

# Understanding Photo Travel Themes

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Thinking of entering a Photo Travel section of a PSA-recognized exhibition? You will find many exhibitions that offer a 'Travel' section, meaning that as long as the image adheres to the Photo Travel Definition then the image is suitable for entry.

What is exciting is that sometimes an exhibition will offer a Photo Travel themed section to entrants. Keep a look out for themes because not only are they fun to enter but they provide you with a greater opportunity of gaining Photo Travel acceptances. When entering a Photo Travel themed section, you just need to remember that the images must be in compliance with the Photo Travel Definition. In a nutshell, you first have to make sure the image meets the Photo Travel Definition, and secondly you have to decide if the image suits the theme... or more importantly whether the judge will think the image suits the theme.

Themed sections could encompass many areas of Photo Travel, and there is a wide variety of themes that you might encounter, such as: Man, Woman, Child, Water, Friendship, People at Work, People

at Leisure, Worship, Architecture, Seascapes, Landscapes, Cityscapes, Man Made Structures, Fountains, Bridges, Celebrations, Festivals, Summer, Winter...the possibilities are endless.

Here are some examples of how the image must firstly adhere to the Photo Travel Definition and secondly, how it then should relate to the theme.

## **Photo Travel Section Theme: Worship**

This image observes the Photo Travel Definition because it portrays a culture that is specific to a land and as a bonus there are also strong characteristic features provided by the buildings in the background. Because the image complies with the Photo Travel Definition it could then be considered for entry into the Theme of Worship.

## **Photo Travel Section: Theme: Manmade Structures**

Firstly, this image adheres to the Photo Travel Definition because it has strong characteristic



Photo Travel Section—Theme: Worship—Diwali in Amritsar © Tom Tauber, APSA, MPSA



**Photo Travel Section—Theme: Manmade Structures—Great Wall 9 © Gunther Riehle, APSA, GMPSA/P**

features, namely the Great Wall. The mountains in the background also add to identifying the location. Since it meets the Photo Travel Definition it then could be considered for entry into the Theme of Manmade Structures.

**Photo Travel Section:  
Theme: People at Work**

This image is in compliance with the Photo Travel Definition because it shows a culture that is specific to a land. i.e. the workmen’s boat, their

tools and even their head gear suggest a culture. Because the Photo Travel Definition is heeded the image then could be entered into the Theme: People at Work.

**Photo Travel Section:  
Theme: People at Leisure**

The identifiable buildings in the background provide strong characteristic features therefore this image meets the Photo Travel Definition. The girls look as if they are on holidays and relaxing.



**Photo Travel Section—Theme: People at Work—Topaza to Fishermen Returning with Catch © Tom Tauber, APSA, MPSA**



Photo Travel Section—Theme: Leisure—Selfie at 555 Meters © Tom Tauber, APSA, MPSA

Because the image observes the Photo Travel Definition the image could be suitable for entry into the theme of Leisure.

**Photo Travel Section:  
Theme: Winter**

This image provides characteristic features in the form of fairly distinct mountains in the background and easily identifiable buildings in the midground, it therefore meets the requirements of the Photo Travel Definition. The snow indicates winter so the image could be suitable for entry into the theme of Winter.

Photo Travel education material is available at: <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?ptd-educational-resources> and you will find a Gallery of set-up/staged images at: <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?staged-travel-images>

If you are unsure if an image is suitable for entry into Photo Travel please make use of the Photo Travel Image Evaluation service which members can access after login: <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?divisions-photo-travel> ■



Photo Travel Section—Theme: Winter—Coming Home © Tom Tauber, APSA, MPSA