

# Travel Photographer of the Month — JUNE

**I**N April, Morgan Trimble of Cape Town was travelling through a Malawi tea estate when she took the first photograph that would score nearly full marks from a competition judge this year. “A magnificent frame that captures the beauty of man and nature” ... “portrays the worker in a dignified fashion. Wonderful” were

some of the comments drawn by Trimble’s winning photograph. The image profiles a picker catching his breath during the physically demanding job of harvesting tea in southern Malawi, about an hour’s drive southeast of the country’s second-largest city, Blantyre. The surrounding fields are some of the most vigorously

exploited in this pioneering tea-growing nation. They also creep up to the edge of Mount Mulanje, which some would have you believe was the inspiration for Tolkien’s Lonely Mountain, the Middle Earth haunt of Smaug the Dragon. There’s little proof to support this, except for the way Mulanje rises sharply from the plains like a real-life

Lonely Mountain. Expertly applying the rule of thirds, the misty sense of place and mystery of Mount Mulanje, Trimble’s photo earns her R5 000 from the Sunday Times. Congratulations Morgan. You are now eligible for 2015’s grand prizes from Canon, worth R240 000, whose winners will be named in December.



**WINNER AROMATIC DAWN:** Malawi is one of Africa’s tea-growing forerunners and has provided a basic living to people in the southern reaches of the country since the 1880s. Here a Mount Mulanje leaf picker, strapped into a heavy wicker basket, pauses during a dawn harvest.

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**TO ENTER**

Would you like to be considered for our upcoming prizes? You can enter up to 10 of your best shots in each of our competition categories — wildlife and travel respectively — by June 30 to be considered for July’s prizes. Each monthly winner will receive R5 000 cash from the Sunday Times.

E-mail your travel entries to [travelphoto@sundaytimes.co.za](mailto:travelphoto@sundaytimes.co.za); e-mail your wildlife entries to [wildphoto@sundaytimes.co.za](mailto:wildphoto@sundaytimes.co.za).



**HIGHLY COMMENDED**

**SUPER HIGHWAY:** “The best way to get around Venice is on the public vaporetti (water buses). On the Grand Canal, Venice’s premier waterway, the surprising volume of traffic is revealed in this stacked series of long-exposure photographs,” explains Bryanston photographer David Johns. “The Accademia Bridge, from which this photo was taken, provides the quintessential view of Venice. The challenge to the night photographer is that, being a wooden structure, the bridge is prone to significant vibration as hordes of tourists and locals tramp over it. The result is blurry photos but with patience and a bit of luck I managed to snap a few crisp ones.”

The panel praised the photographer for working “hard to make this slow-shutter exposure work well. The composition and exposure result in a masterful cityscape. The streams of light lead the eye along the canal’s curves, rendering a lovely mood”.

**RUNNER-UP**

**KEEPER OF THE SPEAR:** Garth Levin of Rondebosch writes that Amritsar’s Golden Temple in Punjab, India, is one of Sikhism’s holiest places. “Tens of thousands of pilgrims pass through the complex every day. The temple guards are there to keep an eye. The spear [pictured] is a traditional sikh weapon and is used by the guards for purely ceremonial purposes. This guard had no problem posing for a photo.”

The panel said: “This is a strong, well composed portrait. The subject’s personality really comes through. The colours and textures are great, creating a redolent mood that draws you into the guard’s enigmatic face.”



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