

# Exporting Time-lapse Images from Adobe Lightroom Classic

This guide will walk you through the process of exporting your California poppy time-lapse images from Adobe Lightroom Classic in a format suitable for analysis with the provided code.

## Step 1: Organize Your Images

1. Import all your time-lapse images into Lightroom Classic if you haven't already.
2. Make sure the images are in chronological order. You can sort them by capture time in the Library module.
3. Apply any desired editing adjustments to the images (exposure, white balance, etc.) consistently across all images.

## Step 2: Select Images for Export

1. In the Library module, select all the images that are part of your time-lapse sequence.
2. You can use Ctrl/Cmd+Click to select individual images or Shift+Click to select a range.

## Step 3: Configure Export Settings

1. Right-click on the selected images and choose **Export > Export...** or press Ctrl/Cmd+Shift+E.
2. In the Export dialog, configure the following settings:

### Export Location

- Choose a specific folder where you want to save the time-lapse images
- Create a new, empty folder specifically for this analysis
- **Important:** Make sure "Put in Subfolder" is unchecked or create a dedicated subfolder

### File Naming

- Check "Rename To:" and select a custom naming format
- Recommended format: "Poppy\_Timelapse\_{Sequence#}" or "Poppy\_{Date (YYYYMMDD)}\_{Time (HHMM)}"
- Using a timestamp in the filename will help the analysis script determine the correct sequence

### File Settings

- Format: JPEG
- Quality: 80-90 (balance between quality and file size)
- Color Space: sRGB

## Image Sizing

- Resize to Fit: Width & Height
- Set to approximately 1500-2000 pixels on the long edge
- Resolution: 72 PPI

## Output Sharpening

- Optional: Sharpen for Screen, Standard amount

## Metadata

- Include all metadata (especially date/time information)
- **Important:** Make sure to preserve the capture time metadata

## Step 4: Export Images

1. Click the "Export" button at the bottom of the dialog.
2. Wait for Lightroom to process and export all selected images.
3. The exported images will be saved to your specified folder.

## Step 5: Prepare for Analysis

1. Note the directory path where your images are saved
2. Note the time interval between shots (default is 10 minutes in the script)
3. You're now ready to run the analysis script with your exported images

## Additional Tips

- **Consistent Naming:** Make sure the exported files have sequential names or preserve their capture time in the filename.
- **Verify Export:** After export, check that all images are properly exported and in sequential order.
- **Metadata Preservation:** Ensure that the date/time metadata is preserved during export to help with accurate sequencing.
- **Time Interval:** If your images were not taken exactly 10 minutes apart, note the actual interval to provide to the script.

With these steps completed, you'll have a properly prepared set of images ready for analysis with the California Poppy time-lapse analysis code.