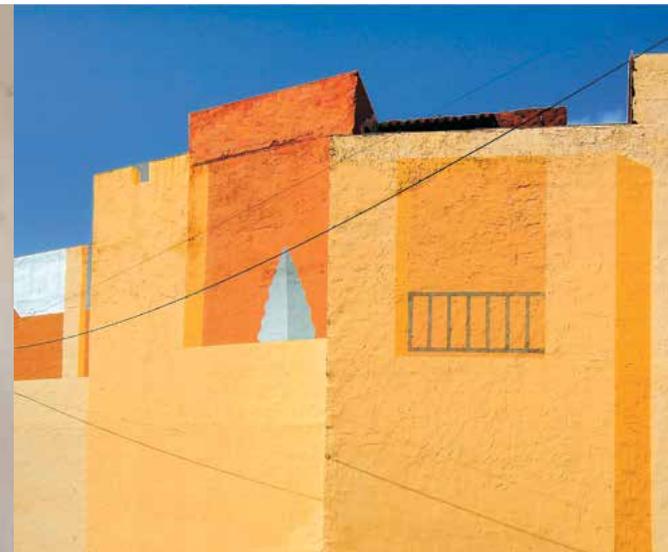




TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHY TIPS



RESEARCH YOUR LOCATION

- Learn as much as you can about the place you are about to travel to.
- Search the internet before you go for possible photo locations and opportunities eg. festivals.
- Ask locals if they have any favorite spots for unique photo opportunities.





BE PREPARED

- Always have your camera with you and ready to shoot. Often, it's the unexpected, unplanned, spontaneous moments that make for the best shots.
- Ensure your camera card has lots of space. Include backup card if possible.
- Make sure your batteries are charged.
- Know your equipment and how your specific gear will perform in all conditions eg. how long will your batteries last in cold conditions.



LIGHTING

- The best light to capture most kinds of subjects is in the golden hours- one hour after sunrise and one hour before sunset.
- Avoid midday light, which can cause contrasting and flat photos.
- A great photo isn't just about the subject matter, it's the subject matter in great light!
- Work out what time of the day will best suit your photo.
- Try night photography - all you need is a tripod and a long exposure!





COMPOSITION

- Use the rule of thirds where possible.
- Simplify the scene and ensure your image has a clear focal point.
- Use leading lines to control the way people's eyes move around the picture.
- Get creative with colour.
- Frame your photos - Your viewer's attention will immediately be taken to exactly what you want them to see.





AVOID DISTRACTING ELEMENTS

- It's important to make sure there aren't any distracting elements sneaking into the background.
- Try to make sure your subject matter stands out from the background.
- Try shooting wide open by using a larger aperture to help keep your subject sharp and in focus, while letting the background become blurry.
- Look out for telegraph poles, unwanted signs and objects behind heads.



THINK BEFORE YOU SHOOT

- Before you start to take a picture, ask yourself what it is that you really want to communicate in that shot. After you answer that question, think about how you can emphasize the feature that's attracting you.
- Do you need a different position or to get closer, lower or higher?
- What shutter speed would best suit the shot?
- What aperture would best suit the shot?





PEOPLE

- Learn to say “Hello” in the local language and greet people before taking their photo. Ask permission and don’t shoot people who don’t want to get snapped.
- Choose your background - Ideally you want something that’s not too distracting but that adds to the context of the place you’re shooting in.
- Go for natural - Photograph your subject doing something from their normal daily life. At work, in a marketplace, at home, feeding their child, crossing the street etc.
- Respect the local culture.
- Share what you shoot.



GET INSPIRED

- Get tips from the travel photography masters.
- Have a look at popular travel blogs for inspiration and ideas.
- Try the local food, smell local markets and hear local music, this will help you to better understand the story of the place.





GET OFF THE BEATEN PATH

- Sometimes the best photos are off the beaten path and beyond the tourist trail.
- Go slow and think about your images, try different angles.