



Travels with my iPhone: Vince Boisgard

Vincent Boisgard was born in France and has a passion for photography which has resulted in him gaining a masters degree in Photography in Paris. On February 14th, 2010 he did what many only dream of, he decided it was time to go and explore the world. His journey started in Sydney, Australia and later took him to New Zealand and then onto most of South East Asia. For almost 5 years Vince has been on the road and still wants to see more of what the world has to offer. Throughout his travels Vince has been documenting this journey using his iPhone. Here he shares with us his views and experiences of travelling the world.



Travelling is an adventure, a different one for each one of us. I also think it is an essential step in a lifetime experience whether it is for a year or as long as it is possible. Through my travels I've seen some of the most beautiful landscapes, met some unbelievable people who have become friends, some of whom I've shared some of the greatest and most painful moments of my life. I've been happy, sad, down on my knees in the mud planting trees under the pouring rain...

As a photographer, I enjoy travelling for the freedom of shooting what I want, when I want and where I want! Although there are exceptions: some places are holy places and as a mark of respect, it is forbidden to use any type of camera and should not be taken for granted they are only for your eyes and memories.

I'm a dinosaur; my first camera was a Canon A1 (film camera) then for economical and practical reasons I swapped for the digital world. About 2 years ago, I started using my phone as a pocket camera after my so called waterproof cam died under water in Bali.



I use an iPhone 4! The truth is that even with an old iPhone 4 it is possible to take some great shots and one of the biggest advantages of taking pics with a phone is that it is less intimidating, more discreet than a DSLR. It is lighter than carrying a 1.5kg camera every day, everywhere and it does the job in most situations.

I was inspired to take photos with my iPhone because I was tired of carrying the weight of my DSLR every day. The other thing is the discretion, putting the lens of a DSLR into someone's face isn't always nice from a subjects point of view! An iPhone is much more discreet and everyone is used to

having their picture taken with a mobile phone which makes the process less intimidating. Using a mobile phone is a good way to get natural shots of the surrounding life especially in street photography.



As for my style, I enjoy street photography, landscape and portrait but mostly pictures documenting what I see and how I see it. I don't stick to only one style of photography, changes are good! I just like being behind the camera, looking through the viewfinder or on my screen, stealing a part of time which I find interesting and share it with those who cannot see it or don't give themselves the opportunity to travel and to keep on dreaming with my images.

I feel one of the most amazing things about iPhone photography are the many apps available that enable you to edit photos and add effects to them before sharing them with the world. Personally, I use Snapseed, a great app to treat photos with, it's easy to use and does the job better than most others.



All of the countries I have visited have been good photographically, but I would say the most interesting would be a battle between Nepal because of the faces of the Tibetan people, they are marked with time, making them beautiful and stunning to photograph. Also the architecture of the sites and the general atmosphere of the country is truly breathtaking. At the other end, I really liked Bangladesh for the colors and the street life. It is very interesting and different from what I saw anywhere else. It is organized chaos with little treasures to be found on every corner of the street.



I have been asked if travelling so much and seeing so many different countries and cultures has changed my approach to the photos I take. Well at first it did, I was really excited about everything! I mean a waterfall would blow my mind as much as the streets of Sydney or the great sandy deserts in Australia. I was taking so many photographs of everything that I realized I wasn't enjoying what was happening around me!



After Australia, I spent almost a year without using my camera, only using it from time to time to capture memories. I learnt to observe and watch with my eyes, melting with the traditions and lifestyle of the places I visited and only captured what's important and worth sharing with images. Since then, I feel a lot better about taking photos, I think it is really important to be able to leave the camera on the side and fill up our eyes with images to be inspired and absorb the essence of this time spent in a place rather than shooting everything we see all the time.

Some stories are worth sharing with words and some with light!

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