

SENSATIONAL SUNSETS

A NATURAL LIGHT GUIDE





THE CHALLENGE

Shooting people at
sunset - without flash

THE PROBLEM

- * Matching the light levels of the sunset and the light on the subject so they are close enough for your camera to **capture both** well
- * The **dynamic range** is too high
 - * The difference between the brightest part and the darkest part of the image
 - * The sunset is too bright - too much light
 - * The subjects are too dark - not enough light

CLASSIC EXAMPLE



The sunset looks great,
but the subject is too
dark.

FLASH?

Using flash to “fill” in light on the subject is the obvious answer to reducing the dynamic range and balancing the shot.

But it's not perfect. On camera flash can result in the cardboard cutout look if not expertly applied.

ON CAMERA FILL FLASH



- * It's OK, but not the most flattering
- * You need to soften the flash, move it off camera & balance the light to the sunset perfectly.
- * But what if you wanted to keep it simple?
- * Can it be done with out flash?

NATURAL LIGHT

Shooting sunsets without flash can
give beautiful & natural results

You just need to understand the
limitations

TIMING

- * The best time is 10-15 minutes before sunset right through to “last light”
- * Any earlier and the sky is too bright to get great colour AND great light on the subject.

30 MINUTES BEFORE SUNSET



10 MINUTES



THE KEY TRICK!

- * You need some light from the sun falling and/or reflecting on your subject
- * The sunset needs to be to the side or even in front of your subject
- * The best colour is often to the sides or behind the sun



WHITE BALANCE



Daylight



Cloud



Shade



POST





LIGHTROOM

QUICK TUTORIAL

TURN AROUND



Gorgeous light & colour is often reflected into the clouds “behind the sunset”

Very flattering portrait light as well.

SILHOUETTES?



TO RECAP

- * 10 - 15 minutes before sunset max
- * Let some of the light reflect on your subject
 - * 45 to the sun or turn around completely
- * Consider a silhouette
- * White balance to shade
- * Plan for a little post processing

CLUBLILYPAD_PHOTO_COURSES



Lisa Ivandich

Instagram: clublilypad_photo_courses

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/clublilypad/>
www.clublilypad.com

