

Travel Photography

Instructor: Roger Buchanan

Notes are available at www.thenerdworks.com

Topics: Gear, Advice, Camera Settings, Techniques & Resources

1. Gear: These make your photography more effective and a lot easier!

Extra Batteries & Memory Cards	Memory Card Reader	Laptop with updates
Electrical outlet adapters	Surge Protector + USB charger	Black Rapid Camera Strap
Polarizing filter & Lens Hood	Backup External Drive	Sensor & Lens Cleaning gear
Mid- Zoom 15-70mm f/2.8 'ish	Small tripod or SteadyStrap	Camera/Laptop Bag

2. Advice: “Don’t ask me how I know...”





- A. Canada Border Services Agency Form **BSF-407** (The old **Y-38**). Take your gear & register at a C.B.S.A. office or 1821 Wellington Avenue, Unit 130, Winnipeg MB, R3H 0G4; Mon-Fri: 8am-4pm
- B. Government of Canada “**Travel Smart**” app. <https://travel.gc.ca/mobile>
- C. **Insurance**, a household rider **AND** Travel Insurance for your Camera Gear over \$300.00;
- D. Keep Equipment Receipts, Serial Numbers, Contact Numbers on your phone/tablet;
- E. Get your travel **vaccinations** (<http://travel.gc.ca/travelling/health-safety/vaccines>)
- F. **Gear goes Carry-On Only**, and prepare to turn gear on at departure gate in airports;
- G. **Learn to ride** via the method of transport you will use: horse, camel, motorcycle, kayak, etc;
- H. Never remove a memory card while the camera is turned on, or the light is blinking;
- I. **Don’t use the “trash can”**, save battery life and sort/delete photos on computer;
- J. **Format** all your memory cards (even NEW ones) **with your camera**, not with your computer;
- K. Burning Photos to DVD to send home? Use a **CD/DVD Safe marker** to label them;
- L. Know when tour bus leaves the tour area to return to staging area;
- M. Get a self-portrait dressed like a local;
- N. **Shoot lots of Signs and Details**, they won’t be keepers, but they will aid with organizing;
- O. **Arrive Early**, locations are least busy early in the day;
- P. **Rent Gear**, it can be a lot cheaper than buying for just one trip (arrange early);
- Q. **Travel Abroad Info** (<https://travel.gc.ca/travelling>)
- R. Take a small notepad and **make plenty of notes** of the scene you are photographing;
- S. Only go roaming if you already have a map or GPS and know how to use it;
- T. **Ask permission** before taking a picture of a local person, it’s a proper courtesy;
- U. Don’t be an “Obvious Tourist”, it makes you a target for thieves.

3. Camera Settings: For the maximum quality photographs of your travels

- RAW or RAW+JPEG
- High Resolution & Detail
- White Balance for JPEGs
- Program Mode @ ISO 400
- Histogram Use
- Review on LCD with zoom
- Manual Focus skill
- Adobe RGB colour space
- Set Date and Time

Ensure shutter speed is fast enough, use of more zoom means faster shutter speed needed!

4. Techniques: Practice, practice & more practice...it gets easier with practice!

- A. **Know how to use your camera functions**, like Burst/Drive mode () **before you leave**;
- B. Learn how to use the **Exposure Compensation** function () on your camera;
- C. Use a tripod or beanbag with the 2-second self-timer for the sharpest shots possible;
- D. Hand-holding the camera or using Zoom then **use a fast enough Shutter Speed!**;
- E. **Left Eye “Dominant”?** Balance the camera on your left shoulder;
- F. Use a **“SteadyStrap”** when tripods are prohibited/inconvenient/unavailable (also for video);
- G. Tripod & Remote Shutter release for multiple exposures to remove tourists in Photoshop;
- H. Tripod AEB () for HDR, Aperture Priority, bracket shots (+2, 0, -2 EV), Manual Focus;
- I. **Practice shooting techniques**, like “panning” & Manual Focus, **before you leave**;
- J. **Compose in both** Landscape and Portrait camera orientation, use the “Rule of Thirds”;
- K. Leave a little room between subject and frame to allow for cropping alternatively;
- L. **Review photos using your Zoom button**  to examine a large view in detail;
- M. **Remove distracting elements** by moving the camera, because some things just don’t move;
- N. In “busy scenes” **isolate a subject** with the use of zoom, or move in closer;
- O. Take unexpected **“Candid” shots** of your travel companion interacting with sites/people;
- P. **Put Camera High/Low**, vary your Point of View to get a shot, an articulated LCD is great;
- Q. Polarizers work best at 90 degrees to the direction of the sunlight;
- R. f/22 = “starburst” effect on sources of light, like the Sun, Street Lights, Headlights, etc...;
- S. If you have room take a **Photo Printer to make your own Postcards**;
- T. Aquarium & Window shots require using Rubber Lens Hood pressed against the glass;
- U. “Cityscapes” = Sunset shot + Night Shot (wait, don’t move camera), blend in Photoshop;
- V. Make a photo book, made before you travel, to show yourself to the locals;
- W. Portable Solar Cells (www.goalzero.ca) great for charging in areas without electricity;
- X. **Slow down** and think through the shot, the composition, the camera settings & timing.

5. Resources: Websites and books for more insight into travel photography.

www.digitalcameraworld.com go to their “photography tips” and then “travel” section

The Traveling Photographer: A Guide to Great Travel Photography by Sandra Petrowitz

ISBN - 13: 9781937538330

Lonely Planet's Guide to Travel Photography 5th Ed.: 5th Edition by Richard I'Anson

ISBN - 13:9781760340742

NOTE: All website links listed in these notes tested GOOD as of Jan 14th, 2019

Questions and Answers???

Class Evaluation: Keep in mind **the value of your time** in being here. Was tonight worth your time?