

Ultimate Beginner's Guide to Smartphone Street Photography



Introduction

Street photography is the art of capturing beauty in the mundane in public areas.

All you need to become a street photographer is a public place and a camera to document with.

If you are interested in starting street photography but do not have a fancy camera to shoot with, just use your smart phone.

In fact, using a smartphone is one of the best cameras for street photography.

Here's why you should use your smart-phone as your camera and the basics to get started!

SMARTPHONE CAMERA

PROS & CONS

Lightweight
Compact
Always with you
Save money instead of buying new gear
Inconspicuous
Unintimidating
Easy to use
Decent image quality

Not top image quality
Not great for shooting at night/low light
Can't show off with

Before Shooting

1. Know Thy Phone:

Learn the strengths and weaknesses of your particular smartphone camera.

Read your smartphone manual to learn the camera features. There will be features you did not know about that will help you while taking photos.

2. Install A Third Party Camera App:

If you are not satisfied if your default smartphone camera app or would like greater control like a traditional camera, install a third party camera app.

App Suggestions:

VSCO Free (ios/android)

ProCamera \$4.99 (ios)

Camera FV-5 \$3.95 (android)

3. Install Post-Processing App:

To get the best results for your smart-phone photos, you need to post-process your images.

App Suggestions:

VSCO Free (ios/android) Preset A6

Snapseed Free (ios/android)

Adobe Lightroom Free 30 day trial (ios/android)

4. Clean It:

Clean your camera lens with a microfiber cloth to remove all the fingerprints and built up grime.

You'll be surprised how much better quality your photos will be after cleaning your lens.

While Shooting

1. Don't Rely On Auto Mode:

Know when to override auto mode depending on the situation.

Learn when to manually control white balance, exposure, and shutter speed.

2. Use Your Feet To Zoom:

Do not use the zoom on your smartphone because the quality of the image is drastically reduced.

Instead, just walk up closer.

3. Good Lighting Is Key:

Because smartphone cameras suffer in low light conditions, concentrate on photographing in good lighting.

Good Lighting Suggestions:

Golden Hour (Sunrise/Sunset)

Through Windows

4. Block Distractions Out:

When using your phone for shooting photography, turn airplane mode on to save battery life and to block out unnecessary distractions.

5. Have Fun:

Don't take yourself or your photography too seriously.

Feel free to experiment and to explore photographic opportunities that interests you.

Take as many photos as you want and whenever you want.

Resources

1. "Ultimate Beginner's Guide to Mastering Photography":

Learn indepth photographic techniques and knowledge to reach your full potential as a photographer.

Eric Kim is offering "[Ultimate Beginner's Guide to Mastering Photography](#)", a complete online video course through Udemy.

Enter limited promo code: JUSTSHOOTIT for your discount today.

2. Eric Kim Blog:

The Ultimate Beginner's Guide to iPhone/Smartphone Photography

7 Benefits of Shooting Street Photography With a Smartphone

Street Photography by Eric Kim

3. Eric Kim Forum:

Upload your photos and get constructive feedback from a community of supportive photographers.

Join the community!