

# Hints & Tips for sunset

- They can make fabulous photos, but can be underwhelming
- If you know the tricks, that helps!
  - Arrive early, only a short window when balance of light between sky & ground are perfectly balanced
  - You will only see sun sink below the horizon in flat areas or coastline
  - Inland, likely for sun to disappear behind a hill long before it reaches the horizon
  - Choose best quality camera setting with low ISO setting (slide 2)

# Tricks cont.

- **Protect your sight** (slide 3)
  - Don't look directly at the sun
  - Don't leave lens uncapped & pointed at sun, as shutter could get damaged
  - Hold hand above lens whilst sun is high, to reduce flare
- **Turn round.** Behind you the sky & landscape opposite the sunset will be bathed in beautiful light for romantic landscapes. (slide 4)
- **Choose whether to zoom or not** (slide 5)
  - Colours typically span from warm yellows to deep blues
  - Typically use a wide angle lens
  - But zoomed in view may be more dramatic
- **Wait for the right light** (slide 6)
  - Usually when sun is as low as possible
  - Most people use landscape format, try others
- **Exposure**
  - Try camera's recommended exposure first
  - Use exposure compensation over 1 or 2 stops (slide 7)

# Composition

- Find right location with unobstructed view of sky & horizon, e.g.
  - Beaches, coasts, lakes & rivers, mountains
- Have good foreground interest with distinctive shapes
- Find out in advance when sunset takes place
  - National and Local newspapers
- Beach sunsets
  - Foreground interest
    - Someone standing at water's edge, using rule of thirds for horizon, water and person
    - Boat sailing by (slide 8)
    - Rocks
    - Palm trees as arch frame (slide 9)
    - Beach huts
  - Strong cloud formation (slide 10)

# Composition cont.

- Mountain sunsets
  - Person placed in foreground for balance
- Inland
  - Use a tree as a focal point (slide 11) For this slide longest lens available was used
- What sells photos (slide 12 & 13)
  - Dramatic scene
  - Stunning light
  - Powerful wide-angle composition
  - Strong sense of place