



 Karen Thorburn
Photography

Family Photography eBook

Everything you need to know!

Beautiful... ♥ Natural... ♥ Relaxed.

www.karenthorburn.com





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Introduction

Hello! I'm Karen.

I work with down-to-earth, outdoorsy families to create bright, beautiful, natural images, without anyone feeling awkward in front of the camera.

It's not just about the images. I'm *equally* passionate about providing a first-class service, full of personal touches, and (unlike many photographers!) I don't have a huge ego.

I'll 'break the ice' with you and the kids before picking up my camera, helping you all to relax and be yourselves on the day. You're all going to look and feel comfortable and enjoy the experience!

There's a lot to talk about! Grab a cup of coffee, sit back and relax while I answer your questions about your family photography!





"We recently spent a holiday at Dallas Lodge, near Forres, to celebrate my parents' ruby wedding anniversary. I was looking for a family photographer in the Moray area and was delighted to come across Karen's website! I booked a phone call with Karen, and she totally understood what we were after - a very relaxed and informal family photoshoot.

With having very young children, the hour-long Classic package was the best fit for us. She was happy to be flexible and work around the weather and the kids' routines! Karen arrived promptly on the day and helped to put us all at ease with her friendly manner - adults and children alike!

Karen was happy to take our suggestions for backdrops, as well as using her own ideas. The end result is an AMAZING collection of family photos which we will treasure!

Karen over-delivered on the number of images - how incredibly kind! We're delighted we booked Karen and can absolutely recommend her to anyone else looking for a photographer."

Lizzie Barton

Location: Dallas Lodge, Forres, Moray

Date: August 2022

What's your style of photography?

I specialise in natural images, particularly outdoors in beautiful, soft light.

I'll capture your personalities and all the love and joy. I'll give you some guidance so that you look your absolute best, but I'll do this in a way that doesn't spoil the fun or kill the spontaneity.

Your time together as a family is really precious so it's important that we make the experience as *enjoyable* as possible and true to life (without the tantrums, of course!).



Do you have a photography studio?

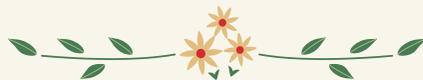
No. My Inverness business address is a PO Box and not a studio.

I spend the bulk of my time on wedding photography, out on location, so it wouldn't make financial sense for me to invest in a studio.

Also, I'm not overly excited by studio photography as everyone's pictures end up looking the same!

I'd much rather photograph your family in a place that has special meaning for you.

This approach appeals to me way more than being in a hot, stuffy studio with a boring white backdrop.





Will the photoshoot take place indoors or outdoors?

I LOVE working with natural light so prefer to be outdoors. I think this also helps with capturing natural and fun images.

However, I'm also happy to work indoors, especially if you have a young baby or if the weather isn't great.

If you like, we can capture a few images in your home or holiday accommodation before heading out to the garden or a nearby location that means something special to your family, such as a local beach or woodland.

Your family is unique and I want to reflect this in my photography!

What will your approach be on the day?

Most importantly, your family photoshoot is going to be enjoyable! This is how to sell it to your other half and the kids!

I'm very down-to-earth and easy to get along with, so we'll soon get to know each other, which will help everyone to relax in front of the camera.

I'll capture lots of photographs, with different combinations of people, in different settings, and I'll show you how to sit or stand so that the photos look very natural and not overly posed.

I'll also capture some completely candid shots. It's also a great opportunity for me to take a step back and capture your family interacting as though I wasn't there!



Ideally we'll use more than one location so that there will be a good amount of variety in the images but also because everyone will feel more comfortable around the camera as time goes on.

The best pictures are often the ones captured in the second half of the photoshoot.



What if the weather's poor?

This is Scotland; the weather is the one thing that's beyond our control! Heavy rain, high winds or thick fog would put a stop to an outdoor photoshoot.

Depending on the weather conditions, we might be able to go ahead but have to re-think our location, e.g. we'd want to avoid the beach on a windy day and move inland instead. Alternatively, we can work indoors in your home or holiday accommodation.

For an outdoor session, I suggest that we arrange a preferred date but be open to the idea of re-scheduling in the event of a particularly bad weather forecast. Don't worry, you wouldn't be charged extra if we move the date due to the weather.



What should we wear?

I've produced a handy eBook with my top tips on what to wear to your family photoshoot. Just follow the link below to save this to your phone or desktop. Please read the detail but, to summarise, you want to dress for the season and the location; colour coordinate but don't match; and avoid a rogue piece of clothing and big logos.



DOWNLOAD NOW!

What if my kids misbehave?

The best approach is to let me deal with the kids as much as possible. I know this is hard but it'll be more difficult for me to capture great images if you're angry and the kids are upset.

Also, if one of the kids doesn't want to do something, then let's not force them to. Tears, frowns and red faces are not a good look.

Don't worry if someone has a meltdown! We can take a break then return to the photos once everyone's calmed down (and I won't be clock-watching, I promise).





"Karen did an autumn family photoshoot for us while we were on holiday in Aviemore in October. We're delighted with the results! After first landing on Karen's website, I booked a Zoom call with her, and it was really useful to chat things through face-to-face before the photoshoot. Karen was able to advise us on what to wear and she also alleviated any concerns I had, for instance, about the weather, or the kids acting up.

The weather was really mixed during our holiday, but Karen was very flexible and kept in touch in the run up to the photoshoot, as the forecast continued to change. We were really grateful to Karen for switching our date, to ensure the best conditions for the photography.

As I feared, my 18-month-old daughter had a few meltdowns during the photoshoot! It didn't matter though, as Karen was very understanding and took it all in her stride. We were able to take time out for a nappy change and a snack boost, without this eating into the photography time.

We're delighted with our family photographs - lots of lovely natural outdoor images, all making the most of the beautiful autumn colours, with the temper tantrums edited out!

Thanks again Karen! We'll definitely be back in touch again in future for another family session when the kids are a bit older!"

Shona Ayris

Location: Aviemore

Date: October 2021





I don't like having my picture taken. Can you just photograph the kids?

If you feel really strongly about not being in the photos, then I won't force you into the pictures!

Think carefully though. Your kids won't care about the way you look but they, and you, will treasure these family photographs in years to come.

I'm hoping that the experience will be enjoyable enough that you'll soon forget about any insecurities.



What about our animals?

I'm an animal lover and always like to get our furry companions involved!

I suggest we do photos with and without the pets, and we plan the locations around this.



Do you do newborn photography?

Yes, I do natural newborn sessions, and also take a natural approach with older babies and children.

You might have seen photos of newborns in various poses (typically asleep and often with props).

Whilst I appreciate this style of photography, it's a very specialised genre and not what I do!





What will we discuss during the pre-shoot consultation?

I'm happy to have a 15-20 minute chat via phone or video call in advance of your family photoshoot.

This will help me to find out more about your family, and you can get to know me better too!

We can discuss locations, the weather, what to wear, etc.

After our call, you'll be feeling excited and will know exactly what to expect on the day!





Do you travel?

I'm based on the Black Isle so I do most of my family sessions in the Inverness area. If you're not too far away (e.g. Tain, Drumnadrochit, etc.), I'll be happy to travel to you. If you're based much further afield, we can discuss an additional fee to cover my travel, or you're welcome to travel to my neck of the woods!

Why should we pay your prices?

A lot of people are, understandably, looking for bargains at the moment, but please remember the long-term value of these pictures. Your kids are only young once. To capture this precious time in your life, please book an experienced and reliable professional!

The fee you pay to your family photographer won't just cover their time on the day and it certainly won't go straight into their savings account. As a sole trader, I have numerous business costs to cover. Think about the time and effort that goes into a professional photographer's marketing, so that you even know they exist. Don't forget, your family session will be followed by meticulous post-production work in order to deliver the very best results.

I know these are challenging times for everyone. I've frozen my prices since 2022 and I'm happy to consider a flexible payment option if needed.



"Oh Karen we just looked at the photos from our family photo shoot - they are AMAZING!!!!!!!"

Oh my gosh - we all sat down together and had such fun looking through them - thank you SO SO MUCH!!!!

Wow, honestly, you captured so many wonderful shots in such a special place for us.

What a pleasant and wonderful experience!

You have the perfect personality and friendly smile for family photography!!!

The girls loved you and it really went so well!!!

Thanks again SO SO SO much Karen - we can't thank you enough!!!"

Kristen Liptrot

Location: Nairnside, Inverness

Date: August 2020



What photography packages do you offer?

Bespoke

Every family is unique and my packages (below) might not be the right fit for your requirements.

I'd be delighted to offer you a bespoke photography package, created specifically for you, if needed, to take into account exactly how much photography you require and in which beautiful Scottish location.

The best approach is to discuss your photography and, together, create a package that works perfectly for you. Please [book a call](#) or [complete my contact form](#) to find out more.

Mini

£175

(tax included)

- Up to 20 minutes of coverage in Resolis (my home patch on the Black Isle).
- Post-production in-house digital editing with each file carefully selected and edited in my signature style.
- Password-protected online gallery with a facility for purchasing prints.
- 10 high resolution printable images as a digital download.
- Commitment to providing you with beautiful images

Please scroll down for my main photography packages!

The Classic Package

- ♥ Comprehensive consultation via phone or video call.
- ♥ Up to 1 hour of coverage in one location in the Inverness / Black Isle area (travel fees may apply further afield).
- ♥ Post-production in-house digital editing with each file carefully selected and edited in my signature style.
- ♥ Password-protected online gallery with a facility for purchasing prints.
- ♥ 40 high resolution printable digital images as a digital download.
- ♥ Choice of package upgrades available for an additional fee.
- ♥ Commitment to providing beautiful images and the highest standard of client service.

£300 (tax included)

The Signature Package

(client favourite!)

- ♥ Comprehensive consultation via phone or video call.
- ♥ Up to 2 hours of coverage in two locations in the Inverness / Black Isle area (travel fees may apply further afield).
- ♥ One outfit change.
- ♥ Post-production in-house digital editing with each file carefully selected and edited in my signature style.
- ♥ Password-protected online gallery with a facility for purchasing prints.
- ♥ 100 high resolution printable digital images as a digital download.
- ♥ Choice of package upgrades available for an additional fee.
- ♥ Commitment to providing beautiful images and the highest standard of client service.

£450 (tax included)

The Deluxe Package

- ♥ Comprehensive consultation via phone or video call.
- ♥ Up to 2 hours of coverage in two locations in the Inverness / Black Isle area (travel fees may apply further afield).
- ♥ One outfit change.
- ♥ Post-production in-house digital editing with each file carefully selected and edited in my signature style.
- ♥ Password-protected online gallery with a facility for purchasing prints.
- ♥ 150 high resolution printable digital images on an engraved USB.
- ♥ Luxury 8" x 10" Classic Family Album
- ♥ 30" x 30" Storyboard Gallery Frame featuring nine images
- ♥ Choice of package upgrades available for an additional fee.
- ♥ Commitment to providing beautiful images and the highest standard of client service.

£1,050 (tax included)



How do we enquire or book?

If you've decided to go ahead and book your family photography... brilliant!

It would be great to have an informal chat over the phone or Zoom, at a time that's convenient for you. I'd love to hear about your family and answer any queries you might have.

LET'S CHAT!

To confirm your booking, I'll just need you to complete an online booking form and transfer the balance. I'm open to discussing flexible payment options if needed,

Please don't put it off! My calendar fills up quickly, particularly in summer and autumn.



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