

# Introduction to portrait photography

## Thank you for viewing my 'Frequently Asked Questions'

Hopefully it will satisfy your immediate questions about my portrait photography. If you don't find the answers or information you're looking for please don't hesitate to give me a call or send me an Email.

For future reference you may find it easier to print this document and keep it handy – there's a section at the end for your notes or questions for the future.

### How do you describe your style of portrait photography?

I'd like to think above all it was fun. A photographer is only able to record what a subject, or person, displays - so if the process is relaxed and informal, better portraits are obtained. I hate being photographed myself, and I'm always aware of that when working with people, so the aim is to create a relaxed feel to the session, then the pictures will appear quite naturally.

### What is my involvement in the portrait session?

Whilst you may not want your photograph taken you will play a huge part in the success of the shoot. Nobody knows your child better than you and it's important that we work as a team to get the best results from the session. It's key that we make every effort to ensure that the subject has the maximum enjoyment possible from the session and that it doesn't become a painful ordeal in front of the camera. Above all else the time we spend taking the photographs should be fun. Under 18's must be accompanied by an adult (parent or relative) throughout the shoot.

### What should the subject wear for the portrait session?

I would suggest that you avoid bold strips, plaids or prints, insignias and logos. This style of clothing can not only date the image quickly it can also overwhelm the image distracting from the subject. You may wish to consider having a couple of changes of clothing so that the photographs have some variety. Having said that the subject should wear whatever they are most comfortable in and should reflect their true character, remember they, and you, may be outside for a period of time and practicality is key.

### Do you use film or digital equipment to capture the photographs?

I use Nikon professional specification digital cameras. This enables me to produce high quality digital files that are capable of producing the highest quality images for display. As a back-up I keep copies of all photographs for future use.

### Can we meet before the day of photography?

I'd prefer it if we did! I like to meet initially to discuss the basic principle of me working with you, and at the same time possibly check out a location, or at least chat about where you'd like to go. This allows us to air ideas and outline what will be possible based on the time we have, but more importantly than that it develops a familiarity so we get to know each other, and the subject, and you feel comfortable and happy you're getting what you want from the commission. At this time we can also discuss how you would like your photographs displayed and I will detail the cost of each option. I'm also happy to chat at any time to answer any points you consider need clarification.

### How far will you travel & when do we pay for the photography?

There really are no limits but for commissions outside Northamptonshire there is a £0.40 pence per mile charge. I usually ask for a booking fee of 25% by way of a deposit and I normally request full payment for the session via an invoice just before the confirmed date. If you wish to order additional display material this is paid in full with the order. My fee for the portrait session is shown below.

### How quickly do we see the results & how many pictures do we see?

I try to edit the selection as fast as possible after the session, so the shoot is fresh in my mind. I will send you a CD slideshow of the final selection within a few days of the session to make the selection process easier for you. Once you have made your choice these can then be uploaded to a dedicated web page where friends and family can order prints. At this point we can also discuss how you would like your photographs displayed. It's almost impossible to put a number on the selection because so many factors go into the result (location, weather, etc.) But usually you'd see about 20 images from which to choose your final images.

### Location Portrait Fees start from £125

Included in this is our pre-shoot consultation and between 1 and 2 hours of photography, a carefully selected CD slideshow of the images from the photographic shoot and an on-line gallery where friends and family can order prints. All print prices and options are shown during our first meeting or can be sent to you on request.

