your "hundredth" workshop with us, it's always helpful to have a rundown of what items you may want to pack so you have a travel checklist. Bookmark this packing list, because you'll want to refer back to it to make sure you've thought of everything you might want to pack.

PRICE & BOOKING



## ■ CAMERA

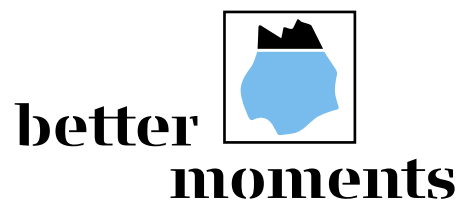
The camera list is for inspiration, since you know better than anyone what equipment you prefer.

- ☐ Bring your own laptop computer and storage medium
- ☐ Camera bodie(s)
- ☐ Tripod
- ☐ Lenses, If you are working with a 24x36mm camera system, lenses from 12mm to approx. 55mm is obvious. And a "long lens" such as a 180mm. If you are working with a medium format camera, lenses from 28mm to approx. 80mm is obvious. And a "long lens" such as a 300 mm.
- ☐ Bag for all camera gear
- ☐ Light bag for easy hiking with camera bodies and accessories
- ☐ Cleaning kit for cameras and lenses
- ☐ Rain/dust covers for cameras and lenses
- ☐ Charger for batteries
- ☐ Spare batteries
- ☐ Standard power converter
- ☐ Raw processing software
- ☐ Memory cards and card wallets
- ☐ Memory card reader
- ☐ USB key to exchange images
- ☐ Lens extenders
- ☐ Camera straps for ease of changing from one camera to another
- ☐ Graduated filter set
- ☐ Filter holder
- ☐ High quality polarizing filter
- ☐ Lens belt









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#### STAY IN TOUCH



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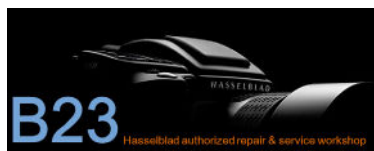
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