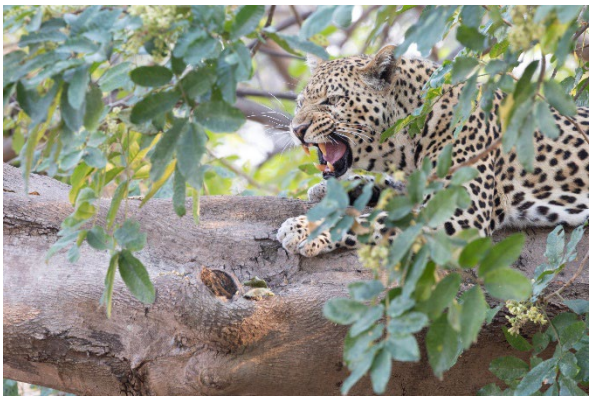
Natures Photos occasional newsletter

Protecting lenses. Filters and other approaches.

Last minute vacancies on Workshops & Safaris.

Lens Protection



I am often asked which filters I would recommend using to protect my lenses.

Until about a year ago, I always said that I was concerned re putting an extra piece of glass, not designed by the manufacturer, in front of my expensive investment. My experience has been that doing so almost always causes issues with the image.

I am also asked re UV v Skylight protection filters often sold as just that, "protection filters". Having shot film many years ago, I am aware that these were designed for a different purpose and, in the digital era, could cause real problems.

The issue of protecting your significant investment is, however, really important. Following an e-mail response to a friend, I therefore decided to write and post an article in the technical tips section of my website to explore this and other recommendations re protecting your lens glass further.

The full article can be read and downloaded here – Protecting your lens glass. There are further articles in the technical trip and musing sections of my website at – Technical tips and Musings – respectively. Do take a look and if you are a member of a camera club or similar group who you think might find these a useful resource by all means suggest a link from your clubs' website.

Special Workshop Vacancies – (All other workshops are on my website)

Two day Secret British Mammals workshop in Devon.

There is only 1 vacancy left in April, a few in May and 2 in June on this workshop. We will be photographing British Mammals at a private site in Devon where we have access to a private wildlife collection some of which were used for the recent David Attenborough Wild Isles series. We use a series of purpose built photographic and film sets where we can photograph an excellent collection of captive British mammals.

The aim of this two-day workshop / safari is to provide an unparalleled opportunity to photograph a broad range of British mammals with relative ease and in highly realistic and landscaped surroundings.

In addition to the normal species the centre has Lynx, wild boar, badgers in daylight and European Beaver. As it's a private centre we have unrestricted access to photograph all the animals in their large naturalistic enclosures and - with the exception of Lynx – we will enter all the enclosures with the animals. I normally limit the session to 6 people so your access to the animals is truly excellent and in addition this gives me the opportunity to support you on a one-to-one basis.

Photographs taken by previous guests on this workshop can be found at https://naturesphotos.co.uk/clients-photos-from-secret-british-mammals-devon/

I can arrange B&B accommodation for those travelling a distance at a local farm and this helps make for a great opportunity for all of us to immerse ourselves in photography for a weekend.

More details and booking form at Secret British Mammals Devon - West Devon - Natures Photos .

1 day British Wildlife Centre workshop in Surrey.

The centre has been especially created with large enclosures also designed specifically with photographers in mind. Some major TV channels including the BBC also use this venue regularly. I have a long-established relationship with the owner and all the keepers which results in us gaining unrivalled access and hosting whilst there.
We will again have the centre to ourselves and privileged access into the pens with many animals meaning there will be no barriers or wire obscuring your view! You will come home with stunning photographs that would be extremely difficult in the wild, will have improved your photographic technique and learnt a great deal more about your camera and the wildlife.
I currently have only 4 vacancies left in March.

More details and booking form at British Wildlife Centre - with Natures Photos .

Photographs taken by previous guests on this workshop can be found at https://naturesphotos.co.uk/clients-photos-from-british-wildlife-workshop/

SAFARI Opportunities

A very special price for a second year – 2026

Big Cats of the Massai Mara Safari

Perhaps my favourite location for Safari in Africa is the private concessions off the Massai Mara reserve. I am just about to leave with two groups of very excited photographers for my 2025 safari. I always travel in February as this is the best time to visit and as it's always very popular try to publish prices a year ahead.

As a direct result of my excellent relationship with the camps I use I was very excited to be given a price increase of only 3.29% against local inflation of 7% for a second successive year, February 2026. This is unprecedented and I have understandably already received enough bookings to nearly fill one trip so will be advertising a second very soon. At only 8 per trip the demand is understandably high so if you are interested in a trip of a lifetime and bringing back superb photos do look at my website - Big Cats of Massai Mara - Natures Photos

If you are interested or want to know more, please do contact me ASAP either through the website or direct by e-mail bob@naturesphotos.co.uk or by phone 07983 427202.

New - Land of the Leopard Safari

This Safari has already filled for September 2025 but I, whilst I haven't dates or prices yet for 2026 they will be largely similar and I have already taken bookings if you are interested do take a look at the website for details or contact me directly.

I expected this would become another favourite safari I can offer and I wasn't proved wrong in that the September 2025 trip filled in just a month. If you are interested in this wonderful opportunity, please visit my website for more details https://naturesphotos.co.uk/kaingo-zambia/ or e-mail me re your interest in 2026.

Regards Bob

If you are a member of camera club and would like me to come and share more of my thoughts on what it takes to be a successful wildlife photographer or other techniques of wildlife photography please ask your programme secretary to visit my website **here** for details of all the talks I provide together with the feedback from clubs I have been to.

If you have a friend who you think might be interested in this e-mail please forward it to them and suggest that they sign up to my mailing list to receive future announcements and newsletters.

Bob Brind-Surch

If you should wish to leave my mailing list for any reason whilst I will be very sorry to lose you I quite understand.

To remove yourself from the list please click here. Please unsubscribe me