



5 Pro Secrets of Wildlife Photography

If you are an animal lover and enjoy trips to the Zoo, then we've put together these 5 essential secrets used by professional photographers to capture incredible wildlife photos.

Tip 1

One of the biggest challenges at the Zoo is to avoid the wire fences.

If your camera has changeable focus zones, switch to using a small centre focus spot to stop it focusing on the fence and keep the animal sharp.



Tip 2

If the camera has a manual mode, adjust the aperture to its largest size (i.e. f3.5). This will reduce depth-of-field and throw the fence out of focus.

Hopefully the fence will be so blurred it will hardly be visible in the photograph.



Tip 3

Don't attempt to use a flash against glass this close as it scares the animals on the other side and most of the light will be reflected having no benefit on your exposure.



Tip 4

Try creative motion panning shots by using a slow speed when shooting Lions and Tigers etc. Follow the path of the animal as you press the shutter. When panning aim for a shutter setting of around 1/8th to 1/30th, depending on the speed of the animal.



Tip 5

Glass partitions can allow for surreal interaction between humans and animals.

You can achieve images that make it look like people are touching the animals, by moving to an acute angle, and shoot parallel to the glass to see a profile of both subjects.

You just need to be mindful of reflections of other visitors in the shot!



If you want to find out more about photographing wildlife, then visit [iPhotography](https://www.iphotographycourse.com/) and join our incredible and comprehensive portrait course. We've got a massive animals module covering more great ideas and tips like these for all creatures great and small.

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