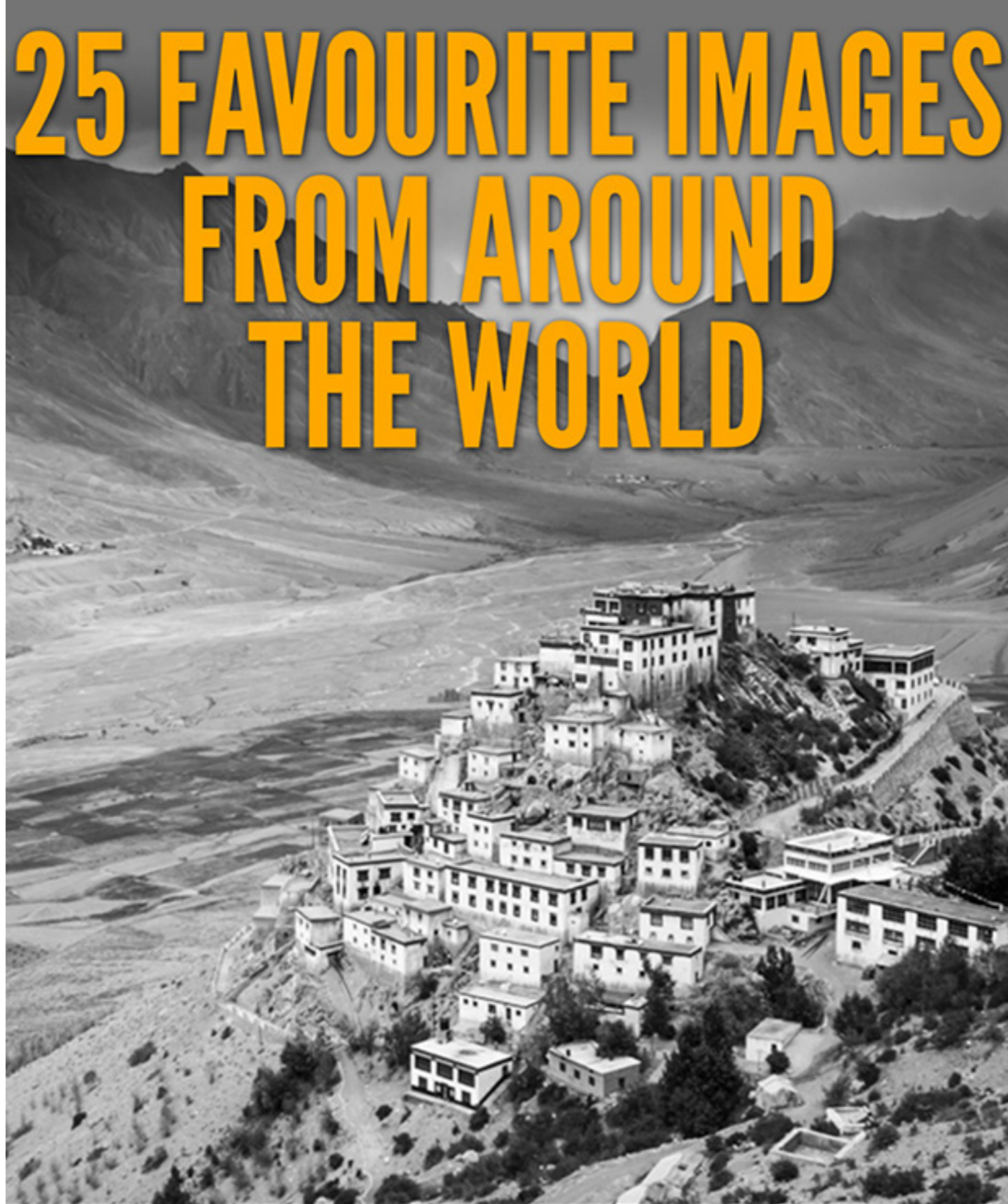


25 FAVOURITE IMAGES FROM AROUND THE WORLD



Stuart Edwards and Eloise Rodgers

Introduction

Thank you for downloading our “**25 Favourite Images from Around the World**” E-book!

We're Stu and Eloise, a backpacker couple travelling the world permanently - Sharing our experiences through advice, humour and photography!

These are some of our favourite images from our global travels so far. We've been lucky enough to see some of the most beautiful places on earth since we started travelling in early 2011. We want to inspire you to get out there and see the world!

We've included a mixture of stunning landscapes and interesting people & animal images from around the globe - As well as a little description of each image!

Enjoy! - Stu & Eloise



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Ki Monastery - Spiti Valley

India

The Ki Monastery is situated high in India's Himalayan region in the remote Spiti Valley. A few hundred Buddhist monks live here permanently, studying and worshiping in probably one of the most serene places we've ever seen. The monks get snowed in for several months during the winter, having to hoard food and water until the snow clears and they can travel to the next village for supplies.

At 4100+ metres up, getting high enough on the nearby mountain side to take this shot was quite tiring due to lack of oxygen!



The Curious Sheep

Western Mongolia

These two sheep came over to investigate when we stopped for a break during a nomadic horse trek through the vast and spectacular western region of Mongolia. If you look closely the bigger sheep seems to be missing a leg!



Spring time on the Great Wall

Northern China

The early morning light and beautiful white trees almost took our minds away from how spectacular the Great Wall of China is! We headed out early to avoid the rush of the crowds on the wall and before it got too hot!



The Golden Temple, Amritsar

India

The Golden Temple in the northern city of Amritsar is the holiest Sikh religious site in the world, with millions worldwide travelling to India each year to visit the temple. Beautiful white marble and gold clad buildings surround the Golden Temple, which is in the centre of a pool of holy water. The man in the shot stripped to his trousers and waded into the pool, as the sun slowly set behind the temple. It's an incredible beautiful place where non-Sikhs are welcome to explore and experience what happens within the grounds of the Golden Temple.



Approaching the summit of Thorong La

Nepal

This was taken looking back at the ascent to Thorong La, the highest pass on the infamous Annapurna Circuit Trek high in the Nepalese Himalaya. At 5416m at the peak, it's extremely tough going as you approach the summit. Lack of oxygen, the rough terrain and accumulative fatigue over 10 days of trekking made this the single hardest thing we've ever had to do. We'd do it again tomorrow if we could!



Colonial Streets of Wuzhou

South China

Wuzhou is a 'small' city by China standards, but surprisingly packed with a rich colonial history. Wuzhou's old quarter became the home to European settlers, as the city was a major transit hub on the banks of the Xi River, geographical situated near Guangzhou and Hong Kong. These narrow cobble streets feel very quaint and are beautifully lined with decorative lanterns and designed in European architecture.



Cheeky brothers in Muang Ngoi Neua

Laos

These two were watching us take a stroll through their village, probably wondering what the hell we were doing there! I showed them my camera and they were more than happy to be photographed. Laos is one of the poorest counties on the planet, it certainly doesn't feel it. People are happy, content with what they have and have a much more positive outlook on things.



Sheep Herding

Mongolia

During an adventure through the Mongolian wilderness, we stayed the night with a family of nomads in their traditional 'Ger'. Their camp was surrounded by mountains and rock formations, shielding them and their herd from the harsh winter elements they experience. In the summer months they move to flatter plains nearer to water. I'm sure the view is still good!



Sunset of the Mekong River - Luang Prabang

Laos

Ahh..The jewel of the Mekong, ancient Luang Prabang should be called 'Land of sunset BeerLao' - The sunset view over the Mekong on a cloudy day is one of my all-time favourite scenes. An ice cold beer, the sound of the river, another epic sunset. I highly recommend a visit!



Ki Monastery - Spiti Valley

India

Another beautiful shot of Ki Monastery, on way back to through the Spiti valley back to the lowlands in the south. The weather conditions were absolutely perfect. I think the sky is so beautiful with the cloud shadows on the surrounding mountains. It's otherworldly!



River life in Muang Ngoi Neua

Laos

Taken on a journey to Muang Ngoi Neua, an hour north from the picturesque village of Nong Khiaw. The guy in the front was doing all the hard work paddling, and his friends seem happy to sit back and let him! It's much harder than it looks we later found out. This sort of transport is the only way to access the majority of villages on the Ou River. Who needs roads?!



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Buddhist Prayer Flags - Leh

India

Taken at Thiksey Monastery in India's northern city of Leh, There's a strong Tibetan refugee presence in the far north of India - Countless Buddhist monasteries to explore in some of the most rugged landscape on earth. These prayer flags were gently blowing in the wind and the colours sum up our memories of Buddhist northern India



The Plain of Jars - Phonsaven

Laos

Some locals say that the mysterious Plain of Jars were used by giants. Others say war lords had them made to store rice wine to celebrate a historic battle... But no one really knows why the Plain of Jars are there and what their purpose was. Only 3 jar sites are accessible to the public, with many more jar sites still affected by UXO's (Unexploded Ordnance), or cluster bombs dropped during the war. This shot was taken at Site 2, overlooking the beautiful, now peaceful Lao countryside.



The Hong Kong Skyline

Hong Kong

As one of the most iconic sights in Asia, the Hong Kong skyline is truly epic! Best viewed from the Kowloon side of the city, or even better, from the iconic Star Ferry. Starting every night at 8pm, the Symphony of Lights show illuminates the sky further with lasers and strobes radiating from the towering buildings on Hong Kong Island across the Victoria Harbour.



Turtuk - Nubra Valley

India

A few miles away from the disputed India/Pakistan border lies a small village called Turtuk. Home to a few basic settlements, walking around the farming community is like stepping back in time. This girl followed us around the village, asking for sweets and playing with her bucket. She kept running around with it on her head! Life's simple pleasures :)



The beaten up dog in Nong Khiow

Laos

I felt a very sad moment for this dog as a pack of local village dogs chased him away. He looked very beaten up and lonely - I got this shot as he was looking back into the village he'd just been chased away from. Poor guy!



Disket - Nubra Valley

What a difference between these two! Both from the same small farming village, they were more than happy to pose for the camera. The old woman's face is filled with joy, even with the lack of teeth! And the little girl is the picture of innocence.



India



Songkran - Chiang Mai,

Thailand

Songkran, the festival of water, is the main celebration of the Thai New Year! We were lucky enough to be in Chiang Mai- Songkran party central! It's become a must-see event on the backpacker circuit, and it goes on for several days. This little guy looked like he'd had enough soaking for one day! I know how he felt, as soon as we set foot outside somebody poured a bucket of water on us!



More River Life in Muang Ngoi Neua

Laos

These girls were absolute pros at rowing upstream, moving through the water like it was the easiest thing ever. This was taking during a boat ride back to Nong Khiaw. By western standards, life on the river is probably very difficult. No roads, everything brought in by boat (including us!), surviving on what you can grow or catch. A very humble existence I find myself a bit jealous of!



4000 Islands (Si Don Det)

Laos

An absolutely stunning scene after an incredibly violent thunder storm during monsoon season. This was taken from a bar on the water overlooking the fast flowing Mekong River. The clouds are so moody and intense, constantly threatening with another thunderous down pour.



Mae Haad - Koh Phangan

Thailand

God I miss Thailand. These scenes are pretty much guaranteed all year round, especially in Koh Phangan. This was taken at the remote beach of Mae Haad on the quieter side of Koh Phangan in the north west part of the island. The water is soo warm!



Old and New Train Lines - Bangkok

Thailand

We passed the old, now unused train line at street level on the way to the airport as we left Bangkok. The new hi-tech Sky Train towers above the old line below. I think this photo shows contrast between past and present, and is particularly relevant to Bangkok, which holds on to its rich past as it grows into one of the world's most vibrant and fastest developing cities.



Haad Salad - Koh Phangan

Thailand

Another sunset Koh Phangan shot?! I couldn't help myself. It's got to be one of the most gorgeous beaches I've seen. The colours, atmosphere, the warm Thai gulf, the remoteness - Our perfect beach setting!



The Coconut Loving Squirrel, Ayutthaya

Thailand

Like coconuts? This naughty squirrel did. As soon as the person put the empty coconut down Mr Squirrel was straight there. Pulled the straw out and got stuck in to a free meal!

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