

Optimizing Your Photography

Taking a Snapshot vs. Creating a Photograph



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Tim H Murphy
PHOTOGRAPHY

Today's Discussion

What You Shoot

- 📷 Ten rules (tools!) of composition
- 📷 Tell a story

When You Shoot

- 📷 Planning your photo shoot
- 📷 It's all about the light!

How You Present

- 📷 Post-processing
- 📷 Understanding the image variables



My Photographic Journey



Tim H. Murphy
PHOTOGRAPHY

Please Tell Me About You

How would you describe your skill level?

- 📷 Novice/Beginner
- 📷 Intermediate
- 📷 Advanced
- 📷 Professional

What is your primary camera?

- 📷 Smartphone
- 📷 Point and Shoot
- 📷 dSLR
- 📷 Mirrorless



What do you want to get out of this class?

- 📷 Take better travel/family photos
- 📷 Better pics to post on social media
- 📷 Enhance my creativity
- 📷 ???



What You Shoot

Tools!

We will cover ten ~~Rules~~ of Composition:

- 📷 Rule of thirds
- 📷 Symmetry
- 📷 Leading Lines
- 📷 Patterns/Repetition
- 📷 Simplicity/Negative space
- 📷 Perspective
- 📷 Framing
- 📷 Reflections
- 📷 Fill the Frame
- 📷 Foreground Interest



Think of these as tools in your bag of compositional tricks!

What You Shoot

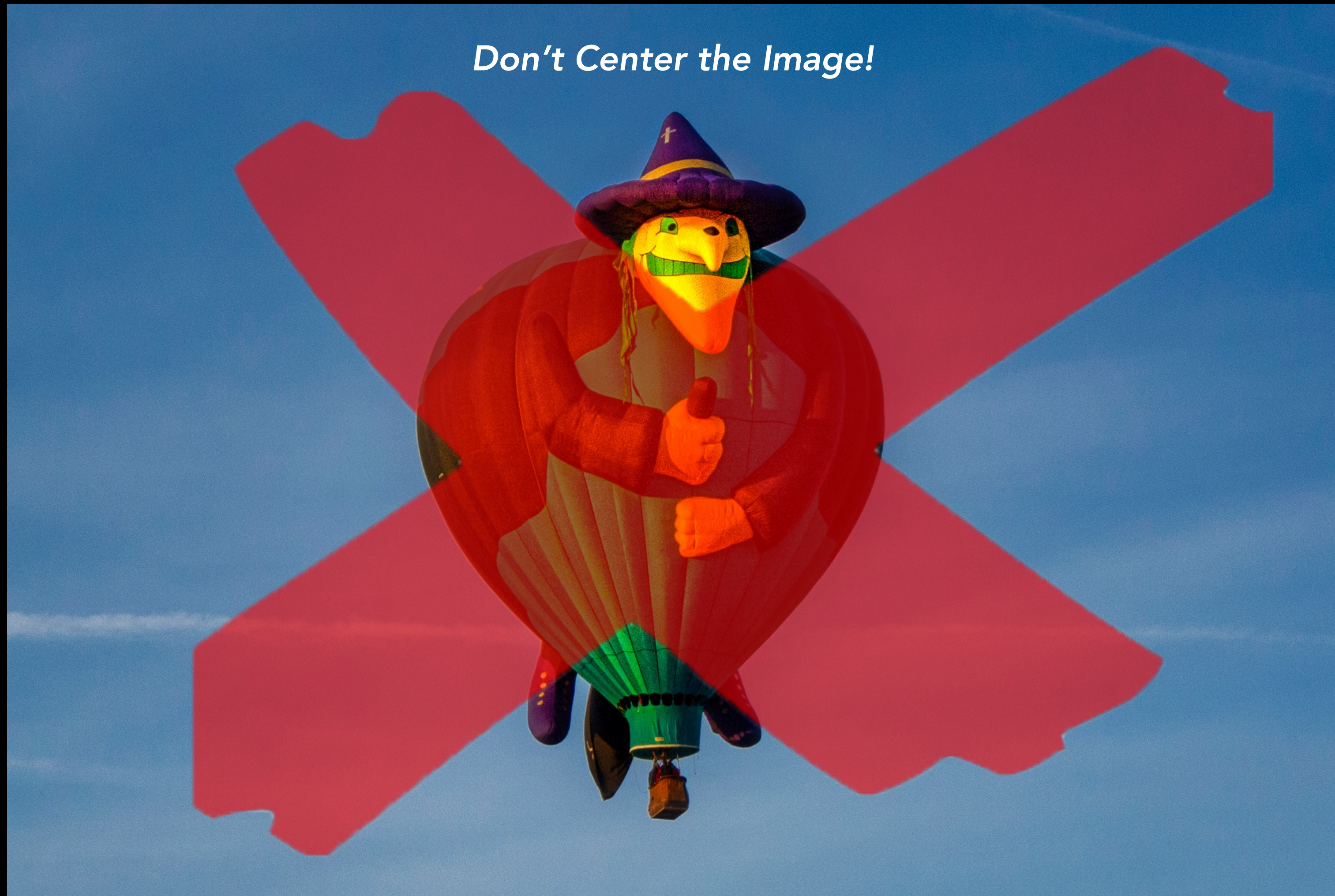
Composition Rule #1: Rule of Thirds



What You Shoot

Composition Rule #1: Rule of Thirds

Don't Center the Image!



What You Shoot

Composition Rule #1: Rule of Thirds



What You Shoot

Composition Rule #1: Rule of Thirds - Works Well for Portraits



What You Shoot

Composition Rule #2: Symmetry



I had many choices on how to photograph this iconic County Mayo lighthouse

What You Shoot

Composition Rule #2: Symmetry



Yet, this is the image that share most

What You Shoot

Composition Rule #2: Symmetry



Why? Symmetry!

What You Shoot

What do these images have in common?



What You Shoot

What do these images have in common?



What You Shoot



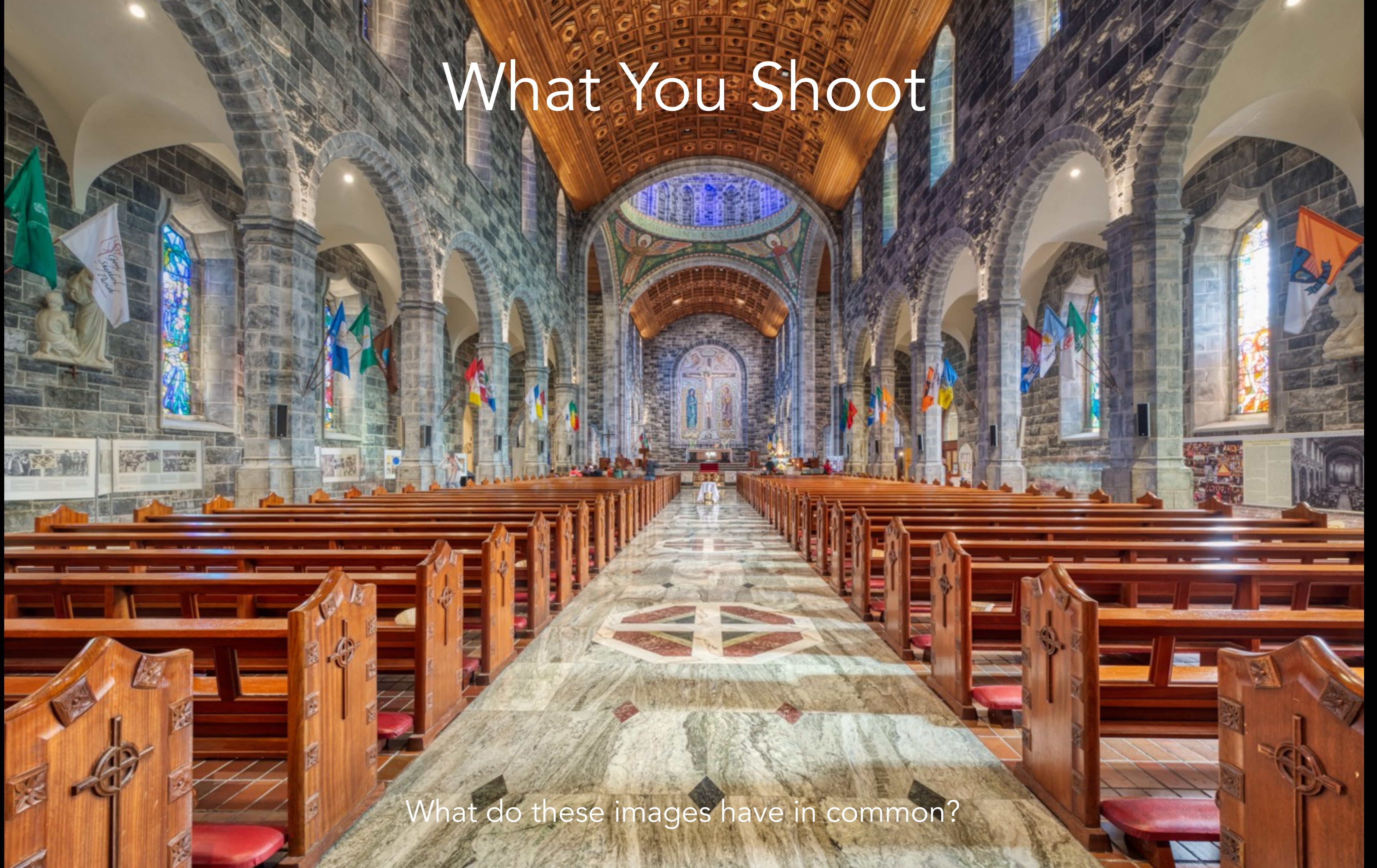
What do these images have in common?

What You Shoot

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What You Shoot



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What You Shoot



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What You Shoot

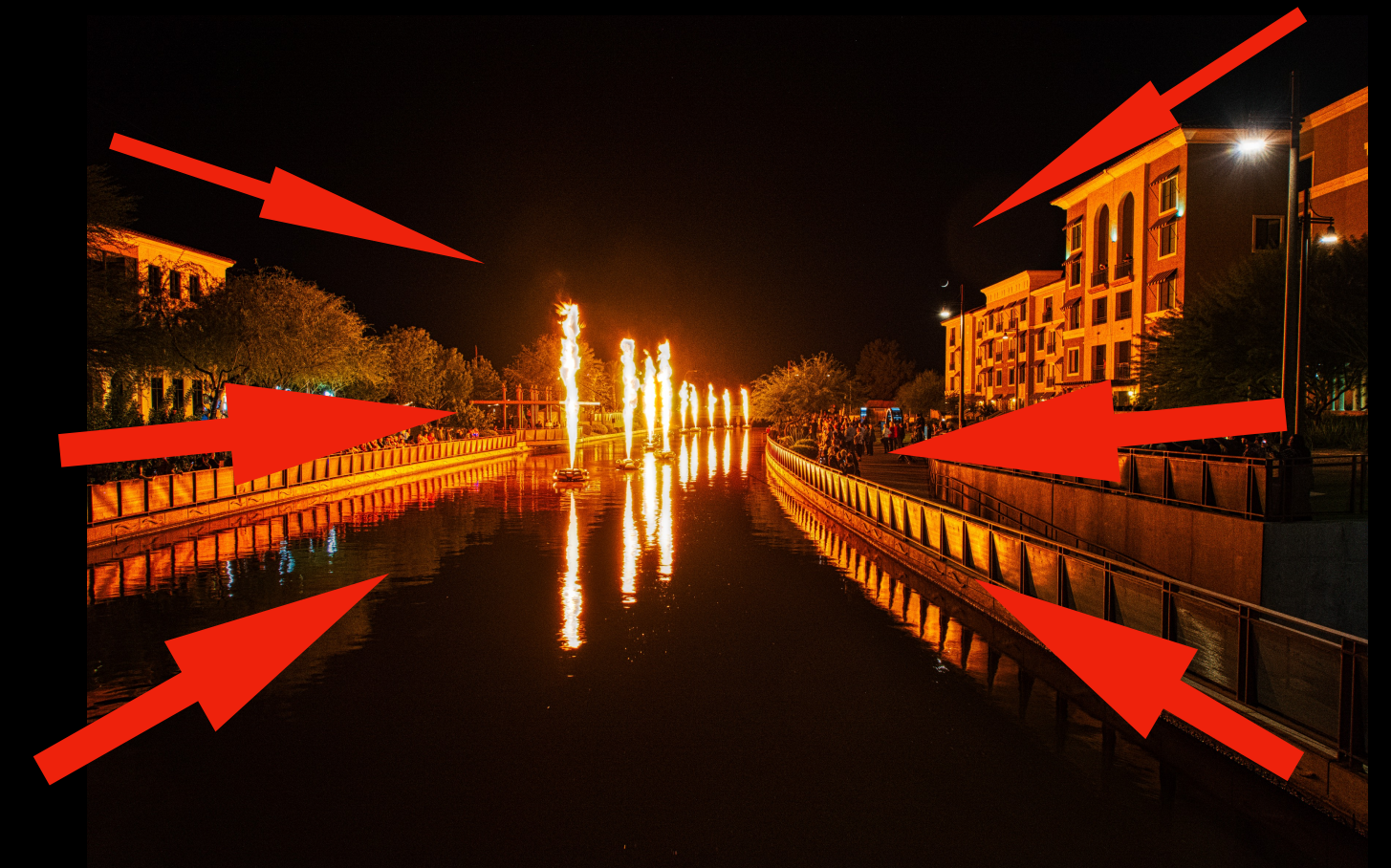
Composition Rule #3: Leading Lines



Notice how you're drawn in to each of these images?

What You Shoot

Composition Rule #3: Leading Lines



Why? Leading Lines!

What You Shoot

Composition Rule #3: Leading Lines



Leading Lines can be "hidden"

What You Shoot

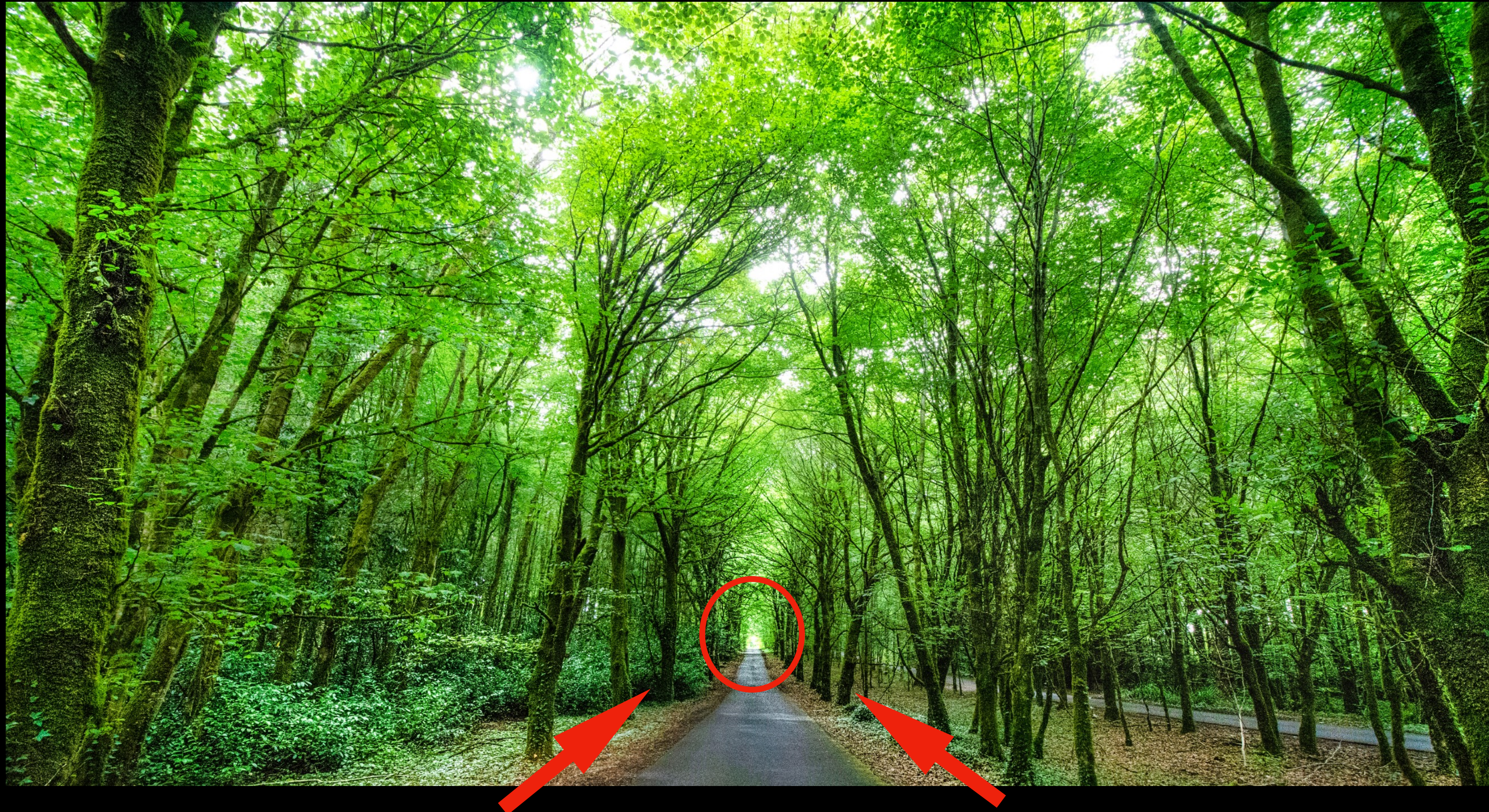
Composition Rule #3: Leading Lines



Leading Lines can be "hidden"

What You Shoot

Composition Rule #3: Leading Lines



Often associated with Leading Lines > Vanishing Point

What You Shoot

Composition Rule #4: Patterns



See the repetition?

What You Shoot

Composition Rule #5: Simplicity & Negative Space



With an uncomplicated background, there is more focus on the subject

What You Shoot

Composition Rule #5: Simplicity & Negative Space



With an uncomplicated background, there is more focus on the subject

What You Shoot

Composition Rule #5: Simplicity and Negative Space



With an uncomplicated background, there is more focus on the subject

What You Shoot

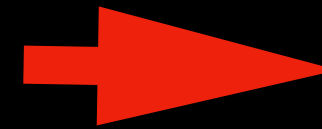
Composition Rule #6: Perspective



Change up your perspective for dramatic results!

What You Shoot

Composition Rule #6: Perspective



Change up your perspective for dramatic results!

What You Shoot

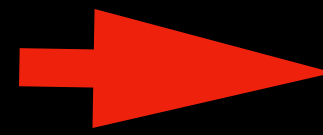
Composition Rule #6: Perspective



Change up your perspective for dramatic results!

What You Shoot

Composition Rule #6: Perspective



Change up your perspective for dramatic results!

What You Shoot

Composition Rule #6: Perspective



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Composition Rule #6: Perspective



Change up your perspective for dramatic results!

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Composition Rule #6: Perspective

Change up your perspective for dramatic results!



What You Shoot

Composition Rule #7: Framing



Framing directs the viewer's eye

What You Shoot

Composition Rule #8: Reflections

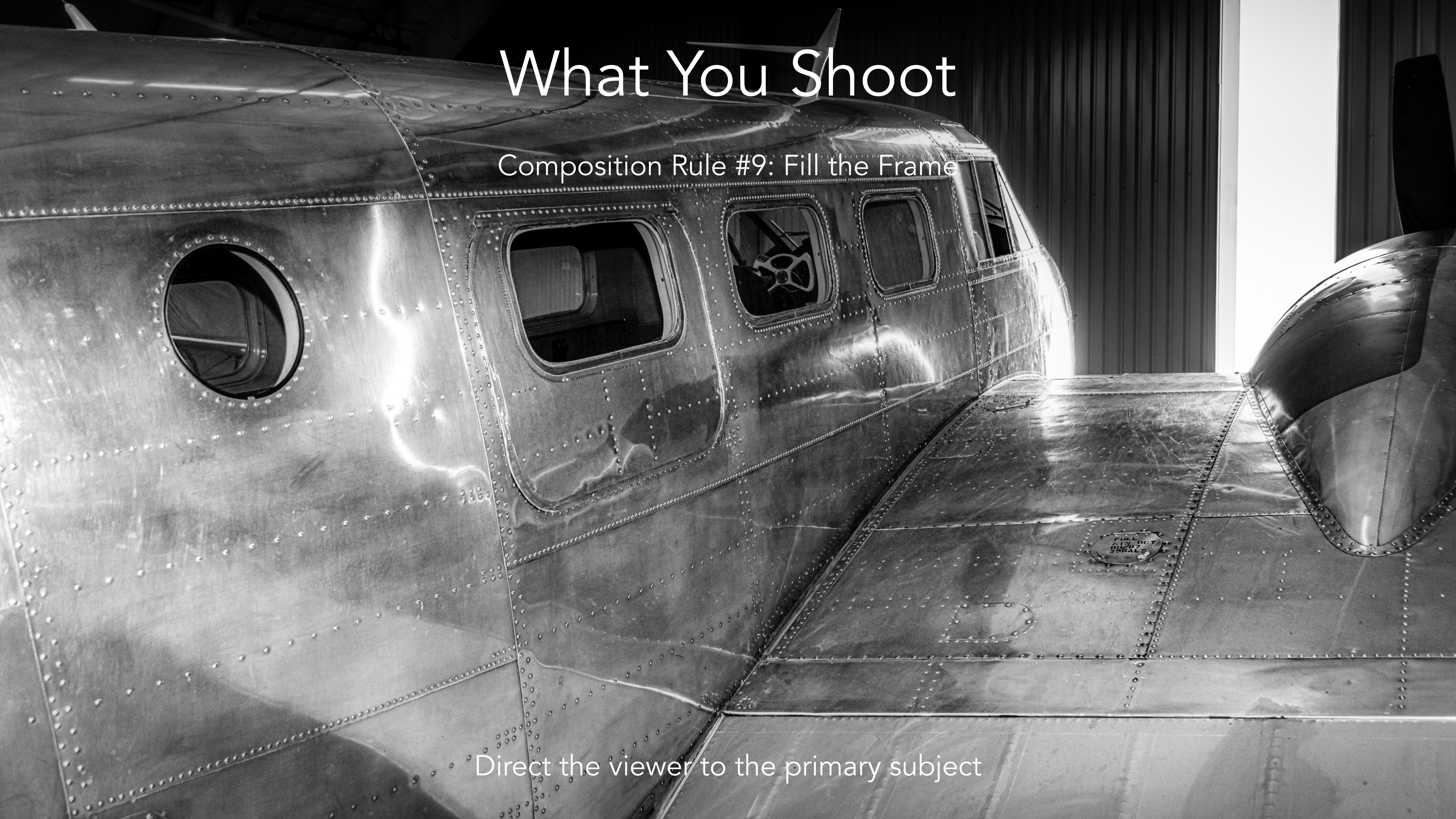


Reflections can make a good image twice as nice!

What You Shoot

Composition Rule #9: Fill the Frame

Direct the viewer to the primary subject



What You Shoot

Composition Rule #9: Fill the Frame

Direct the viewer to the primary subject



What You Shoot

Composition Rule #10: Foreground Interest

Set the context & add depth to an image

What You Shoot

Composition Rule #10: Foreground Interest

Set the context & add depth to an image



What You Shoot

Composition Rule #10: Foreground Interest



Set the context & add depth to an image

What You Shoot

Composition Rule #10: Foreground Interest



Set the context & add depth to an image

What You Shoot

Composition Rule #10: Foreground Interest

Juxtaposition

Set the context & add depth to an image



What You Shoot

Composition Rule #10: Foreground Interest



Use of Shadows

Set the context & add depth to an image

Tools!

What You Shoot

We have covered ten ~~Rules~~ of Composition:

- 📷 Rule of thirds
- 📷 Symmetry
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- 📷 Fill the Frame
- 📷 Foreground Interest



Know the rules & know when to break the rules!

What You Shoot

Scenes from my first Pow Wow photo shoot



Telling a story?

What You Shoot - *Tell a Story!*



What You Shoot - *Tell a Story!*



What You Shoot - *Tell a Story!*



What You Shoot - *Tell a Story!*



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What You Shoot - *Tell a Story!*



What You Shoot - *Tell a Story!*



What You Shoot - *Tell a Story!*



What You Shoot - *Tell a Story!*





What You Shoot

What is the difference?

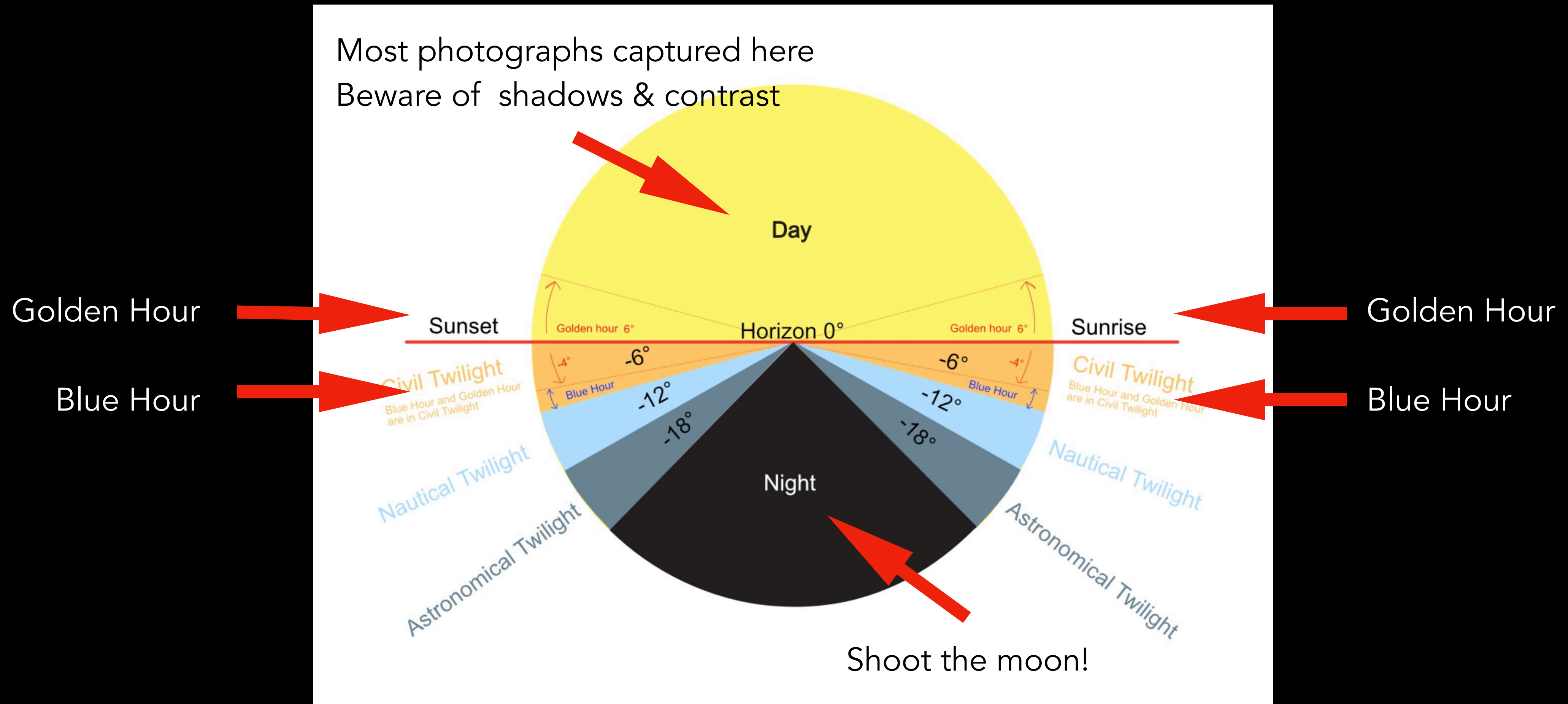
- 📷 Changed my mindset
- 📷 What am I trying to communicate?
- 📷 Studied the environment
- 📷 Found a main character
- 📷 Distilled, simplified to most powerful elements
- 📷 Changed perspective
- 📷 Didn't complicate the image
- 📷 Directed the viewer
- 📷 Creative, original
- 📷 Looked into subject's eyes
- 📷 Strong images / evoked emotion



Tell a story!

When You Shoot

Golden Hour, Blue Hour, Happy Hour & Shoot the Moon!



The light is most favorable at the beginning and the end of the day

When You Shoot

Golden Hour, Blue Hour, Happy Hour & Shoot the Moon!

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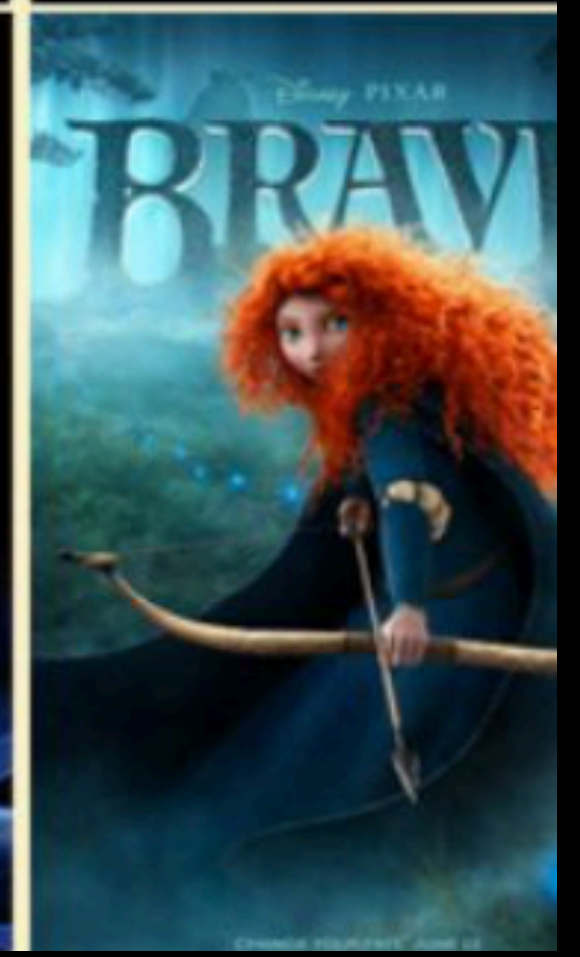
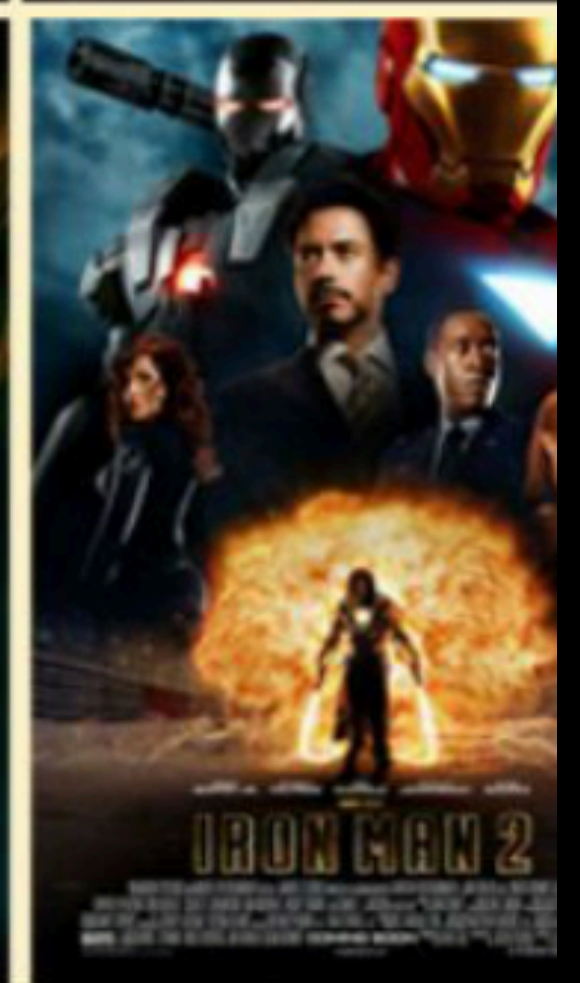
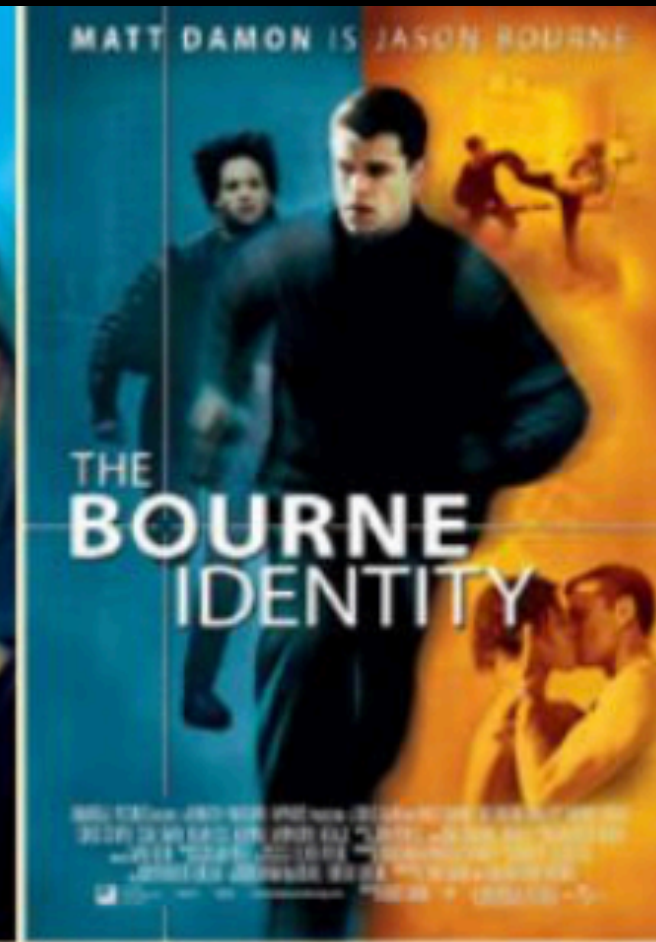
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Golden Hour, Blue Hour, Happy Hour & Shoot the Moon!

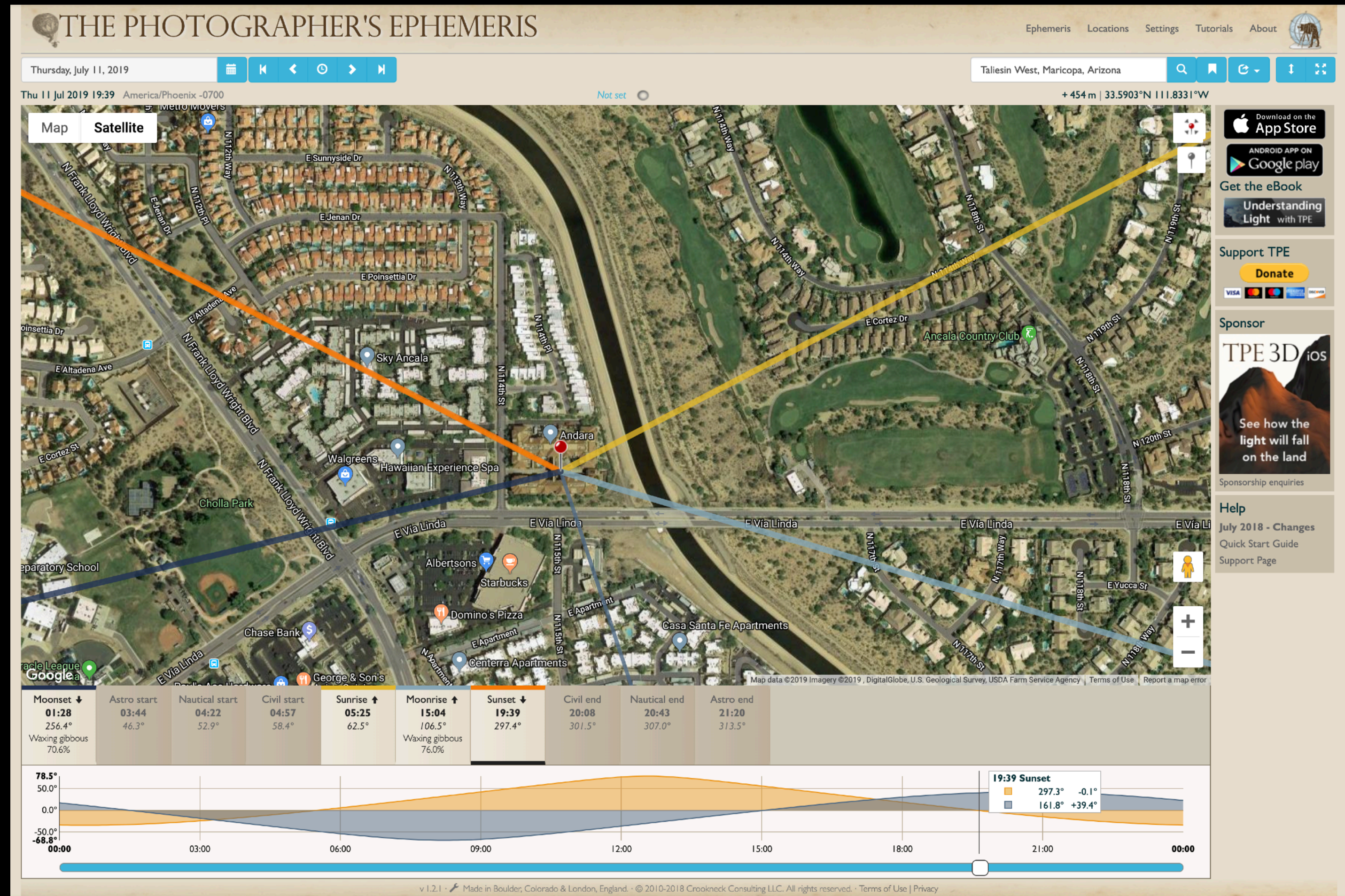


The light is most favorable at the beginning and the end of the day

When You Shoot

Golden Hour, Blue Hour, Happy Hour & Shoot the Moon!

Time	Conditions	Temp.	Feels Like	Precip	Amount	Cloud Cover	Dew Point	Humidity
12:00 am	Clear	87 °F	87 °F	0%	0 in	0%	29 °F	13%
1:00 am	Clear	85 °F	85 °F	0%	0 in	0%	29 °F	14%
2:00 am	Clear	82 °F	82 °F	0%	0 in	0%	31 °F	15%
3:00 am	Clear	81 °F	81 °F	0%	0 in	0%	31 °F	16%
4:00 am	Clear	79 °F	79 °F	0%	0 in	0%	32 °F	18%
5:00 am	Clear	78 °F	78 °F	0%	0 in	1%	33 °F	20%
6:00 am	Sunny	78 °F	78 °F	0%	0 in	2%	34 °F	20%
7:00 am	Sunny	83 °F	83 °F	0%	0 in	5%	32 °F	16%
8:00 am	Sunny	88 °F	88 °F	0%	0 in	5%	31 °F	13%
9:00 am	Sunny	92 °F	92 °F	0%	0 in	5%	29 °F	11%
10:00 am	Sunny	95 °F	95 °F	0%	0 in	4%	28 °F	9%
11:00 am	Sunny	99 °F	99 °F	0%	0 in	5%	28 °F	8%
12:00 pm	Sunny	102 °F	102 °F	0%	0 in	11%	30 °F	8%
1:00 pm	Sunny	104 °F	104 °F	0%	0 in	11%	33 °F	9%
2:00 pm	Sunny	105 °F	105 °F	0%	0 in	15%	33 °F	8%
3:00 pm	Sunny	107 °F	107 °F	0%	0 in	17%	33 °F	8%
4:00 pm	Sunny	107 °F	107 °F	0%	0 in	19%	33 °F	8%
5:00 pm	Mostly Sunny	107 °F	107 °F	1%	0 in	21%	34 °F	8%
6:00 pm	Partly Cloudy	106 °F	106 °F	1%	0 in	40%	33 °F	8%
7:00 pm	Partly Cloudy	105 °F	105 °F	1%	0 in	38%	32 °F	8%
8:00 pm	Partly Cloudy	102 °F	102 °F	1%	0 in	42%	32 °F	9%
9:00 pm	Partly Cloudy	98 °F	98 °F	1%	0 in	45%	32 °F	10%
10:00 pm	Mostly Cloudy	96 °F	96 °F	1%	0 in	65%	31 °F	10%
11:00 pm	Mostly Cloudy	94 °F	94 °F	0%	0 in	70%	32 °F	11%



Watch the weather!

Where does the sun rise & set? Where does the moon rise & set?

When You Shoot

Golden Hour, Blue Hour, Happy Hour & Shoot the Moon!



Why can't I shoot the moon with my iPhone?

When You Shoot

Golden Hour, Blue Hour, Happy Hour & Shoot the Moon!



Why can't I shoot the moon with my iPhone?

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Why can't I shoot the moon with my iPhone?

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Lens: 850mm
Aperture: $f/11$
Shutter Speed: 1/250 sec
ISO: 200
File Size: 24mb

Why can't I shoot the moon with my iPhone?

When You Shoot

Golden Hour, Blue Hour, Happy Hour & Shoot the Moon!



What to do with a mid-day shot?

When You Shoot

Golden Hour, Blue Hour, Happy Hour & Shoot the Moon!



NOIR
THE BEST OF
THE CLUB OF BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHY
INTERNATIONAL PHOTO CONTEST
FOR MONOCHROME PHOTOGRAPHY
Certificate of Award
WINNER OF THE MONTH



TIM MURPHY



What to do with a mid-day shot? Consider Black & White!

How You Present

Clean it up! aka Post-processing

- Histogram
- Crop/Level
- Spot Remover
- Red Eye Remover
- Graduated Filter
- Radial Filter
- Brush
- Basic
 - Temp
 - Tint
- White Balance
- Tone
 - Exposure
 - Contrast
- Highlights
- Shadows
- Whites
- Blacks
- Presence
 - Texture
 - Clarity
 - Vibrance
 - Saturation

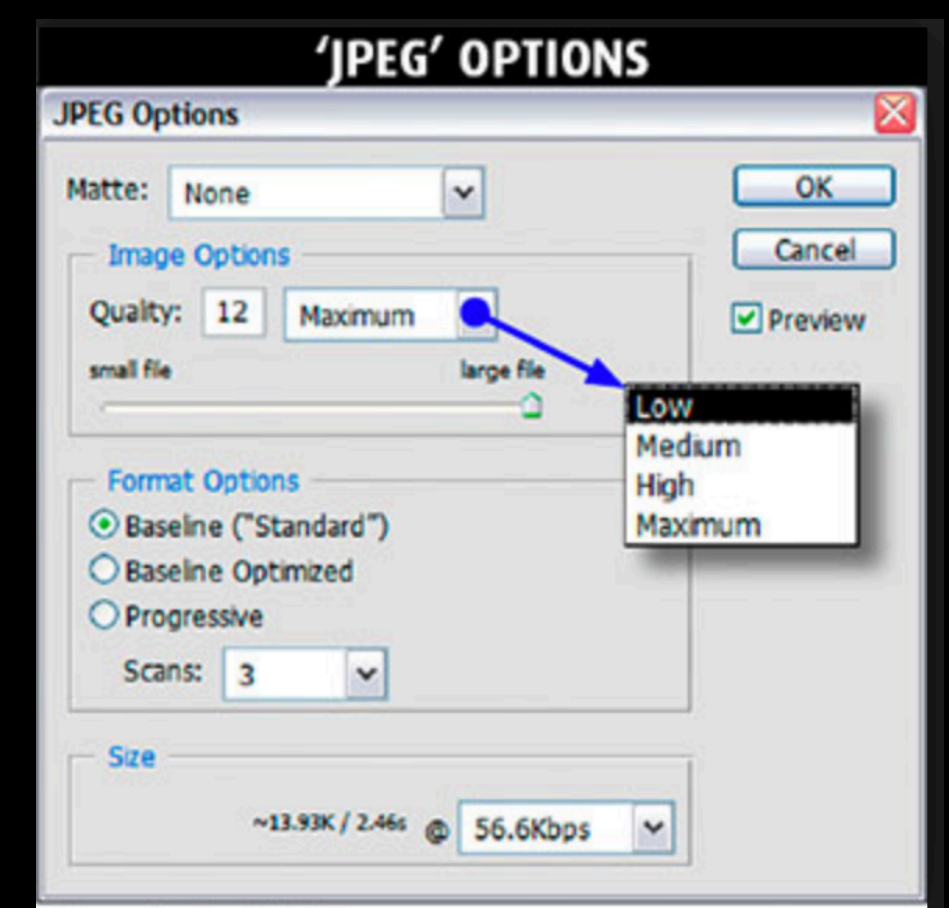
- Tone Curve
- Hue, Saturation, Luminance
- Split Toning
 - Highlights
 - Shadows
- Detail
 - Sharpening
 - Noise Reduction
 - Color
- Lens Corrections
 - Remove Chromatic Aberration
 - Enable Profile Corrections
- Transform
 - Off
 - Auto
 - Guided
 - Level
 - Vertical
 - Full
- Effects
 - Post-Crop Vignetting
 - Grain
- Calibration



Input > Raw Data

How You Present

Clean it up! aka Post-processing



Most Photographers shoot in JPEG

What is JPEG?

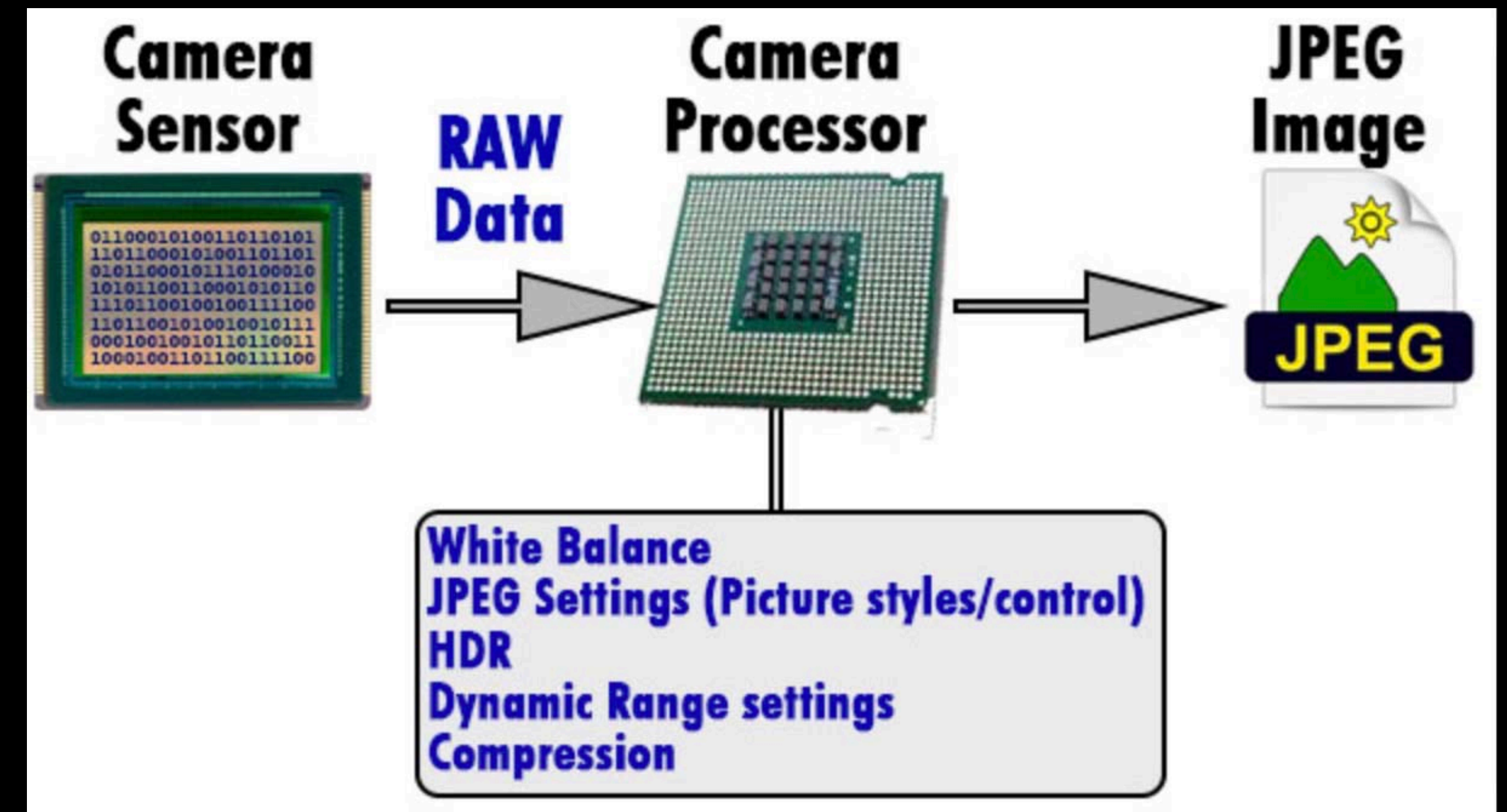
📷 A compressed file where image variables adjustments made in camera by settings and algorithms

Is a JPEG image ready to print or share?

📷 Yes

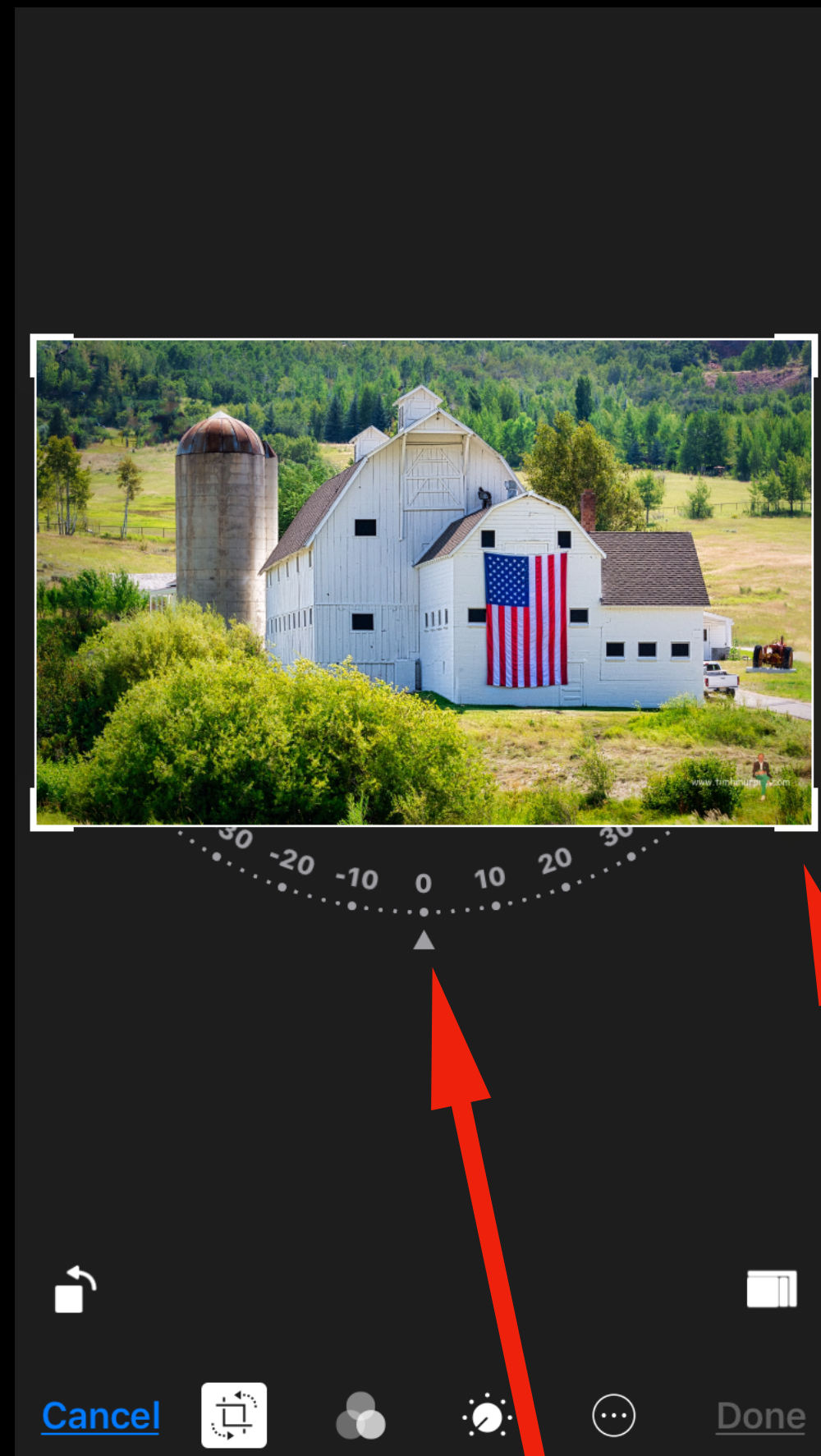
Should you post a JPEG image without any editing?

📷 **NO!!!**



How You Present

Clean it up! aka Post-processing



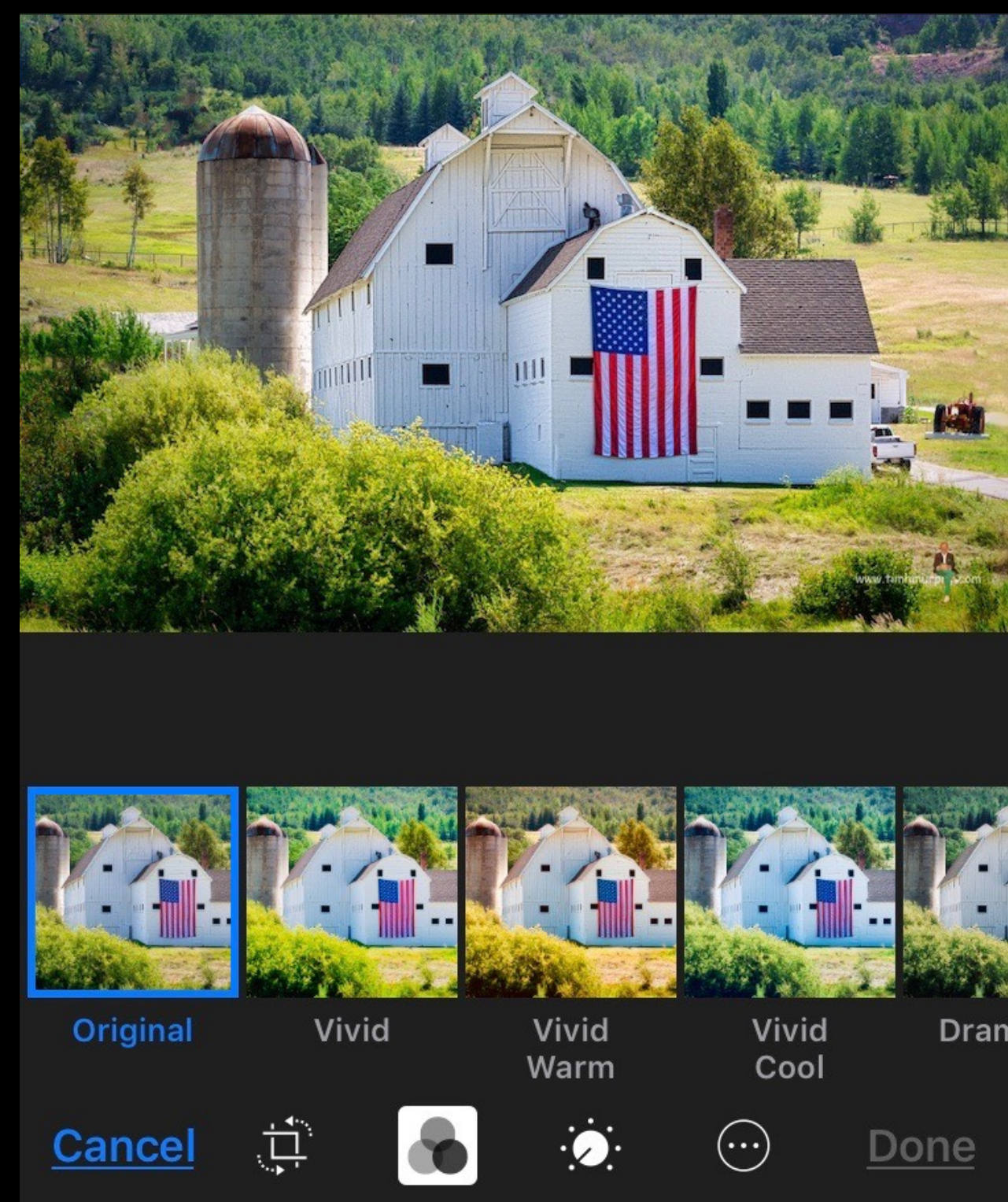
If nothing else, straighten the horizon & crop



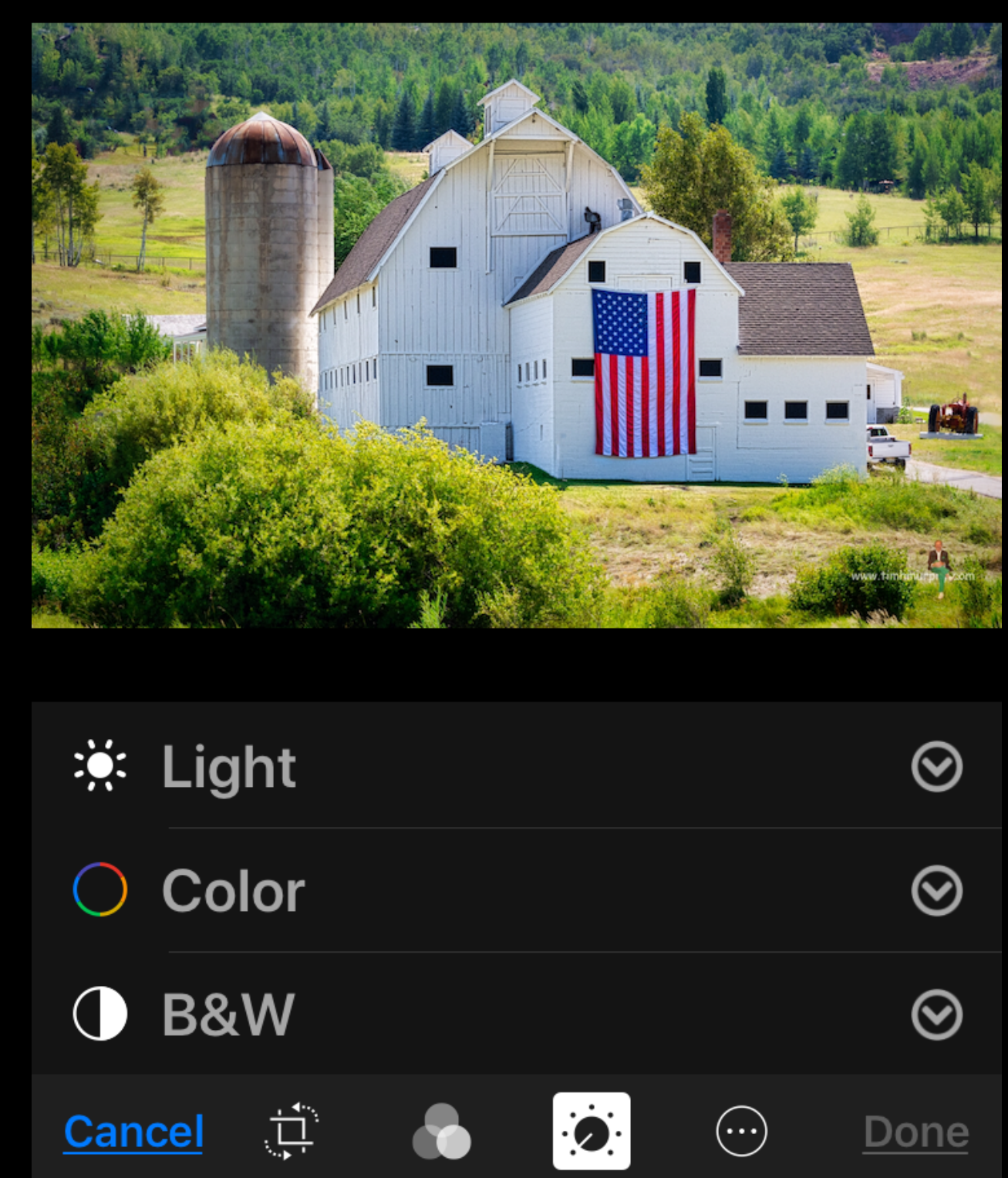
To add contrast, increase tonal range & vibrance, try the Auto Enhance tool

How You Present

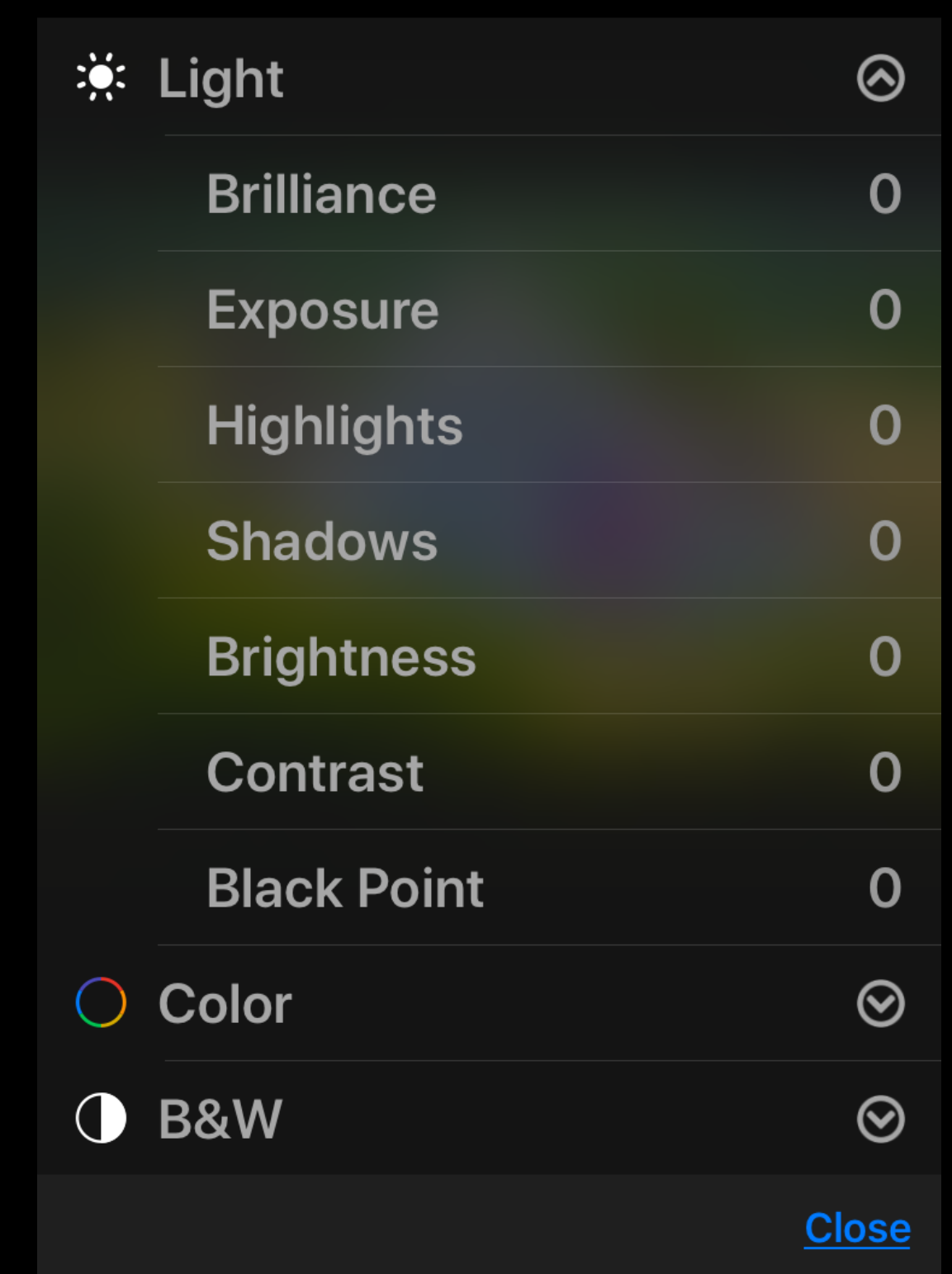
Clean it up! aka Post-processing



You can edit with filters



As well as execute advanced image adjustments



My Parting Words



- 📷 Plan
- 📷 Practice
- 📷 Patience
- 📷 Experiment
- 📷 Don't be afraid to fail
- 📷 Be inspired but be original
- 📷 Shoot what you know and love



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