Total time:
2-4 hours per theme

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Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Points:
• Composing to establish a location
• Working with people
• Creating compositions that creates interest

CREATING MEANINGFUL
TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHS

Travel photography is a genre that should accomplish two tasks. Visually tell a viewer where the picture is located, and entice a viewer to 'go there' in their mind.

KEY LESSON: To establish the place in a travel photograph look for meaningful architecture, clothing, food, iconic landscapes, activities, and interesting people. Excellent tools of composition for travel photography includes, spot color, leading lines, camera POV, and frames. Study the sample photographs.

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SAMPLE PHOTOGRAPHS

EQUIPMENT

• **Camera**
Any camera including a smartphone
• **Lens + lens hood**
Any lens – but typically you want a moderate wide-angle to a moderate telephoto
• **Tripod**
Optional – Monopod is easier to travel with
• **Notepad**
Take notes and be sure to record location Metadata on the camera

TIPS!

Shooting Mode	**A / Av**	**Drive Mode** Single shot
Shutter Speed	**1/60**th **+** for wide-angle to normal lenses **1/200**th **+** for moderate telephoto lenses	
Aperture	**f/5.6** - **f/16** depending on desired depth of field	
White balance	AWB AUTO	**Format RAW** JPG optional
Metering	Matrix / Evaluative	
Focus points	All focus points	
ISO	**400** (and adjust to facilitate shutter speed)	

ACTION ASSIGNMENT!

1- Study the sample photographs before traveling. Self-assign themes before traveling, for example – traveling to Rome – set aside several hours to photograph the Trevi Fountain.

2- Explore your chosen themes carefully and from all angles. Whenever possible use a person and/or architectural elements in your shots. Plan on 2 to 4 hours per theme- Shoot early or late in the day when the sun is low. Go back more than once if you can. Photograph some people candidly, but force yourself to ask locals if you can include them in your travel photograph.

3- Arrive on the scene:
• Composition, is the location being conveyed?
• Is there visual interest through people, architecture, clothing, signage, food, etc.?
• Is the background clear of visual snags? Evaluate the light for color balance.
• Change lens focal lengths and try different camera perspectives- high and low

HOW DID YOU DO?

• Is your image sharp and free of camera shake?
• Does your image convey the location?
• Does your shot generate visual excitement?
• Is your color accurate?
• Is your lighting pleasing?
• Is your background free of eye snags?

READY! SET! GO! ACTION CARDS - GENRE: TRAVEL