



CREATIVE MEDIA **FUNDAMENTALS**

LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY



CMF005

FOCAL LENGTHS

STANDARD LENS

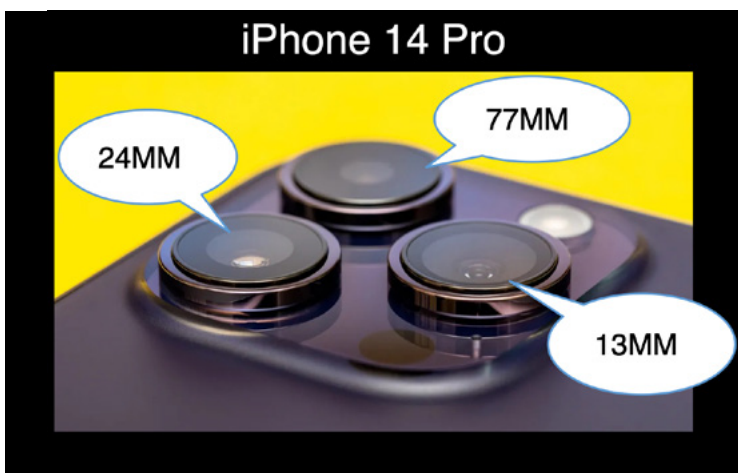
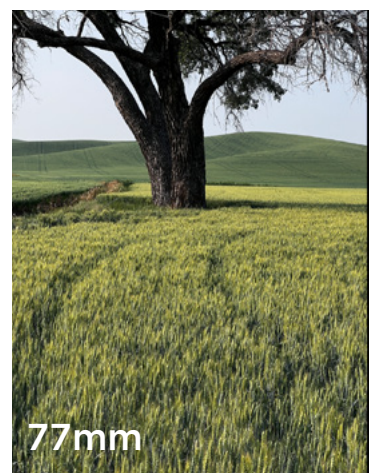
A standard lens has a similar angle of view to the human eye, typically in the 35mm - 50mm range.

WIDE-ANGLE

A wide-angle lens has a focal length of 35mm or shorter, which gives you a wide field of view. The wider your field of view, the more of the scene you will be able to see in the frame.

TELEPHOTO LENS

A telephoto lens has a focal length of 70mm or longer, which brings distant subjects closer.



FOCAL LENGTH STRATEGIES

WIDE-ANGLE:

Get Close: The single most important tip for using a wide-angle lens is to get as close as possible to your foreground.

Foreground: Find a compelling subject close to your lens that ties into the rest of the image. This becomes your foreground.

Background: Where does the eye end up as it explores your image? This becomes your background.

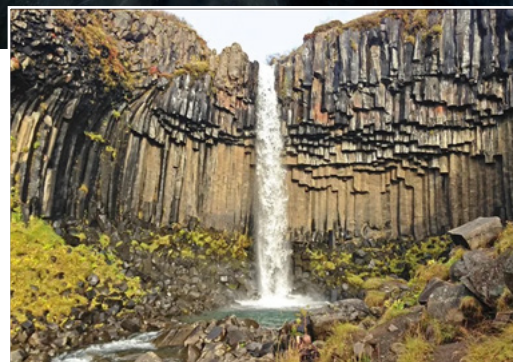
Create a Path: The key to depth beyond the foreground and background is to connect them together with elements in your scene.

Long Exposure: This technique can be used to make water and clouds more visually appealing. It can also be used to create a blurred effect for wind-blown subjects.

Dynamic Range: This is the ratio between the brightest and darkest parts of an image. The best digital cameras capture only half as much range as the human eye. Fortunately, the iPhone takes the darkest and lightest frames and blends them together.



After



Before

TELEPHOTO:

Zoom In: When using a telephoto lens, you can zoom into the scene to tell a unique story.

The Details: You can highlight a specific part of the scene that interests you.

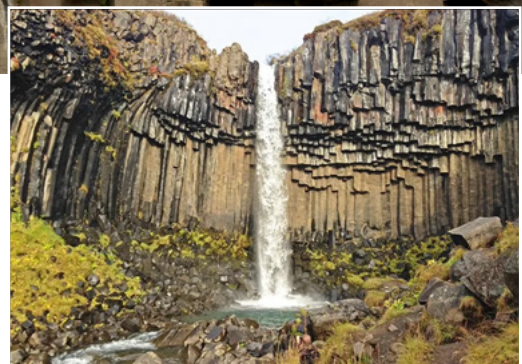
Keep it Simple: Often times, images are cluttered with too many elements. It is important to edit and make sure that everything in the image is essential.

Patterns: Look for patterns in nature to capture.

Abstract: When zooming in, you will often lose context of the scene. It is OK to present questions with your image. The intrigue can be part of the appeal.



After



Before

LANDSCAPE STRATEGIES



Simplicity: Keep it simple. The only things worth keeping in your composition are those that are absolutely essential.



Originality: Capture something that is truly unique. Look for unusual scenes or conditions in nature to help your images stand out.



Weather: A key to landscape photography is to take advantage of unique weather. Start by focusing on a scene near your home and photograph it during different seasons.



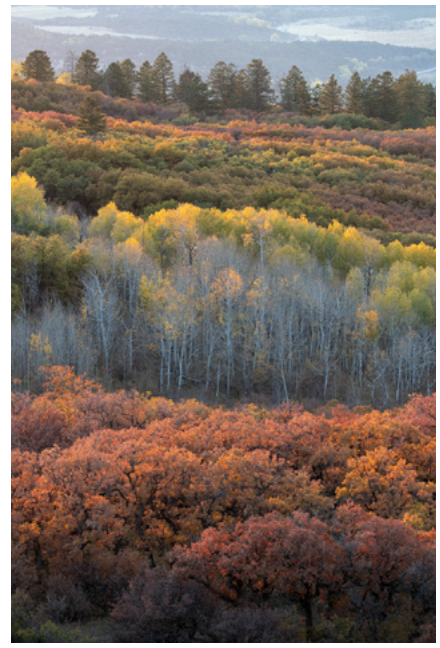
Distortion: This can be achieved with the use of a wide-angle lens. Distortion will make your foregrounds appear much larger than they actually are, thus making their impact greater in the image. Distortion also makes lines converge, such as tree trunks in a forest, when you point your camera to the sky.



Emotion: An image can be successful if it evokes an emotion in you. Landscape photography is a personal endeavor. Find and make images that speak to you.



Order: Nature can often be chaotic. Compose a scene to create order in the chaos. This gives the viewer a sense of calmness as everything is in its right place.



Layers: A highly effective technique in landscape photography is the practice of photographing layers. Often times, the more layers the better.



S-Curve: One of the most pleasing lines in landscape photography is the s-curve. We are constantly looking for them in nature. You commonly find them in rivers and streams, but they can also be found in the most unlikely of places. Always keep your eye out for s-curves.



Complementary Colors:

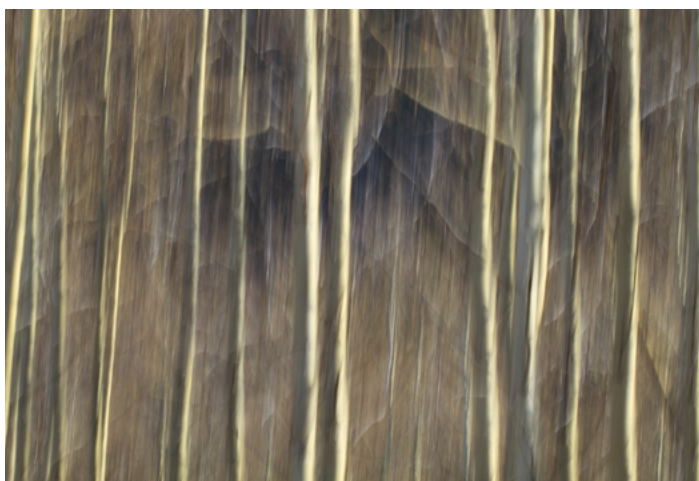
Complementary colors can highlight the subject of your image. Use color to your advantage by arranging different colored subjects in your scene.



Black & White: Eliminating color is another effective technique for simplifying your image. So much of what the eye is drawn to is color. By removing color, the image is reduced to tonal ranges between black and white.

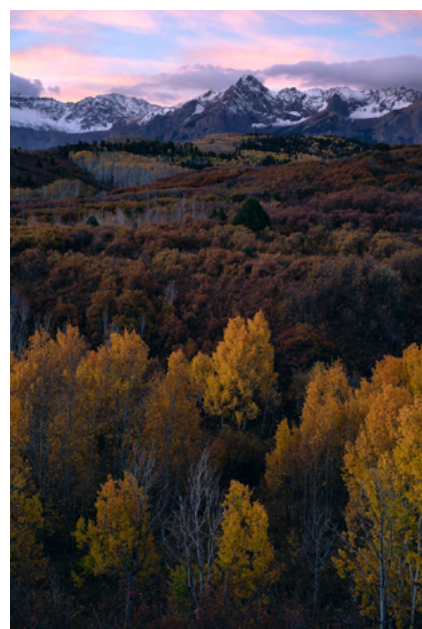


Reflection: Reflections are a great way to elevate a landscape image. It is also a great strategy for beginners. Find a still body of water and see what reflection images you can create.



Intentional Camera Movement (ICM):

ICM involves moving your camera as the exposure is occurring. This is essentially long exposure photography with the camera moving as opposed to being stabilized. You get blurred images as result. The key is to move the camera in the direction of your subject (e.g., vertical with trees, horizontal with waves), so that the viewer has some idea of what subject is being captured.



Grand Landscape: This is an epic scene of dramatic landscapes with great light, generally captured with a wide-angle lens.



Long Exposure: A technique to make water and clouds more appealing. It can also be used for wind-blown subjects in your image to create a blurred effect.



Abstract: Look for subjects that present questions within your image. The intrigue can be part of the appeal.




Panorama: Each and every camera takes a picture in the format of the sensor. This is usually a 2x3, 3x4 or 4x5. But why limit the way we see the world? Panoramas are defined as being at least twice as long on one side compared to the other.



Light: You are constantly chasing light as a landscape photographer. Sunsets and sunrises are the most common times to make a photograph because of the dramatic light. But keep in mind, there is no such thing as bad light. Whatever light you come across, there is a photograph to be made. You have to use all the strategies in this handout and your creativity to make a successful image.

TUTORIALS


HOW TO TAKE PANORAMAS WITH YOUR IPHONE:

Use the Camera  to take a panoramic photo of your surroundings in Pano mode.

1. Choose Pano mode.
2. Tap the Shutter button.
3. Pan slowly in the direction of the arrow, keeping it on the center line.
4. To finish, tap the Shutter button again.

HOW TO TAKE LONG EXPOSURES WITH YOUR IPHONE:

Use the Camera  to take a long exposure photo.

1. Make sure Live Photo is enabled in the top right corner.
2. Hold still for a few seconds after taking the photo.
3. This will generate a Live Photo, which is a very short video revolving around the photo you've taken.
4. Launch the Photos app  on your iPhone.
5. Head to the photo you have just taken.
6. Click on the Live button in the top left corner.
7. Select Long Exposure.