

Shooting Landscapes

Decide where you want to put the **horizon**, i.e.,

- Are there lots of clouds that you want to feature (low horizon)
- Is sky washed out? Make the landscape the focus (high horizon)
- In general, avoid putting the horizon line square in the middle (too static)

Composition

- **Tell a story:** put something interesting in the foreground, the middle ground, and the background to give depth and interest to your image
- Puddles and reflections make a great foreground element
- **Framing** (e.g., through tree branches) can add foreground interest
- Use leading lines to lead the viewer's eye to the middle and background
- Use the Rule of 3rds, especially for foreground elements or for the "hero" (main subject) of your image

Settings



- Shoot in **Landscape** scene mode **or**
- **Aperture Priority** (f/8 or smaller aperture and use Auto ISO)
- Meter on the sky to avoid "blowing it out" and losing cloud detail (i.e., point lens at sky and push shutter half way down; then recompose image)
- Chimp your image and check histogram and "blinkies" (highlight indicators)
- If the image is too light or dark, use Exposure Compensation to correct
- Set your focus on a point that is about $\frac{1}{3}$ of the way into the scene to keep focus sharp from front of image to back