



HOW TO EDIT A SEASCAPE

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ON1 PLUS EDITING GUIDE

In this ON1 Plus Editing Guide, we'll walk through a step-by-step workflow to transform a coastal landscape image using ON1 Photo RAW. From essential corrections like lens distortion and horizon leveling to creative enhancements using Effects and Local Adjustments, this guide is designed to be both approachable and impactful. Whether you're looking to bring out detail in the rocks, add mood to the sky and water, or guide the viewer's eye through subtle adjustments, these techniques will help you create a polished, expressive final image.



Before

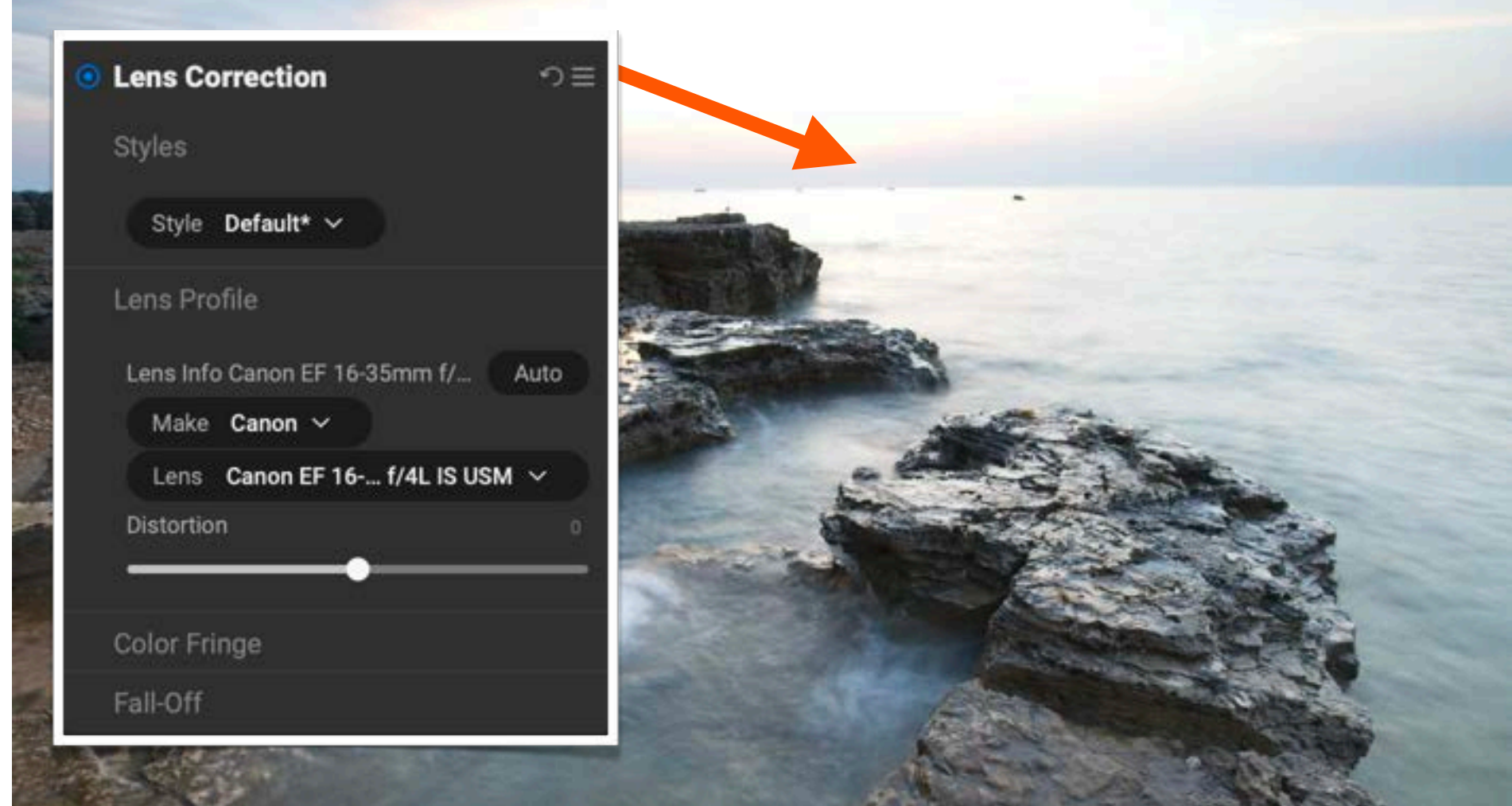


After

Step 1: Enable Lens Correction

Start by heading into the **Develop** module.

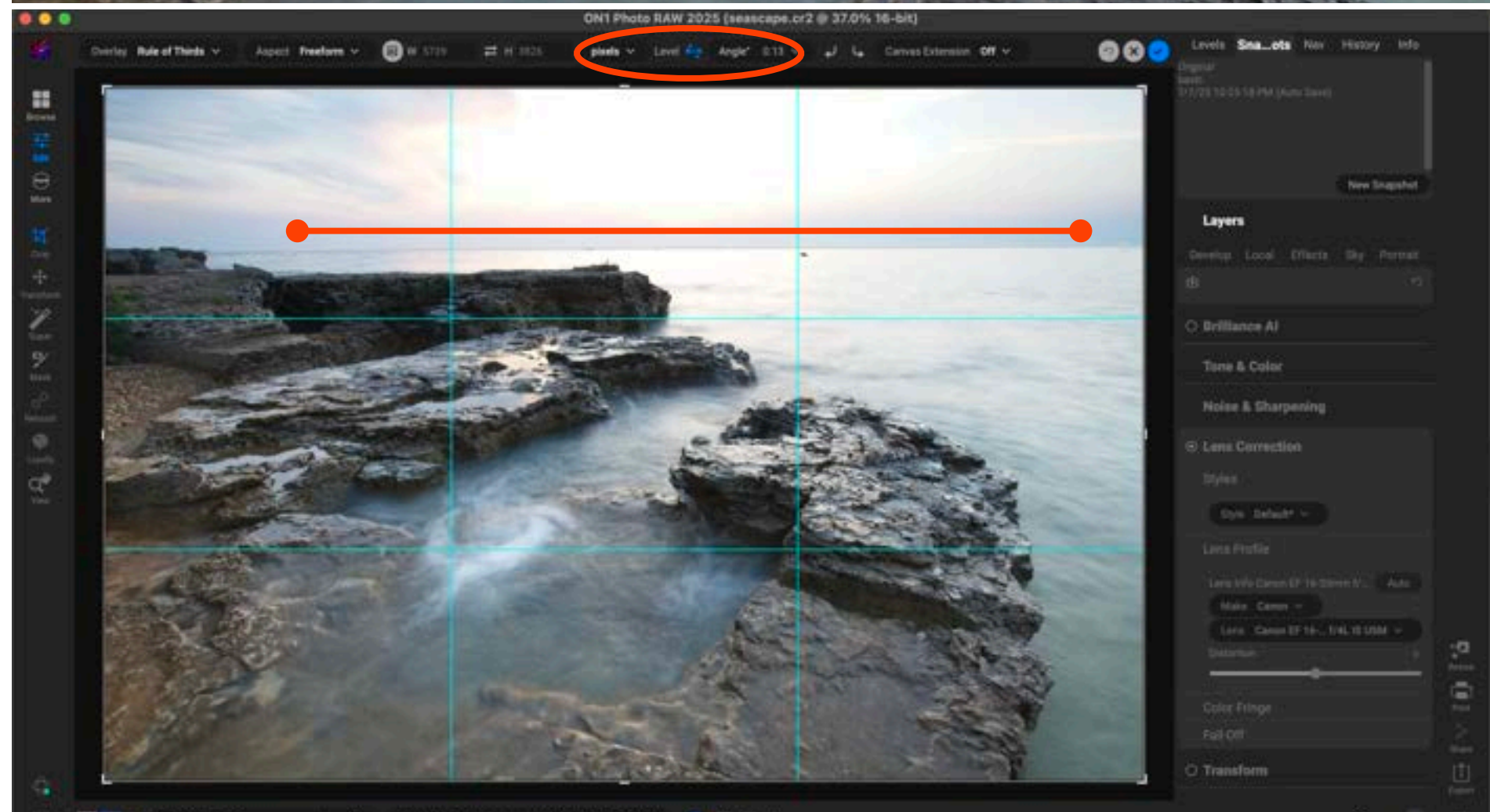
- **Toggle ON** the **Lens Correction** checkbox.
- This automatically fixes distortion and vignetting based on your lens—especially important for keeping the horizon straight and the scene natural.

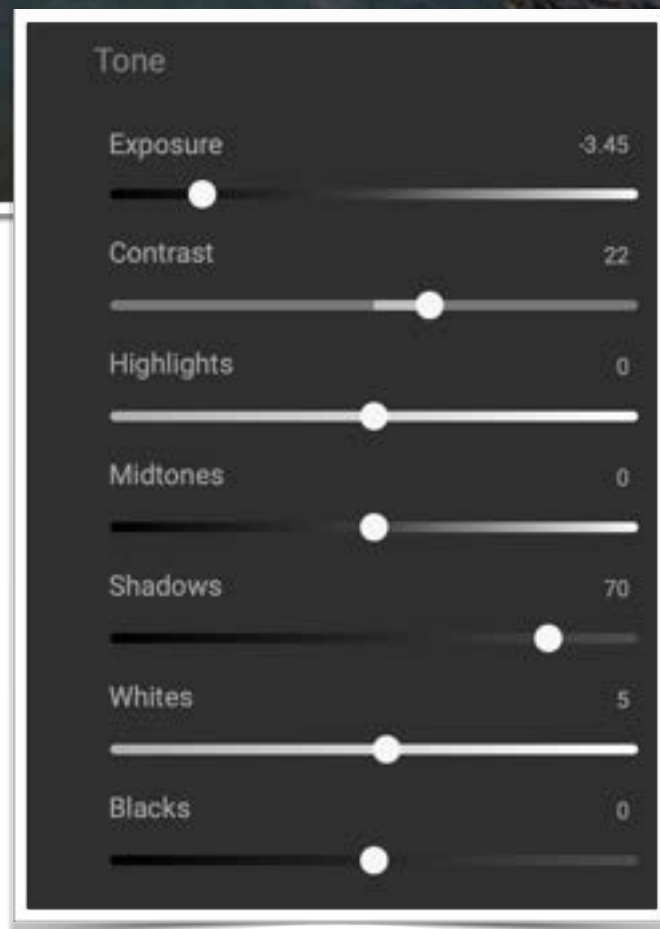
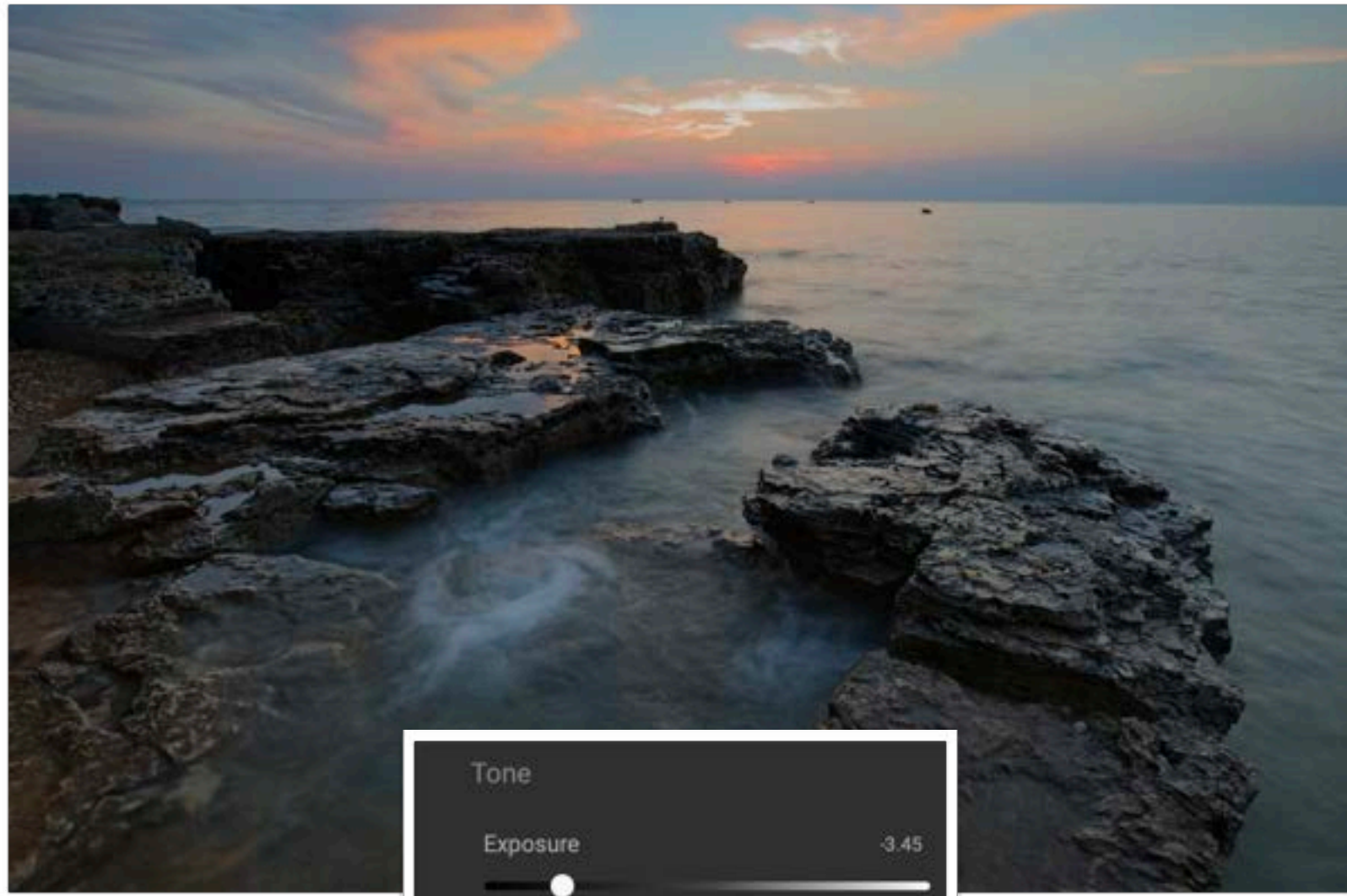


Step 2: Crop and Level the Horizon

1. Press **C** on your keyboard to activate the **Crop Tool**.
2. At the top of the interface, click on the **Leveling Tool** (it looks like a ruler).
3. Click and drag a line **along the horizon** to automatically straighten it.
4. Press **Enter/Return** to apply the crop.

Tip: Keep the original aspect ratio unless you want to frame in tighter.





Step 3: Adjust Tone & Color in Develop

With the image leveled and corrected, let's fine-tune the light and color:

Tone Adjustments (from the screenshot settings):

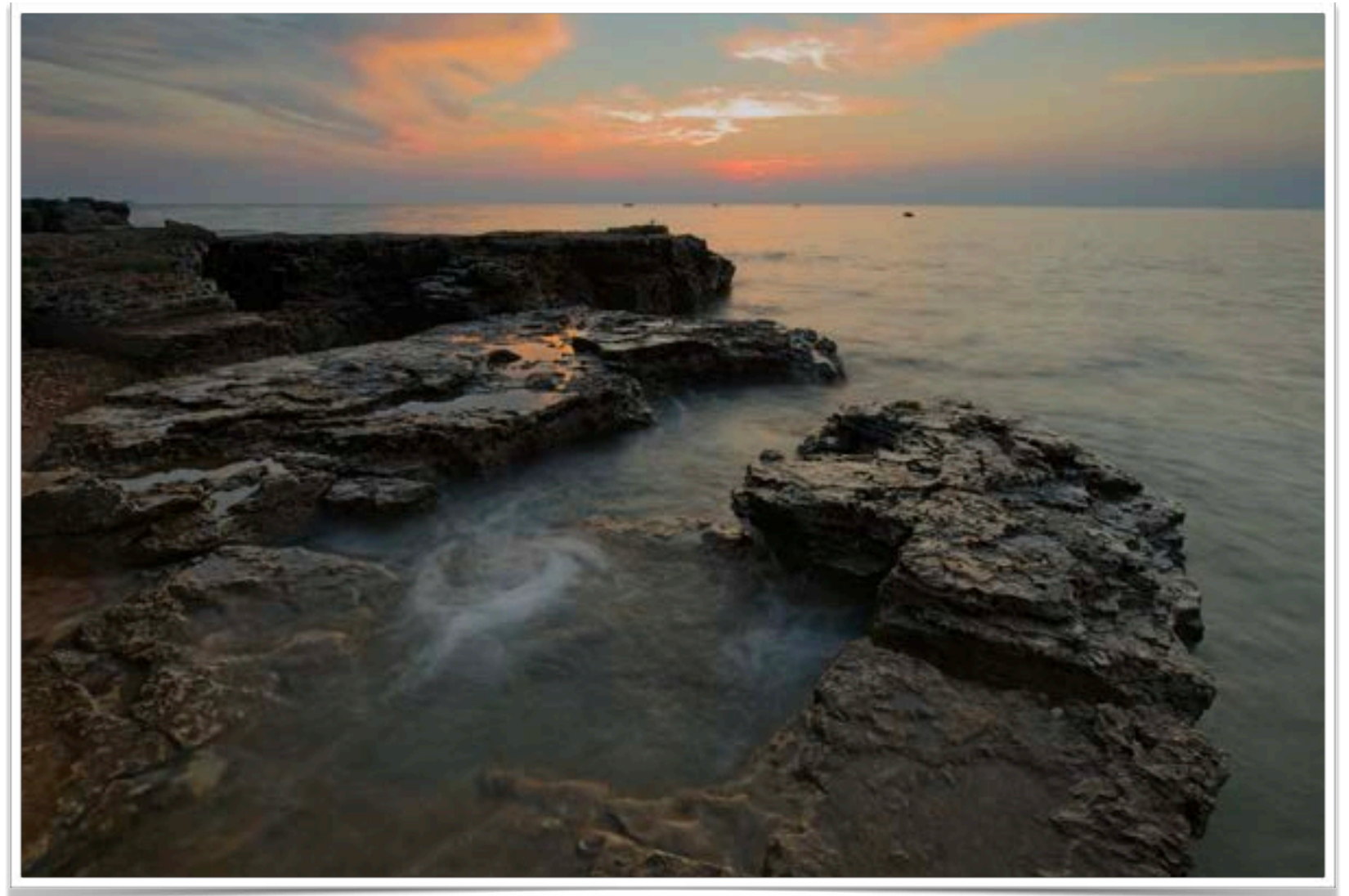
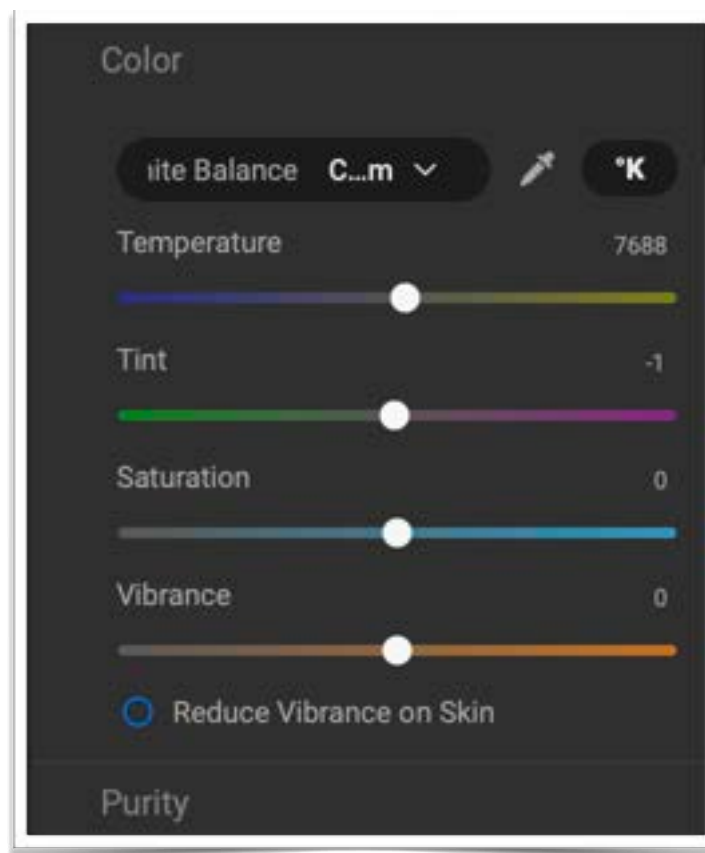
1. **Exposure:** Set to **-3.45**
 - This brings back details in the bright sky and tones down any overexposure.
2. **Contrast:** Set to **22**
 - Adds punch and depth to the rocks and water.
3. **Shadows:** Raise to **70**
 - Opens up darker areas in the foreground rock for better detail.
4. **Whites:** Slight bump to **5**
 - Restores a bit of highlight clarity without blowing out the sky.

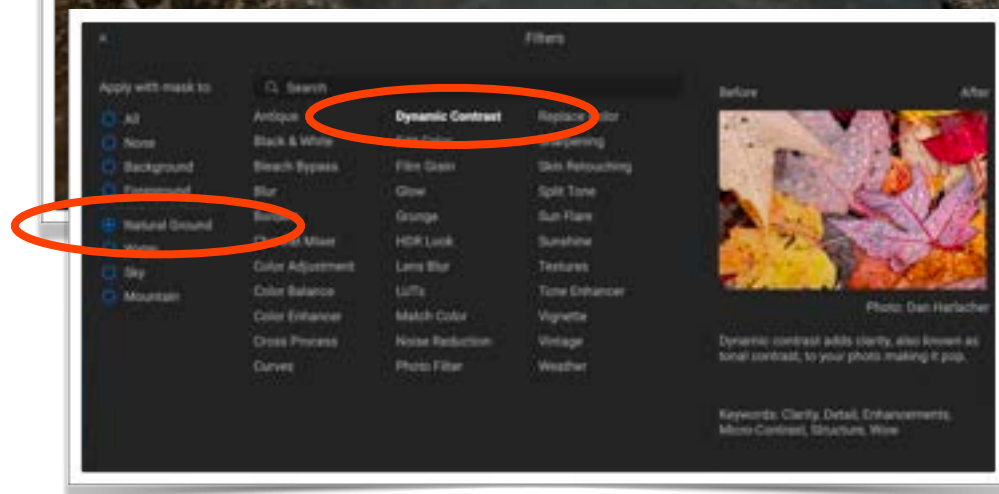
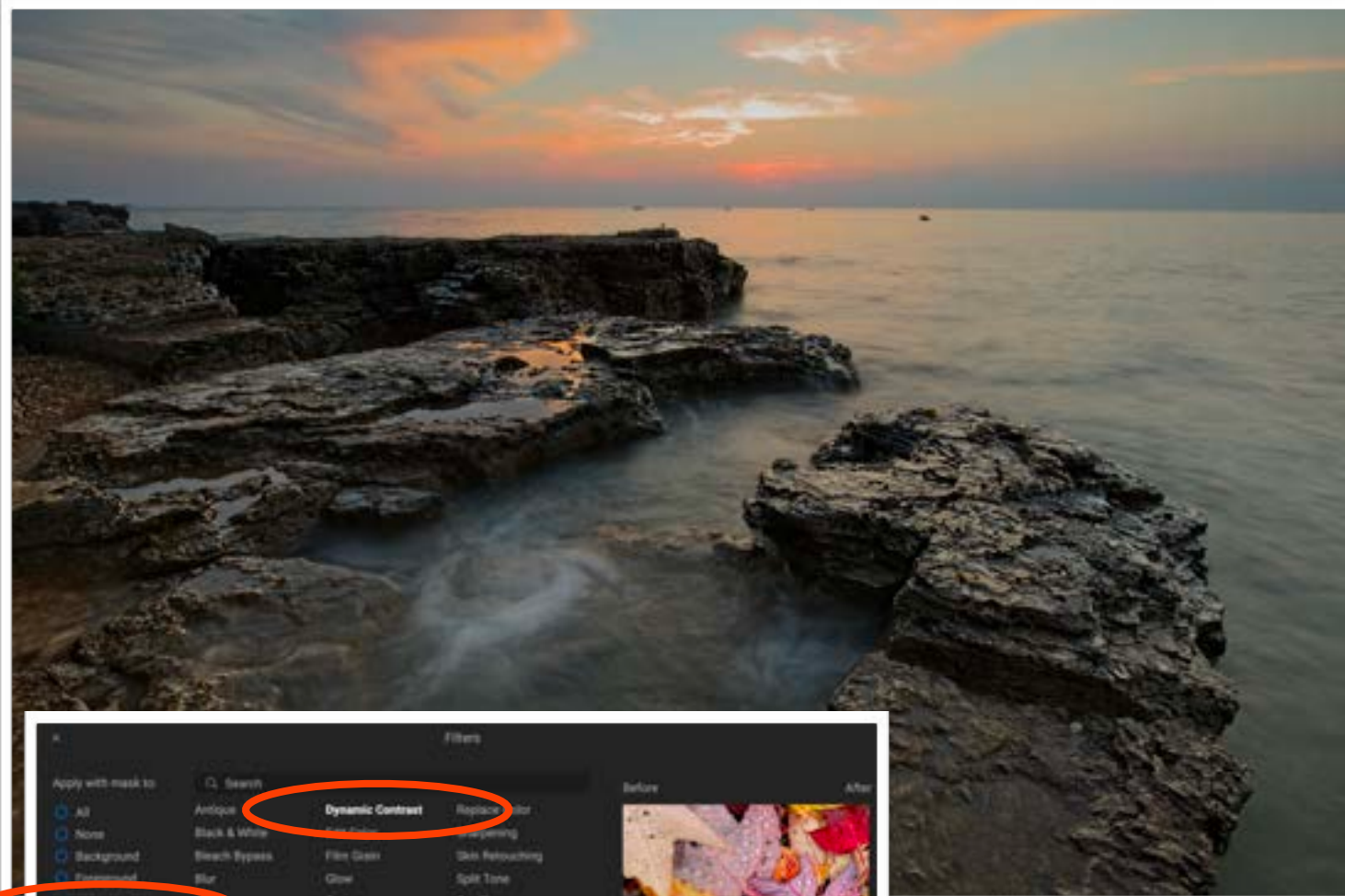
Leave **Highlights**, **Midtones**, and **Blacks** at **0** for now.

Step 4: Adjust White Balance and Color Temperature

Scroll down to the **Color** section:

1. **White Balance** to **Custom**.
2. **Temperature** to **7688°K**
 - This gives the image a warm, sunrise/sunset glow that enhances the sky and complements the stone texture.





Use any style that works for your vision!



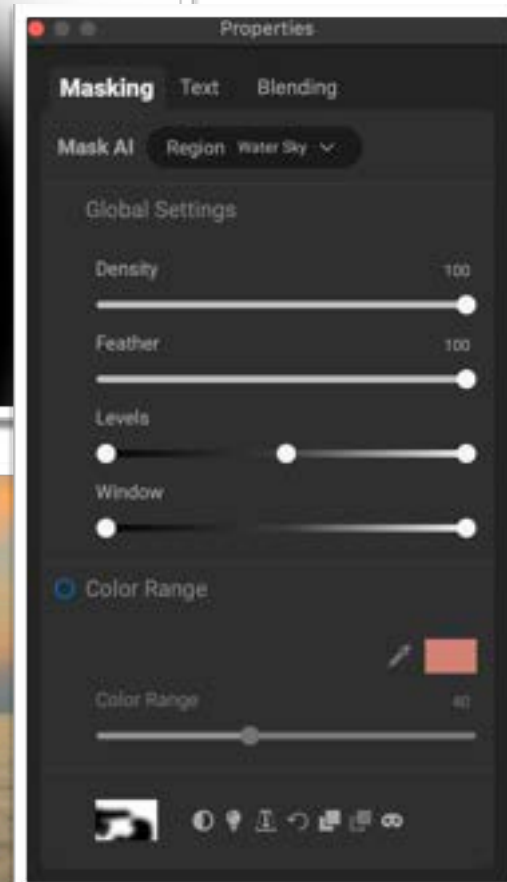
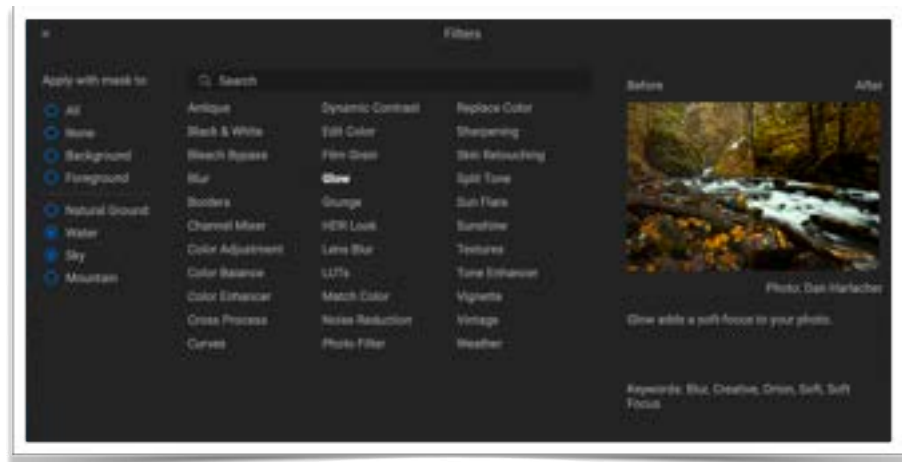
Enhancing Mood, Detail, and Focus

With your photo leveled and your tone and color balanced, it's time to elevate the image using targeted filters and adjustments. This section will guide you through applying texture, glow, and focus using **Effects** and **Local Adjustments**.

Step 5: Add Texture to the Rocks with Dynamic Contrast

1. In the **Effects** tab, click **Add Filter**.
2. In the **Apply Mask To** dropdown, select **Natural Ground**.
3. Choose the **Dynamic Contrast** filter.
4. Inside the Dynamic Contrast filter:
 - Select the **Surreal** preset style.
 - Lower the **Opacity** to 50.

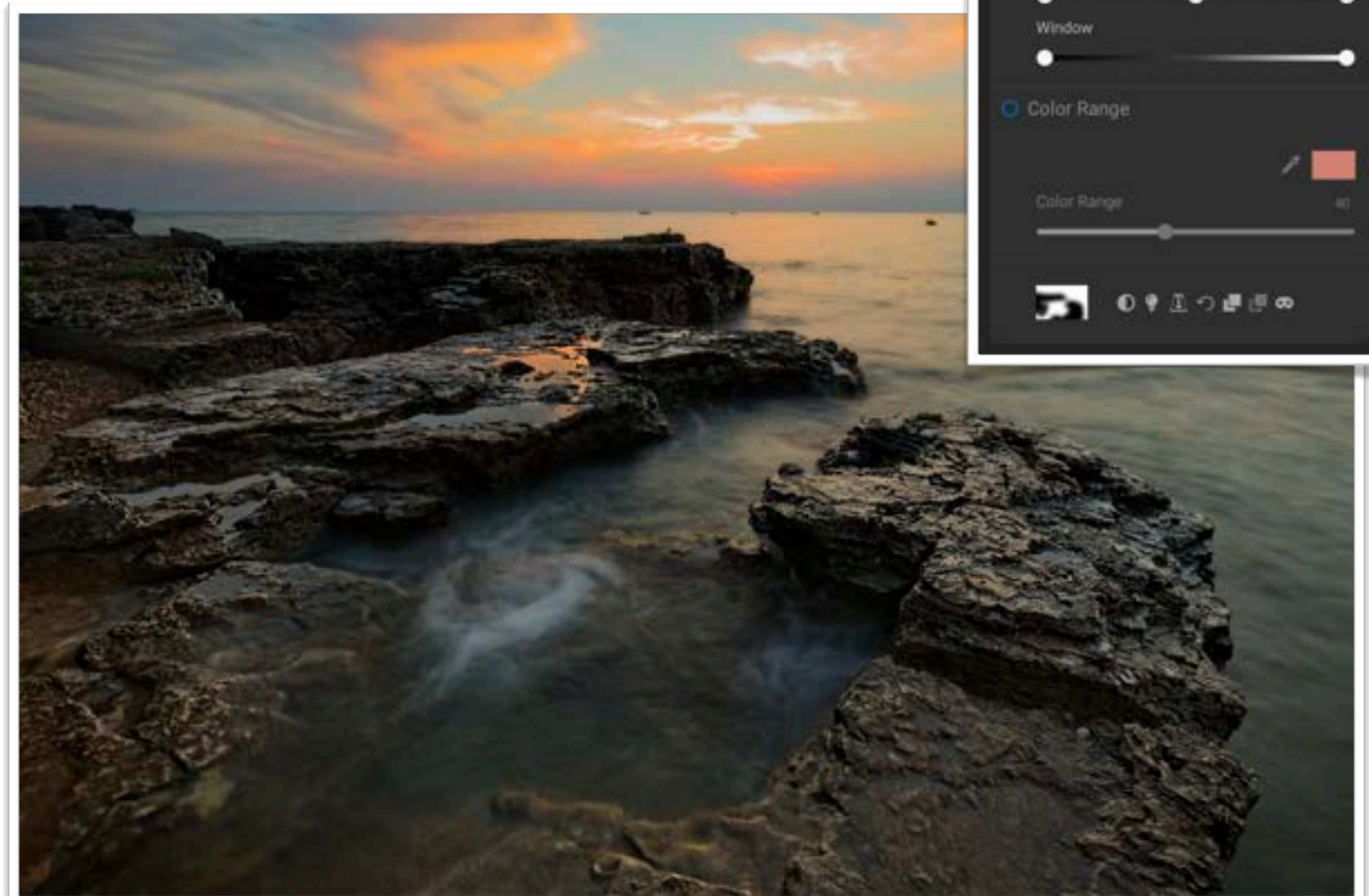
This brings out rich texture in the rocky foreground without making it look overprocessed.

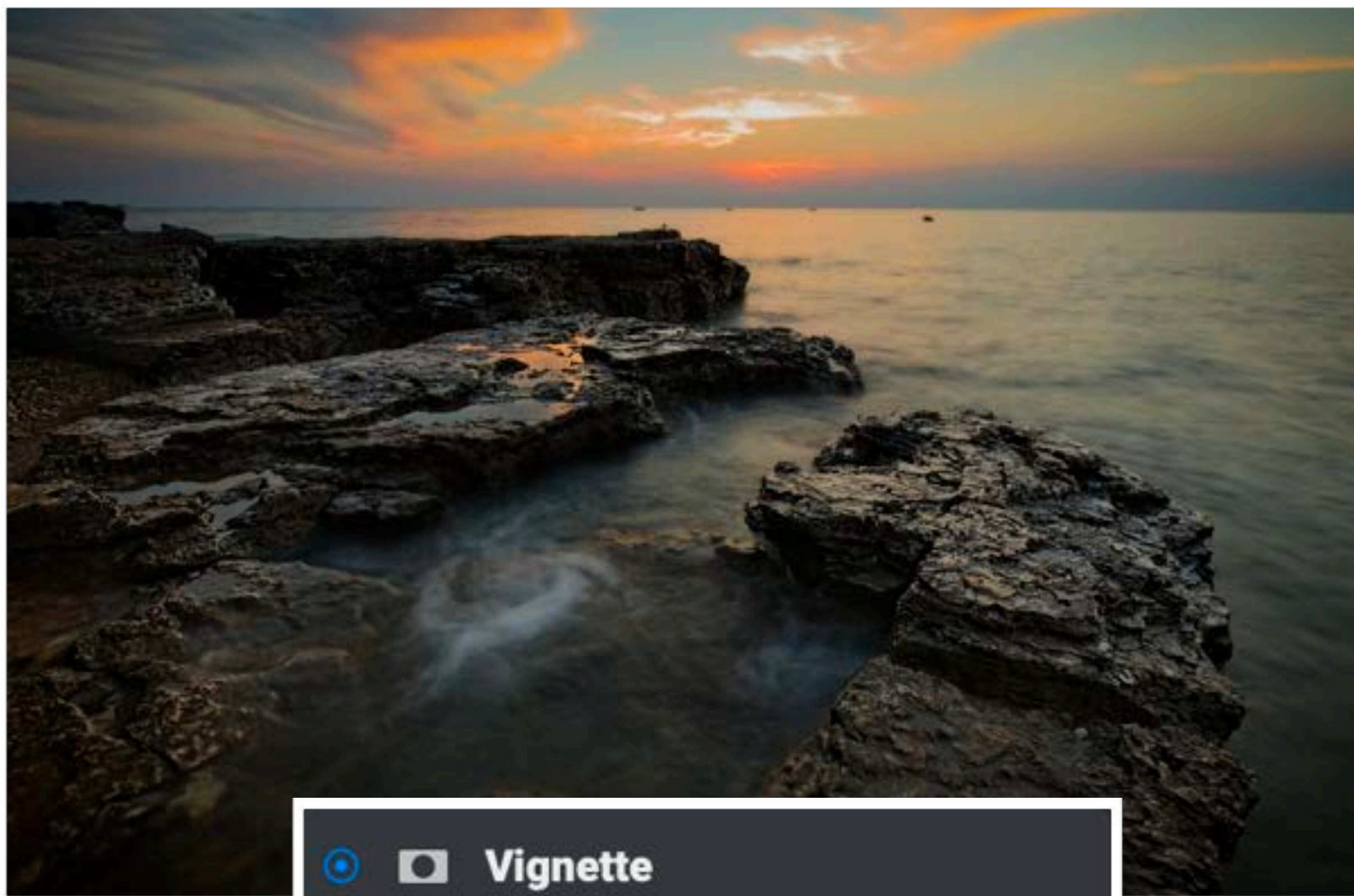


Step 6: Add Mood to the Sky and Water with Glow

1. Click **Add Filter**.
2. In the **Apply Mask To** dropdown, select **Sky and Water**.
3. Choose the **Glow** filter.
4. Inside the Glow filter:
 - Select the **Darker** preset style.
5. Open the **Masking Options** by clicking the mask thumbnail next to the filter name.
6. In **Global Mask Settings**, increase the **Feather** slider to soften the edges of the mask.

This creates a subtle, atmospheric look in the sky and water while blending the effect smoothly into surrounding areas.

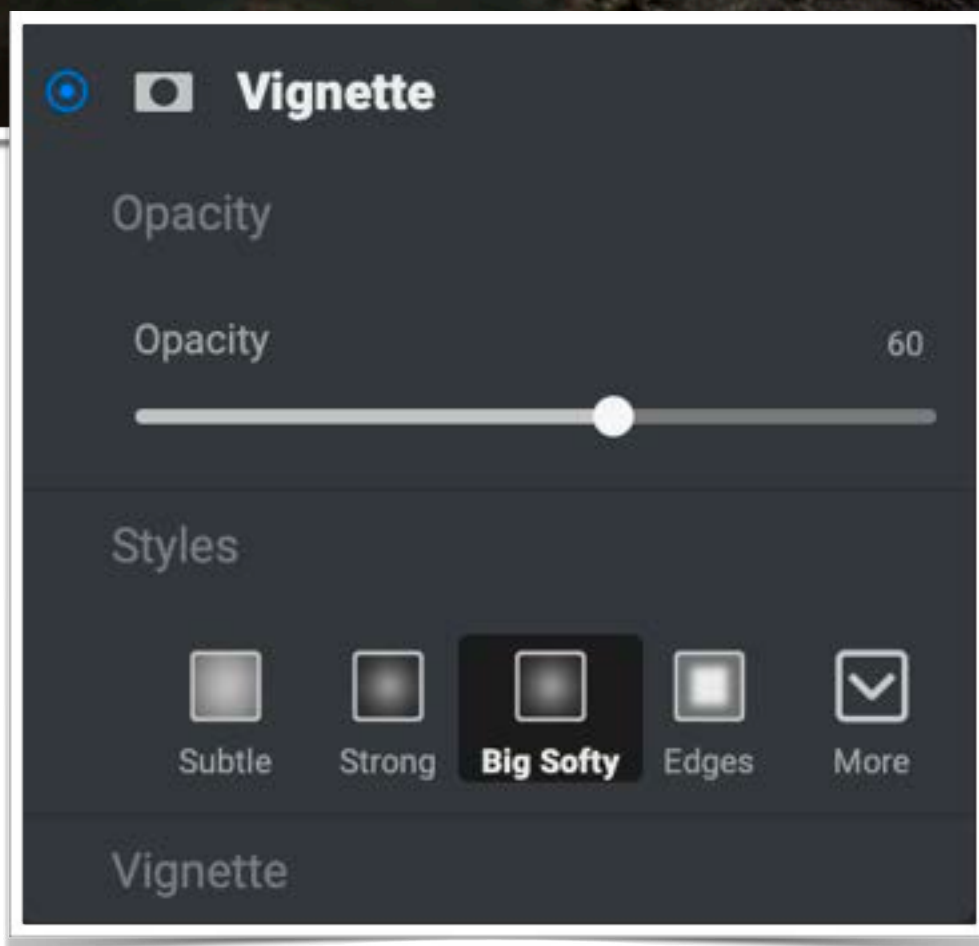




Step 7: Guide the Viewer with a Subtle Vignette

1. Click **Add Filter** and choose **Vignette**.
2. Select the **Big Softy** preset style.
3. Lower the **Opacity** to **60**.

This soft vignette darkens the corners slightly to help draw attention toward the center of the frame.



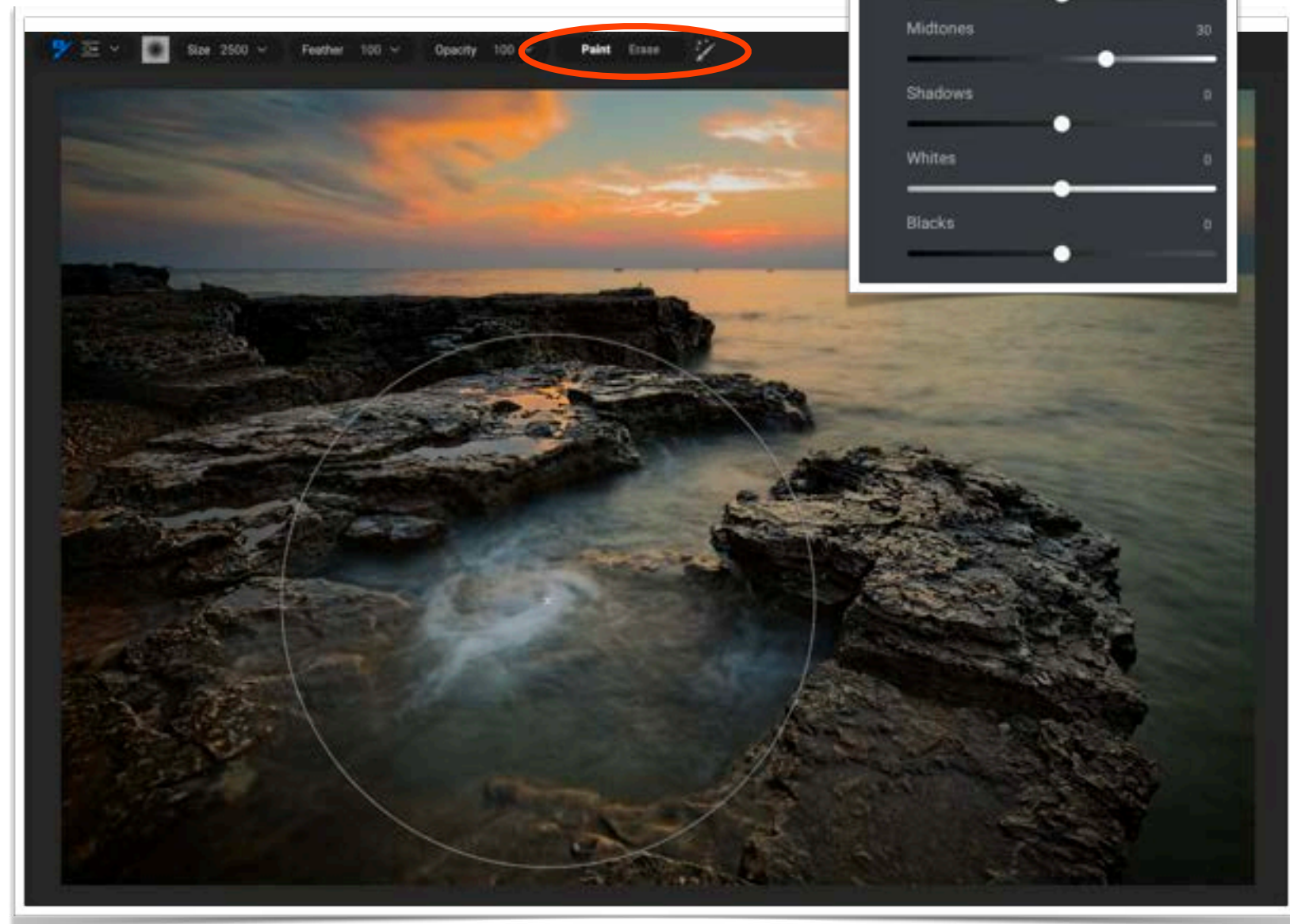
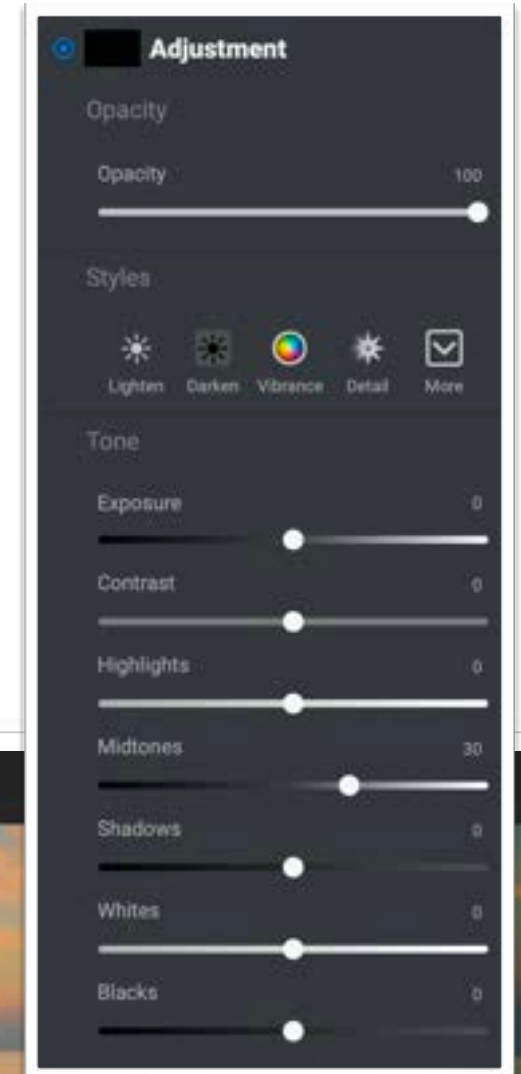
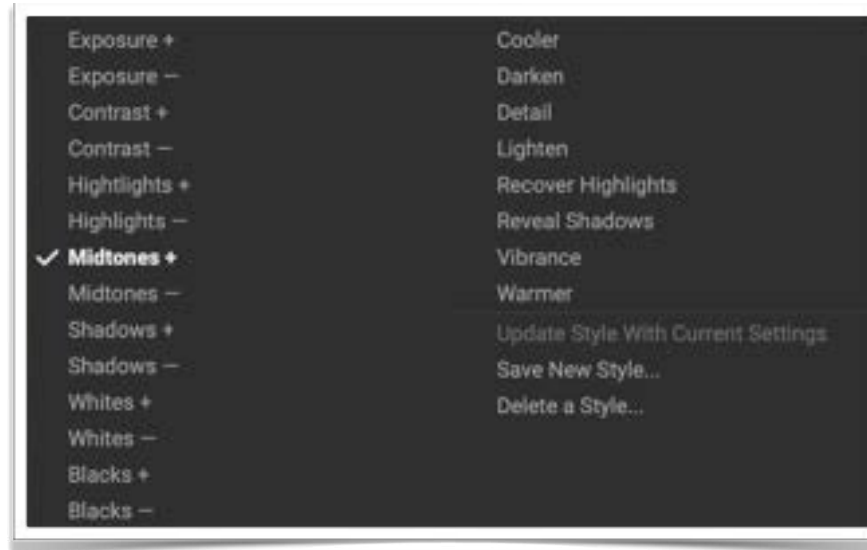
Step 8: Brighten the Swirling Water with a Local Adjustment

1. Navigate to the **Local** tab.
2. Click **Add Adjustment**.
3. Open the **More** menu of Styles and choose **Midtone** +.

This preset is ideal for enhancing midtones like the soft swirling water, without affecting the highlights.

4. Press **B** to activate the **Masking Brush**.
5. Set **Opacity** and **Feathering** to **100**.
6. Choose a large brush size—around **2500**.
7. Paint over the swirling water area between the rocks.

This helps lift the water just enough to stand out, creating a stronger focal point in the composition.





Congratulations—you made it to the end of the guide! With these techniques in your toolkit, you now have a powerful and repeatable workflow for transforming coastal landscapes in ON1 Photo RAW. Keep practicing, keep experimenting, and most of all—enjoy the process of creating.