

PHOTO TRAVEL INTERCLUB SCORING GUIDELINES

The Photo Travel Division has produced Guides for Chairs and Judges. These guides must be issued to judges to ensure that all judges have read the guides and understand them

Editing Guidelines

Processing or editing must be limited to making the image look as close to the original scene as possible, except that conversion to grayscale monochrome is allowed.

Allowed editing techniques:

- Cropping, straightening and perspective correction.
- Removal or correction of elements added by the camera or lens, such as dust spots, noise, chromatic aberration and lens distortion.
- Global and selective adjustments such as brightness, hue, saturation and contrast to restore the appearance of the original scene.
- Complete conversion of color images to grayscale monochrome.
- Blending of multiple images of the same subject and combining them in camera or with software (exposure blending or focus stacking);
- Image stitching – combining multiple images with overlapping fields of view that are taken consecutively (panoramas);

Editing techniques that are not allowed:

- Removing, adding to, moving or changing any part of an image, except for cropping and straightening.
- Adding a vignette during processing.
- Blurring parts of the image during processing to hide elements in the original scene.
- Darkening parts of the image during processing to hide elements in the original scene.
- All conversions other than to complete grayscale monochrome.
- Conversion of parts of an image to monochrome, or partial toning, desaturation or over-saturation of color

Borders

Many entrants wish to add a thin line around their image to separate it from the background. Any border added must be a single border of, gray, or white, no greater than 3-5 pixels in width

Photo Travel Definition

A Photo Travel image is a portrayal of the real world we live in, as it is found naturally. There are no geographic limitations.

Content guidance:

1. If the image is predominantly or exclusively a land-, sea- or cityscape, these “scapes” must include characteristic, distinctive, and recognizable physical features, although the image doesn't need to identify the exact location;
2. Images that predominantly or exclusively depict people and their activities must illustrate a distinctive culture of a country, region, or continent;
3. Images that predominately or exclusively depict animal populations are allowed, if the animals are in their native environment and are characteristic of that country, region, or continent;
4. Portraits or other close-ups of people or objects, in addition to meeting the above paragraphs as applicable, must include elements depicting some of the surrounding environment to make it obvious that the image was not taken in a studio setting;

5. Images from events or activities arranged for photography, or of subjects directed or hired for photography, are **NOT allowed**.
6. Time exposures are allowed, if they do not dominate the image as a special effect (star trails, for example, are a dominating effect).
7. Highly distorted images such as those produced by fish eye lenses are **NOT allowed**.

Interclub Scoring

Notes to judges: The term DQ for disqualified is not used in Interclub Competitions and an image falling in that category is scored either 0 for makeup or Score of 1. Use the full scale of scores to rate the images within a group; do not assign just two or three of those numbers to everything. Makers should feel that a score of five is possible

MAKEUP IMAGES

Score 0:

Please score these four (4) oversights zero when discovered. If this action reduces the number of allowed images in the Round, the club can submit a makeup image in the next Round as long as the maker of the makeup image does not have an image in the Round it is replacing. If discovered in Round 3 this makeup cannot be honored since there are no more Rounds in the competition.

- A maker has several images in the competition. The Director will use the last entered image for the competition. If the Host Club discovers the error, the lowest-scoring image will receive a Zero.
- The image has won an award previously in **Travel** Interclub.
- The image is too pixelated to be viewed.
- The maker's name is on the image.

Score 1:

- The image, in your opinion, provides no characteristic features
- The Image does not portray a culture specific to a land or region.
- You may know that the image is a result of a setup.
- It is a close-up of a person or object and provides no information about the location. i.e., there are no features other than what the person is wearing or holding.
- There are obvious editing techniques/ derivations you have noticed that are not allowed in Photo Travel.
- The image does not look natural.
- The image is of a very low standard. It has major flaws, such as parts of the image being out of focus or the image might be cluttered to the point of distraction.
- Is an Infrared Image

Score 2:

- The image, in your opinion, provides very weak characteristic features nor does it provide a culture specific to a land or region.
- You may suspect that the image is a result of a setup.
- If it is a close-up of a person or object it provides very weak information about the location. i.e. there are blurred or indistinguishable features other than what the person is wearing or holding.

- There are editing techniques/derivations you have noticed that are not allowed in Photo Travel. OR The image does not look natural.
- The image has no significant technical flaws but likewise has no significant strengths. The image shows the technical proficiency that we would expect as a minimum standard.

Score 3:

- Image complies with the Photo Travel Definition.
- The image provides adequate to strong characteristic feature/s and/or a culture you consider to be specific to a land or region.
- You do not suspect or know that the image is a result of a setup.
- If it is a close-up of a person or object, the image provides information about the location. i.e., it provides features other than what the person is wearing or holding.
- You can see no evidence of non-allowable editing techniques/derivations. The image looks natural.
- This is an average but solid image where the elements work well together, and the image is technically correct.
- The image exhibits at least one element for which photographers should be striving. (good lighting, importance of choice of subject, dramatic composition, handling depth of field effectively, eliciting emotional impact, or exhibiting freshness and creativity).
- If there are flaws, they are minor and compensated for by other elements in the image.

Score 4:

- Image complies with the Photo Travel Definition and you feel it should receive an HM Award i.e., the image provides adequate to strong characteristic feature/s and/or a culture you consider is specific to a land or region.
- You do not suspect or know that the image is a result of a setup.
- If it is a close-up of a person or object, the image provides information about the location. i.e., it provides features other than what the person is wearing or holding.
- You can see no evidence of non-allowable editing techniques/derivations. The image looks natural.
- This is a very strong image. The image is technically correct, and the elements all work well together. Technical excellence is expected.
- Difficult exposures, effective use of selective focusing and depth of field, as well as other advanced photographic techniques would be expected of this score.
- If there are flaws, they are minor and hard to find.

• Score 5:

- Image complies with the Photo Travel Definition and you feel it should be awarded a Merit, i.e., the image provides adequate to strong characteristic feature/s and/ or a culture you consider is specific to a land or region.
- You do not suspect or know that the image is a result of a setup.
- If it is a close-up of a person or objects the image provides information about the location, i.e., it provides features other than what the person is wearing or holding.
- You can see no evidence of non-allowable editing techniques/derivations. The image looks natural.
- You feel the author has excelled.
- This is an exceptionally strong image that shows true photographic excellence. There should not be any obvious flaws. Technical excellence is expected.