



 Karen Thorburn  
Photography

# *Family Photography eBook*

*Everything you need to know!*

*Beautiful... ♥ Natural... ♥ Relaxed.*

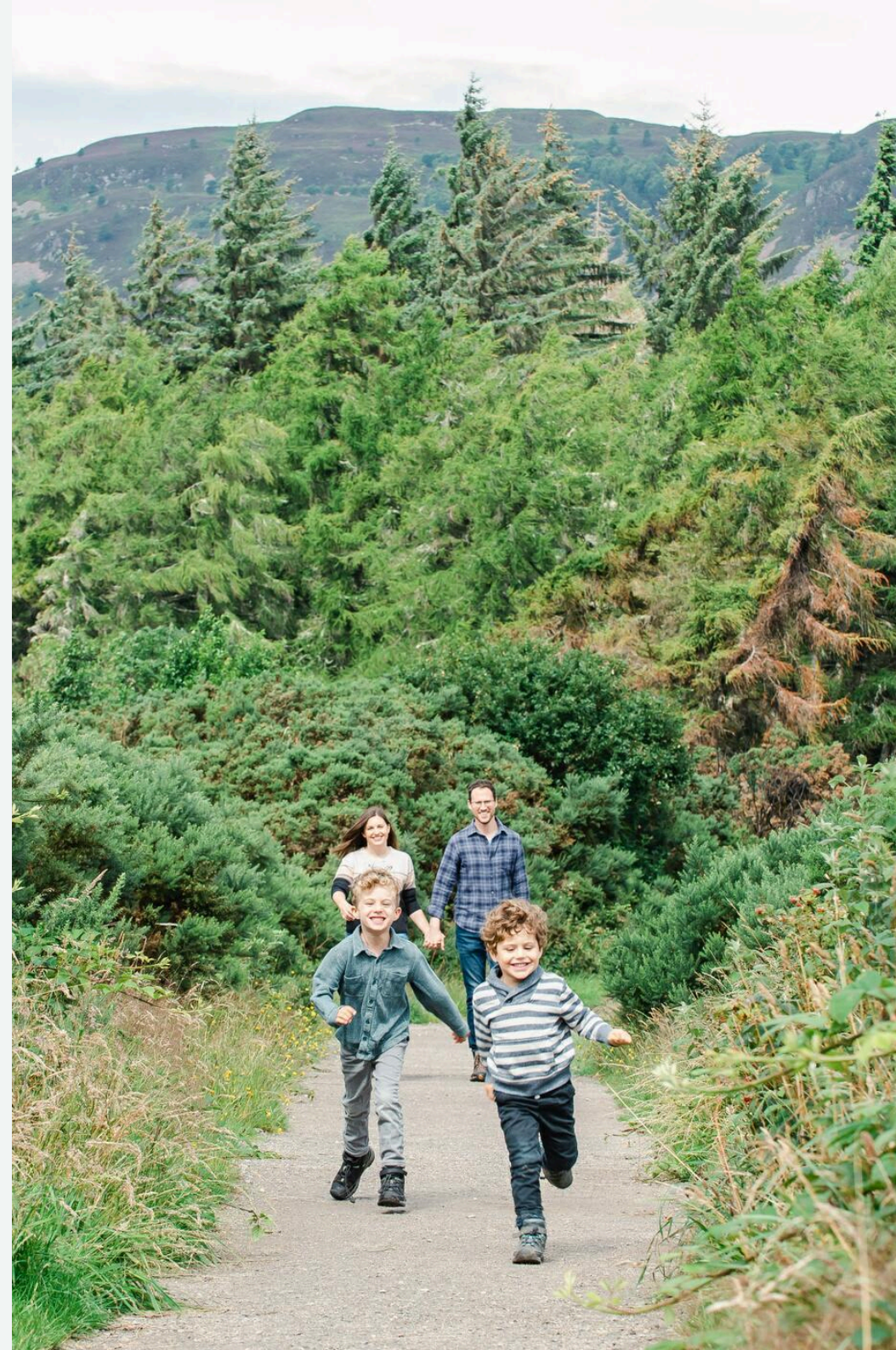
[www.karenthorburn.com](http://www.karenthorburn.com)





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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 all 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 think about! Grab a cup of coffee, sit back and relax while I answer your questions about your family photography!





## 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, if you have young kids!).





"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, INVERNESS



# Do you have a photography studio?

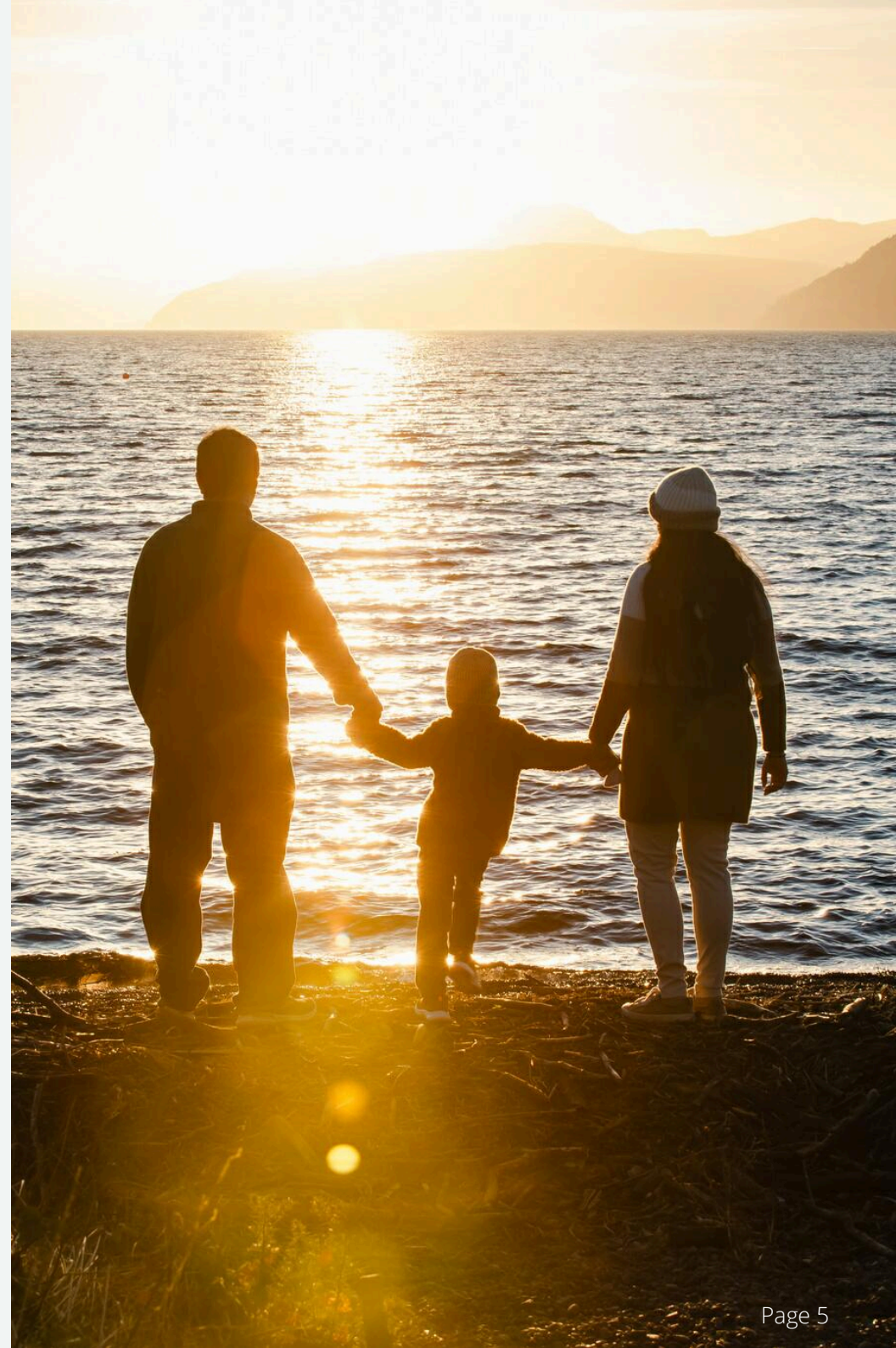
No, I don't have a photography studio.

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 your family 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 (and fun ones, with the kids). However, I'm also happy to work indoors, especially if you have a young baby or if the weather's poor.

If you live locally, we should (ideally) use a location that means something special to your family, 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!





"I'm so glad I booked Karen for our family photoshoot when we were in Scotland! We're from North Carolina so we were keen to get professional photos done to capture such a special vacation.

Karen's portfolio is absolutely fantastic and I had complete faith in her from the moment she replied to my enquiry with lots of helpful information, including advice on what to wear, and her thoughts on various locations in the Highlands.

The weather was pretty mixed during our trip and so we were grateful to Karen for being flexible and making sure we had dry weather for our session! We had a lot of fun on the day and Karen was great with our kids, captured different scenery in the images, and shot a variety of photos.

Karen did an incredible job and we absolutely love the photos! I was beyond pleased before I'd even finished looking through the online gallery!  
We will certainly cherish the pictures for many years to come!"

**CHAD HENDRIX, NORTH CAROLINA**



# What will your approach be on the day?

Most importantly, your family photoshoot is going to be enjoyable!

I'm very down-to-earth and easy to get along with (and I'm great with kids), 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 a great opportunity for me to take a step back and capture your family interacting as though I wasn't there.



# 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 (kids included) 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.





"We recently spent a holiday at Dallas Lodge, near Forres. I was looking for a family photographer in the area and was delighted to come across Karen's website! I contacted Karen, and she totally understood what we were after - a very relaxed and informal family photoshoot.

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, LONDON





# What should we wear?

I've produced a handy eBook with my top tips on what to wear to your family 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.



Karen Thorburn  
Photography

*What to wear to your  
Family Photoshoot*  
3 top tips

*Beautiful... ♥ Natural... ♥ Relaxed.*

www.karenthorburn.com

[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, scarves, 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.



# Do you work with all-adult families and groups?

Yes, absolutely! I've worked with many all-adult families and groups. As with any family session, I'll provide plenty of variety in the images, in terms of combinations of people, backgrounds, and natural poses.



# 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.





## 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.



# What if my kids misbehave?

In the run up to the photoshoot, please explain to your kids what's going to happen on the day, and perhaps promise them a treat if they behave! Also, let's plan the timings so that they're not going to get hungry five minutes into the photoshoot.

On the day, the best approach is to let me deal with the kids as much as possible (I'm guessing they probably behave better for strangers!). 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. 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.







"Karen did an autumn family photoshoot for us while we were on holiday in Aviemore in October. We're delighted with the results! 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!"

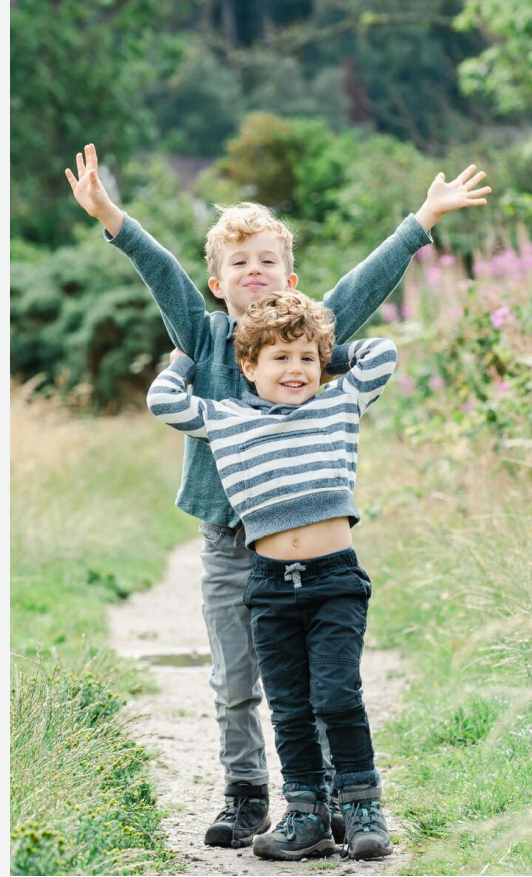
**SHONA AYRIS, GLASGOW**



# How will you hold the kids' attention?

I have a few tricks up my sleeve! For young kids, I have a soft toy which attaches to my camera lens, and a cute, mischievous puppet! If kids are reluctant to move from, say, the beach to the woods, I'll suggest something fun like a game of hide and seek!

Also, I'll try to keep the pace right. I'll not rattle through your photos too quickly (after all, I want to take my time to compose and light my shots to get the best results). However, I'll not go so slowly that it gets boring for anyone. Even if we do your photoshoot in one location, I'll add plenty of variety, in terms of backdrops, poses, combinations of people, etc. This will help to hold everyone's attention (adults and kids alike!).





## 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 anxieties.





"Karen's photos are just magical!! We're from Oklahoma and travelled to Scotland on vacation. While there, I wanted a professional photographer to take family photos of me, my husband and our five kids in the Scottish Highlands.

I reached out to Karen and she was amazing! I loved her pictures and booked her immediately! Karen was super helpful, offering to work around the weather. Sure enough, it was a wet day! I suggested a last-minute change of time; Karen responded and headed to us earlier than we'd originally planned!

She was great with the kids, having learned their names before the photoshoot and she even had a cuddly toy attached to her camera to help my young son look at her and smile!! We were super impressed. The photos are beautiful, there are lots of extra ones, and they were ready before we even arrived back in the States! Thanks Karen!"

**MICAH SUTHERLAND, OKLAHOMA**



# Can we combine a family and maternity photoshoot?

Yes, absolutely! If you're pregnant, please let me know in advance of your photoshoot. I'll do a combination of family and maternity photographs, like the images shown on this page, and the following one.







# Can we have some individual photographs?

Providing there's enough time, I'll be happy to capture some individual photographs. Let's take a 'common sense approach' here. If you're a family of 20 and you book a one-hour photoshoot then, naturally, there won't be sufficient time for individual shots as I'll be focused on capturing different family groupings (however, a two-hour session would provide ample time for this).





## Do you travel?

I'm based on the Black Isle so I do most of my work in the Inverness area. If you want to do your family photoshoot further afield, then we can discuss an additional fee to cover my travel. Of course, you're welcome to travel to my neck of the woods; I can recommend lots of great locations for your photoshoot!

# Do you photograph events?

Yes, absolutely, apart from kids' birthday parties. 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 or adult birthday party, please [contact me](#) for a quote, and provide as much information as possible when you get in touch.



# Do you do newborn and baby photography?

Yes, I do natural newborn and baby sessions. I take a very authentic and organic approach, with the focus on the baby without elaborate props or many accessories. For more details, please visit my website [here](#).



# 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!





"Karen was a dream to work with!

We visited the Highlands in December; Karen was so kind to be flexible with the dates and times to get the best weather for our family portraits.

We chose the beautiful location of Dores beach right on the shores of Loch Ness and I couldn't be happier.

Karen walked us through each location seamlessly and snapped candid photos - just what I wanted.

Her editing style is beautiful and natural, I wouldn't change a thing. If you're looking for a family photographer on your holiday in the Highlands - look no further!"

**RYLEE MASSEY, KANSAS**



# 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.







"Karen was amazing to work with, truly kind and gracious!

Every step of the way, she was responsive, patient, supportive, and informative. I really appreciated the photos and information she provided about the locations she likes to use.

We ended up going with Dunrobin Castle. What an absolute beauty this place is! Karen knew exactly where to position us around the grounds, but was also extremely receptive to ideas or wants that we had. She provided us with plenty of time to enjoy and wander around without feeling rushed, which I really appreciated.

She gave me a timeline for completed photos and had them to me faster than she estimated. We LOVE every single photo. In fact, I'm having a really hard time deciding which ones to print out for framing! I cannot recommend Karen enough!"

**JULIE FEBRES, KANSAS**





## 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)

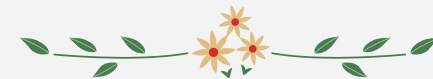


## Can you explain the package system further?

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.

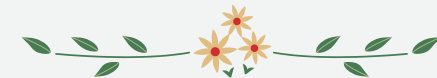
Please try to avoid waiting until the last minute when purchasing a gift voucher, as I am often working away from my desk at photoshoots and so cannot always respond immediately or get to the post office promptly!



## What happens after the photoshoot?

I'll individually edit 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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