

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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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**.