

Photo : Interview of Andrea



Today, we meet with [Andrea](#), who's from Costa Rica. She's been living in Arlington, VA, less than fifteen minutes away from Washington, DC for the better part of fifteen years. She enjoys taking pictures as a way to relax and unplug from the stress of everyday life. She gives us a few advice and tells us about her experience shooting in the capital.

When visiting it for the first time, did the city live up to your expectations or wipe away the negative prejudice you may had? Why?

Washington D.C. has never disappoint me in terms of its beauty (not politics, hahaha). Living in the city there is always construction going on, protests in front of the White House for one thing or another, a lot of homeless people, beggars, etc. There is also the beauty of its architecture, the freedom to hop from one museum to the next one (and most of them for free!) Like any city there is a lot to see and places to explore. Like any other city it has its up and downs and it is up to whoever is exploring it to see the beauty of this city or let the bad things you may see consume you.

What's your favorite time of the day to photograph DC? Why?

I love taking sunsets pictures, so around that time is when I am out

and about. I also like it when it is not super sunny since it is hard to capture good pictures with so much light coming in. Cloudy days are some of the best days to take pictures, not too much light but enough to help you capture some stunning pictures.



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As a local, what time of the year would you suggest travelers to come visit the city?

My favorite seasons are spring and fall, you get the beautiful flowers that are planted everywhere around the city and neighborhood and then fall because of the change of colors in the trees. Both seasons are perfect for walking around town too, not too hot, not too cold. Right at the beginning of spring you get to see the cherry blossoms too and that's always a plus.

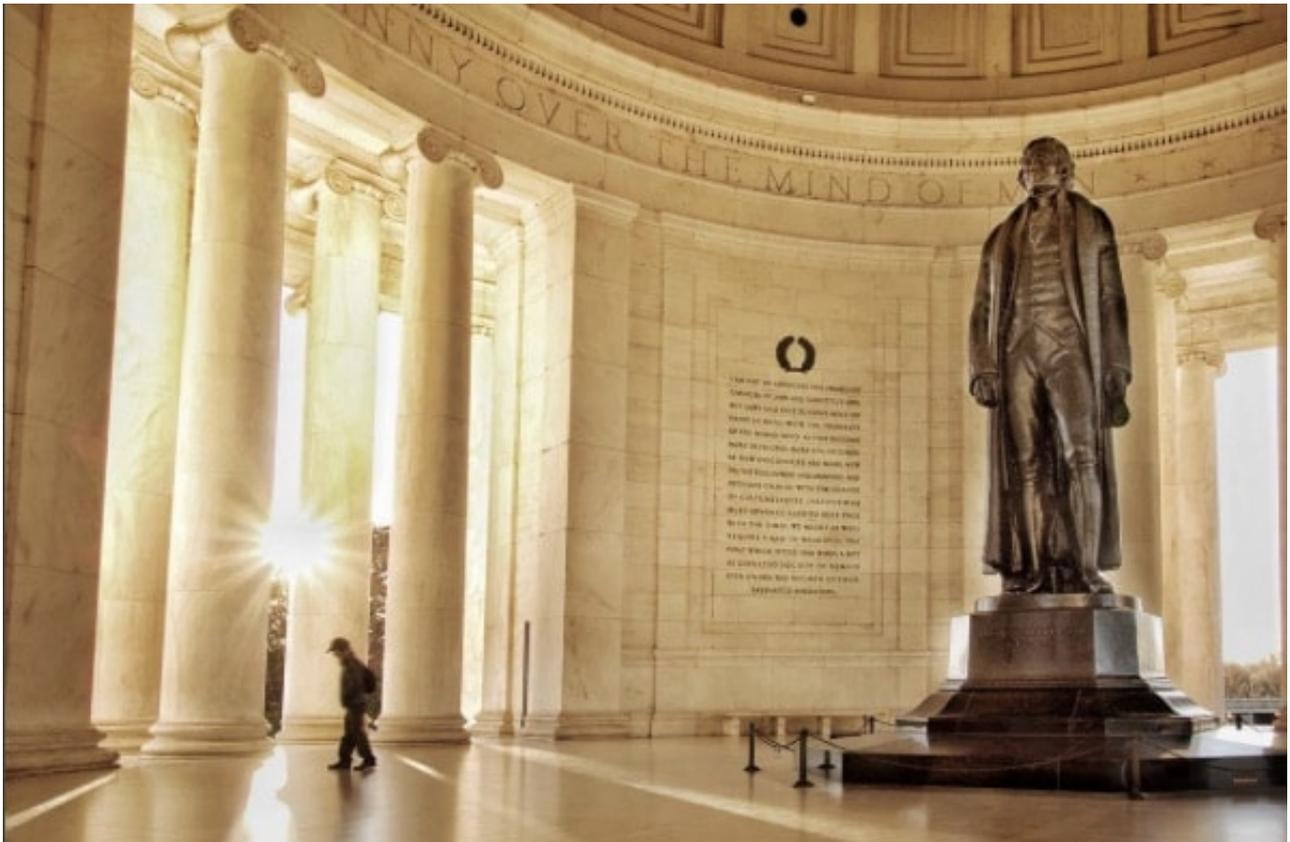
Can you tell us about a place you really like as a local, that is little known by the travelers?

I don't really have a secret place or a place that is little known by

others. Maybe I am still searching for that type of gem!

What monument do you like to photograph best? Why?

My favorite place to be is right by the Reflecting Pool: I have the Washington Monument on one side and the Lincoln Memorial on the other! The reflecting pool makes a great addition to taking stunning photos reflecting those two monuments.



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What neighborhood did/do you like to photograph best? Why?

Georgetown! I love how there is always something new to see, the houses are so colorful, its architecture makes you want to take picture of the buildings and houses, so many different people exploring the city too. I love that you can sit down and feed the ducks by the waterfront, enjoy the Kennedy center view from afar, see the D.C. side and the Boston side all in one place. Sunsets there are also stunning.

Some places in Washington, DC are restricted in terms of photography (tripod, etc.), have you ever encountered any

problem with Rangers or the police for example?

I have not but one day, while out with a friend taking pictures of the sunrise, we were at the [Capitol](#) and my friend had his tripod out. Keep in mind there were barely any people out since it was the sunrise. The officer told my friend he wasn't allow to have the tripod on the pavement, that he had to move to the grass area.



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Can you tell us about the gear you use?

Most of my pictures from about 6 months ago to now are taken with a [Sony RX100](#), and recent ones were shoot with a [Canon 5D Mark III](#).

If you had to pick only one lens to take with you when photographing Washington DC, what would it be?

I would use the [16-35 mm f2.8](#) lenses.

Do you prefer to photograph the sunrise or the sunset in the city?

I love both but I do sunsets for the most part. Not exactly a fan of getting up super early during the cold weather.



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Do you have any advice for travelers who'd like to capture lovely images of the city?

I would recommend going to the Capitol and walk up the steps of the Library of Congress to take a picture from there. You get the Capitol and the Washington Monument as your background. Plus, if you are

| *going for the sunset the view is spectacular.*

Thank you to Andrea for taking the time to answer our questions. You can check out her gallery on [Instagram](#). We also have an account as [Visiting Washington](#), so feel free to follow us as well. And if you want to share your experience shooting in the city, contact us !