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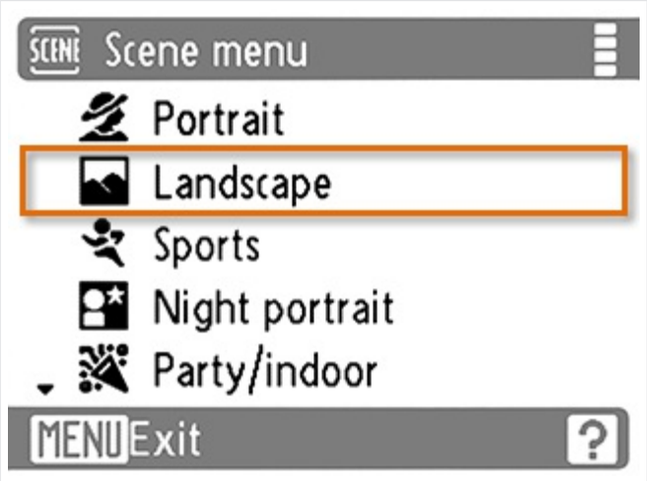
Digital Photography
Photographing Landscapes

Photographing landscapes

Landscapes are a great opportunity to experiment with photo composition. You may want to use the **rule of thirds** or **leading lines** (such as roads or rivers) to make a more pleasing image. You can also include foreground objects to give a sense of depth to the photo.

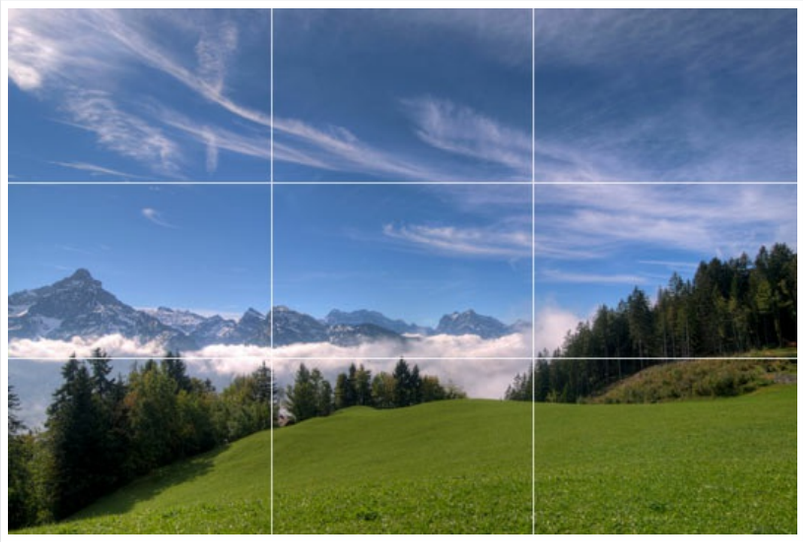
Below are a few tips you can use to improve your landscape photography:

- **Use the Landscape scene mode.** This mode automatically focuses on **infinity**, which means it focuses **as far away as possible** (and also keeps the **depth of field** as large as possible). This ensures the background landscape will be in focus, as well as the foreground objects.



- **Use a smaller aperture if possible.** If you are using a DSLR or bridge camera, use a smaller aperture (such as f/16). This will increase the depth of field and ensure the background and foreground are in focus.
- **Keep the camera level.** Landscapes usually look best when the camera is level. It will be easier to keep the camera straight if you are using a tripod.
- **Try to find an interesting foreground object.** Landscapes aren't just about the background. If you can include an interesting object in the foreground, it will add a sense of depth to the photo.

- **Use the rule of thirds.** If the horizon is visible, try to place it near one of the grid lines instead of in the middle of the photo.



- **Use leading lines.** Is there a road, sidewalk, river, or stream you can use in your landscape? These are known as leading lines because they help to lead the eye into the photograph.

Previous: Capturing Motion

Next: Capturing Close-up Shots

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