

PCQC Video Presentation

Fundamentals of Travel Photography by Bob Krist—National Geographic

Lesson 17: Architecture and Skylines

This lesson will give you some suggestions as to how to make interesting and vibrant photos of skylines and architecture

- **Skylines**

- Everyone has seen the “standard” skyline picture. Look for some unique vantage points to shoot from. For example, shoot aerials from a small plane or helicopter or use a drone, shoot from a sightseeing boat, or shoot from a high-rise hotel window. You can also look for some activity, sculpture, or body of water to juxtapose with a skyline. Example: the St. Petersburg skyline

- **Iconic Structures**

- Many cities have an iconic structure or historic building. Look for interesting vantage points and shoot many pictures from different perspectives. Example: Chicago’s Cloud Gate

- **High Vantage Points**

- A high vantage point provides for good photographs for just about anything but especially skylines and buildings. Two examples are presented

- **Reflections**

- Reflections from bodies of water or, sometimes just puddles of water can provide interesting and memorable photographs. One example is Mont Saint-Michel in France at high tide

- **Extreme Angles**

- Shooting at extreme angles or extreme high or low perspectives may provide drama. An example is the spiral staircase in the Nathaniel Russell House in Charleston

- **Timing**

- Take photographs at different times of day or in different weather conditions. The same subject from the same perspective may look dramatically different and beautiful at a different time of day or partially covered in a blanket of fog

- **Exercise**

- Visit a nearby town or skyline and select a good vantage point. Shoot in two different types of light
- Choose an iconic structure and shoot it in 5 different ways, varying the lenses, vantage, time of day, different weather, etc