



HISTOGRAMS

exposed

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1 Explanation

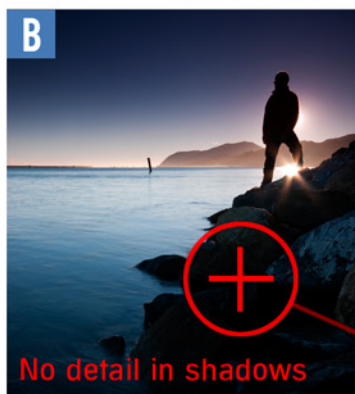
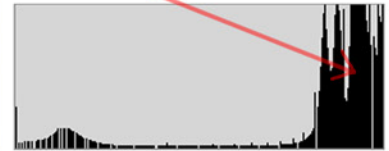
A camera's histogram shows you if your photo is properly exposed. This simple chart accurately depicts the range of tones in your image, before you press the shutter, and afterwards, when you review the image. The histogram is a helpful aid to nailing the correct exposure.

2 Examples



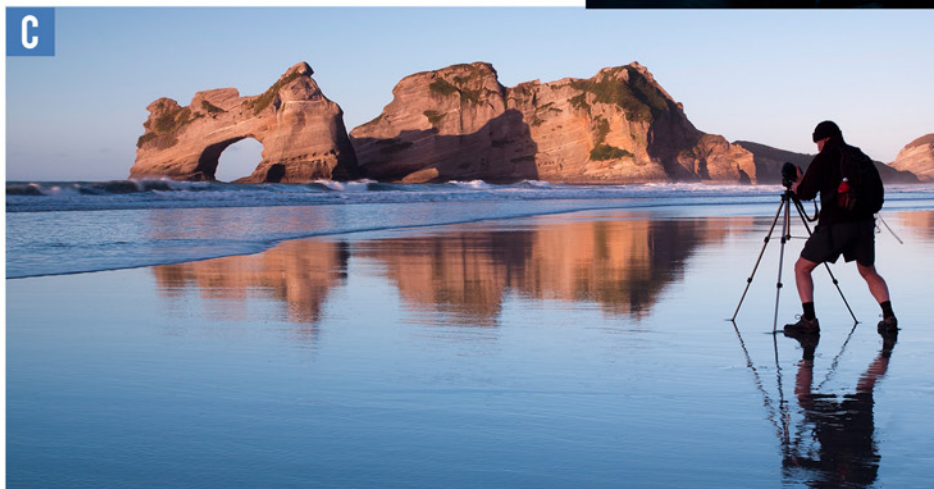
A Burnt out highlights

A. Over Exposed
In this photo, most of the pixel data lies on the far right hand side of the histogram. Some pixels are clipping the edge, therefore the highlights are blown out, and lack any detail.



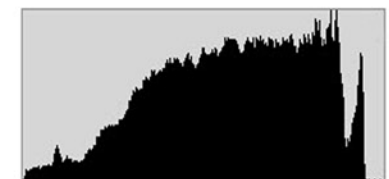
B No detail in shadows

B. Under Exposed
Silhouetted by the sun, this figure has been reduced to black, with no shadow detail. The pixels are clipping the left hand side of the histogram.

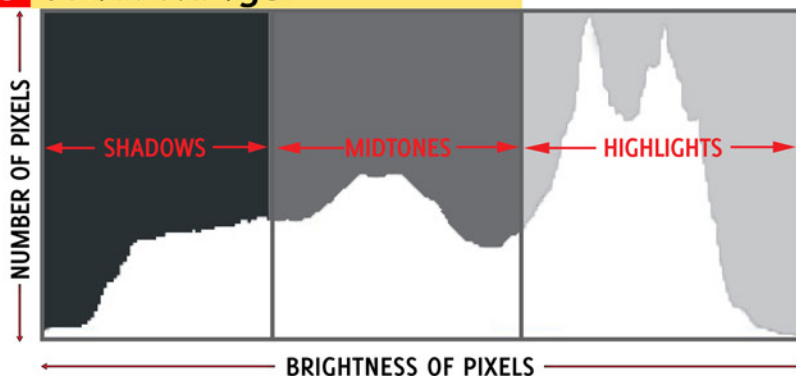


C

C. Ray photographs the Archway Islands. Because all the pixels are located within the camera's limited tonal range, the histogram shows a well-balanced exposure.



3 Tonal Range



LEFT: The horizontal axis of a histogram displays the **BRIGHTNESS** level, from the shadows to the highlights. The vertical axis represents the **NUMBER OF PIXELS** in the image at that brightness level.

TIP: Make a habit of checking the histogram on your camera's LCD screen. Ensure none of the pixels in your photo have been clipped off, so there is sufficient detail in the shadow and highlight areas of the image.