

Finding New Purposes For My Photos

By Susan E L Lake
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So we can't travel and we are stuck at home yearning for the days we HAD to go out. For those for whom spring brings abundant weeds, we can always go out and obliterate a few of them. But even that loses its appeal. So now it's time to revisit those countless photos from your past experiences. This is the time to sort and delete. This is the time to choose a few to print in whatever format satisfies you.

I "print" in a number of ways. Obviously, one of them is to incorporate some in my blog. I have actually been surprised when I try to find examples to illustrate a point to discover how many I have that touch me. It makes me wonder how else I might use some of my images.

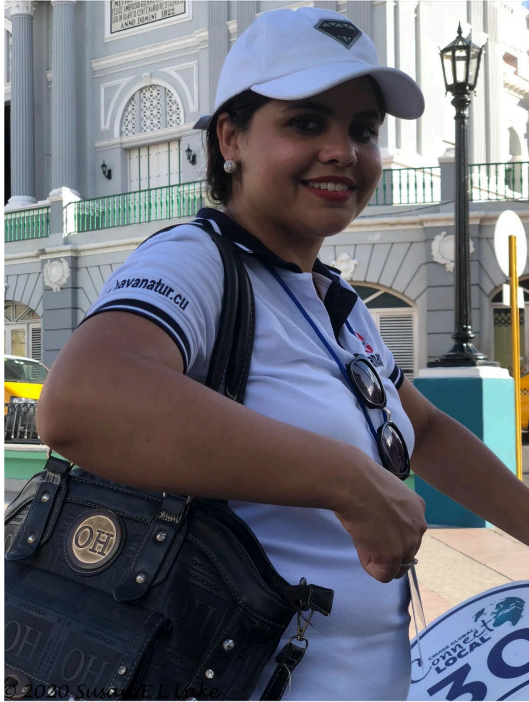


Sydney with its iconic Opera House would be at the top of my Port of Call images.

There's always Shutterfly type books to create with names like "My European Adventure," but there are so many other choices I need to consider. One I'm thinking about is Surprising Architecture or maybe Manhole Covers of the World. I'm also thinking about Skylines of the World or Ports of Call. I think you see the path I'm following. I have a hunch my audience (those unsuspecting folks who pick up one of my "books" on my coffee table) might find these far more engaging than my "here's the Acropolis" ones. I'm hoping one or more of my readers might give me additional suggestions.

Moving away from books to other print choices takes me to posters. While I mention [Shutterfly](https://www.shutterfly.com/) here (and no I'm not on their payroll), there are lots of other sources such as drugstores and warehouse stores that offer these services. However, on a lark one day, I did a poster of some Greek ruins and found that it makes a really fun way to display quite a few pics in non-traditional ways. As a matter of fact, a friend who was with us on the trip was quite enthusiast when she saw it and wanted me to make her one. Grandchildren might be more responsive to a poster than a book or framed print since posters are frequent room adornments.

I love printing canvas copies of my favorite image and have tried the metal ones too. There's something so satisfying about walking into a room and seeing a moment in time. I usually print 11X14 because it makes enough impact without overwhelming the wall. Smaller than that just doesn't seem quite as satisfying, I don't frame my canvas prints; I just hang them on the wall. Do I run out of wall space? Not yet. I've discovered that small out of the way spaces show up when I start looking. These nooks turn into an unexpected surprise when I tuck a print in that corner or that space between two doors. And I don't forget bathrooms: the nicest surprise of all.



This young lady was one of many children who waved and sent us away as we left her port in Japan. For sure will go in my ports of call grouping.



I'm always astonished at how good airline food is considering its reputation. I plan to make a book of my favorites.

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I laughed when I saw this manhole cover. Those of us who took Latin in our youth know that SPQR is an abbreviation for Senātus Populusque Rōmānus referring to the government of the ancient Roman Republic.



In this time of drive by only meals, the French have figured it out for us. Pizza dispensing machines on the streets. This will surely need to go into the "surprising architecture" group.