

Photography Courses in France



Photo MAESTRO Course - FAQ

Who is the Photo MAESTRO Course for?

The **Photo MAESTRO** Course is tailor-made to help you get to grips with editing, manipulating and printing your photographs. Going digital means these cradle-to-grave processes are now firmly on your hands. But the tools and software you use need to be tamed so you can lift that weight and quickly create stunning images.

In reality, both Lightroom and Photoshop CC put you firmly in the driving seat. In our state of the art media studio, we'll show you how to take control of the software and get them to do what you want and in the right order! With a group of no more than six people and an expert to lead the hands-on training, you'll learn more in five days than wrestling with a Photoshop or Lightroom manual over five months.

And if you've attended one of our other Courses, you'll get a 15% discount off the **Photo MAESTRO** price – woo hoo!

How long is the Photo MAESTRO Course?

A **Photo MAESTRO** Course lasts 6 days and starts with our Welcome Dinner on a Saturday at 19:00, when we run through the Course Program. The **Photo MAESTRO** Course ends after dinner on the following Friday - you leave the next day, a Saturday.

A day consists of two Sessions, each lasting a minimum of 3-4 hours – that's over 35 hours of expert tuition, but there's plenty of time to relax, read, go for a stroll, or take a dip in the pool. Teaching takes place on Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday - Tuesday is your day off!

Our times are flexible, as we may go for dawn, or sunset shoot, or take a picnic lunch somewhere, but on a typical day Continental Breakfast is served at 9:00 with the first Session starting at 10:00. We break for lunch at 13:00, and with the exception of the last day, the afternoon Session starts at 14:00 and ends at 17:00. Dinner is served at 19:30.

What does the Photo MAESTRO Course cover?

A **Photo MAESTRO** Course addresses all the aspects of Lightroom and Photoshop that a digital photographer needs to know about, and we'll also get out on location photo-shoots to explore Villebois-Lavalette and the nearby picturesque towns and countryside.

Lightroom

- grounding what Lightroom is really all about and why a digital photographer can't live without it;
- how to get your image directories organised and stay organised;
- file formats, what to use and when and how to set up Catalogues and Collections and manage them;
- the importance of Meta Data and Keywords;
- how to use and maximise all the Develop Module tools and features such as Presets;
- how to add Develop Presets and Meta Data, etc., when Importing;
- how and where to Export and why; and...
-lots, lots more!

Photoshop

- Levels, Curves, Adjustment Layers, Blending Modes and even more Layers – why they are key;
- when and how to use the Clone Stamp, Spot Healing Brush, Transforms, Liquify Tool and other filters etc;
- how to deal with your collection of analogue prints/slides and carry-out convincing restorations;
- how to use a Wacom tablet effectively and why a mouse is of little use;
- when and how to use Smart Objects;
- Histograms, Color Management and the importance of Calibrating your Monitor;
- B&W conversions - which is the best method and offers the most control over the process;
- printing and image storage – how and when to Sharpen; and print photos properly as well as safeguarding their future;
- personalised notes relating to the Course, with how-to's and "Don's Recipes"; and
-lots, lots more!

What does a Photo MAESTRO Course cost and what does the price include?

The price for the **Photo MAESTRO** Course is £799.00. We are pleased to welcome your non-photographer partner/friend to accompany you at a cost of £399.00. Prices include:

- dinner (with wine), bed, breakfast and lunch for 4 nights and 4 days;
- collection from, and return to, Angoulême railway station or Bergerac or Limoges Airports;
- transportation to and from on-location photo-shoots;
- occasional use/trial of our stock of digital cameras, lenses and lighting equipment;
- five A4 prints of your best work and a DVD of all your **Photo MAESTRO** Course images;
- on-site Wi-Fi;
- local taxes;
- use of the Studio, grounds and swimming pool; and
- a 15% discount off any future Studio Lavalette Courses or Workshops you attend – we want to see you again!

The cost of the **Photo MAESTRO** Course does **NOT** include:

- your own health, travel, holiday and photo equipment/clothes insurance; and
- your transportation costs from your home to either Angoulême railway station or Bergerac or Limoges Airports and vice versa.

When are the Photo MAESTRO Courses for 2015?

All **Photo MAESTRO** Courses for 2016 will start at 19:00 on a Saturday and end at after dinner on the following Friday - you leave the next day, a Saturday

<i>Arrival Date</i>	<i>Departure Date</i>	<i>Places</i>
Sat 08-Oct	Sat 14-Oct	Yes
Sat 22-Oct	Sat 08-Oct	Yes

Special Note: If the airline dates or times don't fit with our dates, do let us know and, (for discounted price), we'll do our best to accommodate you in our B&B either before or after the Course.

Booking a Photo MAESTRO Course

You can quickly and easily book a **Photo MAESTRO** Course by emailing us at: admin@studiolavalette.com Please state your preferred dates and we'll get back to you within 24 hours.

Essential things to bring

For those coming on the **Photo MAESTRO** Course, we recommend you bring the following photo-shoot essentials:

- your camera, lenses, camera bag, memory cards, battery charger and any other equipment you might have/need;
 - a laptop, if you have one;
 - comfortable clothes and walking shoes – there’s no serious hiking involved, but we will get out and about quite a bit;
 - a hat/cap or sun cream – the sun can get quite strong here; and
 - an anorak – it does rain!
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