

Photo Traveler

Sun City Photography Club Special Interest Group

- April 2021

Not All of Those Who Wander
Are Lost

Gandolf

Today's Agenda

- Why this SIG?
- What is Travel photography?
- The proposed format for this SIG.
- What makes a travel photo different?
- Comments and critiques criteria
 - The basic elements and the “rules”
 - Travel elements
 - Photographic elements



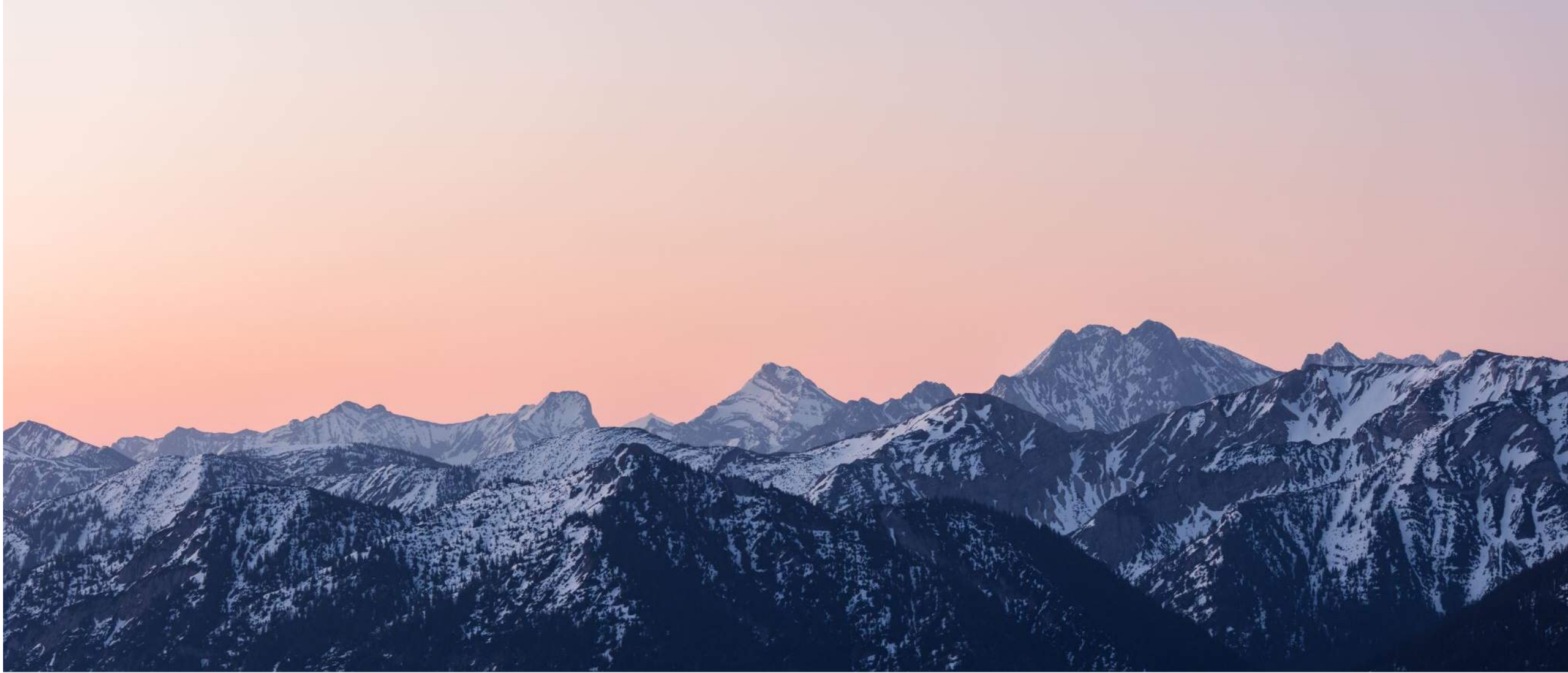


Why this SIG?
And what is it
all about?

What's it all about?

- It is intended to explore the specific photographic genre of Travel Photography
- Like other specific categories, Landscape, Street Photography, Portraiture, etc., there are certain elements that ought to be present in the image
- Not all photographs from our travels are necessarily Travel Photo
 - They document where we were
 - They remind us of the experiences we had
 - They are primarily for us
- A “good” Travel Photo is for others
 - It is meant to convey the essence of a place, a history or culture to others





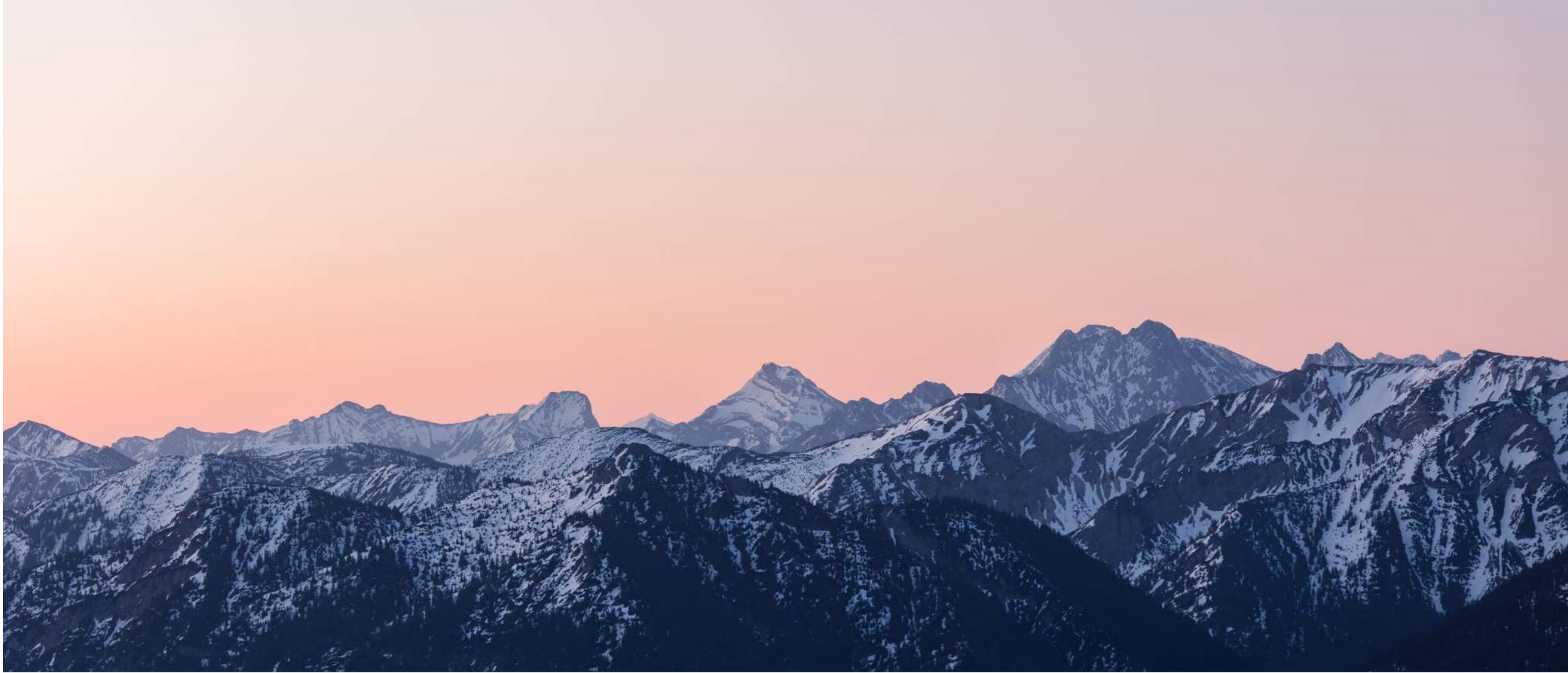
It is about the PHOTOGRAPHY



This SIG is
NOT about
Travel

This SIG is
NOT about
cameras &
gear





It is about the PHOTOGRAPHY



Travel Photography

- “Travel photography gives an insight into the world at large in all its diversity, adding something new to our understanding of place and the people who live there. It portrays familiar places in unique ways, reveals lesser-known places with equal import, captures the spirit of the people with dignity and encapsulates unique moments in time that surprise, inform and intrigue viewers. It’s the counter to the incessant reporting and news footage that focuses on the negatives of people and places. Ultimately, it inspires in others a desire to see the world for themselves, and to take their own photographs along the way.”
- Richard l’Anson
- Lonely Planet Guide to Travel Photography

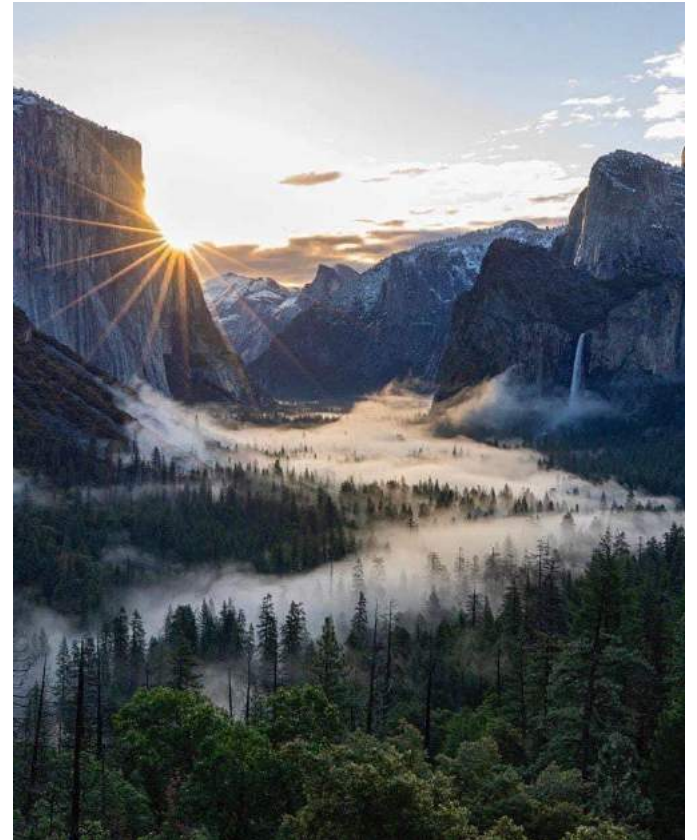
Travel
Photography
can encompass
many different
categories of
images

Portraits



Marsha Larrabee

Landscapes



Street photography and Architecture



Jerry Meinzer



This SIG is intended to explore Photo Travel as a specific genre with the hope of improving our ability to “see” these compositional elements so that we can add an additional dimension to our photography when traveling.

Format for this SIG

- We will meet once a month, using Dropbox for Photo submissions
- This is not a competitive SIG
 - No voting or scoring of images
- We will have 2 sections each month
 - One for Comments and Critiques (CC), where the photographer asks for suggestions
 - One for Simply Sharing (SH)



How are we going to evaluate or critique the images if we are new to Photo Travel category?



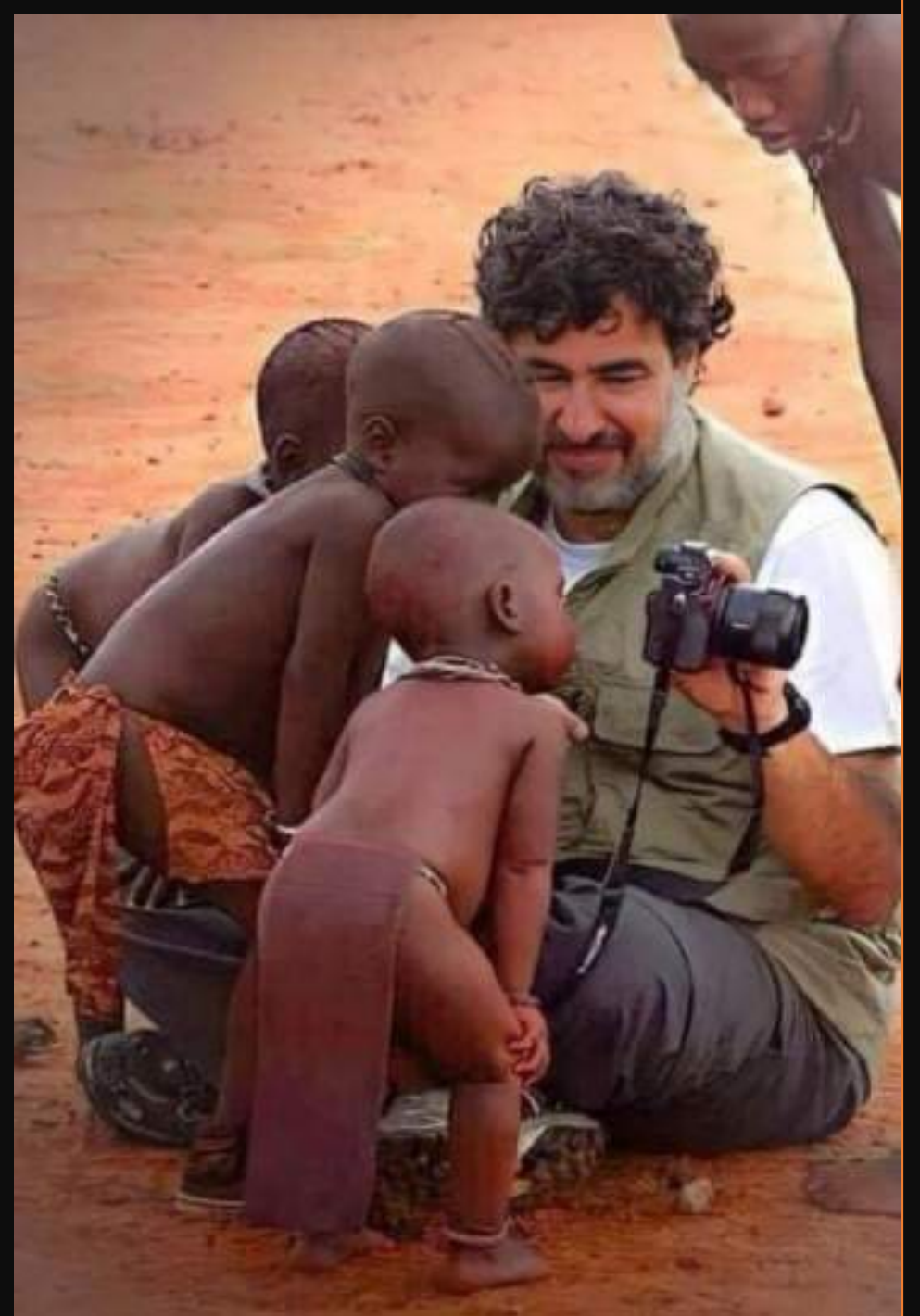
I'm suggesting
we use the PSA
definition of
Photo Travel.



While I prefer the more “artistic” definition quoted earlier, the advantage of using the PSA definition is that it comes with judging guidelines. Although most of us may not be interested in competition or exhibition, these guideline can act as a framework for our comments and critiques of each other’s images.


Opinions and Comments

- I think that Travel Photography, more than any other field, is very personal.
- The photographer was trying to capture a feeling or a moment that caught their attention.
- In the end, it's their opinion that matters most.





PSA Definition of Photo Travel

- *A Photo Travel image expresses the characteristic features or culture of a land as they are found naturally. There are no geographic limitations. Images from events or activities arranged specifically for photography, or of subjects directed or hired for photography are not permitted. Close up pictures of people or objects must include features that provide information about the location.*
 - *Techniques that add, relocate, replace or remove any element of the original image, except by cropping, are not permitted. The only allowable adjustments are removal of dust or digital noise, restoration of the appearance of the original scene and complete conversion to greyscale monochrome. Other derivations, including infrared, are not permitted. All images must look natural.*
- 



The following slides contain the specific statements within the definition and an explanation of that guideline.



“A Photo Travel image expresses the characteristic features or culture of a land as they are found naturally.”



“If the image is of a landscape, the image must have some identifiable feature for a person to recognize i.e. **characteristic features.**”

This image does not meet that guideline. It could be an agricultural valley anywhere in the world.

“A judge does not need to know where the location is, however, the image should have features that are unique and recognizable if the site were to be visited”



This applies to cityscapes as well



Sharon Grabowski

“Images can also portray a culture of a land. A culture is the way of life of groups of people.”



Jerry Meinzer

"It is the heart of humankind and describes how we live. It is something that is normally handed down generation to generation. It can be represented by people's religion, work, music, clothes, cooking, pastimes and how we celebrate life."



Randy Freeman

“There are no geographic limitations.

This means that you do not need to travel overseas to enter images into Photo Travel.”



Carlos Rio



Walt Grabowski



Carlos Rio



“They must still portray either characteristic features or a culture of a land.”



“Images from events or activities arranged specifically for photography, or of subjects directed or hired for photography are not permitted”



Dee Darius Sams



Marsha Larrabee

“Close up pictures of people or objects must include features that provide information about the location.”



“Techniques that add, relocate, replace or remove any element of the original image, except by cropping, are not permitted.”



You could crop that to remove some of the trash, but you can't remove it .

“In Photo Travel the image must tell the travel story.”



Randy Freeman

“But the image must have some information which tells something about the environment or the location.”



Sharon Grabowski



But we still want images that demonstrate good photographic elements; like composition, sharpness, and focus.



This image might have some of the necessary elements of a good Travel Photo, but it simply is not a good photo. Nothing is in focus, and although one isn't meant to remove objects, the towers are so out of place they are overly distracting.

Marsha Larrabee



“All images must look natural. “

“This is by far one of the most important sentences in the PT Definition. Always ask yourself does the image look natural. It should not be over saturated nor over sharpened “



“Always ask, “does it look natural?””



“I wish to emphasize that we cannot expect the images in Photo Travel to be of the same standard as we find in PID (digital images) or PPD (print).”



“Photo Travel is not about images taken in the best light, perfect composition or models being directed—such images belong in PID or PPD. Photo Travel is about reality, the PTD (travel) was founded specifically for this kind of image, to show things as they really are and not like we wish they were.”

Not All of Those Who Wander
Are Lost

Gandolf



—

They Are Just Looking for Better Light

Marsha Larrabee



Questions?

Comments?



Next meeting is May 10 @2:00 PM

- I will send an email a week or so before with the Dropbox link, if it is not on the SIG web page by then. The link should also be on the Club calendar event if not on the web page.
 - You may submit 1-2 photos for “Comment or Critique”
 - Rename your photo: CC_Title. Dropbox automatically adds your name
 - You can also submit 1 additional photo “Simply Sharing”
 - Rename that photo: SS._Title
- I will also create a “cheat sheet” with some of those evaluation questions, so that we can be consistent in evaluating the images when requested.