

If you go down in the woods today...

When we wander through woods and forests, although we may look up into the trees, we seldom look up completely vertically; it's a strain on the neck, so not easy for photography.

Pointing the camera straight up, however, can be very rewarding such as in this image taken in Overton. For photographing trees like this, the best time can be winter or early spring, before the trees get covered in leaves.

It's not easy physically to do this; ideally we'd lie on the ground holding the camera to get the best view and compose carefully, but this isn't always practical! The lower you can get the camera the more dramatic the perspective will be. A good alternative is to set the camera on delayed action and place it on the ground, though the accuracy of the composition may be compromised. If you have a tripod with sufficient movement to hold the camera pointing vertically, this is ideal, particularly if you need a longish exposure, and if your camera additionally has a hinged monitor to allow you to see the image in this configuration, then you can see exactly what is being captured.

Use a really wide-angle lens if you can, as this will create dramatic perspectives. It also allows you potential to crop for the best



composition if you have had to compromise at the taking stage.

If you'd like help with this, you can contact Overton Photographic Club. This is easier than ever now, as the club has had to move to online activities. If you have any questions or need help with anything photographic during this time, do feel free to contact us through the website at www.overtonphoto.club

or email me personally and I will try to help or pass you on to someone who can.

John Hodge