Close-up Images Explained
by Nadia Filiaggi MPSA
PT Exhibitions Standards Director
Email: ptd-esd@psa-photo.org
Updated May 2021

Photo Travel definition

A Photo Travel image expresses the characteristic features or culture of a land as they are found naturally. There are no geographic limitations. Images from events or activities arranged specifically for photography, or of subjects directed or hired for photography are not permitted. Close up pictures of people or objects must include features that provide information about the location.

Techniques that add, relocate, replace or remove any element of the original image, except by cropping, are not permitted. The only allowable adjustments are removal of dust or digital noise, restoration of the appearance of the original scene, and complete conversion to greyscale monochrome. Other derivations, including infrared, are not permitted. All images must look natural.

The basic content requirement of a Photo Travel image is essential i.e. the image expresses the characteristic features or culture of a land as they are found naturally. **EXCEPT** when it is a close-up image there is an **EXTRA** requirement.

- A close-up image should contain some elements of the main subject’s surroundings or environment that show the image was not a studio composition.

The purpose of the sentence regarding close-up images is to eliminate photographs that could have been taken in a studio instead of the natural environment of the person(s) or object(s) shown in the photograph.

It is not necessary that the elements be so specific that we know where the image was taken. It is only necessary that there are such elements in the photograph.
Image examples: **NOT ADHERING TO THE CLOSE-UP REQUIREMENT.**

The following images comply with the basic content requirement of the Photo Travel definition i.e. the images express the characteristic features or culture of a land as they are found naturally: In both these images the subjects are wearing clothing or items that identifies them as being members of a particular culture. Because these are close-up images, there is the **EXTRA** requirement of including some elements of the main subject’s surroundings or environment that show the image was not a studio composition.

These images **DO NOT** fulfill the close-up requirement of the PT definition.

Image examples: **ADHERING TO THE CLOSE-UP REQUIREMENT.**

The following images comply with the basic content requirement of the Photo Travel definition i.e. the images express the characteristic features or culture of a land as they are found naturally: In both these images the subjects are wearing clothing or performing tasks that identifies them as being members of a particular culture. Because these are close-up images, there is the **EXTRA** requirement of including some elements of the main subject’s surroundings or environment that show the image was not a studio composition.

These images **DO** fulfill the close-up requirement of the PT definition.