

Street Photography Tips

1. **Human Nature**

The thing that separates 'Street photography from architectural shooting is almost always the human element. Be a people watcher and look for interesting interactions between people and places.

2. **Wrist action**

Walking around with a camera strung around your neck can draw unwanted attention to yourself. Try tucking the strap inside an upturned collar or use a wrist strap instead.

3. **Candid camera**

Being secretive and shooting from a distance with a long lens can make you stand out like a sore thumb. Mingle with the crowd, be natural and pick your moment. It often works well to find a good location and just wait for something to happen.

4. **STAY SAFE**

Weigh up the risks of shooting potentially volatile situations. A drunken brawl might make for some great shots but you may also end up on the receiving end of some unwanted attention (Shouting I'm a practising Ninja doesn't work)

5. **DON'T SHOOT**

In some security places any photography is prohibited, use common sense when it comes to shooting outside schools or around playgrounds. Bear in mind if you want to sell shots to stock image libraries you may need a signed model release forms and property release forms for people and places you photograph.

6. **Program AE**

The less time you need to spend fiddling with the camera settings the better as you will sometimes need to react to opportunities extremely quickly. Program AE is perfect as you will get a good balance of shutter speed and aperture and can easily adjust if needed.

7. **High ISO**

On dull days a higher sensitivity will enable you to freeze the action without resorting to a very large aperture. You will often need to avoid motion blur (or not) as people are walking around while having enough depth of field to keep the background sharp (or not) to add context.

8. **Multi point AF**

This usually works very well for street photography and saves focussing and then swivelling the camera which takes more time and can make you more noticeable.

9. **Shoot from the hip**

Try shooting without raising the camera to your eye when you don't want to be spotted. This can make for some interesting alternative angles of view.

10. Keep shooting

Fleeting glances and unexpected things can happen as the scene unfolds. It's often good to switch to continuous drive mode and fire off a burst of shots.

And most importantly if in doubt stay safe and don't shoot