

## **Night Photography**

- Bring Warm Clothes; it is cold at night, especially in outlying regions. Check the temperature forecast for the city and remove 10C in your planning.
- Having a stop watch or a timer is good to indicate when the time is up on long exposures over 30 seconds
- Use your cable release

To reduce the noise of hot pixels on your image use the Long Exposure Noise Reduction

You can also do Stacking rather than noise reduction, if so, ensure you're on Manual Focus

Bring Extra Batteries, Long Exposures with NR means very long processing time, which eats battery life.

- A battery grip allows you to take much longer star trails due to the added batter life with 2 batteries.
- I've lost photos because I thought the camera battery could process 2-3 images per night per battery

## **Star Trails**

- Start with a wide angle lens
- Point your camera north if you want the star trails to pivot around the north star
  - If you can't find the northern star in the sky, bring a compass to find North.
- Put your camera in Manual focus, it is hard to focus on stars
- Do your test images at f/2.8 or the fastest your lens will allow.
- Check your focus on the test image

To increase the length of the star trails you must increase your exposure times. Using the attached chart, calculate the longer exposure and the required f/stop for that exposure time,

## **Light Painting**

A laser pointer's beam will give enough contrast to allow your automatic focus to work on distant objects at night. Once you have your focus set, lock in the focus by switching to manual focus.

Bring all manner of battery operated lights, big and small

Bring gels for your flashes

For light painting inspiration check out: <http://www.lapp-pro.de/>