



Ely Photographic
Club

LOADING PHOTOS INTO LIGHTROOM CLASSIC

Place your camera card into the computer either directly or using a card reader.

Then in Library mode (this is the left-hand tab at the top right) select Import from the two choices on the bottom left of the screen.

Select your card from the options available on the left side panel and the photos will all load. Adjust thumbnail size if required with the slider towards the bottom right.

If you want all the photos to be loaded onto your computer just leave them all selected and ticked.

If you want to go through them now either click on uncheck all and go through them and tick the photos you want to load or just go through them and hit the X key on the keyboard to uncheck them. To see the photos at full size click on the Loupe View button on the left side of the bottom panel above the film strip to the left of the Check All button. You can use the keyboard shortcut E to go to Loupe View and G to go back to Grid View.

I used to prefer to load all and select later in Lightroom, so I can see more detail but now after a tip from Bruce Liggitt I use the Loupe View button and go through them to do a first cull to not load the worst images. This gives you the best of both systems. However, if pressed for time I still sometimes load the lot.

If you want a batch of photos then select the first one, hold down shift and select the last one and then tick one of these selected photos and all should get a tick ready for downloading.

You can select the method of downloading at the top. I just use Copy, which copies and moves the photos from the card to the PC / Laptop.

You can select Convert to DNG which is a standard format that also copies and moves the photos from the card to the PC / Laptop. If you select DNG it slows down the downloading significantly.

Then go to the panel on the right.

Build Previews: There are four Build Previews settings, which are Minimal, Embedded & Sidecar, Standard or 1:1. Minimal is obviously faster but when viewing later there is a delay whilst Lightroom load the full RAW information. Some people prefer Embedded & Sidecar, and I do use this sometimes if I want a faster loading process. However, I normally use Standard.

The advantage of Embedded & Sidecar is faster scrolling through in Lightroom Classic but when moving to the Develop module there is a short delay when the image is selected.

Standard removes this Develop delay (when at normal size not when zoomed in) but slows down scrolling through.

Its basically try them all on a few photos to see which you prefer.

I generally leave Build Smart Previews unchecked, but I do check the Don't Import Suspected Duplicates. You can load a second copy elsewhere say an external hard drive at the same time but I don't usually do this.

File Renaming: You can set the naming of the photos as they are downloaded here.

Apply During Import: Then fill in the key words panel. These words will be attached as metadata to the photo and can be searched for later. I use generic key words at this stage and may add a more specific key word later when processing.

Destination: Then select where you want the images to be stored on your PC or Laptop. I just have a folder called Lightroom Photos, so I select this. Once your preferred main folder is selected you will see the number of photos with a tick against them ready to be downloaded.

Then select if you want a sub-folder below this. I use place names of where the photo was taken.

I have the next the next sub-folder as Organise "By Date", which I find most convenient to locate photos later.

Therefore, on my PC they would be stored as E:/Lightroom Photos/Hunstanton/2020.03.15, as it shows the date in reverse order.

Some people prefer year dates as the main sub-folder but really its whatever you want so you can find these photos again.

If in future, you want to add more photographs to the same place, i.e. loading further photos into the same folder, then go straight to your first sub-folder under the main folder (i.e. Hunstanton in my example above, and leave the "Into sub-folder" unchecked and blank, the photos will load into this folder, just based on the date taken, provided you leave the "By Date" checked.

When all this is complete hit the Import button on the bottom right and the photos will download.