TRAVELLING PHOTOGRAPHY

U3A Cambridge Photo Forum

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Everyone’s idea of travel is different

It can vary from a weekend away to an extended trip covering many countries.

A holiday trip with family or friends or an organised photography trip.

Whichever of these it is, before leaving, we have to decide what to take.

I don’t intend to go through all possible equipment as I am sure I would be preaching to the converted. I just want to touch on a few things that I have found helpful

We could take a rucksack or camera bag laden with camera bodies, lenses and a host of kit that won't get used. But eventually I am sure we all realise that less is best. It is the weight of kit and the ease of access to it that matter as much as whether it will be used on the trip.

The advent of mirrorless cameras has helped greatly in reducing weight. There is around 0.6kg difference between the full frame Nikon and the mirrorless Olympus and this makes a noticeable difference.

One thing that I think is not thought about a lot is the strap that we use to carry our cameras. For the most part they are attached onto each side and the camera sticks out from our body and we look like tourists.

My preference is for a strap that allows the camera to hang down comfortably at my side, like the Peak Design range. This makes it less protrusive, easy to handle and, hopefully, less likely to have the lens stolen off it

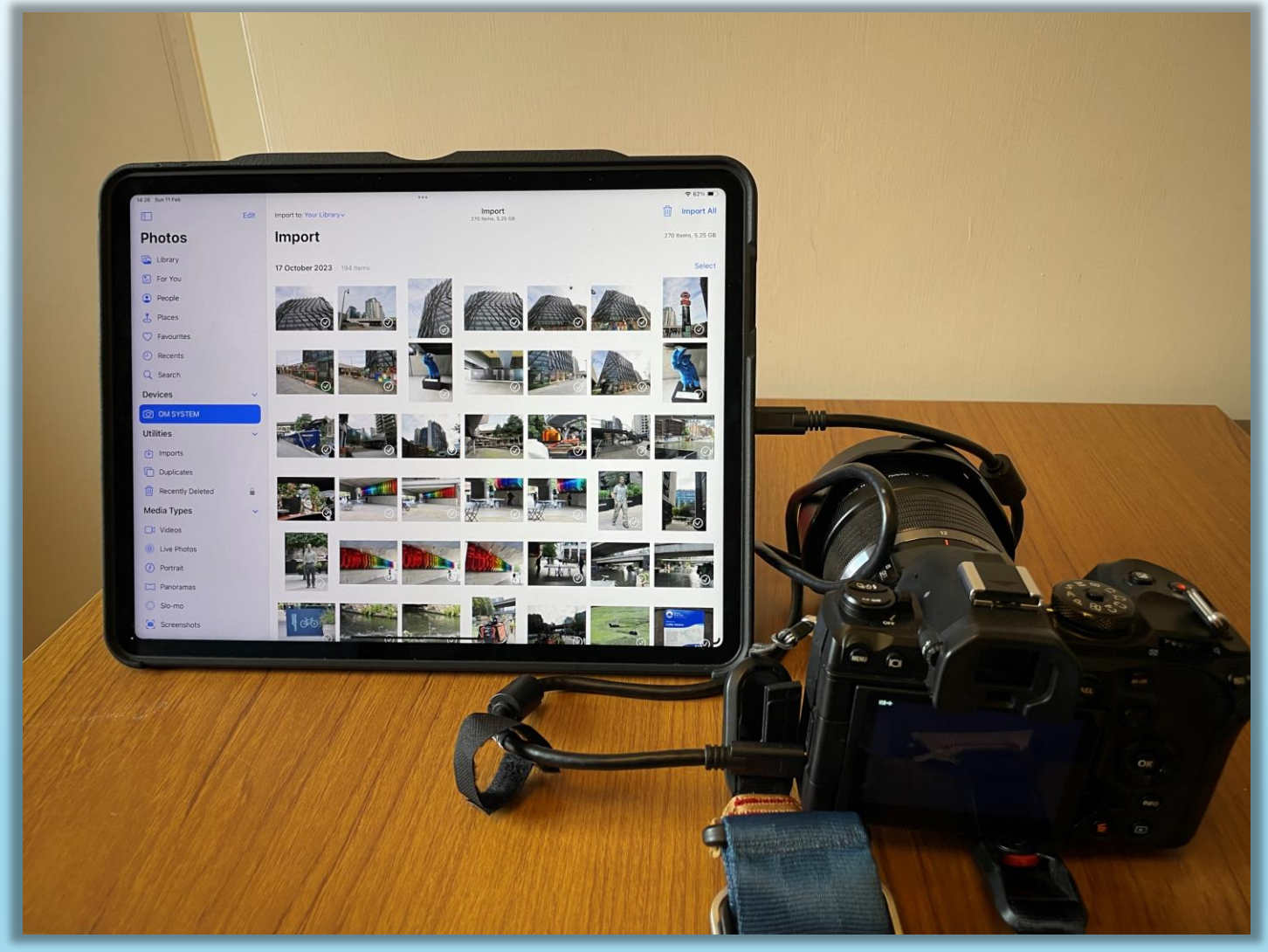
Another item, which won't add weight, but can be useful, particularly, if travelling in a small boat, is a waterproof bag.

What to take to help stabilise longer exposures can be a problem? Tripods can be a hassle to carry around particularly if you are flying. A travel tripod or monopod may well be the answer.

A bean bag can be a lightweight and useful thing to stabilise your camera, e.g. on a car window

Backing up your pictures each day is, of course, a good idea.

I always take my ipad with me and back up to that rather than a portable hard drive. Either with a cable or wirelessly. This has the added advantage of being able to review the day's pictures on a larger screen.



Travel Photography covers virtually all aspects of the art. From landscapes to street, markets to food, architecture to festivals. We all know about these and how to photograph them so then I thought what about the whole aspect of travelling itself, what we travel on and what shots we can get from that point of view.

So, I looked at some of the different modes of transport I have travelled on and what shots I could get from them.

To start with a Victorian construction, the Wuppertal Schwebebhan . An A-frame monorail in Wuppertal which opened in 1901 and runs 13 km through the town.

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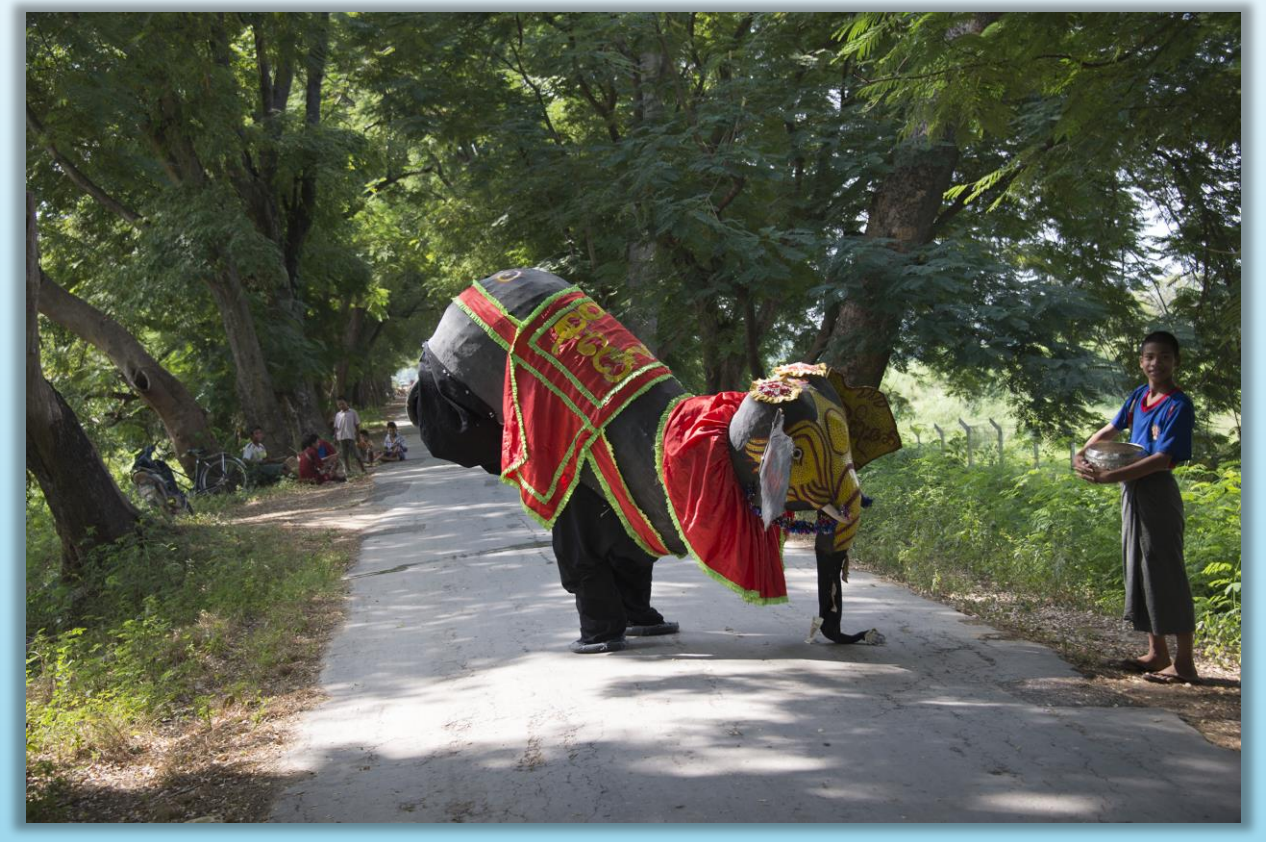
To move from Victorian transport to a more modern mode we flew from Las Vegas to the Grand Canyon

The Hoover Dam

It is possible, of course, to travel by many different ways in the same country. Take Myanmar as a good example

Travelling on the Irrawaddy

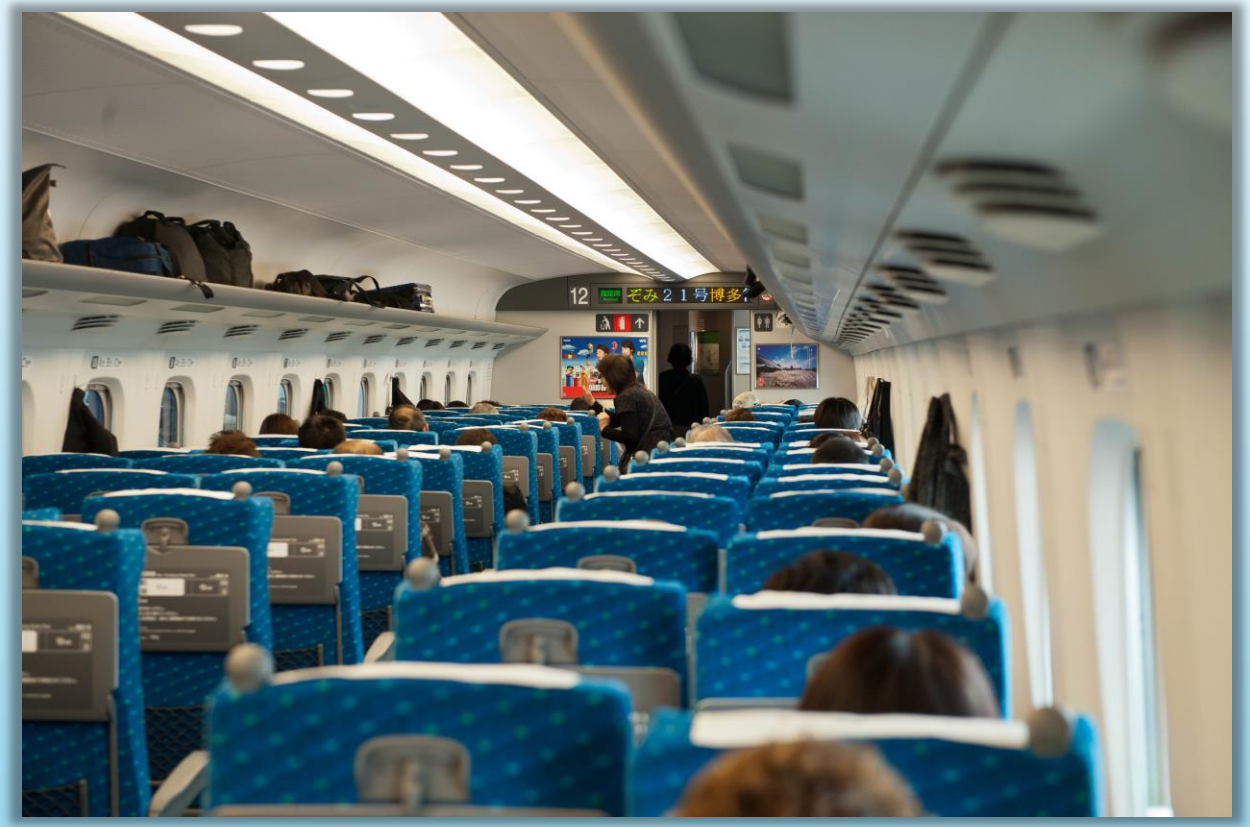
Taken from the boat



Inle Lake Transport

We travelled on a bus left over from World War 2

In order to travel by balloon



In Japan there is the Bullet Train, not easy to take pictures from this, but

Food photography is possible

Still in Japan the Hakone Ropeway carries us over a volcanic and sulphurous landscape

Only in Japan !!!!!!

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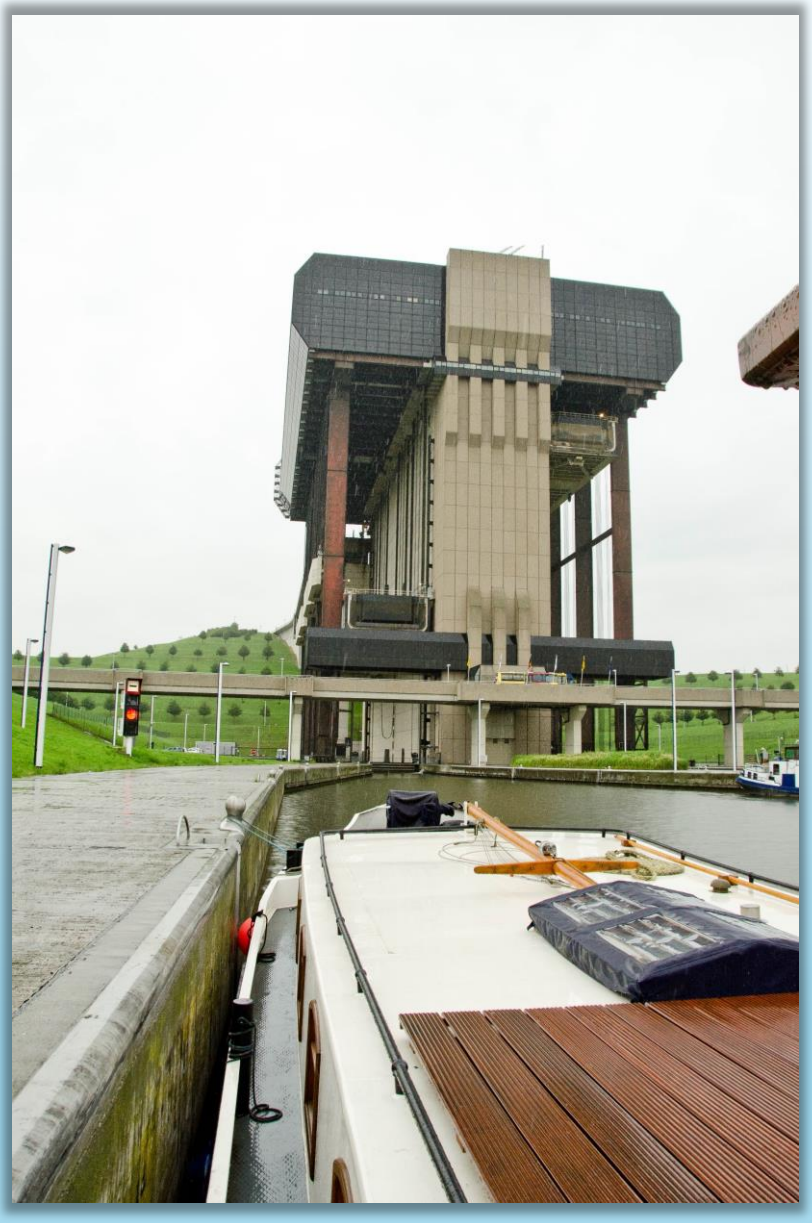
Whilst in Tokyo the overhead, driverless, guided trains rather put the guided bus to shame

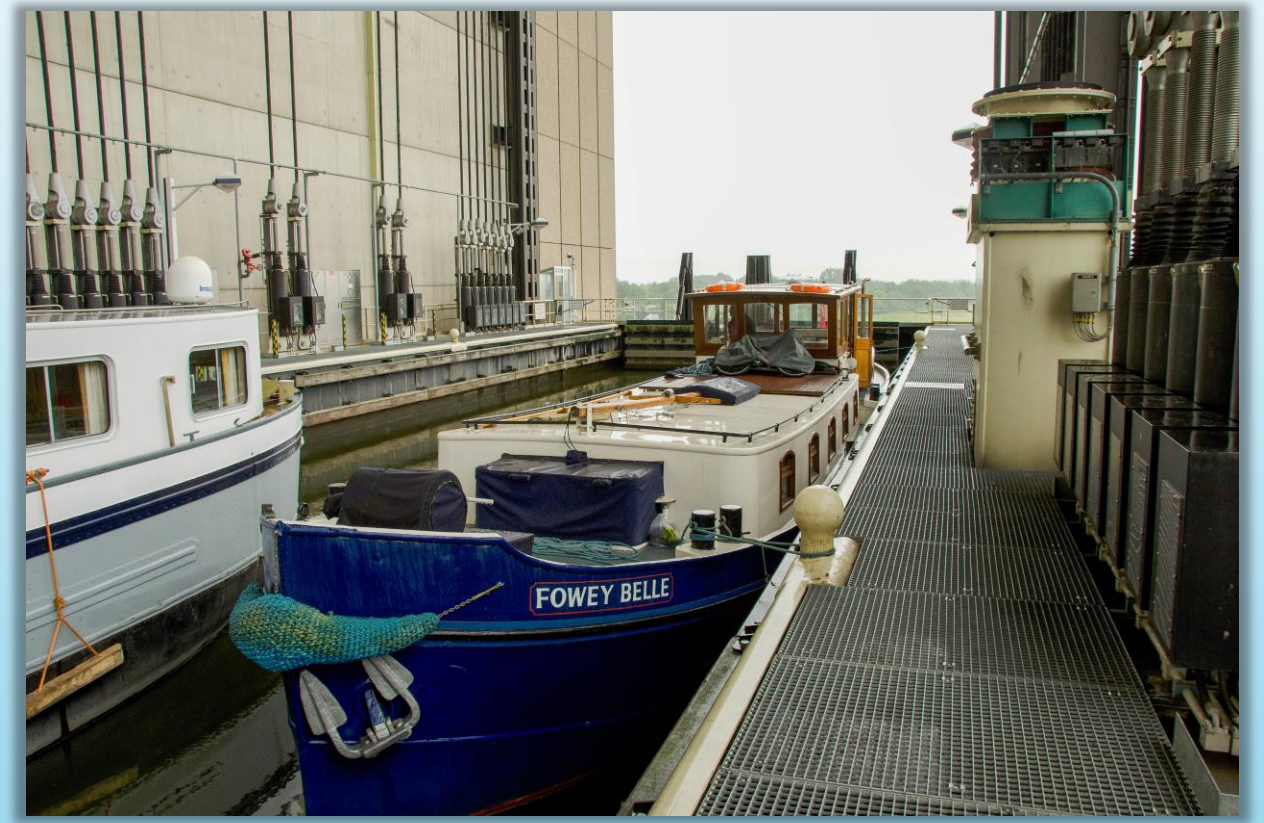
Shots from the overhead train

I can't leave out a helicopter flight, this one over Sydney

A more genteel form of transport is by Dutch barge, this one built in 1935 in Dordrecht



But you can still encounter interesting engineering architecture with the Strepy-Thieu boat lift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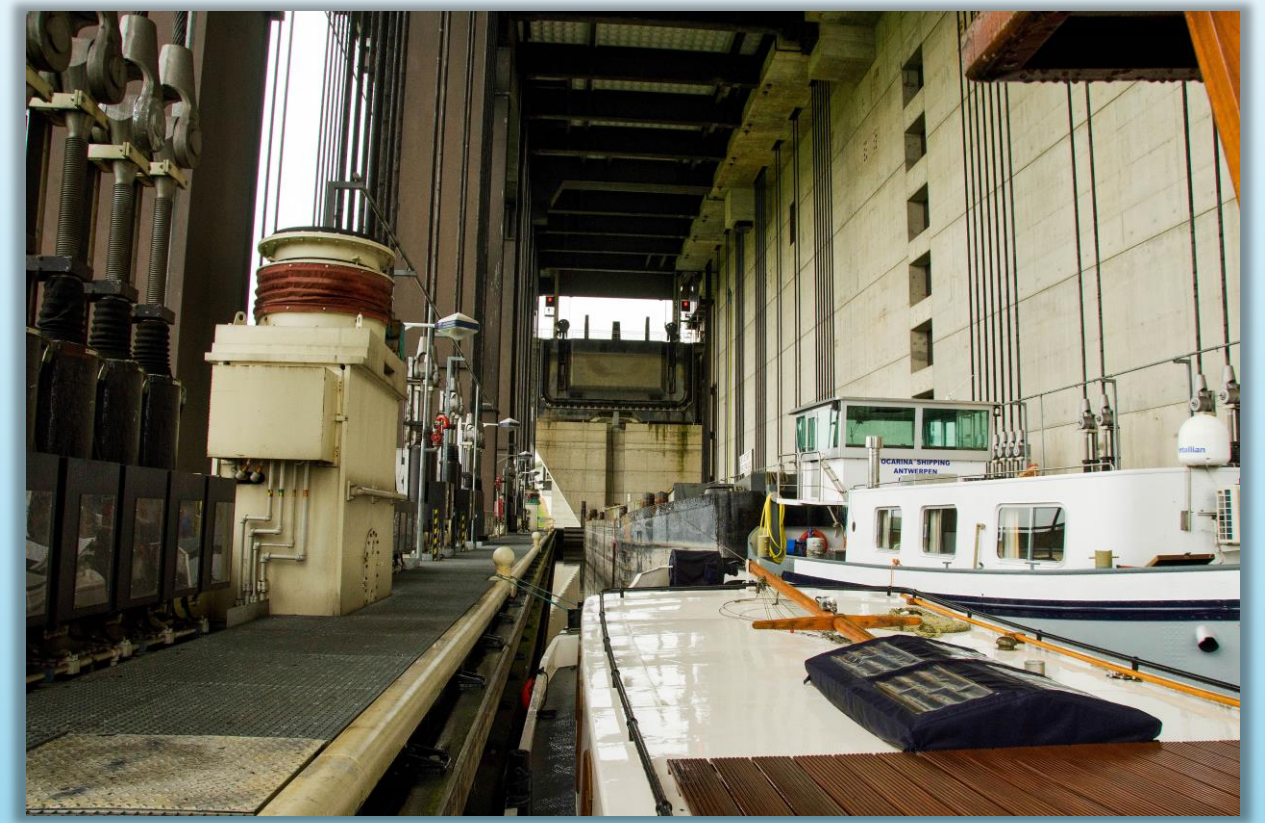
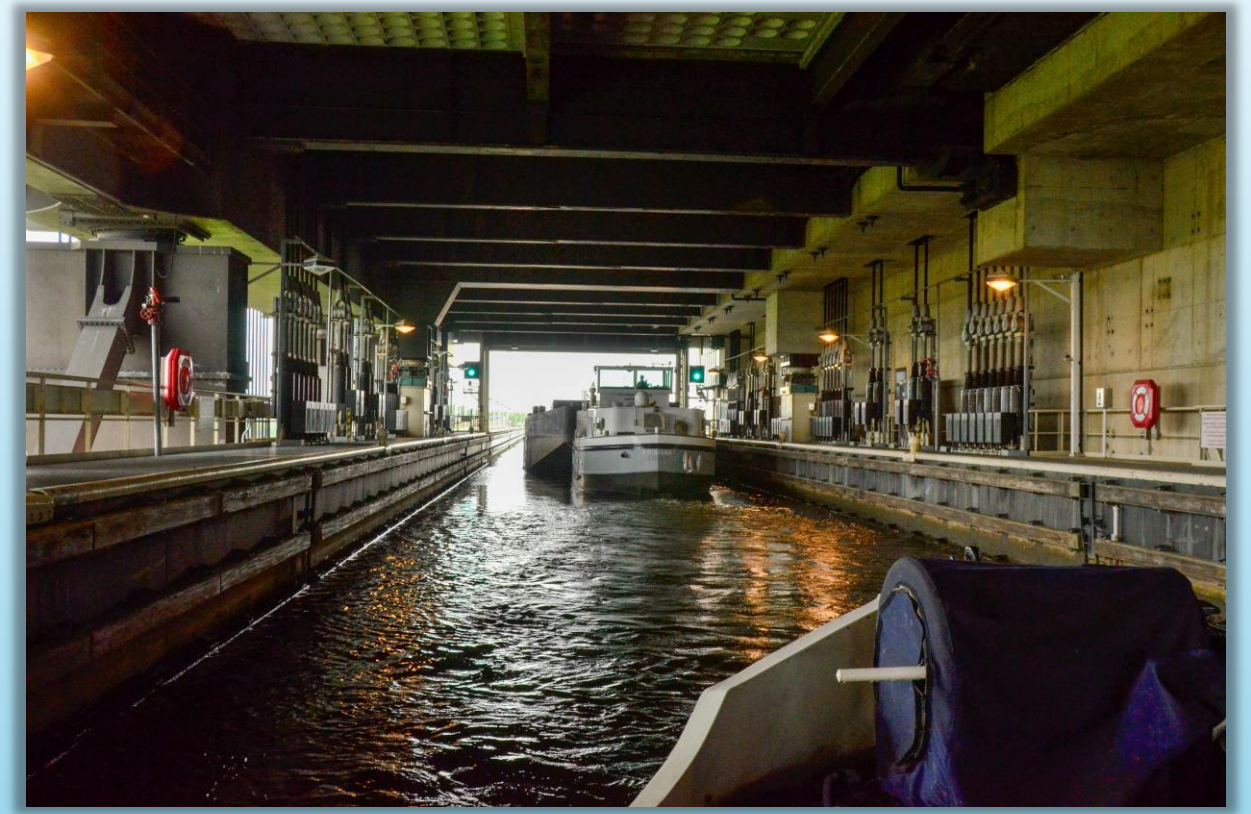
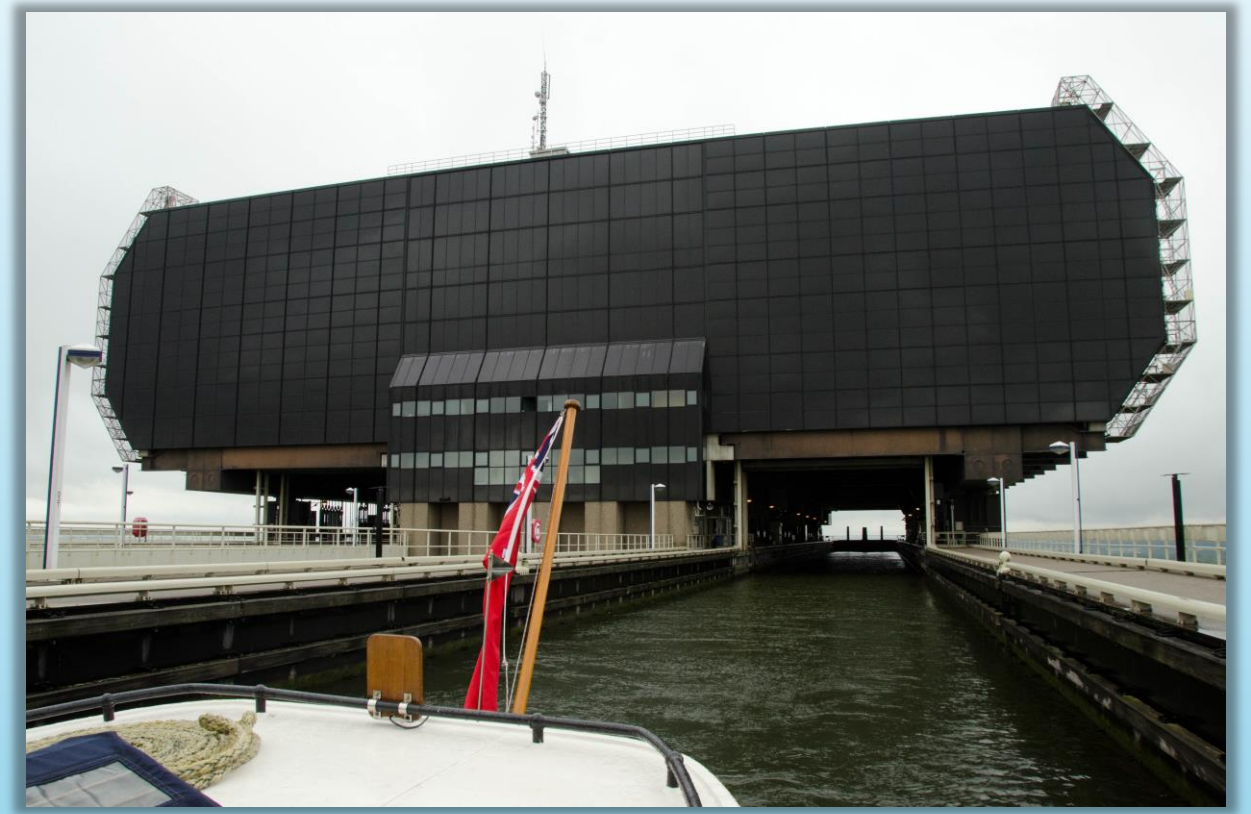

OCARINA SHIPPING
ANTWERPEN



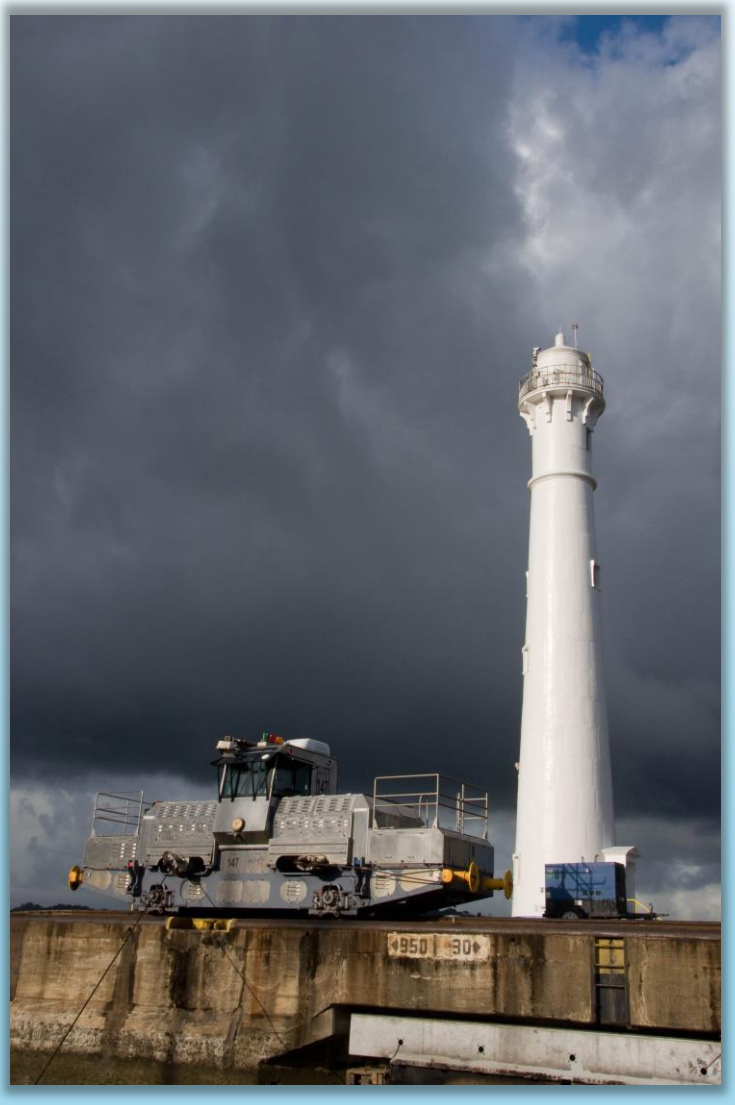


In the cloud at the top of the Brocken Railway in the Harz mountains

“She’ll be comin’ round the mountain…….

Finally, travelling on this converted ocean-going tug in the Caribbean , Panama Canal and Pacific

Landscapes



Engineering wonders and dramatic skies

Wildlife

Sunset on the Pacific