



The Simple Sky Swap Look

BEFORE



AFTER



INGREDIENTS

- Merge Exposure Brackets into HDR
- Set Tone & Color
- Modify Exposure, Shadows, and Blacks
- Add Sky Layer and Duplicate for Reflection
- Mask and Blend in Sky Layers
- Crop & Center
- Create a Stamped Layer to Combine Ingredients • Stylize with a Golden Hour Sunshine Preset

INSTRUCTIONS

Step 1. Launch ON1 Photo RAW 2019 and browse to where the practice files you downloaded are stored. Select practice files DJI_0419.jpg, DJI_0420.jpg, DJI_0421.jpg and then choose the Edit module icon.

Step 2. Select all of the exposure brackets (select the first one, hold down shift and select the third one to select them all) and choose the HDR icon on the right pane.

Step 3. On the bottom left where the exposure brackets are previewed, select the empty circle next to the checked icon on the exposure bracket DJI_0421 so that it moves the aperture icon from the middle exposure to that one. This will make this your base exposure and brighten the HDR preview a little.

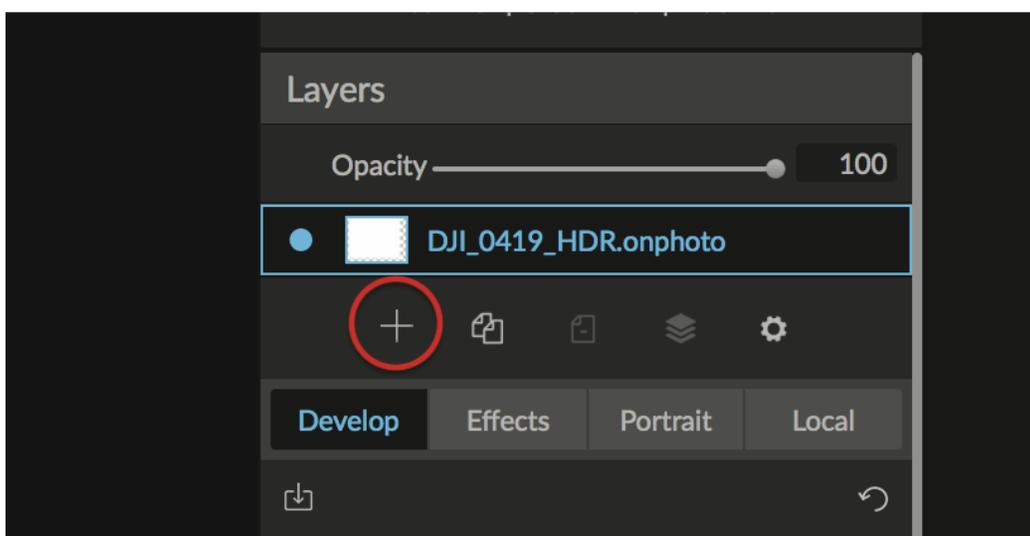
Step 4. In the Tone & Color pane set your tonality. Decrease the exposure to -0.2 to remove any blown out areas.

Step 5. Increase the shadows slider to 26 to reveal darker tones in the water and rock.

Step 6. Pull back on the blacks to -16 to add contrast and detail into the scene.

Step 7. Select Save to merge your exposure brackets together. You can modify any of the Tone & Color settings applied to your photo at any time.

Step 8. Using the Edit Module, inside of the Develop tab, add a new layer by selecting the plus icon inside the Layers pane.



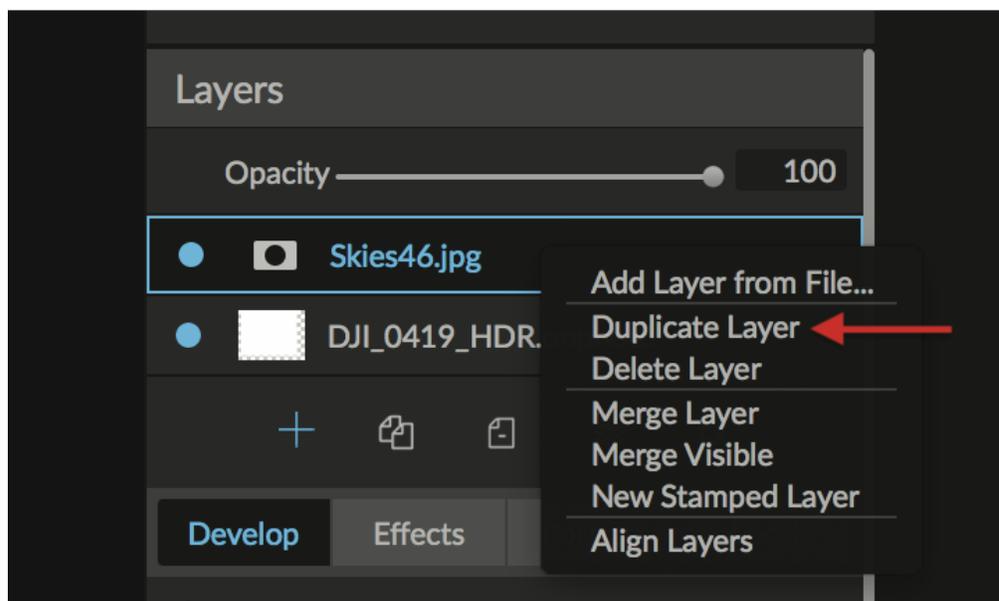
Step 9. A dialog will pop up letting you know that the layer you add will still have the full raw editing capabilities and will be added as a new non-destructive layer. Select Add Layer.

Step 10. In the Extras tab choose ON1 Extras. Navigate to Backgrounds > Skies > Skies46.jpg and double click to add onto your photo as a new layer.

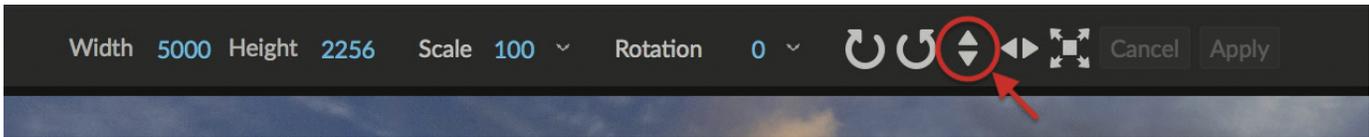
Step 11. While the new sky layer is selected, pull back on it's opacity slider to 58 so that you can see where you are placing it.

Step 12. Select the Move tool from the left pane or by pressing "V" on your keyboard. Click and drag the sky layer to align it with the original sun and horizon line.

Step 13. In the Layers pane, right click on the sky layer that you added as a new layer. Select Duplicate Layer to create a new, duplicate of that sky.



Step 14. Keeping that new duplicate layer selected, select the Move tool again if it's not already selected. Go into the transform options at the top and flip the layer vertically.



Step 15. Click and drag the duplicate layer down onto the water aligning it with the horizon line and sun. This is what you will use to create the reflection.

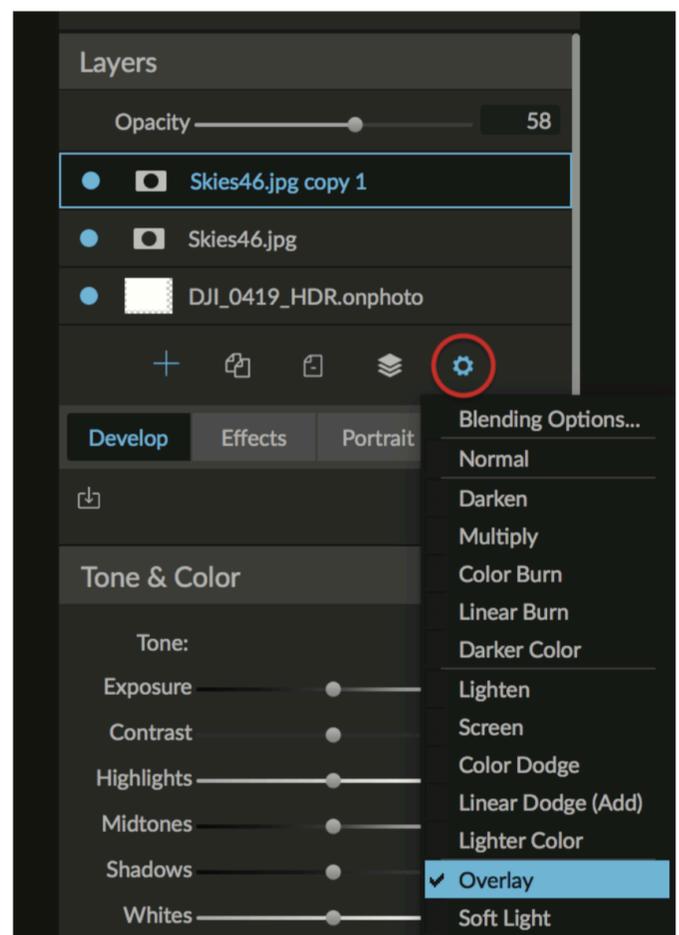
Step 16. At the bottom of the Layers pane select the gear icon to pull up that layers blending mode. Select the Overlay mode to make the sky layer blend in better.

Step 17. Select your masking brush from the left pane or by hitting "B" on your keyboard. Make sure your brush mode is set to Paint Out. You can do this by holding down Shift and then hitting "x".

Step 18. Using your brush tool, mask out any area of unwanted or excessive reflection in the water.

Step 19. Select your first sky layer that you added in the beginning. Return it's opacity to 100.

Step 20. Within the Layers pane, click and drag that layer to put it underneath the HDR photo layer.



Step 21. Select the HDR photo in Layers. Select the Masking Bug tool by hitting “m” on your keyboard. Drop the Masking Bug gradient where the horizon line is to remove the original sky and blend in the new one.

Step 22. Click and drag in the larger circle to move the gradient around. Align the bottom dotted feathering line with the horizon line.

Step 23. Keeping your HDR photo selected, grab your Masking Brush by hitting “b” on your keyboard. Go into the brush controls in the top bar and make sure your Perfect Brush is turned on. (The Perfect Brush is the icon to the right of the opacity slider). Toggle your mode to Paint In. (Shift + X).

Step 24. Using your Masking Brush with the Perfect Brush turned on, paint back in the rock feature that was masked out when we dropped the gradient onto the image. Make sure to keep the plus symbol in the brush within the area you are brushing to make sure it doesn't add any unwanted sky.

Step 25. Choose the crop tool. Select a 4x5 preset from the drop down menu in the tool options. Grab the crop handle on the corners. Click and hold to adjust the crop box and center the rock in the frame. (Hold down Shift to maintain the aspect ratio) this will remove any excess layers or transparent backgrounds you have.

Step 26. Right click on any layer within the Layers pane and select New Stamped Layer. This will duplicate your layers and merge them together into a new non-destructive layer while keeping your original layers untouched.

Step 27. Keeping that Stamped Layer selected, go into your Preset Pane and choose Landscape and then select Golden Hour Sunshine preset.

Step 28. Go into the Effects tab and find the Color Enhancer Filter that was added onto the photo when we added the preset. Go into the More drop-

down menu and select Purify Shadows. This will make sure that the darker areas in the photo don't get too warm and they maintain their true color.