TIPS FOR MAKING BETTER TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHS (BY DAVID H. WELLS.)

- 1. **Arrive early, stay late!** The best parts often happen before or after the main event.
- 2. Ask yourself, **why am I taking pictures**? Do your photos record a mood, successfully share a good memory, or are they simply a marker of your presence?
- 3. **"Work" the situations**. When I am working, I may only photograph a few situations but I work those in many different ways till the image says what I want.
- 4. What is the **best position or angle**? I often try to get low down like a dog or to photograph from above, like a giraffe. Both give a very different experience.
- 5. Notice the **quality and direction of the light**? Where is the light coming from, what can I do to use that light by changing my position, lens, etc.?
- 6. Strive to remember the **importance of detail** shots to add to the story.
- 7. **Vary lenses**. Consider all the tools available to you, such as different lenses.
- 8. The **drama of silhouettes** makes for a powerful photograph. Use them to create highly graphic images that give the viewer a more dramatic perspective and simplify the image down to a few elements.
- 9. Capture a **sense of time** by using high shutter speed to stop the action, a slow shutter speed to pan with a moving object or fix the camera and let the activity blur by you.
- 10. Keep an eye on the backgrounds, which make or break your images. Keep it "clean" and **watch your corners!**
- 11. Put it all together to get "**the moment**." The best photos exhibit two or more of the points above to make a complete image that tells the story without distractions.

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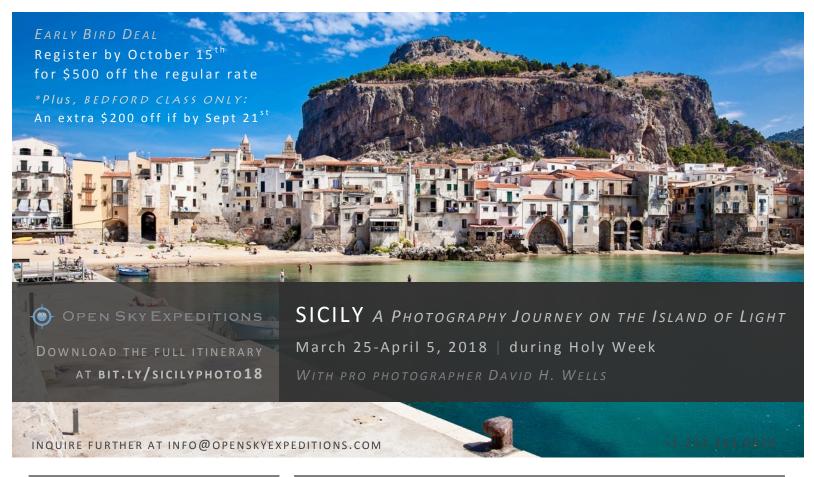
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ITINERARY OVERVIEW

March 25, 2018, Sunday

Depart Home

March 26, Monday

Arrive Palermo, Italy

March 27, Tuesday

PALERMO | MONREALE

March 28, Wednesday

Palermo to ERICE | SEGESTA | SALT FLATS

March 29, Thursday

PALERMO | CEFALU

March 30, Friday

GOOD FRIDAY PROCESSION IN ENNA

March 31, Saturday

ENNA | HILLTOP TOWNS of ETNA | Taormina

April 1, Sunday

TAORMINA | MT. ETNA | EASTER SUNDAY

IN THE ALCANTARA VALLEY

April 2, Monday

TAORMINA | SIRACUSA

April 3, Tuesday

SIRACUSA

April 4, Wednesday

Siracusa | NOTO | MARZAMEMI | Siracusa

April 5, Wednesday

Fly Home from Catania

HIGHLIGHTS

Discover beautiful, historic, energy-filled Palermo — where we'll stay for three nights in the old Arab quarter, with photo walks in the markets and port, plus key sights in town — and travel to nearby Monreale to marvel at and capture its incredible mosaics. ◆ Explore the northwestern corner of the island and photograph the Greek city of Segesta in its stunning setting, hilltop Erice (often shrouded in a mysterious veil of fog), and the Marsala salt flats in late afternoon light. ◆ Experience and photograph the famed Good Friday procession in Enna, a beautiful off-the-beaten path mountaintop town in the center of the island. ◆ Partake of and photograph Easter celebrations with Sicilians in the beautiful Alcantara Valley, after an exciting afternoon exploring imposing Mount Etna and its lava fields. ◆ Enjoy and capture the essence of the dolce far niente (sweetness of doing nothing) in enchanting Taormina—which Goethe called "a corner of paradise"— with its spectacular views of Europe's largest volcano. ◆ Absorb the beauty of historic Siracusa on our three final nights, one of the most powerful cities of antiquity, with its archeological treasures and lovely old town of Ortigia.

Stay in **deluxe hotels** throughout the itinerary, chosen for their ambiance, high standards, and location (all walking distance from the top areas of photographic interest, giving us ample freedom of movement).

Learn from travel photography veteran and photo instructor David H. Wells, via one-on-one guidance and group photography instruction throughout the trip.

Travel with veteran tour leader and Sicily expert Alex Ros, the owner of boutique tour company Open Sky Expeditions, who is fluent in Italian and a photographer himself.

Absorb the knowledge of local experts, traveling with some of the top English-speaking guides on the island for most tours and joined by a local Sicilian photographer who'll show us her insider spots on select days.

Savor amazing, delicious Sicilian food, enjoying carefully chosen restaurants, avoiding the big tour crowds.

Relax with logistically seamless, hassle-free travel – tipping included, and much more.

Book confidently on an itinerary developed over months for the correct pace and balance, designed around the best light & photography opportunities.