

Travel Photography



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Click! Photography Conference

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Website: CCullens.com

Email: Info@CCullens.com

Today's slides at: CCullens.com/TravelTips

Full Program Recording at: CCullens.com/travel

Today's Topics

- What is travel photography?
- Where and when should I go?
- How do I get there?
- What should I bring?
- Planning Ahead and Arrival
- What should I capture?
- Working the Scene
- Local Guides and Safety
- Communicating in a Foreign Land
- Foreign Travel Tips



Travel Photography - What is it?

Travel photography: May involve the documentation of an area's landscape, people, cultures, customs and history. – Wikipedia

A travel photo: An image that expresses the feeling of a time and place, portrays a land, its people, or a culture in its natural state, and has no geographical limitations. – Old PSA



Xitang, China



Mumbai, India

PSA Has A Photo Travel Division

A Photo Travel image is a **portrayal of the real world we live in**, as it is found naturally.

There are no geographical limitations.

Techniques that add, relocate, replace or remove any element of the original image, except by cropping, are not permitted. (See additional content guidance at: <https://psa-photo.org/page/division-definitions>)



Canada



Painted Hills, Oregon

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Canada



Painted Hills, Oregon

General Travel Photography - What is it?

“A Jack of All Trades!” – Whether you go across the street or around the world!



Athens, Greece

A wide variety of photos fit into these categories or combinations of them:

- Landscape
- People
- Cultures
- Customs
- History

Add in:

- “Portrayal of the real world we live in”
and there are a lot of possibilities!

Landscapes



Yosemite National Park, California



Lake Como, Italy

Native Wildlife in the Landscape



Wallaby and Koala in Australia



Lions in South Africa

People - Lifestyle Photos



Village outside of Kochi, India

Portraits of People



Xitang, China



NECCC, Amherst, Massachusetts

Paparazzi – Photograph “Famous” People



Stephen Spielberg, Majestic Barriere, Cannes, France

Photojournalism



Boston Marathon, Massachusetts



Mumbai, India



Karnataka, India

Street Photos



Shanghai, China



New York City

Culture



Kathakali Dancer in Kochi, India



Village outside of Kochi, India

Traditional Fashions



Beijing, China

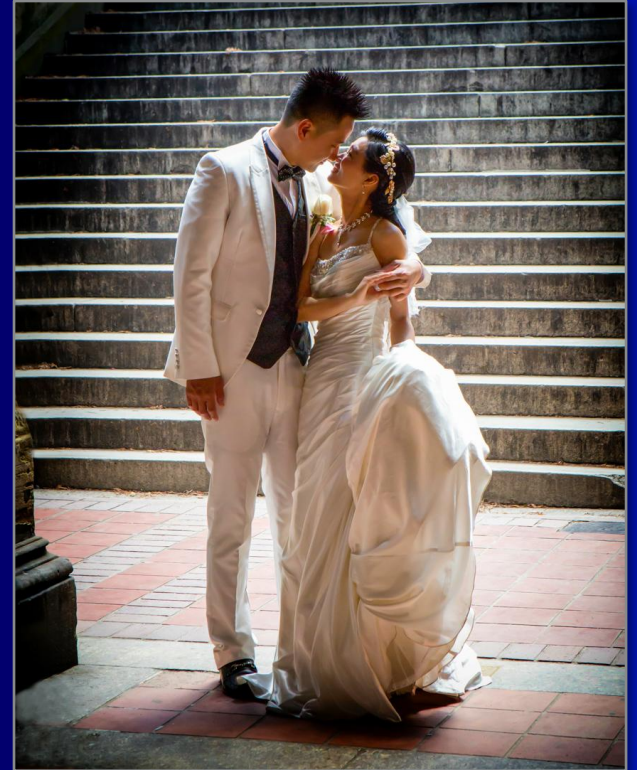


Xitang, China

Wedding Customs



New York City



Food



Key Lime Pie in Key Largo, Florida



Xitang, China

Architecture



Calgary Tower, Canada



Taj Mahal, Agra, India



Yu Garden, Shanghai, China

History - Historical/Documentary

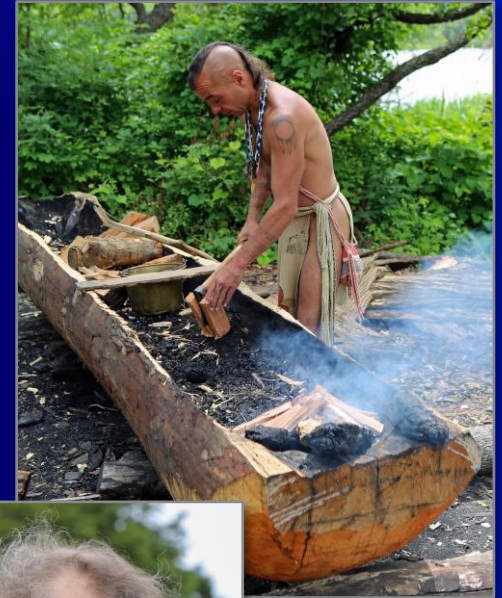


Roman Ruins, Italy

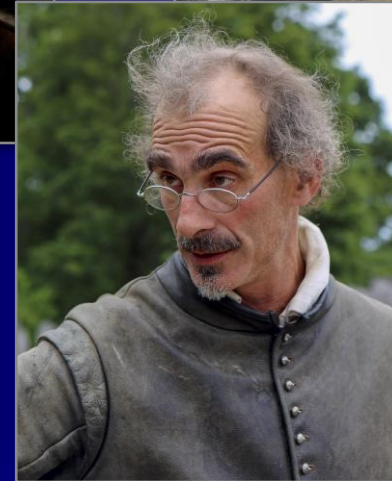


Auschwitz II – Birkenau, Poland

History - Recreated



Plimoth Plantation, Massachusetts



Where should I go?



Zion National Park, Utah

Anywhere the road, (or your wallet) will take you!

The choice is yours!

There are
**NO GEOGRAPHICAL
LIMITATIONS!**

*Interesting subjects make
interesting photos!*

Go look for some!

New York City



Statue of Liberty, New York City



Skyline, New York City

People come to NYC from around the world and take lots of “travel photos.” These are the typical “postcard” or “placemat” style photos. Most of us here in New England can drive into NYC for a day trip!

New York City – By Day



Brooklyn Bridge



One World Trade Center



Bryant Park

New York City – In Darkness



East River and NYC Skyline



Statue of Liberty



Manhattan Bridge

Boston – By Land and By Sea

Boston is another city people come to see from all over the world and can also just be a day trip for us.



*Freedom Trail in front of the
Massachusetts State House*



USS Constitution



Boston Harbor

Try following the red brick
“Freedom Trail” to see the sights.

Boston – “A Cultural Experience”



If you're there on a game day,
enjoy a Red Sox game at
Fenway Park! You can be a
“Sports Photographer” too!



Watch out for flying bats!

Can you find the bat in the
bottom photo?

Boston – “A Cultural Experience”



If you're there on a game day,
enjoy a Red Sox game at
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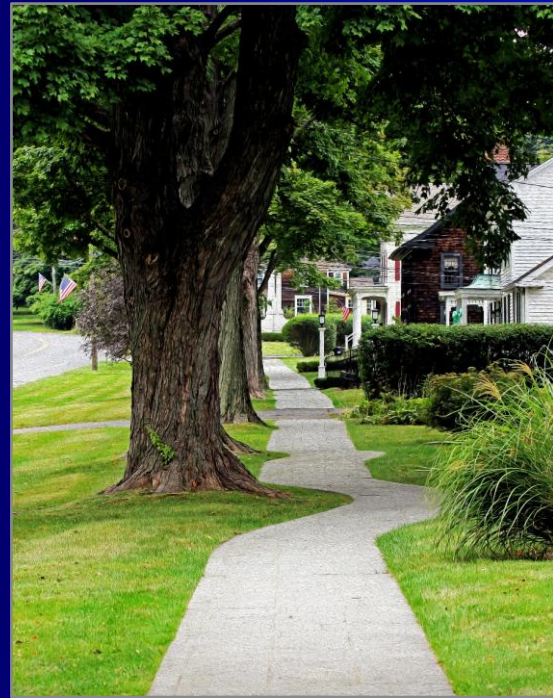


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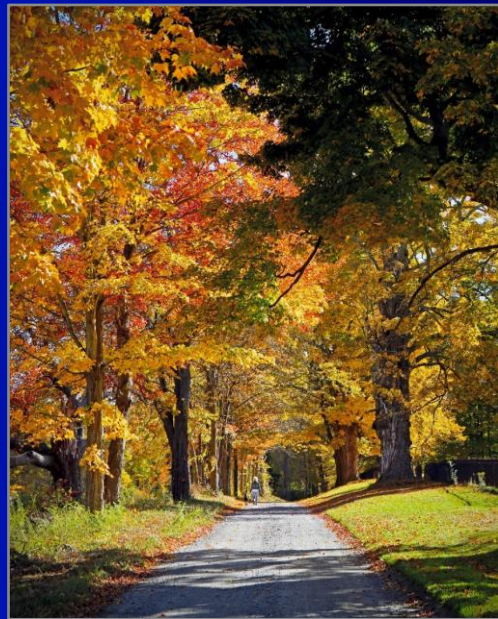
New England Charm

Many people travel here to photograph New England and you are already here!



Newtown, CT

New England Fall Foliage Show



Newtown, CT



New England Winters



Newtown, CT

Or, go to the other side of the world!



Da Nang, Vietnam

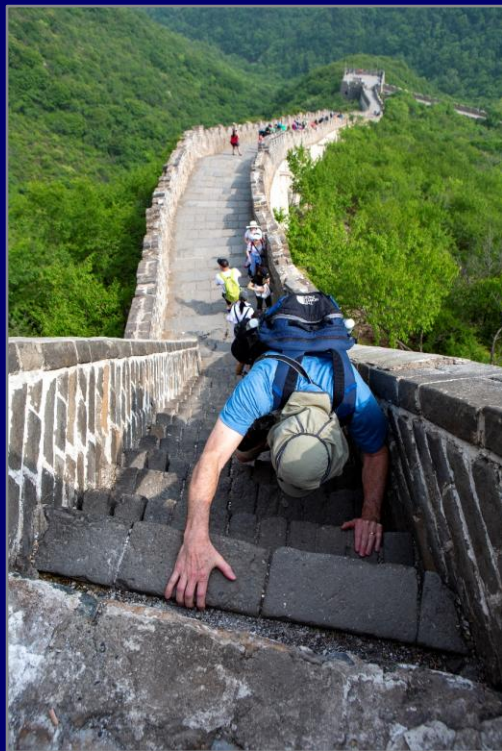


Beijing, China

When should I go?



The Great Wall of China, Beijing



In general, go whenever you can
and while you still can!

There's no time like the present!

Why you shouldn't wait until retirement
to travel



All That's Entertainment @allthatnews

Timing of Activities



Mt. Hood, Oregon

- If you have specific things you want to do or see, research the area ahead of time.
- If you want to ski while on your trip, you might go in the winter or early spring.
- Unless, you are planning to ski during the summer on Palmer Snowfield at Mt. Hood.

Timing of Activities



Mt. Hood, Oregon

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Seasonal Activities

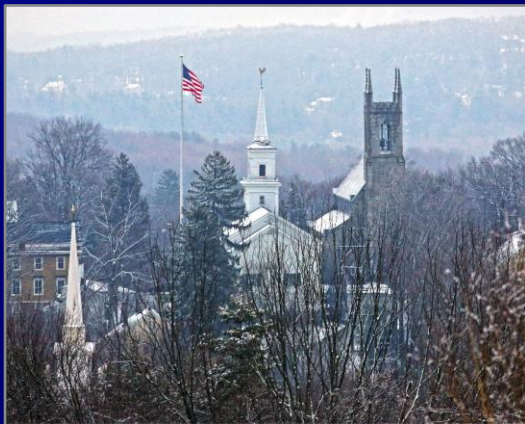
- If you want to photograph fall foliage, you probably want to go in the fall!
- If you're taking a cruise, you might want to avoid hurricane season.
- If you want to see a specific bird species, check migration patterns and times.



Mabry Mill, Blue Ridge Parkway, Virginia

Different Seasons of the Year

Winter



Spring



Summer



Fall



View from Castle Hill, Newtown, CT

Different Times of the Day

Sunrise



Midday



Sunset



Night



View from Castle Hill, Newtown, CT

Different Seasons and Different Times



June 2015 – 6:30 pm



November 2018 – 10:30 am

Zion National Park, Utah

Golden Hour or Blue Hour



Face Rock, Bandon, Oregon



Lake Lucerne, Switzerland

Golden Hour or Blue Hour

It happens in the morning too!



Sonoma, California



© Chane Cullens

Mt. Adams Taken From Mt. Rainier, Washington

After Dark

Don't forget a tripod or find a solid surface to rest your camera on for longer exposures.



Portland, Oregon



Shanghai, China

Go capture the scene while it still exists!

Not everything lasts forever.

If you see it, photograph it now. Don't wait because conditions may change.



Madras, Oregon



*Taken down prior to crowds coming to see
the "Great American Eclipse" in 2017.*

How do I get there?

Planes, trains and automobiles, or by boat, bicycle or foot...



Newark, New Jersey



San Vincenzo, Italy



South Point, Hawaii



New York City



Ft. Kochi, India



Southbury, Connecticut

Traveling by Train

See the scenery out the window!



San Vincenzo, Italy



Florence, Italy



The Alps, Switzerland

Canoes, Rafts and Kayaks Work Too!



Sunriver, Oregon



Poland



Clackamas River, Oregon

On open water, consider a waterproof camera or waterproof storage container when camera's not in use!

Or a slow, man powered boat ride!

To take photos of other man powered boats!



Kochi, India

Rickshaw Rides – Slow enough to see a lot!

And take photos!

Many drivers will make frequent stops and talk about the local sights as well.

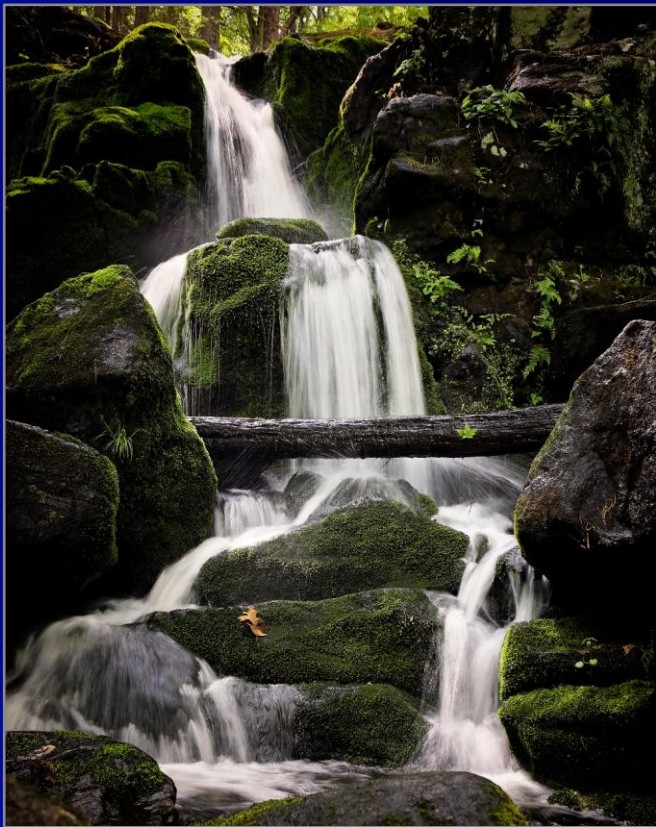


Xitang, China

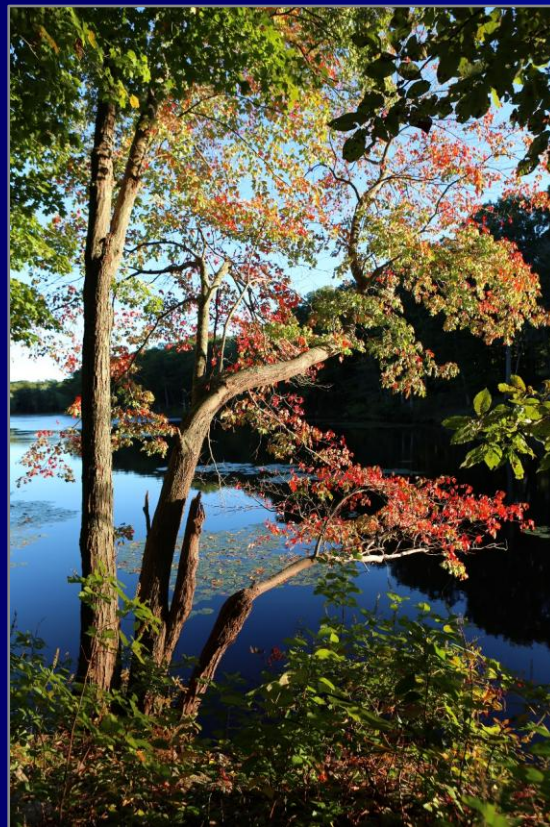


New York City

Walking - Places we walk to from our house!



Prydden Falls, Sandy Hook, Connecticut



Warner Pond, Sandy Hook, Connecticut

What should I bring?

- **Camera and/or Phone** – The best camera is the one you have with you!
- **Lenses** – We use 24-70mm or 24-105mm. A mid-range 70-200mm is nice too. A 100-400mm or 100-500mm+ if photographing birds. A wide angle is good for areas like the Grand Canyon.
- **Extras** – Memory Cards, Spare Batteries and/or Charger, and Foreign Adapter Plugs
- **Backup** – Laptop, Tablet, External Hard Drive or some device to backup your photos
- **Travel Tripod** – Optional, but nice. Consider for night photography, long exposures, HDR, or focus stacking. Or, look around for a flat rock, window ledge, post, etc. for some stability.



Photo taken on Canon 5D Mark III – 24mm



Photo taken on Chane's Google Pixel 3 XL phone

Sedona, Arizona

Equipment – Don't Rule Out Cell Phones!

At times a cell phone might be your best choice.

This was taken with a handheld cell phone.

If I tried this with my DSLR, I would want a tripod and would probably want to Focus Stack it.

And I might have missed the last train...

(This took 1st Place in our club's monthly Open Monochrome competition.)



Washington, D.C.

What else should I bring?

- **Backpack/Camera Bag/Large Purse** – Something for extra gear in the car or carrying around
- **Clothes to fit the climate** – Swimsuits & Flipflops vs. Parkas & Snow Boots
(Think layers and comfortable walking shoes too!)
- **Wallet** – Identification, Cash, Credit Cards
- **Glasses** – If needed
- **Phone**



Sunriver Resort, Oregon



The Leela Palace Hotel, Bangalore, India



Elm, Switzerland

Luggage: How much can you manage?

- You probably don't need as much stuff as you think. Most places have stores if needed.
- Often cars in other countries are smaller than ours. Will it all fit?
- **Do Not** pack your camera, lenses, medications or documents in your checked bags!
- Put undergarments, shorts, and t-shirts (change of clothes) around your camera gear.
- Put a copy of your itinerary, lodging info and your cell phone number in each bag.



San Vicenza, Italy



Venice, Italy



Frankfurt, Germany

Have a “Go Bag” Ready!

- **Travel Size Toiletries** – Toothbrush & paste, Dental Floss, Deodorant, Lotion, Shampoo, Hairbrush, Comb, Razor, Fingernail clippers, Q-tips, Make-up, Sunscreen, etc.
- **Medicine & Travel Kit** – Tylenol, Antacid, Diarrhea medicine, Antibiotics, Band-aids, Sewing kit, Safety pins, Ear plugs, etc.
- **Ziplocks** – Keeps things together, prevent leaks, or keeps things dry
- **Garbage Bags** – Dirty laundry, shoes, misc. items
- **Small Backpack/Duffle/Garbage Bag** – Pack at the top of carryon to put essentials inside in case the carryon needs to be checked.
- **Rain Gear** – Small Umbrella, compact raincoat (Big garbage bag = Raincoat!)
- **Laundry** – soap, wire hangers, binder clips to hang wet clothes
- **Check lists** – Make a list of what needs done before leaving the house and list what you want to bring with you.



Mostly fits in 1 gallon bag



Auckland, New Zealand



Mt. Thielsen, Oregon

Planning Ahead: Research Unfamiliar Places

Resources:

- Internet search
- Friends who have been there
- Fellow photographers
- Facebook groups
- Pinterest
- Tourist brochures
- Travel books
- Route the Tour Bus Follows
- History Books



Acropolis, Athens, Greece



Bob Ring and Don Toothaker's New England Photo Workshop



Boston Harbor, Massachusetts

Determine your “Must Sees”

Search for:

- Top Things to Do or See
- Top Things to Photograph
- Best Times to Photograph

Divide List:

- Must See
- Would Like to See
- If There's Extra Time
- Opportunistic Places (Nearby)



Portland Head Lighthouse, Maine

Are Your “Must Sees” Time Sensitive?



Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse at Sunset, Maine



Artist's Point, Lower Fall, Yellowstone, Wyoming 9:56 am

Plan to Arrive Early for a Good Spot!

Others might want the same shot as you!



Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse, Maine

Be Flexible

- Build some flexibility into your schedule in case you have to alter the days.
- Schedule your “Must Sees” early in your trip so you have another chance to see it later if needed.
- Have a back up plan in case you have bad weather the day you were going to visit a place outside.



Eiffel Tower, Paris, France

If the weather is bad, visit an indoor museum!



Mona Lisa

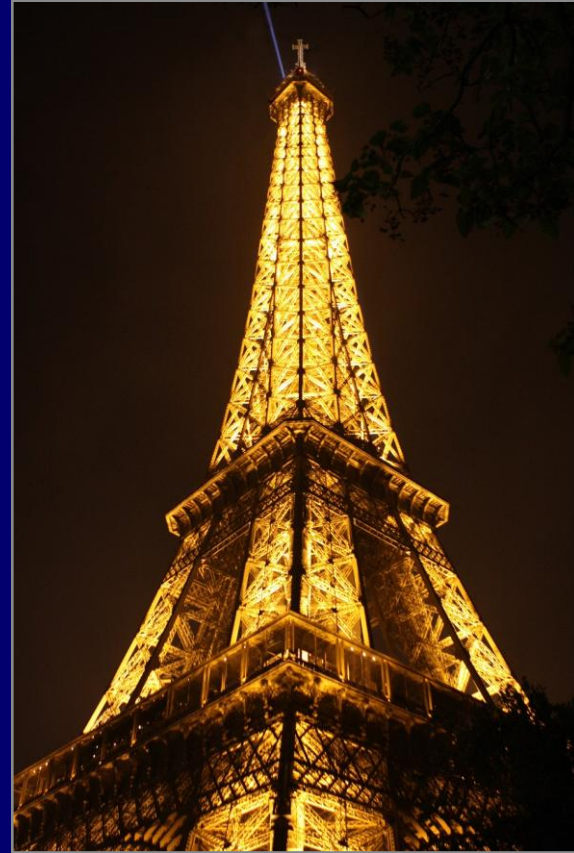
Louvre Museum, Paris, France



Venus de Milo

The Next Day Might be Better!

With a flexible schedule,
you might be able to try
again for a better photo.



Eiffel Tower, Paris, France

Navigating - Preparation



Venice, Italy

- **Lists** – Bring lists of your hotels and must sees with the addresses in the native language.
- **Maps** – Review before you leave home.
- **Bring Maps** – You can point to places when asking for directions or telling a driver where you want to go.
- **Rental Cars** – Many rentals overseas are a standard manual transmission (Stick shift). If you can't drive one, be sure to ask for an automatic when making your reservation.

Practice with your camera before you leave!

Don't miss a once in a lifetime photo because you can't figure out how to quickly set your camera to the right settings.



Ok, if needed, quickly switch to “green” or “auto” mode so you at least capture it.

Boston, Massachusetts

Upon Arrival: Stop at a Visitors Center or Info Rack

Pick up the travel brochures that are available when you arrive.

A photo like this was on the cover of the “Welcome to Wyoming” brochure I got at the airport when we landed.



Moulton Barn, Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming

Stop by a Local Gift Shop

Look at the postcard racks for ideas of what and where to take photos.

Also look at the photos in the calendars and placemats for sale too.



Leipzig, Germany

Ask the Desk Clerk for Photo Locations



Bandon, Oregon

We saw similar photos on the wall of the hotel lobby as we checked in so asked how get to that spot.

Ask a Park Ranger – Where are the ones that pose?



Blue Mountains, Australia

Take a Hop On Hop Off Tour

- Take the complete loop your first day for an overview of the area.
- Usually a second day pass is fairly cheap. Use it to go back to the stops you want to see.
- The upper bus deck is great for photography; the lower deck is great if it rains!



Sydney Explorer, Sydney, Australia



Open Tour, Paris, France



Boston Trolley, Massachusetts

You might capture more than you realize!



St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City

*Zoom in and see it was
a photo with the Pope!*



Looking for something? Ask Google!

Ok Google, where is the best place to photograph sunsets on Cape Cod?
“I found this on the Web. Cape Cod Top 10 Sunset Spots. #1 Rock Harbor, Orleans”



Rock Harbor, Orleans, Cape Cod, Massachusetts

Cape Cod – First Night



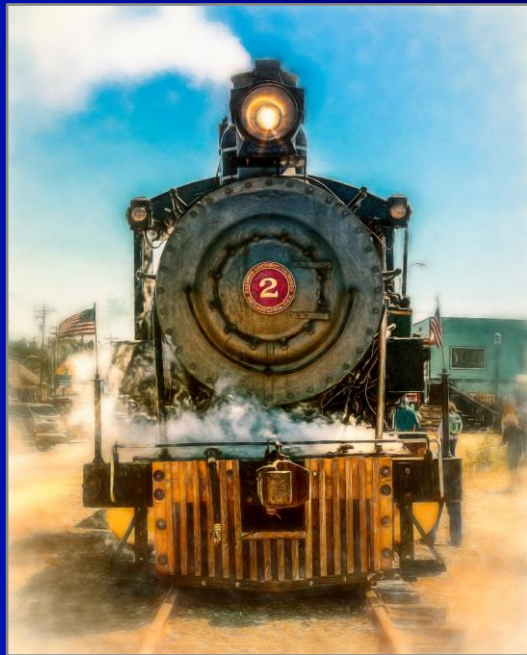
Rock Harbor, Orleans, Massachusetts

Cape Cod – Next Night



Rock Harbor, Orleans, Massachusetts

Be Ready for the Unexpected – In the USA



Rockaway, Oregon



Cascade Locks, Oregon



Richmond, Rhode Island



Cannon Beach, Oregon

Be Ready for the Unexpected – Traveling Abroad



Shanghai, China



New Delhi, India



Dublin, Ireland



New Delhi, India



Galway, Ireland

Look for Leading Lines & “Frames”



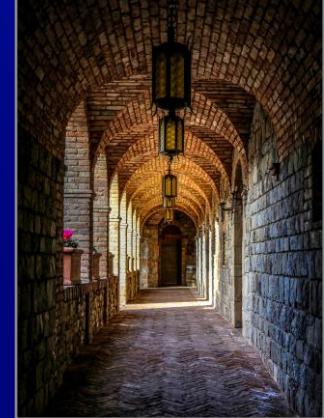
Varenna, Italy



Konstanz, Germany



Lake Como, Italy



Napa, California



Fort Worth Stockyards, Texas



Ft. Kochi, India



Sonoma, California

Remember to Look Behind You



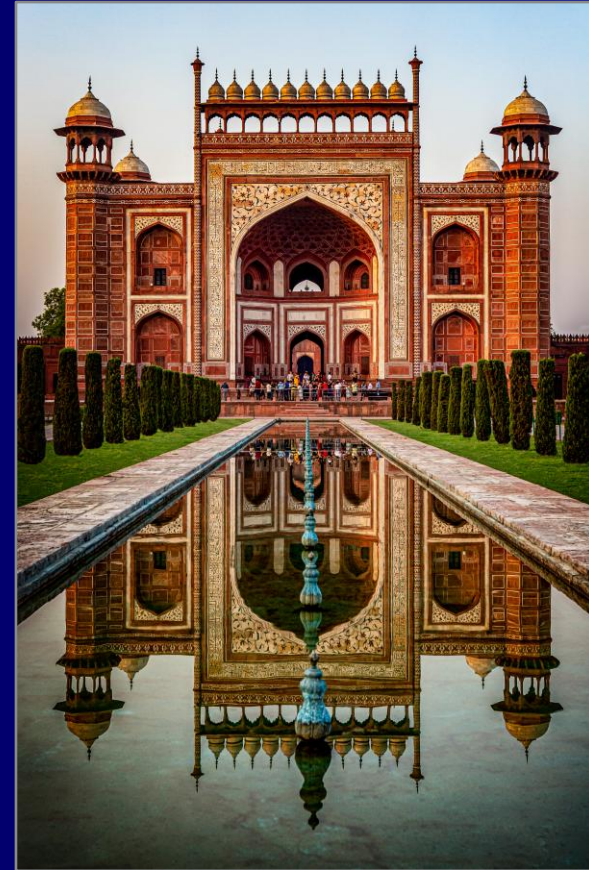
Great Wall, Beijing, China

Look for Symmetry or Reflections



Sunrise

Taj Mahal, Agra, India



20 minutes later

Allow Time for “Stop the Car” Moments



Conway, New Hampshire



Mitchell, Oregon

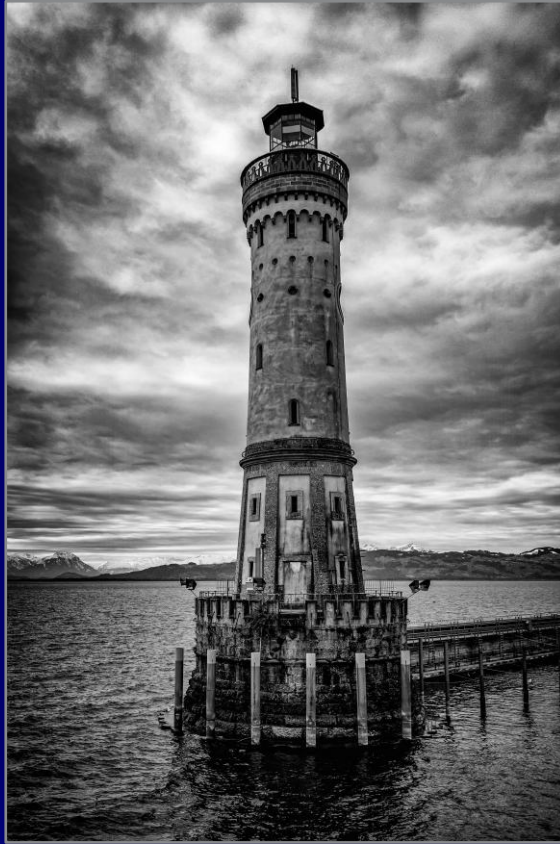
Consider Some for Monochrome



New York City, New York



Paris, France



Lindau, Germany



Goldfield Ghost Town, Arizona



North Conway, New Hampshire

Weather is often unpredictable

We'll weather the weather, whatever the weather, whether we like it or not!



Galway, Ireland



Eastern Oregon

“Gold” colored fields at the end of the rainbow.

Weather might create unexpected opportunities!

Flashfloods one day create reflecting ponds for the next.



Sedona, Arizona

NECCC Digital Competition



Best Landscape Digital Pictorial Image for “*Sedona Reflections*”

What should I capture? Anything you like!

Documentation of:

- Landscape
- People
- Cultures
- Customs
- History

Tip: Take lots of photos of everything. You can always delete later, but you might not have another chance to take more.

Expresses:

- Feeling of a Time and Place
- Portrays a Land
- Its People
- A Culture in its Natural State



Yellowstone, Wyoming

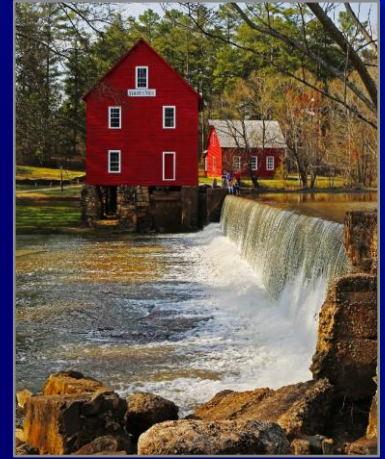
Landscapes and Architecture



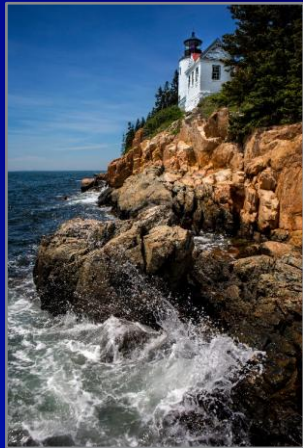
Century Park, Shanghai, China



Somesville, Maine



Starr's Mill, Georgia



Bass Harbor, Maine

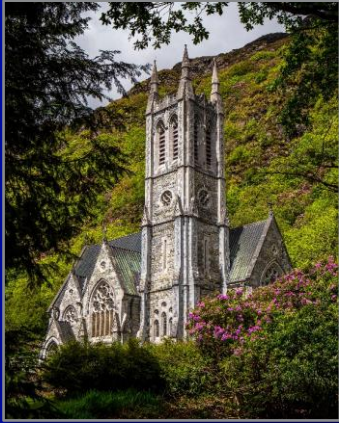


Vista House, Corbett, Oregon



Block Island, Rhode Island

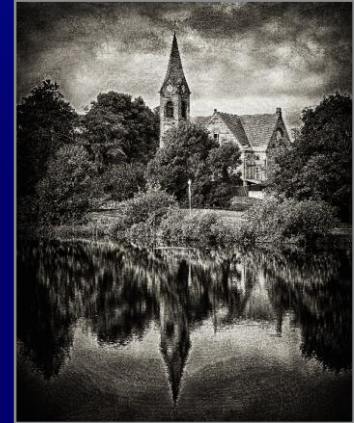
Architecture and Culture



Connemara, Ireland



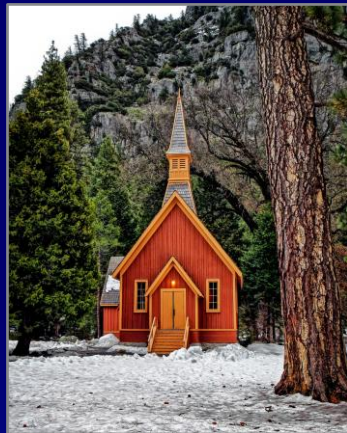
Auckland, New Zealand



Amherst, Massachusetts



Florence, Italy



Yosemite, California



Goldfield, Arizona



Paris, France

Rural Landscapes and Culture



The Cascade
Mountain Range in
Central Oregon: A
Rural Scene



Urban Landscapes and Culture



Washington D.C.



Little Italy, New York City



Monte Carlo, Monaco



Venice, Italy



Florence, Italy

Landscapes and Culture – Fishing Villages



Malta



People and Culture



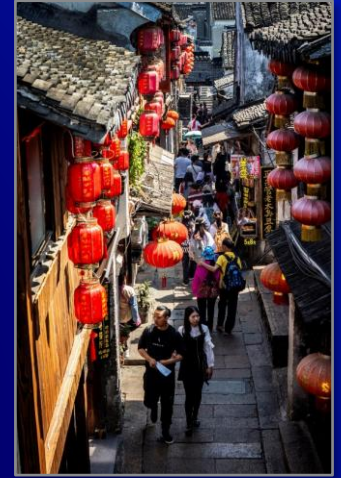
Kochi, India



Shanghai, China



Ft. Worth, Texas



Xitang, China



Central Park, New York City



Warsaw, Poland

Working People and Lifestyles



Mumbai and Kochi, India

Lifestyles and Customs



Kochi and Mumbai, India

Culture and Customs



Mumbai and Kamataka, India

People, Culture, and Customs



Lodz, Poland



Lodz, Poland



Bangalore, India



Xitang, China



Warsaw, Poland



Monte Carlo, Monaco



Cannes, France



India

U.S. History



Connecticut State Capitol, Hartford



Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



Statue of Liberty, NYC



Grafton Ghost Town, Utah



Plimoth Plantation, Massachusetts

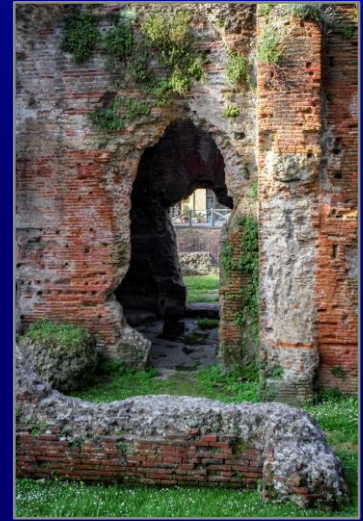


Newtown, Connecticut

Foreign History



Heidelberg Castle, Germany



Thermal Complex, Pisa, Italy



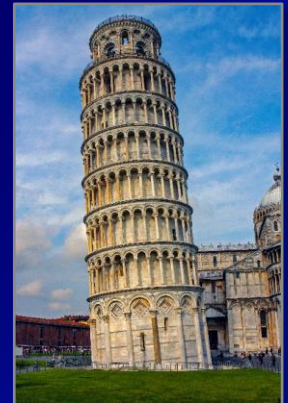
Hohenzollern Castle, Germany



Connemara, Ireland



Rome, Italy



Leaning Tower, Pisa, Italy

Ancient History



Athens, Greece

Emotional Impact – Subject Displaying Emotion



Bronx Zoo, NYC



Bronx Zoo, NYC



Connemara, Ireland

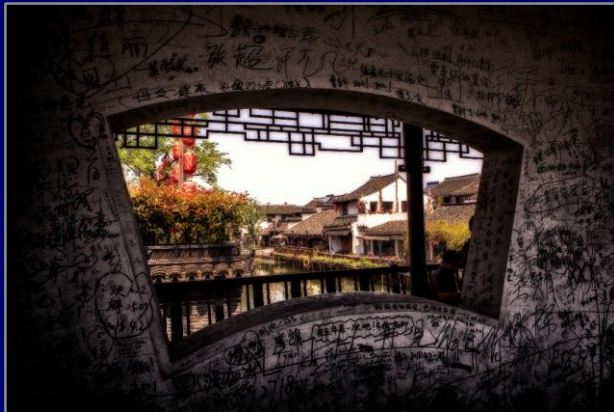
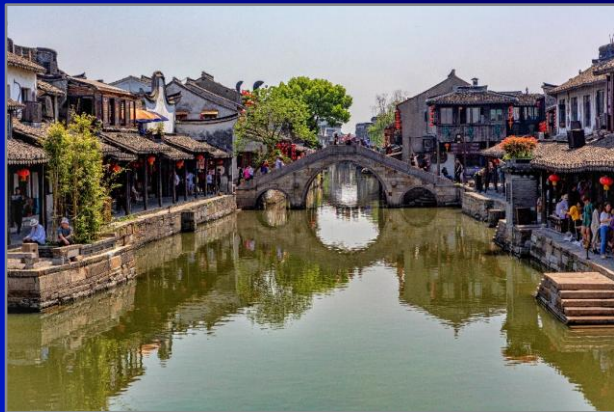
Emotional Impact - People's Circumstances



Mumbai, India

Mood

(Assisted by post-processing)



Xitang, China

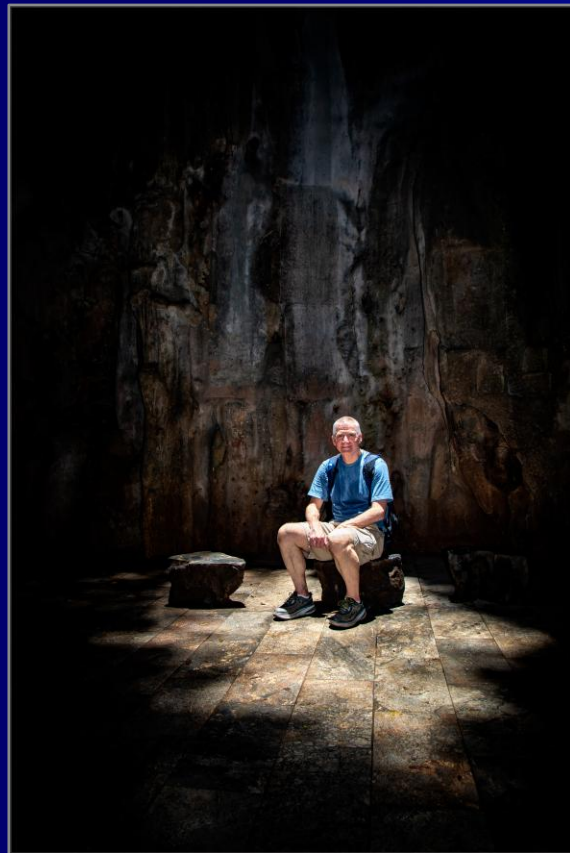
Something Unique

Does something different
catch your eye?

Might be an interesting
subject or a unique
lighting opportunity.

“Look for great light, then look
for something to photograph.”

– Scott Kelby



Marble Mountain, Da Nang, Vietnam

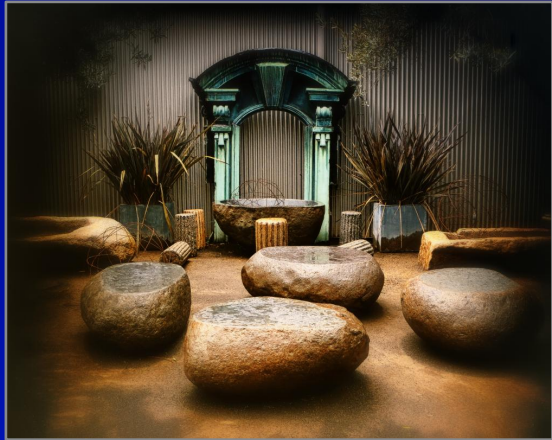
Zen Garden in an Exotic Foreign Land?



Sonoma, California



Taken at a Garden Supply Store in California!



Sonoma, California

Take Photos of Signs



Bryce Canyon, Utah



Hoover Dam, Nevada & Arizona

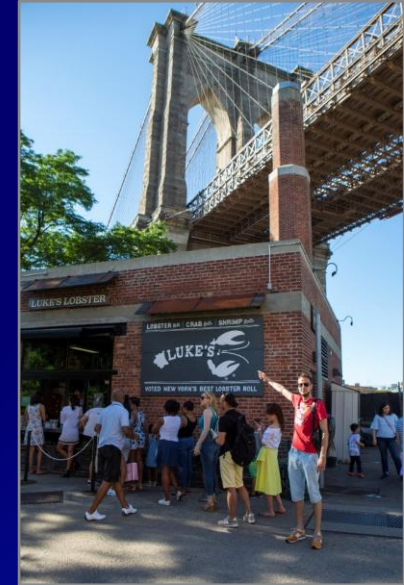


Wyoming

It helps you remember where you took the photos and gives some information about the place.



Cody, Wyoming



New York City

Get photos with you in them!



Fenway Park, Boston, Massachusetts

Hand the camera to someone you trust to take your photo, or set up the timer and take it yourself!

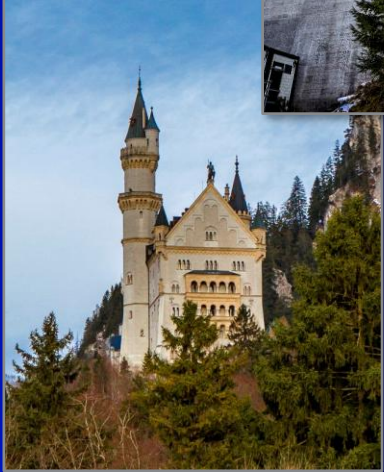
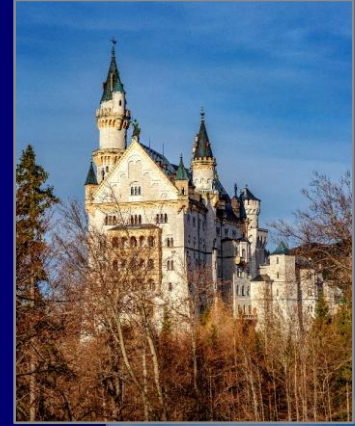
When traveling, make sure you get some photos of yourself to prove you were actually there!



Boston Harbor, Massachusetts

Working the Scene

Take photos from different angles. Especially if you might not be back.



Neuschwanstein Castle, Germany



Work the Scene

Photograph Different Perspectives



Rockefeller Center and New York City

Local Guides

Hotels may offer Tour Packages with a private driver offering insight and security



Mumbai, India



Volunteer Greeters

They help find great locations and give you some history and advise



Moulin Rouge, Paris, France

Safety

- Watch for Pickpockets especially in crowded areas.
- If a kind looking lady asks you to hold her child, it may cost you your wallet.
- Don't show large sums of money in public.
- Keep an eye on your camera and don't leave it unattended.
- Travel with a buddy when possible!



Eiffel Tower, Paris, France

Personal Safety vs. Being an Ambassador



Don't be a victim. Guard your things, but also remember you are representing your country. You can help shape the world's view of us when you travel abroad.



Qutub Minar, New Delhi, India

Sometimes people will want photos with you!



All the girls wanted a photo
taken with Chane!



Summer Palace, Beijing, China

“Safe” Drinking Water

- If there is a water bottle in the bathroom, you might want to use it to brush your teeth.
- Use the in-room coffee pot to boil water.
- Keep your mouth closed in the shower.
- Be cautious of fruits and raw vegetables washed in water.
- Avoid ice.
- Consider bringing antibiotics with you.



Bangalore, India

Safety first when visiting places with animals

Remember these are wild animals and you are in their home!



Yosemite, California



Yellowstone, Wyoming



Everglades, Florida

Be careful even when with animal handlers!



Johannesburg, South Africa

Watch Your Step!

- Be careful when backing up or edging forward to get that perfect photo so you don't fall off a cliff!
- Don't keep looking through your viewfinder while moving!
- Stay back from the edge!
- No photo is worth your life!



Grand Canyon West Rim, Guano Point, Arizona

Communicating in a Foreign Country

The most important phrase – “Where’s the bathroom?”



Sisters, Oregon

Many countries have “Men & Women Diagrams” and signs in English as well!

Learning “hello” in the local language can be helpful!

- **Spanish** – Hola (o la)
- **French** – Bonjour (bown zhoor)
- **German** – Hallo/Guten Tag
- **Italian** – Ciao (chow)

Where is the bathroom? (Some places charge or want tips.)

- **Spanish** – ¿Dónde está el baño?
- **French, German, Italian** – Toilet, Toilette (twa-lette)
- **British English, Irish** – WC (Water Closet), Loo, Lavatory
- **Other names** – Latrine, Privy, CR (Comfort Room)

We have “Western Toilets.” Some places have “Squat Toilets” or “Turkish Toilets.” Outside of a hotel, **bring toilet paper with you.**

Navigating – After You Arrive



Most learn English in school and can speak and understand it better than most older adults.

When all else fails, ask some local young people for help.



Florence, Italy

Asking for permission to take a photo

If you want a close-up photo, use the international method of pointing to your camera then to them with your eyebrows raised like you are looking for an answer.

If it is a beggar you are wanting to photograph, have some money in your hand that you intend to put in their cup.



"Chained to a Life of Begging" - Rome, Italy

Universal Language - All smiles for the camera



Fort Kochi, India



Develop an “On the Spot” Relationship



Humayun's Tomb, New Delhi, India

Photo Release Waivers

If you are wanting to sell your travel photos to National Geographic or other publications, you can get photo release form apps on your photo.



Mumbai, India

Foreign Travel Tips

- **Passport** – Have 6+ months of validity left for international travel. Don't leave in an insecure location.
- **Copies of Passport & Itinerary** – Leave copies of both with someone back home.
- **Passport & Credit Card Photos** – If password protected, take cell photos of both. Backs of credit cards too.
- **State Department Website** – Check for any VISA or immunization requirements, travel bans, or cautions.
- **Electrical plugs** – Check what they use. You might need to bring adapters to plug in your phone, battery charger and other devices.
- **Medication** – Check with a doctor about bringing antibiotics or other medicines with you.
- **Cell Phone** – Set it up to make international calls.
- **Credit card** – Check if it has foreign charges.

Take lots of photos and have a barrel of fun!



Robert Mondavi Winery, Napa, California

***Tip:* Don't Be Discouraged at a First Review!**

Many photos can greatly benefit from at least some post-processing!



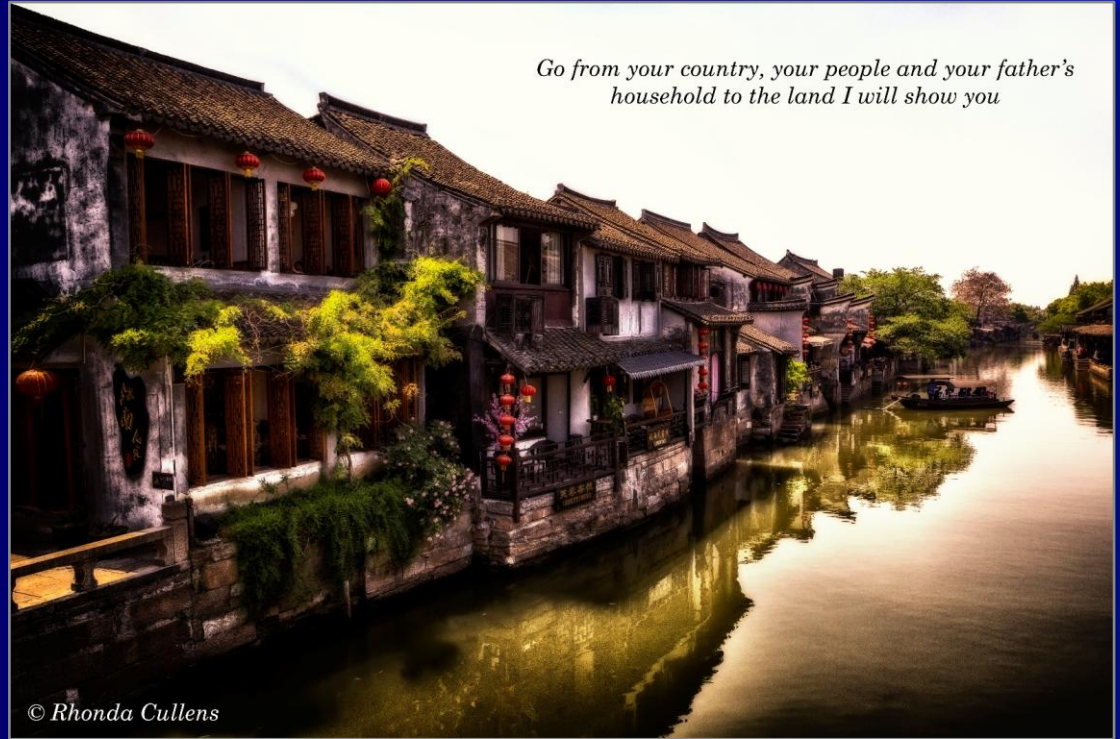
Out of Camera



After Post-processing

Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse, Maine

Come on! Don't just sit there! Get up and go!



Xitang, China

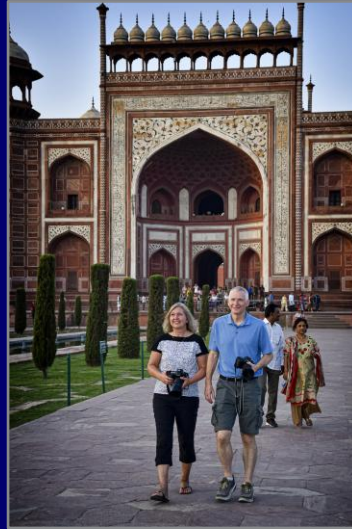
Thank you!

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