

# Pictures for [www.christmaslighttour.com](http://www.christmaslighttour.com)

## Mechanics

- Use a tripod with tilt. A serious photographer needs a tripod anyway! \$20 - \$30
- Use a resolution that will give a raw picture about 500kB to 700kB in size .jpg. File size may vary considerably with content – the range is only a target.
- Turn off Flash. Use INCANDESCENT setting
- Use “M”anual or “P”rogram not AUTO, setting if possible
- ASA 400 – 800 Higher ASA may be grainy
- Given a choice of “A”perture or “S”peed, hold the “A”perture small (higher f numbers f 8 is good) and vary exposure time
- Use “No-Touch” shutter release – Use Timer or Remote. Just touching the camera to push the button may smear the picture.
- Bracket Exposures +/- . Go at least one more setting (two if possible) up and down than you think you should to get the proper exposure. Pictures look different on the computer monitor than they do on the camera viewer. I’m always fooled!
- All pictures for the Light Tour will be cropped and sized to 829X551 pixels compressed to give a file size between 60 and 80kB and posted in “landscape” orientation.

## Composition

- Fill the frame – Zoom or move in (avoid digital zoom).
- Pay attention to tilt – Vertical lines should be vertical (horizontal lines change angle with position, vertical lines do not). Use the optical viewer AND the digital viewer to do composition. Vertical lines such as the corner of a house or lamp post may not be visible in the digital viewer.
- Time your shot for the best show if there is a changing display.
- Less may be Better – Move in on details. If there are two or more areas of interest, shoot each of them closer up.

## General Rules

- No Trespassing on private property! If there is a good shot out back or you need to encroach on a neighbor’s property for a better angle, ask! Don’t start anything.
- No commercial displays – Nothing showing (prominently) a business or product name will be posted.
- The complete address (except rural) and city must be given in the submission but only street or route name will be used on the site. It’s OK for house numbers to show in the pictures – not much we can do about that.
- The photographer will be given singular credit on the site – not for every picture. Do not overlay anything on pictures.
- To submit, send pictures to [pictures@christmaslighttour.com](mailto:pictures@christmaslighttour.com)
- [www.christmaslighttour.com](http://www.christmaslighttour.com) has the option of posting pictures or not. Pictures may be removed at any time for any reason.
- NO CONTEST