



 Karen Thorburn
Photography

Solo Photoshoot eBook

Everything you need to know!



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Introduction

Hello! I'm Karen. Thanks for considering me as your photographer for your solo photoshoot, whether it's for professional headshots, personal branding, or images for your online profile.

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 before picking up my camera, helping you to relax and be yourself on the day. You're going to look and feel comfortable and enjoy the experience!

There are a few things to think about, so grab a cup of coffee, sit back and relax while I answer your questions about your solo photoshoot!





"I had a fantastic experience with Karen from start to finish.

Karen is a passionate and highly skilled photographer, and really worked with me to understand exactly what I wanted for my photographs.

She provides a very personalised, engaging service, so if you are considering getting professional photographs done, look no further!

I was delighted with my headshots and highly recommend!"

ELAINE MORROW

What's your style of photography?

Firstly, I'll make sure you look your best and are well lit. You might think this is stating the obvious but not all photographers go to this level of effort!

I can adapt my style of photography to suit your particular needs. For instance, formal business portraits are likely to have a different vibe to more fun, light-hearted images for your Instagram profile. Of course, I can adopt different styles within the one photoshoot.

To help me prepare, I'll just need you to give me some background on yourself and/or your business and how you're planning on using the images.





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.

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





Where will my photoshoot take place?

Your photoshoot will take place in a location of your choice, but I can gladly make some recommendations.

I do the majority of my portraits outdoors as most of my clients love being out in nature (like myself).

However, if you don't want environmental portraits, then indoor options could include a coffee shop, a hotel, your home, or your workplace.





"The best photo experience I've ever had!

I booked with Karen super last minute when searching for an Inverness photographer for professional photos.

She was soooo amazing and made me feel so comfortable.

Would highly recommend Karen for anyone needing high quality photos!"

JESSICA MCNAMARA

What will your approach be on the day?

Don't worry, I'm not going to shove a huge camera in your face the moment we meet! We'll chat first, before beginning the session. This will help to put you at ease and it'll also give me some time to think about how best to pose you.

We'll likely utilise a number of backdrops within a small area, to add variety to the images. I'll take my time as I'll be looking out for any wardrobe malfunctions or stray hair needing fixed. I'll also be checking the back of my camera regularly to confirm I'm happy with the lighting or to make adjustments.

I'll make sure you feel comfortable as I gently guide you into some natural poses while making sure you look your best.





"I contacted Karen to get some profile pictures done near Inverness.

What a professional! Karen responded super quick to my query, made lots of suggestions, was very flexible with times and locations, and made some great choices.

Excellent headshots, good turnaround on editing and very helpful on choosing the most effective images.

I really could not have asked for better service. Highly recommended."

DEREK WELLS

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 workplace, etc.

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, if you are available then.

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. 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 a mat 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 you're dressed appropriately.





"I was looking for a solo photoshoot in the Inverness area and contacted Karen. She was able to fit me in at short notice and I booked a session at Culbokie Woods.

Karen kept an eye on the forecast and moved the time by a few hours to ensure we would have calm, dry conditions after a winter storm had blown through! I really appreciated this as I have long hair and wanted it under control in the photos.

Karen put me at ease when I arrived. She used a few locations within the woods for variety in the headshots and showed me how to pose but look natural.

It was lovely to meet Karen and the photos are great, and I really appreciate that she included some extra images!"

CREAG DOCTOR

Can I have an outfit change?

A full head-to-toe outfit change is included in my Solo Branding Package. However, you're welcome to bring a few items with you (e.g. cardigans, sweaters, jackets, scarves and necklaces), 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.



What should I wear or prepare for my photoshoot?

I've produced a handy eBook with my top tips on how to prepare for your solo photoshoot. Just follow the link below to save the eBook to your phone or desktop. Please read the detail but, to summarise, you want to dress for the season and the location; consider wearing your brand colours; and arrive with time to spare to avoid feeling stressed and looking anxious!



[DOWNLOAD NOW!](#)



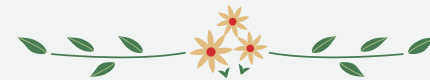
Do you travel?

I do my solo photoshoots in Inverness and on the Black Isle. I'm happy to travel further afield but a travel fee may apply. Please [contact me](#) to let me know your location, and I'll happily quote for the travel fee.



Do you offer graduation photos?

Yes, absolutely, and I'll let you borrow my graduation scroll holder, if needed. We can either do your graduation photos as a solo photoshoot or as part of a [family photoshoot](#) with your loved ones.





"First, we want to mention that not only were our son's senior pictures unique, but Karen was the sweetest, most patient and kind person.

We wanted something different than the standard senior pictures we could get in the States, so we took the opportunity to capture the beauty of Inverness. How cool is it to have senior pictures at Loch Ness?!

Not only did Karen capture our now 'grown' son but also the little boy who loves nature, castles, and Nessie. Karen was very patient with a boy who hates having his pictures taken. He was extremely comfortable which was a huge plus because it made the pictures that much more authentic.

I would recommend Karen for anyone wanting professional photographs. Take the opportunity if you are in Scotland as it's an unforgettable event that will be remembered forever!"

TIM MARTIN, NEW YORK



Do you offer senior portraits for high school graduations?

Yes, absolutely! Many of my clients are American so I'm completely familiar with the concept of senior portraits to mark a young person's final year in high school.

I can either offer your son or daughter a solo photoshoot, as outlined in this eBook, or we can incorporate their senior pictures into a broader [family photoshoot](#).

When you get in touch, please let me know a bit about your son or daughter (e.g. their personality and what 'vibe' they have in mind for their photographs) and what kind of scenery they would like in the backgrounds.



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 I 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 wanted outdoor photographs with a variety of backgrounds instead of studio shots. I found Karen's website and liked her style of photography and got a nice vibe from her too!

I wasn't 100% sure what I was after, so Karen suggested some locations in the Inverness area and offered me a couple of photography packages to choose from.

I booked a session with Karen at Rosemarkie.

Karen put me at ease and helped me to feel relaxed while I posed for the camera. She used a range of backdrops within the woods and talked me through a number of poses at each location.

Karen has a great eye for detail and picked up on my upside-down earring and stray hairs, which meant I looked my best in the photos.

I needed a quick turnaround and Karen was happy to oblige, and she included a couple of freebies, which was a nice touch! The photos are perfect and I'm really excited about using them!"

EILIDH AMOS



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.



Solo Basic Package

-  Ideal for a selection of profile pictures.
-  20 minutes of coverage in one location in the Culbokie/Resolis area of the Black Isle (please note that travel fees may apply further afield).
-  Post-production digital editing with each file carefully selected and edited in my signature style.
-  10 high resolution digital images.
-  Digital download link.
-  Commitment to providing you with high quality imagery and a high standard of client service.

£150

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

Solo Standard Package

(client favourite!)



Ideal for a selection of images to use across your website and social media.



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.



25 high resolution digital images.



Digital download link.











Commitment to providing you with high quality imagery and the highest standard of client service.

£325

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

Solo Branding Package

-  Ideal for a large selection of images to use across your website and social media over an extended period.
-  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).
-  Suitable for coverage in both an outdoor location and in your home or workplace.
-  Full outfit change.
-  Post-production digital editing with each file carefully selected and edited in my signature style.
-  50 high resolution digital images.
-  Digital download link.
-  Commitment to providing you with high quality imagery and the highest standard of client service.

£575

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

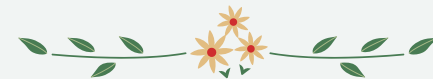


Can you explain the package system further?

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!





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).

You'll receive links to download the digital images, with high resolution files ready for printing, and low resolution files ready for you to upload to your website or share on social media.





How do I enquire?

To make an enquiry, please get in touch using the link below. Let me know a bit about yourself (e.g. what you need the images for), your preferred photography package, your availability, and your thoughts on the location/scenery, and we'll take it from there.

[CONTACT KAREN](#)

How do I 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 Solo Branding 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.





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