

Some photographers may consider the use of a checklist as binding to their creativity. For the travel photographer, checklists are of utmost importance. A travel photographer's time is limited, and they must accomplish as much as possible to make the most out of their travel dollars. When nothing is forgotten, the quality of the work generally exceeds expectations.

PRINT SIZE: A5
14cm x 21cm /
5.83" x 8.27"



Checklists help keep you on an established path, and that can lead to more productivity. You get more, high quality, photographic work completed in a confined period of time.

In order to get started with your checklists, you need to do some self-examination. The purpose of a checklist is to help you make sure no important step in a process is forgotten. For example, when checking out of your hotel do you have all of your gear: including chargers, batteries, and lens caps?

TO KEEP IN MIND:



LEARN FROM THE PAST

Investigate your failures. Look for 'killer items' from your past efforts. These are the areas where you need checklists.



PRIORITIZE

Checklists instill discipline. If you have 5 days at a destination and your 'shot checklist' includes 50 different sites. You're going to need another checklist to establish order, prioritize, and make sure you don't forget anything important.



SET A TIME SCHEDULE

At the beginning of your travel period (week/day/month) set out all tasks for that period and prioritize them.



CHECK YOUR GEAR

When beginning a project use a checklist to make sure you have the right tools and resources. For example, did you bring a shutter release for long exposures? Did you bring model releases so that your work is more salable and valuable? If you're bringing a model with you, do you have clothing, props, hair and make-up?



CHECK THE CHECKLIST

Three checklists are fundamental to travel photography: A master packing list, a shot list for each location, a check out list of all valuables when leaving a location.