

**LINCOLN  
MEMORIAL**  
*and*  
**LINCOLN  
REFLECTING  
POOL**

# LINCOLN MEMORIAL

The Lincoln Memorial is one of my favorite sites on the National Mall. It's the first thing I see when I drive into the city from Virginia, and it makes me super happy. I dunno; it sort of feels like home. I love how, at any given moment of the day, you'll see people just hanging out on the steps of this Memorial. There's no better place to sit and soak in the beauty of the nation's capital, or to just stand amidst so much rich history. If you look closely enough, you can see the exact spot where Martin Luther King, Jr. stood to deliver his "I Have a Dream" speech in 1963. It's engraved into the marble steps. If that doesn't give you chills, then I don't know what would! And, if you squint your eyes enough, you can actually see Jenny drudging across the reflecting pool screaming at Forrest in the movie, *Forrest Gump*. Just kidding about that last one, but it'd be pretty cool if you could. "Forrrrrrest!"

In all seriousness, the Lincoln Memorial is stunning. The best part is that you can walk all around the base of the Memorial for 360-degree views of this baby! It's the perfect spot for sunrise or sunset photography.



*However I'm more partial to the early morning. It's the only time of day you can photograph the Memorial without risking the possibility of hundreds of people in your shot.*

You can also climb the steps and walk all around the Memorial for an elevated view of surrounding areas. You'll find the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to the left, the Korean War Veterans Memorial to the right, the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool in front, and the World War II Memorial just beyond that. It's the perfect place to start your photo adventure.

IN THIS TEMPLE  
AS IN THE HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE  
FOR WHOM HE SAVED THE UNION  
THE MEMORY OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN  
IS ENSHRINED FOREVER



**0.4 seconds F/5.6 ISO 400**

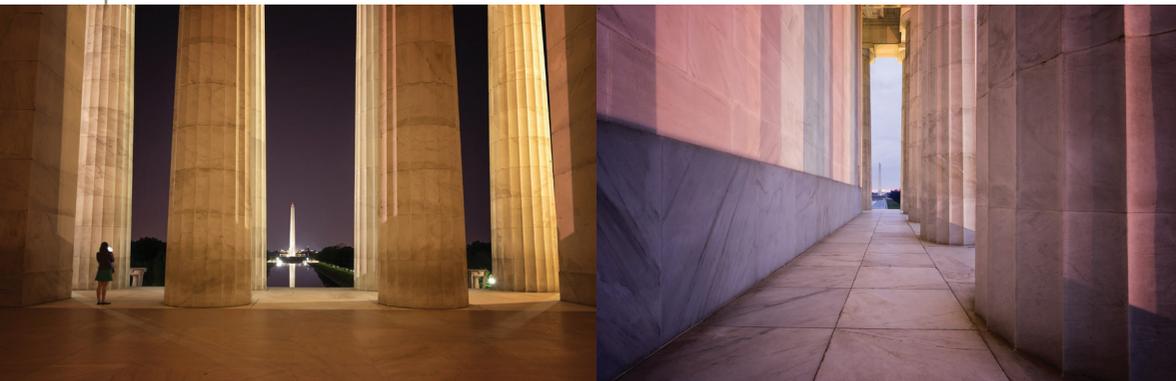
**Sony A7II 16-35mm**

*Try to pay attention to the details that fascinate you. For this image, I was really trying to study the relationship of the Lincoln statue to the powerful words behind him.*

**1.6 seconds F/7.1 ISO 400**

**Sony A7II 16-35mm**

*The best part about these memorials is that they are open twenty-four hours and there are always U.S. Park police around to keep you safe. This was taken around 1:00 a.m. I didn't wake up at this time. I was on a photowalk called "Midnight at the Monuments" with the Instagram group @walkwithlocals. It was awesome to see what the memorials looked like in the middle of the night.*



**0.5 seconds F/6.3 ISO 250**

**Sony A7II 16-35mm**

*As I set up my shot on the south side of the Memorial, the early morning light made the structure glow pink and created new leading lines in the architecture that usually aren't seen. Again, visiting the Memorial in the early morning hours will be your best chance at getting images without people in them.*



**0.3 seconds F/5.0 ISO 320**  
**Sony A7II 16-35mm**

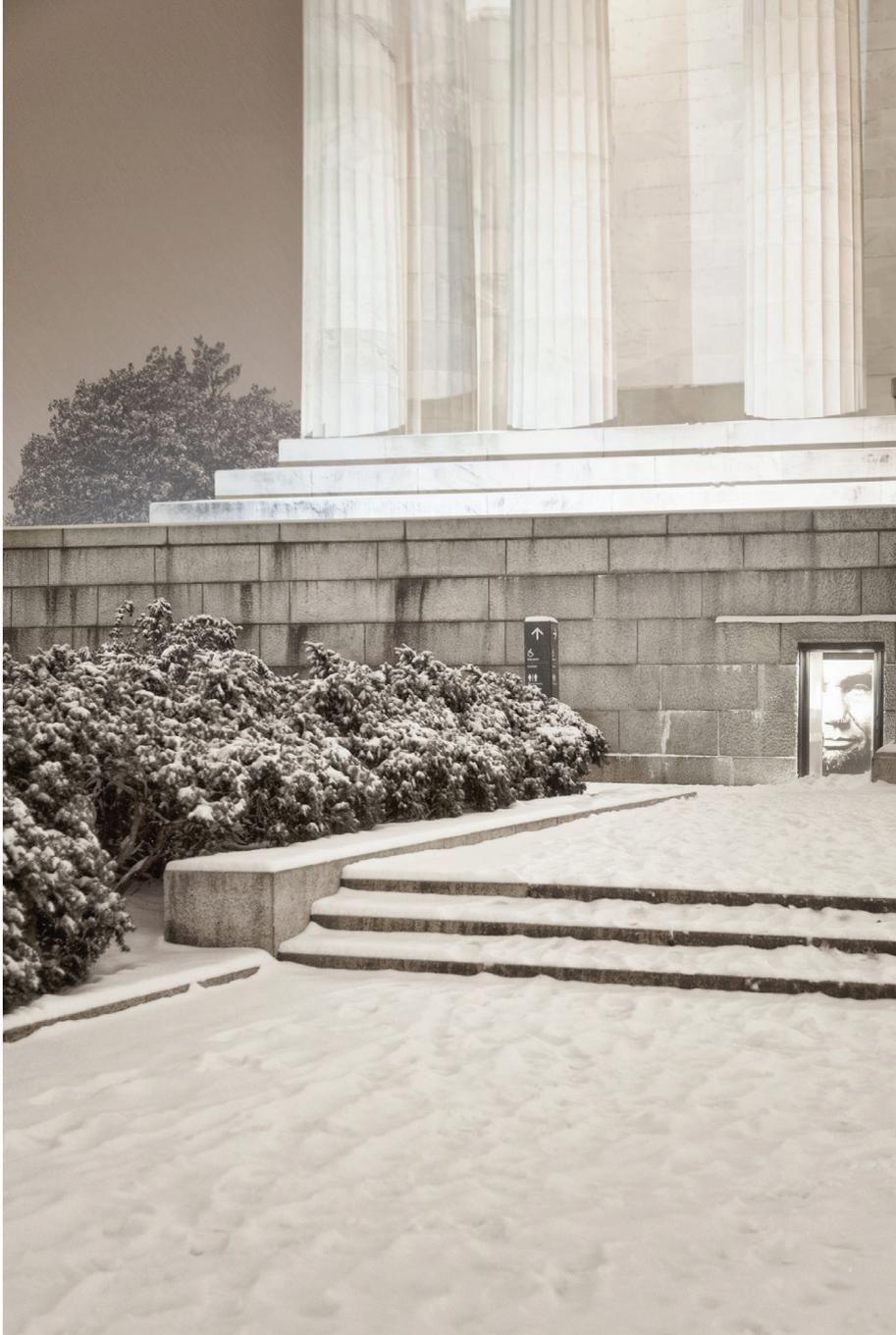
*As you're entering the Memorial, look at the lines created by the columns.  
They make for a great framing or line to your main subject.*



**3.2 seconds F/9 ISO 100**

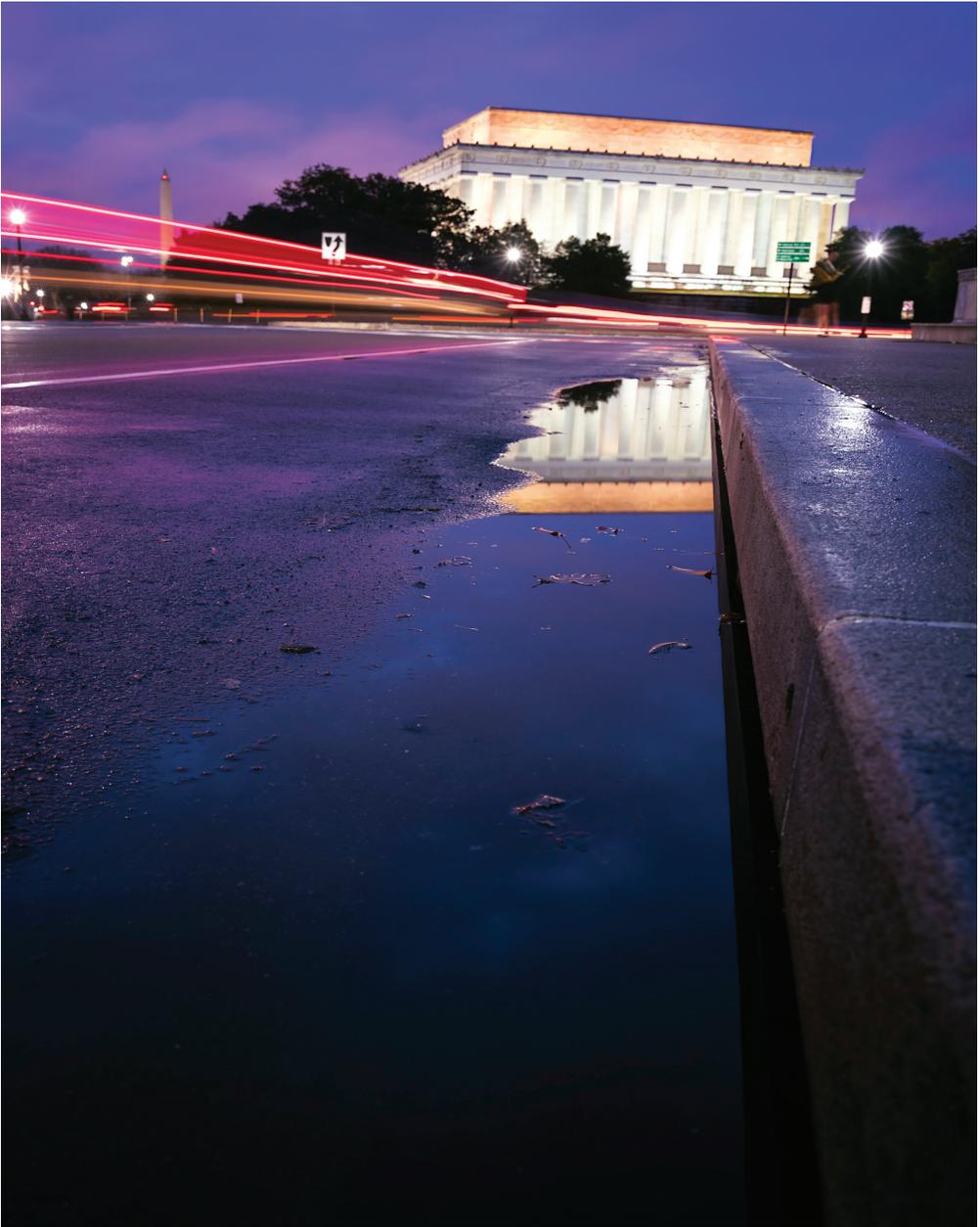
**Canon 5D Mark II 24-105mm**

*Don't let the rain ruin your trip. Take shelter and wait for it to pass. Then use the opportunity to find some cool reflections in the water. And, most of the time after rain, the sky will be glowing.*



**0.8 seconds f/4 ISO 640**  
**Canon 5D Mark II 24-105mm**

*While it was snowing the door to the museum was open, which allowed for a unique view of President Lincoln. Placing his face in the center towards the right was a play on the “Rule of Thirds” photographic composition rule.*



**2.5 seconds F/6.3 ISO 320**

**Sony A7II 16-35mm**

*Taken on the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway, right behind the Lincoln Memorial. For this image, I had two tripod legs in the puddle and one on the sidewalk. My main focus was to get the reflection in the puddle, but also to use the leading lines from the car trails to bring the viewer into the image. Be patient, and find the elements that will help your viewer “read” the image.*



**2.5 seconds F/8 ISO 640**  
**Sony A7II 28-70mm**

*After a rainstorm, many gorgeous puddles can be found around the Lincoln Memorial. Just look down and don't worry about other people thinking you're crazy for shooting the ground! Tripods will work, but sometimes you will need to get even closer. Don't be afraid to place your camera on the ground, either.*

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**1/1000 seconds F/4.0 ISO 100**  
**Canon 5D Mark II 24-105mm**

*This bird's-eye view of the National Mall is a unique perspective that can only be seen from the top of the Washington Monument.*







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**1/3200 seconds F4 ISO 400**

**Sony A7II 28-70mm**

*After it rained I was walking across the street to my parked car. I noticed the reflection in the puddle. Luckily, there were no cars coming, so I was able to grab this shot from the middle of the street.*

## **LINCOLN MEMORIAL**

### **FAVORITE TIME OF DAY TO SHOOT:**

*Sunrise*

### **CLOSEST METRO:**

*Foggy Bottom*

### **ADDRESS:**

*2 Lincoln Memorial Circle NW, Washington, DC 20037*

### **SUGGESTED PARKING:**

*Constitution Ave, Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway NW, 22nd St NW  
Pay attention to the street signs. Some of it is permit-only parking.*

### **FOR MORE INFO:**

*<http://www.abpan.com/book/lincolnmemorial>*