

# PCQC Video Presentation

Fundamentals of Travel Photography by Bob Krist—National Geographic

## Lesson 2: Photographing for Story

This lesson gives specifics as to how photographers turn the theory of shooting storytelling pictures to a doable action list. The list allows Bob to cover many different facets of the location and serves as a useful checklist.

- **Geography.** This is a large category and includes cityscapes, streets scenes, landscapes, aerial views etc.
- **People.** Local people going about their daily routines, visitors, tourists
- **Culture.** Important and often overlooked. How do you depict culture in a photograph? Some examples include photographing a book signing of a famous author, attending performing arts, photographing people attending a museum and interacting with the exhibits
- **Festivals and Special Events.** These are opportunities to emphasize a location's uniqueness and charm
- **Everyday Life.** Bob admits that this is a tough category. For example, how do you portray everyday life on a city street in NYC? It takes a lot of curiosity and ability to overcome shyness
- **Sports and Recreation.** These are important events in many parts of the world and can reflect a society
- **Wildlife.** Don't forget to bring a telephoto or macro lens depending on the size of the animal or plant
- **Food.** Another reflection of society and the culture
- **Shopping.** This is a favorite activity of many travelers. Some interesting shots can be had at open air markets or modern shopping malls
- **Lodging.** Travel magazines and websites seek good shots of available lodgings in a particular location and hotels need photos to put on their websites. If you like architecture and interiors, some good lodging photos, both interior and exterior, may be interesting
- **Nightlife.** Also reflects the culture and personality of a location
- **Natural Resources.** With some creativity this may make some interesting shots. For example, the fishing industry in Iceland.
- **History.** Historic monuments, architecture, reenactments of historic events, commemorative ceremonies
- **Oddities, Funkiness, and Serendipity.** This is a catchall for those unforgettable moments that might be fleeting, or oddities of the culture of a location.

**Exercises:** 1. Develop a shot list for a story of your hometown or neighborhood. 2. Pick a story about a place in a National Geographic magazine and look at each picture. Can you put it into one of the above categories? Do some pictures demand a new category?