



 Karen Thorburn
Photography

Couples' 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 folks who love the outdoors and who are emotionally invested in their photographs. I create bright, beautiful, natural images and I have a knack for putting people at ease so that no-one feels or looks awkward in front of my camera.

Of course, there's more to this whole experience than just the photographs. 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 both before picking up my camera, helping you to relax and be yourselves on the day. You're going to look and feel comfortable and enjoy the experience!

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



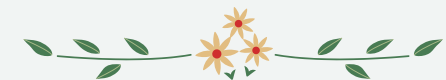


What's your style of photography?

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

I'll capture your personalities and the deep bond between you. 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 is really precious so it's important that we make the experience as *enjoyable* as possible and true to life.









"OMG! Karen's photos are amazing! We travelled from Hawaii to Scotland to renew our wedding vows to celebrate our tenth anniversary. We got in touch with Karen and she was able to fit us in at short notice. We instantly felt a connection with Karen and could completely be ourselves in her company - she totally got our sense of humour!

Aside from the photography, we were planning a day trip and Karen was able to make some great suggestions for places to visit - she certainly knows the Highlands well!

Karen captured everything beautifully and we really enjoyed the whole experience. We're thrilled with the photos and the turnaround was soooooo fast!!!!!!

We've definitely made a friend in Karen - so much more than just a photographer!"

DANIEL VO, HAWAII



Do you have a photography studio?

No, I don't have a photography studio.

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

Also, I'm not a huge fan of studio portraits as everyone's images end up looking the same!

I'd much rather photograph you in a place that has special meaning for you. Don't worry if you're not sure about the best location for your photoshoot; I'll be happy to advise!

If you'd prefer studio photographs, then I will happily redirect you to another photographer.





Where will the photoshoot take place?

I LOVE working with natural light and beautiful scenery, so prefer to be outdoors if at all possible. I think this also helps with capturing natural images. However, I'm also happy to work indoors, in your home or holiday accommodation, especially if the weather isn't great.

If you live locally, we should (ideally) use a location that means something special to you as a couple, such as a local beach or woodland.

If you're visiting the area and need some suggestions, I can happily recommend some great locations. I know the Highlands like the back of my hand. Just let me know what type of scenery you'd like!





What will your approach be on the day?

Most importantly, your photoshoot is going to be enjoyable!

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

I'll capture lots of photographs, 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 a great opportunity for me to take a step back and capture you interacting as though I wasn't there!





"We're from California and were in Scotland recently on a tour of Europe. We wanted an engagement photoshoot in some dramatic Highland scenery, so I contacted Karen.

Karen was flexible with timings and managed our expectations about the weather! We chose Knockfarrel as we wanted a hilltop location with views to the mountains and over a lake. It worked out so well! I was dressed in a long dress and cape which flowed in the wind beautifully.

Karen drove us there so we didn't have to negotiate the narrow roads, and she chatted with us the whole time and really put us at ease.

We love the photos and we look so majestic in them - exactly what we wanted. Karen over-delivered on the number of images so we have loads of photos and are excited to hang some and make our own photo album. Thanks again Karen! We very much appreciate all the time and effort you put into our couple's photoshoot."

GUNILLA LEUTERIO, CALIFORNIA



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 further 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.

I should mention that, quite often, the weather forecast is only reliable a couple of days in advance (unless we're experiencing a long spell of settled weather). The best approach is to keep me posted on your availability and aim to be flexible.



What time of day is best?

I'm much more concerned about the weather conditions than the time of day.

I've no problem with photographing in the middle of the day, when the sun is high in the sky. However, if it is a sunny day, I'll be seeking some shade (for, at least, part of your photoshoot) in order to find some soft, flattering light.

Please note that, ideally, I would like to do your photoshoot during traditional working hours.

Again, the best approach is to keep me posted on your availability and aim to be flexible.

If planning a photoshoot during the winter months, please be mindful of the shorter daylight hours (see [here](#) for further details).



Are you available all year round?

Yes, I work all year round (but please don't ask me to work on Christmas Day or New Year's Day!). If you're booking a photoshoot during the low season, we might need to be a bit more mindful of the temperatures, and the conditions underfoot. Also, we might need to be more selective about which location(s) we use, as some places can look a little bit bare in winter.

Please come prepared whatever the weather, whatever time of year. For instance, spring might be sunny but it can still be really cold, especially in the shade, and I've seen some people who are not adequately wrapped up against the cold. I'll bring mats to sit on and reusable handwarmers to hold, but they're no substitute for a warm coat and gloves!

The session and the end result - the photographs - will be better if everyone is dressed appropriately.







"My husband and I are from Pennsylvania and we travelled to Scotland to celebrate our ten year wedding anniversary! Karen helpfully suggested some locations in Inverness for our couple's photoshoot. We chose Ness Islands and Karen reassured us that this location would look great in late fall and that she would be flexible and work around the weather, which put our minds at rest.

On the day, things overran at the hair salon but Karen was understanding and made sure we weren't stressed. She put us at ease from the first moment and we so enjoyed our photoshoot with her. We had fun, were totally comfortable, and felt a genuine connection with Karen.

We appreciated Karen's commitment to getting the best results, by gently guiding us and taking time to fix my dress, and so on. We love the photographs - they are absolutely lovely, and with lots of variety. We'll definitely get in touch in future when we're over from the States with our kids; we'd love to do a family photoshoot at another location in the beautiful Scottish Highlands!

MARTHA NYCE, PENNSYLVANIA



What should we wear?

I've produced a handy eBook with my top tips on what to wear to your couples' photoshoot, and galleries to inspire you. 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!](#)

Can we have an outfit change?

A full head-to-toe outfit change is included in my Deluxe Package. However, you're welcome to bring a couple of items with you (e.g. sweaters, jackets, etc.), regardless of which package you choose. This will allow for a few different 'looks' without a full-scale outfit change eating into your photography time.



Do you do black and white photography?

I love using colour in my images but I also appreciate black and white photography. I'll convert some of your images to monochrome where I feel it's most effective.







We don't want to pose. Can we just have fun?!

Yes! Typically, I blend traditional, naturally posed images (nothing too formal) with more fun, candid shots. However, we can, of course, keep your session completely natural! Please let me know in advance if you'd like your photoshoot to be 100% 'documentary', so I can plan for this scenario.





"We were staying in the Inverness area while my wife was seven months pregnant, and we booked Karen her for a two-hour couple's maternity photoshoot at Burgie House near Forres, where we were staying.

I'm a photographer myself and the afternoon we'd chosen for our session turned out to be hot and sunny, and I was concerned about the harsh light. However, Karen is a professional and handled it no problem at all!

We started our photoshoot using the house as a backdrop then we got changed before heading into Burgie Arboretum. Karen used a variety of locations for different backdrops, and she managed to keep us cool in the shade, and in soft light, for much of the time.

We both really enjoyed the experience and felt totally comfortable around Karen. She really went the extra mile for us, both on the day and in the delivery of the images. The photos are beautiful! We love them! Karen really captured the natural vibe which we wanted, and we now have so many images to remember this special time in our lives. Thank you so much, Karen! We're so glad we chose you to do our photography!"

KYLE MCCORMICK, CALIFORNIA





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 fur babies, and we plan the locations around this.





"We did our maternity photoshoot with Karen and it was absolutely amazing. She is so talented and professional and at the same time such a lovely person, made us feel very comfortable and relaxed.

We looked at many photographers before finalising Karen and simply adored her earthy and natural approach which, combined with her skill set, crystallised such beautiful moments in a magical and simplistic way that we will cherish for the rest of our lives.

She studied the location we suggested for the photoshoot and our photos turned out to be stunning. I would highly recommend Karen if you're looking for someone to capture your pregnancy memories."

ADITI DOIPHODE, INVERNESS







Do you travel, or hike to remote locations?

I'm based on the Black Isle so I do most of my work in the Inverness area. If you want to do your proposal further afield, then we can discuss an additional fee to cover my travel.

I love hiking and hill walking. However, if you're planning on proposing somewhere remote, please be aware that I would need to charge you extra for time spent hiking and lugging 15kg of camera gear around!



Do you photograph events?

Yes, absolutely. I'm well suited to photographing events, given my background in wedding photography.

Typically, events involve more work, for various reasons. I may need to organise large numbers of group shots, and I often have less control over backgrounds and lighting, as things can sometimes unfold spontaneously. This means more preparation beforehand and more time spent in editing afterwards. As such, my event fees may be higher than the fees outlined in this eBook.

If you're interested in booking an event, such as a formal gathering for a milestone anniversary, please [contact me](#) for a quote, and provide as much information as possible when you get in touch.



How will we communicate?

I want you to *feel* like you're my only client, but the reality is there are *lots* of other people on my books! This means I have to be very organised with my communication. Email works best for me, as I can set up a dedicated folder for your photoshoot, and you'll receive my out-of-office reply if I'm away from my desk.

Self-employment can often feel all-consuming, and 'switching off' is an ongoing challenge for me! After your initial contact form, please stick to email until the final run up to your photoshoot, when I'll give you my WhatsApp number in case we need to communicate on the day. Please download WhatsApp to be prepared for this scenario. Please revert back to email after your photoshoot.

I'll aim to respond promptly but please remember that I'm often out at photoshoots, particularly during peak season, and I'm striving to enjoy evenings and the occasional day off away from my inbox!





Why should we pay your prices?

Understandably, a lot of people are looking for bargains these days, but please remember the value of these images. For a flexible approach, stress-free experience, and top quality results, please book an experienced, reliable professional (me!). Buy cheap, and you'll end up buying twice.

The fee you pay to your 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 before I even consider my mortgage and other household bills. Please think about the time and effort that goes into a professional photographer's marketing, so that you even know they exist (I built my website from scratch and created this eBook myself!). Don't forget that your session will be followed by meticulous post-production work in order to deliver the very best results.







“

"I recently had a maternity photoshoot with Karen down at the Ness Islands in Inverness, and WOW. I have never felt so beautiful in any photos, like, ever.

I'm a plus-sized person (which makes maternity photos daunting) and, on top of that, I often feel self-conscious about how I look in photos.

Not these!!!

I swear I could cry from how amazing the photos look, and how beautiful I feel looking at them. And I don't think that's the pregnancy hormones talking! Genuinely the best photographer I've ever worked with, I recommend her so much!"

JENNIFER BLACK, INVERNESS





"We took a vacation to Scotland to tour the North Coast 500 for our wedding anniversary. We wanted a couple's photoshoot at a Scottish castle to mark the occasion, so we reached out to Karen! Thankfully, she was happy to be flexible and work around the weather forecast. We so appreciated this as the weather wasn't kind to us on our trip, but Karen arranged a time that was dry, as the sun was setting.

Karen had suggested Ardvreck Castle. Wow, what a location! The castle and mountain scenery really summed up the Scottish Highlands for us and, thankfully, it was quiet in the evening.

The photoshoot was wonderful - we had so much fun and we were able to just relax and be ourselves! Karen really went above and beyond for us, surprising us with a selection of drone photos, and over-delivering on the number of shots. We also ended up getting lucky with a huge rainbow at the end of the shoot, and Karen was so amazing in taking us on a hike to an incredible vantage point. She knows the Highlands like the back of her hand! The pictures are amazing - we could not stop looking at them on the big screen when we got home.

Thank you so much!!"

VASANT IYER, BRITISH COLUMBIA





What photography packages do you offer?

I offer a choice of three photography packages, which tend to suit most people's needs.

Please scroll down for full details.

I appreciate that you may have specific requirements not covered by my main packages, which is absolutely fine. I'd be delighted to offer you a bespoke package instead. To enquire about a bespoke package, please [contact me](#) and tell me your specific requirements and I'll be back in touch with a quote.



The Classic Package

- ♥ Up to 30 minutes of coverage in one location in the Inverness / Black Isle area (please note that restrictions apply, and travel fees may apply further afield).
- ♥ Post-production digital editing with each file carefully selected and edited in my signature style.
- ♥ Online gallery with a facility for purchasing prints.
- ♥ 25 high resolution digital images as a download.
- ♥ Choice of [photography_products](#) available for an additional fee.
- ♥ Commitment to providing beautiful images and the highest standard of client service.

£325

(inclusive of tax, admin, travel expenses, photography, and post-production)

The Signature Package

(client favourite!)

- ♥ Up to one hour of coverage in one location in the Inverness / Black Isle area (please note that travel fees may apply further afield).
- ♥ Post-production digital editing with each file carefully selected and edited in my signature style.
- ♥ Online gallery with a facility for purchasing prints.
- ♥ 50 high resolution digital images as a download.
- ♥ Choice of [photography products](#) available for an additional fee.
- ♥ Commitment to providing beautiful images and the highest standard of client service.

£575

(inclusive of tax, admin, travel expenses, photography, and post-production)

The Deluxe Package

- ♥ Up to two hours of coverage in two nearby locations in the Inverness / Black Isle area (please note that travel fees may apply further afield).
- ♥ One outfit change.
- ♥ Post-production digital editing with each file carefully selected and edited in my signature style.
- ♥ Online gallery with a facility for purchasing prints.
- ♥ 100 high resolution digital images as a download.
- ♥ Choice of [photography_products](#) available for an additional fee.
- ♥ Commitment to providing beautiful images and the highest standard of client service.

£825

(inclusive of tax, admin, travel expenses, photography, and post-production)



Can you explain the package system further?

You're busy. I'm busy. I like to keep things as simple and as efficient as possible!

Some photographers take a session fee then ask their clients to choose their images afterwards. I avoid this system for several reasons! You probably don't want to be faced with a gallery of unedited images and have the hassle of deciding which ones to purchase; in fact, you might never get around to it. Equally, I wouldn't want to be kept waiting for payment long after having completed a photoshoot.

The package system serves me and my clients well. I'll hand-pick your best images, showcasing different backgrounds and poses from throughout the photoshoot (I say 'poses' but think of it more as 'gentle direction'). We'll likely only need to exchange a handful of emails and, as soon as I've completed your editing, all you need to do is download the images!



Do you sell products?

I offer a range of products, including branded USB drives, a range of beautifully hand-crafted albums, and wall art. Please note that additional fees would apply for overseas shipping and that I'm unable to ship wall art overseas. The photography packages include digital images only, for a couple of reasons. Firstly, a large percentage of my clients come from overseas; digital-only photography packages helps to keep things simple. Secondly, if you decide to purchase products, I want you to have free rein in your decision-making and not be tied to a particular size of album or frame.



[DOWNLOAD NOW!](#)



Do you sell gift vouchers?

Yes, I sell gift vouchers, which are valid for two years from the date of purchase.

When you purchase a gift voucher, I will provide you with the following:

- ♥ An eBook similar to this one, but with the package prices removed, ready for you to email to the recipient.
- ♥ An e-voucher showing the recipient's name, the photography package, and the voucher expiry date.

If you would like to purchase a paper copy of the gift voucher, a £10 surcharge will be applied, to cover postage and packaging, and my trip to the post office.

Please note the eBook is not available in print.

Please try to avoid waiting until the last minute when purchasing a gift voucher, as I am often working away from my desk at photoshoots and so cannot always respond immediately or get to the post office promptly!



What happens after the photoshoot?

I'll individually edit all of your photographs to a high standard. After all, I'm a perfectionist! Your images will be ready within a maximum of five weeks. Normally it'll be *much* quicker. However, please appreciate that peak season gets *extremely* busy (and I'm only human).

Your photographs will be presented in an online gallery (which you're welcome to share with family and friends). You'll also receive links to download the digital images, with high resolution files ready for printing, and low resolution files ready for you to share on social media (if you wish).







How do we enquire?

To make an enquiry, please get in touch using the link below. Let me know your preferred photography package, your availability, and your thoughts on the location/scenery (and, if purchasing a gift voucher, whether you would like an electronic or paper copy).

[CONTACT KAREN](#)

How do we book?

Please note that bookings are taken on a first come, first served basis. My diary changes daily and I'm unable to offer date savers. To secure your photoshoot, I'll need you to complete an online booking form and make payment (a flexible payment option is available for the Deluxe Package, if needed).

Your photoshoot date will only be secure once payment has been made and the booking form has been completed. Please don't put it off! My calendar fills up quickly, particularly in summer and autumn/fall.





Karen Thorburn
Photography

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Beautiful... ♥ Natural... ♥ Relaxed.

