

Why you should be shooting RAW

Written by Charlie Sorrel

There's some confusion as to what the RAW photo format actually is, and, like any good photographic fact, it can incite forum flame wars as quickly as the mention of the words Leica and Bokeh [Bokeh (from the Japanese boke , "blur") is a photographic term referring to the appearance of out-of-focus areas in an image produced by a camera lens. Different lens bokeh produces different aesthetic qualities in out-of-focus backgrounds, which are often used to reduce distractions and emphasize the primary subject], in the same sentence. Although it comes in various flavors -- seemingly one for every different camera model -- RAW is essentially the raw data from the camera's sensor, hence the name.

If your camera has a RAW setting, you should be using it, no excuses. Here's why.

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~~Don't miss the RAW guide to shooting RAW, which is available for free download from the Zoner team.~~
<http://zoner.com/magazine/articles/sorrel/>