

Photographing the Aurora

CAMERA SETTINGS:

ISO setting: average: 400 - 800, no more than 1200

Aperture setting: f/2.8 or f/4

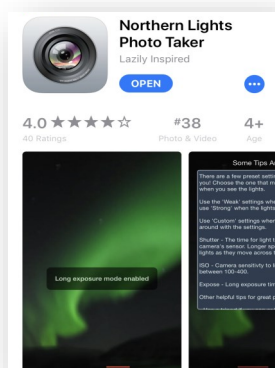
Exposure: 5-10 seconds (on average). This will vary depending on the speed of the aurora. They are moving fast—5-10 seconds / slow then 20—30 seconds

Focus: Infinity

ADDITIONAL HINTS:

- ⇒ Dress properly for cold weather. You may find yourself outside for up to 30 minutes in order to capture the image.
- ⇒ Contrary to popular belief aurora is visible on clear, moonlit nights. Photos taken with moonlight can create interesting shadow in the foreground.

Due to the limited camera settings for iPhones for night or low-light settings we recommend the Northern Lights Photo Taker App



PRO TIPS:

- ◆ A tripod, clamp or cable release are handy to steady your camera or phone and to free your hands to stay warm in your pocket or gloves.
- ◆ No Tripod? Try leaning against a tree or building for stability.
- ◆ Batteries: Bring extra as they wear down quickly in the cold. For battery longevity, try heat packs taped or tied near the battery side of the camera.
- ◆ Lens Preference: Wide Angle Lens
- ◆ Frame your composition with trees, a mountain, the edge or top of a building or structure.
- ◆ Length of the exposure will vary depending on the brightness of the aurora. Also keep in mind the camera will often capture more than the naked eye.
- ◆ Aurora is a natural phenomena that people have struggled to describe for generations, whether it is through language, art or photography, the best experience is the one you enjoy at that moment, so remember to take a moment from your photographing to watch.
- ◆ Play with your settings BEFORE you are out looking for the aurora to avoid missing them because you are fiddling with your camera.