Avoid Travel Photography Pitfalls

Whether our Experiences Group is traveling on a one-day mystery trip or a week-long cruise, we all want to capture those priceless moments with photographs. Trying to get that perfect shot can be a challenge!

Here are tips to counteract two of the most common traveling photography dilemmas:

Shooting from moving transportation

If you attempt to take a photograph from the window of a fast moving car or high speed train, the finished product will be blurred--much as if you were standing still while taking a picture of a car or train passing by. What matters is the speed of your subject and you relative to each other. *(Incidentally, when you shoot out of the car or train, the closest objects will be blurred the most, while the ones in the distance will be blurred the least.)*

What can you do to compensate? Simply increase your shutter speed, just as you would to freeze the movement of a fast moving subject. A photo taken at a shutter speed of 1/1000 will be much less blurred than one taken at 1/60.

You might find it easiest to set your camera to time or aperture automatic, thus eliminating the need to manually adjust the settings for each photo.

Obstruction by objects

When you are shooting out of the window of a moving vehicle, bushes, trees, lamp posts, electrical lines etc. may suddenly appear in your picture. Before pressing the shutter release, be mindful of such objects; look ahead and try to shoot when you are clear of them.

If this is not possible, and there is particularly breathtaking scenery to behold and capture, set your camera to take several pictures in a row—*chances are one will be perfect!*

In an airplane, you are usually clear of those barriers, but beware other obstacles—for example the aircraft's wings—are not in your way. Try getting a seat far away from the wings when you check in, or look for a free window when travelling.

You can have so much fun with digital photography! Take as many pictures as you need to get that "perfect picture" and delete the rest!

My goal is to find that picture I want to blow up and hang on my wall to remember all the wonderful places I have been with the Experiences Group.

Janie