



PURCHASE GUIDE



WHICH FILM
CAMERA SHOULD
YOU CHOOSE ?

Film photography has recently seen a massive comeback in the photography world. At a time when we've all gone digital, people are once again being drawn to the authentic look and unique colours that film photography provides. It allows us to return to the early days of photography

and the sheer pleasure of loading and winding our film before the exciting wait to see the developed results! Film photography suits amateurs and professionals alike thanks to its tactile and sensitive approach.

Kodak's here to help you discover or rediscover the joys of this nostalgic world. You've come to the right place to learn everything you need to know about film photography and Kodak's range of cameras !



WHAT IS A FILM CAMERA ?



Film cameras go back to the dawn of photography ! When we talk about film photos, we're referring to the type of snaps people took before the advent of digital devices. People often say film cameras were the precursors to digital cameras.

But it goes further than that, as they use a film rather than relying on integrated tech. Both digital and film photography require lining up a shot through a lens. However, with film photography, the image is imprinted on a roll of film inserted into the camera. Officially called 'silver halide', this film is made from plastic covered with silver salts that react to the light that comes through the lens. This causes a chemical reaction which slowly creates an image on the film and with it a unique shot !

Film photography relies on similar techniques to digital cameras in terms of sensitivity, aperture and speed settings. The main difference is the use of photographic film, which can be of a specific type for a particular result. For example, you can choose between colour or black and white film.

Unlike digital cameras, a roll of film has a limited number of shots: for example, in our catalogue, you'll find colour films that allow 24 photos. But don't let the limited number of photos put you off! Quite the opposite - using a film camera will deepen your understanding of photography, thanks to a more carefully-considered and authentic technique.



**THE MUCH-LOVED
RITUALS OF FILM
PHOTOGRAPHY :
BECAUSE GOING MANUAL
IS LOADS OF FUN**



A lot goes on behind the scenes when it comes to film photography ! The first step is to load the film into the camera. There follows the art of taking your shots before winding the film back and heading off to get it developed. Film cameras don't have LCD screens, unlike digital cameras. You can't delete and try again and that's the game-changer - each photo is unique, authentic and captures that very millisecond !

Film photos each tell their own story, the one that was captured when you pressed the shutter.

Using a film camera requires several steps : choosing the type of film, loading it into the camera, taking the shot according to certain settings (composition, framing, exposure) and then, of course, the thrill of getting it developed! Quite simply, film cameras are about the manual pleasures of photography.



**HOW ARE THE FILMS
DEVELOPED ?**



After you drop off your film at the photo lab, it will be soaked in a series of tanks filled with different products : the developer, the stop bath and the fixer.

Next, once the film's negatives have been rinsed and dried, they're placed in an enlarger, which is a projector that increases the size of the photo. This essential step is carried out in a dark room, lit by an inactinic light (the famous red light !) that won't alter the negative. The film used in film cameras is incredibly light-sensitive, which is why each photo must be developed in total darkness: otherwise, the crystals on the film will continue to react and erase the image.

So what about the chemicals used ? The images on a roll of film are called latent images. When they're soaked in the reveler their image will appear. Once done, the film is moved to the stop bath - this stops the silver halide salts from reacting or the image would be blacked out ! Finally, the fixer dissolves the remaining silver salts so that the negative remains as it is and can be viewed in daylight without causing damage. The negatives are then washed in demineralized water and dried.



The exact method used depends on whether it's a colour or black and white film. Colour films have several layers that are sensitive to different colours: each layer has silver salts associated with a particular colour. Each of these layers will produce a different colour when the photo is developed.

And it's this fascinating development process that whisks us back to when film photography first wowed the world.

Kodak is an integral part of this history, especially with the K-14 process used for our iconic Kodachrome films! Numerous pros have used this process over the years, and it was world-famous Steve McCurry who used the very last roll of K-14 film!

Today, the most common format is 35mm, which is derived from cinema and was adopted by the photography world in the 1920s. This is the type of film you'll find in our catalogue!



**SO, WHY VENTURE INTO
THE WORLD OF FILM
PHOTOGRAPHY ?**



As we've explained, film photography is like a ritual: it requires several manual stages, each of which determines how your shots will turn out. What really sets film photography apart from other techniques is the final rendition. A digital camera won't give you the atmospheric tones and colours seen in film photography.

More precisely, silver halide photos distinctively capture whites : even if the sky is very bright, you'll get a gorgeous velvety rendition. Their colour rendition is also quite different and singular. You'll love the vintage and authentic result combined with the depth of the images you get with film photography !

Film photography requires a different approach from digital snaps, whether you're a newbie or a seasoned pro.

The limited number of shots means each one is precious : you have to take your time as you choose your settings, line up the shot, factor in how to capture the light or use the flash if necessary.

To finish, people forget that digital photography is a newcomer when it comes to the long and illustrious history of photography. A vast number of the photos we still see today were snapped using film cameras !



CHOOSING YOUR KODAK FILM CAMERA



THE KODAK M35 WITH BUILT-IN FLASH

The Kodak M35 film camera with built-in flash is perfect for beginning your film photography adventure. You just need to load the 35mm film, snap away and then rewind the film before removing it and getting it developed ! And you don't have to worry about image quality - each one will be sharp with perfect lighting thanks to a fixed 1/120s shutter speed and a 31mm wide-angle lens. This model also has a built-in 120uf flash that allows you to capture high-quality images even in low-light conditions, such as at night or in gloomy environments. The Kodak M35 uses an AAA battery (not included), so no need to recharge the battery.



And for even more film photography fun, the Kodak M35 comes in stunning colours ranging from blue to grey, green, yellow, purple and mint green.

THE KODAK M38

This film camera is a Kodak catalogue staple. It has a 31mm lens with an F10 aperture for a shutter speed of 1/120 seconds. It takes 35mm film, and you can choose between black and white or colour photos depending on the type of film you use. It ensures superb shots thanks to a light sensitivity of ISO 200 or 400. The Kodak M38 Film Camera features a built-in flash and an effective built-in viewfinder for a 1 m to infinity focus !



THE KODAK F9

The Kodak F9 film camera is a 35mm/135 model that also has a shutter speed of 1/120 second. Light-wise, it's a flexible model thanks to an F9 aperture with a manual lens : you can play with depth and create stunning blurred backgrounds. This beauty will quickly bring out the film portrait photographer in you! What's more, this model is armed with a built-in exposure counter to help you determine the optimal amount of light for your shot.

THE KODAK I60

The Kodak i60 film camera stands out thanks to a vintage design that harks back to the iconic Instamatic 100, the very first Kodak camera, launched in 1963 in the United States. The i60 produces charming shots: the grain, tones and velvety finish typical of this type of retro photography ! This model also includes a retractable 120uf pop-up flash. The Kodak i60 comes in striking yellow or blue !



THE KODAK EKTAR H35 AND H35N

If you like the design of the i60 you'll love the Ektar H35 and H35N film cameras! Inspired by 1960s models, these two Kodak cameras are lightweight and compact, and perfectly suited to beginners as well as vintage photography enthusiasts. It also lets you double the amount of photos per film thanks to its nifty half-frame system. So a roll of film with 36 shots is extended to 72 half-frame photos. You can, therefore, get two consecutive images by taking, for example, a wide shot and then a close-up of the same scene.

The possibilities are endless with this camera : for example, to switch from portrait to landscape, just turn the camera and hold it horizontally. Or vice-versa !

The Kodak Ektar H35N film camera has a built-in star filter, so you can add special effects. You'll get dreamy night shots, be able to capture reflections on water and get clear images in poorly lit environments. This model also has a threaded hole, so you can screw it onto a tripod when you need stability.

Film photography opens up a whole new creative world ! Film cameras are perfect for beginners and vintage photography fans. All you have to do is load your film and immortalise all those special moments that you'll then treasure for life !



MORE INFORMATION



On www.kodak.gtcie.com