
EXPERT TIPS

BY THE BOOK

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THE MORE THE MERRIER


When you're traveling, it's easy to be so blown away by what you see that all of your creativity goes out the window—you raise your camera and snap away, ending up with the same photo as everyone else. Sometimes a simple composition makes your subject stand out; other times it's wise to add some interest to an oft-photographed site. Here are a few ways to combine objects in the frame.

- Show scale by photographing a person or object next to a much larger object, such as a small boat next to a towering glacier.
- Create humor, possibly by contrasting strange objects or showing someone's reaction or surprise to a place or event.
- Choose an angle that fills any dead space in the foreground of the picture with an object (or person) that's unrelated yet visually interesting.

ADAPTED FROM *TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHY* BY STEVE DAVEY (FOOTPRINT, 2008; \$30)

INTERIOR MOTIVES

Photographing a portrait indoors using only natural light will usually give your pictures a soft and flattering look. Here are a few tricks to make the most of window light.

- The hard light of early morning is softened when it passes through windows that are a little dirty or covered by translucent curtains.
- Old glass diffuses the light more than the glass in newer windows.
- The softness and low power of window light makes depth of field more difficult to achieve, so try shooting at an aperture of *f*/4 or *f*/5.6.
- Since daylight is always shifting, plan your shoot around where the sun will be in the right place: east-facing rooms in the morning, south-facing rooms in the middle of the day, and west-facing rooms in the late afternoon. 

ADAPTED FROM *FASHION PHOTOGRAPHY: A COMPLETE GUIDE TO THE TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES OF THE TRADE* BY BRUCE SMITH (AMPHOTO BOOKS, 2009; \$30)
