

The Adventure Issue

TRAVEL + LEISURE

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HOW TO TAKE AMAZING PHOTOS

Up your Instagram game with these **pro tips** that will help you become a better photographer



PLAY WITH COLOR

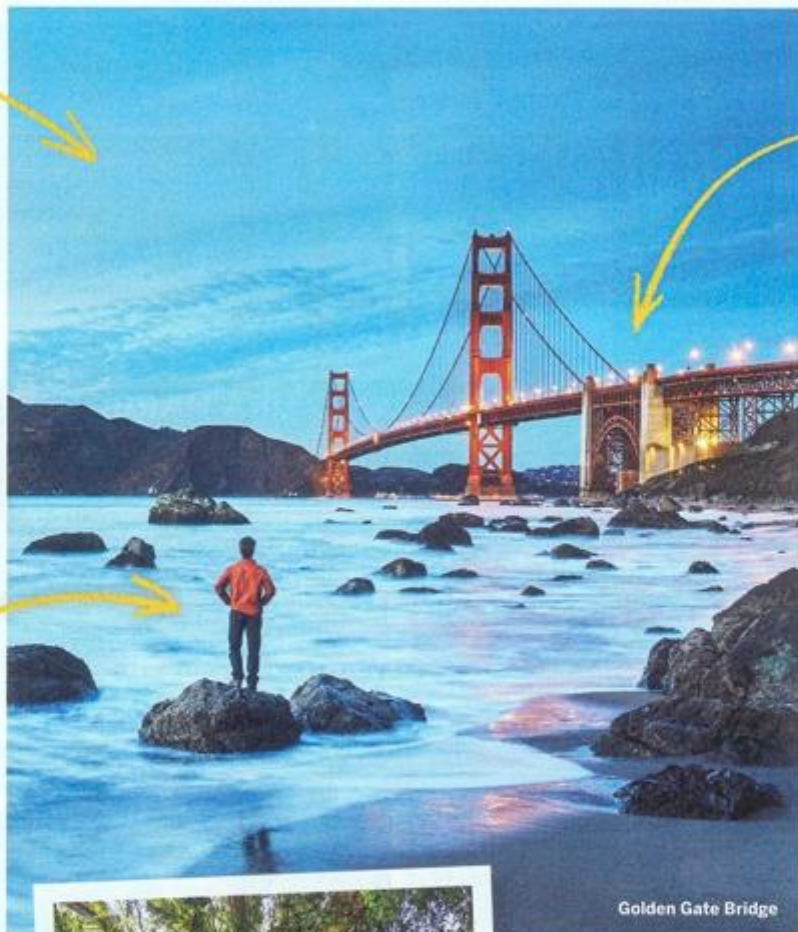
Landscape photographer Daniel Stainer says colors will impact your message, even if subconsciously. Color's emotional value varies with context. Blue may appear relaxing in a beach scene, but cold and icy in a winter scene.

ADD SCALE

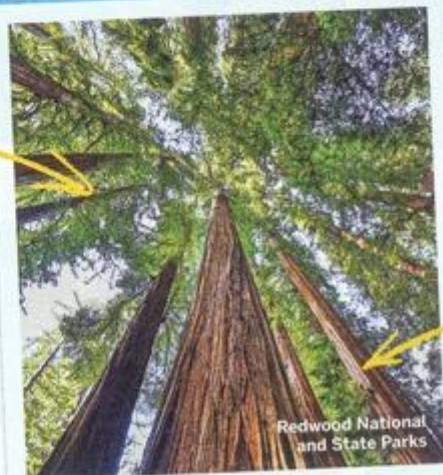
Whether you're shooting giant redwood trees or a tall waterfall, put a person in the frame to provide context. Let the person's size relay the message these trees are huge.

FILL THE FRAME

Simon says another trick is to get really close to your subject. This lets you capture intriguing details that would be otherwise missed and exclude unnecessary clutter.



Golden Gate Bridge



Redwood National and State Parks

GUIDE THEIR EYES

Documentary and fine art photographer Joel Simon says "Leading lines are one of the most persuasive visual techniques." A curving road, row of trees, or railroad tracks can guide your viewer's eyes into your photograph.

LIGHT IT

Early morning and late afternoon, a.k.a. "golden hour," are best for outdoors because the sun's low angle to the horizon diffuses its light and makes shadows longer and softer. In glaring midday light, skip the big landscape and focus on one small piece, like a cluster of leaves, Stainer recommends.

ACCESSORIZE

Treat your smartphone like a camera. Use a wide-angle lens attachment like the Moment Wide 18mm to shoot landscapes, and you'll capture two times more. Sandmarc's filters reduce blown-out skies, make colors pop, and add that dreamy-blurry effect to moving water.

CHANGE YOUR PERSPECTIVE

Ordinary subjects can look fresh when shot from an unusual perspective. Climb up on a park bench and shoot from above, or lay on the ground and shoot from below. "A low-angle shot conveys your subject with confidence and power," Stainer says.