



Travel Photography

Gear

- What are you comfortable carrying
- Airline Considerations
 - o Does the airline or your ticket offer complimentary carry on?
 - o What are the carry on baggage restrictions for all your flights
 - o Bag size – consider packing a bag for the plane and shooting urban environments and a larger one in your checked in baggage if you need it
 - o Pack heavier and bulkier items (such as a tripod) in your checked in baggage
 - o Checked in baggage can be treated quite roughly. Don't put cameras, lenses and other sensitive equipment in your checked in baggage.
 - o Purchase a luggage scale
 - o Watch for other passengers and airline crew jamming other bags into overhead lockers
 - o Cabin crew can, and do, move bags to other overhead lockers
- Travel Insurance
 - o Consider the total replacement value of your equipment when choosing insurance
 - o Check to see if your credit card offers complimentary travel insurance and if it will cover your equipment
- Documenting your trip
 - o Your camera and lens selection can be simpler if you are only documenting your trip.
 - o All the lessons you've learned though, from composition though to how to create better photos still apply
- Travel for Photography
 - o Some forms of photography require more equipment. Consider this when travelling and how you will pack the extra gear
 - o Irrespective of what you are planning to do, consider having a tripod that is compact as its usefulness cannot be overstated.
- Other equipment
 - o Look at packing a simple cleaning kit. Cleaning cloth, blower, lens pen and sensor swabs are all good things to take
 - o Power. Check to see how you plan on charging your equipment. Will your chargers work on the power supplied overseas
 - o A small torch is not only handy to see settings at night, but one that offers a very bright output can also be good for personal security

Planning and preparation

- o Research. Internet is great but find sites which deal with photography such as photography forums. Trip advisor is also handy as well as good quality guide books such as Lonely Planet



- Be selective with your tours. Pick tours which respect photography
- Practice. The more you are comfortable with your camera the quicker you are to get the photo you are looking for
- Find out if there are restrictions such as military installations and personnel that you cannot photograph
- Backup
 - Backing up to a dedicated device, such as the Western Digital My Passport Wireless Pro is a good way to have a copy of your photos in the event your camera is lost, stolen or the memory card becomes corrupt
 - Backup to a smart phone or tablet. Ensure you know how before you travel and that your device has enough free space
 - Backup to the cloud. Photography sites such as Flickr are a good way to do this but sites such as Dropbox etc ... offer pure file uploads meaning that if you have enough data to do it, you can backup your RAW files too
 - Use smaller memory cards to spread the potential loss. Multiple 8GB cards can be safer than one 128GB card
- Mobile Apps
 - Google Maps is a great way to discover locations before you arrive
 - Weather apps are a good way to know what sunrise and sunset times as well as general weather forecasts are to plan your day
 - Document management – Dropbox or one of the various other types of cloud based file management are great to have
 - Photography related apps such as Photo Pills are a really handy way to plan your shots

When you are there

- Candid photography works as you are capturing people in the moment.
- Respect the local laws. Are you allowed to photograph inside buildings etc ...?
- Use common sense. Don't take photos of people who obviously don't want to be photographed.
- Engage with people. It shouldn't always be about the candid moment. The same rules of portraiture photography apply. Keep eyes sharp etc ...
- See the following link for a good place to start when taking people's photos <https://petapixel.com/2013/04/13/can-i-take-your-picture-how-to-talk-to-strangers/>
- Expectation
 - What you anticipate capturing may not be what you get. It may be crowds of people or the weather not working for you – the key is to be adaptable
 - Consider that what you are seeing may be a better photograph than what you wanted. Document "what is".
- Telling the Story
 - Travel is about adventure. Good travel photography reflects it
 - Use the people you are with the help tell the story. It's not all about the selfie
 - Look at what the locals are doing or how they go about their day.



Final Thoughts

- Be familiar with your gear
- Pack safe
 - Weather – Hot, cold raining, humid ...
 - Theft prevention. Use a bag that doesn't scream "CAMERA".
 - Insurance
- Plan as much as you can however remember to take the time to FEEL your location. Let it all sink in.
- Have an AMAZING adventure irrespective of what you capture

The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails.

William Arthur Ward