



The Photographer's **Ultimate Holiday Gift Guide**

an educational guide by



feature shoot

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I INTRODUCTION

PART II 27 PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS SHARE WHAT'S ON THEIR LIST THIS YEAR

5	Lolá Ákínmádé Åkerström	19	Jody MacDonald
6	Winnie Au	20	Ruairidh McGlynn
7	Kike Calvo	21	Chris Parkes
8	Henry Do	22	Tara Pixley
9	Gabriele Facciotti	23	Ian Plant
10	Travis Fox	24	Julia Robinson
11	Jean Fruth	25	Pete Souza
12	Yannis Davy Guibinga	26	Tiina Törmänen
13	Lori Hawkins	27	trashhand
14	Monique Jaques	28	Billie Weiss
15	Greg Kahn	29	Shannon Wild
16	Kara "Kiki" Lamm	30	Salgu Wissmath
17	Isa Leshko	31	Robert Zaleski
18	Amy Lombard		

PART III PHOTOSHELTER & FEATURE SHOOT RECOMMENDATIONS

PART IV CONCLUSION

© 2019 PhotoShelter, Inc

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, scanning or otherwise, without the prior written consent of PhotoShelter, Inc. The logos of the companies described are the trademarks of their respective owners. No endorsement is implied.

PhotoShelter, Inc. makes no representations or warranties with respect to the accuracy or completeness of the contents of this work and specifically disclaim all warranties, including without limitation warranties of fitness for a particular purpose. The advice and strategies contained herein may not be suitable for every situation. Cover design by Narda Avila.

PART I

Introduction

When you're a working photographer, the holiday season can sneak up on you. Whether you're traversing harsh terrain, navigating in remote areas, or juggling studio sessions and endless editing chores, the holidays rarely seem like a priority. Still, this time of year can serve as a powerful reminder to slow down and take time for ourselves.

The holidays are a time for giving, but with the recent rise of the "self-gifting" trend, there's one person you can't forget to add to your shopping list: yourself. Photography expenses can rack up quickly throughout the year, but this time of year gives us the chance to reflect on what we need (and want) the most. The best gifts can develop your practice, help your photography business run more efficiently and — most importantly — inspire you to get outside and shoot.

In collaboration with [Feature Shoot](#), we asked 27 photographers to share their best gift recommendations — and some of their favorite purchases in recent years. These artists span genres and disciplines, from photojournalism to fine art, making for a diverse and unique round-up of gifts. This guide includes everything from the latest and greatest in cameras, lenses and drones to an inspiring selection of photo books and workshops — all at price points appropriate for a variety of budgets.

In addition to our list of photographer recommendations, we've also included a few gift ideas of our own. We hope you enjoy our selections, and happy holidays!

PART II:

Photographer Recommendations

LOLÁ ÁKÍNMADE ÅKERSTRÖM

A Stockholm-based photographer and author, Lola is known for her bright, high contrast images that perfectly capture the excitement of encountering new cultures, foods and terrains. She was the 2018 Travel Photographer of the Year **Bill Muster Award** recipient and her work has appeared in *National Geographic Traveler*, *Forbes*, *Lonely Planet*, *Adventure Magazine* and more.



 [@lolaakinmade](https://www.instagram.com/lolaakinmade)



Nikon AF-S FX NIKKOR 24-70mm f/2.8E ED Lens

"Every travel photographer needs to graduate from their kit lens and get a solid 24-70mm everyday versatile lens. Since I shoot primarily with Nikon (Sony as my backup), this is my go-to lens and is one of my best investments."



Ricoh Theta V 4k 360 Spherical Camera

"This is a fun little camera that's great for capturing 360 videos and photos you can quickly share on social media. It's more of a vanity purchase, but I loved capturing those memorable 360 views of husky sledding and sailing with icebergs in Greenland that instantly transported my viewers right there with me."

WINNIE AU

Originally from Rockford, IL, Winnie now lives in Brooklyn, NY, where she spends her time photographing people, animals, food, and the spaces where all of these things live. She loves mac and cheese, bicycles, french pressed coffee, corgis, basset hounds, and soup dumplings. Her clients include Airbnb, *Architectural Digest*, *The New York Times*, Bank of America, Google, Goop and *Bon Appetit*.



📷 @winniewow



Wesco 220649 Steel Maxi Mover Lightweight Folding Truck

"I do a lot of work on location, so we are constantly transporting gear. I have a few foldable carts from Wesco that are indispensable and fairly sturdy for their price point. They fold up flat and I take them everywhere. I'd recommend these to anyone who moves stuff all the time and doesn't have space for a giant cart."



Profoto A1

"I love this little light. Amazingly portable and versatile, with a beautiful quality of light. I think a variety of photographers could get great use out of it. It's definitely more expensive than a speedlight but worth the extra cost for its ease of use, recycle time, and battery life."

KIKE CALVO

Specializing in cultural and environmental documentary photography, Kike Calvo has been featured in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *New York Magazine*, *Rolling Stone* and *Vanity Fair*, just to name a few. He is also a **National Geographic Photography Expert** for National Geographic Expeditions and has authored nine books.



📷 @kikeo



DJI Mavic Air

"Compact, easy to carry yet an amazing tool to capture stunning content. Even if other models offer better quality, this small gadget can travel with me anywhere in a simple pocket. Jungles, Polar Regions etc."



Sony a7R III 35 mm

"All my life I have been a Nikon and Leica shooter, but I started to see many of my guests on National Geographic Expeditions traveling with Sonys. I bought it primarily to reduce weight, and to photograph wildlife, while being able to use my Leica and Carl Zeiss lenses with an adaptor. So far, I am loving it."

HENRY DO

Henry was born and raised in Vietnam. At the age of 12, he immigrated to the United States with his aunt, looking for the American Dream that so many pursue, leaving behind his parents and three younger siblings. Henry discovered a passion and love for photography at the age of 18 when he picked up a point-and-shoot camera to capture his very first car. That eventually led to many years of automotive photography experience under his belt. Soon after, opportunities came up for him to travel outside of the United States which expanded his passion to travel photography. This has led to many commercial collaborations, working with partners like BMW, Samsung, Red Digital Cinema and Lufthansa Airline.



 [@henry_do](#)



Dell XPS 15 7590 Laptop

"I'd highly recommend a good laptop for editing on the go. I'm a PC user and I'd recommend the new Dell XPS 15 7590 model. I used to have a custom built PC but found that switching to a workflow on my laptop enabled me to be more efficient and increased my productivity because I'm not tied to a desk all the time. It packs high-end specs and comes in a sleek-looking device that rivals any other competitor laptop. It also has a large battery that's great for mobile usage. A maxed out XPS 15 7590 is still half the price of the new Macbook Pro 16 with all the ports."



Spyder X

"Having an accurate color on your image when editing is crucial because you want the final image to look consistent across all devices like mobile, desktop or laptop screen. The Spyder X will recalibrate your factory computer screen, whether it's a laptop or desktop, fixing the white balance, contrast, and brightness so that when you finish your edits, and upload it online, you will be happy with the result."

GABRIELE FACCIOTTI

Gabriele Facciotti is an action and sports photographer in love with skiing and black and white photography. He is an Associated Press Stringer Photographer and has been featured in countless editorial and advertising pieces.



 [@gabrielefacciotti](https://www.instagram.com/gabrielefacciotti)



GNARBOX 2.0 SSD

"It's a rugged SSD hard disk that allows you to back-up your cards without a laptop. Furthermore, you can cull and edit photos using an iPad or an iPhone on the GO. It has been a game-changer in my workflow."



Canon EOS-1D X Mark II

"For me this is THE camera. It's almost perfect, no matter what you shoot or how you do it."

TRAVIS FOX

Travis Fox is an aerial photographer and the director of visual journalism at the [Craig Newmark Graduate School of Journalism at CUNY](#). "Scars of Racism," which examines the legacy of institutional racism on the American landscape was exhibited this year at Photoville. His first book will be published by Daylight in the fall of 2020.



DJI Mavic 2 Pro

"This drone has the right balance between quality of image and ability to lug the thing around. Although I use the DJI Inspire 2/X7 for most of my professional work, I always prefer to fly the Mavic. Anything bigger is a drag to carry around and anything smaller is a toy."



Moto X4 (or any cheap android phone) and Google Fi

"I finally was able to rid myself of expensive Apple iPhones and pricey service plans. The X4 works great and the camera is good enough. Best of all, the phone was free with a trade in of my old iPhone."

@travisfox

JEAN FRUTH

Jean Fruth is one of the preeminent baseball photographers. Having covered the SF Giants, Oakland A's and then the traveling photographer for the National Baseball Hall of Fame & Museum in Cooperstown, New York, she is now the staff photographer for La Vida Baseball, a digital media company that tells the story of Latino baseball across the United States and Latin America through original video, written and social content.



 [@jeanfruthimages](https://www.instagram.com/jeanfruthimages)



New York Celestial

"*New York Celestial* - a new photography book by the incredibly talented photographer Gary Hershorn. Nobody shoots the moon and the sun like this guy."



Sony A9ii

"By far the best camera for a professional sports shooter. They had me at their 'real time tracking' autofocus system including eye detection for a human or animal. But there is so much more with a speed of 20fps, advanced workflow support and of course incredible image quality."

YANNIS DAVY GUBINGA

Twenty-four-year-old photographer and visual artist originally from Libreville, Gabon, Guibinga is now based in Montréal, Canada exploring the diversity of cultures and identities on the African continent and its diaspora.



Credit: Benjamin Leblanc

 [@yannisdavy](https://www.instagram.com/yannisdavy)



Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM Lens

"A 50mm 1.8 lens is the best starter lens for portraiture, in my opinion."



The New Black Vanguard

"*The New Black Vanguard* by Antwaun Sargent is an amazingly curated photobook highlighting a new generation of talented black photographers."

LORI HAWKINS

Documentary photographer Lori Hawkins says she is "drawn to issues at the intersection of human rights, post-conflict development and the empowerment of women in marginalized societies." She is the 2019 recipient of [CENTER's Me&EVE Award](#) for her work *Too Far to Walk*.



📷 [@lorimhawk](#)



LaCie 6big 48TB 6-Bay Thunderbolt 3 RAID Array & 8TB Rugged RAID Shuttle

"The LaCie 6big Thunderbolt 3 RAID Array is by far my most sensible purchase. Just having the peace of mind that if a drive fails, with a RAID configuration, your data is still safe. I had a drive fail this year, I was able to remove the failed drive, pop in a new drive and the RAID software rebuilt the drive. I also use the portable LaCie 8TB Rugged RAID Shuttle, which I have set to RAID 1 for data redundancy. If one drive fails, the same data is mirrored across the 2nd internal drive. Having a B.S. in Computer Science, this setup makes me VERY happy."

Profoto A1

"I generally don't shoot flash photography, but when I'm assigned to shoot a gala in the Hamptons or want to use fill on a bright summer day, I use my Profoto A1. The best feature of the Profoto A1 is it uses a rechargeable and exchangeable Li-ion battery. This is a game changer for me as I don't like the waste AA batteries produce, and frankly, I never have to worry about packing extra AA batteries in my camera bag. The Li-ion battery lasts much longer than batteries, and gives me the confidence that I'm always going to be able to get that shot. I also use the flash on-camera and off, giving me the flexibility to be creative and to get the look I want. It's perfect."

MONIQUE JAQUES

Monique Jaques is an American photojournalist based between the US and the Middle East. Her work focuses on the representation of women through documentary photography and video. Her multi-award-winning approach to journalism reframes prevailing narrative and examines modern-day issues misrepresented in the media.



 [@moniquejaques](https://www.instagram.com/moniquejaques)



Nikon D850

"I took this body with me on a month long assignment to the Solomon Islands where I was hiking through misty rainforests and fording muddy rivers, every other piece of electronic equipment failed me but this one!"



DJI Phantom

"I just got a DJI Phantom and I'm obsessed with it. Not only is it fun to play around with, but the new angles you can capture elevate the level of storytelling for the environmental stories I've been working on."

GREG KAHN

Greg Kahn is a Washington, DC-based American documentary fine art photographer whose work focuses on personal and cultural identity.



@gregkahn



GNARBOX 2.0 SSD

"It has a built-in SD card reader and works as an external drive for iPad pro (wirelessly or wired). I like traveling light and this is the perfect solution to backing up cards on the go. Rugged and cuts time on editing images with companion apps. I can have images downloading while I'm making more images and then can edit en route on my phone or iPad."



Profoto B10 Plus

"[It's the] same power as the B1x, but about three pounds lighter for the kit. Doing this job for the long haul, figuring out how to lighten the kit is very important to me. Plus with bluetooth phone connectivity, I can adjust the power or any other setting from my phone instead of needing the larger air remote."

KARA "KIKI" LAMM

Splitting her time between Florida and Colorado, wedding and portrait photographer Kiki Lamm's signature style combines intimate portraiture with drone photography. "Photography may have started as something fun when I was a kid, but it has become one of the most defining things in my life," she says.



An inexpensive film camera

"We all shoot in digital and process images so quickly, it is nice to use film and remember why we got into photography. To slow down and capture moments that others may not see. Having a film camera, although not used for shoots as often as I would like, helps me stay fresh with my eye. And gives me moments to process (literally and figuratively) the images I've made."



Zeiss Ikon Ikonoflex

"I love the Ikonoflex because it reminds me to slow down and enjoy photography for what it is. Capturing moments and enjoying just that. It gives me time to process images (unlike digital, which can feel like there is always imagery in the queue to edit)."

 @kikicreates

ISA LESHKO

Isa Leshko is an artist and writer whose work examines themes relating to animal rights, aging and mortality. Her images have been published in *The Atlantic*, *The Boston Globe*, *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung*, *The Guardian*, *Harper's Magazine*, *The New York Times* and *Süddeutsche Zeitung*.



Credit: Ron Cowie

 [@isaleshko](https://www.instagram.com/isaleshko)



Bogs boots

"When I visit farm sanctuaries, I often walk in mud and scat, so I need boots that are waterproof and durable. I never visit a sanctuary without wearing my Bogs boots. On cold days, I wear Classic High boots."



GFX-50R with a GF120mm F/4 R LM OIS WR Macro Lens

"I was blown away by the quality of the GFX-50S and the 120mm lens is a beautiful portrait lens. I bought the 50S before the 50R was released, and I wish I had waited. I would have appreciated the lighter weight of the 50R."

AMY LOMBARD

Amy Lombard is a documentary photographer based in Queens, New York whose unique and bold style explores American culture. Her work is bright and dripping with personality; it's the epitome of when eccentric people, photography and powerful speedlights collide. Her clients include *New York Magazine*, *TIME*, Bloomberg Businessweek, Refinery 29 and Samsung, among others.



📷 @amylombard



Panasonic Eneloop Pro Rechargeable Batteries

"Eneloop batteries are the best. The eneloop batteries combined with the bolt power pack make my job easy. I never have to worry about flash power when I'm shooting. I carry an enormous bag full of them with me whenever I'm on assignment."



Bolt PP-500DR Dual-Outlet Power Pack

"I'm not a huge gear person. What I need are pieces of gear that can help my flashes power all day long. A recent (and affordable) option I purchased was Bolt's PP-500DR Dual-Outlet Power Pack. Per Bolt the pack, when fully charged, can power 2700 flashes at full power. I use it to help shoot rapid fire gifs, and it has been great for me."

JODY MACDONALD

Jody MacDonald is an adventure sport and documentary photographer with countless awards under her belt. She has sailed around the world (twice!) and traveled to over 90 countries in search of untold stories and communities, working with everyone from *Men's Journal* to Leica.



📷 [@jodymacdonaldphoto](#)



Gitzo Mini Traveler tripod, Think Tank SKB 3i-2011-7DL Roller Case & Pelican 1510 Protector Carry-On Case

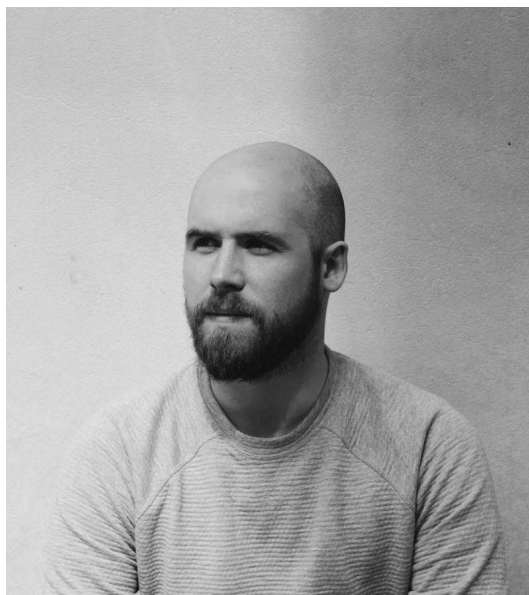
"The Gitzo mini traveler tripod is the perfect small, portable, strong tripod that I always have with me. It doesn't take up any space and comes in handy at the most unexpected moments. My other piece of gear would be the Think Tank ISERIES 3I-2011-7DL ROLLING CASE or the Pelican 1510 case. They are carry-on approved and have saved my gear numerous times when I have been traveling in remote, wet areas. I never have to worry about my gear when I use them and that has a ton of value for me."

Synology 8 Bay NAS Diskstation

"My favorite photography purchase has been the Synology 8 Bay NAS Diskstation. It's been my favorite purchase because now I have a solid home backup system for all my photography and it acts as a drive server so I can access it anywhere in the world which is amazing when I need an archived image when I'm traveling."

RUAIRIDH MCGLYNN

Ruairidh McGlynn is a Scotland-based photographer whose work is often informed by his intrigue to explore new places, drawn to the relationship between mankind and nature. Ruairidh's work has been featured in publications such as PDN emerging Photographer, *Condé Nast Traveller*, *Time Magazine* and *Vogue Paris*, and on contemporary photography platforms such as *if you leave* and *iGNANT*.



SmallRig L-Bracket for Sony A7R III, A7 III and A9

"It's such a useful piece of kit when mounting to a tripod allowing me to switch formats very quickly. An added benefit is the extra level of protection it offers to my camera when out in the field."



Money for Personal Travel

"My continued investment in travel to make new work, opposed to a specific piece of gear, has been my favorite recent purchase. This is always a priority over investing in new kit."

📷 [@ruairidhmcglynn](#)

CHRIS PARKES

Documentary photographer Chris Parkes travels the world telling stories about people and the unique places they live. "Photography is a process of adding layers of knowledge over time, creatively and technically. If you want your photography to do more, be patient again. Changing people's perceptions isn't an explosion, it's a process of erosion," he says.



[@chris.parkes.photo](#)



Peak Design Slide Lite strap

"It spreads the weight of any camera much more evenly across your shoulders than straps provided with most cameras, and allows you to carry your camera much more comfortably, while still allowing you to bring the camera to your eye quick if needed."



Nikon AF DC-NIKKOR 135mm f/2 DC Lens

"It's rendering of out of focus areas is unique, and has consistently delivered beautiful results for portraits despite being almost 30 years old now."

TARA PIXLEY

Tara Pixley is a photojournalist, professor, writer and founding member of [Authority Collective](#). Her editorial and commercial clients include *ESPN Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *Huffpost*, Nike, Wells Fargo, *Billboard Magazine* and CNN.com.



Instagram icon [@tlpix](#)



WANDRD Prvke 31L

"I'd been looking for a travel camera bag for some time because my Pelican case just wasn't as flexible as I needed it to be. This bag has a rolltop that lets it expand to include clothes/toiletries along with your laptop and camera gear. It's incredibly versatile, weatherproof and looks pretty rad to boot. I compared about 15 bags before settling on this one and it is the go-to for a photojournalist who travels a lot for work."



Savage Background Port-A-Stand Kit

"When you're a photojournalist who does on-location portraits like me, a travel background kit is a necessity. Anywhere becomes my studio with this set-up AND it comes in a pretty sweet bag that can be carried over the shoulder. Super portable, super easy and a key component of my editorial kit."

IAN PLANT

Ian Plant is a landscape and wildlife photographer who "seeks out the hidden spaces in between the familiar, relying on long exposures, unique lighting conditions, non-traditional perspectives, and special natural events to show his subjects in a new light." He is also the co-founder of [Shuttermonkeys](#), a site dedicated to photography education and inspiration.



 [@ianplantphoto](#)



Ultra-wide Angle Lens

"Ultra-wide lenses will change forever how you see the world. Once you learn how to shoot ultra-wide, you can find unique and compelling perspectives."



Arca-Swiss d4 Tripod Head

"My Arca-Swiss d4 geared tripod head is very useful for my landscape photography, allowing me to make precise, geared adjustments to my camera position. This enables me to make critical adjustments to my composition, and helps ensure my horizon is always level."

JULIA ROBINSON

Julia Robinson is a documentary and editorial photographer based in Austin, Texas and the current **NPPA Regional Chair for the South**. Her clients include *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Texas Observer*, *The Washington Post*, *Wired*, *USA Today* and *Reuters*.



📷 @juliarphoto



feature shoot



Modifiers

"I'd recommend modifiers for whatever strobe system you are using. You can offer way more to a client when you have control (and mastery) over your lighting. Special gold stars for things that collapse and pack small with ease."



ThinkTank Airport Roller Bag

"My ThinkTank Airport Roller Bag has kept me organized and tidy while traveling for assignments. It fits on those small regional jets and handles my rough and tumble lifestyle."

PETE SOUZA

Pete Souza is a best-selling author, speaker and freelance photographer based in Madison, Wisconsin. He is also Professor Emeritus of Visual Communication at Ohio University. Souza was the Chief Official White House Photographer for Presidents Ronald Reagan and Barack Obama, as well as the Director of the White House Photo Office. He has an impressive 2.1 million Instagram followers.



📷 @petesouza



Fuji X-Pro2 with 23mm f/1.4 Lens

"It's a great travel camera, with interchangeable lenses, and doesn't break the bank like a Leica M10 (not that I wouldn't want to have one of those). I hope to upgrade to the X-Pro3 soon."



Canon EF 85mm f/1.4L IS USM Lens

"I had an 85mm f/1.2 at the White House but it was overly heavy and difficult to focus. I find the 1.4 lens easier to focus, just as sharp, and not as heavy."

TIINA TÖRMÄNEN

Tiina Törmänen is a photographer from Finnish Lapland. Her work has been licensed and featured by Apple, Adobe, Lonely Planet, *Huffington Post*, *Wired*, Visit Finland, and DocArt, to name but a few.



@tiinautti



Seafrogs Salted Line Waterproof Underwater Housings

"I started diving and wanted to expand my photography underneath. Underwater housing is very expensive but I found the Seafrogs Salted Line housings to be very affordable. They are not the best quality in the market, but never leaked and very easy to use and they also offer domes for a very low price. I was able to shoot some amazing pictures with their products. I think it was a wise investment for starting, and I will recommend if you want to expand your playground for snorkeling, surf or diving photography without investing thousands of euros. For long term professional use you will start seeking high-end pro housings, but this is the best you can have if you are looking at price and quality."



Sigma 14mm F1.8 DG HSM lens

"One of the best lenses for astro and night photography with exceptional optical performance."

TRASHHAND

trashhand is a self-taught, Chicago based freelance photographer specializing in architecture and urban environments. Doing his best to stay behind the lens at all times, he strives to explore and showcase the world's most forgotten and remote locations through his own visual perspective. When not roaming Chicago, you'll likely find him pursuing some of his other passions, like motorsports and snowboarding. trash also has a penchant for teaching and helping others on their journey down the path of photography. While some protect their secret skills, trash shares them in hopes that others can find similar success and satisfaction through the art of visual capture.



📷 [@trashhand](#)



Canon EOS R

"I recently got the Canon EOS R. My first purchase of a mirrorless system and I'm getting really into it. I've been wanting something lighter, smaller, faster, and most importantly, something that fits all my current Canon lenses. The R has been checking off all those boxes so I'm hyped."



DJI Mavic 2 Pro

"Introducing someone to the world of aerial photography is awesome. Your world of photography opens up and you get a whole new perspective to play with. I'm also currently running the Mavic 2 Pro and I couldn't be more stoked with it. Make sure to get the Fly More Combo as those extra batteries will definitely come in handy."

BILLIE WEISS

As Photography Manager for the Boston Red Sox, Billie Weiss knows a thing or two about sports photography. He's documented the 100th anniversary of Fenway Park and two World Series championships, and somehow still finds time for independent commercial, editorial and event photography, as well as video work.



📷 @bjweiss22



DJI Ronin-S

"This steadicam device works with just about any DSLR or mirrorless camera to give you amazingly smooth results when shooting video. It's small enough to hold in one hand, yet achieves the same cinematic look and feel as larger rigs like the Movi or Aero Stabilizers. You can shoot video while running at full speed and not see any camera shake or footstep movement."



Nikon AF-S NIKKOR 300mm f/4E PF ED VR Lens

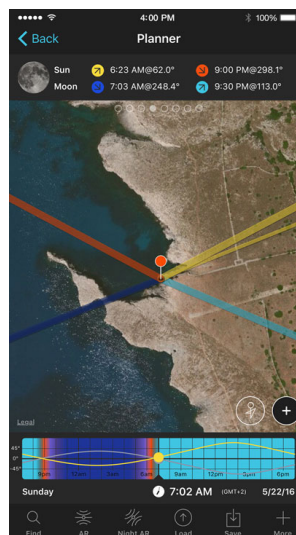
"This was an upgrade from my old 300 mm lens, with the same long range focal length at a fraction of the size. The lens is smaller than my 24-70mm lens, yet lets me shoot all the way across the field for my sports work. The compact size relative to the versatility and sharpness of the lens is unbelievable!"

SHANNON WILD

Passionate about wildlife photography and video, Shannon Benson (aka Shannon Wild) also considers herself a conservationist and works tirelessly with numerous wildlife NGOs and nonprofits in addition to her commercial work. She is also the author of [three e-books](#).



 [@shannon_wild](#)



PhotoPills App

"It helps to plan shoots, especially to exactly determine where the sun will rise and set in the future based on a chosen location."



RED Digital Cinema Helium 8k S35

"As a wildlife filmmaker the quality is exceptional and being 8k means I can pull frames to use as stills of exceptional quality."

SALGU WISSMATH

Salgu Wissmath is a nonbinary photographer based in Sacramento, CA. They are a [Chips Quinn Scholar](#) and a member of the XXXI class of the [Eddie Adams Workshop](#) with work published in *The New York Times*, NPR, *The Guardian*, *Associated Press* and more.



 [@salguwissmath](#)



Momenta Nonprofit Photography Workshops

"I took a Nonprofit Photography + Multimedia Workshop through Momenta a year ago and it's definitely one of my favorite photo workshops I've attended. I always knew I wanted to go into nonprofit work, but there weren't really classes for that in my grad school, which was focused more on photojournalism and commercial photography. As soon as someone told me about these workshops, I knew they were ones I wanted to attend. At this workshop I gained experience working with a nonprofit and taking photos for them. The instructors were really great too. It was a good foundation for me and I have done photo and video for multiple nonprofits since. They also have scholarships for students and recent grads."



Carbon Copy Cloner

"This app makes backing up my photos super easy. I have multiple external hard drives and making sure they are backed up is super important. Before I got Carbon Copy Cloner I did not back up my data nearly enough. This program makes it so simple, and it can set reminders to regularly auto backup."

ROBERT ZALESKI

With clients like Airbnb, National Geographic, Pandora, *Outside Magazine* and Cetaphil, Robert Zaleski knows his way around editorial and commercial work. He also founded RZ Creative, a media company with his wife Nicole who is a producer. They live and travel full-time in their van, so they're more accessible to their clients.



📷 @rzcreative



Aputure Light Storm LS C120D II LED Light Kit

"This is an excellent constant light source that works great for a variety of applications. It produces accurate color and takes a standard Bowens mount which gives it a lot of flexibility. Although I primarily use this for video, it has a high enough output indoors that makes it a great choice for shooting product or corporate portraits."



Fujifilm X100F

"This camera is the best every day walk around camera that I take with me just about everywhere to document personal moments of everyday life and capture behind-the-scenes shots of some of the productions I work on. It's stress free in its operation and handling and renders beautiful, usable jpegs without ever needing to do any post processing on a computer."

PART III:

PhotoShelter & Feature Shoot Recommendations

PHOTOSHELTER RECOMMENDS CAMERA BAGS

One of the most personal choices a photographer can make is a camera bag. They need to be strong, help distribute weight, easy to pack and, ideally, not totally break the bank. We've rounded up our favorites below.



PacSafe Camsafe X17 Anti-theft Camera Backpack

When carrying around thousands of dollars worth of gear, security matters. The PacSafe backpack has locks, is RFID-lined and protects you against slash and run theft. Reviews also report that they last forever.



Tenba Shootout 24L Backpack

Built to be the most comfortable backpack in the market, the Tenba Shootout meets carry-on standards, can carry two DSLRs or mirrorless cameras, up to six lenses and your laptop. Who could ask for more?



Peak Design Everyday Backpack

Nicely designed with an adjustable height from 18.3" to 22.3", this bag is perfect for someone with a smaller frame.



Langley Alpha Globetrotter Camera Backpack

This pack is waterproof, has a great front-loading lower compartment, is stylish and has sturdy nylon straps that secure most tripods.

PHOTOSHELTER RECOMMENDS CAMERA BAGS



Gitzo Adventure 30L Backpack

This is a great bag for anyone who loves adventure. Featuring a rain cover, an internal unit with dividers that can be completely removed and an expandable roll-top, it's also compatible with both regular DSLRs and drones. Plus, it comes with a waist strap to help with weight distribution.



WANDRD PRVKE Series

WANDRD bags feature a nice mix of comfort and style. The PRVKE has tons of easy-to-access pockets and gets bonus points for weather-resistant zippers. It's a great bag for traveling and everyday use, too.



ThinkTank Airport Takeoff V2.0

The perfect travel companion for countless photographers, the Airport Takeoff has wheels to take some pressure off your back when you're headed to check in and easily converts to a backpack when you're running to your flight.

PHOTOSHELTER RECOMMENDS LIGHTING GEAR

Great photography depends on great light. We love natural light, but relying on diffuse window light or the sun itself at the exact moment you need it isn't a good solution when you're dealing with a paying client, a busy celebrity, or a cone of melting ice cream. We're shining a light on some photographer go-to's below.



Rotolight NEO 2 LED Light

With continuous light and flash modes, the NEO 2 is perfect when it comes to providing supplemental light when in the field.



SMDV 16 Channel Flash Wave III Radio Trigger 2.4 GHz Kit

Compatible with Nikon, Canon, Olympus and Pentax, these amazing radio triggers have a range of up to 700 feet and can be used for portable flash units, as well as strobe.



Canon Speedlite 600EX II-RT

A fan favorite because of its power and reliability, the 600EX II-RT has full frame coverage with a powerful guide number of 197' at ISO 100 and 200mm. The unit can also tilt from -7 to $+90^\circ$ and rotate 180° either left or right for complete bounce capabilities.

PHOTOSHELTER RECOMMENDS LIGHTING GEAR



Reflectors

Reflectors are light, compact, simple to use, don't require any batteries and are very affordable. They can make a big difference when you need some extra light.



Aemytek Wizard Pro Headlamp

A good headlight can be a gamechanger. This versatile "10-in-1" flashlight offers 8 different brightness settings, 2 strobe frequencies and up to 2300 lumens. It gets bonus points because it's known to work in temperatures as low as -50°F and is USB rechargeable.

PHOTOSHELTER RECOMMENDS STAFF PICKS

Exclusive staff picks from some of the photographers on our team.



Profoto B10
Chris Owyong, Product Lead

"The best purchase I've made in the past two years was the Profoto B10. It was really expensive but it's fantastic."



Alice Austen House Membership & Musée d'Orsay: Qui a peur des femmes photographes? 1839-1945
Sophie Byerley, Developer

"Get a membership to nonprofit photography organizations like the Alice Austen House! Also, *Musée d'Orsay: Qui a peur des femmes photographes? 1839-1945* is on my personal list."



Contax T2
Sarah Pace, Technical Support Specialist

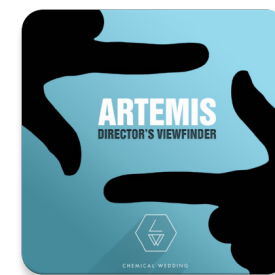
"My favorite camera of all time! It's forever usable, easy to carry around to any kind of shoot, and I somehow never took a single bad shot on it. Pretty easy learning curve to it, too!"

PHOTOSHELTER RECOMMENDS
STAFF PICKS



HyperJuice 100W GaN
Allen Murabayashi, Co-founder & Chairman

"For traveling photographers, size and weight is everything. The new breed of GaN chargers significantly improve upon the bulk of traditional silicon-based chargers, and this model from HyperJuice has four(!) ports and 100 watts of power to handle your USB-C and USB-A devices."



**Cadrage Director's Viewfinder App or
Artemis Director's Viewfinder**

Damari McBride, Technical Support Specialist

"A viewfinder helps with your location scouting by keeping track of Time of Day, GPS settings, Internal lens information and different views of Aspect Ratio and how your shot will look. It's much better than carrying around your large camera and allows you to easily upload to the cloud to continue planning your shoot."

FEATURE SHOOT RECOMMENDS **STAFF PICKS**

Top gift ideas from the team at Feature Shoot.



OnePlus 7T

OnePlus is constantly making improvements on the capabilities of their cameras and the newly released OnePlus 7T sees the exciting addition of "macro mode" (perfect for shooting flowers, plants and insects).



Confidant Hardcover Notebook

We generate most of our ideas from journaling. These notebooks from Baron Fig come in a range of colors and are the perfect size to take everywhere.



Hoodie ORIGINAL RAGLAN

COOPH's 100% organic cotton "photographer hoodie" for women has a lens pocket with zip and folds into a camera wrap or pillow. Looks to be super comfy and great for traveling.

FEATURE SHOOT RECOMMENDS

STAFF PICKS



Noir/Vanilla Recollect Camera Strap

Camera straps don't have to be made from leather. One of our favorite Aussie brands, Sans Beast, makes high quality, heavy duty straps perfect for vegan (and non-vegan) photographers.



Patagonia Ultralight Black Hole Mini Hip Pack

We love these mini hip packs from Patagonia for storing all of those little things you need easy access to on a shoot. Bonus: they are made from 100% recycled materials.

PART IV

Conclusion

Now it's your turn to compile your own holiday wish list — or start browsing for friends, family and colleagues. Beyond the gifts themselves, we hope you've found inspiration in the photographers we've interviewed and gotten a glimpse behind-the-scenes into their process. This time of year is all about getting back to the basics and being grateful for what we have, so regardless of what's in your camera bag (and what you'd like to add to it), remember to take some time for yourself and document the moments that are most important to you.

The teams at PhotoShelter and Feature Shoot wish you a happy holiday season and New Year!

Get 20% off PhotoShelter!

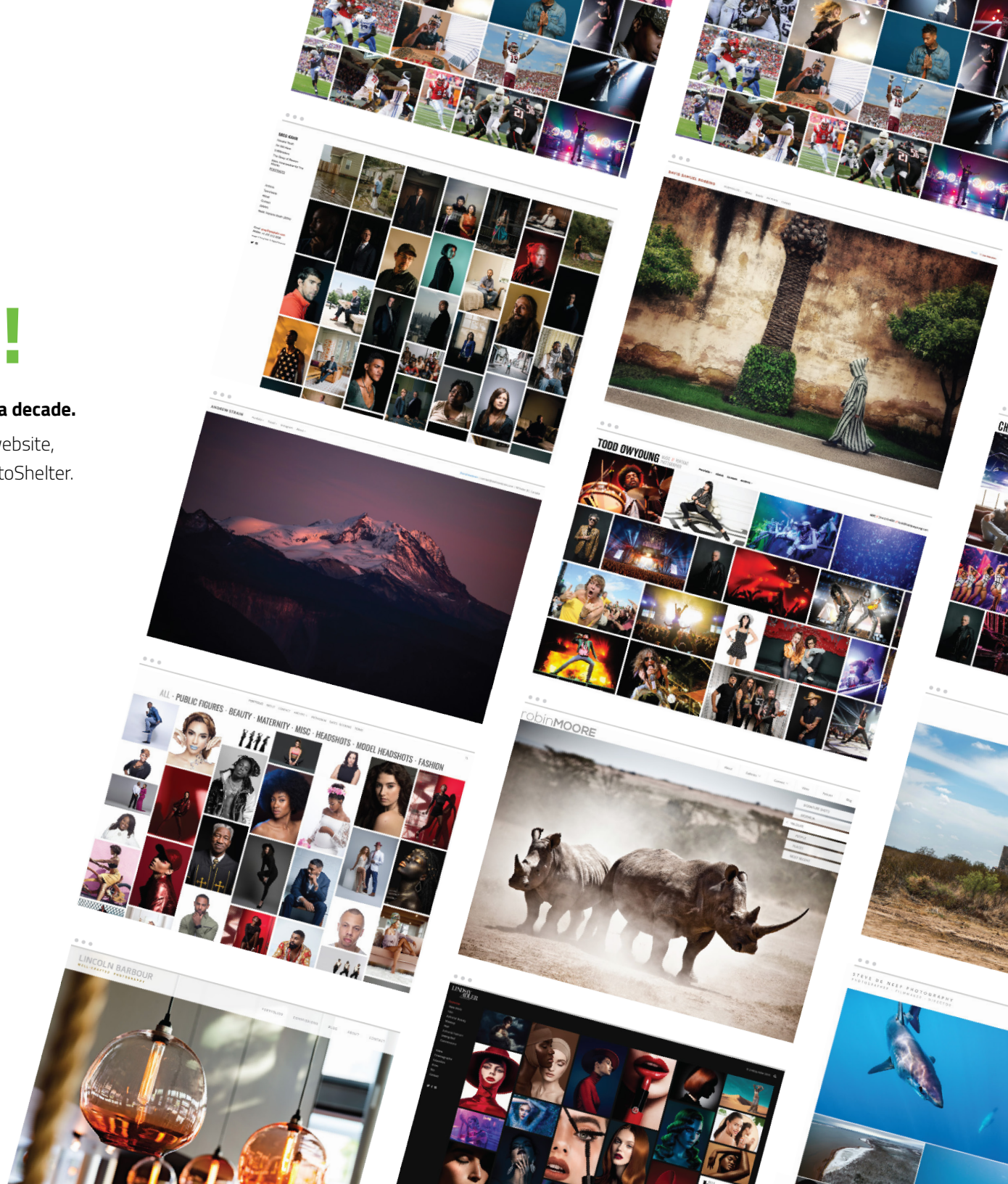
The #1 choice for professional photographers for over a decade.

Organize and access all your images, create a gorgeous website, deliver to clients, sell or license your work — all with PhotoShelter.

**GET STARTED WITH 14 DAYS FREE +
20% OFF YOUR FIRST YEAR**

TRY PHOTOSHELTER

or go to photoshelter.com/signup and enter promo code: **HOLIDAY19**



HASHTAG YOUR
IMAGES
#THEPRINTSWAP
ON INSTAGRAM
FOR A CHANCE TO
SWAP AND EXHIBIT
YOUR
PHOTOGRAPHY!

THE PRINT SWAP

A FEATURE SHOOT PROJECT



THEPRINTSWAP.COM



PHOTOSHELTER

FIND US ON SOCIAL:

