



ALISTAIR WILSON

# ICELAND PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP



# CONTENTS

- My trip details
- When to visit?
- Aurora Borealis
- Recommended gear
- Why use filters?
- Composition examples
- When it's ok to Photoshop
- Photo examples
- Post production example



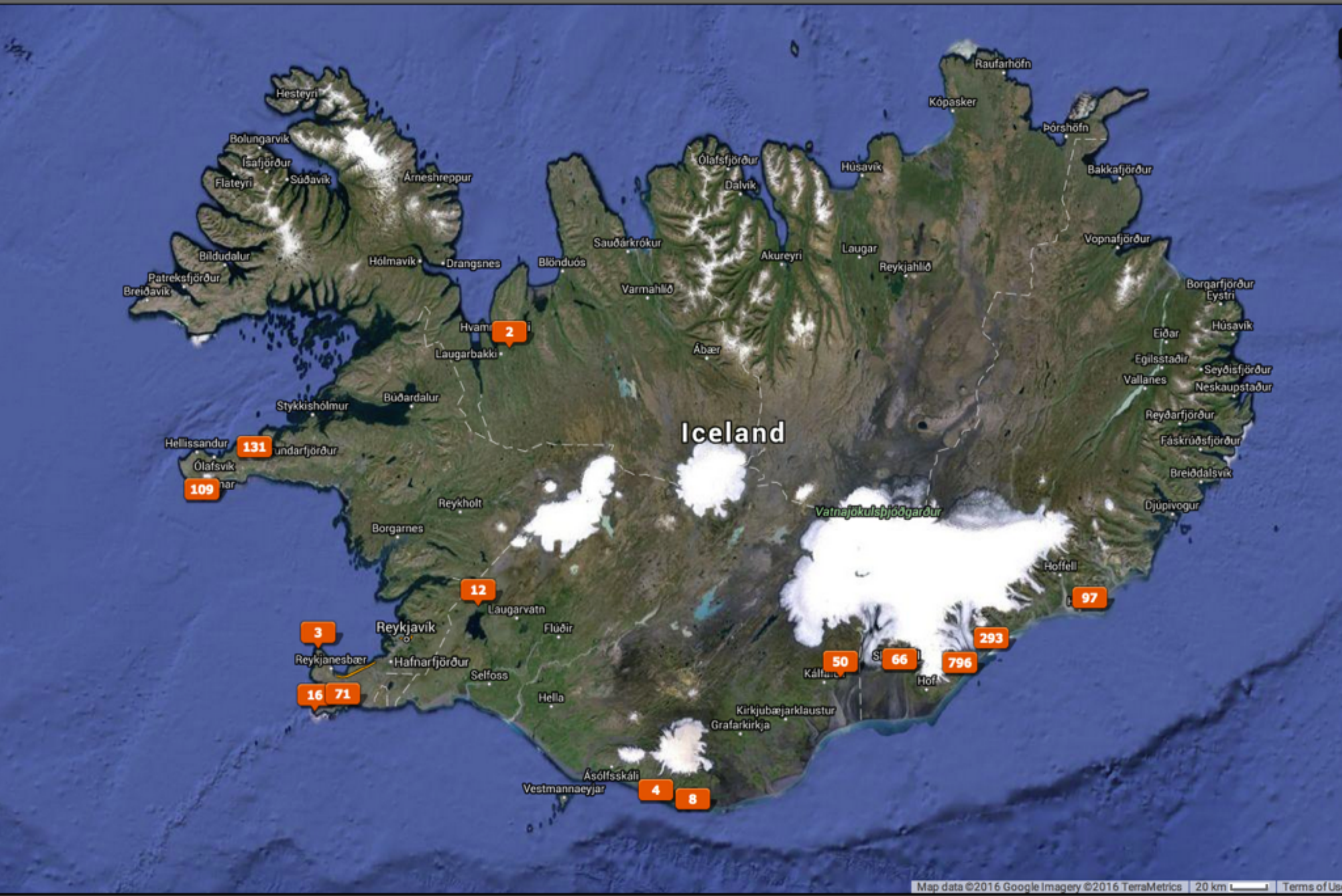
# MY TRIP

- Workshop with professional photographer Tom Mackie
- Group of 5
- Roughly 12 days in various parts of Iceland
- End of Feb / early March
- Roughly 40 hours door to door!











# WHEN TO VISIT - WINTER

- Dramatic snow covered landscapes
- Higher chance of visible Aurora Borealis sightings
- In theory less people
- Sunset & sunrise at normal hours
- Ice caves
- Extremely challenging!





# WHEN TO VISIT - SUMMER

- Lush green landscapes
- Better chance at seeing wildlife
- Shoot all day & night? 3 hours of darkness
- Not (quite) as cold
- Less likely to experience road closures
- Expensive!





# AURORA BOREALIS

- Most incredible thing you'll ever see
- Late Sep - March
- Clear skies are key so use online tools to check cloud cover
- Aurora forecasts available
- Can be tricky to expose correctly







8 seconds, f2.8, ISO 1600, 14mm



# RECOMMENDED GEAR

- Pack everything you think you'll need! 2 bodies if you can
- Spare memory cards, batteries are key
- Laptop for quick post-processing
- Dress in layers, can feel quite warm in the sun even at 0 degrees
- Ice grippers in winter an absolute must
- Winter boots preferable
- A 4WD or studded tyres.. better yet both!















# WHY USE FILTERS?

- We can use filters to:
- Balance the exposure between a bright sky and a dark foreground (ND-grad)
- Add saturation and reduce glare (Polariser)
- Lengthen exposure times by reducing light (ND)
- Warm, exaggerate, enhance mood, add drama
- Reduce excessive amounts of time in post production
- Limitation? Our imagination!





0.6 ND Graduated Filter





Polarising Filter + 0.3 ND Grad





0.9 Pro Glass ND Filter, 2 seconds @ F9, ISO 50



Big stopper, 56 seconds @ F11







Sunset Filter



# COMPOSITION



24mm







47mm

















6x4





2x1





3x1



WHEN IT'S OK TO  
PHOTOSHOP



















DO AS I SAY, NOT AS I  
DO



Started with Lightroom mobile ▶

Library | Develop | Map | Book | Slideshow | P

FIT FILL 1:1 2:1



- Settings
- Settings
- Angle
- Drive (1/03/2015 1:58:...
- Angle
- Angle
- Angle
- Angle
- Drive (1/03/2015 1:46:...
- Angle
- Angle
- Drive (1/03/2015 1:44:...
- +9 34
- Reduction +8 33
- Smoothing +13 13
- +17 17
- Highlights Adjustment
- Highlights Adjustment



Photo is missing



Treatment: Color

WB: C

Temp Tint

Tone

Exposure Contrast

Highlights Shadows Whites Blacks

Presence

Clarity Vibrance Saturation

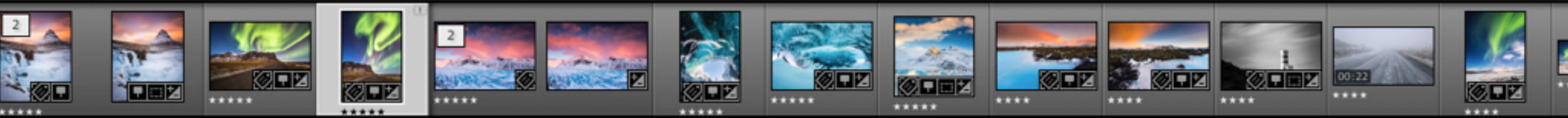
Paste

Soft Proofing

Previous

All Photographs 2905 of 29513 photos / 1 selected / Northern Lights Iceland 2015 (30 of 56).CR2

Filter: Custom F





# PHOTO EXAMPLES



















































THANK YOU