

# PCQC Video Presentation

Fundamentals of Travel Photography by Bob Krist—National Geographic

## Lesson 1: The Travel Photographer's Mission

- **Traveling vs. Sightseeing.** Are you a traveler or a sightseer? Traveler: engages with local people and culture; becomes involved with his surroundings and people; uses camera as a license to be curious and engages with the place, people, animals, things. Sightseer: checks off sights in a guidebook; is distant from the people and the culture; takes photos at a distance; creates postcard photos.
- **Gear vs. Positioning.** While gear and technique are important, the priority for travel photography is putting yourself at the right place at the right time. The photograph should tell what the place is and how it feels. Remember the story of Rasheed Akbar the musician in New Orleans. Bob followed the sounds of a Sax, met Rasheed, and had a wonderful day of taking photographs of the legend and his friends. As Bob puts it “traveling with your camera can open doors and intensify rather than objectify your experience”
- **Architecture, Landscapes and Wildlife.** Subsequent lessons will show how to make strong photos in various lighting and conditions. In this lesson, examples include:
  - Using long telephoto lens to take a picture of a growling gorilla
  - Shooting Philadelphia skyline in pre-dawn twilight
  - Shooting Val D’Orcia in Tuscany in a heavy fog. Fog, snow, rain etc., can help to create a mood. That being said, weather conditions can frustrate photographers and challenge their creativity
  - VISUAL STORYTELLING is the basis for all the skills you will learn and will be demonstrated as the essence of good travel photography throughout the remaining lessons
- **Exercises**
  - Look in a photography magazine, National Geographic for example, and see how the pictures and layout helps to enhance the story
  - Pick a technique in the following article to create an essay:  
<https://improvephotography.com/30816/10-ideas-creative-photo-essays/>