

FINLAND

Northern lights
& artworks of
nature

better



moments

PHASEONE

E X P L O R E R

Expert
Tom D. Jones

8 days of
adventure

Photography with passion



Photography may be my first passion, but traveling is a close second. I spent decades exploring the globe with my camera and out of this passion, Better Moments was born in 2011. Since then, I have worked with the world's most renowned photographers to offer high-end workshops and expeditions for photo enthusiasts worldwide.

On our workshops, everyone is welcome. No matter if you have recently discovered your passion for photography or if you are an emerging pro – our workshops cater to everyone's needs and our experts are all experienced teachers that will adapt to your personal skill level.

Our mission is to help you to take your photography to the next level, refine your own style and sharpen your technical skills.

Additionally, we want to inspire each other, create lasting memories and enjoy the best moments in life.

Better Moment's exclusive workshops in landscape, travel and wildlife photography take place in unique locations around the world. From the Himalaya region to Africa's deserts, from Scandinavia's fjords to Australia's Outback – we like to travel off the beaten track and work with local agencies as we are always striving to leave only footprints behind.

I am looking forward to meeting you on one of our adventures,

Christian Nørgaard

Discover
the future of
photography at our
exclusive Iceland workshop



Better Moments & Phase One **EXPLORER** Iceland

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 Lofoten 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

"I think that Better Moments' workshops are some of the best organized, most educational and most inspirational group workshops I have ever worked on. So I would encourage you to join us. Come along and have a great time, learn, be inspired and take great pictures."

Steve McCurry

Our passionate experts

We are proud to work with some of the best photographers in the industry who are experts in their field and have years of experience in guiding and teaching photography workshops.



Steve McCurry

National Geographic,
World Press Photo
first place



Michael Nichols

Wildlife journalist,
National Geographic
editor



James Nachtwey

World Press Photo Award
winner and TIME Magazine
photographer



Sisse Brimberg

National Geographic
photographer



James Whitlow Delano

Award-winning visual
storyteller & Pulitzer
Center grantee



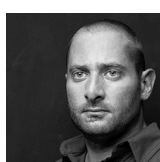
Hamid Sardar-Afkhami

Writer, photographer,
award-winning
filmmaker



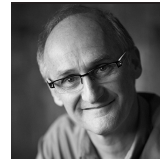
Lars van de Goor

Hasselblad Master
Landscape
photographer



Marco Di Lauro

World Press
Photo Award



Peter Eastway

AIPP Grand Master of
Photography, Publisher Better
Photography Magazine



Steve Bloom

National Geographic
photographer



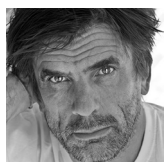
Tom D. Jones

Hasselblad Master
& European Fine Art
photographer



Andreas H. Bitesnich

Award-winning fine art
photographer



Arne Hodalič

National Geographic
photographer &
photo editor



Laurent Baheux

Award-winning
wildlife photographer

better moments



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Our guests love to travel with us
– which is why we are lucky enough
to welcome them again and again.



LET'S GET SOCIAL

For inspiring experiences, real-time updates,
the latest trends or casual conversation, explore
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You can view our current
photography workshops
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website, where you will
find all dates and details
– and can reserve a spot
for your dream trip.



NEWSLETTER

Stay up-to-date with our workshops, experts, and special offers:
sign up to our bi-monthly newsletter – and receive Christian
Nørgaard's guide to street photography for free.

**SIGN UP AND RECEIVE A FREE
STREET PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDE.**









Explore

Journey to the edge of the Arctic Circle to immerse yourself in the wild and untamed landscape of Finland, exploring the unspoiled beauty of its endless pine forests and majestic fells. The five national parks surrounding Kuusamo offer an incredible selection of subjects for nature and landscape photography, including spectacular frozen waterfalls, enchanting snow-covered forests, and of course a chance to witness the awe-inspiring beauty of the Northern Lights.



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 Finland expedition.

■ HIGHLIGHTS

- Capture one of nature's most impressive displays of light and colour, the Northern Lights!
- Landscape photography in the mornings and evenings
- Workshops on techniques and shooting strategies for northern lights-, landscape- and intimate landscape photography
- Photograph the picturesque frozen waterfalls of Korouoma Nature Reserve.
- Join an exhilarating snow scooter ride to shoot pictures along the desolate Russian border.
- Enjoy traditional bonfire dinners and try an authentic Finnish smoke sauna.

■ WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

- You will learn how to approach the unique challenges of landscape photography in different light conditions, as well as capturing the Northern Lights and stars using long exposures.

■ ON LOCATION

- The best techniques with personal hints and advices.
- Composition, focusing on lines, perspective and balance in the frame.
- Working with different angle lenses, exposure times and aperture.
- Photographing scenes in all light conditions.
- Handling equipment with care on location.

■ IN CLASSROOM

- Expert review and constructive criticism of the images taken during the day.
- Portfolio review.
- A Better Moments Certified Photo Instructor will be available during the entire workshop to offer assistance with camera settings, the basics of composition, guide and help in general.

PRICE & BOOKING



PHOTO BY TOM D. JONES









Explore Finland 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 Finland. During the workshop, Tom will deliver educational and inspiring seminars and give personal guidance on location in Finland.

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."

Itinerary

DAY 1

■ ARRIVAL IN KUUSAMO

You will be picked up at Kuusamo Airport and taken to Rukatunturi, an idyllic resort of traditional wood chalets, high up in the fells. Here you will be equipped and fitted with all the necessary accoutrements for winter photography in Finland (snowshoes, overalls, etc.) and will have a chance to settle in before joining the rest of the team for a welcome dinner and briefing. In the evening we will visit the Riisitunturi National Park to capture the sunset as it shines across pristine snow-laden wetlands.

DAY 2

■ KONTTAINEN HILL AND KÄYLÄKOSKI

Today you will take in the incredible views from atop Konttainen Hill, giving you a panoramic perspective of the surrounding lakes and rivers. Afterwards we will continue to Kiveskoski and Käyläkoski, two of the most scenic stretches of the River Kitka, backdropped against the densely forested Russian border.

DAY 3

■ CHASING FROZEN WATERFALLS

Depart from Rukatunturi in the morning, towards Oivangin Lomakartano, where you will have lunch and participate in one-to-one workshops on location. The highlight of the day is the frozen waterfalls of Korouoma Nature Reserve. Along the trail you will have the chance to photograph 14 sparkling examples of nature's artistry, offering ample opportunities to get the perfect shots of these icy marvels surrounded by snow-covered forest.

DAY 4

■ HUNTING THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

This morning will be spent with workshops, assessing shots taken so far, as well as some free time to explore the surrounding area and practice new techniques. After dinner at the lodge, congregate under the stars as we prepare to hunt for prize shots of the Aurora Borealis, or Northern Lights.

DAY 5

■ OULANKA NATIONAL PARK AND SAUNA EXPERIENCE

From Oivangin Lomakartano, we make our way to the Kiutaköngäs Rapids in the heart of Oulanka National Park. This dramatic collection of roaring waterfalls is renowned as one of the most impressive in Finland and makes for impressive photography from almost any angle. In the evening there will be the possibility of partaking in the full Finnish smoke sauna experience and dive into the ice cold waters afterwards (only for the really adventurous!)

DAY 6

■ BIG LANDSCAPES ON THE PIENI KARHUNKIERROS TRAIL

Today we will make our way along a famous hiking trail, creating dramatic compositions using the deep ravines of the Myllykoski and Jyrävä Rapids, the dense snow-topped vegetation and vastness of the surrounding landscape. Afterwards, enjoy a simple Finnish lunch as you warm yourself by a wood stove in a hut surrounded by the open wilderness.

DAY 7

■ SNOWMOBILE SAFARI

This morning's workshop is all about the art of landscape photography using snowmobiles. Learn some useful tips and tricks for handling equipment and getting the best shots, in preparation for the day ahead. After lunch, you will set out on an exciting snowmobile safari along the Russian border and across the otherworldly landscape of Kuntivaara, speeding among the snow-covered forest that resembles something from another planet. Weather permitting an atmospheric outdoor dinner will be served, taking full advantage of the impressive scenery. This remote location offers the ideal setting to capture the incredible night-time shots of starry skies and the Northern Lights at its most beautiful.

DAY 8

■ DEPARTURE

Check-out after breakfast and say goodbye to your guide and fellow participants. We look forward to welcoming you on your next Better Moments workshop!

IMPORTANT

Due to weather our program may change.

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

PRICE & BOOKING









Equipment

Whether this is your first trip or your "hundredth" workshop with us, it's always helpful to have a run-down 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.

■ CLOTHING

A good plan is to dress "layer-by-layer". You then are well prepared for whatever weather arrives.

- ☐ Wind and waterproof jacket
- ☐ Wind and waterproof pants
- ☐ Rubber boots - with room for extra (wool) socks
- ☐ Hiking boots
- ☐ Wool underwear
- ☐ Fleece/sweater
- ☐ Cap
- ☐ Gloves
- ☐ Waterproof outdoor cushions - nice to sit on when we sail in the arctics or when we sit and enjoy the scenery on land.
- ☐ A small backpack
- ☐ Binoculars

■ NICE TO HAVE

- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Sunglasses

■ 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
- ☐ 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

■ NICE TO HAVE

- ☐ Lens extenders
- ☐ Camera straps for ease of changing from one camera to another
- ☐ Graduated filter set
- ☐ Filter holder
- ☐ High quality polarizing filter
- ☐ Lens belt







**better
moments**



PHOTOGRAPHY
WITH PASSION

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