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Street and landscape photography

A brief introduction

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Framing

Photography is a form of visual communication, so you should be mindful of what you include in your composition, as every element and option will change what you are communicating.

Ask your self: “Am I including more than is necessary in the frame, or is there anything important that I’m leaving out?”

Zoom in or out until you have exactly what you want in frame. You can also crop the image with editing software.

Framing



Wide angle shots make it possible to include a lot in your composition.

Framing



Framing

Medium shots allow you to focus on the main subject while still including some of the secondary visual context.



Close up shots will exclude everything but the main subject. Smartphone cameras will focus very close to what you're shooting. You may have to activate macro mode (flower icon) to get the minimum focus distance.

Framing



Orientation

Horizontal orientation will enhance the sense of width, while vertical orientation will increase the sense of depth or height.



Angle

Shooting standing up isn't always the best option. If you get low and set the camera near the ground, you will register a wider depth range, from 20 cm to "infinity" instead of 2 meters to infinity. This solution will often produce a more tridimensional, dynamic and interesting image.

Shooting subjects tilted upwards will also make them appear to be in a more imposing and powerful stance.

Angle



Angle

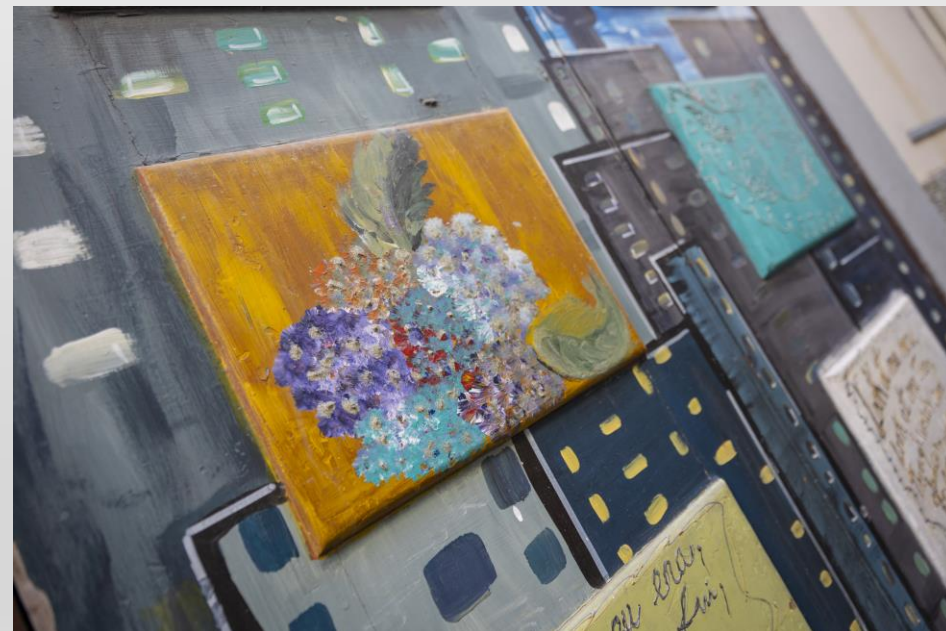
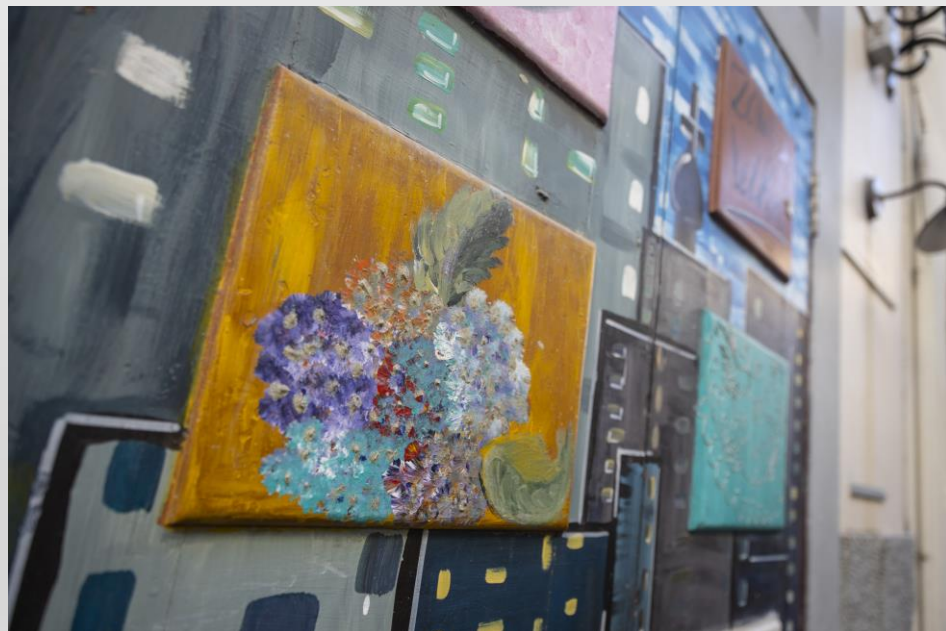


Angle



Rotating the camera sideways and/or shooting at an angle instead of straight on will introduce instability and movement, which in turn will create a dynamic composition.

Angle



In order to get a flat image with no distortion you must take the photo as parallel to the subject as possible and zoom in as much as you can.

Angle



Composition

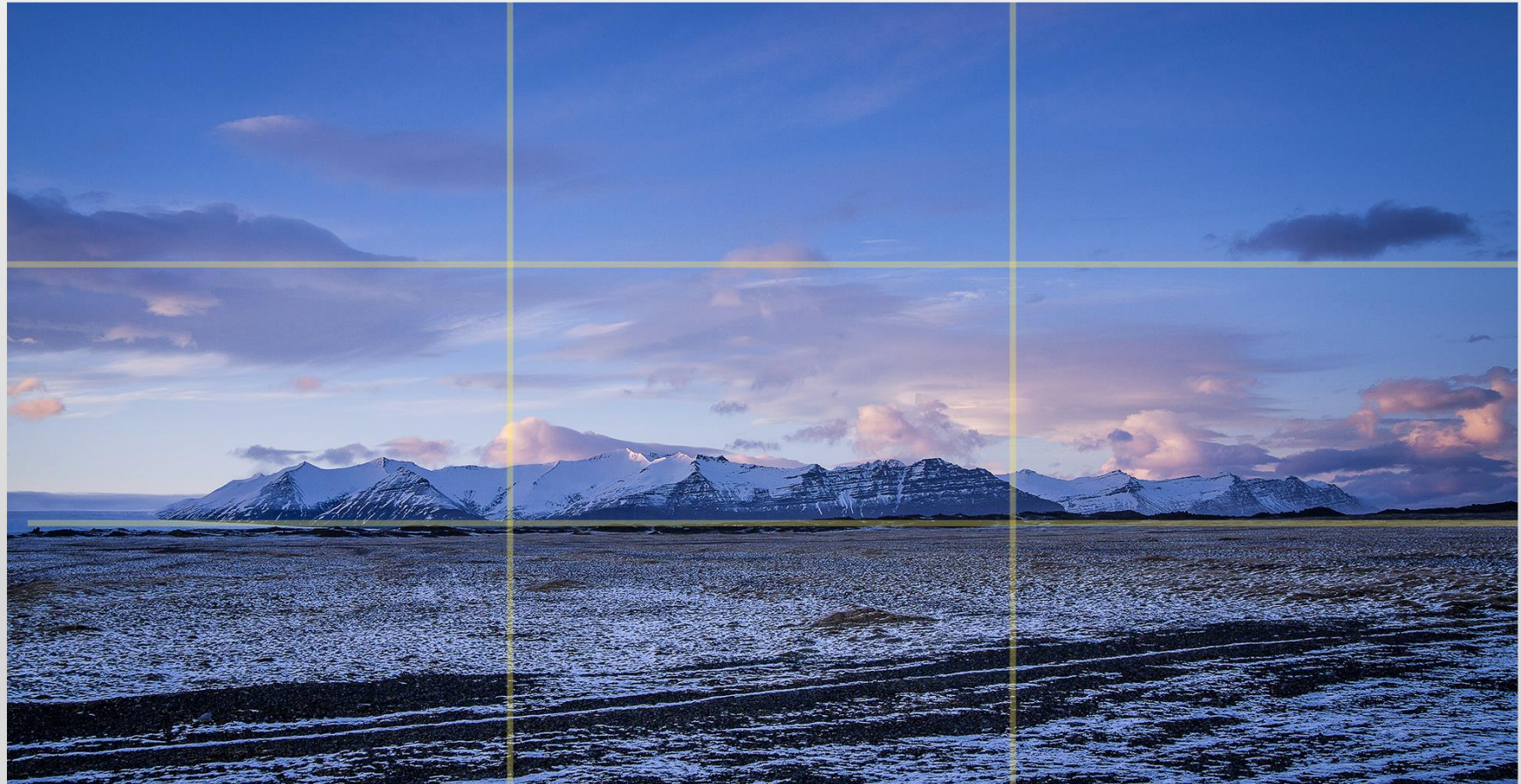
There are several rules and principles that will provide an increased aesthetic value to your photography.



Composition

Rule of thirds – It's based on a grid that divides the frame in 3 horizontal and 3 vertical areas. One way of using it is to align the picture's main lines or axes with the grid lines. One area will occupy $\frac{2}{3}$ of the image while the other will only occupy $\frac{1}{3}$. This solution unbalances the composition, making it more dynamic and defining a hierarchy. The section with more interest should take up more space in your composition.

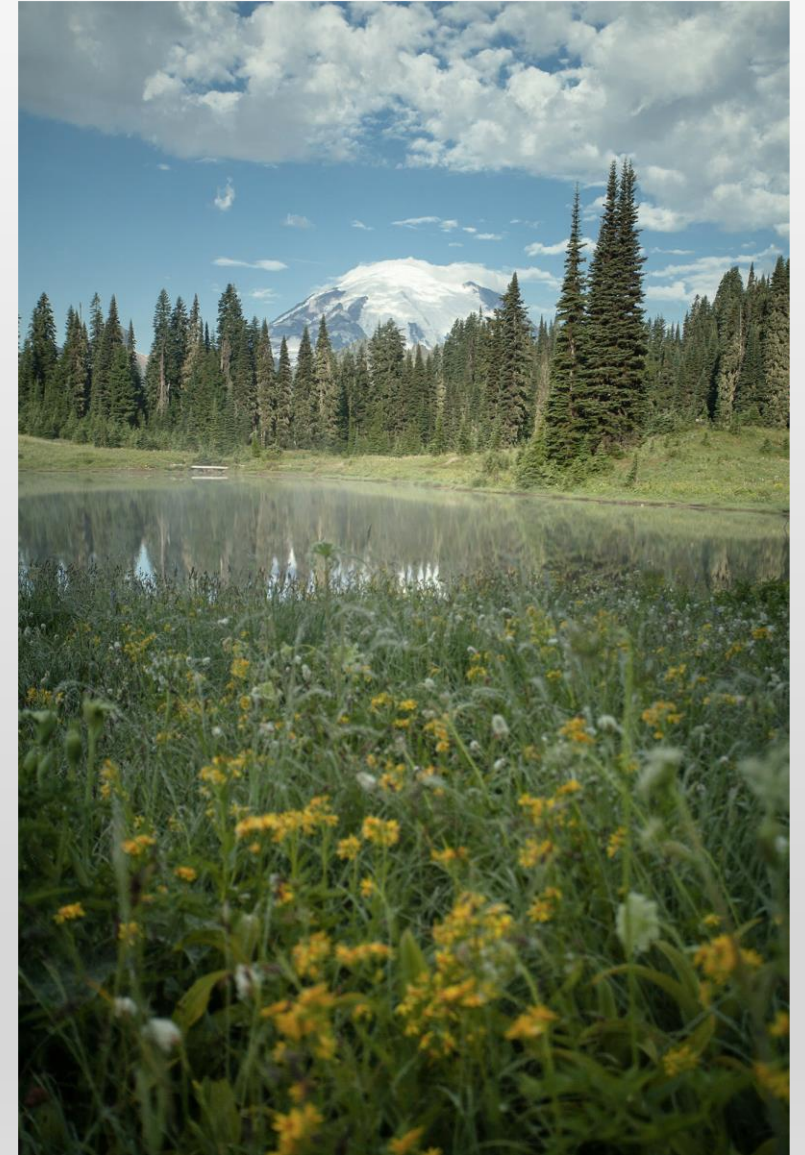
Composition



Composition



Composition



Composition

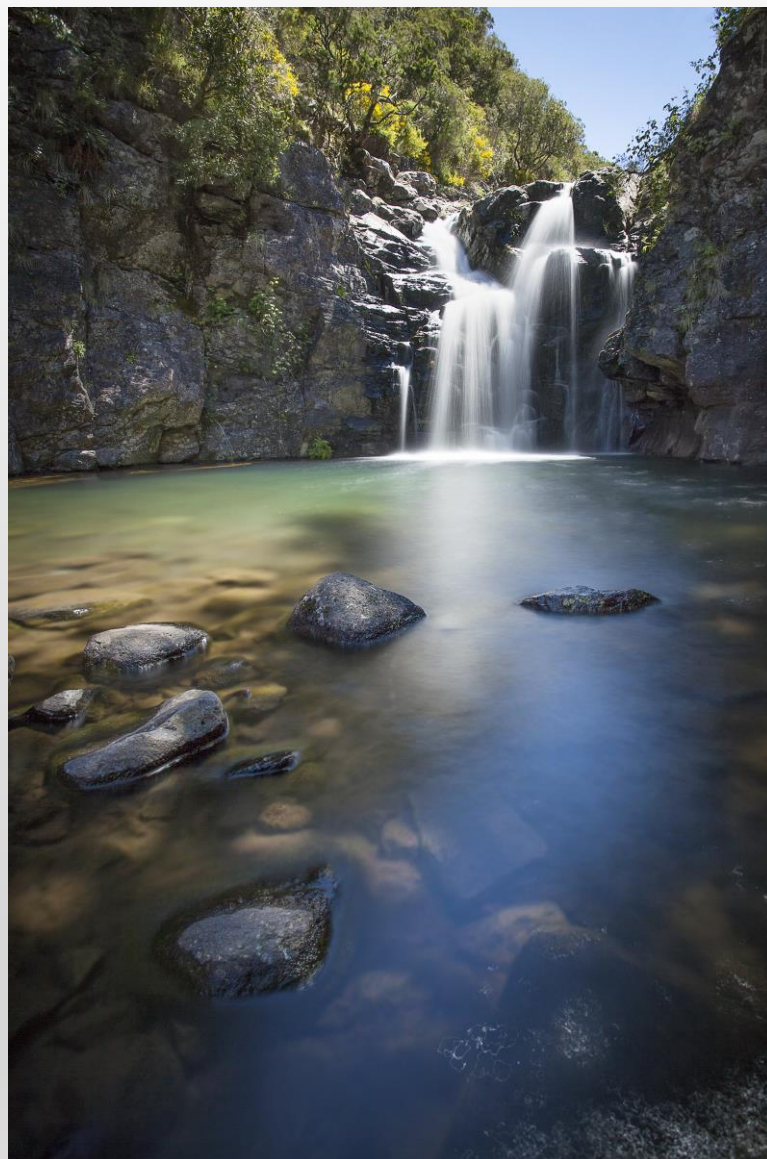
The other way of using the rule of thirds is to put the focal point on one of the four spots where the horizontal and vertical lines cross. This will decenter the composition and create a dynamic imbalance.



Composition



Composition



Composition

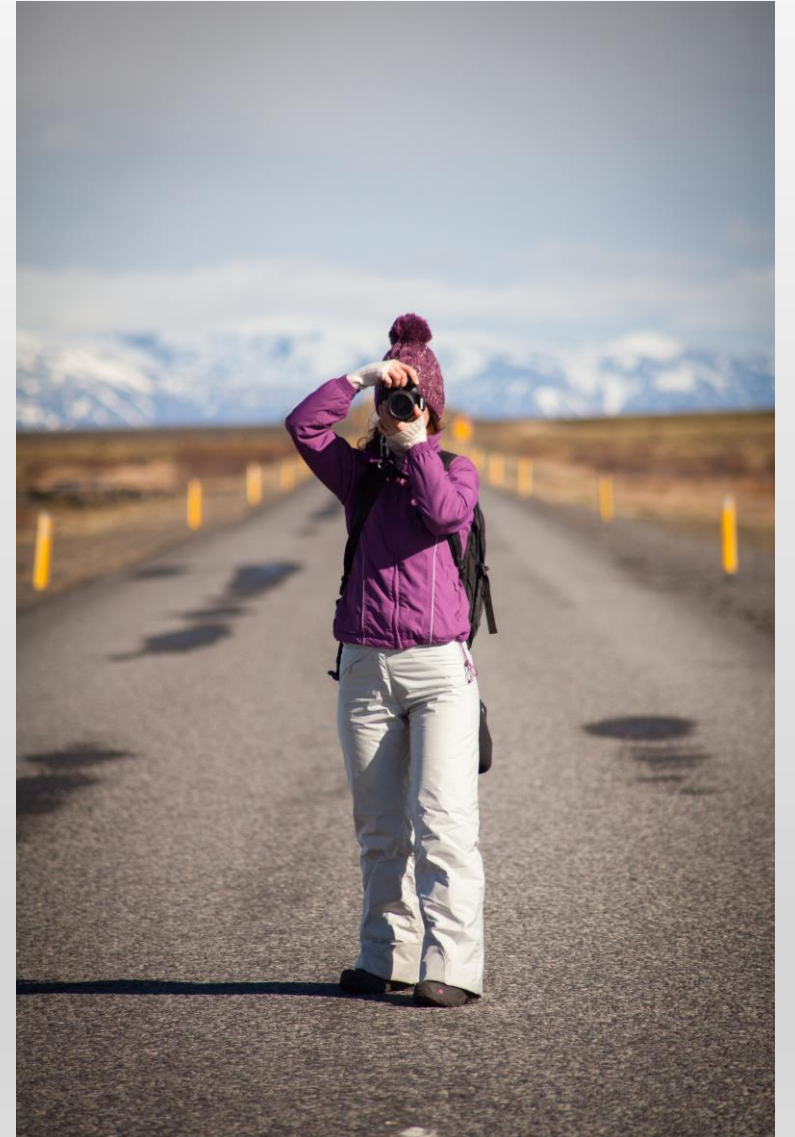
Symmetry – This principle occurs when an element is mirrored and may be applied to an area or to the whole frame.



Composition



Composition



Composition

Leading lines – In an urban setting it's common to find parallel lines that converge towards a vanishing point. This is another way to enhance the sense of depth and get away from the bidimensional nature of photography.

Composition



Composition



Composition



Composition

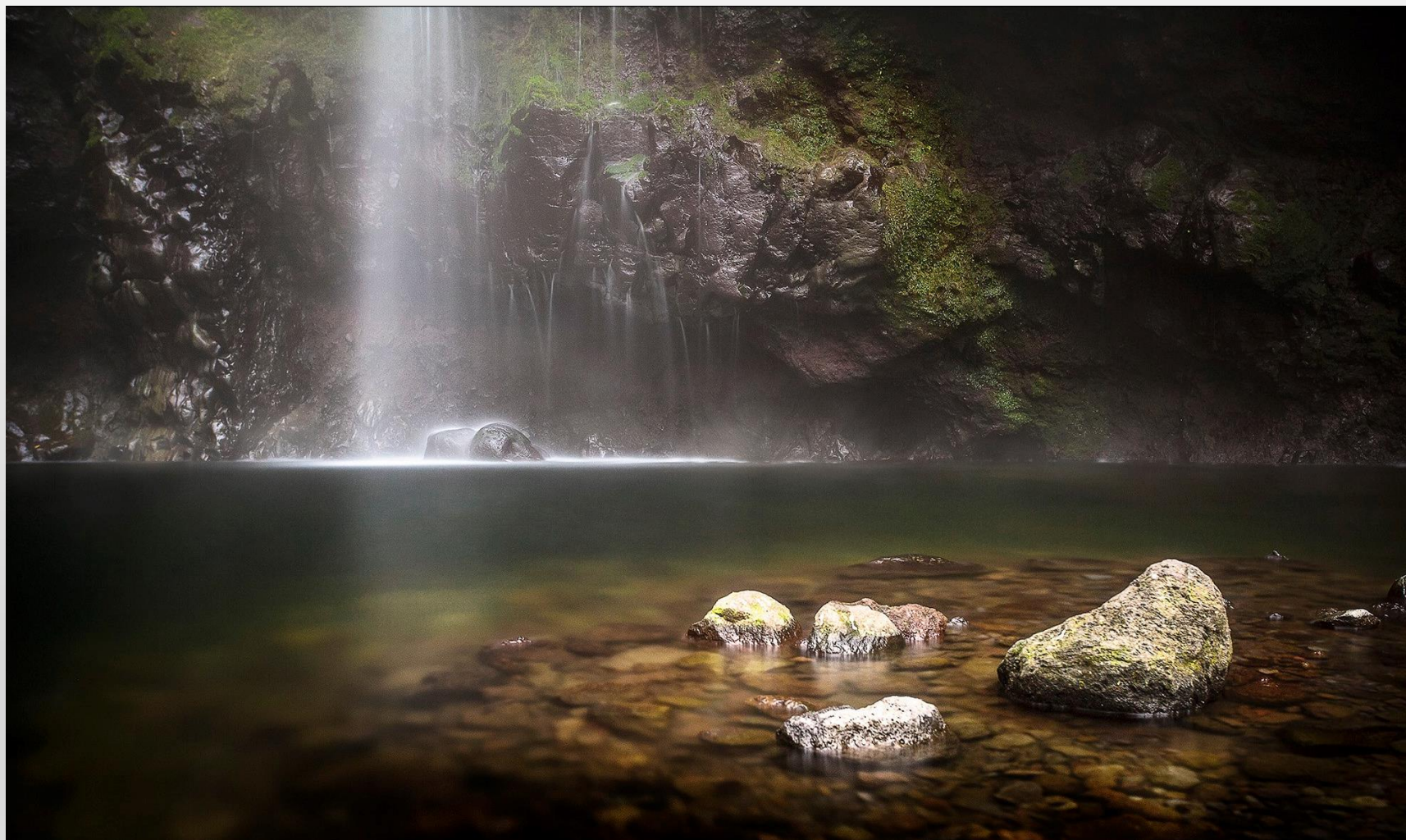


Composition

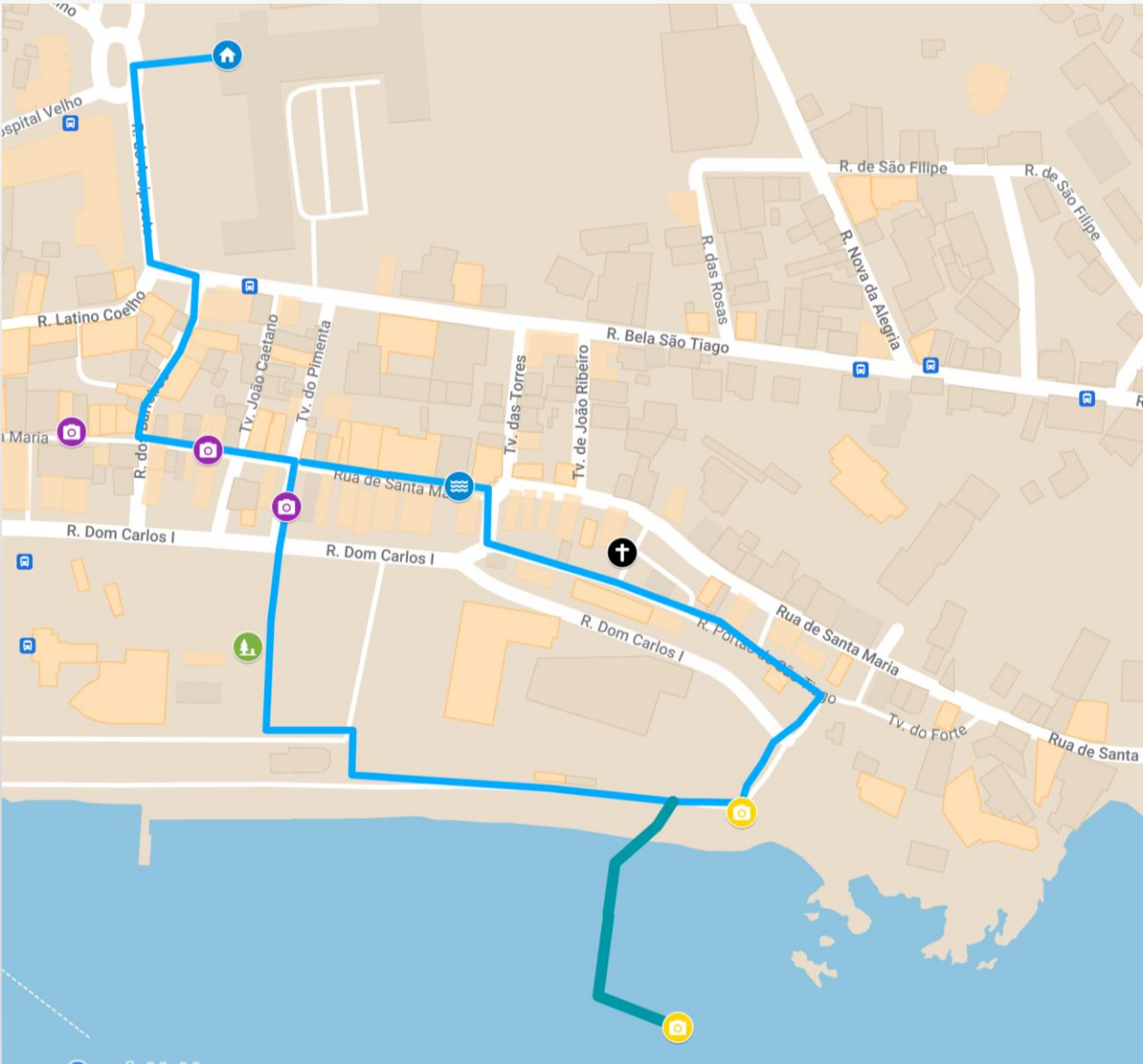
Element on the foreground—Including an element near the camera on wide shots will add depth and interest to the image.



Composition

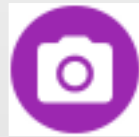


Old town Route



Old town Route

Along this route there are 4 main areas of interest;



Painted doors



Almirante Reis Garden



São Tiago Fort viewpoint 1 and 2

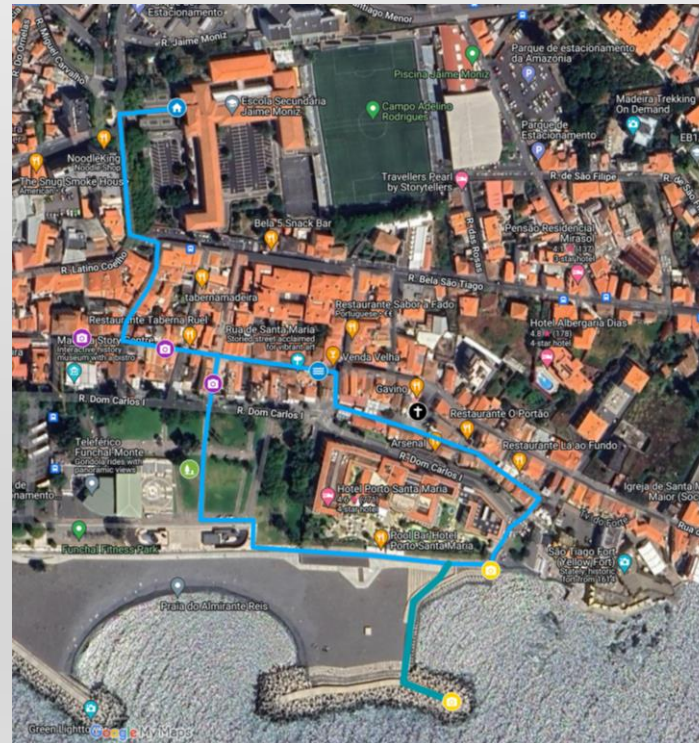


Chapel of the Holy Body

You will find this route on Google maps at:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1mg33hYp6A4lNI5AA47ebzGC8juOvPPc>

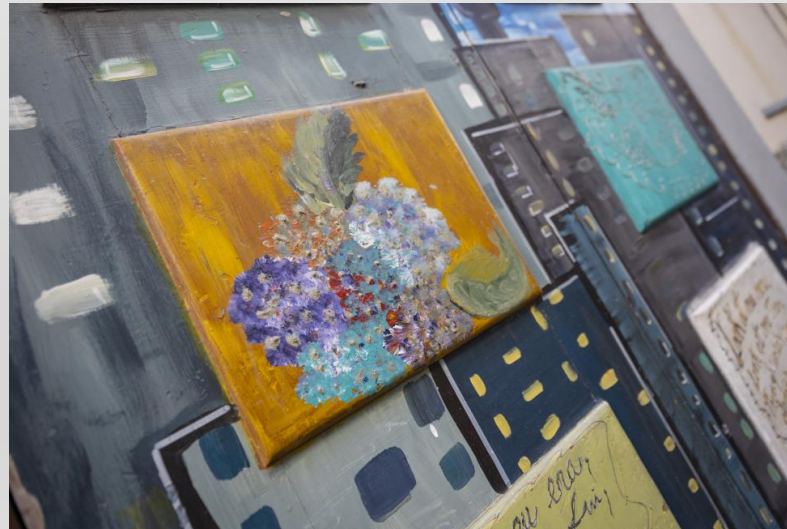
Old town Route





Painted doors

The “Open Doors Art” project was created in 2010 with the intent to inject new life and interest to Funchal’s old town. Hundreds of local artists took part in this initiative that started in Saint Mary’s Street and later spread to its side streets.





Almirante Reis Garden

In its current configuration, this garden exists since 2012. It features a skate park, a cable car station and several statues.





Almirante Reis Garden

Play with you zoom level and distance to the subject to change the scale between objects. Less zoom will make far away elements appear smaller.





Almirante Reis Garden

Remember to remove elements that are not important from the composition. When shooting tall objects, you should try to place the sun where it will add interest to the photo.





Almirante Reis Garden

Remember to avoid getting your own shadow in the frame when photographing in the sun.





São Tiago Fort viewpoints

This fort was initially completed in 1614, but new sections were built in 1767 which gave it its current configuration.





Chapel of the Holy Body

This small chapel dates back to the 15th century and is dedicated to the patron saint of fishermen.

